

Conduct road safety drives in schools and colleges : Yogi



SHAHZAD AKHTAR

LUCKNOW: On the first day of the New Year, UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath convened a meeting of the UP State Road Safety Council, issuing crucial directives to all departments involved in road safety. He emphasized that District Road Safety awareness programs on road safety rules should be conducted in schools and colleges across the state from January 6 to 10.

Yogi said in the meeting of Uttar Pradesh State Road Safety Council at his official residence on Wednesday that 23-25 thousand deaths every year in road accidents are a loss to the country and the state. These accidents happen due to lack of awareness. Road Safety Month should not be limited to Lucknow only, but it should

be conducted smoothly in all 75 districts of the state. He said that apart from this, a road safety meeting should be held every month in the districts under the chairmanship of the District Magistrate, in which Superintendent of Police / Senior Superintendent of Police, Municipal Commissioner, RTO Officer etc. should be present.

The CM said that those districts and places should be identified where more accidents are likely. There is a need to pay special attention to ensure that minors are not able to operate e-rickshaws and other vehicles.

He emphasized said that signage should be mandatorily installed on the roads, so that people can also have convenience in commuting. He said that overloading is

not tolerated at all, it should be stopped at the starting point itself.

The Chief Minister said that if a vehicle is challaned repeatedly, action should be taken for license/permit cancellation etc. and this action should be mandatorily linked to Fastag. Hoardings appealing to the people should be put up by the departments related to information, transport and road safety. These should also be put up outside all over the state.

Yogi Adityanath said that competitions should be held on topics related to traffic rules by connecting school children with road safety awareness programs in schools and colleges. The Chief Minister said that regular health check-ups of the bus drivers of the Transport Corporation should be made mandatory.

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The Secretary also instructed the officials revenue department to identify a suitable 2 hectare plot of land in the Pang area and carry out a joint survey with all stakeholders within next 15 days. SECI has in principle agreed to undertake the project.

The Secretary PDD asked SECI to expedite necessary paperwork in this regard so that the work on the pilot project can be started in the next working season.

The meeting was attended by senior officials, including the Chief Engineer of the Power Development Department (PDD), the Additional Deputy Commissioner of Leh, senior officers from PDD and LREDA, scientists from DIHAR, as well as representatives from SECI and PowerGrid.

SECI to undertake pilot solar power project designed for livestock grazing

STATE TIMES NEWS

LEH: In an important initiative aimed building the confidence of the local stakeholders related to the upcoming mega solar power project at Pang, an important meeting was held today under the chairmanship of Vikram Singh Malik, Administrative Secretary of the Power Development & New and Renewable Energy Department, UT Ladakh, with officials from SECI, Powergrid and DIHAR, to formalise the action plan for the creation of a livestock grazing-friendly pilot solar project in the Pang area.

During the meeting, the Secretary directed the Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) to initiate work on the project's modalities, with a specific focus on adjusting the height of the solar panels so that the nomadic herders can freely graze their live-

stock beneath the panels without any disruptions.

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DC Kishtwar reviews implementation of Swachh Bharat Mission

STATE TIMES NEWS

KISHTWAR: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Rajesh Kumar Shavan on Wednesday conducted a comprehensive review of the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) implementation in the district while chairing a multi department meeting.

The Chief Executive Officer Kishtwar Development Authority, ACD and Executive Engineer PWD were directed to install male and female toilets, benches, and a kiosk near the FCI Store in Kuleed under the Town Beautification initiative.

Additionally, the DC discussed the action plan for maintaining clean, hygienic and plastic-free conditions in townships and rural areas. He directed the EO Municipality, NHIDCL, GREF, and Rural Development Department to carry out the immediate desilting of drains in the town and surrounding areas, stressing the need for a modular and proactive approach while encouraging full community cooperation in rural areas.

The ACD and Municipality authorities were instructed to submit a list of both functional and non-functional toilets along with a list of Non-Functioning street lights both in the towns and rural areas.

