

Present public issues fearlessly for swift resolution by administration: DC Rajouri to media persons

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
RAJOURI: To foster corporation with the media, Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Om Prakash Bhagat on Monday chaired an interactive session with the local media persons.

During the engaging discussion, media persons commended the District Administration for its proactive measures to address public grievances and enhance the overall development of the district.

The discussion focused on the crucial role played by media persons in generating widespread awareness about online services and the national campaign for a "Nasha Mukht Bharat" (Addiction-free India).

During the session, the Deputy Commissioner Om Prakash Bhagat emphasized the importance of media cooperation in highlighting people's concerns and



DC Rajouri, Om Prakash Bhagat chairing interactive session with local media persons.

expressed gratitude for the efforts of the journalists in shedding light on both developmental initiatives and public issues.

Deputy Commissioner Om Prakash Bhagat reiterated the commitment of the District Administration to ensuring the comprehensive progress of the region. He outlined the dedication of the administration to foster a responsive, transparent, and accountable system.

Acknowledging the journalists of Rajouri for their impar-

tial and positive journalism, he encouraged them to continue working with dedication and without bias, urging them to fearlessly present public issues for swift resolution by the administration.

Furthermore, the Deputy Commissioner Om Prakash Bhagat urged media professionals to actively disseminate information about government schemes among the public, facilitating the accessibility of benefits to every individual. Recognizing the power of well-researched reporting,

he appealed to media persons to provide fact-based reports, especially those pertaining to public interest, contributing to an informed and engaged citizenry.

Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Om Prakash Bhagat, highlighted the significance of leveraging media platforms to educate the masses about the collective effort required to make the district free from the scourge of drug addiction.

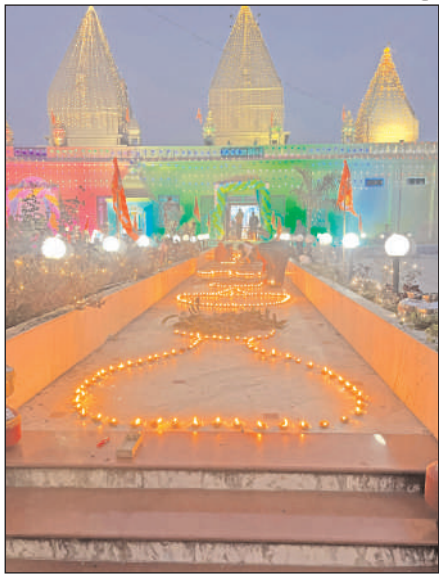
In his closing remarks, the Deputy Commissioner reiter-

ated the collaborative role media plays in the development process and called for sustained cooperation in disseminating accurate information and advocating for the well-being of the community. The session concluded with a shared commitment to fostering a robust partnership between the District Administration and the media for the betterment of the region.

Among the others, Additional Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Rajiv Kumar Khajuria; Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Imran Rashid Kataria; District Information Officer, Auqil Nuvaid and media persons attended the meeting.

Later, the Deputy Commissioner also visited the Press Club where the media persons also raised pertinent issues and the DC assured of early redressal of the genuine concerns.

Shree Ram Pran Pritishta Samaroh celebrated with great pomp & show



■ STATE TIMES NEWS
HIRANAGAR: Like all other places in all over India, Brahman Sabha Hiranagar and Bhagwan Shree Parshuram Dham Mandir Management Committee Gurah Mundian celebrated Shree Ram Pran Pratishtha Samaroh in Bhagwan Shree Parshuram Dham Mandir premises with great pomp and show. All mandirs were decorated

beautifully with lights giving beautiful look.

Samaroh started with havan yagya from 9.00AM to 10.00AM. Thereafter live telecast of main Pran Pratishtha Samaroh being performed at Ayodhya Ram Mandir was telecasted on large screen from 11.00AM to 12.30 PM. From 12.30 PM to 3.00 PM, Sh Kusum Hindu a Ramayana Katha Baachak narrated history of Shree Ram Mandir since last 500 years through his bhajans. Bhandara was held from 3.00PM to 6.00 PM. The function was celebrated by bursting crackers and atishwazi

Thousands of Rambhakats attended the function. Elaborate security arrangements were made by the district administration. Sh Ranjeet Singh Adll. Deputy Commissioner Kathua remained present in the function and was honoured by Brahman Sabha Hiranagar and Bhagwan Parshuram Dham Mandir Management Committee.

