

Col Mahan flags off ‘Unity March’ in Billawar, pays glowing tribute to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BILLAWAR: On the occasion of the 150th birth anniversary of India's Iron Man, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Col Mahan Singh (Retd), DDC Chairman Kathua, flagged off a grand "Unity March Rally" from Phinter Chowk to Shaheedi Chowk, Billawar.

The event witnessed an overwhelming response with hundreds of enthusiastic participants, including youth, students, women, government officials, BJP workers, veterans, and local residents carrying the National Tricolour and chanting patriotic slogans throughout the three-kilometre-long rally.

At Shaheedi Chowk Memorial, Col Mahan Singh, the Chief Guest on the occasion, offered floral tributes to Bharat Ratna Sardar



DDC Chairman Kathua Col Mahan Singh (Retd) flagging off "Unity March Rally."

Vallabhbhai Patel, paying homage to his immense contribution as a freedom fighter, unifier of India, and the country's first Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister. Addressing the gathering, Col Mahan Singh lauded Sardar Patel's unmatched leadership, describing him as "a visionary statesman whose determination and courage transformed the dream of a united India into

reality."

He further stated, "Sardar Patel was not just the architect of national unity but also the symbol of strength, integrity, and patriotism. It is our duty to follow his ideology and principles to build a strong, self-reliant, and united Bharat." The DDC Chairman also appreciated the Modi Government for its efforts to promote Sardar Patel's lega-

cy and nationalism. "Prime Minister Narendra Modi has revived the spirit of Sardar Patel's vision through initiatives like 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' and the Statue of Unity - the tallest tribute to a leader who united the nation in true sense," Col Mahan remarked.

He appealed to the people of Kathua district to actively participate in the ongoing celebrations and make the 150th birth anniversary of Sardar Patel a grand success.

Prominent dignitaries present included Gopal Krishan, BJP District President (Phari Zila), social activist Romy Khajuria, DDC Member Bikram Singh, Sanjeet Sharma, Surinder Singh (Tehsildar Billawar), and youth leaders Mohit Gupta and Deep Sharma.

DC Samba finalizes action plan for commemoration of 150 Years of Vande Mataram

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: Deputy Commissioner Samba Ayushi Sudan chaired a comprehensive meeting to finalize the district-level action plan for celebrating the historic milestone of 150 Years of 'Vande Mataram'-India's revered National Song that has stirred the soul of the nation since its inception.

The meeting brought together key stakeholders to chart out a roadmap for year-long celebrations aimed at fostering patriotism, promoting cultural heritage and ensuring inclusive public participation across the district.

The Deputy Commissioner conducted a detailed review of the proposed activities and issued clear directives to all departments, educational institutions, and stakeholders to ensure extensive public outreach and meaningful commu-



DC Samba Ayushi Sudan chairing meeting.

nity engagement throughout the commemorative period.

The celebrations have been strategically designed across four distinct phases with each phase featuring a rich tapestry of activities including special assemblies, mass renditions of Vande Mataram, cultural performances, debates, competitions and exhibitions organized at district and tehsil levels to engage citizens across all demographics.

In addition to phase-wise activities, the district will

implement several year-long initiatives such as plantation drives under the "Salute to Mother Earth" campaign, online pledge campaigns, patriotic art exhibitions among others.

An innovative feature of the celebration includes the establishment of Vande Mataram Audio Booths, enabling citizens to record and upload their personal renditions of the National Song on the dedicated campaign portal, thereby creating a people's chorus

that transcends geographical boundaries.

In the meeting, DC Ayushi Sudan emphasized that the commemoration must be people-centric, reflecting the patriotic spirit and cultural vibrancy of District Samba and directed all departments and educational institutions to ensure maximum public participation through meticulous planning, effective coordination and creative execution of all proposed events.

The meeting was attended by ADDC Champa Devi; ADC Jagdish Singh; Assistant Commissioner (Revenue), Chief Education Officer, Sub-Divisional Magistrates, Tehsildars, other district officers and representatives from education and culture departments. They assured to make this historic celebration a resounding success.

Langeh leads "Unity Run" in Ramban on Sardar Patel's 150th Birth Anniversary



BJP District President Neelam Langeh speaking at an event.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAMBAN: Marking the 150th birth anniversary of India's Iron Man, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the entire nation celebrated Rashtriya Ekta Diwas with great zeal and patriotic fervor.

