

## KPs have their inalienable right to resettle in land of their forefathers: Khosa

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Executive Committee of the Kashmiri Pandit Sabha (KPS) Jammu appealed all political parties especially the Valley based regional parties to spell out their policies and proposals for the return and rehabilitation of the Pandits back in the Valley if any in the near future.

President K. K. Khosa, in a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Sabha, discussed certain pressing issues pertaining to the community and the strategy to be adopted for their urgent redressal.

The members noted with concern that none of the political parties, be they regional or national have flagged the return and rehabilitation of Kashmiri Pandits back in the Valley in



Executive Committee of Kashmiri Pandit Sabha during the meeting in Jammu.

their respective manifestos. This is not only disgusting but is equally disappointing, given the tall announcements made by almost all the parties repeatedly that Kashmir valley is incomplete without Kashmiri Pandits and they would make efforts to resettle the beleaguered community with honour dignity and full sense of security if they come to power.

The members expressed their disappointment over

the fact that inspite of repeated requests and submissions of memorandums to both the UT Government and the GOI all pressing issues have remained calously unaddressed resulting in further dispersal of the miniscule community to other parts of the nation in search of employment opportunities. Large number of temples and shrines continue to remain vulnerable in the absence of any statutory board as has been

demanded by the community for more than two decades. Although a large number of Pandits are eligible to cast their votes in all three Kashmir parliamentary constituencies yet none of the political parties have deemed it proper to nominate any individual belonging to the minority community to contest from the valley. This would have sent clear message that the Kashmiri Pandits have their inalienable right to resettle in the land of their forefathers.

The members present includes, Deepak Dhar (Sr. Vice President), Ashwani Kaul (Vice-President), S. L. Bagati (General Secretary), G. J. Kampani (Secretary), Ashok Kher, B. B. Gosnai, V. K. Bakshi, Satish Khoda, Vinod Bhat, V. K. Mukhi, R. K. Ganjoo and B. L. Rawal.

## Group Commander NCC Jammu Group encourages cadets, educators

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
UDHAMPUR: Brig PS Cheema, SM, VSM, Group Commander Jammu Group NCC accompanied by the Battalion Commanders of 2 J&K Boys Battalion and 2 J&K Girls Battalion embarked on a visit to four esteemed institutions within the Udhampur District. During his visit, he engaged with the Heads of Institutions, Associate NCC Officers (ANOs), Care Takers (CTs), staff, and National Cadet Corps (NCC) Cadets.

Brig Cheema diligently assessed the ongoing training activities, addressed major concerns, and fervently motivated the cadets towards the noble objective of Nation Building. His interaction underscored the pivotal role of NCC in nurturing disciplined and responsible citizens, essential for the nation's



Brig PS Cheema, Group Commander Jammu Group NCC during visit an institution within the Udhampur District.

progress. Expressing his admiration, Brig Cheema commended all stakeholders for their unwavering commitment to uphold the esteemed legacy of NCC. He particularly highlighted the pivotal role of Army Public School (APS) Udhampur, Government

Degree College (GDC) Udhampur, Government College for Women (GCW) Udhampur, and Kendriya Vidyalaya (KV) Udhampur in fostering excellence and character development among the youth.

Through his visit, Brig Cheema reaffirmed the signif-

icance of NCC's contribution to fostering patriotism, leadership, and social responsibility among the youth, thereby enriching the fabric of the nation.

### Six day Refresher Course for Physical Education educators begins

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
KISHTWAR: District Youth Services & Sports Department Kishtwar has launched a six-day refresher course for Physical Education Masters, Physical Education Teachers, Rehbar-e-Khel Teachers and Grounds men to enhance their skills and knowledge about different sports.

Jaffar H Sheikh, a distinguished figure in J&K's sports landscape was the Chief Guest.

The refresher course will include Lectures, discussions, practical training as per time table scheduled by the department.

