

Providing basic amenities at doorsteps government’s top priority: Dy CM

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
RAJOURI: In a significant outreach initiative aimed at addressing the public grievances and ensuring welfare of the citizens in border areas, Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary, on Saturday conducted a public darbar at Kalasara, one of the remotest villages of Nowshera division.

During the visit, the local residents apprised the Deputy Chief Minister of various issues mainly pertaining to road connectivity, water scarcity, unscheduled power cuts, healthcare facilities, bunkers, compensation, shortages teachers, veterinary doctor and other developmental issues.

The Deputy Chief



Dy CM Surinder Choudhary speaking at the Public Darbar at Kalasara.

Minister issued on the spot directions to the concerned officers for prompt redressal of issues raised by the people.

Speaking on the occasion, the Dy CM reiterated the government's resolve to ensure equitable develop-

ment across all regions, with a special focus on the welfare of border residents. He assured that concerted efforts are being made to address the challenges faced by the people, improving their living standards.

He reaffirmed the govern-

ment's commitment to well-being of the border population. He emphasized that providing basic amenities at the doorsteps of the people is among top priorities of the government.

Later, the Deputy Chief Minister paid a surprise

visit to Maternity and Child Hospital Nowshera and inspected the progress on development works being executed there.

During the inspection, the Dy CM stressed on timely delivery of the project while maintaining set quality parameters. He said that this project, after completion, will significantly strengthen the maternal and child health services in the area.

The Deputy Chief Minister was accompanied by ADC Sunderbani, Ramkesh Sharma; SE PWD (R&B); ACD, Anqil Nuvaidd; DDE, Mohd Nawaz Choudhary; DMO, Mohd Rafiq besides other district and sectoral officers.

DC Poonch reviews preparations for ‘International Yoga Day 2025’



DC Vikas Kundal chairing a meeting.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
POONCH: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Vikas Kundal reviewed the preparations for the upcoming celebration of 'International Yoga Day' at a meeting convened today with the officers of stakeholder departments.

The Deputy Commissioner emphasized the need for close coordination among the stakeholders to ensure a

seamless celebration. He urged all concerned departments to complete the necessary arrangements well in advance for the mega yoga session.

The DC further informed that similar yoga events will also be organized in Surankote and Mendhar Subdivisions. He directed SDMs of Surankote and Mendhar to ensure foolproof

arrangements in their respective jurisdictions for the day.

The meeting was attended by senior officials including ADDC Pankaj Magotra, ADC Tahir Mustafa Malik, DFO, PO Poshan, SE PWD (R&B), ACD, ACP, DIO (NIC), CEO, CMO, EXEN PWD (R&B)/JPDC/L/Jal Shakti, AD FCS & CA, CEO MC, along with other concerned officers and officials.

Former MLC acknowledges role of media during Operation Sindoor



Former MLC Pardeep Sharma along with media persons at Poonch.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
POONCH: Former Member of Legislative Council (MLC), Pardeep Sharma, held an interactive meeting with media personnel in Poonch, lauding their dedication and bravery during Operation Sindoor. The meeting, aimed at appreciating the media's courageous reporting, also saw the honoring of journalists with shaals as a gesture of respect.

The event was chaired by Randhir Singh, the

President of the District Journalist Association, Poonch, and saw active participation from media professionals across the region.

During the session, senior journalist Niaz Shah, along with other media representatives, highlighted several pressing concerns. The issues raised included the immediate need for bullet-proof jackets for reporters working on the ground and the establishment of a dedicated Press Club in Poonch.

In response, Pardeep

Sharma assured the gathered media personnel that he would take up these concerns with the Central Government and work towards finding a resolution. He also commended the media's critical role in providing timely and accurate information, especially in high-risk situations like Operation Sindoor.

The meeting concluded on a positive note with Sharma emphasizing his commitment to supporting the media community in the region.

Empowering differently-abled individual’s collective responsibility: Jasrotia

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
KATHUA: The District Administration Kathua, in collaboration with the Social Welfare Department and ALIMCO, organized a distribution ceremony for prosthetic aids. MLA Jasrota, Rajiv Jasrotia, was present as the Chief Guest and distributed wheelchairs, tricycles, artificial limbs, and sticks to those in need in presence of District Social Welfare Officer Kathua Varun Choudhary. The distribution of prosthetic aids aimed to empower individuals with disabilities and enhance their mobility and independence. The event was a result of the successful collaboration between the District Administration, Social Welfare Department, and ALIMCO.

Prominent among those present on the occasion included District Vice President BJP Vidya Sagar , District Vice President Anil Singh , Bodh Raj ,Mandal President Kathua



MLA Jasrota, Rajiv Jasrotia handing over scooty keys to beneficiaries.

