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

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 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.

Shaheedi Chowk Memorial, Col Mahan Singh, the Chief Guest on the occasion, offered floral tributes



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 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 suc-

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

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

STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: 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

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 vear-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 celebra-

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 fer-

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 together-

Speaking on the occasion, Neelam Langeh said, "The entire country is celebrating the 150th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel with pride and enthusiasm. 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 Sardar Patel's honor 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.

New Medical Colleges to have Hemophilia,

STATE TIMES NEWS

HDHAMPHR. 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 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; Commissioner Assistant 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.

NCORD meeting: DC Ramban urges enforcement agencies to intensify field inspections

Deputy Commissioner Ramban Mohammad Alyas Khan chaired the District-Level Coordination Committee (NCORD) meeting and reviewed the action taken by stakeholder departments on the past decisions taken to eradicate drug menace and illicit trafficking in the District.

The meeting was attended by SSP Arun Gupta; ADC Varunjeet Singh Charak, SDMs, ACD. CHO, CAO. CMO, Tehsildars and other concerned officers.

The review evaluated the progress of anti-drug measures and underlined the need for heightening the alert to further strengthen the district's fight against substance abuse and illicit traffick-

Deputy Commissioner emphasized

Key Points of the meeting



DC Mohammad Alyas Khan chairing meeting at Ramban

coordinated efforts by all departments to maintain momentum against the menace of drug abuse. He directed the enforcement agencies to intensify field inspections, ensure strict vigilance on chemist shops and monitor suspicious courier deliveries to curb unauthorized drug sales.

The DC directed the officers for a strict crackdown on smoking in public places and government institutions, ensuring full compliance with NCORD guidelines at the sub-divisional and tehsil levels.

directed officers of the Agriculture Horticulture Departments to ensure complete eradication of illicit cultivation and maintain strict surveillance in their respective jurisdictions. He also reviewed the functioning of the addiction treatment facility at District Hospital Ramban.

Taking stock of cannabis

destruction drives, the DC

The Police Department Commissioner regarding progress on the identification of Nasha Mukt (Drug-Free) Panchayats.

CLU clears 6 Change of Land Use applications

STATE TIMES NEWS

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 meet (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 Co. Doda also emphasized timely processing of pending cases to facilitate applicants while safeguarding public and environmental inter-

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

Thalassemia Care Centers: Experts STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: In a recent Continuing 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 Dhingra, Professor and Head of Pediatrics at Maharaja Gulab Singh Hospital, highlighted that timely treatment and district-level facilities are crucial for managing these disorders.Dr Digra, delivered talks on "How to establish a compreHemophilia Day Care Centre " and new drug for patients Hemophilia While Concizumab 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, Paediatrics, HOD Medicine Dr Badrinath Boghal assured that the medical college is committed to providing comprehensive care for hemophilia and thalassemia nationts, eliminating the needforreferrals

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

included- Establishment of Care Centers: New medical colleges in Jammu and Kashmir have Hemophilia Thalassemia Day Centers. Improved facilities will reduce the need for patients to travel long distances for treatment. Advancements Treatment: Discussions on

new drugs like Emicizumab and other treatment modalities for hemophilia and Support and Awareness: The Hemophilia Society Jammu will provide support for patient care and training for doctors.

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

STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: In a significant development, the longclosed building Government Primary School, Kewal, has been 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 issue, Deputy Commissioner Abhishek Sharma directed Chief Officer Education 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 threeroom building has now been made fully opera-

The reopening of the school brought has 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.

Rajouri Farmers embark on 2- Day exposure visit to Jammu under SMAE-ATMA

STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: In a significant step toward promoting scientific and sustainable farming practices, the Department of Agriculture, Rajouri today deputed a group of progressive farmers from different blocks of the district for a twoday Farmers' Training Program to Jammu under the Sub Mission on Agriculture Extension (SMAE-ATMA) for the year 2025-26.

representing Farmers Sunderbani. Nowshera, Manjakote and Doongi blocks have been nominated for the training-cum-exposure visit aimed at acquainting them

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DC Abhishek Sharma flagging off farmers.

with advanced agricultural techniques, innovations, and technologies to enhance productivity and profitability.

The farmers' group was flagged off by Deputy Commissioner Abhishek Sharma from the DC Office Complex, while Additional Commissioner Deputy Sunderbani, Ramkesh Sharma flagged off another contingent from Sunderbani.

Speaking on the occasion, Commissioner Deputy Abhishek Sharma said that the training initiative forms part of the government's continuous endeavour to strengthen farmers' capacities through knowledge sharing, exposure and skill enhancement. He emphasized that such programs are vital in transforming traditional agricultural practices into modern, technology-driven systems, ensuring better income and livelihood for farmers.

"The exposure visit will enable farmers to gain handson experience, interact with agricultural experts, and witness successful models that can be implemented in Rajouri to boost productivity and sustainability," the DC added. During the two-day program, the participating farmers will attend expert-led technical sessions, witness live demonstrations and visit model farms, private nurseries and ICAR research stations to gain practical insights into scientific farming and climateresilient agriculture. Chief Among others,

Agriculture Officer Rajouri, Verma, Rajesh Area Development Officer Rajouri, RajKumar Sharma, SDAO Rajouri, Kashmir Singh and AEO Muradpur, Aftab Bhat were

Power shutdown

STATE TIMES NEWS

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 $33 \,\mathrm{kV}$ G-6 and G-7 lines emanating from Grid Station Gladni for November 02 is hereby cancelled.

RAC approves 25 rent cases

also present on the occasion.

STATE TIMES NEWS

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.

High School Hote bids farewell to Master Parveen Singh



Faculty members according farewell to Master Parveen Singh.

good reputation among the

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

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. Charaniit 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 religions 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 lecturer.Kuldeep Singh Rtd ZPEO, kesar Singh Rtd AE, Harveen Singh and many more were remained present.