NHIDCL was directed to inspect the working of streetlights from Hasti to Malipeth and repair any non-functional units. Furthermore, they were instructed to construct drains from Thathri to Sinthan Top to prevent water stagnation on

roads, while GREF was instructed to construct drains from Kuleed to Sansari Nallah.

The DC also emphasized the aesthetic beautification of public spaces and key crossings across the district, such as Hidayal Chowk, Viewpoint Malipeth and Bindraban. The meeting decided to create Selfie points at these sites.

A committee headed by ACR and comprising GREF officials was formed to oversee removal of encroachments obstructing drainage from Kuleed Chowk to 5RR.

To enforce SBM guidelines, the DC set a target of achieving 100% whitewashing in the district. He also called for imposing fine on shops, establishments and dhabas that fail to whitewash their shutters.

NHIDCL and GREF were directed to ensure uniform drain lengths and to repair potholes after completing drain cleaning in a time bound manner.

The discussion also included operation of community toilets in the town, removal of illegal and outdated hoardings, and overall sanitation improvements.

The meeting was attended by ADC Pawan Kotwal, CEO KDA Rishi Kumar Sharma, ACR Idrees Lone, ACD Phulail Singh, EO Municipality/Deputy Registrar Cooperative Mirza Muntaz Iqbal, BDOs, Executive Engineers of PMGSY, PWD and representatives from FSSAI, Health, GREF and NHIDCL.

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KVK Reasi imparts Training Programme on fruit, vegetable processing

STATE TIMES NEWS

REASI: Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Reasi under the administrative control of Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Jammu imparted training programme on "Entrepreneurship development in fruit and vegetable processing" here today at Kadmal village in Reasi distt. of J&K which was attended by the number of farmers of the area. The programme was organised under the dynamic stewardship of Vice Chancellor, Prof. BN Tripathi and able guidance of Director Extension, Prof. Amrisha Vaid of SKUAST-Jammu.



KVK Reasi scientist guiding participants on processing of fruits and vegetables at Kadmal village in Reasi.

Dr. Banarsi Lal, KVK, Reasi started the programme with the warm

Bukhari stresses need to protect agricultural land in Valley

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Stressing the importance of protecting agricultural and horticultural land in Kashmir, Apni Party President Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari stated that the valley has already lost a large portion of this land to the construction of houses, commercial buildings, and urbanization, causing irreparable damage.

He called on the government to engage with the experts, the stakeholders, and conduct a thorough assessment of the potential loss of land before proceeding with large developmental projects in the valley. In his statement issued here on Wednesday, Bukhari said, "Agriculture and allied sectors, besides providing employment to a large section of the population, contribute significantly to J&K's GDP. However, unfortunately, we are rapidly losing land to urbanization and building constructions. Significant damage has already been done in this regard. Therefore, it is imperative that we remain highly vigilant in protecting farmland and orchards."

"The government must take the opinions of experts and stakeholders into consideration and conduct a thorough assessment of the potential loss of land before proceeding with large developmental projects, including the proposed Pahalgam rail project, the proposed NIT campus in Nawa Pulwama, and the construction of satellite colonies along the Ring Road. In all these projects, the valley could potentially lose a significant portion of fertile farmland and orchards, leaving affected people grappling with permanent losses and creating devastating consequences," he added.

Bukhari said, "Nobody should be against developmental projects, but these projects should not come at the cost of our lush green paddly fields, fertile horticultural land, and forested areas."

DCO inspects Medical stores in Gool

STATE TIMES NEWS

RAMBAN: Drug Control Officer Ramban Intiyaz Ahmed conducted inspection of Medical Shops at Main Bazaar Gool with the objective to ensure compliance with the directives regarding the installation of CCTV cameras and the implementation of computerized billing systems and to ensure compliance with regulations regarding the maintaining of sale records of psychotropic drugs.

During the inspections, it was observed that Chemists had complied with the directions and installed CCTVs and started computerized billing. The inspections primarily focused on verifying the installation of CCTV cameras and Computerized Billing System and it was observed that all the inspected firms have installed CCTV cameras and adopted computerized billing systems.