Shri Ram Lalla Pran Pritishta of Ayodhya was also celebrated in the District Court Complex Kathua by District Bar Association Kathua where Prashad Distribution ceremony held under the Chairmanship of President of the Bar Advocate Ajat Shatru Sharma, which was inaugurated by Pr. District & Sessions Judge Kathua Ashok Kumar Shavan and other Judges, Advocates, Staff members also participated.

Empowering Women: SBI-RSETI organises 30-Day Tailoring course

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
DODA: In a commendable initiative, the State Bank of India (SBI) and Rural Self Employment Training Institute (RSETI) Doda have collaborated to launch a 30-day Tailoring course for women in the remote and inaccessible village of Dhadkai-B of Bhalessa Block .

The initiative, financially supported by NABARD, aims to empower women of one of the remotest villages in the region by imparting them Skill training.

The skill development program was inaugurated by Tariq Parvez Qazi, District Social Welfare Officer (DSWO), signifying the official commencement of the 30-day Women's Tailor batch.

The event was graced by the presence of Director RSETI Doda, Rajesh Kumar, and the local Sarpanch, Lateef. The registration for the program saw enthusiastic participation, with 35 applicants, including specially-abled women who are deaf and mute.

Notably, this initiative aligns with the Rural Self Employment Training Institute's objective of fostering self-employment and skill development in rural areas. By extending its reach to a village as remote as Dhadkai-B, the program exemplifies the commitment to inclusivity, aiming to empower women, including those with special needs, through vocational training and financial support.

Emotional card of BJP will not work this time: Ravinder

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
UDHAMPUR: Congress has started implementing its war level preparations for the Lok Sabha elections in the state. To sharpen the latest publicity and dissemination management, AICC Coordinator of Udhampur Lok Sabha seat, Senior Vice President and Chief Spokesperson of State Congress Ravindra Sharma held a meeting at Udhampur in which leaders and workers of four different assembly constituencies of Udhampur Lok Sabha seat participated respectively.

While addressing the gathering, Sharma talked to all the party workers and leaders, from the party's gross root level and requested them to put all their strength into the election campaign for the upcoming Lok Sabha elections. While talking to the leaders and workers present



Chief Spokesperson of State Congress Ravindra Sharma chairing a meeting at Udhampur.

in the meeting, Sharma said that assembly elections have not been held in the state for the last ten years and the corporation elections were also cancelled by the Bharatiya Janata Party due to fear of defeat. Citing all the public representatives, Sharma said that the tenure of Panchayat representatives has also ended, although if BJP had its way, even Lok Sabha elections would not

have been held. Using direct words in his address, he said that the people of the state are fed up with the one-sided and partisan policies of the BJP. From unemployment to inflation and from corruption to scams, there is an atmosphere of anarchy everywhere and people want their elected representatives to help them in fulfilling their reasonable and just demands. Moreover, he asked about the contrac-

tual and consolidated workers long pending demands, educational and health infrastructure and the red tapism of bureaucracy had put the masses in fix.

Referring to the recent Bharat Jodo Nyaya Yatra of the party's former national president and current MP Rahul Gandhi, Sharma said that it has become difficult for such a distinguished leader of the opposition to walk on the streets of this country today under the BJP's rule. Pointing towards the Yatra, he said that Rahul Gandhi is once again on the streets of the country for the welfare and justice of the common people, but due to this, the BJP is having stomach cramps and is trying to disrupt the Yatra in some way or the other.

Sharma issued instructions to the attendees in clear words to make every possible

effort for the upcoming Lok Sabha elections. He said that party leaders and workers will have to work on a war footing. On one hand, while talking about taking full responsibility of his workers at the booth level, Sharma said that we will have to take the BJP's policies of dividing the country among the people. Communal card of Bhagwa party will not work this time and the people are well aware about it, he added.

In the same development, he will meet leaders and workers of eight assembly constituencies of Ramban, Doda and Kishtwar districts in Batot tomorrow.

