

## Dr Jitendra visits Doda, participates in plantation drive

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
DODA: Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology, Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office; Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Dr Jitendra Singh, on Saturday visited Doda to participate in a significant plantation drive at Sports Stadium.

The event was organized by the Jammu and Kashmir Forest Department.

The Union MoS was accompanied by DDC Chairman, Dhananter Singh, Deputy Commissioner Doda, Harvinder Singh and other officers.

Dr. Jitendra Singh led the plantation drive as part of a concerted effort to promote environmental sustainability and conservation in the



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh planting sapling.

region.

In addition to the plantation drive, Dr. Jitendra Singh interacted with teams from the Tejas Ek Pahal Foundation. The interaction provided a platform to discuss ongoing and future projects, emphasizing the role of community driven efforts in environmental and social upliftment.

The Union MoS lauded the efforts of Jammu and Kashmir forest department and the Tejas Ek Pahal Foundation for their dedication towards environmental conservation and community development. He reiterated the government commitment towards supporting such initiatives and highlighted the importance of collective action in addressing environmental challenges.

### STATE TIMES NEWS

**SUNDERBANI:** The festival of Guru Purnima was celebrated with great joy and pomp under the chairmanship of Sadguru of refugee families displaced from within POJK and settled in various parts of the country including Jammu and Kashmir, the famous Vetran wale Saint Mahamandaleswar 1008 Shri Guru Ramanand Ji Maharaj and his descendant Sadguru Indrajit Ji Maharaj. This time this Guru Purnima program was organized in Bajwal village adjoining Sunderbani. Here in Moda Nadhani, from the Brahma Muhurta in the morning, along with Guru Puja, Shiv Puja, Ganapati Puja and worship and havan of other gods and goddesses, Satguru Dev Maharaj drenched the devotees by making them take a dip in the Ganga of knowledge with Amrit discourses. At the same time, the devotees danced a lot to the tune of bhajans. On this occasion, the devotees also made Guruji dance with them. The general public that came along with it

A huge feast was organized for the

## Guru Purnima celebrated



Dignitaries along with devotees during the event.

Guru from around 12:00 noon. In which hundreds of local people participated enthusiastically and took the prasad of the feast and made themselves a part of the virtue by getting the blessings of Sadguru Maharaj. This entire program started and concluded under the holy chairmanship of Sadguru Dev Indrajit Ji Maharaj. On this occasion, devotees from not only Rajouri district but also from various provinces of Jammu and Kashmir reached there and marked their presence and performed Guru Puja and received the blessings of the current Gaddi Nashin Satguru 1008

Mahamandaleswar Indrajit Ji Maharaj. On this occasion, DDC member Sairi Sangeeta Sharma, former VDC President Sundarbarani Arun Kumar Sharma, Chief Spokesperson of Congress Jammu and Kashmir Ravindra Sharma along with people from many other political, religious and social organizations participated enthusiastically and completed this holy ritual of Guru Purnima by contributing with their body, mind and money. The contribution of the volunteers of Growth Multipurpose Cooperative Society was also important in this ritual. At the end of the program, Sadguru

Indrajit Ji Maharaj also honored the members of Growth Multipurpose Cooperative Society and said that the work done by the members in the form of car seva was highly commendable. On the occasion of Guru Purnima, while delighting his devotees with discourses in Rasamai Bani, Sadguru Maharaj said that after taking birth thousands of times, the soul gets death only. But human birth is such that in this birth, by following the path of religion, man can unite the soul with God by taking the support of the Guru's feet, and can redeem his life. The Bhandara, which started at 12:00 pm, continued continuously till about 5:00 pm. Giving information in this regard, Vice President of Growth Multipurpose Cooperative Society Vipin Pal Sharma and Vicky Dogra said that about 500 to 700 people took the prasad of the Bhandara and marked their presence in this ritual.

On the occasion of Guru Purnima, the crowd of devotees gathered to worship the Guru and the Mahamandaleswar 1008 Satguru Dev Indrajit Maharaj was present.

