

Congress intensifies protests against hike in petrol, diesel prices



Member AICC Advocate M.K Bhardwaj leading a protest at Bishnah.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
BILLAWAR: Former Minister and President DCC Kathua Dr Manohar Lal Sharma on Saturday held a peaceful protest at Billawar where he lambasted BJP government for price rise in

While speaking on the occasion Dr Sharma said that presently people of country are facing worst times due to anti people policies of BJP regime. He said today everybody including farmers, transporters, small business-



President DCC Kathua Dr Manohar Lal Sharma handing over memorandum to ADC Billawar.

essential commodities and fuel products. He also submitted memorandum to ADC Billawar lambasting central government for its failures in running the country.

men are facing heat due to wrong policies of present government. Also commenting on rising prices of Petrol and diesel, he said it is shameful that when prices of crude

oil per barrel are all time low, fuel prices are all rising constantly.

Others present were Dr Narinder Vaid, Municipality Corporators Jag Mohan Gupta, Subash Singh, Sapna Devi, Snita Sharma, Romesh Bhagat, Sarpanch Mukesh, Ex Sarpanches- Sham Spolia, Karan Singh, Romesh Spolia, Ajit Singh, Senior Cong Leader Master Rashid, Shiv Dev Singh Lal Chand Verma, Hukam Chand, Capt Bansi Lal, Advocate Inder Bhushan Gupta, Rakesh Chandal, Jyoti Parshad, Dyal Singh, Sarpanch Mukesh Kumar and Sarpanch Romesh Kumar.

Meanwhile, maintaining social distancing and mask wearing, activists of Congress party staged a protest rally against hike in petrol and diesel prices against Central government at Rajpura and submitted a Memorandum addressed to president of India through Tehsildar Rajpura. The protest on 6th consecutive day in Kathua was the part of AICC nationwide protest against increasing petrol and diesel prices due to heavy increase in excise duty by the central government at a time when crude oil is trading at its lowest price in the world over. The protest



Congress workers staging protest at Rajpura.

was led by senior congress leader and former MLC Subash Gupta and Senior Congress Leader and Ex MLA Girdhari Lal Choltra beside others carrying placards demanding roll back of hiked prices of fuels.

Som Verma, Bhagwan Sharma, Ganesh Sharma, Mahesh Sharma, Suresh Basotra, Vijay Sharma, Kamal Gupta, Master Ved Nath, Master Ram Krishan and Harbhajan Singh Saini.

BISHNAH: Block



Secretary Pradesh Congress Committee, Shashi Sharma and other members staging protest at Bishnah.

Those who participated are Dewan Chand Khajuria, Parveen Bhagat, B L Kandlay, Ramesh Kundal, Ramesh Verma Councilor,

Congress Committee Bishnah also staged a protest against hike in petrol and diesel prices. The protest led by Shashi

Awareness drive on COVID-19 carried out

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
KISHTWAR: In continuation of its unique and repetitive efforts to spread awareness and educate the people on COVID-19 pandemic along with its impact, India Army conducted awareness drive through sticking Posters of Precautionary measures of COVID-19 at prominent places of Kishtwar District (J&K). Villagers were also briefed to stay indoors, restrict movement to absolutely essential requirements and maintain Social Distancing for their own safety and safety of others in society.

SMVD College of Nursing students spread awareness on COVID-19

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
KATRA: In view of the COVID-19, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi College of Nursing (SMVDCoN), Kakryal, has been closed since March 2020. However, the student nurses of this institution have been utilising this period on spreading awareness regarding COVID-19 among their families, neighbourhood and the people of their respective localities.

Pursuant to this initiative, the SMVDCoN students belonging to various areas of J&K have been spreading awareness on different preventive measures vis-a-vis COVID-19 in their villages and localities. The students aware the people regarding various measures and precautions to be adopted



Students displaying paintings.

for checking the spread of COVID-19 which included importance of 'stay home stay safe', frequently washing hands with soap and running water; using masks and sanitizers, maintaining adequate social distancing as well as vari-

ous do's and don'ts and the guidelines and the advisories issued from time to time. They also briefed the people of their areas about the use of Aarogya Setu App and helped them in its downloading and using it in their mobile phones.

For the purpose, the Nursing College students adopted different strategies and techniques which, inter alia, include visual aids like posters, flash cards, charts and other means. These awareness camps and interactions have been organised by the students in several localities of districts of Jammu, Kathua, Samba, Udhampur, Reasi, Doda and Kishtwar as well as at Manali in Himachal Pradesh.

GDC Neeli Nallah organises inter-college online poster making competition

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
UDHAMPUR: Government Degree College Neeli Nallah, Udhampur organised the inter-college online poster making competition on the occasion of International Plastic Bag Free Day on the theme "Beat the Plastic Pollution. If You Can't Reuse it, Refuse it". The competition was held under the guidance and supervision of Talat Praveez Rohella, Commissioner/Secretary, Higher Education Department and Prof. (Dr) Satinder Kour, Principal, GDC Neeli Nallah, Udhampur.

