

## Randhawa conducts tour of rainfall affected areas, gets first-hand information about losses

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Former Legislator and senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Vikram Randhawa conducted an extensive tour of rainfall affected areas to get first-hand information about the losses caused to life and property due to the incessant rains in the region. Randhawa visited the rainfall affected areas in RS Pura-Jammu South Assembly segment including Gadigarh and Jeevan Nagar to access the damages to the houses and other structures of local residents due to incessant rains.

Former Legislator directed the officers of the concerned department to assess the situation and come out with solutions for immediately restoring the affected areas and preventing further damages.

He directed for keeping a close vigil on the situation



Former Legislator Vikram Randhawa conducting tour of rainfall affected areas.

and taking appropriate measures to deal with any exigency. Randhawa directed for taking short and long term steps before heavy monsoon to prevent floods including developing concrete embankments to prevent any loss to life and property.

He directed the engineers to identify the areas prone to floods and prepare the DPRs for plugging the gaps.

"Due to choking of drains, the rain water overflows. The need of the hour is to clear the choked drains

before the forthcoming monsoon season", Randhawa said.

While speaking further, Former Legislator Vikram Randhawa said that a list of the rainfall affected people will be made and same will be submitted to the concerned departments for redressal.

He also appealed to the Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor's administration to direct the concerned department to assess the losses and accommodate the affected people accordingly.

## Congress committed to addressing people's local issues: Bhalla, Sawhney

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Working President JKPC Raman Bhalla accompanied by former Minister J&K Yogesh Sawhney, ex-MLA Jammu East visited Jammu East Constituency on Wednesday to discuss concerns and issues of local residents.

The leaders first inaugurated a Bhandara at Ram Mandir Purani Mandi, Ward No. 4 Jammu East. Mahant Rameshwar Maharaj had organised it for the devotees and pilgrims of Shri Amarnath Yatra and he honored the Congress leaders during visit. They toured the ward and met with locals who voiced their genuine concerns to them and sought their support. Bhalla assured the people of Congress Party's commitment towards addressing these issues.

Bhalla highlighted the recent fire incident at a local shop, attributing it to



Senior Congress leaders visiting Jammu East Constituency.

the faulty smart meters installed by the authorities.

He strongly criticized the administration for their negligence, and mentioned the complete damage and loss suffered by the shop owner.

He further stated that the suffered shopkeeper had received no compensation or support till now. The fire is a direct result of the poorly managed smart meter installations, he said, adding that it is unacceptable that the affected shop owner has

not received any compensation for the huge losses.

The Working President of PCC also addressed broader issues faced by the residents of Ward No. 4. He said that on hearing the concerns of the local people, it is clear that the ground situation in Jammu city is very dire. People are not satisfied with the current state of affairs, and the reality of things points to a complete neglect by administration, and govt. at the Centre, he said.

Sawhney stated that the

Congress party was dedicated in its aim of addressing the concerns of the local populace. We are visiting the ward to listen to the people and ensure that their voices are heard.

He further added that the interaction with local people helps to realise the genuine concerns of the public at the grassroots level.

Congress party also urges the administration to take remedial action in this regard and also provide reasonable compensation to the shopkeeper whose shop was damaged in a fire caused by faulty smart meters.

Senior leaders including Abhimanyu Singh, Varinder Manhas, Pawan Dev Singh, Ram Magotra, Chander Shekhar Sharma, Rahul Tandon, Raj Kumar Meena, Ajay Kumar Kai, Vimal Kumar, Kuldeep Shukla, Surinder Kumar, Rishab Kohli, Mehul Abrol and others were present.

