

# District status for Billawar demanded

## STATE TIMES NEWS

**BILLAWAR:** Highlighting the demand for creation of Billawar District, the activists of Billawar Zila Andolan held day long Dharna in the Tehsil Ground Billawar. Prominent persons from various parts of Billawar, Ramkot and Lohai Malhar tehsils participated.

Convener of Billawar Zila Andolan, Hari Chand Jalmeria Advocate in his address to the participants expressed concerns over the continued neglect by successive governments of the genuine demand of creating Billawar District. Billawar was ignored by Sheikh Abdullah in 1978 when he added 3 districts in Kashmir valley and again by Ghulam Nabi Azad when he created 8 districts (4 in Jammu and 4 in Kashmir provinces) in 2006. Billawar has again been ignored by Modi Government when 5 new districts were created in Ladakh this year. He further expressed anguish over construction of Jail in green and



Activists of Billawar Zila Andolan during Dharna.

grazing area of Billawar (Dambra village) where instead Agriculture University Research Center should be developed. Present Kathua District comprises 12 tehsils. Six tehsils namely Billawar, Bani, Lohai-Malhar, Ramkote, Mahanpur and Basohli are on the upper side of the Galak-Sundrikote-Their range of lower Shivalak Range and comprise distinct Sub-Region. People of this Sub-Region have to walk and travel long distances ranging 150-200 kms to reach Kathua district

headquarter causing loss of time and money both. Despite having good potential of tourism, agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, this area has been subjected to neglect by various successive government, said Jalmeria. Billawar is centrally located in this Sub-Region. The people have been raising the demand for creation of Billawar District since decades under the banner of Billawar Zila Andolan for creation of Billawar District with headquarter in Billawar. He also emphasized the need of improving road

connectivity and of improving teaching staff availability in govt. schools. The activists of Billawar Zila Andolan submitted a memorandum to the Chief Minister Omar Abdullah through the office of Additional Deputy Commissioner Billawar asking the Government to immediately create Billawar District; to construct three tunnels: one at Sundrikote to connect with national High way at Kathua, second at Dehri Gala to connect with Dhaggar-Bani, 3rd at

Chuchru Gala to connect with Basantgarh-Mantalai-Chaneni; to construct Agriculture University at Dambra instead of Jail; to restrict the height of Ujh Dam and not disturb the local population as there is insufficient water flow in Ujh river.

Other prominent participants were BR Upadhiaya, former Sarpanches Jagdish Sapolia, Jagdev Singh Miyani, Makhn Jamodia, Kuldip Sharma; Shiv Dev Singh Sushil (prominent Dogri writer), Jatinder Singh Bhadwal Advocate, Arvind Jalmeria advocate, Dwarka Nath Sharma, Punnu Ram Jamodia, Harish Chandel, Capt Dass Ram, Hemant Basotra, Bariam Singh, Amarnath, Tirath Singh, Ankush Thakur, Ravikant Sharma, Kuldev Parshad, Farooq Ahmed, Devinder Singh, Manjeet Kumar, Pardeep Singh, Joginder Singh, GL Sharma, Nirmal Kishore Basotra, Jyoti Parshad.

# Col Mahan stress for strengthening Party's base at grassroots level

## STATE TIMES NEWS

**BANI:** Col Mahan Singh (Retd), DDC Chairman Kathua on Sunday visited Bani and conducted a BJP constituency-level workshop focused on the ongoing party membership drive. Prominent leaders, including BJP District President, MLA Basohli, former MLA Bani Jeewan Lal Lalhal, Reeta Thakur, Moti Ram, Thakur Dass, Rajeshwar Billawaria, and others, were present during the event.

Speaking to the media, Col Mahan Singh lauded the dedication and hard work of BJP workers during the recently held Assembly elections in Bani. He urged them to maintain the same enthusiasm in strengthening the party organization at the grassroots level.