In his address, the DYSSO said that the ultimate aim of this refresher course is to acquaint in-service Masters, Teachers about new rules, regulations and techniques to enable them to put in their efforts to benefit the students and prepare them for competitions at national and international level.

## VC BGSBU releases 5th Edition of University Magazine



**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
RAJOURI: Vice Chancellor Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University Prof. Akbar Masood released the 5th edition of the University Magazine 'Campus Buzz'. The event was held in the office chamber of the Vice Chancellor. Prof. Akbar Masood commended the efforts of the editorial board for bringing out the 5th edition of the magazine. The major achievements and activities of the university during the quarter as per NEP 2020 have been published in the

magazine as a souvenir. Prof. Akbar mentioned that the release of the magazine showcases the BGSBU's commitment to academic excellence and innovation, aligning closely with the objectives outlined in the National Education Policy 2020.

Those who were present on the occasion included Dean Academic Affairs Dr. A A Shah, Registrar Mohd Ishaq, Executive Editor Dr. Danish Iqbal, Chair Professor Dr. Rafiq Anjum and Provost Girl Hostels Dr. Saima Aslam.

## SKUAST-Jammu organizes awareness programme on Mission LIFE

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
R S PURA: All India Coordinated Research Project on Dryland Agriculture Rakh Dhiansar under the aegis of SKUAST-Jammu organized an awareness programme on "Creating Awareness for rainwater harvesting and its efficient use (Catch the Rain)" on Mission LIFE (Life Style for Environment) with an apparent objective, as envisaged by the Hon'ble Prime Minister, to mobilize the Global community to adopt LIFE as a mass movement towards "Minded and deliberated utilization, instead of mindless and destructive consumption" to protect and preserve the environment.

In this awareness programme, more than 50 farmers from various villages namely Khoner, Khara, Madana, Kartholi and other adjoining areas participated



SKUAST-J officials during the programme.

and interacted with experts of relevant field. During the event, deliberations were made by the scientists to sensitize the farmers on importance of rainwater harvesting and its efficient use along with various other agro-techniques for enhancing the production and productivity of different rainfed crops under changing climatic conditions.

At the outset, Dr. A. P. Singh, Chief scientist and Incharge, All India Coordinated Research Project on Dryland Agriculture Rakh Dhiansar

briefed about the awareness campaign under Mission LIFE and deliberated on in-situ and ex-situ moisture conservation techniques. Dr. R. K. Srivastava, Head, Division of Soil and Water Conservation Engineering, SKUAST-Jammu discussed in detail the importance of water harvesting along with recharging structures for rainfed areas to conserve the moisture for its efficient utilization during critical stages of crop and also to recharge the soil water for sustained availability of water in tube

wells and ponds. He also shared various success stories wherein he had demonstrated the use of harvested water from the poly-lined water harvesting tank for field crops as well as for round the year vegetables production to fetch higher income.

Dr. Meenakshi Gupta, Professor Agronomy deliberated on various moisture conservation techniques in kandi belt of Jammu region. Dr. Jai Kumar, Chief Scientist (Agronomy) briefed about the Contingent Crop Planning for various rainfed crops under aberrant weather conditions and also discussed in detail various real time interventions to overcome the prolonged drought situations like early season drought, mid season drought and terminal drought situations for higher productivity. Rohit Sharma, Scientist (Agronomy) discussed in

detail about various resource conservation technologies for moisture conservation. Dr. Brinder Singh briefed about various organic sources for enhancing the water holding capacity of soils of rainfed areas. Er. Sunny Raina discussed about the catchment-storage-command relationship to increase the production and productivity in maize-wheat cropping system. During the event, farmers also made a visit to various water harvesting structures for practical demonstration. Dr. Sonika Janwal, Chief Scientist and Dr. A.C. Jha Chief Scientist also participated in the said awareness programme.

The awareness programme ended up with a formal vote of thanks proposed by Dr. Jai Kumar, Chief Scientist (Agronomy) to the farmers, experts and the persons involved in the training programme.

