

## Dr Jitendra directs Udhampur administration for immediate redressal of pressing public issues

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
UDHAMPUR: The Udhampur administration and local bodies must leave no stone unturned in ensuring timely and seamless delivery of public amenities," said Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh here on Sunday.

Chairing a meeting alongside the Deputy Commissioner Saloni Rai, senior officials of the district administration and over a dozen representatives of the PRIs, Dr Jitendra Singh issued directions for immediate redressal of pressing public issues, such as water scarcity, power outages, dilapidated roads and unauthorised parking. Calling upon the district administration to take all possible measures to address public issues, he reiterated that the government is committed to the service of the masses, adding



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh convening a meeting of district administration and PRIs at Udhampur on Sunday.

that all its steps are focused on ensuring ease of living for all sections of society.

The Union Minister affirmed that with the mantra of Nation First, the governance model of the Modi government is bedrocked by the spirit of Jan-Bhagidari and Sankalp se Siddh. The Union Minister also urged the DDCs to play their part in redressing public grievances and demands. "Councillors must take immediate steps to address issues raised in today's meeting", he directed.

On the issue of recurring

power outages as reported by the public representatives hailing from several areas of the district, Dr Jitendra Singh issued the direction that the concerned officials of the Power Department must undertake visits to make on-the-spot assessment and resolve the issue forthwith. "It must be ensured that less inconvenience is caused to the public in sweltering heat due to power curtailment", the Minister underscored. Similarly, the Minister called for repair of dilapidated roads and macadamisation of other

roads in rural areas to improve connectivity and prevent accidents. Dr Jitendra Singh directed all the officers to must work in close coordination with the stakeholders, including PRIs, for better delivery of services to the citizens. He also directed the officers to remain in touch with the local people, visit regularly the affected areas and organise awareness camps in remote villages so that people gain knowledge about the benefits of schemes on sanitation, housing and education. During the review meeting, Dr Jitendra Singh made a strong pitch for promoting lavender cultivation in the district in a big way. He said start-ups engaged in this new industry have become avenues of employment for the local youth. He reiterated that it is not possible for the government to provide jobs to all. Therefore, the youth should explore other lucrative avenues of employment to earn a living, the minister advised.

## Three-day long traditional Sarthal Devi Yatra begins with religious fervor

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
KISHTWAR: Three-day long traditional Shri Ashtadash Bhujha Mata Sarthal Devi Ji Yatra commenced with great religious fervor early morning by organizing Hawan at Gori Shankar Mandir, Sarkoot in which number of couples offered Aahuti and Puran Aahuti.

The Yatra being organized by Shri Sarthal Devi Ji Trust under the patronage of Dr Karan Singh, Sole Trustee and Vikramaditya Singh Chairman Trustee.

Impressive Shoba Yatra accompanied by Chari Mubarak was taken from Gori Shankar Mandir by Sunil Sharma, former minister and Sanjeev Parihar, Vice Chairman, Shri Sarthal Devi Management Council. The locals of various localities accorded warm welcome to the pilgrims and served refreshment to the pilgrims. Shoba Yatra culminated



Devotees taking out Sarthal Devi Yatra at Kishtwar.

at Bus Stand Kishtwar from where the devotees boarded buses and other vehicles and left for the historic Sarthal Devi Temple. Tomorrow morning a Maha Yajya will be performed at Sarthal Devi Mandir. District administration along with police had made all the necessary arrangements at Sarthal and Kishtwar for the welfare of devotees. Vikramaditya Singh, in

his message, extended warm greetings to all devotees and people of Kishtwar on this auspicious occasion and prayed for peace, prosperity and well being of all.

Varinder Jamwal, Additional Secretary J&K Dharmarth Trust also participated in this three-day long traditional Yatra.

The temple of Sarthal Devi Mata is located in Sarthal town of Kishtwar

district amidst the mountains of the Pir Panjal range. The devotees believed that Sarthal Devi is the Hindu Kuldevi residing in Kishtwar and have held her in high reverence. The historic religious yatra is organized every year in Kishtwar by Shri Sarthal Devi Ji Management Council with great participation and support of residents of Kishtwar.

