

SSP Doda visits Bhandarwah, reviews crime situation

STATE TIMES NEWS

DODA: SSP Doda, Sandeep Kumar Mehta, on Sunday held an crime review meeting with the Station House Officer (SHO), Incharge Police Posts (IPs), and all Investigating Officers (IOs) of Police Station Bhandarwah. The meeting was organized to review the ongoing investigations and ensure swift action on pending cases.

During the meeting, the SSP discussed all the cases under investigation for the current year, as well as any backlog cases from previous years. He issued clear directions to expedite the investigation process, with a focus on maintaining the quality of investigations, and maximizing the disposal of cases, particularly in the last quarter of the year.

SSP Mehta emphasized the need for officers to thoroughly investigate Narcotic Drugs



SSP Doda, Sandeep Kumar Mehta chairing a meeting.

and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) cases by identifying the forward and backward links in drug-related offenses. He also stressed the importance of identifying habitual offenders in these cases for possible detention under the Public Safety Act (PSA), as well as initiating proceedings to attach their properties. In cases related to Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA), the

SSP directed the investigating officers to collect circumstantial and electronic evidence to ensure timely judicial determination of cases. He also instructed the supervisory officers and IOs to keep close surveillance on suspects, drug addicts, Over Ground Workers (OGWs), troublemakers, and rumor mongers, advising preventive action to maintain law and order in the region.

Following the review meeting, SSP Doda held an interactive session with prominent persons and respected community members from the area.

These participants expressed their appreciation for the police's efforts in addressing public concerns through such interactive meetings. They raised various issues affecting the community, and the SSP assured them that their demands would be taken up at the appropriate level and resolved promptly.

In his address, SSP Mehta urged the community members to continue fostering brotherhood and communal harmony in the region. He emphasized the importance of cooperation with the police by providing valuable inputs or information regarding any criminal activities, such as drug smuggling or bovine

smuggling, that might be occurring in their neighborhoods.

Additionally, the SSP held an interaction session with the Village Defense Committees (VDGs), during which the VDGs raised several concerns and demands. SSP Mehta assured them that their genuine issues would be addressed promptly. He also briefed them on the importance of maintaining alertness in their areas of responsibility (AOR), encouraging them to conduct day and night patrolling.

The VDGs were instructed to provide any relevant information to the police regarding suspicious movements in their areas, and were also directed to work closely with the police, CAPF, and Army to conduct regular LRPs (Long Range Patrols) and SRPs (Short Range Patrols) to ensure greater vigilance.

J&K Basketball teams leave for Youth Nationals



J&K Basketball teams posing with dignitaries at flagging off ceremony.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir Basketball Association flagged off state Youth basketball teams for men and women to participate in the 39th Youth National Basketball Championship scheduled to be held in Kolkata from 29th November to 5th December 2024.

The team comprises of players from different districts of the UT.

Dr Vikram Handa, President

JKBA appreciated the efforts of district units in promoting the game in their respective districts.

The teams were seen off by the General Secretary JKBA Aman Sharma, and Vice President, Ashok Singh Janwal in the presence of Divisional Sports Officer of the J&K Sports Council Jammu, Baljinder Singh.

Rudra Janwal of Udhampur has been named as the captain of the men team while Pranavi

Sharma of Jammu shall lead the women team.

Sushma Janwal and Sachin Dogra shall be the Head Coaches of women and men teams respectively.

During the send-off ceremony, teams were screened by the JKSC and given Colours by the office bearers.

Players and JKBA expressed their gratitude to the JK sports Council authorities for their support to the game of Basketball in the state.

Randhawa joins community people to listen to PM Modi's 116th Episode of Mann Ki Baat

Stress on strengthening Library Culture in Jammu



Vikram Randhawa, MLA Bahu Constituency, with party workers listening to PM Narendra Modi's Mann Ki Baat.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Vikram Randhawa, MLA Bahu Constituency, on Sunday joined party workers and community members to listen to the 116th episode of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's monthly radio program, Mann Ki Baat.

The community members appreciated PM Modi's emphasis on the importance of libraries in fostering creativity and a love for books among children. They lauded the Prime Minister for highlighting various initiatives across India that promote reading habits and his vision of libraries as hubs

for learning. They agreed that such efforts play a pivotal role in instilling the habit of reading and shaping the younger generation's future.