## DC Samba chairs meeting to review key health programs

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SAMBA: Deputy Commissioner Samba, Abhishek Sharma, chaired a comprehensive review meeting of various health programs in the district. The meeting saw the attendance of all district and block officers, aiming to enhance the efficacy of health services and address critical health issues.

In a bid to curb sex determination and female foeticide, the DC emphasized the need for strict vigilance on government and private ultrasound clinics. He directed the installation of CCTV cameras at the entrances of private ultrasound clinics and mandated the saving of ultrasound data. Additionally, ASHA workers



DC Samba, Abhishek Sharma chairing a meeting.

were instructed to take responsibility for reporting cases of infant and maternal deaths.

The review noted low rates of infant and maternal deaths in the district, which was commended by the Deputy Commissioner. Discussions with clinical experts led to directives aimed at increasing family awareness regarding infant care.

The Deputy Commissioner called for stringent action

against violators of the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act (COTPA). He underscored the importance of making the district hospital, schools and colleges smoke-free zones. Door-to-door campaigns and strict checks on novel products like e-cigarettes were also emphasized.

To combat dengue, the DC directed Executive Officers to conduct market inspections, ensure the cleaning of drains, bushes around school premises, and the filling of potholes. Awareness campaigns among farmers were also mandated. Fever clinics are to be activated, and Tehsildars were instructed to convey awareness messages through Lambardars to the general public.

The Deputy Commissioner stressed the importance of collective efforts from all stakeholders to achieve better health outcomes in the district.

## RSETI organises Entrepreneurship Awareness Programme

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
RAMBAN: The Rural Self Employment Training Institute (RSETI) of State Bank of India Ramban today organized Entrepreneurship Awareness Program at Dharam (Block Gundi-Dharam) Ramban.

During the programme Director Rural Self Employment Training Institute Ramban, Harvinder Singh sensitized the participants about self employment and its benefits besides sensitizing the participants about training run by Rural Self Employment Training Institute Ramban in different activities including Agriculture, Production, Processing etc.



Officials along with participants during the programme.

The Director also educated them about Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY), Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), Atal Pension Yojana (APY) & Tarun, Kishor, and Shishu Mudra Loan, schemes. 30 candi-

dates were registered under the Costume Jewelry Udyami Program. The Director wished them the best of luck for future endeavors. The participants thanked the SBI RSETI Ramban for organizing the awareness camp in their village.

## BVMS organises three days long handicraft workshop



Students taking part in workshop.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
UDHAMPUR: Three days long handicraft workshop held at Bhartiya Vidya Mandir Hr Sec. School Nainsu concluded here today.

According to reports on concluding day of workshop S.S Blowria (Ret. Senior Art teacher APS and state awardee Basholi painting) was the chief guest. He gave the children the art of Basholi painting regarding Basholi painting he said

that Basohli painting is a traditional art form that originated in the town of Basohli in Jammu and Kashmir, which is known for its rich cultural heritage, specialty of this art is that bright and dark colors like red, yellow and blue are used in it. He told the children that we hope that all of you will participate in this workshop with your hard work and dedication and will learn to make all

kinds of things and he taught the children to paint. While faculty of experts including Swati Matura, (AD Dept. ministry of textiles), Shifali (embroidery), Suresh (bamboo craft), Sureshta (jute craft) and Saurav Sawhney (Carpet Training Officer) Krishna Maurya (handicraft promotional officer) gave training to children in this workshop.

However principal of the school, Renu Sharma, thanked Handicraft Service Centre Udhampur and said that this program comes under NEP 2020 in which children have learned hand on learning/experimental learning and we hope that you will organize similar workshops in our school in future so that students will learn more.

Thus By chief guest, members MC and staff of the school express their gratitude towards team of expert.

## STD organises grievance redressal camp for reps of industrial units of Samba-II Tax circle

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SAMBA: State Taxes Department (STD) on Saturday organized meeting cum grievance redressal camp to listen the grievances of industrial units operating in jurisdiction of Samba -II Tax circle.

