

Congress will face severe blow in Lok Sabha election: Jugal

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
SUNDERBANI: Giving momentum to his election campaign, Jugal Kishore Sharma, BJP candidate for Jammu-Reasi parliamentary constituency, addressed a series of public meetings in Nala, Langer, Sunderbani town, in Kalakot-Sunderbani assembly segment, along with senior leaders of the party. Jugal Kishore Sharma, in his address at different places, said that Congress will face a severe blow in the coming parliamentary elections as public has very well understood the designs of this party, which is responsible for destroying the social fabric of the country by creating a wedge between different sections of



Jugal Kishore Sharma, BJP candidate for Jammu-Reasi parliamentary constituency addressing public meeting.

the society on the name of caste and region. He said the people, on the other hand, have seen the developmental agenda of Modi government, in which all the sections are benefitted, irrespective of caste, creed, colour and gender. Jugal Kishore Sharma said that the Prime Minister

Narendra Modi's vision is taking Jammu and Kashmir to new heights in all sectors and the UT has witnessed an era of peace, progress and prosperity in last few years. He said that the ten years of Modi rule is reflection of what he wants for the country in the days to come and

added that country has achieved the milestone of being the 5th largest economy of the world and is now, on the path of becoming the 3rd largest economy after America and China. He said that development is not confined to the urban sector only but rural areas of Jammu Reasi parliamentary constituency are also getting its due share. Hundreds of kilometers of rural roads have been constructed in the last few years, people have got tap water under Jal Jeevan Mission scheme, they got health cover under Golden Health Card, received loans under Mudra Yojna, poor women got gas cylinders under Ujwala Yojana, academic and medical education

facilities have improved, numerous new road and rail projects have been launched. He urged the people to vote BJP so that more and more projects of development and welfare schemes continue to pour in every area of the constituency.

Jugal Kishore was accompanied by District president Neena Sharma, Rajinder Sharma DDC, Senior BJP Leaders Vibodh Gupta, Thakur Randhir Singh, Sanjay Baru, Capt. Ramesh, Pritam Sharma, Bawa Parshotam, Ashok Chib, Ex-BDC Bal Krishan, Sanjay Sharma, Abhinav Prashar, Rajat Chib, Rajinder, Ex-Sarpanches & Panches and others also present at the occasion.

SPPND GDC Samba launches signature campaign to promote voter awareness, participation



Faculty members along with students during the programme.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

SAMBA: The Pravaad Electoral Literacy Club of SPPND Government Degree College Samba launched a signature campaign under SVEEP highlighting the importance of voting and encouraging citizens to exercise their democratic right. The campaign was organized under the guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Twinkle Suri, Principal of the college. The signature campaign, titled "Your Vote, Your Voice," seeks

to engage students, faculty members and the local community in discussions around the significance of voting in a democracy.

Participants had the opportunity to pledge their commitment to vote and advocate for increased voter turnout in the upcoming Lok Sabha Elections. The campaign aimed to spread the message of electoral literacy and voter empowerment towards a more vibrant and participatory electoral process.

No competition for BJP in 2024 LS election: Vibodh



Former MLC Vibodh Gupta addressing gathering at Sunderbani.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

SUNDERBANI: In a seathing attack on the INDI alliance, BJP Jammu and Kashmir General Secretary and former MLC Vibodh Gupta accused the coalition of shielding corrupt leaders and prioritizing selfish motives in the upcoming Lok Sabha elections. Speaking at a public gathering in Sunderbani, Gupta highlighted the stark contrast between the transformative initiatives led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the opportunistic strategies of the opposition. Gupta emphasized, "There is no competition for BJP in the 2024 Lok Sabha Elections. The people of the country wholeheartedly support PM Modi due to the positive impact of his initiatives, which have significantly transformed their lives. Even the opposition's main agenda is to thwart BJP from securing more

