

NC, PDP opposed Gujjar-Bakerwal progress: Vibodh



BJP J&K General Secretary and former MLC Vibodh Gupta addressing gathering at Poonch.

STATE TIMES NEWS
POONCH: During election campaign in Poonch, BJP J&K General Secretary and former MLC Vibodh Gupta while holding a series of Public Meetings at Poonch said that NC, PDP and Congress betrayed the Gujjar-Bakerwal community and stole their rights for decades by depriving them of political reservation, forest rights, and imposing a ban on inter-district recruitment. "NC, Congress and PDP brought black law of inter-district recruitment ban putting the future of children of Gujjar-Bakerwal in the dark and even today opposing popular decisions taken in favour of Gujjar-Bakerwal people. It is the BJP, that raised voice on inter-district

recruitment rule and abolished the ban, provide vehicles for the transportation of animals, gave political representation in DDC, BDC, delivered forest rights, opened Eklavya Model Residential Schools for their educational upliftment, and is always on the forefront to resolve the issues faced by these communities", said Vibodh. Vibodh further asserted that the Modi Govt also made sure that the Scheduled Tribes of J&K are empowered and therefore, ensured that the Pahari Tribe, Paddri tribe of Padder area, Gaddi Brahmins, Kohli communities and others are given the benefit of 10% reservation while keeping the quota of Gujjar-Bakerwal intact. Speaking on the occasion,

SVEEP team hosts musical concert at GDC Mendhar to reach out young electorates

STATE TIMES NEWS
MENDHAR: As part of Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) programme, the District Election Cell Poonch organized a musical concert themed "MY VOTE, MY VOICE" at Government Degree College here.

The aim of the concert was to educate and motivate young voters to exercise their right to vote as responsible citizens. The event witnessed impressive performances by Ehsan Asgar, Aftab Mir and other local artists. Speaking on the occasion, District Election Officer Yasin M.Choudhary emphasized that the purpose of the programme was to spread elec-

toral literacy among students and youth and motivate them to participate in the election process. He further urged the young voters to exercise their franchise without fail and con-



organized a musical concert themed "MY VOTE, MY VOICE" at Government Degree College here. The aim of the concert was to educate and motivate young voters to exercise their right to vote as responsible citizens. The event witnessed impressive performances by Ehsan Asgar, Aftab Mir and other local artists. Speaking on the occasion, District Election Officer Yasin M.Choudhary emphasized that the purpose of the programme was to spread elec-

SSP Poonch inaugurates 'District Training Attachment Programme' for newly appointed PSIs



SSP Poonch Youghal Manhas chairing the training programme on Thursday.

STATE TIMES NEWS
POONCH: Youghal Manhas (JKPS) Sr. Superintendent of Police Poonch visited DPL Poonch to inaugurate the District Training Programme of newly appointed (50) PSIs who have recently completed their initial six weeks training at Corps Battle School (CBS) Bhalra Baderwah and have been attached with this District to undergo six weeks District Training about the

functioning of District Police. In his inaugural address, SSP Poonch welcomed newly appointed PSIs and advised them to work hard with devotion, dedication and learn the basics of policing. He stressed to maintain highest level of integrity and discipline which is basic requirement of Police Department. He asserted that the main objective of District training is best grooming of trainee

DC Ramban leads efforts to strengthen, restore road connectivity to Sub Division Gool

STATE TIMES NEWS
RAMBAN: Deputy Commissioner Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary, accompanied by SSP Ramban Anuj Kumar and ADC Varunjeet Singh Charak, today over-

saw the road maintenance activities at Bajmasta on the Digidol-Sumber route. The initiative aims to bolster connectivity to Sub Division Gool, tackling challenges stemming from the recent closure of the Ramban-Gool road due to land subsidence at Pernote. Recognizing the critical importance of uninterrupted connectivity for local residents the Deputy Commissioner personally supervised the maintenance efforts. The Digidol-Sumber route serves as a lifeline for transportation and eco-

nomie activities in Sub Division Gool. He emphasized that today's concerted efforts underscore Government's commitment to swiftly address challenges and maintain seamless connectivity for the community welfare. The Deputy Commissioner was accompanied by Tehsildar Ramban, Deep Kumar, Executive Engineer PWD Ramban Abhishek Gupta, Executive Engineer PWD Banihal, Iqbal Ahmed, Executive Engineer Jal Shakt Ramban, Rajiv Gai and various concerned officers.

Army organises education awareness drive



An army officer educating youths at Kishtwar.

STATE TIMES NEWS
KISHTWAR: Army took a commendable initiative by organising an Education Awareness Drive at Mughal Maidan village of Kishtwar district in Jammu and Kashmir. The event aimed to promote the importance of education and its role in fostering individual growth and national development. The event underscored the Army's commitment to community development and empowerment, highlighting the pivotal role that education plays in unlocking opportunities and driving progress. By fostering a culture of learning and knowledge

sharing, the Indian Army continues to be a catalyst for positive change, nurturing a brighter tomorrow for all. The event marked by enthusiastic participation of 28 people from village Mughal Maidan and nearby areas. The Education Awareness Drive resonated deeply with Mughal Maidan village, igniting a spirit of enthusiasm and aspiration towards academic excellence. Through such initiatives, the Indian Army continues to be a beacon of positive change, fostering inclusivity and fostering a culture of learning for a prosperous tomorrow.