Thereafter, on January 24, Sharma will hold meetings with party workers at all the assembly seats of Kathua and in Hiranagar on the same day in the afternoon.

In the meeting held today Ex MLAs Krishan Bhagat,

Dina Nath Bhagat, General Secretaries Balbir Singh, Shakeel Shah, District President Vinod Khajuria, Ex- President DCC & Ex President MC Ashok Khajuria, PYC President Akash Bharat, Ashish Bisht indian (IYC)youth Congress Lol Sabha Coordinator, Gopal Khajuria,Ashok Bakshi Surinder Khajuria adv, Sumit Mangotra, Om Parkash, Adv Navneet Thakur, Adv Manjit Bhagat, Rasal Singh, Dwarka Prasher, Gulzar Singh,Charan Dass, Suresh Khajuria Kartar Nath Heads of frontal wings including Youth Congress, NSUI, SC, OBC & others.

Later Sharma along with team of senior leaders visited the family of Ex- MLA Late Balak Ram ji & Veteran party leader Geeta Khajuria.

SMVDU organises student exchange programme under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
KATRA: As part of the Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat (EBSB) initiative, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University Katra is hosting students from the Academy of Maritime Education and Training (AMET) Chennai, Tamil Nadu who are participating in the student exchange program under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav(AKAM) from 21st January to 26th January 2024. For their stay, the university has organized visits to royal mahals, museums, and temples that apprise the historic culture of the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir. They will also hear the stories of the mountains



A dignitary being honoured at SMVDU.

as they explore their paths on various treks in Jammu. The inaugural session, conducted by dedicated EBSB volunteers, was graced by esteemed guests, Dr. N. R.

Ramkumar (Nodal Officer, AMET,EBSB) and Dr. Krishna S., both faculty members accompanying the AMET students. Sumanta S. Sharma, Nodal Officer,

SMVDU warmly welcomed the AMET team, fostering a spirit of camaraderie. The AMET delegation, comprising 25 students and two faculty members, embarked on an enriching journey to the sacred shrine of Shiv Khori on Day One. The picturesque surroundings and divine ambiance added to the experience. The trek concluded with a disposition of spirituality as the AMET students returned to the university, having forged bonds of friendship and cultural exchange during this memorable EBSB event. Such initiatives play a crucial role in fostering unity and understanding among students from diverse backgrounds.

The team is visiting other places such as Devi Pindi, Patnitop, Hari Niwas Palace, Bahu Fort, Mansar, etc. to name a few, and finally to the sacred Shrine of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra. The EBSB team thanked the office of DoSW, Security Wing, Transport Section, and Guest House for making adequate arrangements and working for the security and safety of the participants. Sumanta S. Sharma, Nodal Officer, SMVDU also thanks the administration, Registrar's office, and the Office of the Honourable Vice Chancellor for their full support and cooperation for this program.

Road Safety campaign: MVD spreads awareness among commercial, other drivers



MVD officials during the programme atr Doda.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
DODA: Motor Vehicles Department (MVD) Doda under the guidance of Deputy Commissioner Harvinder Singh and the supervision of ARTO, Rajesh Gupta, conducted a

road safety measures event at Ghat Road.

The primary objective was to enhance awareness among commercial drivers and other road users regarding safety while driving.

As part of the ongoing

National Road Safety Month, a special enforcement cum awareness program took place on the 8th day of the month at Ghat Road. The focus was on educating bike riders about the imperative need for wearing helmets, emphasizing the importance for both the rider and the pillion rider. Additionally, participants were enlightened about ensuring the safety of pedestrians on the road.

The program was conducted under the supervision of ARTO Doda and other officials from the Motor Vehicle Department, emphasizing the community's commitment to promoting road safety and preventing accidents.

DC Doda joins grand celebration of Ram Mandir Ayodhya Pran Pratishtha at Radhey Shyam Temple

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
DODA: Deputy Commissioner Doda Harvinder Singh along with SSP Abdul Qayoom, and ADC Ravi Kumar Bharti graced the vibrant celebration of the Ram Mandir Ayodhya Pran Pratishtha at Radhey Shyam Mandir Temple.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation of thousands of devotees from all parts of the Doda town



DC Doda Harvinder Singh, SSP Abdul Qayoom participating in an event at Radhey Shyam Mandir Temple.

the district paid their obeisance to the Lord Shri Rama.

