

## Police conducts search operation in Bhandarwah jail

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

DODA: In a major move under the ongoing efforts to dismantle the terror ecosystem in Jammu and Kashmir, a massive surprise inspection and search operation was carried out on 10.11.2025 at District Jail Doda located in Bhandarwah.



The joint exercise was conducted by Jammu and Kashmir Police and jail authorities, led by Addl. SP Bhandarwah.

According to official sources, the teams comprising Police and CAPF personnel - with assistance from jail authorities - carried out a thorough inspection inside the jail premises to detect any suspicious activity or material. The jail currently houses several individuals booked or arrested in terror-related cases.

An area domination operation was also conducted in the periphery of the jail to ensure external security and to rule out any possible external linkages or threats.

It is pertinent to mention that in the last 72 hours, security forces have intensified their operations across Jammu and Kashmir as part of a larger crackdown on the terror ecosystem.

Authorities said such measures are part of a sustained campaign aimed at curbing terrorism and its support networks within the Union Territory.

## Massive fire guts over 10 shops in Doda's Gawari Market

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BHANDARWAH: A massive fire broke out in the Gawari market of Gandoh subdivision in Doda district during the early morning hours today. The blaze gutted more than ten shops, causing heavy property damage. Fortunately,



no casualties have been reported.

In the early hours of Tuesday, flames engulfed the Gawari market in Gandoh subdivision of Doda district. More than 10 shops were completely gutted, leaving behind charred structures and huge losses for local shopkeepers.

According to SP Bhandarwah Vinod Sharma, the fire started at around the break of dawn. A police patrolling party noticed the flames and immediately swung into action to contain the blaze.

SP Bhandarwah Vinod Sharma said, "The fire broke out in the early hours. Our patrolling party noticed it in time

and immediately started the firefighting operation. Fire tenders from Gandoh and Thathri were pressed into service. With the combined efforts of Police, Fire Services, Army, and local volunteers, the fire was brought under control."

Fire tenders from both Gandoh and Thathri responded swiftly. Despite the intensity of the flames, coordinated efforts by Police, Fire Services, Army personnel, volunteers, and locals prevented the fire from spreading to nearby structures.

Meanwhile, the administration has initiated an assessment of the losses suffered by the affected shopkeepers.

Locals have demanded the stationing of permanent fire tenders in the area to prevent such incidents in the future.

The cause of the fire is said to be short circuit and authorities are continuing their investigation.

## Doda police secures community service sentence in public nuisance case

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

DODA: District Police Doda, under the jurisdiction of Police Post Khellani, Police Station Doda, successfully pursued proceedings under Section 355 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) against Anil Kumar S/O Om Raj and Sunil Kumar S/O Banshi Lal, both residents of Goha, Tehsil Marmat, District Doda. The case pertained to their involvement in public nuisance and disruptive behaviour under the influence of alcohol in the Khellani area.

Upon consideration of the evidence and case details, the Hon'ble Court of Chief Judicial Magistrate (CJM) Doda found both accused guilty and awarded seven (07) days of community service along with a fine of Rs 500 each.

District Police Doda, under the supervision of SSP Doda

Sandeep Mehta, reiterates its commitment to maintaining law and order, promoting responsible conduct, and ensuring accountability through reformative justice measures aimed at fostering peace and harmony across the district.

## Two Inter-district drug peddlers arrested with heroin

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: Police team of Police Station Majalta while conducting naka checking intercepted one Auto bearing registration number JK02DC-5270 coming from Ramkot towards Khook for checking purpose.



During checking, two persons were found sitting in the vehicle who on questioning disclosed their identities as Vicky Bhagat S/O Madan Lal R/O Kha, Tehsil Ramkot, District Kathua and Vishal Singh S/O Joginder Singh R/O Kha, Tehsil Ramkot, District Kathua.

During their personal search, 10.7 grams of Heroin were recovered from their possession. On being questioned about the recovered narcotic substance, both failed to give any satisfactory reply regarding its possession.

In this regard, Case FIR No. 92/2025 under Sections 8/21/22 NDPS Act has been registered at PS Majalta and investigation of the case has been taken up.

## DC Reasi flags off 40 progressive farmers on Exposure-cum-Training visit

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

REASI: Deputy Commissioner Reasi Nidhi Malik flagged off 40 progressive farmers on an Exposure-cum-Training Visit organized by the Department of Horticulture under the ATMA and MIDH schemes. The event was attended by the Chief Horticulture Officer, DL-SMS and other district officers.

During the five-day visit, the farmers would get hands-on exposure to modern horticultural practices, advanced technologies and scientific innovations being implemented in other regions.

During the tour, the farmers would visit Chaudhary Sarwan Kumar Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishwavidyalaya (CSKHP-



DC Reasi Nidhi Malik flagging off farmers.

KV) Palampur, the Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology (IHBT) and the Bee Research Station, Nagrota Bagwan, where they will interact with scientists and experts to gain practical insights.

