

DC Doda launches 'Clean Bhaderwah, Green Bhaderwah' Campaign, provides disposal bags to visitors

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
BHADARWAH: Going one step ahead to ensure cleanliness and preservation of tourist destinations, District Administration Doda along with Bhadarwah Development Authority and other departments and stakeholders started 'Clean Bhaderwah, Green Bhaderwah' campaign on Tuesday by involving all stakeholders under it's ongoing "Swatchhata Pakhwada" Campaign.

The campaign was launched at Nalthi area of Bhaderwah on Bhaderwah-Pathankot highway by DC Doda Harvinder Singh along with ADC Bhaderwah Sunil Kumar, CEO BDA Bal Krishan, SP Bhaderwah Vinod Sharma and EO Municipality Bhaderwah. The campaign started with handing over a carry beg to a tourist by DC Doda Harvinder Singh and others at Nalthi point which leads to famous tourist destination Guldanda, Thanthera and Chattargala pass on Bhaderwah-Pathankot highway. Amir Rafiqi Publicity Officer BDA, SHO Bhaderwah Sandeep



DC Doda Harvinder Singh and others launching campaign.

Parihar, Entrepreneur Touqueer Bagban, members associated with Tourism industry, Hoteliers, Guest House owners and locals were also present on the occasion. DC Doda Harvinder Singh said that the campaign is a part of our mission to ensure cleanliness of all tourist destinations of Bhaderwah, which has become a favourite among the tourists.

"We will provide a carry beg to all Tourists, Visitors and locals to carry all bio non-degradable material, which they carry with them to tourist destination including Warapers, bottles, Polythene and others, hand-over to a person at start point, who has been deployed

to collect and it's disposal," DC added, adding that Administration along with Bhadarwah Development Authority last week took the initiative to preserve nature by cleaning dirt and bio non-degradable waste from all the tourist destinations, which is being left dirty by the visitors & vendors.

CEO BDA Bal Krishan said that it's a beginning of tourist season in Bhaderwah and we are already receiving huge flow of visitors."We are committed to provide the best ever experience to our visitors, that's why we are continuously working to keep our tourist destinations clean and green for a memorable experience for our guests," CEO added.

"The campaign is aimed

at to inculcate a sense of responsibility among all visitors as well as locals towards nature, which is being polluted by us," CEO expressed, adding that we all are stakeholders of nature so it's our prime responsibility to keep it clean and green.

It is notable that last week Administration along with Bhadarwah Development Authority(BDA), Municipal Committee Bhaderwah, RDD and others participated in weeklong massive cleanliness drive under "Swatchhata Pakhwada" Campaign to keep all tourist destinations free from dirt and bio non-degradable material in Bhaderwah.

The officers also motivate the tourists and visitors not to throw polythene, wrappers and other bio non degradable substances for the sake of environment and to save the natural beauty of high altitude tourist destinations.

It is notable to mention here that according to the figures issued by BDA more than 1.2 lakh tourists visited Bhaderwah since last 2 months as pleasant weather is boosting the tourism sector in Bhaderwah in a big way.

Secy RDD stresses integrated rural development approach

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
REASI: Secretary, Rural Development Department (RDD) and Panchayati Raj, Dr Shahid Iqbal Choudhary on Tuesday conducted a comprehensive review of the status and progress of various flagship schemes, including the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY), Swachh Bharat Mission-Gramin, and other RDD initiatives in Reasi district.

During the review meeting, Dr. Shahid emphasized the importance of effective and timely execution of these schemes to ensure the socio-economic upliftment of rural areas.

He stressed the need for convergence between MGNREGA and the Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP), urging officials to improvise and align additional projects with comprehensive watershed management objectives.

Dr. Shahid reviewed the status of the Swachh Bharat Mission-Gramin and directed officials to concentrate on solid waste management, door-to-door waste collection in panchayats, community soakage pits, community compost pits, and individual soakage pits.



Secretary, RDD and Panchayati Raj, Dr. Shahid Iqbal Choudhary chairing a meeting at Reasi.

Recognizing the crucial role of Block Development Officers (BDOs), Secy RDD urged them to adopt a proactive approach and demonstrate unwavering commitment to finding effective solutions that can address the diverse challenges faced by rural communities.