Addressing the gathering, Vikram Randhawa said Mann Ki Baat reflects the true spirit of India, where every citizen is a stakeholder in the nation's progress. It is a source of inspiration and guidance for millions."

He said, "Prime Minister Modi's message inspires us to create spaces that encourage learning and growth. His focus on libraries is a reminder of the transformative power of knowledge in

building a progressive society."

Randhawa emphasized the vibrant library culture in Jammu, highlighting its pivotal role in fostering education and intellectual growth. He stated that libraries have been instrumental in promoting a love for books and learning among people of all ages. He reiterated the need to strengthen this culture by creating more accessible community libraries, aligning with PM Modi's vision of nurturing creativity and instilling the habit of reading.

The attendees also discussed ways to implement PM Modi's vision by establishing community libraries and supporting reading initiatives in the Bahu Constituency. The event concluded with a collective pledge to contribute towards a knowledge-driven society and grassroots development, in line with the Prime Minister's aspirations shared through Mann Ki Baat.

3-day exhibition organised by CBC on Centrally-sponsored schemes concludes at Jhiri Mela

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A three-day multimedia exhibition on Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhit, Mission LiFE, Swachh Bharat Mission, Poshan Abhiyan, Pardhan Mantri Awaas Yojana, Namo Drone Didi, Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat and other Centrally-sponsored schemes organized by Central Bureau of Communication, J&K, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, concluded at Jhiri Mela in Marh, Jammu on Sunday.

Ayushi Puri, Deputy Director, CBC, J&K and Ladakh, presided over the concluding function. Sarsa Ram, Principal, GHSS Jhiri, faculty and students of GHSS, Jhiri, M/S Dab Karamdin, officers and officials of Health Department, Agriculture Department, Jal Shakti Department, and CBC, J&K were present on the occasion. In her address, Ayushi Puri appreciated the district administration



Ayushi Puri, Deputy Director, CBC, J&K and Ladakh with other dignitaries at a programme.

for their support and cooperation for organising the eight-day long programme of outreach programmes. She said the Photo Exhibition focused on the achievements of the Govt. of India in various fields.

Later, Ayushi Puri, Rajesh Sharma, FPA and Vijay Mattoo, FPA were felicitated by Ankita Kar, CEO, JAKEGA for their continued support and cooperation for organising the Integrated Outreach Program at Jhiri Mela. Yesterday, Jammu & Kashmir Police department organized Anti-Drug

Awareness Programme in the multimedia Exhibition of CBC, J&K. The programme was attended by Rajinder Singh (IPS), SSP, Jammu, Brijesh Sharma (IPS), SP, Jammu, Rural, Ghulam Abbas (IIS), Director, CBC, J&K, Ladakh, Ather Amin Zargar, SDM, Marh and other senior officers and officials of the Police department.

About 32 schools of Marh Zone visited the exhibition. Seminars, expert lectures by resource persons from the departments of Agriculture, Health,

Revenue, Police, ICDS, Jal Shakti and Education, and competitions as well open quizzes were organized during the event to engage the audience.

Besides, theme-based cultural performances were also presented by artists of Registered Troupes of CBC, J&K. The programme was conducted by Vijay Mattoo, Incharge, CBC, Poonch. All the guests and participants along with winners were honoured by CBC, J&K.

SKUAST-TAJ, SSTA SKUAST-K conduct meet, discuss common issues

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A high level meet was conducted between the members of SKUAST-Teaching Association Jammu (SKUAST-TAJ) and their sister concern i.e., Scientists and Teachers Association (SSTA), SKUAST-K under the chairmanship of President SKUAST-TAJ, Dr. Vikas Sharma and President SSTA Dr. Javed Ahmed Mugloo in which the associations discuss some major issues pertaining to teaching fraternity of both the farm varsities.

Both the associations showed great concern for the abolition of review system for enhancing the superannuation age from 62 to 65 years of the Professors of erstwhile State Universities namely SKUAST-Jammu, S K U A S T - K a s h m i r, University of Jammu and University of Kashmir as the review system has created a sycophancy / biased pick and choose of teachers at initial stage as well as subsequent stages of the review, result-



SKUAST-J & SKUAST-K Teaching Associations in a joint meet at Chatha Campus in Jammu.

ing in humiliation, anguish and frustration amongst the Professor fraternity.

