

Congress pays tributes to Rajiv Gandhi on his birth anniversary



Congress workers paying tributes to Rajiv Gandhi at Kathua.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: To mark the 78th birth anniversary of India's Former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi Congress activists under the leadership of Former MLC Subash Gupta organized a function at Dayala chak. Former MLC Subash Gupta along with

Yugal Kishore Bali, Narinder Rathore, Ruldo Ram, Dr. Rameshwar Sharma, Sukhdev Singh and others offered floral tributes to portrait of Rajiv Gandhi.

Subash Gupta memorizing his achievements said that he was man of dynamic qualities of leadership, farsightedness.

ICICI launches plantation drive at GHSS Laiter



Foundation members along with faculty and students during the drive.

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POUNI: ICICI Foundation on Saturday started a plantation drive in GHSS Laiter at Zone Pouni District Reasi. ICICI Foundation member Surinder Singh said besides, Principal of School Ravinder Kumar Khajuria, staff members, students, Sarpanch Dawarka Nath planted saplings of high breed Herbal, Medicinal

and fruits plants in the area to spread the message for safeguarding the green cover of the planet. Speaking on the occasion, Surinder Singh said that the need of planting more trees and asked all the participants to encourage their families especially children to participate in the drive to contribute towards pollution free environment.

JKAACL Kathua organises Bhajan Sandhya

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SAMBA: In an initiative to take cultural programmes to major Shrines of Kathua and Samba district, the Sub-Office Kathua of J&K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages organized a 'Bhajan Sandhya' at Narsingh Temple, Ghagwal in Samba. The programme was presented in connection with the Janamastmi Celebrations. Large number of people thronged there to witness the soulful programme by the local artists. Chairman Block Development Council Vijay Tagotra, was the chief guest on the occasion who lauded the efforts made by Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art Culture and Languages for bringing cultural event to



Singers reciting Bhajans during Bhajan Sandhya.

a religious place. While appreciating the mesmerizing programme by the artists, he said that every artist has made him spell bound with their soulful and magical performance.

Speaking on the occasion Sanjeev Gupta SOCA, JKAACL Sub-Office, Kathua dwelt in detail about

the journey of Sub office Kathua since he took charge. He said that we are trying to do best of efforts for the preservation and promotion of the Art and Culture of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. Jammu is very rich in terms of performing arts and our motive is to take our culture to every

He said that India progressed rapidly under the visionary policies of Late Prime Minister during his tenure as Prime Minister of India.

The others present on the occasion who paid tributes are Shri Madan Lal, Tilak Kumar, Ravi Sharma, Romesh Sharma, Anku kumar, Suresh kumar, Ashu Sharma, Ajay Kumar, Vishal Salida, Pushan Kumar, Sonu Kumar, Devinder Kumar, Ram Lal, Rajesh Kumar, Krishan Kumar and so many other.

UDHAMPUR: Senior Congress leader Sumeet Magotra along with workers paid rich tributes to the late Rajiv Gandhi on his 78th



Tributes being paid to Rajiv Gandhi at Udhampur.

birth anniversary.

On the occasion Ex- MLA Chenani Dina Nath Bhagat, Senior Congress leader Brij Mohan Sharma, Vijay Manhas, Sunil Gupta and prominent among others were present in the meeting. NSUI District President

Shivam Sharma, District Youth Congress vice President Teerath Ram, Charan Dass, Gunjar Singh, Sham Bansal, Vikas Khajuria, Subash Sharma, and Meen Mohd were also present and paid rich tributes to the Rajeev Gandhi.

Director Agriculture Jammu assesses field condition of Paddy, maize crop



Dir Agri Jammu, K.K Sharma during visit to a farm in Kathua.

Additionally, cases of stem rot, sheath blight and bacterial leaf blight were also observed in the field.

Local staff apprised the Director that the problem of stunted growth is being reported from subtropical areas of Kathua district in early sown crop and is spreading fast. Pertinently, a similar problem has also been reported in Punjab & Haryana.

Taking serious note, instructions were issued by the Director Agriculture to

go for immediate remedial measures on symptomatic basis. Further he instructed CAO, Kathua for the immediate arrangements of required chemicals out of the approved plan & available funds.

While interacting with the farmers at various spots, the Director assured the farmers all possible help by the department.

On the spot, live samples of diseased crops were also collected for laboratory diagnosis to find out the exact rea-

NGFOA elects Udhampur district President

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UDHAMPUR: Non Gazetted Forest Association (NGFOA) Udhampur held a meeting under the chairmanship of Provincial President Gulshan Singh in Udhampur on Saturday.

