

For BJP, Nation is always first: Raina

STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: Ravinder Raina, President, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu & Kashmir, accompanied by senior leaders of the Bani Assembly Constituency addressed a meeting of party activists at Bani, District Kathua.

Ravinder Raina, in his address, congratulated all the party activists for fulfilling the commitment of a comprehensive win in the Lok Sabha election. He said that BJP has won due to the commitment of Modi ji towards the people which is reflected in the principle of "Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas". He said that the Modi government



Ravinder Raina, President, BJP Jammu & Kashmir, addressing gathering at Kathua.

gave rights to every neglected section in J&K. He said that the Modi government ensured development in every sector with improved infrastructure being reflected in the construction of 2 AIIMS,

Medical Colleges, road networks, ring roads, highways, colleges, Universities etc.

Raina also praised the local MP for his endeavours in the development, who has brought several projects in his Parliamentary Constituency. He said that the improved roads, drinking water supply and other facilities are testimonial to the development on behalf of BJP government at the centre.

Ravinder Raina, while paying respects to the brave Jawans of our Nation, said that for the BJP, Nation is always first and the Modi government will take care that

our Forces take full liberty to teach terrorists and their bosses a very harsh lesson.

Ravinder Raina, on the occasion, also asked all the party leaders to be ready for the forthcoming elections in Jammu & Kashmir. He asked all the party leaders not to take a rest as dedicated BJP activists and be consistently involved in the service to the nation and society. He said that it is expected that the Jammu & Kashmir is going to witness several elections in this year and hence, asked the party leaders and the activists to be pro-active in their approach in the masses.

Pavitra Charri (Holy Mace) of Annual Shree Hudh & Trisandhya Mata Yatra 2024 leaves for Dachhan

STATE TIMES NEWS

KISHTWAR: The Pavitra Charri (Holy Mace) of Shree Hudh Mata and Trisandhya Mata accompanied by numerous devotees left for Dachhan this morning for onward journey.

Earlier, Holy Mace arrived in Kishtwar on Wednesday for the Annual Hudh Mata & Trisandhya Mata Yatra 2024. The Civil and Police administration Kishtwar, along with a large number of locals, warmly welcomed the Pavitra Charri, offering their reverence and seeking blessings.

Additional Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar Pawan Kotwal, ASP Kishtwar Pawan Kumar Sharma, AO DC office Satinder Kumar



Civil and Police administration Kishtwar welcoming Charri.

along with other officers and officials, were also present to greet the procession. The Pavitra Charri was ceremoniously received at the Shree Gori Shankar Mandir Sarkoot, where it rested for the night. The procession resumed its journey for

Dachhan today. The district administration lead by Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar Dr Devansh Yadav has extended its full support to ensure the smooth conduct of the Yatra, facilitating the devotees and ensuring all necessary arrangements are in place.

DC Reasi meets with Senior Citizens in Katra



Senior citizens calling on Deputy Commissioner Reasi, Vishesh Mahajan.

STATE TIMES NEWS

REASI: A meeting was convened today by Deputy Commissioner Reasi, Vishesh Mahajan, with senior citizens in Katra.

The meeting, aimed at addressing the concerns and requirements of senior citizens, saw active participation and fruitful discussions.

During the meeting, senior citizens expressed their gratitude to the District Administration for the special facilities provided to them in hospitals and other government premises. They also highlighted various issues of concern, which were attentively heard by Deputy Commissioner, Mahajan.

He assured them that their concerns would be resolved on a priority basis.

One of the key requests put forth by the senior citizens was for a designated space in Katra where they could gather comfortably for discussions and community activities. Responding to this request, DC Mahajan promptly directed the Sub-Divisional Magistrate Katra to explore suitable location for the purpose.

The meeting was attended by SDM Katra Piyush Dhotra, Tehsildar Katra Jatinder Singh and Chairman Shiv Kumar Sharma and other members.

