

# ADC Baderwah discuss arrangements for Eid-ul-fitr, Navratri

## STATE TIMES NEWS

**BHADERWAH:** To finalise the arrangements for upcoming festive season, Additional Development Commissioner (ADC) Baderwah Sunil Kumar convened a meeting of all officers, religious leaders and prominent citizens of Baderwah to discuss arrangements for the upcoming festivals including Shab-e-Qadr, Jumma-tul-Vida, Eid-ul-fitr and celebration of the Navratri festival in the area.

The meeting was held in the office of ADC Baderwah, in which President Anjuman-e-Islamia Baderwah Riaz Ahmed, President Sanatan Dharam Sabha Baderwah Varinder Razdan, other religious



ADC Baderwah Sunil Kumar chairing a meeting.

leaders, Beopar Mandal President Naseer Mehboob, Civil Society members and prominent citizens attended the meeting. Beside Tehsildar Baderwah Kamalpreet Singh, EO MC Baderwah, BMO Baderwah Dr Mohd Ashraf Kuchey, TSO Baderwah, AEE Jal Shakti Baderwah Iqbal Singh, JE PDD Nixon and other officers were also present. Responding to the issues highlighted by the religious leaders, the ADC directed

concerned departments to ensure uninterrupted water and power supply, beside ensure sanitation of roads leading to Eidgah and Masjids across the additional district.

The ADC directed the concerned departments to make adequate arrangements to ensure availability of essential amenities for the people besides intensifying market checking to prevent overcharging on items like fruits, vegetables, milk, cheese, chicken and mutton by the sellers.

He instructed all Tehsildar and officers of Municipality to intensify sanitation operations, ensure cleanliness in and around the Mosques and Mandirs.

The ADC also passed

instructions for the constitution of joint teams of concerned departments to check display/fixation of rates, overcharging and quality of the products.

While appreciating the age-old brotherhood, peace and loving culture of the area, the ADC asked both the communities to not pay heed to rumors and only believe in official statements on sensitive issues.

The ADC assured all possible facilitation during the festive season.

Meanwhile Anjuman-e-Islamia Baderwah and Sanatan Dharam Sabha Baderwah also assured full cooperation with the administration for smooth and peaceful conduct of all festivals.

# GDC Bishnah celebrates World Water Day



Faculty members along with students during the programme.

## STATE TIMES NEWS

**BISHNAH:** GDC Bishnah celebrated World Water Day under the patronage of Principal Dr. Shalhu Samyal by organizing a series of events focused on water conservation and environmental sustainability. On the first day, Kewal Krishna Wadhwa, a renowned social activist and environmentalist, was invited as the resource person. In his address, he emphasized the importance of eliminating single-use plastic, conserving water, and protecting water bodies. He encouraged students to adopt sustainable practices, such as using paper or cloth bags instead of plastic. The event concluded with a plantation drive on the college campus, where students

planted saplings gifted by K.K. Wadhwa.

As part of the same initiative, an awareness program on water conservation was conducted at Government Higher Secondary School for Girls, Bishnah. Students actively shared their views on conserving potable water, and the school principal motivated them to take action in their daily lives. The events were organized by Dr. Koushal Kiran, Nodal Officer, in collaboration with the Eco Club, the Department of Environmental Science (EVS), and the National Service Scheme (NSS) Wing of the college, under the guidance of Dr. Shalhu Samyal. Dr. Geeta Lakhotra, NSS Program Officer, coordinated the programme.

# Kathua Campus organises lecture on 'How to Read a Poem'



JU officials along with students during the programme.