In Ramban district, a grand "Unity Run" was organized to commemorate the occasion, witnessing enthusiastic participation from youth, students, women, and local residents.

The event was led by BJP District President and former MLA Neelam Langeh,

who paid rich tributes to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and highlighted his monumental contribution to the unification of India.

Hundreds of participants holding the National Tricolour and chanting slogans of unity and nationalism ran through the streets, symbolizing India's collective strength and togetherness.

Speaking on the occasion, Neelam Langeh said, "The entire country is celebrating the 150th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel with pride and enthu-

siasm. Sardar Patel's determination, vision, and leadership laid the foundation for a united India. His legacy continues to inspire every citizen to uphold integrity and national unity." He further praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi for institutionalizing Rashtriya Ekta Diwas to honor Sardar Patel's unmatched role in national integration.

"Under the leadership of Prime Minister Modi, the spirit of 'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat' has become a mass movement. The construction of the Statue of Unity is a glowing tribute to Patel's ideals," Langeh added. The event concluded with participants taking the National Unity Pledge, reaffirming their commitment to strengthen harmony and preserve the integrity of the nation. The program reflected the true essence of unity, patriotism, and the enduring legacy of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

DC chairs meeting with Courier Operators to prevent misuse of courier services



DC Udhampur, Saloni Rai chairing meeting.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: Deputy Commissioner Udhampur, Saloni Rai convened a meeting with courier operators functioning in the district to discuss measures for the prevention of misuse of courier services.

The meeting was held in the Mini Conference Hall, DC Office Complex and attended by Senior Superintendent of Police Amod Ashok Nagpure; Additional Deputy Commissioner Prem Singh; Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Dr. Umesh Shan and other concerned officers.

During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner direct-

ed the courier operators to remain extra vigilant while handling and delivering parcels containing medicines. She instructed them to immediately report any suspicious packages to the helpline numbers 14446 or 01992-272727.

The DC further emphasized that courier operators and the Postal Department must clearly mention the names of medicines on consignments and ensure OTP-based delivery to enhance accountability. She also directed that a bi-monthly report of all medicine parcel deliveries be submitted to the Police Department for monitoring and preventive action.

CLU clears 6 Change of Land Use applications

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DODA: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Doda Harvinder Singh today chaired a meeting of the District Level Committee on Change of Land Use (CLU) here in Mini Meeting Hall, DC Office Complex.

During the meeting, 07 (seven) CLU cases were examined in detail, out of which 06 (six) cases were approved after comprehensive scrutiny. The applications were assessed on merit, compliance with regulations and their potential impact on developmental planning in the district.

The DC directed the concerned departments to ensure timely issuance of

NOCs, subject to complete document verification. He stressed the importance of strict adherence to government norms and land use guidelines to ensure transparency, accountability and scientific land management in the district.

The Deputy Commissioner Doda also emphasized timely processing of pending cases to facilitate applicants while safeguarding public and environmental interests.

The meeting was attended by DFO Doda, ADC Bhaderwah, ACR Doda, SE R&B, GM DIC, CAO, executives from Jal Shakti, Tehsildars and other concerned officers/officials.

New Medical Colleges to have Hemophilia, Thalassemia Care Centers: Experts

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: In a recent Continuing Medical Education program held at Government Medical College (GMC) Kathua, experts emphasized the need for establishing Hemophilia and Thalassemia Day Care Centers in all new medical colleges in Jammu and Kashmir.

Dr. Sanjeev Dhinra, Professor and Head of Pediatrics at Maharaja Gulab Singh Hospital, highlighted that timely treatment and district-level facilities are crucial for managing these genetic disorders. Dr. Digrva, delivered talks on "How to establish a compre-

hensive Thalassemia & Hemophilia Day Care Centre" and new drug for Hemophilia patients Concizumab. While Speaking on this occasion he stressed upon establishing such centres in all newly created Medical Colleges to provide services to these patients at their door steps.

