

Arnia police conducts police-public meet

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: As a part of a public outreach programme and to improve the Police-Public relations, efficiency, transparency and accountability in Policing at the grass root and to develop confidence and synergy with citizens, a Police-public meeting chaired by SP headquarters Jammu, Irshad Hussain Rather-JKPS at Panchayat Ghar Sai Khurad, Arnia and was also attended by Police Officers including SHO Arnia, Inspector Dilawar Kumar, IC BPP Sai, ASI Ajit Raj.

About 300 persons including youth, Ex-Sarpanchs/ex-Panchs/Numberdars as well as prominent/senior Citizens participated in the said meeting. SHO Arnia briefed the audience regarding the steps regarding the steps taken by Jammu Police in curbing the crimes in the area and ensuring safety, security of general public.

SP Headquarters Jammu briefed the participants regarding importance of good Police-Public relations in maintaining peace, tranquility and public order for welfare of society at large, at the same juncture it was



SP headquarters Jammu, Irshad Hussain Rather and other chairing police-public meet.

lucidly conveyed to them that the Police will walk an extra mile for ensuring effective Policing in the area.

Participants were briefed regarding the effective steps taken by the Jammu & Kashmir Police in Controlling Drug menace and other crimes and sought cooperation of the people in curbing drug peddling and other social crimes.

Participants were briefed regarding increasing Cyber Crimes and safety need to taken to prevent such crimes. He urged the participants to cooperate with Police and Civil administration in maintaining law & order in their areas as well as in identifying anti-social elements like drugs peddler,

bootleggers, thieves, etc.

The participants were also briefed/advised to keep a supervision over the routine activities of their children and they If notice any thing unusual immediately try to cross check it. They were also informed that if any one who is drug addict and wants treatment can come to Police Drug De-addiction Centre Channi Jammu and all assistance/treatment shall be provided to the addict persons.

Participants were briefed to follow the traffic rules and were also advised not to hand over their vehicles to minors/unknown persons and always use Seat belts while driving their vehicles, also use helmets while riding two wheelers and avoid triple

ridding/rash driving etc.

Moreover, the public was also sensitized that the area falls near International border and in view of present security scenario, drone activity/tunnels is the immediate challenge and the people need to remain watchful regarding such attempts.

The participants were further briefed that keeping in view of sensitivity of the area, remain extra vigilant in their area and were also advised that if they notice anything suspicious or any suspicious person/vehicles roaming in their respective areas, bring Immediately it to the notice of the nearest Police unit.

The participants were also advised to share the information of drug peddler and

other criminal elements if noticed in their area to the concerned Police immediately.

Participants including Ex-Sarpanchs of Sai, Nikowal and others prominent citizens showed satisfaction and appreciated the role of police in the region and stressed for proper preliminary verifications before registration of FIR's and transparent investigation in cases especially in public interest cases so that no innocent is annoyed by any mischief monger in the area for vested interests.

Participants were assured by SP Headquarters Jammu that issues pertaining to police will be redressed on priority and those pertaining to civil administration will be taken up with the concerned quarters for the speedy disposal. It deserves to be mentioned here that towards the end of the meet, the public was fervently urged to become stake holders in Policing by coming up with fruitful ideas, so as to refine Policing in the larger interest of general public. The meeting ended with positive gestures and the public was thankful for organizing such interaction meets.

DC Reasi reviews arrangements for Kounsar Nag Yatra



Deputy Commissioner Nidhi Malik chairing a meeting at Reasi.

STATE TIMES NEWS

REASI: Deputy Commissioner Nidhi Malik on Thursday chaired a meeting to finalise the arrangements for the smooth and safe conduct of the Kounsar Nag Yatra, scheduled to commence from July 27, 2025.

The meeting was attended by Senior Superintendent of Police Paramvir Singh; Commandant 126 CRP Manoj Verma; ADC Rakesh Kumar; ASP Iftkhar; ACD Vijay Kumar; DFO Mahore and other officers. President and Members of Kounsar Nag Yatra Management Committee were also present.