Dr. Vikas Sharma demanded the unconditional 65 years retirement age of university professors without any review and riders, thus, bringing uniformity in superannuation age of all the universities of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. Dr. Javed stressed that review system for a Professor, who served the Institution for decades in the capacity of Dean, Director and even I/c Vice Chancellor, is not acceptable at any cost.

During the meeting, it was impressed upon that according to UGC guidelines

adopted by SKUAST-J & SKUAST-K, CAS of teachers should be conducted / twice in a year.

The associations also discussed the issue of Subject Matter Specialists, who are due for GP Rs. 8000 and the re-designation of Programme Assistants, who are working in GP Rs. 6000, as timely promotions to the teachers are an encouragement for doing better services for excellent research / teaching outputs.

The meeting was attended by Dr Zaffar Badri, Dr. Devinder Sharma, Dr. Muneeshwar Sharma, Dr. Vikas Sharma and other members.

Natrang presents 'Diary Kuse Lok Naath Di'

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In its commitment to promote Dogri language and literature, Natrang today presented Prof. Madan Mohan Sharma's 'Diary Kuse Lok Naath Di' under the direction of Neeraj Kant in its weekly theatre series, Sunday Theatre today at its Studio Theatre. Natrang Director Padamshree Balwant Thakur said that Natrang will showcase more such significant works of Dogri writers in its weekly theatre series. The play was based on a story written by one of the most celebrated Dogri writer Late Prof. Madan Mohan Sharma - proud Sahitya Akademi Awardee. The short story was creatively devised into a thrilling theatrical performance which was appreciated by the audience.



Natrang artists performing in a play.

As the title suggests, the play revolves around the diary of one 'Lok Nath'. The writer's son finds a diary from a pack and takes it to his home. The cover of the diary was so tempting and attractive that the writer could not resist going through it, knowingly that

peeping into someone's personal affairs is not a good habit but reading the pages of the diary, he finds a very interesting and dramatic life account of Lok Nath. Whenever there was any unusual happening in the life of Lok Nath he has not forgotten to pen it down. The

life of Lok Nath is portrayed in such an interesting manner that a common-man identifies with each situation and turns of his life. The opening pages finds Lok Nath disillusioned with everyone around him even to the extent that he has lost faith in God. Later he looks for something exciting to happen in his life. Cash starved Lok Nath opts to do tuitions by teaching the children of his own boss, this way he will be able to please the hierarchy and make some pocket money as well. Here he happens to have some encounter with the sister-in-law of the boss. Lok Nath finds her very attractive, charming and pleasing, which prompts him to venture into an affair. Every day he goes with a new plan to approach her but is unable to muster courage to do so. Finally he withdraws his plan for the reason that if his boss will come to know about

his intentions he is not only going to lose the girl of his dreams but the tuition and the regular job as well. The most interesting part of the play was its language which was itself a complete theatre.

Neeraj Kant as 'Writer' maintained the required tonality whereas Pawan Verma as 'Lok Nath' portrayed the inner conflicts of the character in a beautiful manner. The lights were designed & executed by Brijesh Avtar Sharma whereas the music of the play was scored by Mehak Chib who also did the presentations. The show was coordinated by Mohd. Yaseen.

ITI trained CP worker, land donors deputation meets Javed Rana

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A deputation of All ITI Trained CP Worker and Land Donors Association from Jammu Province on Sunday called on Minister for Jal Shakti, Forests and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmad Rana.

They projected their issues and concerns while seeking speedy redressal of the same.

The deputation demanded regularization of PHE casual labours, ITI Trained CP Workers and those who donated land to PHE department for water supply schemes.

They told the Minister that they have been working for the last 20 years in the department and about 23711 daily wagers and their families are suffering due to lack of any policy for their regularisation.

They expressed hope that the government will consider redressal of their issues and concerns on priority.

The Minister, while responding to issues raised by the deputation, assured them that all their demands and grievances will be looked into for redressal on priority basis.