## DC Ramban holds public outreach programme

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
RAMBAN: The Deputy Commissioner Ramban, Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary, held a comprehensive public interaction session at Banihal, addressing the concerns of residents from the dual Sub Divisions of Ramsoo and Banihal.

The event, part of an ongoing public outreach program, saw the Deputy Commissioner engaged in a day-long interaction on the second day of his visit.

Large number of people from various walks of life attended, bringing forth their issues and concerns. Demonstrating his commitment to responsive governance, the Deputy Commissioner resolved most public interest issues on the

spot, assuring the attendees of prompt and effective redressal of their grievances.

Accompanying the Deputy Commissioner were SDM Rizwan Asgar, Tehsildar Intiaz Ahmed, and other senior officers from various departments. These officials also interacted with the public, providing on-the-spot solutions and reinforcing the administration's dedication to addressing the needs of the community.

Appreciating the efforts of the district administration, people said that these public outreach programmes highlighted the administration's proactive approach in fostering direct communication with the people, ensuring their voices are heard and their issues are swiftly addressed.

## KVK Reasi educates Rural Women on Fruits and Vegetables Processing

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
REASI: Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Reasi under the aegis of Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Jammu is promoting and educating the rural women on entrepreneurship development in fruit and vegetable processing in Reasi distt. of J&K under the dynamic stewardship of Vice Chancellor, Prof. B.N. Tripathi and able guidance of Director Extension Prof. Amrith Vaidof SKUA-STP-J.Dr. Banarsi Lal, Chief Scientist & Head of KVK, Reasi said that the value addition in seasonal fruits and vegetables can help to generate more income and employment among the



KVK Reasi scientist guiding rural youths on value addition in fruits and vegetables at Reasi.

rural women of hilly areas. He further said that KVK is stressing on the value addition in fruits and vegetables and educating the rural women on the various income generating activities. He narrated that KVK is emphasizing on the cluster

based approach and strengthening the Self Help Groups (SHGs) by developing entrepreneurial opportunities among them. He said that KVK is guiding rural women on the dehydrated products, aonla candy, pickles etc. and their quality

control. He stressed on the processing of organic crops for more returns. He expressed that KVK is guiding the rural women on the storage, packaging, labeling, branding and marketing of the processed products. He also informed that the KVK is technically supporting the rural women on the preservation and increase the shelf life of value added products. He suggested that the women should work in groups for the entrepreneurship development in the fruit and vegetable processing to fetch more returns. By observing the results of successful rural women, many new farm women are coming forward for the fruits and vegetables processing.

## DC Doda visits accident site, extends support to injured

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
DODA: The Deputy Commissioner Doda, Harvinder Singh visited the site of a tragic mini bus accident at Bhatyas in Sub Division Gandoh yesterday.

During his visit, the DC met with the victims of the accident at Sub-District Hospital Gandoh and similarly at Government Medical College Doda to ensure that all the injured persons were receiving the necessary treatment for their speedy recovery.

The DC interacted with SDM, Doctors, hospital staff and local authorities to assess the condition of the injured individuals.

Unfortunately, the accident resulted in 25 injuries, with 2 fatalities reported. 2 critical-



ly injured individuals were immediately referred to GMC Jammu for further treatment while 01 fatality was reported at GMC Jammu.

The DC expressed deepest condolences to the families of the deceased and assured them of all possible support during this difficult time.

## DC Udhampur chairs DCDC meeting

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
UDHAMPUR: A meeting of the District Cooperative Development Committee was held at the Mini Conference Hall DC Office Complex Udhampur, chaired by Deputy Commissioner Saloni Rai. The purpose of the meeting was to review the effective implementation of various schemes aimed at strengthening the cooperative movement and extending its reach to the grassroots level.

ADDC Rajinder Singh, ACR Dr. Umesh Shan, CPO Mohammad Iqbal, Deputy Registrar Cooperatives, Chief Agriculture Officer Sanjay Anand, and other officers attended the meeting. The DC emphasized the importance of coordinated efforts among all committee members to achieve the targets of various initiatives, further strengthening the cooperative ecosystem in the district.