Dr. Sunil Dutt Sharma, Professor and In-charge of the Hemophilia Center at SMS Hospital Jammu, shed light on the latest treatment modalities, while Dr. Henuka Verma, a pediatric specialist at GMC Kathua, discussed the root causes and management of Hemophilia. Dr. Surinder Kumar Attri,

Principal of GMC Kathua, Dr. Virendra HOD Paediatrics, HOD Medicine Dr. Badrinath Boghal assured that the medical college is committed to providing comprehensive care for hemophilia and thalassemia patients, eliminating the need for referrals to Jammu.

Rohit Jandial, President of Hemophilia Society Jammu, shared his views on the challenges faced by patients. Jagdish Sharma, Secretary of the Hemophilia Society, said that the society will arrange everything from diagnosis of patients with this disease to training of doctors.

Power shutdown

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JAMMU: Superintending Engineer, O&M Circle-III, JPDCL Batote has informed that the power supply to Generation Colony and Power House will remain affected on November 01 from 10 am to 2.30 pm.

Similarly, Superintending Engineer, (Distribution), JPDCL, O&M Circle, Kathua has informed that the power supply to Changran, Chack Desa Singh, Manke Talab, Shiva Nagar, Durga Nagar, Govt Women Degree College, Ward No.2, District Jail, Super Bazaar and adjoining areas will remain affected on November 01 and 02 from 7 am to 2 pm.

Meanwhile, the shutdown of 33 kV G-6 and G-7 lines emanating from Grid Station Gladni for November 02 is hereby cancelled.

RAC approves 25 rent cases

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DODA: District Development Commissioner (DDC) Doda, Harvinder Singh today chaired a meeting of the Rent Assessment Committee (RAC) here at DC Office Complex to review rent proposals of government offices functioning in private buildings across the district. The Committee examined 27 cases for fixation and renewal of rent in accordance with government norms. After detailed discussions and verification of building documents and assessment of accommodation standards, 25 cases were approved, ensuring timely facilitation for the smooth functioning of government offices. The meeting was attended by Addl. SP, ACR, CPO, CEO, CMO, SE R&B, CAO, DSHO, XENs, ARTO, Income Tax Officer and officials from concerned departments.

Locked for 25 years, Primary School Kewal reopens after DC Rajouri's intervention

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: In a significant development, the long-closed building of Government Primary School, Kewal, has been made functional after remaining shut since the year 2000 due to a land dispute. The school building was locked by the landowner and school was functioning in rented building with limited space.

Taking a serious note of the issue, Deputy Commissioner Abhishek Sharma directed Chief Education Officer Mohammad Hafeez to visit the site and resolve the long-pending dispute on priority. Acting promptly

on the directions, the CEO visited the location, held consultations with the stakeholders and resolved the matter amicably.

After the matter was resolved, the students were shifted back to the school premises and the three-room building has now been made fully operational.

The reopening of the school has brought immense relief and joy to the local community, who expressed deep appreciation for the proactive efforts of the District Administration in ensuring that the children of Kewal regain access to education close to their homes.

High School Hote bids farewell to Master Parveen Singh



Faculty members according farewell to Master Parveen Singh.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: A grand function was organized by the staff of high school Hote under the supervision of Headmaster Bali Mohammed on the retirement of S. Parveen Singh master who attained superannuation on 31st. Oct, 2025, speakers lauded the dedication, commitment, honesty of S. Parveen Singh who served in the school education department for 28 years, as a teacher he remained dutiful, sincere and set an example of leadership in the department, as trade union leader he supported the cause of students and teachers, maintained

good reputation among the authorities and teaching community. Speaking on the occasion Amar Nath Thakur Former President plus two lecturers said teachers like sardar Parveen Singh are rarely found in education department, as he remained committed to social cause, students and society in his service period. Hope all teachers to remind committed to imbibe value able ethics among their students like Parveen Singh. Charanjit Singh President of District Gurudwara Parbandhak Committee Kathua said that S. Parveen Singh is not only a

teacher, he is a good preacher also. He performs all religious activities. Bali Mohd. Headmaster of the school appreciated the work culture of the Parveen Singh who served with passion and maintained good results.

Varun Kumar, Ruksana and Diksha Sharma students of the school expressed their views regarding the good services of the teacher.

Des Raj Rtd ZEO, Babu Ram Rtd lecturer, Bushan Rtd lecturer, Kuldeep Singh Rtd ZPEO, kesar Singh Rtd AE, Harveen Singh and many more were remained present.

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