ABVP's 60th State Conference concludes

Resolution passed on improving current Education situation in J&K



ABVP members addressing a press conference at Jammu.

were given the charge by the Election Officer Dr. Rakesh.

The inaugural session was held in the presence of Chief Guest Romulo Ram, Special Guests Devyani Singh and National Secretary Aditya Tikyar. Speech of Student Leaders from Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh was held on the Yuva Manch Vision @2047, which highlighted how India could be developed before the completion of 100 years of independence and what the contribution of the youth would

be in this. There was an extensive discussion on the current Educational scenario of Jammu and Kashmir and on Viksit Jammu and Kashmir Viksit India. The Yuva Manch gave importance to the ideas of the youth and their proposals were also included in the conference.

While discussing the Pancha Parivartan, the youth were motivated to adopt them and to promote the Pancha Parivartan. On the last day of the conference, the new executives of the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad Jammu Kashmir for 2024-2025 was announced. In this 60th State Convention of ABVP, the posters of SERU and Nagar Khel Kumbh were launched.

The outline of the upcoming programs and movements was prepared, in which Youth Pakhwada will be celebrated from January 12 to 23, a Tiranga Yatra will be taken out on January 26, and widespread movements will be carried out on education, social issues, and other issues.

In this press conference Akshi Billowria (CWC Member), Sourav Manhas (State Joint Secretary), Vikrant Singh (Vibhag Convenor), Harish Sharma (Jammu Mahangar Secretary) were also present.

Gear up for upcoming Panchayat, ULB Polls in J&K: Sadhotra



J&K National Conference leaders during a meeting at Jammu.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Ajay Sadhotra, Additional General Secretary and former Minister of Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (JKNC), on Wednesday urged party workers to intensify their preparations for the forthcoming Panchayat and Urban Local Body (ULB) elections in Jammu and Kashmir.

He called for collective efforts to strengthen grassroots democracy and ensure the victory of JKNC candidates.

Addressing a gathering of party workers at Sher-e-Kashmir Bhawan, here, Ajay Sadhotra criticized the previous government led by the BJP, alleging its failure to deliver basic amenities to rural areas.

Today's meeting was organized under the chairmanship of Chander Mohan Sharma, District President Jammu Urban JKNC. The event commenced with the cutting of a

cake to mark the New Year 2025. In the meeting, Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President JKNC, MLA Gulabgarh Er Khurshid, Babu Rampaul former Minister and Central Zone President, Sheikh Bashir Ahmed Provincial secretary and other party workers were present.

Chander Mohan Sharma greeted the party workers and briefed senior functionaries about the problems being faced by the people of Jammu due to the anti-people policies adopted by the previous government.

Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President of Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (JKNC) Jammu, in his address, emphasized the importance of strengthening democracy through active participation in the upcoming polls.

He highlighted that the JKNC, under the leadership of Dr. Farooq Abdullah, has

always championed the cause of inclusive development and grassroots empowerment.

The Provincial President asserted that the programmes like "Back to Village" conducted under the BJP regime proved as a superficial initiative that failed to yield any tangible benefits for the people.

He argued that these programs were mere photo-ops and lacked meaningful follow-through, leaving the pressing problems of those living in remote and rural areas unresolved.

He highlighted that despite repeated assurances, issues such as poor road connectivity, lack of drinking water, inadequate healthcare facilities, and unreliable electricity supply continued to plague these regions.

Rattan Lal Gupta urged party workers to reach out to every voter, highlighting JKNC's commitment to inclusive development and the welfare of all sections of society.

Massive Railway link to different parts of JK UT: YV Sharma

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: While extending New Year Greetings to all the people of J&K, YV Sharma, spokesperson of BJP, congratulated the people for the massive Railway Link being envisaged by the Central Govt.

In this connection, Said Sharma, Jammu Railway Division will be inaugurated virtually by the PM Narendra Modi on Jan 6.

The location of the Jammu Railway division office at Jammu will not only provide a number of employments but will also extend the Railway infrastructure to almost all the parts of JK UT uncovered so far. It will connect different parts of the country to almost every part of JK UT.