The meeting discussed security arrangements, track clearance, drinking water facilities, toilet infrastructure, medical support and transportation logistics.

The DC directed the CMO to establish medical check-up

camp at Sungari and Sari and deploy dedicated medical teams along the entire yatra route. She emphasized the availability of essential medicines, first aid kits, oxygen cylinders and ambulances to handle any medical emergencies. She stressed on thorough screening and said only those pilgrims found medically fit will be authorized to undertake the yatra.

The Deputy Commissioner emphasized on following the designated yatra route. She instructed the Forest and Rural Development Departments to ensure thorough clearance of the path and renovation of existing and installation of new toilets and sheds at night halt points.

The Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Department was asked to make adequate arrangements for drinking water at langar sites and

halting points. Transport Department was tasked with coordinating transportation for the pilgrims, while SDM Mahore was directed to monitor the overall progress on a daily basis.

To enhance safety, State Disaster Response Force and mountain rescue teams will be deployed all along the yatra track. The Tehsildar Chassana informed that the registration process will begin one week before the yatra, and pony-walla rates will be notified shortly.

The Deputy Commissioner also instructed the BRO and PMGSY departments to deploy machinery for road clearance in case of any natural disaster. She further directed the Executive Engineer, PDD Mahore, to ensure uninterrupted power supply and make arrangements for backup generators at critical points.

Ashok Koul emphasizes grassroots mobilization in BJP



BJP General Secretary (Organization), Ashok Koul addressing party workers at Udhampur.

STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: Ashok Koul, General Secretary (Organization), Bharatiya Janata Party, Jammu & Kashmir, addressed an organizational meeting of District Udhampur BJP at the party office here today.

The meeting was organized under the leadership of District President Arun Gupta and witnessed participation from prominent party leaders and grassroots workers alike.

Prominent attendees at the meeting included DDC Chairman Lal Chand, MLA R.S. Pathania, MLA Dr. Sunil Bhardwaj, DDC Vice Chairperson Juhli Manhas, district office bearers, DDC mem-

bers, Mandal Presidents, Mandal General Secretaries, and Morcha Presidents, among others.

In his address, Ashok Koul emphasized the importance of internal organizational discipline and coordinated efforts to reach every household with the message of the BJP and the achievements of the Narendra Modi-led central government. He urged party functionaries to remain active in their respective areas, maintain regular contact with the people, and gear up for upcoming organizational programs and electoral challenges.

Ashok Koul gave a briefing on the upcoming party programmes and also prompted the party leaders to share the

details of the various programmes conducted in the district to commemorate the decisive 11 years of good governance under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Koul focused on the increased Pravas of party leaders in their respective areas to boost the party activities on the ground level. He lauded the efforts of the Udhampur District team for maintaining active outreach and organizational coherence during the programmes. He added that the outreach activities increase the connect of masses with the party ideology.

District President Arun Gupta, in his welcome address, gave a detailed account of the ongoing organizational initiatives, local political scenario, and future plans to expand the party's base in the region.

Other senior leaders, including Lal Chand, R.S. Pathania and Dr. Sunil Bhardwaj, also spoke on the occasion and highlighted the developmental works being carried out in the region under the guidance of the BJP-led governments at both Centre and UT level.

Saroori urges ground-level public service, slams BJP for developmental neglect

STATE TIMES NEWS

KISHTWAR: Senior Congress leader and former minister Ghulam Mohammad Saroori undertook a detailed one-day tour of Bunjwah block in Kishtwar district, during which he interacted with locals, listened to their grievances, and reviewed the development challenges of the region. The visit was part of his broader mission to strengthen the Congress party in the Chenab Valley through direct engagement with the people.

During his tour, Saroori expressed gratitude to the central Congress leadership for consistently raising the demand for the restoration of Jammu and Kashmir's statehood. He emphasized the importance of ground-level political engagement and public service over virtual activism. Saroori appealed to Congress workers to step out of the "reel world" of social media and remain physically present among the people, particularly in difficult times.