Speaking on the occasion, DC Reasi Nidhi Malik said

that such exposure visits play a vital role in empowering farmers by familiarizing them with innovative technologies and successful models adopted elsewhere. She emphasized the importance of adopting modern and scientific horticultural practices to increase productivity,

ensure sustainable growth and enhance farmers' income.

She encouraged the participants to make the most of this opportunity by learning new techniques and implementing them in their fields for better yields and economic upliftment.

The training programme will focus on modern fruit cultivation techniques, integrated pest and nutrient management, protected cultivation, post-harvest management and scientific beekeeping practices.

This initiative aims to enhance farmers' understanding of sustainable horticulture, promote income diversification and encourage the adoption of high-value crops and allied activities.

## DC Poonch reviews arrangements for Sardar @150 Padyatra-cum-Unity March

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH: Deputy Commissioner Poonch Ashok Kumar Sharma chaired a meeting to review the arrangements for the Sardar @150 Padyatra-cum-Unity March, scheduled to be held on November 23, 2025 from Police Line Poonch to Fruit Mandi Nangali Sahib.

The event is being organized to commemorate the 150th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the Iron Man of India and a great nation builder.

The Deputy Commissioner conducted a detailed review of all necessary preparations, including security arrangements, traffic management, sanitation, route marking and inter-departmental coordination to



DC Poonch Ashok Kumar Sharma chairing a meeting.

ensure the smooth conduct of the Padyatra.

He also reviewed arrangements for cultural programmes, installation of stalls, availability of drinking water and medical facilities along the Padyatra route. The DC directed the

concerned officers and educational institutions to organize plantation drives as part of the event to spread the message of environmental responsibility and unity.

Additionally, the DC instructed the Education

Department to organise school-level competitions and special lectures and raise environmental awareness among students through morning assemblies and cleanliness drives.

The DC emphasized that the event aims to foster the spirit of 'Ek Bharat, Aatmanirbhar Bharat', reflecting the ideals and vision of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. He urged all departments to work in close coordination for the successful organization of the Padyatra-cum-Unity March. The meeting was attended by ADC Poonch Tahir Mustafa Malik, CPO Mohd Iqbal Zargar, SE PWD Kewal Kumar, ACD Shakeel Ahmed, DySP Hqr. Neeraj Sharma and other concerned officers.

## Awareness campaign held for Khair-Growing Farmers

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

AKHNOOR: An Awareness Campaign for Khair-Growing Farmers was organized at Akhnoor by the Committee appointed by the Supreme Court of India, comprising Abhai Kumar, (Former Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, J&K) and Dr. Lalit Mohan Gupta, to address issues related to khair felling and plantation management. The Committee along with Dr. V.S. Senthil Kumar, IFS, CCF Jammu, Pradeepchandra Wahule, IFS, CF East Circle and Sh. Anurag Arya, IFS Divisional



Committee members educating farmers.

Forest Officer, Jammu discussed the issues of the farmers to understand their perspectives and the grievances they are facing in the process.

Several farmers from Tehsils Akhnoor, Jourian, Kharah Balli, Maira Mandrian, and Khour participated in the interactive session with the Committee

members.

During the interaction, farmers put forward their grievances and concerns, which were attentively heard and discussed by the Committee. The Committee not only responded to the grievances but addressed their issues appropriately. The committee also requested farmers to grow more khair plantation on their lands since khair felling will be a continuous affair.

The Committee informed that although the 10-year khair felling cycle, initiated in 2016-17, is coming to an end, next felling cycle will

commence from 2027-2037. Abhai Kumar, IFS and Dr. V.S. Senthil Kumar, strongly urged the farmers to pledge not to permit any illicit felling of khair trees and to extend their cooperation in ensuring sustainable management of khair plantations.

The Committee also assured that all grievances have been looked into. The committee has scrutinized the applications which are in order and will recommend the applications/grievances of farmers in the current felling cycle subject to ground verification.

## Rajeev Bhagat inaugurates development works in Bishnah Panchayats



MLA Bishnah Dr. Rajeev Kumar Bhagat inaugurating developmental work.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BISHNAH: Dr. Rajeev Kumar Bhagat, MLA Bishnah, today inaugurated development works valued at a total of Rupees 51.72 Laacs across Panchayat Khojipur and Panchayat Majua Uttrami, marking a significant push for grassroots infrastructure improvement in the constituency.

The works, sanctioned under the PRI, DDC, BDC and CD Panchayat plans, aim to fulfill long-pending demands of the local populace and enhance civic amenities. Panchayat Khojipur received a sanction of Rupees 18.93 Laacs for various projects, while Panchayat Majua Uttrami was allocated Rupees 32.79 Laacs.

Addressing the enthusiastic gathering at the inauguration

ceremony, Dr. Rajeev Bhagat reaffirmed his commitment to transforming Bishnah into a Model Constituency through sustained, all-around development. He emphasized that the successful implementation of decentralized schemes like PRI, DDC, BDC and CD Panchayat is crucial for empowering local governance and ensuring that development projects meet the specific needs of the villagers.

