

JKPSA highlights burning issues, seeks early redressal

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KATHUA: An impressive function was organized by the private schools Association of District Kathua in which President of the J & K Private Schools Association (JKPSA) Ajay Gupta was the Chief Guest where as Sat Paul Mansotra General Secretary, Sanjeev Luthra, Deepak Handa and Lal Chand Gandotra were the guests of honour. This function was presided over by the K.K. Bakshi and Malhar Singh respectively.

The function was organized by Rachpal Singh Newly elected District President Kathua and was attended by more than 154 representatives from urban, rural and Pahari area of district Kathua.

While speaking all members highlighted their problems which include irresponsible attitude of the government toward the small private schools viz hit and trial method used by the Fee fixation Committee to fix the fee of small private schools, delay in granting recognition on the basis of affiliation to all such schools whose files were submitted in offline mode before July 2021 etc.

Week long vigilance awareness campaign by Doda police concludes

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DODA: Campaign against Corruption to observe "Vigilance Awareness Week "under the theme "Say no to Corruption", Doda Police on Sunday organized an awareness programme in town Hall Doda. The Programme witnessed a large gathering of prominent Citizens,PRIs ,Shopkeepers ,businessmen, traders including Chairman MC Doda.

The Programme was organized by Shakeel Rehman Bhat Addl SP Doda under the guidance of Abdul Qayoom SSP Doda.

On this occasion, many prominent citizens spoke on prevailing corruption in society and community level. They highlighted the hardships and issues faced by common citizen due to corruption in the society.They also stressed on causes of corruption and their removal so as to make the corruption free society. Addl SP Doda also spoke on this occasion and highlighted the harmful and devastating effects in the society.The participants assured their full cooperation and support to police to fight against this menace. They also highlighted the devastating effects being borne by common man due to this evil. They also stressed that common man is the main victim of this evil in the community. The speakers demanded the highest level of integrity, honesty, transparency and accountability at all levels and suggested that common poor man should be given the official services without any hindrance and delaying tactics. The today's programme was last one in its series on "Vigilance Awareness Week". The programme concluded with firm determination that we all have to start fight against the corruption at personal and individual first and then to give a forceful kick collectively to eradicate this evil from our society. It was unanimously put fore that we all have to give services and perform our duties with utmost integrity, honestly and transparency.



J & K Private Schools Association members after the meeting at Kathua.

They also said that although government of India has come with the New Education Policy (NEP-2020) but till date none of the agency viz SCERT has organized any kind of orientation programme for the private school teachers to update them in accordance

to the new pedagogy and Students Assessment Evaluation Scheme- 2022.

President of the J & K Private Schools Association Ajay Gupta while addressing the august gathering said that government at all the labels has failed to establish single window clearance sys-

tem to facilitate the private schools functioning in the far flung areas of Jammu, Kashmir & Ladakh. The matter regarding training for the private school teachers was brought in the notice of concerned officials but till date no one had paid any heed to the genuine demands

of small schools which are being run by the educated unemployed youth with their own efforts and resources.

All speakers along with representatives appealed to the Lieutenant Governor of the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir Manoj Sinha to intervene to settle the genuine grievances of small private schools owners who are rendering yeomen services voluntarily not in cities but also in the remotest corner of J&K.

Members who attended this function included Naresh Kumar, Lavanya Khullar , Vivek Mehra , Subash Kerni, Mala Sharma, Ramparkash, Chain Singh , Gourav Charak, Vishal Singh , shabir Malik etc.

DM Doda reviews law & order scenario

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DODA: In a significant development, the District Magistrate Doda, Harvinder Singh chaired a meeting with SSP Doda Abdul Qayoom and all the Magistrates & Police Officers of the district. The meeting provided a platform bringing together all ADMS, SDMs and Tehsildars and the SPs, Dy. SPs and SHOs looking after law and order situation in the district.

The issues that were reviewed included combating drug-related problems, preventing smuggling of bovine animals, addressing the challenges posed by narco-terrorism, frequent fire incidents and improving road safety in the district.

The DM was briefed about the law and order apparatus of the district and various contingency plans to tackle any situation. It was decided to have joint participation of Mahistrates and police in mock drills to remain alert



District Magistrate Doda, Harvinder Singh chairing a meeting.

and ready for any type of eventuality. Additionally, discussions revolved around promoting communal harmony and peace, preventing illegal constructions, intensifying anti-encroachment drives and addressing issues related to illegal mining and arms licensing;

During the meeting, SSP Doda emphasized the need for strong coordination between the police and magisterial officials to combat social issues, including drug addiction, traffic management, and overcharging by passenger service providers. Special attention was placed

on maintaining records and keeping watch on individuals with a history of troublemaking and antisocial behaviour while facilitating intelligence sharing between civil and police authorities.