In meeting after making common consensus unanimously elected Thakur Lekh Raj as District president. Election was conducted peacefully thus by elected new District president amicably. Besides local members of association large number of leaders of provincial body were also present and expressed their satisfaction to elect new president in order to expedite employees genuine issues also.

Reasi Forest Division launches plantation drive under 'Har Gaon Haryali'

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REASI: DFO Reasi Jyostana led a plantation drive under the supervision of CF West Circle, Rajouri Vivek Verma in collaboration with J&K Eco- watch under Go Green Katra project on degraded forest land in Comptt no. 87/k in which ceremonial medicinal plants of Reetha and Ashwagandha and other species of plants of about 1000 no. were planted. DFO Reasi Jyotsana, IPS during her address said that the aim of this plantation drive is to highlight the need of protection and conservation of environment and also



DFO Reasi Jyostana and others planting a sapling.

emphasis about the importance of medicinal plants in our day to day life. She also assured that the saplings which have been planted during the programme will be taken care of and also plantation in other degraded forest land of Katra Range are also planned during this monsoon season. SDM Katra Angrez Singh, SP Katra Amit Bhasin, BDC Chairman

Sham Bhagat, Staff of J&K Tourism Deptt Katra, Dheeraj Thapa Katra Director Go Green Katra project and members of RSS as well as Self Help Groups along with Range Forest Officer Katra Sourabh Damral, Block Forest Officer Sugam Bral and all staff of Katra Forest Range and PRI members were present on the occasion.

Accidental Hospital Chowki Chaura gets new ultrasound machine



DDC member Suresh Sharma inaugurating machine.

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AKHNOOR: Suresh Sharma, member District Development Council, handed over the ultrasound machine to the Accidental Hospital Chowki Chaura, fulfilling pending demand of the people. The demand was putforth by Sarpanchs and public of Block Chowki Chaura area which was fulfilled by Suresh Sharma. Sharma said, "It is my endeavor to improve the health infrastructure in Accidental Hospital Chowki Chaura and many more new medical equipment will be installed. BDC Rahul Dev Sharma, Incharge BMO Dr. Ajay Kumar Pandita, Sarpanch of Block Chowki Chaura, doctors and other employees of Hospital and prominent people of the area were present.

Dr Devansh Yadav takes-over as Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar

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KISHTWAR: Dr. Devansh Yadav on Saturday took over as Deputy Commissioner, Kishtwar, relieving Ashok Kumar Sharma.

Soon after assuming the office as Deputy Commissioner, Kishtwar, Dr. Devansh Yadav interacted with District and Sectoral Officers and received feedback on working of district administration.

He sought cooperation from all the officers to make administration more proactive for the general welfare of the common masses.

He also instructed Officers/officials to work with renewed synergy and motivation besides being accessible to the public at all times. ADDC, Sham Lal; ADC, Inderjeet Singh Parihar; Joint Director Planning Mohammad Iqbal; ACR Varunjeet Singh Charak; ACP Zakir Hussain Wani; ACD Atul Dutt Sharma; DPO Sunil Bhutyal besides other District and Sectoral Officers were present in meeting.



Dr. Devansh Yadav

Dr. Devansh Yadav, a 2016-batch IAS officer of AGMUT cadre has been serving as Managing Director, J&K Trade Promotion Organization besides holding additional charge of Managing Director, J&K IT Infrastructure Company and Managing Director, JKI Limited.

Prior to this, he had also served as Deputy Commissioner Changlang, in Arunachal Pradesh.

Common man struggling for survival due to price hike: Ravinder



Congress leader Ravinder Sharma and others during "Mehangai Pe Charcha" programme at Sunderbani.

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SUNDERBANI: Congress organised "Mehangai pe Charcha" at Sunderbani to highlight the plight of people due to unprecedented price hike under BJP regime, as a result the common man is suffering a lot and unable to meet both ends.

Senior Congress Leader Ravinder Sharma, the block Congress committee Sunderbani under Presidentship of Nain Chand Sharma, held an impressive gathering followed by protest in the town.

A large number of prominent activists and workers took part in the in Charcha and highlighted the sufferings of common man due to unprecedented price hike as a result poor man is unable to have stomach full meal. Lashing out at the Modi government for huge taxations of all commodities of common use, Ravinder Sharma said BJP has imposed tax on milk, cheese, flour and everything making the difficult for survival. The common man is today struggling to survive. He appealed Modi to take

back "aehhe din" and return old days, as people crying against unprecedented price rise, lack of job and business opportunities and huge taxations of the government.

He asked people to speak up against the wrong economic policies of Modi government which is engaged in waiving of lakh crores of bank loans of defaulters, while it is selling national assets created by Congress in sixty years.