## JU initiates preparations for zonal level "Display Your Talent"

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a significant step towards organizing the "Display Your Talent" competition at the zonal level, the first meeting was convened today involving Rectors of offsite campuses and nodal principals from various zones. The meeting, chaired by the Prof Prakash C Antahal, Dean Students Welfare, University of Jammu, marked the first step in the planning and execution of this event. During the meeting, comprehensive deliberations were held concerning the organization of competition in approximately 26 categories. Representatives from participating offsite campuses and colleges were provided with detailed information about the colleges falling under their respective zones. Additionally, they were briefed on the essential requirements for successfully hosting the "Display Your Talent" competition in their zones. Changing the format of Display Your talent has been envisioned by Prof. Umesh Rai, Vice Chancellor, University of Jammu with the aim to encourage a larger participation of students from far-off places in cultural and literary activities and also to provide them a platform to represent the art and culture of their respective regions. The Department of Students Welfare, with the support of Offsite Campuses and Nodal Colleges, is going to organize Zone Wise Display Your Talent from this session. Five Zones in Jammu Province as per geographical location, have been identified for conducting the same. This new initiative is expected to bring a cultural renaissance in Jammu Province. Among others present included Prof. Monika Chadha, Chairperson CCC, Prof. Sarika Manhas Co-chairperson CCC, Prof. Arvind Jasrotia, Rector Kathua Campus, Dr. S P Sarawat, Principal, PPS GCW Gandhi Nagar and Nodal Principal Jammu, Dr. Sanjay Verma, Principal GDC Udhampur; Dr. K K Sharma, Principal, GPGC Rajouri, Dr. Seema Malhotra, GCW Parade, Dr. Kamini Dutta, Udhampur Campus, Dr. A. R. Manhas, Dy. Chief Proctor JU, Mansi Mantoo, Media Officer DSW and Sumeet Sharma, Drama Instructor SW.

## Dr Karan Singh grandson set to hold public Darbar, felicitates YRS



Ranvijay Singh felicitating Yuva Rajput Sabha members at Jammu on Wednesday.

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The grandson of former Sadar-i-Riyasat Dr Karan Singh, Ranvijay Singh all set to hold a Public Darbar in the interest and welfare of the people of Jammu Kashmir at Maharaja Hari Singh Palace Jammu.

The decision to restart the public Darbar at Hari Niwas was taken in the felicitation meet of Yuva Rajput Sabha (YRS) on Wednesday at Hari Niwas Palace Jammu where the Dogra Royal Family Member Raj Kumar Ranvijay Singh welcomed the YRS President and team in the august pres-

ence of his father MK Ajatshatru Singh.

Ranvijay Singh appreciated the YRS efforts to raise the community as well as Dogras issues.

"It is really a great pleasure to see the YRS and its work towards to Dogra culture as well as the people welfare. I will not hesitate to say that the post Maharaja Hari Singh Ji holiday announcement, YRS evolution is an inspirational one and we should all learn from YRS in reference to unity as well as identity build."

On the demand of YRS, Ranvijay announced, by seeing the YRS commit-

ment towards the people as well as the Dogra Royal family. "YRS soon will get office on our behalf and Hari Niwas Palace will also hold public Darbar on monthly basis," Ranvijay Singh added.

As YRS connected at grass root level so by keeping this point in view, "I also would like to announce that whatever the suggestion comes from YRS president for Rajput community girls marriage and widow pension, the palace will accept to provide monetary assistance to them," Ranvijay Singh maintained.

YRS President Vikram

Singh Chib thanked Ajatshatru Singh, Ranvijay Singh to assure YRS to get office. By pinning the high hopes that YRS soon will get the office as per assurance, President Chib said, "YRS follows the foot step of Maharaja Hari Singh's people welfare approach and Member of Royal Family should also come forward to lead legacy of their Great Grandfather Maharaja Hari Singh and Dogras Maharajas."

In the meeting the upcoming celebration of Maharaja Hari Singh holiday in September 2024 was also discussed.

## Dogras should feel pride of their rich culture : Prof. Mohtra

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In an impressive function organised by Er. Dil Bahadur Singh Jamwal, social activist and member Parmeshwari Care & Cure Charitable Trust, at Jammu, dozens of people, both male and female, were offered Dogra Pagri and Safa, as an initiative to promote and preserve the Dogra Culture in Jammu and Kashmir. The occasion had the auspicious presence of Prof. (Dr.) Kulbushan Mohtra, Managing Director, Parmeshwari Care & Cure Charitable Trust and a prominent social figure, working for promotion of Dogra Culture.

Prof. (Dr.) Kulbushan Mohtra, while speaking on the occasion, said that the Dogras are progressing and marching ahead in every field and have proved their ability and capability. Although they have achieved great successes in their lives but unfortunately many of them have moved away from their roots. They have adopted the modern life style and are ignoring own cul-



Er. Dil Bahadur Singh Jamwal and others at a programme.

ture. Prof. (Dr.) Mohtra said that the Dogras should feel pride of having rich culture and values and adopt the Dogra life style, Dogra meals and also educate the younger generation to remain attached with their roots and not feel shy to speak Dogri, cook Dogra food and wear Dogra Pagri and Safa in particular. They may not be able to wear Pagri everyday due to their other engagements but during weekends and holidays they must devote time to popularize Dogra Culture.