Highlighting their cost-effectiveness, durability, and rapid deployment capabilities, Dr. Shahid stressed that adopting pre-fab technologies could expedite the implementation of development projects, leading to tangible benefits for rural

populations. He also suggested repurposing non-functional government buildings into beautiful Anganwadi Centers. Additionally, he highlighted the potential of eco-tourism in generating income, creating employment opportunities, and stimulating socio-economic development in rural areas. Dr. Shahid asked officials to distribute Alexa devices in rural schools, underscoring the RDD's commitment to leveraging technology for educational advancement in rural communities.

He said introducing these devices, the department aims to enhance learning experiences, bridge digital divides, and foster digital literacy among students in rural areas. A detailed presentation during the meeting

highlighted the progress, current status, and future action plans for each scheme.

Dr. Shahid's underscored the RDD's commitment to holistic rural development, integrating innovative solutions and technological advancements to address the diverse challenges faced by rural communities.

In extensive discussions with District Development Commissioner Reasi, Vishesh Mahajan, Dr. Shahid sought to achieve the targets set for these schemes and address the challenges faced in their implementation.

The meeting was also attended by District Development Commissioner Reasi, Vishesh Mahajan, Director Rural Development, Jammu, Mohammad Mumtaz Ali, Director Panchayati Raj, Sham Lal, CEO IWMP, Rajnish Kumar, Chief Operating Officer, Himayat Rajneesh Gupta, Additional Secretary Rural Development Department, Waseem Raja, Assistant Commissioner Development (ACD)/ACP/PO, IWMP, Reasi among others.

SPPND Government Degree College organizes lecture on Stress Management

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SAMBA: Centre for Counseling and Mental Health Intervention Services-'SUKOON' of Shri Pandit Prem Nath Dogra Government Degree College Samba under the aegis of IQAC and guidance of the revered Principal of the college, Prof (Dr.) Twinkle Suri and convenership of, Dr. Shabila Wani, the college Nodal officer of the Cell organized an extension lecture on Stress Management for the staff and students of the college.

The event began with a formal welcome address by Prof. Narayan Dutt, HOD Physics and introduction of the resource person by Dr. Shabila Wani.

The Nodal Officer also focused on the need of the Counseling cell and the ways in which it can be beneficial for the staff and students.

The resource person for the event Dr. Harshit Hemant



Faculty members and students during the lecture.

Salian, Assistant Professor & In-Charge Department of Psychiatry, AIIMS Vijaypur, Jammu delivered an impactful lecture on the types of stress, causes of stress, levels of stress elaborating upon the positive and negative impacts of stress and various techniques of stress management.

He emphasized that self observation, proper time management, disciplined life style, a good social support system and cultivating a positive outlook in life are crucial for stress management.

He highlighted the importance of physical exercise for release of happy hormones in the body. The lecture featured an interactive session of question-answers allowing attendees to seek personalized advice and insights from Dr. Harshit Hemant Salian.

He also suggested some relaxation techniques for Stress Management. The proceedings of the event were conducted by Ritika. The event ended with a formal vote of thanks by Dr. Surbhi Malhotra.

Farmers' awareness camp held at Batote

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
RAMBAN: The Area Marketing Office Ramban organized a one-day awareness camp on marketing events and promotional activities here on Tuesday at the Fruit and Vegetable Mandi in Batote.

The event was presided over by the Deputy Director Horticulture Planning and Marketing Department, Jammu, Ayaz Ahmad Natnoo. Area Marketing Officer, Sunil Bakshi coordinated the event.

The camp featured S.K Koul, Assistant Agricultural Marketing Advisor from the Directorate of Marketing Inspection, Government of India, as the Guest of Honour. Additionally, Tehsin Iqbal Chib, Assistant Director (G&P) Jammu, attended the event and emphasized the

importance of Farmers Producer Organizations (FPOs) and Cooperatives taking full advantage of the Horticulture Area Development Programme (HADP) schemes.

Members of FPOs and the Fruit and Vegetable Growers Cooperative Marketing Society (FVGCMS) of district Ramban actively participated in the camp, engaging in discussions and gaining valuable insights into marketing strategies and promotional activities to enhance their agricultural ventures.

Through such initiatives the Horticulture Planning and Marketing Department continues its efforts to support and uplift the agricultural community by providing essential knowledge and resources for better marketing and promotional practices.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
RS PURA: On the occasion of World Menstrual Hygiene Day, the NGO Live For Others - Being Helpful Foundation successfully conducted Mission R-SAP (Remove Shyness Apply Pads) at Government Higher Secondary School, Dablehar, R.S. Pura. The event aimed to raise awareness about menstrual hygiene practices among young girls.

