

# Heavy snowfall in Bhadarwah, other areas of Chenab region



Roads, streets covered with snow in Bhadarwah on Saturday. (Pics by Raja Rehber Jamal)

## STATE TIMES NEWS

**BHADARWAH:** After higher reaches, Bhadarwah town also experienced season's first snowfall since last night, while snowfall was also reported from Batote, Banjhal, Ramban,

Marwah, Warwan, Kishtwar, Doda and Gander areas of Chenab region.

After higher reaches of entire Chenab region and surrounding villages of Bhadarwah town experienced continue snowfall

since last 4 days, Bhadarwah and its peripheral areas also experiencing heavy Snowfall since last night, dipping mercury to the lowest level of the season so far and throwing normal life out of gear in this high altitude area of the Union Territory(UT) of Jammu and Kashmir. Much to the delight of their eyes, People of Bhadarwah valley wake up on Saturday morning to experience snowflakes and accumulation

of snow around them. Although common people in general and those associated with Tourism industry in particular were beaming with joy and satisfaction but snowfall has triggered extreme cold wave in Bhadarwah town so far.

in all areas forcing the dwellers to wear warm clothes and to lit up bonefires and traditional 'Bukharies' (fire place) to keep themselves warm to ward off the extreme chill of fresh snow and cold wave.

After heavy Snowfall, road connectivity, Electricity and water supply got disrupted in most of the areas in Chenab region. People who stuck in Bhadarwah started moving towards their destination by foot as due to heavy Snowfall, traffic has been suspended on the road. ADC Bhadarwah Rakesh Kumar along with Tehsildar Bhadarwah Showket Hayat Mattoo, SHO Jatinder Singh Rakwal, officials of R&B and others visited market areas to access the situation. ADC Bhadarwah Rakesh Kumar said that we have directed R&B and Mechanical Division to clear snow from all roads, beside PDD and Jal Shakti Vibhag were directed to restore electricity and water supply respectively. The surrounding villages of Bhadarwah valley which include Chinchora, Kansar, Shankhoja, Thanaula, Nouri, Hanga witnessed 3 feet Snow, while more than 1 feet snow has been recorded in Bhadarwah town so far.

**Sanjay, Baldev take oath as President, VP of Municipal Committee Akhnoor**



Members of Akhnoor MC after oath ceremony.

## STATE TIMES NEWS

**AKHNOOR:** A function of Municipal Committee Akhnoor was organised under the supervision of Tehsildar Akhnoor Surinder Singh, Executive officer EO of Municipal Committee Akhnoor Rajat Abrol at PWD Guest House Akhnoor in which all Councilors of municipal committee Akhnoor including Farmer Member of Legislative Assembly MLA Akhnoor Rajeev Sharma, BJP District President Jagdish Bhagat, Deepesh Singh, Surinder Sharma, Sunita Gupta, Khema Sharma, Karan Singh, Rakesh Malhotra, and other offi-

ials and non officials were present.

In the occasion, Sanjay Saraf took oath as President while Baldev Raj as the vice President of Municipal Committee Akhnoor.

Sanjay Saraf while addressing the gathering said that number of projects for the development of Akhnoor waiting for the beautification of the town to be kicked start very soon. Saraf said that number of natural water bodies which are dried to be converted into the children Park in the town, like this number of projects including lighting and other to be starts as soon as possible.

## JU's Reasi campus organises lecture series to celebrate Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav



A resource person expressing views during the lecture series.

freedom fighters and many of them are known while many are unsung. However, as citizens of this country, we should know about some of them while celebrating this Amrit Mahotsav. We Indians especially youth will once again turn the pages of our history to know in detail about all the important movements and great revolutionaries of the freedom

struggle during this celebrations.

Saraf Singh Nag has applauded the organizers for organizing such event which would provide knowledge to the youth about the great people of India who played vital role to achieve independence of India. Sh. Nag stated that so many freedom fighters of India who even sacrificed their lives in get-

ting independence but their names faded into the darkness. He said that in every part of the society it must be celebrated as we need to know our history. He also emphasized that unless we don't know history, we are not able to land in the future.

All the students have participated in the event while eleven students of the Department of Sociology of the Reasi Campus have presented their lecture on the various unsung heroes of Indian freedom movement like Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan, Durga Bai Deshmukh, Birsa Munda, Tara Rani Shrivastav, Peer Ali Khan, Kamla Devi, Ashfaqullah Khan etc. The first, second and third prize winners were also present on the occasion.

Saleem and Rajni Rasyal, respectively. Ms Shakti Devi was awarded with consolation prize.

Prof. S. K. Pandey, Director of the Reasi Campus was the Chief guest of valedictory function. He congratulated to the students of the campus for winning the prizes and appreciated the efforts of the faculty members, non-teaching staff and students for making the event successful. Diksha Bharti, Organizing Secretary, presented vote of thanks. Dr. Nisha Sharma has conducted the proceedings of inaugural, lecture and valedictory session. Manoj Kumar, Ravi Kumar, Babloo Salaria, Sandeep Sharma and many others were also present on the occasion.

