

645th Guru Ravi Dass Jayanti celebrated across Jammu region



People celebrating Ravi Dass Jayanti at Bhadarwah.

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BHADARWAH: Like other parts of country as well as Union Territory (UT) of Jammu and Kashmir, Guru Ravi Dass Jayanti was celebrated with religious fervor and full enthusiasm across Jammu region on Wednesday.

At Bhadarwah, to celebrate the 645th Birth anniversary of Guru Ravi Dass Maharaj as 'Prakash Utsav', people of Bhadarwah and its peripheral areas assembled at

Lakshmi Narayan Temple Bhadarwah, where main function was organized.

An example of brotherhood and communal harmony was seen at Bhadarwah, where people from all sections of the society participated in the programme.

On the auspicious occasion of Guru Ravi Dass Jayanti devotees took out "Jahakies" from several areas which includes Dalain, Chakka, Dhara, Sungli, Sartangal, Sarol, Bagh, Hanga,

Manthla, Rounda and others. The Jhankies after passing through various markets and roads culminated at historical premises of Lakshmi Narayan Temple Bhadarwah where Bhajan Kirtan and Religious speeches were held.

While speaking, Swami Raj, All J&K Shri Ravi Dass Sabha District President, described Guru Ravi Dass Ji as a great social reformer who tirelessly endeavoured to ameliorate the lot of the people, especially the downtrodden and under-privileged sections of the society.

He said that Guru Ji's teachings of peace, harmony, love and compassion have influenced millions of people and continue to inspire coming generations to work for a harmonious society which is based on equality and social justice. On the occasion Langer and Prasad were also served to the devotees. The Security arrangements were beefed in and around



SSP Mohan Lal Bhagat Deputy Director Indoor SKPA during Guru Ravi Dass Jayanti celebrations at Akhnoor.

Bhadarwah town.

AKHNOOR: Guru Ravi Dass Sabha Akhnoor under the presidency of Manoj Kumar Uttam organized an impressive function at Guru Ravi Dass temple, wherein thousands of devotees from different parts of Akhnoor tehsil participated. An impressive Shoba Yatra was also taken on the eve of Parkash Divas of Guru Ravi Dass Ji Maharaj here, today.

SSP Mohan Lal Bhagat Deputy Director Indoor SKPA was the Chief Guest of the programme. Others who were present on the occasion are Rattan Lal Bassan Xen, Gullu Ram Bhagat, Sarpanch Vinender Kumar etc.

Mohan Lal has called upon the people to adopt the teachings of great spiritual saint and Guru Ravi Dass Ji to lead a blissful life, maintaining that Guru Ji's teachings are most relevant in day to day life.

Addressing a large gathering of devotees of Guru Ji on the

occasion of Guru Ravi Dass Jayanti, at Akhnoor today, he said that Guru Ji throughout his life worked for the upliftment of poor and weaker sections of the society. He described Guru Ji as a great social reformer who tirelessly worked to ameliorate the lot of the downtrodden and underprivileged sections of the society.

Others present on the eve are Girdhari Lal Vice President, Bachan Lal Secretary, Kewal Kumar Cashier etc.

UDHAMPUR: Guru Ravi Dass Sabha Udhampur also celebrated 645th birth anniversary in Udhampur with full gaiety and religious fervor and took out impressive Shoba Yatra in a traditional manner.

According to reports, a large number of devotees including women assembled in the premises Guru Ravi Dass Temple Udhampur, after performing traditional Puja, an



Devotees taking out Shoba Yatra at Udhampur.

impressive and well decorative Shoba Yatra taken out Yatra passed through MH chowk, Domail Chowk, Slattha Chowk Sallain talab, Chabutra Bazaar, Main Bazaar, Gole market later culminated in the premises of Mandir back. At many places people accorded warm reception to Shoba Yatra and also distributed fruits, cold drinks and sweets. Shoba Yatra was taken out in a very disciplinary manner putting on religious attires and had displayed

number of tableaux of Bhagwan Shree Ravi Ji. Devotees were chanting Bajan Kirtan also. Subash Shastri delivered holy sermons and blessed the devotees. Later a Vishal Bhandra was organized for devotees where large number of people took Prashad.