than 400 seats. Congress & INDI alliance are not contesting this election for the country but for saving their corrupt leaders." Expressing confidence in the BJP's electoral win in Jammu and Kashmir, Gupta asserted that the party would secure thumping majorities in the Union Territory's Lok Sabha seats. He emphasized that the people of Jammu and Kashmir are on a mission to support Prime Minister Narendra Modi's return for a third term, thereby strengthening their ongoing battle against corruption and terrorism perpetuated by successive governments affiliated with the National Conference, PDP, and Congress. Vibodh also underscored the ideological clash between the NDA and the INDI alliance. He asserted NDA as the flag-bearer of transformative governance, championing the cause of good gover-

nance, integrity, and development, while accusing the INDI alliance of harbouring the ideology of corrupt and dynastic leaders. Speaking on the occasion, senior BJP leader and Prabhari of Nowshera-Sunderbani, Sanjay Baru, highlighted the transformative policies and visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He emphasized that the Modi government has achieved numerous milestones across various sectors, including railways, healthcare, sports, education, business, and many more. Baru also underscored the government's commitment to inclusive development and its efforts to empower every section of society through innovative schemes and initiatives. He encouraged people's continued support for the government's agenda to propel India towards greater progress and prosperity.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

SAMBA: Former minister and Pradesh BJP Vice President Surjeet Singh Slathia said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's hat-trick in the upcoming general elections will consolidate the gains of peace in Jammu and Kashmir and steer the Union Territory to the highest pinnacles of progress and development.

Addressing the Karykartas at Village Sarna, Chila Danga and Gujjar Nali in Samba, on the occasion of the BJP's Sathapana Diwas, Mr Slathia said that it's a moment to reflect on the party's journey since its inception to becoming the world's largest political force. He said rooted in the ideology of nationalism and cul-



Pradesh BJP Vice President Surjeet Singh Slathia addressing gathering at Samba.

tural resurgence, the BJP has evolved into a significant political force shaping India's destiny. Its commitment to development, good governance, and inclusivity has been pivotal. This is an occasion to renew dedication by the cadre to the principles of democracy, integrity, and

progress, ensuring a brighter future for the nation in general and Jammu and Kashmir in particular, he added.

Mr Slathia said the BJP has been working for the upliftment of all with focused attention towards weaker and marginalized segments

Hi-Tech Nursery with state of art facilities will be established at Sarthal: Director Horticulture Jammu

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

KATHUA: Director Horticulture Jammu Chaman Lal Sharma, conducted a two days extensive tour of far flung areas of sub-division Bani of District Kathua. He was accompanied by District Horticulture Officers, Subject Matter Specialists, Horticulture Development officer and other officers & officials of the Department.

The Director inspected the site for development of Hi-Tech Frosty Fruit Cultivar Centre at Dhar Sarthal, Kathua span over an area of 450 kanals. The area being of temperate climate, the



Director Horticulture Jammu Chaman Lal Sharma, during tour of far flung areas of sub-division Bani.

nursery is suitable for production of temperate fruit plants. The Hi-Tech nursery to be developed will have State of the art facilities for the production of quality fruit plants. The fruit plants

to be produced here will not only cater the requirement of the farmers / orchardists of the Jammu & Kashmir; but will also supply the fruit plants to the adjoining states.

Modi's leadership ensuring safety of both citizens, borders: Pawan



BJP Vice President, Pawan Khajuria along with new entrants.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

UDHAMPUR: Bharatiya Janata Party Vice President, Pawan Khajuria, addressed a series of Path-Sabha programmes at Seen Bramna, Tikri Chakhar, and Baredian in the Tikri Malad Mandal of Udhampur district.

During the gathering, he presented the achievements of the Central Government to the public and urged them to support the BJP candidate, Dr. Jitendra Singh, in the upcoming elections. Present at the event were Mandal Pradhan Subhash, State General Secretary of Yuva Moreha, Akhil Parashar, District Council member Ashu Sharma,

former Block Chairman Nisha Sharma, along with other prominent citizens.