## STATE TIMES NEWS

**KATHUA:** The Department of English, Kathua Campus, University of Jammu, today organized an expert lecture titled "How to Read a Poem", under the auspices of Prof. Arvind Jasrotia, Rector, Kathua Campus. The lecture aimed to provide attendees with valuable insights into the nuances of poetry, techniques for analyzing poetic works, and strategies for enhancing their apprecia-

tion of this art form. The event brought together students and faculty members to explore the significance of clear, impactful, and engaging ways to read and appreciate poetry. Prof. Sucheta Pathania, Professor in the Department of English, University of Jammu; Dean, Faculty of Arts, and Convener, Board of Studies, served as the resource person for the guest lecture. Prof. Pathania began the

session by guiding participants through the world of poetry, unraveling its mysteries and uncovering its beauty. She explained poetic devices, clarified the distinction between "poem" and "poetry," and provided invaluable tools for exploring and appreciating poetry in all its forms. The session was engaging and interactive, encouraging active participation. Students were given worksheets to practice the concepts discussed,

which allowed them to apply their newly acquired knowledge. This interactive learning experience proved to be invaluable in fostering a deeper understanding and retention of the subject matter.

In his message, Prof. Arvind Jasrotia, Rector of Kathua Campus, encouraged students to take full advantage of this opportunity to enhance their understanding of poetry, urging them to keep their minds open and their curiosity alive.

The workshop was attended by students and faculty members from both the University Institute of Engineering and Technology (UIET) and Kathua Campus. The welcome address was delivered by Dr. Nonita Sharma, Lecturer in the Department of English, and the formal vote of thanks was presented by another Lecturer from the Department of English.

# GDC Baderwah felicitates students for winning third prize in Goonj Festival-2025

## STATE TIMES NEWS

**B H A D E R W A H :** Government Degree College Baderwah organized a felicitation program to honor its students for securing third prize in the Folk Dance competition held at the prestigious Goonj festival 2025, hosted by the University of Jammu.

A team of ten talented students from GDC Baderwah showcased the rich cultural heritage of the region by performing the traditional Baderwahi folk dance. Their mesmerizing performance captivated the audience and earned them a well-deserved place on the winners' podium.

The felicitation ceremony was graced by the presence of the college Principal prof.(Dr.) Attar Singh kotwal, faculty members, and students.

Speaking on the occasion,



Faculty members along with students who excelled in fest during felicitation programme.

the Principal congratulated the participants and Cultural Committee of the College for their dedication and hard work. "This achievement is a testament to the rich cultural traditions of Baderwah and the talent of our students. We are proud of their efforts and commitment," the principal remarked.

This achievement marks another milestone for GDC Baderwah in promoting regional art and culture at

the university level. The college remains committed to nurturing young talent and encouraging participation in such prestigious platforms.

Faculty members also commended the students for their outstanding performance and encouraged them to continue excelling in cultural and academic endeavors. Senior faculty Prof. Shakeel Ahmed, Prof. Rakesh Sharma, Prof. Mohd. Maqbool, Prof. Bashir Ahmed, Dr. Bharat

Singh and members of cultural Committee Prof. Vandana Sharma, Prof. Anuradha Sharma, Prof. Renuka Gorla and PTI Angrez Singh were present. The whole event was organized by the Cultural Committee of the College and concluded with certificates and trophy of appreciation being distributed to the participants, followed by a vote of thanks by convener cultural Committee Dr. Rajni Kumari.

# JKTA Rajouri raises issues of Teachers fraternity

## STATE TIMES NEWS

**JAMMU:** The Jammu and Kashmir Teachers Association (JKTA) District Rajouri, under the esteemed chairmanship of District President Dr. Vidhu Bhushan, convened a significant meeting today to address pressing educational concerns. The meeting was graced by UT President Bhupinder Singh, who served as the Chief Guest, along with senior leaders from the UT and Provincial levels. Teachers of all Zones of District Rajouri has participated in the meeting.