## Reject NC, PDP for spreading lies, hatred: Vibodh

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
RAJOURI: Senior BJP Leader and J&K General Secretary, Vibodh Gupta, addressed a enthusiastic public gathering at Dangri in Rajouri, rallying voters to reject the deceptive narratives of power-hungry political leaders from NC, Congress and PDP in Rajouri-Poonch-Anantnag parliamentary constituency. In his address, Gupta highlighted the duplicity of certain political figures who, according to him, speak in one voice in Kashmir and another in Delhi when these so-called leaders were enjoying power.

Coming down heavily on opposition political parties, Vibodh emphasised the importance of discerning the true intentions of these leaders, urging voters to see



J&K General Secretary, Vibodh Gupta during visit to Dangri in Rajouri.

through their political posturing and hold them accountable for their actions. National Conference and PDP should be rejected by the voters of Rajouri-Anantnag parliamentary seat for spreading lies and hatred, Gupta remarked. He said that these leaders cheat people by speaking of peace and reconciliation in Delhi and while in Kashmir, they peddle divisive agendas and

push youth towards separatism for their own vested interests. Vibodh called upon the electorate of Rajouri, Poonch and Anantnag to use the power of the ballot to defeat such duplicitous leaders and pave the way for genuine person who prioritise the welfare and development of the region above personal gains. Hoping for a bright future for the area, Vibodh said that people of Rajouri, Poonch

and Anantnag deserve leaders who are committed to their well-being round the clock, not just during election season. He said for this it is imperative that we unite against NC and PDP who exploited our trust for their own political ambitions.

The meeting was also addressed by Co-covener BJP J&K Sharnarhi Cell Subash Sharma, wherein he stressed that this public meeting at Dangri has served as a platform for vibrant discourse and solidarity with the BJP's commitment to national unity and progress. Prominent among others who were present on the occasion included Rakesh Raina, Raja Rattan, Sourav Sharma, Harish Bharti, Harjeet Singh, Aziz Khan, Revat Sharma, Khem Raj Sharma, Kundan Sharma.

## DC Samba reviews working of Jal Shakti Department

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SAMBA: District Development Commissioner Samba, Abhishek Sharma chaired a meeting of Jal Shakti Department officials to review the progress of ongoing projects.

He reviewed the physical and financial progress of the Civil, Mechanical, Tube well and Drilling works under execution in district Samba.

ADDC Champa Devi, Superintending Engineer Hydraulic Circle, Bodh Raj Baghat, SE Mechanical Rural Circle, Manish Bhat Consultant (B) Civil, Chief Planning Officer, Executive Engineer Ground Water Drilling, Executive Engineer, PHE, DPMU team, AEEs Civil and Mechanical besides contractors attended the meeting.

The PHE officials apprised



District Development Commissioner Samba, Abhishek Sharma chairing a meeting.

the Deputy Commissioner about physical progress on various projects all over the district. The DC instructed to speed up works on the projects to complete them at the earliest.

After threadbare review of ongoing projects, instructions were issued for close monitoring of ongoing works and submission of report on daily basis, gearing up for

procurement of machinery for the water supply schemes, enhancing drilling process of Tube wells, borewells and maintaining the quality of all works at sites by TPI.

The chair further directed for completion of Geo Tagging of water sources and installation of Sighboards, IIGJ certification of 100% covered villages by 14th of

May 2024 upto the extent of minimum 50% . Furthermore, due to onset of summer season, the directions were issued to Executive Engineer PHE for setting of control room and installation of at least 2 filling points in each sub division so that the general public may not suffer and uninterrupted water supply can be maintained.

## Poonch Admn collaborates with AMUL-JKMPCL for establishing milk collection centre

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
POONCH: District administration poonch in collaboration with AMUL-JKMPCL successfully organised a one day face to face Interactive session of dairy Farmers of Mendhar with officials of AMUL-JKMPCL at the conference hall of Dak Banglow Mendhar for establishment of milk collection center at sub division level with the aim of ushering in benefits of white revolution at subdivision level including Aspirational block Mankote of Poonch district.

