

Drive against child labour carried out

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POONCH: In an effort to combat child labour and provide immediate rescue and rehabilitation for children in street situations (CISS), a comprehensive drive was successfully conducted at the Poonch Bus Stand area. The operation, led by the Child Welfare Committee (CWC) Chairperson, Rohit Khajuria, and supported by various officials from CHILDLINE and Labour Department, aimed to rescue children from vulnerable situations and ensure their safety and welfare.

Key participants in the drive included Mohd Ashaq, Supervisor from CHILDLINE, along with Pooja Devi, Supervisor from CHILDLINE. The CWC team was well-represented by Shivani Khajuria, Meenakshi Sudan, and Simmi Balla, all members of the Child Welfare



Officials during the drive at Poonch.

Committee, Sudha Sharma the Protection Officer Institutional Care (POIC) from the District Child Protection Unit (DCPU). Additionally, Ravinder Singh, Labour Inspector, and Muzaher Hussain from the Office of the Assistant Labour Commissioner (ALC) Poonch, played pivotal roles in ensuring the success of the operation.

The initiative was carried out smoothly, with the team focusing on identifying children engaged in labour and those in distressing street situations. Several children were rescued and provided with immediate care and shelter, ensuring they were removed from exploitative environments. The authorities underscored the need for strict adherence to

laws prohibiting child labour, emphasizing that employing children for financial gain is not only unethical but also illegal under Indian law.

Rohit Khajuria, CWC Chairperson, stressed the importance of such drives, stating, "Our priority is to safeguard the future of these children. They deserve education, care, and the opportunity to grow in a safe environment, free from exploitation. We urge the public to report instances of child labour and cooperate with authorities to eliminate this practice."

The drive also focused on raising awareness about the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, which strictly prohibits the employment of children under the age of 14 in hazardous occupations. It highlighted that employing children not only deprives them of their fundamental

rights but also hampers their physical and mental development. The officials encouraged community members to report child labour cases to the CHILDLINE helpline (1098) and collaborate in ensuring the safety and well-being of all children.

The local community is requested to follow the rules and regulations regarding child labour and support ongoing efforts to rehabilitate children rescued from such conditions. The authorities have assured that continuous monitoring and further rescue operations will be carried out across the district to curb this menace.

The CWC and its partner agencies remain committed to ensuring that no child is left behind, and efforts will continue to protect the rights and dignity of every child in Poonch.

BGSBU celebrates Gandhi Jayanti



Faculty members along with students during the event.

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RAJOURI: Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University celebrated Gandhi Jayanti to commemorate the 155th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

The event was marked by rich tributes to Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Nation, led by the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Akbar Masood along with students, faculty members and officers of the University.

In his message, Prof. Akbar emphasized the relevance of Mahatma Gandhi's vision of cleanliness and simplicity in contemporary society, linking it to the goals of the Swachh Bharat mission. The Vice Chancellor also highlighted Gandhi's philosophy of non-violence in the context of the International Day of Non-Violence.

On the occasion, the Centre for Multidisciplinary Studies and Research organised a lecture on the theme 'Mahatma Gandhi in Contemporary Times'. The lecture was delivered by Dr. Danish Iqbal Raina. In his lecture Dr. Raina elaborated on Gandhi's enduring principles of non-violence, truthfulness and service which continue to inspire global efforts

for peaceful coexistence. He focussed on Gandhian Philosophy towards environmental sustainability.

Dr. Raina said that the Gandhian Philosophy would continue to inspire future generations towards love, peace, honesty and truth.

Students from various departments of the University participated in the event.

Gandhi Jayanti: Swachhata Day celebrated in Model Panchayat Lachdayaram



Officials during the programme at Kishtwar.

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KISHTWAR: In commemoration of Gandhi Jayanti, Model Panchayat Lachdayaram-A Block Kishtwar, in collaboration with the School Education Department, observed Swachhata Day.

The event was aimed to promote cleanliness, hygiene, and community participation in maintaining a clean environment.

The programme was attended by Phulail Singh, Assistant Commissioner Development

(ACD) Kishtwar; Sh. Sanjeev Kotwal, Block Development Officer (BDO) Kishtwar; Heads of Institutions (HOIs) from various schools, students and prominent citizens.

Phulail Singh emphasized the significance of behavioral change for overall sanitation in the Panchayat especially the students to become the torch bearer for this ambitious campaign. Swachhata is not just a responsibility, but a collective commitment towards a healthier and more prosperous society," said ACD Kishtwar.

A pledge of sanitation was administered by Rakesh Kumar, Headmaster MS Hular to reaffirm commitment to maintaining cleanliness in daily life on voluntary basis.