During his visit, Col Mahan Singh inaugurated a four-kilometer blacktopping project on the Bani-Duggar Road amidst slogans of appreciation by BJP workers and local residents. The



Col Mahan Singh (Retd), DDC Chairman Kathua inspecting dev project at Bani.

resurfacing work, being executed by the PWD Division Basohli at an estimated cost of Rs 80 lakh under the City & Town Scheme, was undertaken in response to public demand.

Col Mahan Singh emphasized that the Modi government is deeply committed to the development of remote and hilly regions in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. He announced the launch of the much-awaited PMGSY Phase IV Scheme by the Central Government, which aims to connect remaining habitations, particularly in hilly areas, through durable road networks. He urged the residents of Kathua to provide land for these upcoming projects, ensuring holistic development and public welfare.

The DDC Chairman also

visited a locally established fly ash brick-making factory, a startup initiated by Kunal Gupta, a local youth. He applauded Gupta's entrepreneurial efforts and encouraged young people to follow such examples by becoming employment creators instead of job seekers.

Additionally, Col Mahan Singh inspected the newly constructed state-of-the-art iron bridge over the Sewa River near Bani. He commended the project, stating that it would significantly benefit the local population of Bani and the entire district of Kathua.

He underlined the BJP's ongoing commitment to party expansion and infrastructural development in the region, reinforcing the government's resolve to uplift far-flung areas of Jammu and Kashmir.

# 4 vehicles seized, 4 drivers arrested for illegal extraction & transportation of minerals

## STATE TIMES NEWS

**SOPORE:** Cracking a whip on illegal mining & transportation of minerals, Police have seized 4 vehicles and arrested 4 drivers in Sopore. A police team headed by Police Post Putkha under the supervision of SDPO Sopore Shri. Sarfaraz Bashir-JKPS and SHO Police Station Tarzoo seized 4 vehicles (tractors) & arrested their drivers involved in illegal extraction/transportation of minerals. They have been identified as Nazir Ahmad Parra son of Abdul Kabir Parra, Mohammad Hussain Malla son of Habib Ullah Malla, Muzamil Ahmad Bhat son of Ghulam Nabi Bhat and Nayeem Ahmad Malla son of Ghulam Ahmad Malla all residents of Amberpora Tarzoo Sopore. Accordingly, a case under relevant sections of law has been registered at Police Station Tarzoo and investigation has been initiated.

# Drug peddler arrested, contraband substance recovered

## STATE TIMES NEWS

**KUPWARA:** Continuing its efforts to eradicate the menace of drugs from the society, Police have arrested a drug peddler in Kupwara and recovered contraband substance from his possession. A Police party of Police Post Bazaar at a checkpoint established at Geerhatchi, intercepted a person identified as Ghulam Mohd Lone son of Abdul Rehman Lone resident of Khumriyal. During search, three lathis of charas-like substance weighing approximately 71 grams was recovered from his possession. He has been arrested and shifted to Police Station where he remains in custody. Accordingly, a case vide FIR No. 266/2024 under relevant sections of law has been registered at Police Station Kupwara and investigation has been initiated.

# Dr Rameshwar reiterates commitment for holistic development of Bani constituency



MLA Bani, Dr. Rameshwar Singh inaugurating Health and Wellness Centre in Bhakoga.

## STATE TIMES NEWS

**BANI:** MLA Bani, Dr. Rameshwar Singh inaugurated the construction work of a state-of-the-art Health and Wellness Centre (HWC) in Bhakoga. The project, estimated to cost Rs 2 crore, has been sanctioned under NABARD funding. The inauguration ceremony witnessed the presence of senior health and revenue officers, local officials, and prominent citizens of the region.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Rameshwar Singh high-

lighted the significance of the project in ensuring equitable healthcare access for the underserved population of Bhakoga and surrounding areas. "This Health and Wellness Centre is a step forward in our commitment to improving healthcare infrastructure in remote regions. It will cater to over 3,000 beneficiaries, ensuring they receive quality health services closer to their homes," he stated.