Vibodh urges BJP workers to ensure Lotus blooms in J&K

STATE TIMES NEWS

SUNDERBANI: During his day-long visit to the Kalakote Sunderbani assembly segment, Vibodh Gupta, B-JP J&K General Secretary and Former MLC, passionately urged party workers to strive diligently towards ensuring the success of the party in the upcoming assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir. We need to unite and work tirelessly to ensure that the lotus blooms across

Jammu and Kashmir, bringing progress and prosperity to every citizen, he added. Vibodh emphasized the need for extensive outreach programs to expand the party's footprint to every polling booth across Sunderbani-Kalakote assembly segment. He called upon party workers to act as ambassadors for the welfare schemes initiated by the Modi government, engaging regularly with the public in our respective areas. He also underscored the importance of connecting



Vibodh Gupta, B-JP J&K General Secretary along with locals at Kalakote.

with beneficiaries of these schemes to raise awareness effectively and to connect them with future programs of the government. He urged party workers to dedicate themselves to organizational programs, such as Trived Samelan, Polling Booth Samelan, Moreha Samelan, New Voters Registration to ensure that the party is strengthened at grassroots level.

Vibodh also criticized the National Conference, PDP, and Congress, labeling them as

"ideologically bankrupt" and driven solely by "corruption, nepotism, and favoritism." He called upon party members to expose these practices and uphold the BJP's commitment to clean governance and development-oriented policies.

Speaking on the occasion BJP's Prabhari Nowshera, Sunderbani-Kalakote assembly segments Sanjay Baru claimed that the LS poll results

showed that the people had voted for stability and continuity, and, therefore, the NDA came to power for a third term consecutively. He maintained that the people of Jammu and Kashmir will also vote for BJP and it's development agenda rejecting dynastic political parties such as NC, PDP and Congress.

BJP District President Neena Sharma commend the

Modi government for its unwavering commitment to transforming India into a powerhouse of development and progress. The government's relentless efforts in ensuring inclusive growth, empowering the marginalized, and bolstering national security are exemplary, she added. District general secretary, Pritam Sharma conducted the proceedings of the meetings. B-JP leader Randhir Singh, DDC Member Rajinder Sharma, Former District President Capt.(Retd.) Ramesh Chander, Bal Krishan, Former MC President Rajinder Parshad Gupta, Sardari Lal Sharma, Chaman Raina, District Office Bearers, District Moreha Presidents, Mandal Presidents and Shakti Kendra Parmukh were present in the meetings.

SBI Seri Branch organises plantation drive

STATE TIMES NEWS

DODA: State Bank of India (SBI) has long been recognized not just for its banking services but also for its commitment to social and environmental causes. This commitment was exemplified by the launch of a plantation drive by the Seri branch in High School Seri, Doda, a picturesque region located within the Doda district of Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday. The drive was led by SBI Manager Dikshant Gupta, who has been instrumental in promoting various community and environmental initiatives in the region.

The Doda district, known for its natural beauty and rich biodiversity, faces numerous environmental challenges, including deforestation and land degradation. In response to these issues, the Seri branch of SBI



decided to undertake a plantation drive as a proactive measure to contribute to the conservation of the local environment. This initiative aligns with SBI's broader Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) goals, which emphasize sustainable development and environmental stewardship. Under the leadership of Dikshant Gupta, the plantation drive was meticulously planned and executed. The event saw the participation of bank employees, local community members, and volunteers, all coming together with a shared goal of enhancing the green cover of the area. A variety of indigenous tree species were selected for planting, ensuring that the new growth would be well-suited to the local climate and ecosystem.

These species not only contribute to the local biodiversity but also play a crucial role in soil conservation and water retention, which are vital for the health of the region's environment, said Dikshant Gupta.

He added that the plantation drive was more than just an event; it was a statement of SBI's ongoing commitment to the environment. Dikshant Gupta, in his address during the event, emphasized the importance of trees in maintaining ecological balance and combating climate change. He highlighted that such initiatives are essential not only for the current generation but also for future generations who will inherit the planet. Gupta's words resonated with the participants, many of whom expressed a newfound appreciation for the importance of environmental conservation.