THE formation of this division will give great impetus to the 223 km long Railway connection to long long-awaited Jammu, Akhnoor,

Poonch Railway line which will be a great boon for the residents of this area. This Railway link will come as a great opportunity for the 'Trade and Industry of the Jammu region.

Sharma was hopeful that this area will very soon develop as a great hub for trade and industry resulting in great development and prosperity in the region. He was sure that this would give a great boost to the tourism sector in this region.

Sharma expressed his heartfelt gratitude to PM Narendra Modi for the formation of Jammu Railway Division which besides linking Railway link to Akhnoor and Poonch will also extend to many parts in the Kashmir Valley and Leh. He also thanked the PM for allocating huge funds for the purpose so that the scheme sees the light of the day without any delay.

GMC Srinagar launches QR-based Feedback System to enhance patient care service delivery

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: In a significant step towards improving the quality of healthcare and administrative services, Govt Medical College (GMC) Srinagar on Wednesday launched a QR-based feedback system in Shri Maharaja Hari Singh (SMHS) Hospital.

The initiative aims to provide patients and their attendants an easy, efficient and transparent platform to share their experiences and suggestions for the hospital's overall development. The innovative system was launched by the Principal/Dean of GMC Srinagar, Prof. Dr. Iffat Hassan, who emphasized the importance of feedback in driving institutional improvement.

Others present at the event included Administrator, Mohammad Ashraf Hakak; HOD Urology deptt. Prof Dr



Principal/Dean of GMC Srinagar, Prof. Dr. Iffat Hassan another during a programme.

Sajad Nazir; Medical Superintendent, Dr. Tasneem; Deputy Medical Superintendent, Casualty Medical Officers (CMOs), Resident Medical Officers (RMOs), nursing staff, and key stakeholders of the hospital. Prof. Dr. Iffat highlighted the hospital's commitment to leveraging technology to ensure patient satisfaction and operational efficiency. She stated, "The QR-based feedback system is a milestone in our continuous efforts to provide

patient-centered care. This initiative will help us to understand the needs of the patients better and address their concerns effectively."

Administrator praised the collaborative efforts of the GMC IT Section in designing and implementing this user-friendly system. "The feedback platform is simple to use and will act as a direct communication channel between patients and hospital administration. We believe this will greatly enhance transparency and

accountability."

HOD Urology said that the initiative aligns with the vision of improving healthcare delivery by incorporating patient feedback into decision-making processes. The system is designed to address both positive and constructive feedback in a time-bound manner.

Weekly Block Diwas: DC Udhampur convenes public outreach camp

STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: Deputy Commissioner Udhampur, Saloni Rai on Wednesday convened a public outreach programme at CFC Ghordi Jagri; as part of the weekly Block Diwas initiative.

The event witnessed the participation of DDC Member Rakesh Sharma, Sub-Divisional Magistrate Rannagar Rajinder Singh, former BDC Chairman, Aarti Sharma and officers from line departments, along with former PRI members and local residents.

During the interaction, DDC Member Rakesh Sharma, former BDC Chairman Aarti Sharma, former Sarpanches, Panches and residents of nearby Panchayats highlighted several issues and demands seeking Tehsil status to Ghordi, establishment of a Kendriya Vidyalaya in the area, ensuring sustained progress under the Jal Jeevan Mission, quality checks for works undertaken by the RDD, repair of link roads under PMGSY and PWD and resolving issues related to new ration cards, filling of vacant posts of doctors in PHC Ghordi, addressing staff shortages in the PHE and Education sectors and mitigating the scarcity of drinking water etc. The DC gave a patient hearing to the grievances and directed concerned officers to take immediate steps for their resolution. She emphasized the importance of proactive governance and urged officials to personally assess public issues and ensure their timely redressal. The DC stressed that public outreach programs are integral to effective governance, enabling direct interaction with the people to understand their needs and obtain feedback on developmental works. She encouraged officers to work with dedication, sincerity and accountability, ensuring that genuine grievances are addressed at the earliest.