The aim of the programme was to identify and integrate progressive milk farmers of all the villages of sub-division Mendhar where all dairy development activities will be



Officials during the meeting at Poonch.

carried on in phased manner with the aim of milk self-sufficiency and increasing income of dairy farmers. Prominently, discussion focused on establishment of a Milk collection centre at a viable location accessible to all villages . Other activities discussed with the local farmers included formation of cooperative societies , SHGs and milk FPOs, recognition and certification of milk Cooperative societies with co operative department at a large scale. Further AMUL-JKMPCL delegates discussed prevailing Milk rates and expected

rates for local farmers considering quality, fat content and availability of milk. CEO AMUL-JKMPCL Chirag Bhensdadia while Interacting with farmers apprised the details regarding milk collection centers to be established under the project. Moreover training methodologies and skill based training modules were also discussed. Event saw participation in large number of farmers who were majorly progressive milk farmers. Many farmers expressed their interest and gratitude towards district administration and AMUL-JKMPCL for proactively approaching

such remote location with defined plans. Farmers were enthusiastic about future outcomes as they feel such associations will transfer state of the art technology to already hardworking farmers like high yielding varieties of cattle , modern collection centres and machines, chiller technology which is not readily available. More Amul expressed gratitude and highly appreciated Farmers for their presence in large numbers. Later farmers in doubt and queries flagged their concerns and got them redressed instantly. Speaking on the occasion ,

District Development Commissioner Poonch Yasin.M choudhary(IAS) said that district administration is working towards an integrated model of dairy development with all forward and backward linkages including machinery, market access and milk processing with the major aim of increasing Farmers income. CEO JKMPCL Chirag Bhensdadia along with his team while attending the one day interaction at Dak Bungalow Mendhar thanked district administration Poonch for facilitating such comprehensive interaction with local farmers.

## Police organises three-day crash course on new criminal laws



Police officer delivering the lecture.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
POONCH: District Police Poonch on Tuesday announced the commencement of a comprehensive three-day Crash Course on the new Criminal Laws-2023. The course, initiated at DPL Poonch, aims to equip police personnel, officers and Investigating Officers from

various units of the district Police Poonch & officers, with the essential understanding of the recently promulgated laws by the Central Government. The crash course was organized under the directives of the Police Headquarters J&K, the primary objective of this course is to ensure that the Police offi-

cers/officials are well-versed with the key provisions of the new Criminal Laws-2023 so that they can be effectively implemented on the ground in both letter and spirit. The inauguration of the course was conducted under the supervision of SSP Poonch, Youghal Manhas. In his message, he emphasized the importance of familiarizing oneself with all three new Criminal Laws, namely Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita-2023 (BNS), Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita-2023 (BNSS), and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam-2023 (BSA), highlighting their crucial role in enhancing law enforcement practices. The lecture was delivered by the Dy SP DAR Poonch Pankaj Soodan, covering the key aspects of the new Criminal Laws.

### RTA discusses matters of public transport in Kathua District

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
KATHUA: Regional Transport Authority (RTA) Kathua today discussed various matters related to public transport in the district at its meeting chaired by Deputy Commissioner, Dr. Rakesh Minhas. RTO Kathua, Kewal Krishan (Member Secretary RTA), members of RTA, and other concerned officers and officials were present in the meeting.

During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner, who is the chairman of RTA, along with other members, scrutinized the applications received for approval of different road permits. The Deputy Commissioner directed the enforcement departments to deploy adequate personnel for effective traffic regulation besides taking action against violators.

The RTA, after due deliberations with all stakeholders, approved thirteen applications seeking Taxi Cab permits under All J&K contract carriage, twenty seven applications seeking permits for four wheelers auto, three fresh applications for Mini Bus besides three applications for permit renewal were approved. The committee also deferred two applications for two mini bus route permits until the next meeting of RTA.

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