Er. Dil Bahadur Singh Jamwal, said that the Dogra dress gives a very decent and charming look and impresses others. Dogra Pagri and Safa us feel pride and confident

while in public. Vijay Gupta, Retd. Deputy Director and Trustee, Parmeshwari Care & Cure Charitable Trust, said that women can play a very important role in promoting Dogra culture and they can take lead by preferring to cook Dogra meals at homes.

Team member of the Trust, Balbir Ram Rattan, conducted proceedings of the function.

Besides former Councillor Sumeet Raina, Karan Singh, Anu Gupta, Brijesh Gupta, Rajinder Sikka, Chaman Lal, Sunny Sehgal, Varun Khajuria, Rajinder Malhotra, Rohit, Shemsher, Sunil, Rahul Hindu were among those who were offered Dogra Pagri and Safa in the function.

## Focus on industry-academia collaboration, entrepreneurship development: Shailendra Kumar

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Jammu (SKUAST-J) on Wednesday organised Industry-Academia Meet here under the World Bank-ICAR funded National Agricultural Higher Education Project -Institute Development Project (NAHEP-IDP).

The main objective of the meet was to explore, identify and integrate industrial training with academic learning. Besides, it will also help to promote technological advancement and innovation in the field of agriculture and such type of interface are essential for developing research and qualified workforce. Principal Secretary, Agriculture Production Department (APD), Shailendra Kumar was the chief guest on the occasion.

In his address, Principal Secretary urged the partici-



Principal Secretary APD, Shailendra Kumar and others at MoU signing ceremony.

pants to focus on Industry-Academia collaboration, establishing Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs), entrepreneurship development and collaboration under Corporate Social Responsibility to achieve the objectives of Viksit Bharat. He urged the industry for hand holding of Start-Ups. He appreciated agri-varsity for playing significant role in education and research and building favourable eco-system for young ignited minds who can contribute towards innovation, creativity and nation building.

He further emphasised that

industry should come forward and contribute towards research and boost Start-Up culture in the Universities. Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-Jammu, Prof. B.N. Tripathi, who was chairman during the meet, in his address said that Industry-Academia collaboration is the need of hour to prepare students for meeting futuristic challenges of competitive world. He expressed gratitude to United Phosphorus Limited and Fill Industry Limited for entering Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with the agri-varsity. He urged

industry to come forward for more collaborations with the University for development of agriculture in general and farmers in particular. He reiterated that expertise of industry and agri-varsity can lead to innovation in agriculture.

He further said that such innovations can help in fulfilling the needs, interests and priorities of the farmers in farming.

The VC added that industry-academia has an advantage of feedback mechanism where the problems of the farmers can be addressed. He stressed upon need-based and problem-oriented research that contributes towards the progress and prosperity of farmers.

Prof Tripathi suggested that

an industry professional may mentor students on areas of personal and professional development like, knowledge related to an industry, functional expertise, a habit, behavioural change and skills. During the meet, panel discussions were held on "Strengthening Education-Infrastructural facilities and Research in partnership with Industry."

Dr. Rajinder Peshin, Director Education delivered a presentation on "SKUAST-Jammu: Achievements, Initiatives and Opportunities for Transforming Education and Research."

Besides, Dr. Ram Kumar delivered a lead lecture. Invited company guests, in their address, expressed willingness to support entrepreneurs and Start-ups. During the meet, Start-Ups, companies and university displayed their exhibits and technologies.

All the statutory officers, Head of the divisions, concerned faculty members and students also attended the programme.

## NC pays tributes to Rohit Kerni on his death anniversary

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Senior leaders of Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (JKNC) on Wednesday paid heartfelt tributes to late Rohit Kerni former District President Jammu Urban YNC, a youth JKNC leader on his 4th death anniversary in a programme held at Sher-e-Kashmir Bhawan Jammu. On the occasion, Ajay Sadhotra, General Secretary of JKNC and former Minister along with other party workers paid tributes to Rohit Kerni.