The students from various degree colleges participated in the competition. The adjudicators of the event were Dr: Meenakshi Bhandral, Associate Professor in Zoology, GCW Gandhi Nagar, Jammu; Preeti Dogra, Assistant Professor in EVS, GGM Science College and Dr. Arti Sharma, Assistant Professor in EVS from GGM Science College Jammu. The organizers of the event were Asstt. Prof. Binny Kumar, Asstt. Prof. Svati Dutt and Dr. Radha Rani. In the competition Ankit Kralia from GCW Parade and Kashish Vaid from GDC Bhagwati Nagar Jammu shared first position, Anjali Nanda from GDC Bhagwati Nagar, Jammu bagged second position, Ashima Thakur from GDC Reasi bagged third position.

Vijaypur facing 19 hours long unscheduled power cuts: Manjit

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
VIJAYPUR: Jammu and Kashmir Apni Party (JKAP) senior leader and former minister, Manjit Singh has expressed serious concern over the unscheduled power cuts in Vijaypur leading to the suffering of common masses.

vide round the clock electricity supply despite charging full electricity bills from the customers.

He said that there is resentment among the people because the situation has led to miserable lives of the masses at large and the farmers, on the other side, have become victims of unscheduled power cuts.

"At the peak season of sowing paddy, the farmers need electricity supply to run their water pumps. The Government should personally ensure that the farmers are not made to suffer," said Manjit Singh.

He said that people may come on the roads demanding round the clock electricity supply if the situation is not improved. "People should not be compelled to come on the roads," he threatened.

Meanwhile, Manjit Singh said that the farmers are not getting canal water in the tail-end villages nor from Ravi or from Chenab River in Ramgarh.

"People are facing shortage of drinking water due to unscheduled power cuts as supply lines get affected to pump water to the needy villages," he added.

VC SKUAST-J inaugurates animal health camp



Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-Jammu Dr. J. P. Sharma and others during inauguration of camp.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SUCHETGARH: A farmer awareness-cum-animal health camp was organised by SKUAST-Jammu at border village Abdullahian under the Department of Science and Technology, New Delhi funded project entitled "Enhancement of Livelihood security among Livestock rearers through Technological Interventions".

Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-Jammu Dr. J. P. Sharma inaugurated the camp and highlighted the relevance of scientific management practices for rearing dairy animals. He conveyed that the camp is organized to disseminate the latest technologies related to

livestock rearing and health management at farmers door-steps and to have in-depth interaction with the farmers to know their problems and provide on-spot solutions.

More than 40 dairy farmers participated in the camp. Various dairy animals were treated in the camp by the experts from Faculty of Veterinary Sciences & A.H., SKUAST-Jammu. Farmers were demonstrated the benefits of ultrasonography in pregnancy diagnosis and reproductive health of dairy animals.

Dr. Ravleen Kour, Principal Investigator of the project presented various activities being carried out under the project of betterment of livestock farmers.

Dean of the faculty of Veterinary Sciences and Animal Husbandry, Dr. M. S. Bhadwal, Dr. Narinder Singh, Dr. Rajiv Singh, Dr. Rajesh Agrawal, Dr. Puneet Choudhary, Dr. A. K. Pandey, Dr. Nazam Khan from the SKUAST-Jammu and Dr. V.R. Moton, Livestock Development Officer, Dr. Manmeet Singh, VAS, Department of Animal Husbandry, Neelam Devi, Sarpanch (Abdulliah), Bachan Lal, Ex-Sarpanch and Swaran Lal, Ex-Sarpanch (Suchetgarh) attended the programme.

NPP Councillors call on JMC Commissioner; submit memo

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: National Panthers Party Councillors from Udhampur Municipal Council called upon Commissioner JMC Avny Lavasa on Friday in her office Jammu and submitted memorandum.

In this regard, a press conference was addressed by Ward No 02 Councillor (MCU) Sunil Proach on Saturday in which he informed that the works under different head i.e 14th finance Commission, IDMT, District plan has been allotted to the contractors & some of the works are completed, some are under progress and some are



NPP councillors handing over memorandum to Commissioner JMC Avny Lavasa.

yet to start. He said that due to the abolition of Engineering Wing in the Urban Local Body some works have abandoned due to which many developmental works has been affected in Udhampur & the suffering of

the people is increasingly.

Further, Proach said that they had approached the Executive Engineer PWD to take up these works, but they required proper handover and taken over as well as current

Restore full statehood to J&K UT: Congress

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAMBAN: Ashok Kumar Former MLA, Ramban and a senior congress leader has urged upon the Central government that full statehood of Jammu and Kashmir Union territory should be restored along with protection of jobs and land rights of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. In a statement, he said that government of India has hurt the self-esteem of the people by reducing status of the J&K from statehood to Union territory. A phenomenon never happened in 73 years of Independence. He also stated that restoration of full state-

hood to J&K, adequate legal and constitutional guarantees to safeguard the rights of the local over land, jobs and admission in professional institutions.