Jyoti, the keynote speaker, led an informative session on proper hygiene practices, addressing common myths and encouraging open discussions to remove the stigma associated with menstruation. As part of the initiative, the NGO distributed 1,000 sanitary napkins to the 100 girl students, promoting accessibility to essential hygiene products.

Speaking on the occasion, Romesh Kumar, Convenor, said, "The event was a significant step towards



NGO members along with girl students during the programme.

improving menstrual health and education in the community, empowering girls with the knowledge and resources they need for better health and well-being."

In collaboration with the District Hub for Empowerment of Women, Udhampur, and Stuti Abrol, being resource Person for these seminars, the foundation organized several other events to promote menstrual hygiene, at Health Centre Garhi on May 27, 2024, with over 80 females in attendance and more than

1600 sanitary pads distributed; at Government High School, Garhi on May 11, 2024, reaching 65 females and distributing over 1000 sanitary pads; and at Anganwadi Centre of Birmapul, Udhampur, on May 11, 2024, with 46 females in attendance and more than 800 sanitary pads distributed.

The programme also saw the presence of notable members including Diya Sharma, Sachin, Shubam, Abhishek Gupta, Harsh, Abhishek Raina, and many more.

Director School Education Jammu chairs review meeting at Doda

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
DODA: Director School Education Jammu, Ashok Sharma on Tuesday conducted a review of the Education Sector here at a meeting held in the Conference Hall of Chief Education Office Doda.

The meeting was attended by Joint Director School Education Doda-Kishtwar-Ramban, Dharinder Sharma, Chief Education Officer Parkash Lal Thapa, Principal DIET Purshotam Gouria, Principals of all the Higher Secondary Schools and Zonal Education Officers of the District.

The Director School Education stressed upon sharing of resources at complex and cluster level for the benefit of students. He directed the DDOs to ensure the registration of all the employees on JK



Director School Education Jammu, Ashok Sharma chairing a meeting at Doda.

attendance App. and monitor the attendance of teachers on daily basis.

The DDOs were asked to draw the salary of teachers only after ascertaining their attendance on JK SED App. In remote shadow areas with network issues, the attendance of teachers has to be monitored through offline Biometric apparatus. The salary of the teachers in such areas is to be drawn after getting the attendance of the staff

authenticated from Village Education Committees, he directed.

The Director School Education Jammu further directed the Chief Education Officer Doda to complete the rationalization process immediately after modal code of conduct is over and provide adequate staff to the schools in the remote areas with substantial enrollment.

Raising concern about the decreasing enrollment and

retention of girls during transition from elementary to secondary/senior secondary classes, the Director stressed upon the field officers to track such children through UNIQUE ID and PEN Number and ensure their retention in the school by counselling them as well as their parents and guardians.

The field officers were further asked to prioritize the renovation and construction of new school buildings by taking the enrollment of students in consideration.

The cluster heads were instructed to consistently oversee the operations of the schools within their jurisdiction. During each visit, they will also engage in teaching a class for at least thirty minutes, aiming to inspire both students and teachers.

Job Fair for recovered patients of addiction treatment facility Kishtwar held

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
KISHTWAR: In a commendable effort to support individuals on their path to recovery after struggling with substance abuse, the District Administration Kishtwar, in collaboration with the Social Welfare Department and District Employment & Career Counseling, on Tuesday organized a job fair specifically for recovering patients here at the Addiction Treatment Facility. The move has been taken under the overall supervision of Deputy Commissioner Dr. Devansh Yadav.

The event was graced by the presence of Additional District Development Commissioner, Ghulam Rasool as the chief guest besides District Social Welfare Officer/Nodal Officer Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyaan District Kishtwar,

Tariq Pervaiz Qazi; CMO Kishtwar, Dr. Rajinder Kumar were the special dignitaries.

Also present were District Employment Officer Kishtwar, Vinod Kumar, Nodal Officer ATF (Addiction Treatment Facility Kishtwar) Dr. Haris, TSWO Kishtwar, Rajesh Kumar; the ATF Team Kishtwar and concerned staff from the departments.

The event aimed to provide these individuals with opportunities to reintegrate into society through gainful employment. Numerous prominent private and Semi Government Employer organizations like LIC, Bajaj Allianz, Tata Motors, SBI and Mahindra & Mahindra offered a range of job openings suited to different skill levels and experiences. The fair also featured workshops

to aid attendees in their quest for employment.

Additional District Development Commissioner Kishtwar, Ghulam Rasool highlighted the administration's commitment to the rehabilitation of recovering patients, emphasizing that gainful employment is a critical step in their recovery process. "We are dedicated to supporting the holistic recovery of these individuals. By providing them with employment opportunities, we aim to foster a sense of purpose and stability in their lives," he stated.