He cautioned party members against the use of abu-



Senior Congress leader G M Saroori along with locals.

sive or derogatory language on any platform and called for maintaining decorum in political discourse. "Constructive criticism based on facts is healthy, but personal attacks for petty gains are a drama the public no longer entertains, Saroori remarked. He urged workers to stay alert to vested interests spreading misinformation and engaging in mudslinging for political mileage.

Speaking to the media, Saroori said that ever since rejoining the Congress party, he has been touring various parts of the Chenab region to reconnect with the grassroots cadre, listen to people's prob-

lems, and raise their concerns with the appropriate authorities.

Reflecting on his tenure from 2014 to 2018, Saroori highlighted that numerous road projects were sanctioned and completed during that period due to his efforts. However, he lamented that all such development came to a standstill after 2018. "The roads are in such poor condition today that even patients cannot be transported to hospitals due to the lack of proper connectivity and transport," he said. He further noted that many approved projects are delayed due to the negligence and failure of

contractors. Saroori expressed concern over the non-initiation of work on several vital roads, particularly the Patnazi to Surngana road and the Lanta to Devidol road, despite having received formal approvals. He also pointed out that while tourism has seen some growth in Chatroo, many potential tourist spots are still being ignored by the administration.

Strongly criticizing the BJP, Saroori accused the ruling party of making hollow promises and delivering nothing on the ground. "Bunjwah is close to my heart. The people of this

region have always supported me in elections. I won three times with a clear majority. Even in the last election, I lost by just 270 votes - that's not a defeat; it's a sign that people are still with me," he asserted. He questioned what the current MLA has accomplished in his one-year tenure, claiming that the incumbent has failed to deliver anything substantial. Saroori demanded that all essential government departments establish offices at the Tehsil Headquarters in Bunjwah to make services easily accessible to the local population.

In conclusion, Saroori reminded the public of the extensive developmental works carried out during his tenure as a Cabinet Minister and MLA from Inderal. In contrast, he said, the BJP has done nothing since 2014. He reiterated his call for party workers to engage actively on the ground and work selflessly for the welfare of the people, rather than remaining confined to social media platforms.

Divisional Commissioner Jammu reviews Buddha Amarnath Yatra arrangements virtually

STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH: Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Ramesh Kumar, along with Inspector General of Police (IGP) Jammu Zone, Bhim Sen Tuti, today virtually reviewed the arrangements for the upcoming Buddha Amarnath Yatra. The review meeting was chaired by Divisional commissioner Virtually and all stake holders of poonch were present at the Conference Hall of the Deputy Commissioner's Office.

Vikas Kundal, Deputy



Commissioner Poonch, Shafqat Hussain Senior

Superintendent of Police Poonch, and other prominent officials and dignitaries were present during the meeting. Divisional commissioner heard all stake holders and many issues including Stay arrangements for Yatris (pilgrims), Parking facilities for Yatra vehicles, Stoppage points for vehicles along the route, Time-bound movement of the Yatra convoys were discussed thread bare. Div com instructed the officials for coordinated efforts among all departments to ensure smooth,

safe, and well-managed conduct of the Yatra.

Vikas Kundal DC Poonch interacting with media said today Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Ramesh Kumar, along with Inspector General of Police (IGP) Jammu Zone, Bhim Sen Tuti, reviewed the arrangements for the upcoming Buddha Amarnath Yatra virtually he instructed us for smooth conduct of yatra he said we awarded officials that many preparations were already completed and remaining will be completed with in a week.

SMVDU achieves NPTEL 'A' Ranking, recognized among top 100 technical institutions in India

STATE TIMES NEWS

KATRA: Under the visionary leadership of the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor and in alignment with the National Education Policy (NEP) implementation at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), the university has earned an "A" ranking from NPTEL, placing it among the top 80-100 technical institutions across the country. This prestigious recognition reflects the academic excellence and collaborative efforts of SMVDU's faculty and students.