Rahul Dev , Joginder Singh Jasrotia , Vinod Kumar Shinda , Vishal Verma , Raju , Niteshwar Andotra , Ajay Kumar , Devinder Singh Sunny , Chaggar Singh and other prominent workers.

MLA Rajiv Jasrotia speaking on the occasion emphasized the importance of providing support to differently-abled individuals and ensuring their inclusion in society.The distribution ceremony marked a significant step towards creating a more inclusive and support-

ive environment for individuals with disabilities in Kathua district. The sentiment emphasizes the importance of collective responsibility in empowering differently-abled individuals. By working together, government and non-government entities can create a more inclusive environment that enables people with disabilities to lead dignified lives and contribute to the nation's growth, added Jasrotia.

Jasrotia observed that empowering differently-

abled individuals is a shared responsibility that requires the involvement of both government and non-government entities. The government's commitment is vital to uplifting differently-abled individuals by taking such initiatives more and framing policies aimed at promoting their welfare and inclusion.By providing opportunities and support, differently-abled individuals can contribute to making India a developed nation by 2047.Jasrotia highlighted the importance of inclusivity

and equal opportunities for all, regardless of abilities.He said efforts are being made to facilitate specially abled persons by promoting their physical, social, psychological rehabilitation.

Jasrotia appreciated the joint efforts of the Social Welfare Department, Kathua and ALIMCO for organizing the camps in peripheral areas of the district. He appealed to the people to avail the scheme which is launched to help needy disabled persons by providing durable, sophisticated and scientifically manufactured, modern standard aids and appliances. He also appealed to people to turn up at the venues where prosthetic aid will be distributed on scheduled date and time.He said prosthetic aid and appliances will promote physical social, psychological rehabilitation of persons with disabilities by reducing the effects of disabilities and at the same time enhance their economic potential.

Mission YUVA Entrepreneurship Mela held at Doda

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
DODA: The Directorate of Employment Jammu & Kashmir, in collaboration with the District Administration Doda on Saturday organised a Mission YUVA Entrepreneurship Mela here in the Community Hall.

The event drew overwhelming participation from hundreds of aspiring entrepreneurs, innovators and job seekers from across the district. An exhibition of start-up models, prototypes and innovative Business ideas presented by young aspirants was the spotlight of the event.

The day-long fair, inaugurated by Deputy Commissioner Harvinder Singh -as the chief guest. The Mela provided a powerful platform to nearly 500 participants to explore new opportunities, connect with



DC Harvinder Singh visiting a Mela.

financial institutions and learn from industry experts.

The event was also attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner Bhaderwah Sunil Bhutyal; Additional Commissioner Revenue Ashraf Pervez; and other government functionaries.

The Deputy Commissioner applauded the creativity, enthusiasm, and forward-

thinking exhibited by the young innovator. He described the Mela as much more than just an exhibition - describing it as a gateway to numerous self-employment schemes and incentives available under Mission YUVA, HADP (Holistic Agriculture Development Programme), and related initiatives. He encouraged

the youth to make the most of these opportunities and assured them of continued support from the administration.

The DC announced the establishment of a Self-Help Group (SHG) Support Center in Doda town to aid women entrepreneurs in developing their skills and securing financial assistance. Earlier, Assistant Director District Employment & Counseling Centre Nehal Pandit, in his welcome address, highlighted the progress made in fostering entrepreneurship in the region. He stressed the growing scope of sectors like e-commerce, agritech, and service-oriented enterprises in strengthening the local economy, adding that a strong ecosystem of guidance and financial support is crucial for their sustained growth.

A vibrant cultural program featuring traditional folk dances, skits, and songs by the students and local youth clubs - added color to the day's proceedings.

Interactive sessions with successful entrepreneurs provided valuable guidance and insight to the aspirants, while financial institutions, MSME, agricultural, and skill-development experts were on hand to aid prospective entrepreneurs in navigating registration processes, preparing business plans, and securing funding. Information desks were also set up to enable participants to address their inquiries directly.

Overall, the Mission YUVA Entrepreneurship Mela proved to be a powerful platform to unlock opportunities, foster innovation, and instill confidence among local youth.

Director Agriculture visited sub division Akhnoor

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
AKHNOOR: Director Agriculture Jammu Arvinder Singh Reen paid surprise visit at sub divisional Agriculture office Akhnoor &take meeting of officers in the office

Director inquired about the progress of different scheme under HADP particularly High tech poly house, Farm Machination, Nutri cereal, Bee keeping, Mushroom cultivation Alternate Agriculture System,Rain Fed area dev, &SMAM. Rajan Sharma SDAO Akhnoor brief Director Sir about the progress achieved in these schemes & plaining done for achievement of target under HADPplan 2025-26 Director directed to work cohesively by taking all stakeholders on board &plan all activities well in advance so that funds be utilised efficiently and benefits will transfer to farmers well on time. He also take progress of seed off-take & enquired about any demand of seed from central Store. He directed all officers to maintain punctuality in office & work jointly for the welfare of Farmers & image of Department. The official present in the meeting include Mohan Singh



Slathia,SMS, Jatinder Singh SMS, Yogesh Mehta I/c AEO Dasgal, Hardeep Thappa, Raju Gupta, Vishal Input Asstt, Dr Rakesh & Kamal.