Ashok has further said that state has larger geographical areas as compare to the Union territories. State has separate elected government to frame their own laws on the contrary, Union territory is small administrative units that is ruled by Union Government at Centre. He said our Jammu and Kashmir Union territory has vast geographical area along with larger rural tracts plus 20 big districts. Thus, it deserve statehood at

the earliest so that there would be decentralization of power up to ground zero citizens which is only possible after the restoration of the statehood.

Ashok has said that the central government has already given assurances for restoration of statehood in Jammu and Kashmir. He stressed that development of Jammu and Kashmir is only possible when there is statehood. He further said statehood is the constitutional right of the people of J&K and there is complete violation of our constitutional rights and also violation of personal rights of the young generation of J&K.



PCC Chief Spokesperson Ravinder Sharma leading the protest rally.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SUNDERBANI: Congress workers led by PCC Chief Spokesperson Ravinder Sharma (EX-MLC), staged a protest at Sunderbani demanding early commissioning of Grid Station at Siot. While addressing protesters Sharma said that people of Sunderbani and adjoining areas are suffering due to very low voltage and unscheduled long duration power cuts in the entire belt during this scorching heat. The power situation is such worst

that the water supply schemes are also affected due to non-functioning of pumping machines due to low voltage. The people in general, especially the aged and ailing citizens as well as children are suffering a lot. The Grid Station Siot which was sanctioned during Congress-PDP rule and work started then, got delayed in its execution due to litigation but was subsequently completed

GGF dedicates relief camp to Adv B S Slathia



GGF members educating people at Jindrah.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: Gandhii J&K, Kausar Zia, Robin Gill, Parshottam Mehra, Chander Muli Dutt, Omkar Singh, Karnail Singh, Sudesh Verma, Pritam Singh, Ex Sarpanch Dhan; Balvan Singh, Ex Sarpanch Dalsal; Farid Baig, Panch; Ashwani Sharma, Panch distributed the relief material among the needy families. The programme was presided over by Omkar Singh Jamwal, local Sarpanch.

Earlier, a two minutes silence was also observed in the memory of eminent advocate of the country, B.S Slathia praying for eternal peace to the departed soul and give strength and courage to his family members, friends, well wishers and associates to bear the irreparable loss. The camp was dedicated to Duggar Hero, Senior Advocate, Former President J&K High Court Bar Association, Advisor GGF, B.S Slathia as a tribute to him.

criminal act the imposition of high taxes on petroleum products in the midst of COVID-19 pandemic. "A revenue starved Government has increased the excise duty by a record Rs 10 per litre on petrol and Rs 13 per litre on diesel. By doing so the Government is collecting about 270 per cent taxes on the base price of petrol and 256 per cent on diesel and that too when many households are finding it difficult to get two square meals," he further said.

At Miran Sahib of district Jammu Rural by leaders of BCC, DCC Jammu Rural, PCC and Ch Garu Ram, former Minister and Chairman Congress Kissan Cell.

Gharu Ram accused the government of picking pockets of the common man and also taking away their livelihood. At Nagrota, the protest was led by Vijay Sharma and Block Congress Committee, Members of DCC and Shiv Dev Singh, Ex MLA and similar at other blocks of Jammu District Rural.

SBI donates PPE kits, other protective gears to GMC Kathua



SBI officials handing over protective gears to hospital administration.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: State Bank Kathua represented by Atulya Jeerath, Regional Manager along with team comprising of Paravveer Singh, Rajeev Mahajan and Vishal Sharma donated PPE kits, 4 gallons sanitizers, medium size sanitizers and triple layer Masks to GMC Kathua in presence of Dr Chitra Vaishnavi Medical

Superintendent, Dr Sanjay Kalsotra Professor and HOD Anesthesia and Dr Mohinder Lal ENT Specialist.

Medical Superintendent appreciated State Bank Team and appealed to General Public to come forward and help the needy in this Covid Crisis. Dr Kalsotra thanked the delegation of State Bank.

Congress demands early commissioning of Grid Station Siot



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long back except some minor works which were not completed expeditiously as a result the same could not be commissioned so far. He demanded immediate commissioning of the Grid Station Siot on war footing to give some relief to the suffering people.

Prominent among those participated included Block Presidents Dwarika Nath Sharma and Pt. Tirath Ram, Senior leaders Sub. Om Prakash Ashok Kumar, Anirudh Raina, Shawan Kumar, Nb. Sarpanch Kuldeep Kumar, Pt. Rameshwar, Sub Maj. Joginder Singh Chib, S. Ajit Singh, Ashok Kumar, Rajinder Kumar, Sanjay Sharma,, Bharat Bhushan, Baldev Singh, Ram Lal Sharma, Ramesh Chander:

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