The meeting was chaired by Additional Commissioner State Taxes Administration and Enforcement Jammu, Namrita Dogra.

She also reviewed first Quarter financial position of fiscal year 2024-25 along with taxpayers and industry leaders of Circle Samba -II.

State Tax Officer Circle Samba-II Sunil Dutt; State Tax Officer, Roopali Sadotra; State Taxes Officer, Kaka Ram and representatives of industrial units and associations were also present in the meeting.

The meeting deliberated

in detail about renewed strategy for revenue augmentation during remaining three Quarters of fiscal year 2024-25 and ensure 100% compliance.

Speaking on the occasion Namrita Dogra noted all the issues flagged in during discussions and assured the participants to take it with concerned quarters.

The taxpayers were also advised to keep their stock position and sales align with tax statements to ensure transparency.

"The meeting demonstrated our commitment to transparency, cooperation, and collective growth," said Namrita Dogra.

"We are dedicated towards creating a conducive environment for businesses to thrive and contribute to the economy of UT and Nation," she added.

The meeting was part of Commissioner State Taxes

Department P.K. Bhat's visionary, "Know Your Dealer" initiative, launched to increase communication of Circle Level Officer with the taxpayers to know their industries specific grievances and short falls.

During the meeting, STO Circle - II briefed the meeting about agenda of meeting and introduced the industrial representatives. The industrial representatives apprised the Additional Commissioner about their trade specific grievances including limitations of SRO 19 and SRO 21. They also demanded extension of Central benefits to industries dealing in fertilizers and pesticides manufacturing. The meeting was pivotal for getting feedback from taxpayers and make them aware of consequences of non-compliance and tax evasion with a view to create deterrence amongst the taxpayers.

## Army revitalizes key bus stop in border areas of Pallanwala



Army revitalizes key bus stop in border areas of Pallanwala.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
PALLANWALA: Army has undertaken a significant goodwill initiative along with HDFC SHAURYA to renovate a crucial bus stop in the border area of Pallanwala, Jammu & Kashmir. This bus stop, originally constructed by the Army in 1996, serves as a vital point of connectivity for residents of three villages. The renovation aims to provide enhanced protection and comfort to the community, especially children and the elderly, against the region's harsh weather conditions. The newly renovated bus stop is demonstrating Indian army's continued commitment to supporting local communities in border areas. The revamped facility is now equipped with better seating, weather protection, and improved structural integrity, ensuring it remains a reliable and safe waiting area for the villagers. Army is focused on improving the quality of life for the people living in border areas. This bus stop is more than just a waiting area; it is a lifeline for many, providing essential shelter and connectivity. Indian army is proud to have been part of its initial construction and are committed to its continued upkeep and enhancement." The local populace has expressed their gratitude towards the Army for their persistent efforts in community development. This initiative not only underscores the Army's role in national security but also highlights their dedication to humanitarian and community-oriented projects.

## DC Reasi reviews arrangements for Shrawan Mahotsav at Shiv Khori

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
REASI: Deputy Commissioner Reasi, Vishesh Mahajan visited Shiv Khori to review the arrangements for the Shrawan Mahotsav, set to commence on the 22nd of July.

During his visit, the Deputy Commissioner inspected the registration counters, check points and various other facilities being provided along the track. He emphasized the need for high standards of hygiene, security and convenience for the pilgrims and visitors attending the event.

To further enhance the experience for the pilgrims, the DC instructed the estab-



DC Reasi, Vishesh Mahajan during visit to Shiv Khori.

lishment of an announcement center, which will provide important updates and information to ensure the convenience and safety of all attendees and he also interacted with the pilgrims.

He said Shrawan Mahotsav is a significant religious event that attracts devotees from across the region. The district administration Reasi

provide a safe and enriching experience for all participants.

He directed the concerned departments to work in coordination to address any potential issues swiftly and ensure a seamless experience for all participants.