INDI alliance will win all LS seats in Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh: Vikar

STATE TIMES NEWS
NOWSHERA: PCC president Vikar Rasool Wani has said that Secularism is the strength of our country and unity in diversity is the way keep the country united.

Addressing a workers meeting at Nowshera, JKPC President lashed out at BJP for resorting to divisive politics in order to concentrate on majority votes, he said that it is dangerous for the peace, harmony and religious brothers. BJP is badly loosing this election's and INDIA alliance will form the government at the centre. Canvassing for INDIA alliance candidate Mian Altaf in Anantnag - Rajouri seat, Vikar said that India alliance will win all lok sabha seats in Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh. He termed Mian Altaf as the best candidate who will win in huge margin. Referring to the BJP, he it field to field it's candidate in the area and said that all their efforts to divide the society in Pir Panjal region failed to yield any political dividends to the party as people are wise enough. Senior Vice President and Chief spokesperson JKPC Ravinder Sharma hit out at BJP for its politics of hate & division and said that people of



PCC president Vikar Rasool Wani addressing public meeting.

country have realised the dangers of BJP politics. He said winds of change have already started which has further frustrated the top leadership of BJP. He urged people to ensure victory of Mian Altaf Ahmad and strengthen the INDIA alliance. Addressing the meeting organised by him, Adv Rajinder Prashad welcomed the PCC President and said that Congress is truly secular party and only it can keep the country united and strong. He recalled the contributions of his father late Master Beli Ram in the development of the area selflessly. He said that Congress is in the hearts of people and the false propaganda of BJP against Congress won't work any longer. Later two minutes silence was observed as a mark of

respect to veteran congress leader and former Block President Ch Tara Chand who passed away last week. General Secretaries PCC Narinder Gupta, Shakeel Mir, chairman Pahari cell Sajad Tariq, secretary PCC Mobin Khan, PYC General Secretary Sharoz Mir accompanied by him, Adv Ravinder Chouhab Haji Sadiq, Pashori Lal, Khalil Chaudhary, Dr Naresh, Mahatma Inder, Leet Mukand Lal, Sain Dass, Rajiv Kohli, Capt Balwant, Gurcharan & several others.

National Workshop on green-certified building materials held at SMVDU

STATE TIMES NEWS
KATRA: A workshop focused on augmenting the Green initiatives under the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) was held at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), Katra. The workshop titled "Green-Certified Building Materials" was organized by the School of Architecture & Landscape Design (SoALD) along with the School of Civil Engineering (SoCE), School of Mechanical Engineering (SoME) & School of Energy Management (SoEM) in collaboration with TATA Steel Limited. During the workshop, Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice Chancellor (SMVDU), conveyed the vision of the University towards sustainable development of the University campus and extended the cooperative &



Dignitaries lighting the ceremonial lamp at Katra.

committed initiatives of the University for MoU with Industry leader, TATA Steel Limited. Prof. Balbir Singh, Dean of Academic Affairs (TSL). During the workshop, Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice Chancellor (SMVDU), conveyed the vision of the University towards sustainable development of the University campus and extended the cooperative &

in the construction industry. Further, an interactive lecture was delivered by Vivek Rai, Head, Product Application Group, TSL that enlightened the aspiring Architects & Engineers about the Industrial Green initiatives in terms of manufacturing process of Steel as building material. TSL is the first Indian Company that has acquired Green Pro certificate for the rebar

manufacturing process. Ar. Aditya Kumar Singh, Associate Professor & Coordinator of the workshop kindled the participants by citing Green rated buildings in the country and the joint role of the Architects & Engineers towards achieving the SDGs in his inaugural address. And conclusively, Ar. Navin Gupta, Assistant Professor presented the vote of thanks. The event was graced by the Patron, Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice Chancellor (SMVDU), Mr. Ajay Kumar (JKAS), Registrar, Kamal Sharma, University Engineer, Hemant Bhargava, Chief Sales Manager, TATA Tiseon Ltd, Deans & Heads of the University and Senior Architects of the Jammu region. The faculty, staff, Scholars & students had participated in the event.

International Labour Day celebrated in Kishtwar district

STATE TIMES NEWS
KISHTWAR: The spirit of International Labour Day (ILD) resonated in Kishtwar district as the local community came together to celebrate the



hardworking workers under the auspices of District Labour department, led by Assistant Labour Commissioner Mamta Sudarshan and her dedicated staff. The highlight of the celebration was a spirited cricket match organized to honour and encourage the diligent workers of the region, in collaboration with the authorities and staff of the ongoing

Hydroelectric PCC Projects (IHPP). Amidst cheers and camaraderie, teams passionately competed, showcasing not only their cricketing prowess but also their unwavering dedication and resilience in their respective fields of work. The event served as a poignant reminder of the importance of acknowledging and appreciating the invaluable contributions of the labour force. As spectators cheered on, the cricket match became a symbol of unity and solidarity, echoing the collective strength of the workers in Kishtwar.