Addressing the gathering, UT President Bhupinder Singh assured that all issues discussed would be presented before the concerned authorities for the



Members of JKTA during the meeting.

earliest possible resolution. Key Highlights of the Meeting were Implementation of Govt. Order No. 469 OF Education 2014(Dated-26-06-2014); The word "look after" should be abolished from Promotions and regularization of Joint Directors, CEOs, Principal,s, ZEO,s,

Headmaster,s and Lecturers in a time bound manner. The majority of the teachers throughout Jammu and Kashmir UT falls under NPS and they feel that their future is not bright and safe in NPS. The Govt. has brought UPS in place of NPS but there are also some shortcomings in it and they should be

improved, our demand is to bring OPS which is the genuine and acceptable solution of this burning issue for all teachers. The regularization orders of RE/TS to General Line teachers and conversion into Grade-II and Grade-III should be done within no time so that they may be able to improve their economic condition.

Mangat Choudhary UT Organiser, Vikas Khajuria UT Chief advisor, Sunil Salaria UT Coordinator, Uttam Singh Provincial Vice President, Surjeet Singh, Kapoor Shastr i P r o v i n c i a l Coordinator, Mohd Farooq District General Secretary, Liyaqat Chowdhary Advisor, Jhanghir, Jasvir Singh, Harish Sharma, Kartar Chand, Gagan Kesar, orangzeb, Joginder Paul, Sanjay Kumar, Roshan Lal, Balbir Singh, Rakesh Kumar, Kulbeer Singh, Mohd Shabir, Mohd Qayoom, Shumesh Dev Singh, Surat Singh, Raspaal Singh, Maqbool Hussain, Mohd Shafiq, Mohd Asif, Mohd Akhtar and others were present in the meeting.

# Fit India Movement: GDC Neeli Nallah Udhampur organises sports activities



## STATE TIMES NEWS

**UDHAMPUR:** Government Degree College (GDC) Neeli Nallah, Udhampur, organized a range of sports activities under the Fit India Movement initiative, promoting physical fitness and wellness among students and staff.

The event, held under the

guidance of Dr. Seema Arora, Principal of the college, featuring various competitions, including Running: A 100 meters and 200 meters run, that saw enthusiastic participation from students for Badminton Singles (Women and Men), showcasing the skills of participants.

To foster a culture of fitness, tournaments were also included on the second day of event.

The event aimed to promote physical fitness, teamwork, and sportsmanship among the participants.

Principal of the college, emphasized the importance of physical fitness and wellness in daily life. Prof Shaista Yasmeen, Convener Sports Committee highlighted that "we are committed to promoting physical fitness and wellness among our students and

staff. The Fit India Movement is a great initiative, and we are proud to be a part of it."

The event was a huge success, with over 100 participants from the college and local community. The winners of each competition will be awarded prizes and certificates after the completion of Fit India Campaign.

The Principal congratulated Prof Shaista Yasmeen (Convener Sports) and Dr. Muntazir (PTI) for their hardwork and dedication. Dr. Mubarak Mahire and Dr Zahoor Wani also cooperated for smooth functioning of the event.

GDC Neeli Nallah, Udhampur, is committed to promoting physical fitness and wellness among its students and staff. The college plans to organize more such events in the future.

# World TB Day: DC felicitates 14 Ayushman Arogya Mandirs for declaring facilities as TB-Free Zones

## STATE TIMES NEWS

**KATHUA:** To mark World Tuberculosis (TB) Day, a series of awareness and recognition programs were organized by the District Tuberculosis Centre Kathua on Monday. The event underscored the collective commitment of healthcare authorities and the community towards the fight against tuberculosis.

A felicitation ceremony was held here at the Deputy Commissioner's Office, where the In-charges of 14 Ayushman Arogya Mandirs were recognized for declaring their facilities as TB-Free Zones. Deputy Commissioner Dr. Rakesh Minhas emphasized the need for sustained efforts to ensure a TB-free Kathua and urged the community to actively participate in the mission.

Earlier, Chief Medical Officer Dr. Vijay Raina flagged off an Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) awareness van for public announcements across Kathua city.

The initiative aims to spread awareness about

TB and promote health-seeking behavior among the public.