The District Magistrate also issued directives, including ensuring proper licensing for e-rickshaws and establishing electric charging stations. The DM urged the identification of civil defence volunteers to prevent loss due to mishaps and stressed the importance of adequate arrangements for fire safety tools during Diwali, including the deploy-

ment of SDRF and security forces. Furthermore, he emphasized the need to keep an eye on sensitive areas, raid locations prone to drug-related activities, and maintain vigilance with a focus on preventing illegal mining.

In his address, the District Magistrate highlighted the need for collaborative work for the welfare of the people. He emphasized that the district administration, comprising both magistracy and police among other departments works as a team to serve the public and implement policies effectively.

Police organises awareness programmes on protection of informers

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: In continuation to its ongoing series of events to observe "Vigilance Awareness Week 2023" District Police Kathua today organized an Awareness programme "Building About Public Interest Disclosure & Protection of Informers (PIDPI) Resolution & "Say No to Corruption, Commit to the Nation" at Conference Hall DPL, Kathua .The programme was Chaired by Addl. SP Kathua Paramjeet Singh accompanied by DySP Hqrs Kathua Manjeet Singh, DySP DAR Kathua Subash Chander alongwith other police officers/officials were also present on the occasion.

The programme was quite interactive in which chairing officer Addl. SP Kathua and DySP Hqrs spoke on Anti-Corruption and devastating effects of corruption in the society and highlighted the harmful effects of corruption and stressed upon bringing transparency, accountability



A police officer speaking during the programme.

and integrity at individual and community level. A pledge was taken by all with the firm determination to fight against the corruption for its eradication from our society and make our country a corruption free nation.

Pertinent to mention here that besides this, today the police teams of Police Station Hiranagar led by Insp. Arun Koul SHO Police Station Hiranagar and Police team of Police Station Rajbagh led by Insp. Tariq Ahmed SHO Police Station Rajbagh under the supervision of SDPO Border

Dheeraj Singh Katoch organised a Vigilance Awareness program at Hiranagar Morh & Marheen respectively in which people were made aware of the vigilance awareness program and also aware about PIDPI(Public interest disclosure and protection of informer) . After that everyone took the integrity Pledge.

Furthermore, today under the theme "Say no to corruption, Commit to the Nation " a Public meeting cum Awareness program held at Lowang in which local people of Lowang were present.

15th Tribal Youth Exchange Programme held

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PATNITOP: The third day of the 15th Tribal Youth Exchange Programme witnessed a sightseeing visit to the local hill station Patnitop and various cultural performances. Early in the morning, after a nutritious breakfast, the participants and escorting officers boarded buses from Saraswati Dham. After a three-hour ride on a scenic route from Jammu, the teams reached Patnitop Youth Hostel close to noon.

Hakeem Abdul Aziz, Deputy Director Srinagar, welcomed the participants to Patnitop and shared a brief introduction about the local geography, weather, and nearby sites worth seeing. Upon being enquired, many tribal youth admitted that they had never seen snow or topography like that of Patnitop. The staff at the Youth Hostel offered utmost cooperation. Multiple refreshments to the participants were provided.

Nisar Ahmed Butt, State Director NYKS, J&K shared a detailed schedule with the participants and highly recommended a visit to the Naag Mandir nearby, a historical site. The participants were free to explore the area under the guidance of their escorting officers. The participants and escorting officers gathered back at the Youth Hostel for lunch. Post lunch, the participants gathered in the lawn to perform group dances. The day was enriched by the creative performances of the youth. The participants admitted to enjoying the trip and expressed their wish to visit again.

The 15th Tribal Youth Exchange Program has been a monumental program that aims to bring forward youth from remote and difficult to access tribal area, and introduce them to different but unique cultures of our nation. The program offers a learning opportunity to the tribal youth.

World's Largest Grain Storage Plan: District Cooperative Development Committee discusses road map for effective implementation

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SAMBA: The District Cooperative Development Committee (DCDC) held a significant meeting on 4th November 2023, under the leadership of the Deputy Commissioner Samba, Abhishek Sharma with Deputy Registrar Cooperatives as the Convener of the meeting.

The primary focus of the meeting was to review the Cooperative sector and strategize the implementation of the prestigious "World's Largest Grain Storage Plan" in the Cooperative Department.