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SVEEP Team Rajouri hosts voters awareness at GHSS Deriralyote

STATE TIMES NEWS
RAJOURI: The District SVEEP Team, under supervision of District Election Officer Rajouri, Om Prakash Bhagat, conducted an awareness program at Government Higher Secondary School Deriralyote today. The event was attended by Qayoom Shah, Principal of the institution, along with prominent figures from Civil Society, former PRI members, school staff, HOIs of cluster Schools, and students. The programme was aimed to bolster voter participation in Lok Sabha Elections 2024. Welcoming the attendees, Prof. Khalid Rayaz outlined the objectives of the SVEEP initiative. Prof. Mohammad Iqbal Raina, Nodal Officer for

SVEEP, provided insights into the ongoing SVEEP Awareness Program in the District, urging participants to disseminate the message widely to enhance voter turnout in the upcoming Lok Sabha 2024 election. Mohammad Ayaz Raina underscored the significance of voting in India's democracy, urging participants to ensure every eligible voter participates in the electoral process. The prominent locals present on the occasion affirmed commitment for maximum voting from their polling booths in the forthcoming election. In his address, Qayoom Shah, Principal, commended the District SVEEP Team for their efforts in raising awareness about voting rights and encouraged active participation in the upcoming election.

KVK Reasi promotes sericulture

STATE TIMES NEWS
REASI: Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Reasi under the aegis of Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Jammu (SKUAST-J) and Department of Sericulture, Reasi are promoting the sericulture in Reasi distt. of J&K. KVK, Reasi is working under the dynamic stewardship of Vice Chancellor, Prof. B.N. Tripathi and able guidance of Director Extension Prof. Amrith Vaid of SKUAST-J. According to Dr. Banarsi Lal, Sr. Scientist & Head KVK, Reasi, Reasi distt. has an immense potential in sericulture and farmers need to adopt the latest techniques in sericulture so as to get maximum production. He said that there are immense entrepreneurial opportunities in sericulture. He added that farmers should avail the benefits of schemes to



KVK scientist interacting with a cocoon rearer.

enhance their farm income and improve the socio-economic status. He said that KVK is guiding farmers on the scientific cocoon production and also guiding farmers on the mulberry plants cultivation. He stressed on the nutrition management in mulberry crop and improved varieties of mulberry for the commercial cultivation of silkworms. He also emphasized on the timely disease

management in cocoon production. He suggested farmers on the hygienic management in silkworms farming. He emphasised on the commercial rearing of silkworms for more farm returns. He also stressed on the efficient marketing management practices for cocoon sale. By observing the results of successful silkworms' rearers many new farmers are showing keen interest towards the sericulture.

Annual Shiv Parvati Mounгри Mela from May 14, DC Udhampur reviews arrangements

STATE TIMES NEWS
UDHAMPUR: The arrangements for the smooth conduct of three day historic Annual Shiv-Parvati Shrine (Mounгри) mela, commencing on May 14, 2024 at Sar Dabber, were discussed today here at a meeting of District Officers besides representatives of management committee of Lord Shiv - Parvati cave shrine Mounгри. The meeting was chaired by Deputy Commissioner, Saloni Rai in the Conference Hall of DC Office Complex here. Threadbare discussions



Deputy Commissioner, Saloni Rai chairing a meeting.

were held on various issues for smooth conduct of the mela like maintenance of road, Security, Sanitation, Healthcare, Transport facility, Drinking water and power supply, market rate checking, deployment of Fire tenders, Cultural program and sports activities etc. The DC directed the con-

cerned officers to ensure all arrangements pertaining to their respective departments well in advance and in an effective manner leaving no scope for any complaint from any quarter. Executive Engineer PHE was asked to make adequate arrangements for drinking water supply at

the mela site while Xen PDD was directed to provide uninterrupted power supply during the mela. Executive Engineers PMGSY and PWD were directed to ensure timely filing of potholes and completion of repair of the road. It was decided that District Police would deploy adequate security personnel during mela days, while ARTO was asked to deploy a sufficient number of buses from different locations. Regarding provision of medical facilities at the mela site, the DC directed the Chief Medical Officer to

deploy a team of doctors and an ambulance for the same. It was also decided that the Youth Services & Sports department, in coordination with the Education department, will organize cultural and sports events at the venue. President, J&K Indian Style wrestling Association cum patron in chief Shiv Parvati caves Shrine Mounгри Development board, Shiv Kumar Sharma apprised the meeting that a wrestling competition will also be organized on the last day of mela which is one of the main attractions of the three-day event.