The award was received by Prof. Amit Kant Pandit, Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for NPTEL at SMVDU, during the NPTEL North Zone SPOC Felicitation Workshop held on July 12, 2025, at IIT Kanpur. Prof. Pandit lauded the consistent dedication of SMVDU's students and faculty, which led to this commendable achievement. He also

announced that SMVDU has once again secured an "A" grade for the January-May 2025 session in the NPTEL Local Chapter evaluations. In recognition of his sustained contributions and active engagement as SPOC, Prof. Pandit was felicitated during the workshop with a certificate of appreciation.

Looking ahead, Prof. Pandit outlined new initiatives aimed at deepening the integration of NEP through Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs). Expressing optimism about SMVDU's future trajectory, he stated his aspiration for the university to enter the elite group of top 20 institutions (A+++), with distinguished performance in upcoming sessions. He extended his sincere gratitude to the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor for unwavering support in promoting NEP-aligned educational strategies and fostering a culture of digital and lifelong learning at SMVDU.

J&K Bank sanctions 40 cases under Mission YUVA Udan in Samba

STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: In a significant move to foster youth entrepreneurship and self-employment, the J&K Bank, in collaboration with District Administration Samba on Thursday sanctioned 40 loan cases under the



A beneficiary receiving cheque.

Mission YUVA Udan initiative. Deputy Commissioner Rajesh Sharma handed over the loan sanction letters to the beneficiaries in the presence of Divisional Head and General Manager, J&K Bank Sunit Kumar; Zonal Head Sanjeev Kumar; Cluster Head Sanjay Below and

Assistant Director Employment Naresh Kumar among other bank officials and branch managers. The Deputy Commissioner handed over the sanction letters to the beneficiaries and lauded J&K Bank for facilitating speedy loan disbursement under the scheme. He

emphasized the transformative role the Mission YUVA Scheme is playing in empowering the youth of the district.

Speaking on the occasion, the Divisional Head of J&K Bank encouraged the Beneficiaries to utilize the loan amount judiciously and ensure timely repayment. The Zonal Head J&K Bank proposed the vote of thanks, appreciating the proactive efforts of the District Administration and Employment Department. He reaffirmed J&K Bank's commitment to sustaining its leadership position in youth-oriented financial inclusion.

The event concluded with an interactive session between the dignitaries and the beneficiaries.

SWD organises Assistive Devices distribution camp at Paddar

STATE TIMES NEWS

KISHTWAR: District Social Welfare Department, in Collaboration with Artificial Limbs Corporation of India (ALIMCO), a public sector enterprise functioning under the control of the Ministry of Social Justice and empowerment Govt of India, today organised a Distribution camp under Assistance to Disabled Persons (ADIP) scheme and Rashtriya Vayushri Yojna (RVY) here at BDO office Paddar.

Tehsildar Paddar, Vijay Kumar Gupta graced the occasion. The programme was organised under the Guidance of Deputy Commissioner Pankaj Kumar Sharma and Sub Divisional Magistrate Dr. Amit Kumar and overall supervision of District Social Welfare Officer Zubair Ahmed Lone.

Different aids and appliances were distributed among 67 beneficiaries identified during the assessment camps organised earlier in the area.

The devices provided to beneficiaries included prosthetic aids, Wheelchairs Adult and small, CP



A beneficiary receiving wheel chair.

Chairs, Hearing Aids, MSIED kits, Smart Canes, Daisy Players, Braille Kits, Crutches, Walking Sticks, Rollator Callipers Artificial Limbs, knee braces, lumbo sacral belts, silicon foam cushions and smart phones for visually impaired persons etc.

The main objective of the scheme is to assist the needy disabled persons and senior citizens by providing

durable, sophisticated and scientifically manufactured modern standard prosthetic aids and appliances to promote physical social, psychological rehabilitation of persons with disabilities and senior citizens.

Assistive devices were given to persons with Disabilities (PwDs) to reduce the effects of disabilities and enhance their economic potential.

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