Moreover, the involvement of the local community was a key aspect of the drive's success. By engaging local residents and

educating them about the benefits of tree plantation, SBI ensured that the initiative would have a lasting impact. The community's involvement also fostered a sense of ownership and responsibility towards the newly planted trees, increasing the likelihood of their survival and growth. This collaborative approach between the bank and the community exemplifies how corporate entities can work hand-in-hand with local populations to achieve common goals.

The plantation drive at the Seri branch is part of a broader series of environmental initiatives undertaken by SBI across the country. The bank has consistently championed green practices, from promoting digital banking to reduce paper usage to supporting renewable energy projects, he said. These efforts are driven by the understanding that environmental sustainability is integral to long-term economic stability and societal well-being.

STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: Bharat Vikas parishad Kathua celebrated foundation day Bharat Vikas Parishad Kathua branch organized a plantation drive in collaboration with social forestry division kathua in order to commemorate

The foundation day of the organization at Goushala Bhagthali (keerian) about 150 saplings of medicinal shady, ornamental and fruit plants provided by social forestry division kathua were planted in goushala area by the members of the organization DFO Social forestry division kathua

Sewadaars of goushala and local people under the supervision of Ashok Raina and his staff DFO Social forestry division kathua.

Ashok Kumar Kalsi graced the occasion by his valuable advice and instructions. Kalsi highlighted the importance of plant

He made the members and others aware of various schemes and projects undertaken by the govt. of India and



Parishad members planting sapling.

UT. J&K to protect and promote forestation in the UT. Of the program started with the recitation of "Vande Matram" by the members of organization and others Ved Sharma president Seva Bharti unit, kathua assure of complete watch and ward of the plants to insure their 100% survival.

Prof. Dr. Ram Murti Sharma the patron of the organization stressed upon the need of clean and green J&K so as to enable our future generation to breath in a non polluted and oxygen rich environment.

Ashok Gupta president BVP, Kathua emphasized upon the importance of plants for sur-

vival, existence and sustenance of human life on this planet. The earth the role of the organization for this drive was lorded by the local people attending the function.

Present on the occasion were Ditt Nath, Anil Sharma, Ravi Dutt, Rajinder Sharma, Rajinder Gupta, and Jatinder Bharti Pradhan Goushala and local people of the area.

Ten quintals of fodder was also donated by the organization on this occasion.

Vote of thanks was extended by Kuldeep goswami the secretary. The program ended by chanting of national anthem by all present on the occasion.

Satish listens to people grievances



Satish Sharma speaking at a public meeting.

STATE TIMES NEWS

AKHNOOR: Satish Sharma held a public meeting with the people of Chhamb constituency residing in Akhnoor. During the meeting a large number of people including many retired defence and government employees participated. The agenda of the people was to seek feedback of the people of Chhamb constituency regarding the upcoming assembly elections.

Satish Sharma said that the feedback and suggestions collected from the people will be later added to the manifesto

of the Congress party for the assembly elections. He said that the issues and problems put forth by the people during these meetings will be his top priority once congress will come to power. During the discussion people shared their problems and said that the restrictions imposed by the administration on the border have created hardships for the people as the farmers are not allowed to freely carry on agricultural activities across the fence, they said that compensation for the land acquired by the defence ministry has not been given to the people for decades, people also said that unemployment has become a major issue in the border specially after introduction of schemes like agniveer and people have also suffered due to merging ALC with IB quota as the percentage of selections from chhamb constituency has decreased drastically. Speaking on the occasion Satish Sharma said that all the issues and problems raised by the people will be added to congress manifesto

and will also be his top priority once congress comes to power.