## DC Rajouri takes first-hand appraisal of damages due to heavy rain, snowfall

### STATE TIMES NEWS

**RAJOURI:** Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal took a first-hand review of damages caused due to incessant rains and snowfall in the district.

The Deputy Commissioner directed all the Additional Deputy Commissioners and SDMs to submit the list of damages to the livestock and property so that the aggrieved can be compensated. DC appealed the people to remain cautious and don't venture out on slippery roads as it is more accident-prone and said every possible effort is being made to address the issues at the earliest.

It was informed that the men and machinery are on job. Snow clearance works in most of the roads are in

progress while restoration of power is also being made, and it is taking some time as the torrential rains have uprooted the electric poles. Moreover, line patrolling is also being done to ascertain the faults.

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### STATE TIMES NEWS

**VIJAYPUR:** Seven days special Winter Camp of NSS was inaugurated by Dr. Sangeeta Sudan, Principal of the College.

While addressing the NSS volunteers she apprised that time has come to convert India, our country into a developed country from a developing one. This can be possible only through maximum participation of the youth and NSS is the exact platform to do so. Dr. Shital Sharma also shared her thoughts with the NSS volunteers and gave them lesson on community service. Prof. Sartaz Ahmad Sheikh exten-

significance of NSS in overall personality development of the youth and in nation building. The inaugural was followed by two days workshop on "Shram Daan" in which the NSS volunteers cleaned the College campus thereby creating awareness, inspiring and motivating other students regarding importance of cleanliness.

They took the initiative to clean the surrounding areas in the vicinity of the College. Principal of the College, Dr. Sangeeta Sudan exhorted that it is essential for everyone to learn about Cleanliness, hygiene, sanitation and various diseases that are caused due to poor hygienic condition and

unequal environment. Cleanliness ensures a healthy mind and physique. She further added that we can maintain cleanliness at home and in our surroundings and go for clean and green environment thereby nurturing it for the future generation.

Dr. Sunil Kumar Mangochi NSS (PO) thanked the Staff and NSS Volunteers for their active participation in the various activities. He appealed to the NSS volunteers to show their dedication for the welfare of the society so that we can make our country proud as we have such youth who are capable of controlling the countries fate tomorrow.

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### STATE TIMES NEWS

**UDHAMPUR:** The Youth

represent the real value of the society and form the building blocks for a sustainable future. Educated unemployed youth constitute a sizable percentage which are unable to contribute due to lack of technical knowledge and financial support. With growing unemployment and lack of adequate job opportunities in the public sector, self-employment has assumed great significance. Entrepreneurship is the most effective tool to improve the quality of life of individuals, families and communities and to sustain a healthy economy and environment.

The promotion of self-employment has been flagged as the highest priority in Government policies and programmes. For holistic entrepreneurship, participation, readiness and funding is paramount. In this regard District Employment & Counselling Centre Udhampur has started spot registration to rope in unemployed youth for entrepreneurship under different self-employment schemes and facilitate their skill development.

"The District Employment and Counselling Centre Udhampur has started spot registration. The unemployed youth can register themselves on all working days. The main objective of online registration is to create a database of unemployed educated youth in the district with their Academic/Technical/Professional records and offer them job avenues as per their qualification and ability" said AD Employment, Priyanka Gupta.

At present the total number of Un-Employed educated youth registered with the employment office on ending

Dec' 2021 is 4977 (2019 Males, 2958 Females). "Due to the prevailing situation of COVID-19 we are unable to increase the spot registration, because all Colleges/Schools/professional colleges/Universities/ITI etc. are closed. Now the department of Employment has launched an online portal for E-Registration i.e. jakemp.nic.in for unemployed youth, who have registered themselves from their own places 24x7.

In this connection, the counseling sessions are performed by the Career Counselling Officer & Employment Officer in various Higher Secondary Schools/Colleges/Professional Colleges/ITI etc. The purpose of conducting these counseling sessions is to make uneducated youth aware about the various Central sponsored Schemes and to guide the uneducated youth to opt the career in different fields according to their potential viz. entrepreneurship/private sector/small scale units etc.

"This office has also registered 21750 un-organized

sector workers associated with activities like, Carpet Weaving, Tailor Coblers, Gold Smiths, Cooper Smith, Bakers, Potters, Hair Dressers, Gardeners, wood Cutters, tyre workers, Handloom/Hanidicrafts workers, street hawkers, Spinning wheel worker, knitting worker, Automobile Mechanic, Pony Wala, Embroidery worker, Rag picker, Electronics goods repair worker, Security Services, Petrol/Diesel pump services, Leather worker, Agriculture worker etc.

Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan Dhan Yojana is another pathbreaking scheme, she said. It is a pension scheme for unorganized workers whose age is between 18 years to 40 year. They can enroll him/herself at CSCs/Khidmat Centres to avail the benefit of monthly pension after attaining the age of 60 years. It is further mentioned that due to COVID-19 the awareness/counseling sessions of PMSYM are not being conducted as and when the situation is favorable the awareness/counseling ses-

sions will be done in various blocks/panchayats/Tehsil levels.