Speaking on the occasion, Ajay Sadhotra, delivered a touching address, reminiscing about Kerni's unwavering commitment to the party and his dedication to the welfare of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. He praised Kerni for his exemplary leadership qualities and noted his pivotal role in energizing the youth wing of the party, inspiring many young minds to actively engage in public service.



NC leaders paying tributes to Rohit Kerni.

"Rohit Kerni was not just a leader but a beacon of hope for the youth of Jammu and Kashmir. His passion for social justice and his tireless efforts to empower the younger generation have left an indelible mark on our party and the community," he remarked. Speaking on the occasion, Pardeep Bali Provincial Secretary Jammu, Vijay Lochan Chairman SC Cell and Rakesh Singh Raka Vice President Central Zone, Tejinder Pal Singh, District President of JKNC Jammu also spoke on the occasion.

Among those who were present include Harsh

Vardhan Singh President NCSU, Nitish Gowsami, Muzamil Malik Provincial Secretaries Jammu YNC, Gurnam Singh Bloek President Jammu West, Sahil Kerni District Secretary Jammu YNC, Yasir Ahsan Vice President YNC, Sahil Chib, Sandeep Mehra, Aman Manhas, Vishal Parihar, Dheeraj Sasan, Gourav Bhagat Ward President 33, Tejpal Singh ward President 58, Nikil Bharti, Amit Sharma, Boby Kumar, Manjeet Singh, Akbir Singh, Abhishek, Deepak Kumar, Sourab Manhas, Rahul Singh, Sonu Kumar and others.

## Progress on PM-ABHIM, ECRP-II approved projects reviewed



Secretary H&ME department, Dr. Syed Abid Rasheed Shah chairing a meeting.

### STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Secretary, Health and Medical Education (H&ME) department, Dr. Syed Abid Rasheed Shah on Wednesday chaired a meeting at Civil Secretariat here to review the progress on implementation of projects approved under PM-ABHIM and ECRP-II across Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting, among others, was attended by Mission Director, NHM, Principals of all GMCs, CMOs, senior officers from NHM and Officers from HSCC (I) limited.

Speaking during the meeting, the Secretary maintained that PM-ABHIM and ECRP-II are two flagship programmes of the Union Government. He underlined the importance of timely completion of these projects.

Dr. Abid, during the meeting, sought details of each individual project and directed the executing agency to pacify the speed of work and ensure mobilization of resources at each site for their timely completion. He instructed Principals of GMCs and Chief Medical Officers to ensure that all identified sites are free from encroachments. The Secretary emphasised on close coordination between facility incharges and executing agency for ensuring smooth implementation of the projects. He also stressed for development of robust monitoring system for monitoring of these projects. It was informed in the meeting that 16 Critical Care Blocks, 20 District Integrated Public Health Labs and 109 Block Public Health Units are being established in the UT of J&K under PM-ABHIM and ECRP-II schemes.

## Yudhvir addresses accumulation of flood water issues in New Company Bagh Mohalla Urges JMC for permanent flood prevention

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Yudhvir Sethi, J&K BJP Vice President today visited New Company Bagh Mohalla to assess the impact of heavy rainfall and subsequent flooding that has affected local residents. Upon his visit, he promptly engaged with the people of the area to address their immediate concerns and ensure swift action from municipal authorities.

Expressing concern over the plight of residents, Yudhvir took the matter directly with the Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) authorities. In a



Yudhvir Sethi, J&K BJP Vice President visiting New Company Bagh Mohalla to assess impact of rainfall.

commendable response, JMC Commissioner Rahul Yadav immediately dis-

patched teams from the JMC, Tawi Front, and Smart City to mitigate the

issues faced by the affected residents.

Sethi expressed gratitude to the JMC Commissioner for his prompt response to the distress faced by the people of New Company Bagh Mohalla. He said it is imperative that these issues are resolved comprehensively and swiftly so that residents can resume their daily lives without fear of recurring challenges. Sethi appealed to the JMC Commissioner to undertake permanent solutions to prevent future occurrences of flooding into the house of people residing in this locality. "It

is our duty to ensure sustainable development and safety for all residents," he emphasized.

Accompanied by local BJP leaders Swarn Singh, Kartar Chand, Rajesh, and Bau Ram, Sethi reiterated BJP's commitment to prioritizing public welfare and resolving community issues with utmost urgency.

"The BJP stands firmly committed to addressing the concerns of the people," Sethi affirmed.

"Our proactive approach ensures that no citizen is left behind in times of need."