On this occasion besides many prominent citizens people from all section of society have participated and exhibited the model of brotherhood and self

harmony added former president of SabhaThakar Dass.

Selfless service to mankind is service to Almighty: NC

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SUNDERBANI: True, selfless service to mankind without any personal, material or vested interest is a service to God Almighty.

This was stated by Nasir Sogami, former Minister and Provincial President National Conference, Srinagar while addressing a largely attended congregation on the occasion of Guru Ravi Dass Jayanti at Lamberi of Sunderbani area.

The senior NC leader said that spiritualism can lead to peace of mind and calm the turbulent minds in the material world of today which will in turn pave way for a societal renaissance.

He said that the draft report is unacceptable to the community and the entire population of Jats will raise their voice against the injustice.

Among others who were

restoration of Suchetgarh which was arbitrarily merged to dent the aspirations and hopes of the electorate of the constituency.

He alleged that Delimitation Commission seems to be hand in glove with ruling party as changes proposed are meant for giving edge to the party. He said as far as Anantnag Lok Sabha seat is concerned Nowshera, Rajouri, Poonch, Surankote might be added in the aforesaid constituency but why the Shopian district has been excluded.

Ch Mammoan Singh said that the whole border community had supported BJP during the last Assembly and Parliamentary elections but the party played with the sentiments of the border dwellers.

He said the ruling party did injustice with the Jats as well by reserving the entire belt having their population. He said that the Jat will teach a

lesson for betraying them in the forthcoming elections in the Jammu and Kashmir.

Sunil Singh Choudhary Tehsil President AJMJS Bishnah endorsed Ch Mammoan Singh's stance and criticized the proposal regarding reservation of seats falling in the Jat belt and taking away seat status of Suchetgarh. He said that still there is time to rectify the mistake as Jats will not tolerate this kind of injustice.

He said that the draft report is unacceptable to the community and the entire population of Jats will raise their voice against the injustice.

Among others who were

present include Sham Choudhary, Capt Samsher Choudhary, Capt. Rattan Lal, Capt Kamal Choudhary, Panch Sarabjeet, Capt B.R Choudhary, Natha Ram Choudhary, Sarpanch Balbir Kour, Balwant Choudhary and Surjeet Choudhary.

Godliness. Nasir Sogami said the Jammu and Kashmir has passed through difficult times in the last three decades. He said that the dynamic leadership of Dr Farooq Abdullah and Omar Abdullah has always tried to bridge gap between the communities and strived hard to bring peace, and prosperity into an erstwhile state. And now, it should be joint efforts of all right thinking people to strengthen their hands for peace and betterment of Jammu and Kashmir.

Paying rich tributes to Guru Ravi Dass, Thakur Yashu Vardhan Singh, Constituency Incharge NC Kalakot, who is also NC Zonal Seeretary Peer Panjal Zone and Incharge District Rajouri, said that Guru Ravi Dass was an epitome of societal reforms and humanity. He said Guru Ji worked tirelessly to create a world where all are equal and where love is the only bond of relationship between different human beings.

Sunita, District President Rural, Women Wing Rajouri, Advocate Tehseen Ishtiaq, Puspinder Chadha, Nasir Ahmed and Jyoti Kumar also spoke on the occasion and said that best way of celebrating the occasion is to take a pledge to follow the teachings of Guru ji in letter and spirit and work for building a society based on the natural principles of social justice, equality, compassion, love and togetherness. Those who were present include Devsurup Raina and Saraf, senior NC leader.

Salary of Panchayat Secys withheld for delaying MGNREGA payments

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DODA: Taking cognizance of delaying MGNREGA payments, Assistant Commissioner Development Doda Phulai Singh on Wednesday ordered withholding of the salary of erring Panchayat Secretaries posted in different blocks of the district.