"These works are a testament to the power of decentralized planning and the collective efforts of the community and local representatives," Dr. Bhagat stated. "We are focused on providing quality infrastructure that directly improves the quality of life for every citizen in our constituency."

The MLA was accompanied

by a large number of prominent citizens and local leaders, whose presence underscored the community's support for the development drive. Dignitaries present included Vijay Saini and Suraj Sharma, former Sarpanches, Parveen Kumar General Secretary, Ravi Choudhary, former Panch, Rajinder Sharma, Pankaj Sharma (Booth President), Kamal Sharma (Booth President), Danish Sharma, Capt. Sukhdev Singh, Subedar Gandhara Singh, Lambardar Mukesh Singh, Swarn Singh, Mehar Singh, Garib Singh, Roop Lal Sharma, and Kaka Choudhary. The leaders present thanked the MLA for prioritizing the development of their respective areas and addressing critical infrastructure gaps.

## GDC Bishnah students visit SDH for Surgical-cum-Medical Camp

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BISHNAH: Students of the Red Cross Unit of Government Degree College, Bishnah, visited the Sub-District Hospital (SDH), Bishnah on 11th November 2025, where a Surgical-cum-Medical Camp was being organized by the Shri Onkar Singh Memorial Trust. The week-long camp, scheduled from 9th to 15th November 2025, aims to provide free medical and surgical treatment to patients from Bishnah and adjoining areas.

The camp is being led by Dr. K. S. Charak, MS (Surgery), FRCS (UK), who attained Fellowship from the World Health Organization (WHO), and served as Head of Department, ESI Hospitals, New Delhi. A renowned surgeon and son of the soil, Dr. Charak retired as Chief of Surgery,



Medical staff along with students during the camp.

Indian Spinal Injuries Centre, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi, and has been spearheading such humanitarian health initiatives through the Shri Onkar Singh Memorial Trust since October 2003. This marks the 70th Surgical-cum-

Medical Camp organized by the Trust, dedicated to providing quality healthcare to the underprivileged.

During the visit, students of GDC Bishnah had an inspiring interaction with Dr. Charak, who shared his professional journey, experi-

ences in surgical excellence, and his commitment to serving his native region. The students also visited various hospital wards and the operating theatre (OT), gaining valuable insight into surgical procedures, patient management, and commu-

nity health service delivery.

The visit was coordinated and led by Dr. Koushal Kiran and Dr. Ashma Gupta, faculty members and coordinators of the Red Cross Unit of the college. The entire program was organized under the aegis of Dr. Shally Samyal, Principal, GDC Bishnah, who appreciated the initiative and emphasized the importance of experiential learning and social outreach in student development.

The visit proved to be a valuable and enlightening educational experience, fostering compassion, social responsibility, and professional curiosity among the students of GDC Bishnah.

## GDC Samba students salute Birsa Munda, Vande Mataram

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: To commemorate Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas 2025 and celebrate the spirit of patriotism, Shri Pt. Prem Nath Dogra Government Degree College, Samba organized an Essay Writing Competition on the themes "Bhagwan Birsa Munda: A Champion of Tribal Rights and Freedom" and "Vande Mataram: A Symbol of National Unity Today."

The event was coordinated under the guidance of Principal Dr. Meeru Abrol. In her address, Dr. Abrol highlighted the unparal-



leled contribution of Bhagwan Birsa Munda in leading tribal resistance against British colonial rule and emphasized his vision for social justice, self-respect, and protection of natural resources.

She also spoke on the continued relevance of Vande Mataram as a unifying force that evokes a sense of devotion to the motherland and environmental consciousness towards preserving India's natural

heritage. A large number of students from semester 3rd and 5th participated enthusiastically, expressing their thoughts on national pride, unity, and the spirit of freedom. The competition aimed to encourage critical thinking and awareness of India's glorious history and cultural ethos.

The programme was coordinated by the Dr. Harjeet Kour Sodhi Convener Cultural Committee, and Prof. Kamlesh Bala NSS PO of the college.

## Hawan held to honour victims of 1947 Massacre

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NOWSHERA: A solemn atmosphere enveloped Rajauri today as hundreds of residents gathered for a grand Yagya and Hawan held in memory of more than 20,000 innocent civilians massacred in 1947 by the Pakistan army and tribal invaders during the invasion of 26 Kartik 1947, shortly before Jammu and Kashmir's accession to India.

The spiritual ceremony, organized by local social and cultural groups, began early in the morning with Vedic chanting and sacred offerings (ahutis) to the holy fire. Devotees prayed for eternal peace to the souls of the victims and invoked blessings for harmony,



strength, and unity among the people of the region.

Community leaders, veterans, and scholars recalled the tragic events of 1947, describing them as one of the darkest and most painful chapters in Rajouri's history. They also remembered April 13, 1948, the day when Rajouri was liberated from Pakistani

occupation, marking the town's rebirth after months of suffering and destruction.

Speakers urged the youth to preserve the memory of their ancestors' sacrifices and to uphold the values of courage, resilience, and national pride that define the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

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