He said that ALC should be separated from IB quota and separate quota 3-3% should be given to people residing on both ALC and IB. He said that people have to unite in order to get these issues resolved as BJP has done nothing for the betterment of Chhamb constituency in the past 10 years. He said that if people support him he will make sure that justice is done with their vote and he is not going to rest till chhamb becomes no.1 constituency of Jammu and Kashmir. Other prominent persons present during the meeting are,

Kuldeep Verma (Ex MoS), Prabhu Singh (Sr. Vice President DCC Jammu Rural), Retd. DySP Ashok Kumar Sharma (Retd) (Vice President DCC Jammu Rural), Capt. Sham Singh Bhou (Vice President DCC Jammu Rural), Ashok Sharma (Vice President DCC Jammu Rural), Prem Singh Chib (Block President Khour), Vijay Kumar (Block President Sanwan), Chetan Sharma, Capt chhankar Singh SM, Retd master Ashwani Sharma, Joginder Sharma, Ram pal Sharma, Joginder Singh, Bharat Bhushan Sharma, Retd Ceo Rattan Lal Sharma, Nikku Ram, Capt Jameet Singh bhou, Ex si Tarsem Singh bhou etc.

Khatana vows to address public concerns with relevant authorities

STATE TIMES NEWS

MAHORE: In an ongoing effort to connect with constituents and address their concerns, MP Rajya Sabha Er. Gulam Ali Khatana conducted a series of meetings with different groups in the Reasi district as part of his public outreach programme. The sessions, held at the Conference Hall in Mahore Dak Banglow, Mahore Kalwa (Mulass), and Budhan, provided a platform for locals to voice their grievances and seek redress.

During his tour of the 56 Gulabgarh constituency in Reasi district, MP Khatana was accompanied by key BJP representatives, including Seh Prabhari B-JP Reasi Akhlaq Choudhary, BJP district vice president & Executive Officer Waqf Board Reasi, JK Minority Moreha President Reasi Mushtaq Malik, ST Moreha president Reasi, Rafiq Choudhary, Chain Singh Pradhan B-JP Kisan Moreha Reasi, and Mandal Pradhan Sukhdev Singh, among others.

A major issue raised by



MP Rajya Sabha Er. Gulam Ali Khatana listening to public issues at Mahore.

the public was the pending compensation for land acquired for road construction under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY). Despite repeated visits to concerned offices, residents reported that they have not received the due payments. This prolonged delay has caused significant financial distress for the affected families, who rely on these funds for their livelihood.

Residents also expressed dissatisfaction with the performance of revenue officials, accusing them of

neglecting their duties. They reported that officials often failed to respond to their concerns and were rarely available for consultations. There were demands for the immediate transfer of officials who have been posted in the same area for more than two years to ensure better accountability and efficiency. The residents argued that such transfers would prevent complacency and promote a more responsive and dynamic administration.

A significant concern

voiced during the meetings was the lack of accessibility to government officials and services. Locals urged the government to bridge the gap between officials and the public, ensuring that their voices are heard in government offices. Many residents reported difficulties in accessing police services, stating that they are often unable to meet with police officers to address their issues. This inaccessibility has led to a growing sense of frustration and helplessness among the public.

Several villagers reported being excluded from the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) scheme, leaving them without access to essential water supplies. This exclusion has left many communities struggling and relying on uncertain sources of water. The residents highlighted the critical need for clean and reliable water sources, emphasizing that water is a fundamental right and should be accessible to all.

There was a recurring theme of a trust deficit between the masses and the administration. Locals

emphasized the need for transparent and responsive governance to rebuild trust and ensure effective public service delivery. They called for regular interactions between officials and the public to foster a sense of accountability and mutual respect.

After listening patiently to the public's concerns, MP Khatana assured them that he would take up these matters with the appropriate authorities to address and resolve the problems faced by the residents of Reasi district. He emphasized his commitment to ensuring that the issues raised by the public are highlighted and addressed at the highest levels of government.

The outreach programme is part of MP Khatana's broader initiative to engage with constituents directly, ensuring that their issues are highlighted and addressed at the highest levels of government. By providing a platform for the public to voice their grievances, MP Khatana aims to foster a more inclusive and responsive governance system that truly serves the needs of the people.

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