The temple premises were adorned with religious fervor as attendees, led by Mandir Committee President Mohinder Singh Rana, Sanatan Dharam Sabha's Gajay Singh Rana, and Ved Prakash Gupta, Chairman of Doda, came together for this auspicious occasion. The entire Radhey Shyam Mandir was beautifully decorated, creating a divine ambiance.

Notably, a large screen was installed within the temple, broadcasting the

live ceremony of Ayodhya Shri Ram's Pran Pratishtha. Devotees were captivated as they witnessed the sacred moment, feeling a spiritual connection with the historic event.

In addition to the religious ceremonies, a Langar Bhandara was organized within the temple premises, exemplifying the spirit of community service. Devotees and attendees were treated to a hearty meal, fostering a sense of unity and brotherhood.

The grand celebration included varied rituals and ceremonies, symboliz-

ing the unity and devotion of the community. The presence of DC Doda, Harvinder Singh, added a significant touch to the event, emphasizing the importance of cultural and religious harmony in the region. President of the Mandir Committee, Mohinder Singh Rana, expressed gratitude for the overwhelming support from the district administration and community. Sanatan Dharam Sabha's Gajay Singh Rana and Chairman Ved Prakash Gupta echoed similar sentiments, acknowledging the collective effort that went into making the celebration a memorable one.

The festivities at Radhey Shyam Mandir Temple in Doda showcased a splendid amalgamation of tradition, spirituality, and community spirit. The monumental event of Ayodhya Shri Ram's pran pratishtha, coupled with the heartwarming Langar Bhandara, will be etched in the hearts of the devotees who gathered to witness and participate in this divine celebration.

Kishtwar Town gets Fire Hydrant System; 10 Fire Hydrants installed at crucial locations

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
KISHTWAR: In a significant stride towards enhancing firefighting capabilities in the congested town of Kishtwar district, Deputy Commissioner Dr. Devansh Yadav and SSP Khalil Ahmed Poswal inaugurated the Fire Hydrant system at 10 crucial points in the town area, today.



DC Kishtwar Dr. Devansh Yadav inaugurating fire hydrating point.

The inauguration ceremony marked a pivotal moment in bolstering the town's preparedness for fire emergencies.

The newly inaugurated Fire Hydrant system is designed to provide a reliable and efficient water supply to combat fire incidents swiftly, given the congested nature of the town, where Fire Extinguishing Vehicles face challenges in timely and effective responses. This initiative reflects the administration's commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of the residents in Kishtwar town.

During the inauguration, DC Kishtwar expressed

optimism about the positive impact of the Fire Hydrant system in mitigating fire-related risks. The strategic placement of the system in key locations within the town aims to minimize response time during emergencies, thereby safeguarding both lives and property. There are a total of 10 designated fire hydrants laid in the town.

DC Kishtwar also emphasized the use of such hydrants in and around town areas, as many buildings have suffered losses in the past.

DC Kishtwar disclosed that "Aapda Mitras" from local volunteers in the town area shall be instru-

mental in tackling emergent situations as part of the rapid response system, in addition to the Fire tender and emergency system. DC Kishtwar also urged for proposed training through mock drills for the volunteers in the coming days.

He appealed to locals to be a responsible citizen and cooperate and provide a conducive environment to the emergency teams during emergency situations.

DC Kishtwar stated that more hydrants will be installed in the remaining parts of the town if required.

The occasion witnessed the presence of AD Fire Services Amit Shivgotra,

Tehsildar Kishtwar, Muneeb Umar, XEN Jal Shakti Sunil Sharma, prominent personalities, besides officials from Fire Tenders and team members of Red Cross Kishtwar.

The event also served as an opportunity to raise awareness about fire safety measures and the importance of community involvement in emergency preparedness.

As the Fire Hydrant system became operational, DC Kishtwar emphasized the administration's commitment to ongoing efforts in enhancing civic infrastructure and creating a safer and more resilient environment for the residents of Kishtwar town.

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