Dr. Rameshwar informed that the proposed HWC will

be equipped with modern medical facilities, dedicated consultation rooms, maternal and child health services, diagnostic labs, and a pharmacy. He emphasized that the project aligns with the government's vision to strengthen primary healthcare infrastructure and make quality health services accessible to all, irrespective of geographical challenges.

Officials from the Health Department assured timely completion of the construction work, maintaining the

highest standards of quality and efficiency. The center is expected to provide a range of services, including preventive, promotive, and curative care, under a single roof.

Prominent citizens and residents of Bhakoga expressed their gratitude to Dr. Rameshwar Singh for his proactive efforts in bringing much-needed development to the area. They acknowledged that the establishment of the HWC would alleviate the hardships faced by locals in availing medical care, particularly during emergencies.

Dr. Rameshwar Singh further reiterated his commitment to the holistic development of the Bani constituency, ensuring sustained focus on health, education, and infrastructure development. He also urged the officials to monitor the progress of the project closely and ensure that it is completed within the stipulated timeframe.

# District Task Force conducts drive to rescue children in street situations

## STATE TIMES NEWS

**RAJOURI:** To tackle issues of child begging, child labor, and children in street situations (CISS), Mission Vatsalya, under the Social Welfare Department, conducted an extensive drive in the Main Market of Rajouri.

The initiative was carried

out on the directions of Commissioner Secretary, Social Welfare, Sheetal Nanda and under the guidance of Deputy Commissioner Abhishhek Sharma, the District Child Protection Officer Abdul Raheem led the operation aimed at safeguarding the rights and welfare of vul-

nerable children.

The drive saw active participation from various departments, including the Child Welfare Committee, Police, Labour Department, and officials from the District Child Protection Unit (DCPU).

During the operation, six children forced in child

labor and two children involved in begging were rescued. The children were produced before the Child Welfare Committee (CWC) Rajouri.

The Chairperson CWC Rajouri Priti Santal directed their rehabilitation according to the provisions of the Juvenile Justice

(JJ) Act, ensuring their appropriate care and protection.

Labour Inspector Neeraj Kumar issued on-the-spot notices to employers, and authorities confirmed that strict action would be taken against violators under applicable laws.

Speaking about the drive,

DCPO Abdul Raheem highlighted the department's commitment to addressing child labor and begging through such initiatives. He reiterated the importance of rehabilitation and ensuring that affected children receive support through government schemes.

# Army conducts medical camp



## STATE TIMES NEWS

**NOWSHERA:** A medical camp was conducted at the border village of Kalsiyar to alleviate the medical issues of the local population. The aim of medical camp was to provide free medical advice, medicines, referral for specialized treatment as required and to reduce the out of pocket expenses for the gen populace of border area villages loc along the LC. A team of Army doctors and Nursing Assts offered health checkups. Approx 71 persons of the villages under the AOR of Kalsiyar Bn availed the services.

The area lacks basic healthcare facilities and this positive endeavour by the Army was highly appreciated by the locals. A team of medical specialists provided health check-up and essential medicines. Overwhelmed by such a warm gesture, the Panchayat Head and the elders expressed that they are more than grateful to the Army and would be eagerly looking forward to such initiatives in the future.

# Madhuparamhans delivers religious sermons

## STATE TIMES NEWS

**SAMBA:** Sadguru of Sahib Bandagi Shri Madhuparamhans Ji Maharaj, while delighting the congregation with the nectar of his discourses in Rakhbandhu, said that water is pure. But when dirty substances get mixed in water; then the water becomes dirty. In this way, the soul is pure, but the soul gets spoiled along with the conscience.