Earlier rich tributes were paid to former prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on his birth anniversary today. Ravinder Sharma described Rajiv Gandhi as a visionary leader who laid the foundation of 21st century and prepared youth for future challenges.

Panchayat Raj system, computerisation and voting rights at 18 years are his gifts.

Several prominent leaders addressed the gathering, including NC Sharma, Ajit Singh, Yog Raj ,Dwarka Nath, Sdr. Mohinder Singh, om Parkash, Chuni Lal, Kaka Ram, Mahesha Harnal, Ashok Raina, Varun kumar, Virinder Singh, Om Sudan, Raj kumar Raina, Dr Ved Parkash, Lect Hem Raj Raina and several others.

Workshop on Agnipath scheme organised at GDC Samba

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SAMBA: District Administration Samba on Saturday hosted a workshop in Pt. Prem Nath Dogra Government Degree College Samba to create awareness and elucidate procedural formalities on the AgniPath Scheme among the students organized a workshop.

The NSS Unit Kathua and NCC Unit Samba, in collaboration with District skill development cell Samba, and under the direction of Deputy Commissioner Anuradha Gupta, organized a lecture and an interactive session on Agniweer, Agnipath scheme in the college.

During the lecture, 102 NSS and NCC cadets participated.

The event commenced with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp and welcome address.

Col. S.K Singh, Director Recruiting Army recruiting office Jammu, was the resource person for the event. He explained the scheme thoroughly and also cleared the doubts on recruitment policy of Agnipath.

After the lecture, an interaction session was held in which Col.S K Singh answered the queries of the aspirants.

Joginder Singh Jasortia, Nodal officer Samba

addressed the students and insisted them to enroll in the recruitment programme of Agnipath scheme.

Sulakshna Thakur Assistant Director Employment also held an interactive session with the participants.

The Principal Dr. Surinder Kumar Sharma encouraged the students to participate in recruitment of Agniweer which would start 07 October 2022.

Among others present on the occasion NCC(Armed), Dr. Rajni Sharma and NSS P.O Dr:Geeta Lakhotra and students of college were present.

First product of District Rajouri listed on Amazon

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RAJOURI: In continuation to its efforts to support the local artisans and to provide them gainful market linkage, the District Administration Rajouri has taken a unique initiative of listing the handcraft products of District Rajouri on Amazon, e-market place.

The products were launched on Amazon by the District Development Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal in presence of ADC Sunderbani, Vinod Kumar Behnal, ADC Nowshera Kartar Singh; AD Planning, Mohd Rafi. A group of artisans were also present during the launching ceremony. The DDC said that the District Administration is committed to providing the best platform to the artisans of the district where they can sell their products in an easy manner and this is the first move in this direction and such steps would continue in near future also.

"We are committed to provide best market linkages to our artisans," said DC Rajouri.

It is pertinent to mention here that a number of steps have been taken to facilitate the artisans like opening of Rural Haat at Muradpur was also a step towards this. Chikri Woodcraft has been practiced for over a century and Thana Mandi region in Rajouri District is the major center of this woodcraft.

Wood from the chikri tree is used in the making of a number of articles. This particular wood is light honey in color and contains no grains.

One of the famous objects made with the chikri wood is the double-sided comb having extremely fine teeth. This variety of comb exhibits a delicate 'jali' (mesh) work. The products can be accessed through different links including https://www.amazon.in/gp/product/B0BBBB1QWZD/ref=ex_skuctr_share?smid=A3HY4C9HQXFV59, <https://amzn.eu/d/aqKTgOM> and <https://amzn.eu/d/1VMQh1b>.

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav participants felicitated at Bhadarwah



Participants being presented trophies.

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BHADARWAH: A follow up programme of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav was on Saturday held at Lal Ded Auditorium Bhadarwah Campus University of Jammu.

The function was organised by the local administration to honour the participants with awards and certificates of appreciation for their participation in Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav programme.

The program was chaired by Chairman DDC Doda, Dhanantar Singh Kotwal in presence of Vice Chairperson DDC, Sangeeta Rani Bhagat, DDC Councillor, Yudhvir Singh and ADC Bhadarwah Ch. Dil Mir.

Awards were presented to the parade contingents, cultural programme participants, teachers and the officials of different departments for their

dedication and contribution in holding varied activities.

The prizes were presented by the DDC chairman.

The Chairman DDC, while addressing the gathering, highlighted the efforts put in by the local administration and educational institutions for the grand and successful celebration of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. He also highlighted the government schemes launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and asked the youth to take benefits of such schemes.

The program was attended by ASP Bhadarwah, Aftab Alam; Tehsildar, Shokat Hayat; BDO, Sunil Kumar, EO M.C, Yusuf-ul-Umar, Principal HSS boys and Principal HSS girls besides other official representatives of other departments.

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