The DDC said that Eklavya Model school is an ambitious initiative of the Government of India to facilitate the tribal students to get quality education and to enable them to compete with the students of the rest of the country.

He asked the Executing Agency to expedite the work on the project and ensure completion within the set deadline to benefit the tribal students.

The DDC also directed for adhering to the quality parameters while executing the work on the project.

performance in their respective panchayats under timely payment indicator.

In this regard the salary of the erring panchayat secretaries have been withheld with immediate effect.

The respective BDOs have been directed not to credit salary in favour of the erring Panchayat secretaries till they do not improve their performance.

Moreover, the BDO's have been asked to start proceedings against the second signatories with dismal performance due to negligence, through Block Development Chairpersons under the provisions of J&K Panchayati Raj ACT 1989.

Progress of Samba campus of SKUAST-J reviewed

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SAMBA: Prof. J.P. Sharma Vice Chancellor SKUAST-Jammu visited Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Samba. Dr. S.K. Gupta Registrar, SKUAST Jammu, Dr. Pradeep Walli, Director Research, S. Iqbal Singh, Executive Engineer accompanied Vice Chancellor during his visit. At the onset, Vice Chancellor was welcomed by Dr. Vinod Gupta, Senior Scientist & Head KVK Samba along with KVK staff.

Prof. J.P. Sharma appreciated the Scientists and the staff of the KVK for the recent initiative taken for the welfare of the farming community of the District Samba. Further during his visit to Seed Production Farm of KVK Samba at village Mananu, he directed Estate Officer, SKUAST Jammu to timely completion of fencing work of KVK land at village Mananu.

During his visit, Prof. J.P. Sharma directed Director Research SKUAST Jammu to adopt high yielding varieties of Pulses, Wheat and Oilseed crops at Seed Production Farm at village Mananu so that quality seed may be produced for farmers of the district Samba. He also held a discussion with the scientific staff of KVK Samba and Pulse Research Sub Station, Samba. His discussion with staff of KVK Samba and PRSS Samba was mainly focussed on increasing the farmers income manifold through establishing marketing linkages and branding of agriculture and veterinary products.

Dr. Pardeep Walli, Director Research, SKUAST-J assured the staff of KVK Samba for all possible technical support from



VC SKUAST-Jammu Prof. J.P. Sharma during visit to KVK Samba.

Directorate of Research SKUAST Jammu.

Initially, Dr Vinod Gupta, Sr. Scientist & Head, KVK Samba presented a detailed report of work done by KVK for the benefit of the farming community and assured Vice Chancellor that the team of KVK Samba is always present for the development of Agriculture and allied activities at district Samba.

Dr. Sanjeev Kumar, I/c PRSS Samba, Dr. Sanjay Khajuria, Dr. Neerja Sharma, Dr. A.K. Sinha, Dr. Brij Nandan, Dr. Saurav Gupta, Dr. Vijay Kumar Sharma, Dr. Amit Mahajan, Dr. Shalini Khajuria and Bharat Bhushan along with other staff members were present during the meeting.

Rotary Club Grand organises quiz competition



Winners being felicitated during the event.

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RAJOURI: In order to inculcate the spirit of competition and to provide them knowledge of different spheres, the Rotary Club Grand here in Rajouri organised a quiz competition

for students of Daksh hostel. Senior functionaries of the club were present during this quiz competition in which students of the hostel participated.

Competition on quiz in differ-

ent subjects was held on this occasion which was closely monitored by a team of judges after which the participants were felicitated.

The experts from Rotary Club Grand also organised a motivational lecture on this occasion in which students were made aware about recent changes in the education field.

Students were also made aware about habits for development of moral values in their lives. Quiz competition was held under the presidency of President Rotary Club Grand Rajouri Umesh Sharma wherein Rtn Lokesh Bakshi, Rtn Amardeep Singh, Rtn Rohit Gupta and others were also present.