He also added that with willpower and the proper mindset, the patients will overcome their challenges.

DSWO/Nodal Officer Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyaan, Tariq Pervaiz Qazi, thanked Deputy Commissioner for such initia-

tives and highlighted the preventive measures being taken by the Department of Social Welfare to curb the menace of drug addiction in the district.

The job fair saw a significant turnout of more than 100 recovering patients, with more than 250 job openings available for them. Many participants expressed optimism about their future prospects. The Department of Social Welfare and the Department of Employment reiterated their ongoing support for similar initiatives, underscoring the importance of community involvement in the rehabilitation process.

This initiative marks a positive step towards the social and economic reintegration of recovering individuals, showcasing the district's proactive approach in addressing the challenges associated with drug addiction and recovery.

DLRAC approves 10 cases in Udhampur

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
UDHAMPUR: The District level Rent Assessment Committee meeting was held on Tuesday under the chairmanship of Additional

District Development Commissioner Udhampur, Rajinder Singh here in the Mini Conference Hall DC Office Complex.

Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Dr Umesh Shan and other officers besides owners of the buildings attended the meeting.

Detailed discussions were held on various aspects regarding fixation of rent of private buildings hired for housing government offices. During the meeting, 10 rent cases pertaining to different government departments were approved by the Committee.

Health Department educates girls going schools on menstrual hygiene

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
NOWSHERA: In an effort to raise awareness and break the social stigma surrounding menstruation, the Health Department of Nowshera organized an educational program for various girls' schools ahead of International Menstrual Hygiene Day on May 28th.

The program, held under the overall supervision of Dr. Rakesh Magotra, Director Health Services Jammu, Chief Medical Officer Dr. Manohar Rana, and Dr. Iqbal Malik, BMO, aimed to educate young girls on the importance of good menstrual hygiene

management and destigmatize conversations around this important health and wellness issue.

Menstruation is a natural bodily function, yet it continues to be shrouded in shame and misinformation, often preventing women from accessing the resources they need to manage their periods with dignity," said Dr. Manohar Rana, Chief Medical Officer. "By engaging with students directly, we hope to empower them with knowledge and break down the barriers that have long held them back.

Throughout the program,

healthcare professionals led interactive workshops covering topics such as the biological aspects of menstruation, hygiene practices, and accessing safe, affordable menstrual products.

International Menstrual Hygiene Day is a crucial moment to shine a light on the challenges that people around the world face when it comes to managing their periods," added Dr. Iqbal Malik, BMO. "By working closely with schools and communities, we can work towards a future where no one is held back because of their biology.

Ram Pal removed from Presidentship of Brahman Sabha Hiranagar

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
HIRANAGAR: All J&K Dogra Brahman Pratinidhi Sabha Jammu has removed Ram Pal Sharma from presidentship of Brahman Sabha Hiranagar. President Dogra Brahman Pratinidhi Sabha Jammu Ved Pal Sharma vide letter C. No. DBPSJ/432 Dt. 23-5-24 has rescinded the letter no. DBPST/424 Dt 26-07-23 vide which Ram Pal Sharma was appointed President of Brahman Sabha on the grounds as his work has not been found satisfactory and he has failed to coordinate with local Brahman Samaj. Moreover various complaints (verbal as well as written) against Ram Pal were also pouring in Jammu office.

Educational, creative activities held

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
DODA: Educational and creative activities were on Tuesday organized at GHSS Ghuraka (Zone Bhalla) by "Vishwagram Trust Gujrat" team under the guidance of District Development Commissioner Doda, Harvinder Singh and Chief Education Officer Doda, P L Thapa. The volunteers of Vishwagram trust Vishnu, (Team Leader) Harish Bhai, Bhawna Bhen, Sonbai, Kajal and Falak Parveen were part of the team. The program started at 10am with the welcome of the visiting team by staff and students. Principal of the School, Rajinder Singh Bhall presented rose bouquets to the visiting team as a mark of respect. Capt. Pardeep Singh 4 RR Bhaderwah graced the occasion as special guest. He also appreciated the work of Vishwagram trust. The activities like origami, card making, painting art, singing, games, puppet show and some science activities were conducted for the benefit of students.

More than one hundred fifty students participated in today's program coordinated by Vinkal Sharma (ZICC Bhalla), Ankita Kotwal (Cultural Incharge GHSS Dradhn) and Angat Singh Manhas (Cultural team member).

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