Small children do not know the importance of money. I gave a note to a small child, he tore it and threw it away. But when they grow up a little, they know the importance of money. Man is not striving for salvation. Because there is no curiosity. Because when he saw in the world, he saw how his parents



are living. He learned the same. He studies. He will get a job. Then we all force him to get married. Then he aspires to have children. Till now, all those who have come, have called the world a house of sorrows. He said one more thing that we are all in bondage. Sahib's view towards the world is clear. Like a gambler goes regretting why he played after losing in gambling. In this way, one day or

the other, one will have to go. A man works hard all his life to earn money. He gets married, has children. One day, suddenly death comes and he has to leave everyone. It is a great sorrow. Just like a small child does not know the importance of money; similarly a man does not understand the importance of salvation. When someone dies, we pray that O Lord, do good to him. That is, everyone believes

that there is a soul, which remains even after the body dies. It is important to find the soul. Our soul. What kind of soul is that? The soul is immortal. The body has many restrictions. There is a soul. The soul is immortal. This lack does not increase. When the importance of money is known, then day and night, one keeps on earning it. You are a soul. But you are bound. We all also believe that

we are bound. Everyone is talking about salvation. Everyone is talking about liberation. In this way, we have to know what is the reason for bondage. What is the solution. We also know why we are bound. Everyone also says that we are bound in the mind and illusion. Man knows that we are bound in the mind and illusion. But man is not making efforts for salvation. Why is he not doing so? Due to ignorance. If someone is trying to escape by giving and taking then he is engaged in the game of Niranjana. All saints have called that supreme power as Sahib. The word Malik or Paramatma is of Niranjana. That is why Sahib is saying that Guru and disciple are also dreams, soul and Paramatma

are also dreams. Whatever is in three worlds, is all a dream. There is a true name beyond three worlds, which is only with saints. It is only with Sadguru. Guru does not have it. Sadguru said.

An energy is required for the functioning of our body. That is Prana. Prana is being operated by the soul. The soul considered itself as the body due to ignorance, that is why it is entangled in all sinful acts. The mind has bound the soul. No one else is your enemy. It is only the mind. All the sinful acts are done by the power of the mind. Man is not able to understand the mind, he is also not able to understand Maya. Without the power of the name, the mind cannot be controlled.

# GLDM GDC Hiranagar, Dayanand PG College Kanpur sign MoU

## STATE TIMES NEWS

**HIRANAGAR:** The Department of Music of Girdhari Lal Dogra Memorial Government Degree College (GLDM GDC), Hiranagar, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Department of Music at Dayanand PG College, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh. This agreement aims to enhance education, research, and cultural activities in the field of music between the two esteemed institutions.

The MoU signing ceremony witnessed the presence of senior officials, including the Principals and Heads of Departments (HoDs) from both colleges. Dr. Pragya Khanna, Principal of GLDM



GDC Hiranagar, signed the agreement alongside Dr. Bharat Bhushan, Head of the Department of Music, and Dr. Mukesh Kumar, Assistant Professor.

Representing Dayanand PG College, Principal Prof. Vandana Nigam and Prof. Sangeeta Srivastava, Incharge of the Department of Music, formalized the collaboration.

During the event, Dr. Pragya Khanna lauded the initiative and commended Dr. Bharat Bhushan for his dedicated efforts in expanding opportunities in the music sector. She emphasized that this partnership will prioritize research, interactive programs, expert lectures, and demonstrations to nurture

students' academic and creative skills. She noted that the MoU aligns with the objectives of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and will facilitate the effective utilization of intellectual resources for mutual growth.

Dr. Bharat Bhushan elaborated that this is the second national MoU signed by the Department of Music at GLDM GDC Hiranagar, aimed at fostering meaningful collaborations in music-related projects. He highlighted the practical benefits

of this agreement, which include organizing workshops, seminars, and internships to enrich the learning experience for students. He further noted that this collaboration will provide students with better placement opportunities and exposure to innovative teaching methodologies.

Prof. Vandana Nigam, Principal of Dayanand PG College, expressed her enthusiasm for the partnership, highlighting the potential for cultural exchange and shared learning. She affirmed that

this MoU would pave the way for innovative initiatives in music education and research, benefiting students and faculty alike.

Effective from November 16, 2024, the agreement marks a significant step forward in strengthening the academic and cultural ties between the two institutions. Both colleges expressed confidence that the MoU would foster long-term collaboration and contribute to the advancement of music education in line with contemporary demands.

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