During the event, appreciation certificates were awarded to Swachhata Warriors Pihoo Shan, Naseer Ahmed, Khalid Hussain, Farooq Ahmed & Jaffer Hussain for their exemplary contributions during Swachhata Sangram (August 1-15, 2024).

Concluding the event, ACD Kishtwar visited the Panchayat to review saturation of performance indicators under the Model Panchayat initiative, as identified by Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar. He urged the community to participate actively in the inclusive growth of the Panchayat.

DLSA Ramban celebrates Gandhi Jayanti, conducts cleanliness drives

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RAMBAN: To pay tributes to Mahatma Gandhi Ji on his 155th birth anniversary and as a part of National Campaign launched by Government of India under the banner "Swachhata hi Seva - 2024", District Legal Services Authority, Ramban organized different activities including Cleanliness drives in collaboration with Municipal Council Ramban.

Awareness Program on the topic "Safayi Apnao Binari Bhagao" and an awareness Rally was also organized at District Court Complex, Ramban.

The activities were conducted under the leadership of Chairman District Legal Services Authority (Principal District & Sessions Judge), Ramban Deepak Sethi.

The "Swachhata Hi Seva" program witnessed enthusiastic participation of



DLSA officials during the programme at Ramban.

Judicial Officers from District Court Complex, Ramban, dedicated staff members of District Judiciary Ramban and DLSA Ramban, members of the Legal Aid Defense Counsel (LADC), Panel Lawyers, devoted Para Legal Volunteers (PLVs) and diligent officials from the Municipal Committee, Ramban. The Chairman DLSA, Ramban in his special

address, highlighted the importance of Gandhi Jayanti and the significance behind Swachhata Divas/Swachhata Hi Seva Campaign 2024.

He also delivered an inspiring address on the importance of sustainability and the adoption of eco-friendly alternatives to save the mother nature.

Secretary, DLSA Ramban Anjana Rajput presented the

welcome address while vote of thanks was presented by, Additional Special Mobile Magistrate, Ramban Shilpa Dogra.

The objective of organizing these programs was to spread awareness through community participation and also to give impetus to implementation of Swachhata Hi Seva Campaign 2024, to disseminate the importance of Sampoorana Swachh

Ramban and to reinforce the concept of Sanitation as everyone's duty.

The event commenced with an inspiring cleanliness drive within the District Court Complex, setting the tone for a cleaner and greener environment. Participants in a collective effort to clean and beautify their surroundings took up brooms to sweep away the debris of neglect, breathing new life into the surroundings.

Later, an awareness rally was also organized by DLSA Ramban in collaboration with Ramban Public School which was flagged off from District Court Complex in the presence of Judicial Officers, Prosecuting Officers, Panel Advocates, Faculty Members and students of Ramban Public School in which cleanliness drive was taken out in and around the streets of Court Market, Ramban.

Kusht Mukti Abhiyan Rath launched at Doda on Gandhi Jayanti

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DODA: To mark the Gandhi Jayanti, the Birthday of Mahatma Gandhi, the Department of Health under the banner of District Leprosy Society Doda conducted the Kusht Mukti Abhiyan, besides taking a pledge on Cleanliness & Leprosy at CMO Office Doda.

The programme was held under the able guidance of Chief Medical Officer Doda Dr Om Kumar.

The purpose of the event was to raise awareness about cause, transmission, sign and symptoms, treatment, prevention of leprosy and social stigma associated with the disease among the community.

On the occasion, the Para



Officials during the launch of Kusht Mukti Abhiyan Rath at Doda.

Medical Supervisor Surinder Singh administered a pledge to all the staff to maintain cleanliness in and around their surroundings besides generated awareness about the Leprosy disease.

Medical Officer Leprosy

Unit Doda Dr Javed Ahmed Parray, Mohd Shafi Attu, staff of CMO, Dy CMO and a large number of students from ANMT Doda were present on the occasion.

The speakers on this occasion sensitized the participants about the symptoms, causes and treatment of leprosy and stressed upon the staff to work with dedication in conducting the survey with the hope that an effective campaign will help in detection of hidden leprosy

cases in remote areas in the District.

They said that leprosy is not contagious, has a long incubation period and its patients should not be loathed or hated. They stressed on its early treatment as it is curable.

Later on, Dr Javed Parray along with others flagged off the Kusht Mukti Abhiyan Rath as a part of IEC, which will aware the general masses about the early sign and symptoms of leprosy.

Meanwhile, the department also enjoined upon all the field staff to spread mass awareness about this disease in the community and to clear all the misconception about the leprosy disease from the people.

NSS SMVDU organises cleanliness drive at Nau Devi Temple Katra



NSS unit of university during the cleanliness drive.