Competition on quiz in differ-



DDC Rajouri, Vikas Kundal inspecting ongoing work.

Residential School here at Gurdhan Balla.

Eklavya Model Residential School is a central Government scheme for promotion of education among the Tribal communities across India.

While taking stock of the progress on under construction campus building of Eklavya Model

project has been approved at an estimated cost of Rs 15.91 crore. The residential school building would have capacity of accommodating 240 girl students and equal number of boy students.

The DDC said that Eklavya Model school is an ambitious initiative of the Government of India to facilitate the tribal students to get quality education and to enable them to compete with the students of the rest of the country.

He asked the Executing Agency to expedite the work on the project and ensure completion within the set deadline to benefit the tribal students.

The DDC also directed for

adhering to the quality parameters while executing the work on the project.

DSS expresses concern over damages to houses due to faulty widening of NH-44 in Ramban

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RAMBAN: Th. Gulchain Singh Charak, former minister and President, Dogra Sadar Sabha (DSS), J&K, has expressed great sorrow and dismay over the damage caused to houses, cultivable lands, temples, schools, shops and commercial establishments of the people residing in Dalwas, Nashri, Kunfer, Peerah, Chanderkote, Karole, Neera and other villages of Ramban district due to unplanned execution of works by respective agencies, engaged under Jammu-Srinagar National Highway (NH-44) Widening/Four Laning Project in Ramban district. Charak in a statement drew attention of the Government towards the callous attitude adopted by Project Implementing Agencies in the matter, as well as by the Supervising Agencies. He

expressed an urgent need to redress the grievances of suffering population, besides attending to other serious environmental concerns.

Charak referred to his recent tour of the NH-44 and affected villages in Ramban district for firsthand appraisal of the plight of the people and to take up the issue of damage to their property with the LG Manoj Sinha all their attempts to secure proper relief and compensation from local authorities had fallen on deaf ears so far. Charak said that after on-spot visits and also while interacting with the local people during the meetings held in different villages, he was shocked to find that a number of houses, temples and commercial establishments of the area in Dalwas, Thanari, Peerah, Neera and other villages, had developed wide cracks in their walls and ceilings. Many had totally collapsed due to ruthless earthwork and cutting of slopes during road widening and the cultivable lands were sliding. It was personally observed at several spots in Dalwas village that the earth was cut and removed from about 60 ft. almost vertically beneath the foundations of many houses. The retaining walls constructed, were not more than 6 feet high.

Improper construction of culverts was observed at Chanderkote. "How can these structures survive?" he questioned. "Moreover, such works will continuously pose threat to their lives," He continued. Charak said that initially, the District Development Commissioner, Ramban and Tehsildar Batote did provide some temporary accommodation to affected families in government schools and Company quarters at Dalwas, but nothing further and no proper compensation has been paid either; as alleged by the people there. Gulchain Singh Thakur expressed dismay that the Mula from earth excavations during road widening was being thrown directly into the River Chenab, thereby giving an open invitation to disaster in the form of serious floods due to blockade of the River and backflow of water. Charak appealed to the administration to have a proper mechanism for supervision of works and accountability under the Project to prevent any catastrophic impact in future. He appealed to the UT administration to provide proper compensation and permanent accommodation to the affected families so that they may soon start their comfortable life afresh.

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RAJOURI: Republican Party of India (RPI) President Tanveer Hussain & Vice President Raj Kumar Goyal during their two days tour of Rajouri held several meetings and discussed the preparations for upcoming protest programme on February 20. At Nowshera RPI delegation had interaction with the people who apprised them about the problems facing the people. The Daily Rate Workers also met the delegation and apprised them about the problems faced by them and continued apathetic attitude of the government. Speaking on the occasion Hussain said that RPI will take every step to highlight the issue of the daily wagers and people living in rural and far-flung areas of Jammu and Kashmir.

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