Modi Era has transformed nation’s destiny: Sat

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
AKHNOOR: Marking 11 years of the Narendra Modi-led central government, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Friday organized special events in the Akhnoor and Singal Mandals under the banner of "Viksit Bharat Ke Amrit Kaal - Seva, Sushasan, Garib Kalyan." The celebrations aimed to highlight the government's commitment to inclusive development, transparent governance, and welfare for all.

BJP Jammu and Kashmir President Sat Sharma graced the occasion as the chief guest. He was joined by MLA Akhnoor Mohan Lal Bhagat ,



BJP J&K President Sat Sharma along with partymen during programme at Akhnoor.

District President Kuldeep Sharma, former MLA Rajeev Sharma , and senior BJP leader Rekha Mahajan, Jagdish Bhagat, Manmohan Singh along with a large number of party workers and local residents. Addressing the gathering, Sat Sharma said, "Over the past 11 years, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has taken India to new heights of progress and pride. The government has lived up to the principles of service, good governance, and the upliftment of the poorest through tangible policy implementation." He lauded key welfare schemes such as PM Awas Yojana, Ujjwala Yojana, Jan Dhan Yojana, and Ayushman Bharat,

stating that these initiatives have brought real transformation in the lives of the underprivileged, especially in rural and remote areas.

In his address, MLA Mohan Lal Bhagat emphasized the extensive developmental work carried out in Jammu & Kashmir under the Modi government. He said the BJP has not only formulated pro-people policies but ensured their effective on-ground implementation. He urged BJP workers to spread awareness of these schemes to every household so that no eligible person is left out of the benefits. At the Akhnoor Mandal event, Jugal Dogra served as the keynote speaker. Prominent attendees included

Manmohan Singh, Mandal General Secretary Mohan Lal, Rajinder Singh (Secretary), Jagdish Bakshi, Ayush Singh, Raghubir Singh, and Savita Jamwal.

The Singal Mandal program was organized under the leadership of Mandal President Shamsher Dass, General Secretary Jagdish Singh, Captain Shyam Lal, Anchal Singh, Sardari Lal, Sandesh Kumar, and other local leaders.

Both events witnessed enthusiastic participation from BJP workers and local citizens. The programs reiterated BJP's unwavering commitment to public welfare and took stock of the Modi government's achievements over the past decade.

4 J&K BN NCC of GDC Kathua celebrates World Blood Donor Day

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
KATHUA: To commemorate World Blood Donors Day, NCC cadets of 4 J&K Bn NCC of GDC Kathua organized a series of activities to promote voluntary blood donation and raise awareness about its significance. The events included Blood Donation Drive, Poster Making Activity and Online Pledge Activity.

Under the Poster Making Activity, various NCC cadets created thought-provoking posters highlighting the importance of blood donation, showcasing their creativity and commitment to the cause. In this various cadet namely Cadet Diksha Sharma, Cadet Palika Jasrotia, Cadet Nitika Sharma, Cadet Sania Badyal, Cadet Deya, Cadet Annu Sharma, Cadet Dimple Sharma, Cadet Anamika Devi, Cadet Mehakdeep Kour.

Under the Online Pledge Activity, around one hun-



Volunteers donating blood during the camp.

dred cadets took an online pledge to promote blood donation and encourage others to do the same, demonstrating their solidarity with the cause.

Forsetting an exemplary model for others to follow under the Blood Donation Drive, various NCC Volunteers namely Cadets Daljeet Singh, Shivam Sharma, Bharat and Ayush Khatri donated blood at Government Medical College (GMC), Kathua.

This noble initiative not only promoted awareness about the importance of voluntary blood donation but also reflected the true spirit of NCC's motto - "Unity and Discipline". Events like these continue to inspire youth to step forward in service of humanity.

The cadets were further motivated and encouraged by Dr. Yashpal Sharma, Head of the Department of Urdu, and Mr. Sandeep

Sharma, Physical Training Instructor (PTI), who accompanied them during the drive.

The whole event was held under the esteemed patronage of the college Principal, Dr. Savi Bahl and appreciated the cadets' proactive role in community service. All these activities were coordinated by Lt. (Dr.) Daya Ram, Associate NCC Officer (ANO) and Dr. Pinkey, CTO of 4 J&K Bn NCC of GDC Kathua.

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