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KATRA: National Service Scheme (NSS) unit of SMVDU Katra organized cleanliness drive at Nau Devi temple Katra under the campaign "Swachhata Hi Seva". The campaign is currently being promoted throughout the country between 17th September to 2nd October, 2024. NSS SMVDU Katra volunteers

had organized various events during the said campaign since 17th September, 2024. Volunteers this time cleaned the surrounding areas of the Nau Devi temple in Katra. Volunteers enthusiastically worked for two hours and collected around 70 Kg of single use plastic from the temple surroundings. Volunteers also organized awareness session

for the nearby shopkeepers to keep the area clean and safe. NSS student coordinators Sadhvi Sharma and Abhishek Sharma led the whole drive. NSS programme coordinator, Dr. Rajiv Kumar was also present during the drive. Vice Chancellor, Prof. Pragati Kumar appreciated the efforts of NSS volunteers for organizing the event.

Swachh Bharat Abhiyan organised at Army Public School Akhnoor



Students and faculty members carrying out cleanliness drive.

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AKHNOOR: Swachh Bharat Abhiyan (Clean India Mission) is a nationwide cleanliness campaign initiated by the Govt of India. The campaign was launched on 02 Oct 2014. The campaign aims to eliminate open defecation and improve solid

waste management across India. The mission focuses on creating a cleaner environment, improving sanitation practices and promoting hygiene through public awareness and participation. Focus Areas of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, Elimination of Open Defecation, Construction of toilets specifically in rural areas to eliminate open defecation, Solid Waste Management, Promoting waste segregation, recycling, and proper disposal methods. Spreading Awareness among people about hygiene, sanitation and the importance of cleanliness. Clean Public Spaces. Cleaning streets, roads and infrastructure to enhance urban and rural environments.

This campaign involves the active participation of citizens, organizations, and local governments making it a people-driven movement for a cleaner and healthier India.

In order to motivate the students at budding stage, a cleaning drive was conducted by students of Army Public School, Akhnoor at Ambaran Village under the theme of "Swabhav Swachhata Sanskaar Swachhata".

Total Str of 40 students including 20 NCC cadets participated in the drive. Students participated with zeal & enthusiasm and cleaned the public spaces and carried out solid waste management under the able guidance of teachers.

BDA, MCB conduct cleanliness drive in Bhaderwah to observe Gandhi Jayanti

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BHADERWAH: On the milestone of ten years of the Swachhata campaign, which concluded on the eve of Gandhi Jayanti, Bhaderwah Development Authority (BDA) in collaboration with Municipal Committee Bhaderwah (MCB) participated and engaged in a cleanliness in Nalthi area of JK's Bhaderwah.

The BDA and MCB organized a cleanliness drive in a public park and River at Nalthi area of Bhaderwah under the banner of 'Gandhi Jayanti'.

The drive was conducted under the supervision Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Bhaderwah Development Authority (BDA) Bal



Officials carrying out cleanliness drive at Bhaderwah.

Krishan. Amit Ganju Accounts Officer, Public Officer BDA Amir Rafiqi, Dr Iftekhar Malik Incharge Herbal Gardens and employees of Municipal Committee and BDA also participated in the drive.

They visited public park

and River to carry out Shramdaan.

CEO BDA Bal Krishan briefed the participants about the guidelines to carry out the cleanliness drive. He also explained the importance of cleanliness and said that the drive had

been one of the social responsibilities that the everyone has towards the society at large.

He urged citizens of India to participate in the cleanliness initiative to further strengthen the spirit of 'Swachh Bharat.'

"As we celebrate 10 years of the Swachh Bharat Mission on Swachh Bharat Divas, we are reminded of the ideals of Mahatma Gandhi on his 155th birth anniversary," he added.

The collected waste was disposed of at a designated site.

The cleanliness drive was coinciding with the 155th Gandhi Jayanti today, marking the completion of 10 years since the launch of one of the most significant mass movements for cleanliness the Swachh Bharat Mission.

He emphasized that this mission goes beyond cleanliness; it aims to transform mindsets, promote hygiene, and create a sustainable future for everyone.

Army organises blood donation camp at GMC Doda

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DODA: National Voluntary Blood Donation Day is observed every year on October 1. It was first observed on October 1 to promote the awareness for blood donation and its life-saving importance. This year, the Indian Army, which is also known as the 'Citizen's Army' is celebrating 75 glorious years of its raising and is reaching out to the citizen of India



Army personnel along with GMC Doda officials during the camp.

through nationwide events and activities. In this series of events, the 'Doda Terriers' in collaboration with GMC Doda, organised a voluntary Blood Donation Camp on 1 October at GMC Doda in which a large number of youths from Doda district and soldiers of Indian Army donated blood and urged the citizens of the state to come forward and join the nation building.

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