## SWD Ramban organises trekking expedition under BBBP

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
RAMBAN: In a commendable initiative to empower young girls and promote gender equality, the Social Welfare Department of Ramban under the guidance of Deputy Commissioner, Ramban, Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary organized an exhilarating trekking expedition under the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) campaign.

This event was held under the overall supervision of District Social Welfare Officer (DSWO) Ramban, Rahul Gupta.

The expedition aimed to encourage girls to embrace outdoor activities, build confidence, and foster a sense of adventure and resilience. The trek saw enthusiastic participation from girls across the district, who demonstrated their spirit and determination



Students during trekking at Ramban.

by conquering challenging terrains.

The DSWO expressed satisfaction with the successful organization of the event, emphasizing the importance of such initiatives in breaking stereotypes and empowering young girls.

The girls were accompanied by experienced guides and support staff to ensure their safety and provide necessary

assistance throughout the journey. The participants were also educated about the significance of physical fitness and the benefits of engaging in outdoor activities.

The trekking expedition under BBBP is part of a broader initiative by the Social Welfare Department of Ramban to promote the well-being and development of girls in the district.

## BJP committed to ensure safety, security of J&K people: Slathia

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SAMBA: Former minister and Senior Vice President Pradesh BJP Surjeet Singh Slathia on Sunday called for collective efforts to fight scourge of terrorism, saying the valiant people will not allow any attempt by terror ecosystem to vitiate the peaceful atmosphere across the Jammu region.

"The BJP led NDA government is unwavering in its commitment to ensure the safety and security of the citizens of Jammu and Kashmir", Slathia said while addressing a public meeting at Village Badval Panchayat Sangwal in Assembly Constituency Samba, adding that terrorism in the region will be met with an uncompromising and robust response.

He said the BJP has tire-



Senior Vice President Pradesh BJP Surjeet Singh Slathia addressing gathering at Samba.

lessly worked for restoration of peace and normalcy across the Union Territory and has succeeded in building a sense of security among the people. Unnerved by near normalcy in the Valley with business and tourism scaling new heights, the terror regime across the border with active support of Pakistan's sinister ISI is desperately trying to show presence in Jammu, he said, adding that they are destined to doom in their

nefarious machinations.

"Peace and development are our top priorities and the BJP will continue to work resolutely to create an environment where economic growth and prosperity can flourish", Slathia said, emphasising that the security forces were capable enough to meet the challenge posed by the enemies of peace. He lauded the resilience and determination of the people for remaining steadfast in

their resolve to isolate the terror ecosystem, which remains on toes to shield inhuman and barbaric elements.

Referring to the issues highlighted by the locals, Slathia assured that these would be raised at appropriate forums for earnest redressal. Welfare of people and inclusive development with opportunities of progress to all, irrespective of religion, region or caste, as per the Prime Minister's cherished agenda of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Prayas, Sabka Vishwas remains core of the BJP philosophy, he added.

Among those present on the occasion included Ex Sarpanch Jatinder Singh, District Vice President BJP Vijay Singh, Maan Singh Ashok Singh Ranjeet Kumar and others.

## DADAA's signature campaign for Satellite Duggar Channel continues

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
UDHAMPUR: In continuation of their signatures campaign for long pending demand of Satellite Duggar Channel a team of Doordarshan Approved Drama Artists Association (DADAA) comprised Janak Khajuria, J.S. Babli, Madan Rangila and Rajinder Narang installed their signature campaign at Chanani near bus stand to sought the support of general public in large at Tahsil and District level.

Huge numbers of people from all walk and remote areas of Tahsil Chanani put their sig-



natures in support of Satellite Duggar Channel. The people appreciated the efforts of Association for organizing the Signature campaign to seek the support at Tahsil level for the demand of Satellite Duggar Channel to protect the cultural heritage art and languages of Duggar Parlesh in general and welfare of artists fraternity in particular and also assured all support in this regard.