Addressing the Path-Sabha, Pawan Khajuria emphasized that the Modi government has implemented an unprecedented number of schemes for the welfare of the people. He highlighted the success of the Jal Jeevan Mission, ensuring tap water to every household across the nation. Furthermore, he underscored the commitment of the government towards providing clean water through tap connections. Regarding the Farmers' Kisan Samman Nidhi, he informed the audience about the provision of Rs. 6000 assistance annually to farmers for seeds and fertilizers.

Discussing national security, Khajuria praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, ensuring the safety of both citizens and borders. He also applauded the government's efforts in women empowerment, citing special reservations for women from households to Panchayats. Khajuria pointed out the empowerment of women through self-help groups, highlighting their significant role in today's society.

Khajuria urged the public to vote in favor of BJP candidate Dr. Jitendra Singh and encouraged attendance at the upcoming public meeting of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to be held in Udhampur on the 12th of this month.

State Taxes department enforcement wing Samba recovers Rs 2 Cr fine for GST related violations

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

SAMBA: The enforcement wing of State Taxes department Samba has recovered Rs 2 Cr fine for GST related violations during the FY 2023-24.

Deputy Commissioner State Taxes Enforcement (Samba), Jammu, Sanjay Gupta informed that the enforcement wing, Jammu south, having jurisdiction in districts of Samba, Rajouri and Poonch witnessed an increase of 53.65% in penalty recovered from tax offenders over the last FY in 254 cases of different violations detected under the GST Act/rules.

Further, a number of e-way bills verified by the enforcement wing also stood at 284433 in FY 23-24 which was 47.2% more than the previous year.

He stated that the enforcement teams have been employing tools like data analytics, MIS reports and artificial intelligence in detecting and interpreting cases of violations under the GST Act. The enforcement drives conducted around the year have focused on intercepting high tax evasion prone

commodities like TMT bars, Scrap, interstate trade in granite and marble, cement etc. Enforcement teams have increased their probity in scrutinising the documents required to be carried during movement of goods in transit under section 68 and rule 138 of the GST Act/Rules.

He further informed that the enforcement teams are conducting round the clock surveillance and patrolling of highways and major points. Eway bill verifications are crucial in checking tax evasion and also discourage practice of undue cancellation of e-way bills. J&K has witnessed a substantial growth in GST collections in FY 2023-24 surpassing the national average reflecting the impact of our enforcement activities."

In a bid to increase the tax base, Enforcement drives and inspections of businesses were also carried out in Samba, Rajouri and Poonch under directions of worthy commissioner state taxes to identify taxpayers who had

crossed the threshold for obtaining compulsory registration required under the GST Act. Several business entities were identified and notices were served upon them as per relevant provisions of the GST Act.

Since January, 2024, the enforcement has also been actively undertaking field enforcement and surveillance activities with a focus on intercepting violations in view of the upcoming general elections to Lok Sabha, 2024.

A control room has also been set up to receive complaints related to election offences and coordinating with other law enforcement agencies.

The Commissioner State taxes has directed enforcement wings to increase vigil over election related offences where certain goods like garments, white goods, tobacco, flags etc.

The department is actively conducting enforcement drives round the clock in this regard and a penalty to the tune of Rs. 22,42,340/- has been recovered from seized goods valuing 62,24,722/- since January 2024.

GHSS Rajgarh organises series of activities under SVEEP

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

RAMBAN: Government Higher Secondary School, Rajgarh has been proactively demonstrating civic responsibility towards electoral process by organizing series of activities under Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP).

Under the guidance of District Election Officer, Baseer-UI-Haq Chaudhary and the supervision of Nodal Officer SVEEP (ACP) Ramban, Ashfaq Khanji, these initiatives aimed to instill significance of electoral participation among youth and to ensure their participation in Lok Sabha Elections 2024.

The event garnered enthusiastic participation from students, faculty, and staff mem-

bers, including many first-time voters.