The AD Employment also referred to Customized Livelihood Scheme launched by Government of J&K for female and male youths under Mission Youth. She said "MUMKIN" is for males under which they are provided subsidized small commercial vehicles to earn their livelihood, while females are facilitated to set up small ventures under Tejeswani scheme.

The applicant will have the full liberty to choose any Small Commercial Vehicle of any approved models/makes of his/her choice. A Financial Assistance to the tune of 100% of on-Road Price of the Vehicle in which 80% as Mudra Loan by the Bank, 10% Special incentive by Mission Youth, 10% special discount by Vehicle Manufacturer to be treated as Margin Money. As on date more than 300 unemployed youth registered themselves in Mission Youth Portal out of which 138 numbers of applications was approved by the DLIC (District Level Implementing Committee).

### STATE TIMES NEWS

**DECC Udhampur switches to online registration amid threat of 3rd COVID wave**

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### STATE TIMES NEWS

**RAJOURI:** Despite widespread heavy snowfall in District Rajouri, DD Gas Agency, distributor of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) has continued with its supply of LPG cylinders in the snow-bound remote areas of the District.

The aforesaid gas agency undeterred by the unprecedent snowfall in the entire belt has remain forerunner in providing succor to the people of Rajouri District by ensuring continuous supply of LPG cylinders in far-flung areas including Budhal, Kotranka, Thannamandi, Dhongi, Palma and other areas which can be reached after passing through difficult hilly terrains.

When Assistant Director FCS & CCA District Rajouri Arif Lone contacted the aforesaid gas agency to know about the status of delivery of LPG cylinders in the District, he was informed that the despite all odds and heavy snowfall in the region the supply has not been interrupted and people are getting LPG cylinders at their doorsteps. Upon this, the Assistant Director FCS & CCA appreciated the efforts of delivery boys and distributor of LPG for delivering cylinders under such adverse conditions. Dinesh Kumar Sales Manager Jammu Sales Area

### STATE TIMES NEWS

**UDHAMPUR:** Civil Defence unit Udhampur on Saturday organised an inter School debate Competition on the theme " Neta ji Subash Chander Bose" for his contribution to freedom struggle under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (India @75) celebration under the leadership of Danesh Rana, Commandant General, Homeguards/Civil Defence & SDRF J&K Jammu and under the supervision of Vikas Gupta I/C Dy. Inspector General of Police, Homeguards/Civil Defence & SDRF Jammu in the premises of Shivalik College of Education Udhampur. Additional Superintendent of Police Udhampur Anwar -Ul-Haq was the Chief Guest on the occasion. The programme was attended by District Youth Officer, Nehru Yuva Kendra, Koushal Gupta; Ram Kumar; Deputy Chief Education Officer, Bhagwan Dass; Principal Indira Memorial Higher School, Vikram Gulati;

### STATE TIMES NEWS

**RAJOURI:** A Mannual Chir Pine briquetting machine was on Saturday installed by Nowshera Forest Division here at village Bhajwal of Sunderbani Forest Range.

The machine has been developed by IIT Rurkee. It is very easy to operate and also portable.

Women Men and even elderly persons can easily operate it. The machine was test run by Arun Kumar Chairman Block Development Council Sunderbani in presence of Vinod Banyal, Additional Deputy Commissioner Sunderbani, Neelima Shah, Divisional Forest Officer Nowshera, Lok Nath Sarpanch Bhajwal, Rakesh Verma Range Forest Officer Sunderbani and number of Sarpanches, Panches and local people. Speaking on occasion, Divisional Forest Officer Nowshera said that Chir forests of Nowshera Forest Division are vulnerable to forest fires. He also said that he will get more machines in his jurisdiction so that fire incidences could be contained. Vinod Banyal, Additional Deputy Commissioner Sunderbani said that it is a welcome step of forest department as besides containing fire incidents, local youth can also get employment by making Chir Pine Briquettes. He asked the participants to constitute SHGs and work with forest department to conserve the green gold. Rakesh Verma, Range Forest Officer, Sunderbani, while speaking on the occasion, said that Sunderbani Forest Range has constituted SHGs/VFCs which will work in close coordination with forest department in preparation of chир pine briquettes. He said that a team of IIT Rurkee has come to impart training in handling of machine, preparation of briquettes, packing and further marketing.

### STATE TIMES NEWS

Lok Nath, Sarpanch Bhajwal said that it is an initiative which will conserve the green gold, his panchayat will help forest department at every level as and when required. He also requested Divisional Forest Officer, Nowshera to hold chir needle handicraft training at Bhajwal so that women of village Bhajwal will get benefitted. Divisional Forest Officer Nowshera said that Nowshera Forest Division have master trainers of Forest (HoFF) on 5th of January at Jammu.

Arun Kumar Chairman Block Development Council Sunderbani in presence of Vin