The concerned departments, in collaboration with the Agricultural Department and NABARD, have been directed to identify suitable land for the establishment of a modern Grain storage unit in District Samba. The chosen location



Deputy Commissioner Samba, Abhishek Sharma chairing a meeting.

will align with the "World's Largest Decentralized Grain Storage Project" initiated by the Ministry of Cooperative. Factors such as the viability of the site and the willingness of PACs to cooperate will be considered in the selection process. ADDC, Rajinder Singh, CPO, Sukhleen Kaur, ACD Siddharth Dhiman, Dy. Registrar Cooperatives, CAO, CHO, CSHO, CAHO, DDM NABARD, Lead Bank Manager, Assistant Registrars

Samba district, and other concerned officers attended the meeting.

The Deputy Commissioner stressed the importance of raising awareness and providing training to members of PACS regarding the various benefits of Central and State-sponsored schemes related to the Grain storage project and other initiatives from agriculture and allied departments.

The District Cooperative Development Committee's ded-

ication to improving the lives of farmers and enhancing the agricultural landscape remains evident, and these decisions are expected to bring significant positive changes to the agricultural sector in District Samba.

DM Reasi Review progress of DAK expressway

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REASI: District Magistrate Reasi, Vishesh Mahajan on Sunday chaired a meeting to review the progress made in the construction of the Delhi-Amritsar Katra Expressway project.

The meeting was attended by ADC Abdul Star , DFO Reasi, SDM Katra ,ACR Reasi , Project Director PIU Udhampur, and other concerned officers .

While speaking in the meeting, the DM directed Divisional Manager State Forest Corporation Reasi/ Udhampur to shift 2500 trees which have already been cut and were laying on the road side.

The meeting conducted a comprehensive examination of the progress of the work on the prestigious Expressway. The Deputy Commissioner directed ACD, DFO, PIU Udhampur and SDM Katra to jointly visit the spot and resolve the dispute of forest and local villagers.

He further advised the NH authorities to ensure that the Contractor puts in place adequate men and machinery to pace up the progress. The Deputy Commissioner enjoined all to work in close coordination and ensure to adhere to timelines. It was desired that the weekly progress report shall be submitted to DC Reasi for more strict and close monitoring of the progress of the project.

JKTJAC demands resolution of burning issues

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UDHAMPUR: A monthly meeting of Jammu Kashmir Teachers' Joint Action Committee (JKTJAC) under the leadership of District President Udhampur Lekh Raj Parihar held at Udhampur on Sunday.

The meeting was attended by the JKTJAC representatives from all the eleven zones of the district.

While speaking on the occasion Lekh Raj Parihar highlighted the burning issues of the teaching fraternity and appealed the authorities to resolve them amicably.

While speaking he appealed the Director School Education Jammu to issue regularisation orders of ReTs who have completed 5 years ReT period as they are waiting for their regularisation for a long time and Conversion of RRETs to Teachers Grade II/III so that their salary get released. He also demanded the release of salary of unregularised ReTs and RRETs who are without salary for last more than two years and their families are on the verge of starvation.

"Though Director School Education Jammu assured the JKTJAC deputation in recent past to release salary of these suffering teachers besides issuance of mutual transfer orders of Teachers Grade II/III in one go and conversion orders at the earliest but till date same hasn't been done thereby increasing suffering of these teachers " he said and urged DSEJ to resolve these issues.

Other demands highlighted on the occasion included comprehensive transfer policy for teachers appointed under ReT scheme as these teachers have been work-

ing in the same schools for last more than 20 years, conversion of EVs to ReTs as they are suffering badly; conversion of headteachers posts into non plan posts of masters to resolve the salary issue of the masters; raising Grade of teachers at par with their counter parts in other UTs; filling up of vacant posts ZEOs and Headmasters as many zones and High Schools are headless, issuance of DPC list of teachers to masters as only about 500 teachers have been promoted as masters in last 9 years and clearance of pay arrears of Teachers and masters beyond two years.

He also demanded the settlement of GP fund (Refundable and non refundable) cases of teaching and non teaching staff of education department which are lying in different treasuries for last 4 to 6 months due to non availability of cash.

On the occasion he appealed to the Chief Education Officer Udhampur to make provision of release of MDM dues which the teachers have been managing from their own pockets for last one and half year. He also demanded post facto/ enrollment permission in favour of teachers whose files are lying in the CEO office Udhampur.

Others who also spoke on the occasion were: Sham Parkash Sharma, Ashok Seth, Pritam Goswami, Chain Singh, Ravinder Singh Rathore, Shamsher Singh, Suresh Sharma, Sandeep Sharma, Manoj Sharma , Anil Sharma, Som Raj Sharma, Ranjit Singh, Rakesh Singh, Deepankar , Jai Parkash, Raj Kumar, Kuldip Kumar Sharma, Ravi Kumar Sharma, Kuldip Singh, Parshant Sharma, Pardeep Kumar and others.

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