Sadguru Madhuparamhans enlightens congregation with teachings of Kabir Sahib

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Sadguru of Sahib Bandgi, Madhuparamhans Ji Maharaj, captivated the congregation today with his profound discourses, delving into the unique and unparalleled teachings of Kabir Sahib. He emphasized that while the words of Kabir Sahib are often misunderstood and ridiculed, those who sincerely contemplate and internalize them can grasp the essence of the soul and the Supreme Soul.

Sadguru explained that Kabir Sahib likens the soul and the Supreme Soul to dreams, as saints have described the Supreme Soul as Niranjana. He elaborated that Kabir Sahib's words carry immense depth, offering insights that reveal the dream-like nature of the world. "The world, the Guru, and the disciple-all are dreams," he said. "Only the Sadguru transcends this dream. Everything else is a construct of the mind. If the mind is controlled, the illusion



Sadguru Madhuparamhans Ji Maharaj speaking.

of the world ceases to exist." He recounted the knowledge imparted by Vashishtha Muni to Lord Ram, where the sage explained that the world is a manifestation of the mind. By halting the mind's activity, the worldly illusion dissolves. Sadguru emphasized the importance of meditation but cautioned against superficial expectations, stating, "Meditation is not about seeing or hearing anything specific. The true essence lies beyond these sensory experiences." He dismissed the notion that spiritual sounds, often referred to as 'anahad,' represent ultimate truth, explaining that

they arise from the union of nerves and eventually fade. True realization, he asserted, comes from connecting with the wordless, eternal sound, known only to saints. "A genuine Sadguru does not entangle a seeker in these intermediate stages but guides them toward ultimate liberation," he added.

Sadguru also reflected on the universal reference to the divine as "Sahib," a term that signifies the Supreme Being and is found in various scriptures, including the Ramayana and the teachings of Guru Nanak Dev Ji. He reminded the congregation that divine grace through the Sadguru is essential for true spiritual progress.

In closing, Sadguru urged seekers to move beyond superficial practices and align themselves with the deeper truths of Kabir Sahib's teachings, guiding them on the path to self-realization and ultimate liberation.

Extracurricular activities shaping child's personality, preparing them for future challenges: Sham Lal



MLA Jammu North, Sham Lal Sharma lighting ceremonial lamp.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Sham Lal Sharma, MLA Jammu North and Former Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, honoured the Annual Day celebrations of Kids Planet Public School, Akhnoor, as the Chief Guest.

The event witnessed an overwhelming display of talent and creativity by the students through cultural programs, music, and dance performances.

Shakti Singh, Vikrant Bral, Editor of Jammu Speaks; Rabia Khajuria; and Atul Sudan who attended as the special guests

In his keynote address, Sham Lal commended the students for their dedication and discipline. He highlighted the importance of extracurricular activities in shaping a child's personality and preparing them for future challenges.

Acknowledging the efforts of Chairman Rohit Gupta and Principal Mona Gupta, Sharma praised their visionary leadership and relentless commitment to providing quality education in the region.

He stated, "Institutions like Kids Planet Public School play a pivotal role in nurturing the next generation by instilling cre-

ativity, values, and knowledge that go beyond textbooks."

Sharma also spoke about the broader need for improving educational infrastructure and ensuring equal opportunities for students in both urban and rural areas.

He emphasized that education should not just focus on academics but should also promote holistic development, which is crucial for producing socially responsible citizens.

He further added, "Seeing the enthusiasm of these children today gives me immense hope for the

future. These young minds are our greatest assets."

Concluding his remarks, Sharma extended his heartfelt best wishes to the management, faculty, and students of Kids Planet Public School. He urged parents and teachers to continue supporting children in their journey of learning and growth.

"This school has set an inspiring benchmark in the field of education, and I am confident it will continue to shine in the years to come," he remarked.

The event's primary goal to foster an appreciation for cultural heritage and to inspire action towards saving rivers-was well-received by the audience. Parents and guests commended the school for selecting such a meaningful and inspiring theme.

Towards the conclusion, all dignitaries were honored with mementoes as a token of gratitude for sparing their valuable time and encouraging the students with their presence. The evening culminated with the singing of the National Anthem, leaving a sense of pride and hope among everyone present.