Dr. Raina was joined by District Tuberculosis Officer Dr. Radha Krishna and Block Medical Officer Parole, Dr. Vivek Mangotra. The staff of the District Tuberculosis Centre and CMO Office was also present.

Addressing the gathering, Dr. Raina commended the relentless efforts of healthcare teams in identifying and treating TB patients in the district. He highlighted that 760 TB patients have been diagnosed and treated in the past year. Under the ongoing 100 Days TB Elimination Campaign, which commenced on December 7, 2024, a total of 298 cases have been detected so far. The campaign has also resulted in extensive diagnostic efforts, with 4,280 tests conducted, including 1,210 multiparty tests and 4,110 X-ray examinations.

The event concluded with a pledge to intensify efforts toward TB elimination, aligning with the national goal of a TB-free India.

# GDC Thannamandi celebrates 3rd Rhododendron Day

## STATE TIMES NEWS

**THANNAMANDI:** The Department of Botany in collaboration with Department of Environmental Sciences of Government Degree College (GDC) Thannamandi celebrated 3rd Rhododendron Day as part of consortium of events here on Saturday.

Initiated on March 18, 2021 at Govt PG College Rajouri under the guidance of noted Environmentalist OP Sharma Vidyarthi, GDC Thannamandi took the lead to celebrate its third edition this year.

A consortium of events along with Rhododendron Day including World Sparrow Day that is celebrated on March 20, International Day of Forests and World Glaciers Day which are observed on March 21, and World Water Day that is commemorated on March 22, organized under the patronage of Prof. Dr. Farooq Ahmed, Principal of college.

On this occasion a composite symposium organized in which the speakers, mainly students of Botany Department, deliberated upon importance of different Days. Dr. Nazakat Hussain, Head Department of History was Chief Guest on the occasion whereas Dr. Ashaq Malik, Head Department of Botany

Co-ordinated the event. Afreen Gulzar and Toiba Farooq spoke on Rhododendron whereas Asiya Mushtaq and Zohra Khatoun gave an account of World Forest Day, its historical background and Role of forests.

Razaq Mirza and Bilal Dar gave presentations on World Water Day and importance of Water whereas Zia ur Rehman and Zaiba Fatima talked on World Sparrow Day and World Glacier Day respectively.

Dr. Farooq Ahmed, in his message, emphasised upon the need of conservation of Rhododendron especially areas like Darhal which are comparatively less disturbed by developmental activities.

Dr. Farooq appreciated the Department of Botany for organizing this field trip. Dr. Nazakat Hussain and Dr. Junaid Ahmed, Head Department of EVS also spoke on the occasion.

Earlier, Dr. Ashaq Malik introduced the audience about consortium and Mehtab Khan conducted the proceedings of programme whereas Dr. Showkat Ahmed presented the formal vote of thanks. Prominent among others present on the occasion were Dr. Naseem Ahmed, Nazir Ul Islam Wani, Dr. Mohd Ashraf, Dr. Mohd Zabair, Dr. Mudasir

Gori, Dr. Sajad Ali and Sarfaraz Ahmed.

Followed by the consortium, a field visit to explore Rhododendron organized on Sunday by Botany Department in upper reaches of Darhal Forests. A team of volunteers including Dr. Ashaq Malik, students of Botany Department, Razak Mirza and Mehtab Khan, along with the environmental enthusiast Ajaz Malik visited the Rhododendron rich site (Khorwali/Hatrian) in the high reaches of Darhal in District Rajouri. Dr. Ashaq Malik brainstormed the locals and other masses through facebook live sessions about the importance of Rhododendron (Rhododendron arboreum) - an amazing locally called Hardul, in Dogri Chiu or Burans in Hindi, prevalent in Himalayan nations including India and are in full bloom during months of February and March. Nearly 200 plants of Rhododendron along with oak trees were found in 1km under exploration besides several other locations in Darhal. The team raised awareness about the conservation of this wonderful green treasure and appealed for wider awareness to conserve this plant as well as declaring March 18 as Rhododendron Day.

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