Resource persons from district SVEEP cell emphasised the institution's unwavering commitment to nurture democratic values and foster civic engagement among the youth, highlighting the pivotal role educational institutions play in shaping responsible citizens and fortifying the democratic ethos of our nation.

The campaign underscored the crucial role of robust civic engagement in shaping the democratic landscape. The vibrant participation of youth, alongside members of the public and election personnel, reiterated the collective dedication to nurturing an informed electorate.

During the tour, the Director inspected the Modified Ultra High Density Plantation of Apple at Sarthali & Assu and guided the farmers about the technical know how in its cultivation for increasing their income. He also inspected the departmental nursery situated at Tipri village.

The director interacted with the farmers at different far flung locations of Bani viz: Plail, Marapatti, Ponda, Kagrode, Mahanpur, Basholi, Bani, Assu and briefed them about the various schemes of the department. He urged them to come forward, associate with

the horticulture department and avail the benefits on different components viz: Plantation, Protected cultivation, Water harvesting tanks, Drip irrigation, Custom Hiring Centres, Machinery, Nursery establishment etc. for upliftment of their socio-economic status.

Further, he impressed upon women entrepreneurs to form Self Help Groups (SHGs) for setting up of small fruit and vegetables processing units with the assistance of the department, henceforth which can play an important role in enhancing the family income.

Course on 'Utilization of Space Applications in Policing, Including Drone Technology, Interception and Investigation, concludes

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

UDHAMPUR: The five-day course on "Utilization of Space Applications in Policing, Including Drone Technology, Interception, and Investigation," which commenced on April 1, 2024, concluded today. Nineteen officers from various departments of the J&K Police participated in the training program. The course was designed to fulfill key objectives such as providing a general overview of satellites, orbits, remote sensing, GIS, tools for crime mapping, Indian and global satellite missions, GPS, communication, thermal remote sensing, Google-based remote sensing studies, drone technology, interception, investigation, futuristic technology, and discussions. It also included sessions on UAV fundamentals, communication models, applications, future perspectives, security threats, and practical demonstrations on drone usage and security/threat aspects. Eminent guest speakers from IIT Jammu, SMVDU Katra, and faculty from Cyber Police Station Jammu were invited to share their wide range of knowledge and experience with the participants. A valediction function was organized at the Academy, where Rajinder Kumar Gupta, SSP, Dy. Director (Indoor) SKPA, was the chief guest. Gupta emphasized that technology comprises human knowledge, abilities, skills, experiences, and methods that can be used to develop tools, machines, goods, and services to fulfill our needs and desires. He also highlighted the significance of technology in individual and national growth. Furthermore, he expressed confidence that the deployment of drone technology in policing would revolutionize search and rescue operations and crowd monitoring during events.



The course was coordinated by Rayaz Ahmed, Sr. PO, assisted by ASI Rajinder Singh SKPA Udhampur.

Awareness drive under SVEEP held for women voters

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

RAMBAN: An awareness drive under the Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) initiative was today held here in Ramssoo under the directions of District Election Officer Ramban, Baseer-UI-Haq Chaudhary.

Nodal Officer, Women Awareness and Welfare (AC-

55 Banihal), BDO Headquarter, Shailini Chandel, organized a camp in the Government High School Ramssoo.

The camp was meticulously designed to engage and encourage new women voters, emphasizing their crucial role in the electoral process.

The campaign, themed "Every Vote Matters," high-

lighted the significance of active participation in the electoral process, particularly among women. Through educational sessions and community engagement activities, women were encouraged to exercise their voting rights and contribute to the democratic fabric of the nation.

Speaking on the occasion, the Nodal officer said that

this initiative underscores the dedicated SVEEP team's commitment to inclusivity and democratic participation, ensuring that every segment of society is empowered to exercise their right to vote effectively. Such initiatives play a pivotal role in strengthening the democratic fabric of our nation and fostering a culture of active citizenship, she mentioned.

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