A prominent citizen of Chanani named Abhishek Jamwal said that Satellite Duggar Channel is the need of hours to promote the dogri language and culture worldwide through the electronic media so

that world could know about the Dogras and their culture. And also said that this will also explore the tourist spots of Jammu region in large.

The President of the ASSOCIATION J.S. Babli said DADAA will continue its struggle till we achieved the targete and also appealed all the people of Duggar land to join their hands to get the targete achieved and also appealed to all Dogras to raise their voice in support of Satellite Duggar Channel from every corner. The vice President DADAA Madan Rangila said The next signature campaign will be held at Kud and Patnitop.

## DC Kishtwar inaugurates Mavo Bridge, throws open Chashoti road for pilgrims

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
KISHTWAR: The much-awaited Machail Paddar Road, executed under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), has been completed up to Chashoti, bringing great joy to the inhabitants of Machail and the pilgrims visiting the Shree Machail Mata Temple annually.

Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar Dr. Devansh Yadav, who was on a two-day visit to Machail, announced the completion of the road. Accompanied by the Superintendent Engineer PMGSY, Circle Batote, Rajesh Kumar Bhagat, EXEN PMGSY Rajesh Kumar Sharma and other officials, the Deputy Commissioner also inaugurated the Mavo Bridge, facilitating vehicular movement on the newly completed motorable road to Chashoti.

Constructing the road up to Chashoti was challenging

due to rocky stretches in many areas. However, the dedicated efforts of the PMGSY authorities, under the guidance of DC Kishtwar, have made it possible.

With the completion of this road, the travel time for pilgrims has been reduced by three hours. Previously, pilgrims had to trek for 6-7 hours to reach Shree Machail Mata Bhawan.

During his visit, DC Kishtwar and his entourage including ACD Kishtwar Phulail Singh, SDM Paddar Amit Kumar and others trekked to Machail Shrine, paid obeisance, and prayed for the peace and prosperity of the people of Kishtwar.

The residents of Chashoti and Tehsil Machail have expressed their appreciation to the PMGSY authorities and the District Administration, particularly Deputy Commissioner for seamless efforts and effective administration in completing the road.

## BVMS installs new School Management Committee

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
UDHAMPUR: In a vibrant program Shiv Kumar Sharma elected President of Sant Ishwar Bharti Vidya Mandir School (SIBVMS) Udhampur replacing Sunil Badyal.

According to reports an attractive function was organised in the premises of school to accord warm send off to the outgoing members of Management Committee of school were also honoured by Arun Gupta president Shiksha Samiti J&K. However new management committee of team of Sant Ishwar Bharti Vidya Mandir School Udhampur was given rousing welcome. Speaking on this occasion in welcome address Shiv Kumar Sharma (President) Advocate Pankaj Dubey (Secy) Renu Sharma (Principal), Mulk Raj Sharma and Parveen Singh (Members) also presented them Mata Ki Chunari. Prominent among present were Fomer CMO



Newly elected members of School Management Committee at Udhampur.

dignitaries to do come up to the expectation of all and shall keep the tradition of dedicated tireless services always up. Other who present were Sunil Badyal, Former President, Dr. Anil Khajuria, Imam Chand and Rakesh Kumar (Members) were honoured by Shiv Kumar Sharma (President) Advocate Pankaj Dubey (Secy) Renu Sharma (Principal), Mulk Raj Sharma and Parveen Singh (Members) also presented them Mata Ki Chunari. Prominent among present were Fomer CMO

Udhampur and former Chairman Municipal Council Udhampur, Dr Yogeshwar Gupta, President C&C and Industry Sham Lal Kalsotra, Patron Seva Bharti J&K Ashwani Sharma, Varinder Badyal, Vice President J&K Indian Style Wrestling Assn, Raj Kumar Bucha, Nek Ram Sharma, Headmaster, Sat Paul Sharma, Bal Krishan Mahajan, Uttam Singh, Surinder Patwari, Kuldeep Sharma, Mubarak Singh, Ramesh Chander, Prem Raina and Staff of the School and a token of love and respect.

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