EO SSKSB Pardeep Kumar, XENs JPDCL, PWD and Jal Shakti, Tehsildar, BMO, BDO Pooni, BDO HQ, Assistant Commandant and SHO Ransoo other officers were present on the occasion.

## RDPR Department conducts workshop on GPDP & MGNREGA Convergence

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
RAMBAN: The Departments of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (RDPR) organized a one-day district-level workshop on the Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP) and MGNREGA Convergence.

The event, spearheaded by Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC), Ramban Roshan Lal, was held in the Conference Hall, Administrative Complex, Maitra.

The workshop saw vibrant discussions, with ADC Roshan Lal, presiding over the interaction session. Thorough deliberations were held on the formulation and implementation of the Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP), aiming to achieve all 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets set by the United Nations.

The GPDP is significant as it provides a structured framework for rural development and addresses challenges of poverty in the society, ensuring that the specific needs of each Panchayat are

addressed. By involving local stakeholders in the planning process, GPDP fosters community participation, accountability, and transparency, leading to more sustainable and inclusive development.

The ADC emphasized the importance of collaborative efforts in achieving the SDGs and encouraged all participants to actively contribute to the development plans of their respective departments and blocks. Participants included representatives from various departments including Officers and officials, and other stakeholders were provided a platform for sharing insights and strategies to enhance rural development and ensure effective implementation of GPDP in convergence with MGNREGA in the district.

He stressed on conduct of effective Gram Sabhas, Bal Sabhas and Mahila Sabhas besides ensuring participation of the general public. He also directed all the departments to ensure their participation at Gram Sabhas.

ACD, Srinath Suman highlighted the critical need for convergence between

## DLSA Kathua organises Special Lok Adalat on Bank cases

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
KATHUA: Under the guidance of Chairman, District Legal Services Authority, Kathua (also Pr. District & Sessions Judge, Kathua) Ashok Kumar Shavan, a Special Lok Adalat on Bank Cases was organised by District Legal Services Authority Kathua at District Court Complex Kathua today.

Two Benches for settling the referred Bank cases were constituted in which Bench No. 1 was comprising of Surinder Kumar Thapa, Spl. Mobile Magistrate, Kathua and Neena Thakur, Ld. Distt Mobile Magistrate. Kathua Bench No. 2 was comprising of Poonam Gupta, Additional Special Mobile Magistrate Billawar and Jyoti Bhagat, Munsiff JMJC, Billawar.

A total number of 160 Bank cases were taken up for their amicable settlement out of which 14 cases were settled and an amount of Rs. 22,52,648 was realised as settlement amount.

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## DDMA Kishtwar approves 7 relief cases under SDRF norms

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
KISHTWAR: District Disaster Management Committee Kishtwar today approved 07 relief cases in favour of the disaster affected persons here at its meeting chaired by the Additional Deputy Commissioner, (holding additional Charge of ADDC) Kishtwar Pawan Kotwal.

The meeting was attended by SDM Chatroo, Nayeem ur Rehman; AO DC Office Kishtwar Satinder Singh Chouhan, Tehsildars

Kishtwar Nirbhay Sharma, Tehsildar Chatroo, Teh Mughal Maidan, NT Drabshalla, ExEn PWD Kishtwar, ExEn PWD Chatroo, DSHO Kishtwar, representatives of Animal Husbandry Department besides others concerned.

A total of 12 relief cases were submitted by the concerned Tehsildars and after examining each case, 07 relief cases were cleared after threadbare discussion and verification and as per the norms of State Disaster Relief

Fund. The cases included the damage to Residential Houses and Livestock loss in Fire incidents, Landslides and Flash Floods in the Tehsils of Kishtwar, Chatroo, Mughal Maidan, and Drabshalla. Besides, the ADC also reviewed dependencies of relief cases. All the cases received till date have been submitted after proper verifications. SDMs and Tehsildars were directed to submit relief files to the DC office in a time bound manner to ensure clearance of the same.