

Martyr captain Tushar Mahajan Memorial Trust honours meritorious students

STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: Martyr Captain Tushar Mahajan Memorial Trust today awarded 50 meritorious students of Udhampur for their exceptional performance in board and University examinations at Sher-i-Kashmir Police Academy Udhampur on Sunday.

On this occasion, Arun Joshi Editor in Chief JK News Today and Former Sr Editor Tribune & Deputy Editor Hindustan Times was the chief guest while Zorawar Singh Jamwal Vice President Press Club Jammu and Chairman Team Jammu was guest of honor. Beside others trust Secretary chairman trust Dev Raj Gupta Shevatketu Singh, members Ranjit Parihar, Satish Chopra, Advocate Karun Raina, Deepankar Gupta, Suriyansh and Shivansh Parihar, Asha Gupta, Kalpana Jamwal, head of educational institutions prominent citizens attended the function.

Programme started by lighting of traditional lamp and paying floral tribute to Martyr Tushar by chief



Trust members along with meritorious students.

guest and guest of honor. Various activities being carried out by trust and a video on the life of martyr was picturized on the occasion.

In all 50 meritorious students who had shown their exceptional performance in Board and University examinations in Udhampur district were honoured by the Trust on the occasion. They were presented a memento and shawl. Sunil Sharma a renowned artist also paid tribute to martyr by singing patriotic song on flute which enthralled audience. A Dogri folk dance was also presented by students of Happy Model

school on the occasion. Speaking on the occasion Chief guest Arun Joshi and Zorawar Singh Jamwal Chairman team Jammu While paying tribute to martyr Tushar Mahajan appealed people to always remember the sacrifices of martyr. They said that such events will not only solve the purpose of remembering contributions of the martyr but also bond people their sacrifices. They said that people of Jammu should feel proud that Dogras have sacrificed their lives for the dignity and honour of Mother India. He said that supreme sacrifice of

martyr Tushar will be remembered for coming centuries and Nation will forever remain indebted to soldiers like captain Tushar and others who fought valiantly, upheld highest traditions of our armed forces and nation. "Today, martyr he is not with us, but he will always remain alive in the hearts and a role model for younger generation," they added. Speakers exhorted the students to work hard in their new fields to brighten their future. He advised the students to be close to their roots and participate in the civil service examinations as to be the

part and parcel of their motherland.

Terming drug abuse as one of the dangerous and threatening challenges before humanity, chief guest sought the support of every section of the society to eradicate this menace. Seeking support of the civil society to eradicate menace of drug abuse, he further said that cooperation of every section of the society is must to liberate our younger generation from the yoke of drug addiction. A memento was also presented to chief guest and guest of honor by chairman trust and its members as token of love.

Trust also felicitated educationists Chairperson BBSVP School Udhampur Didi Chinmaya Jyoti, Retired joint director S.K Gandotra, Dr Vikram Gulati, Vice Principal Happy Model School, Retd Lecturer Ashok Kumar, Anchor Kamlesh Gupta and artist Sunil Sharma. Dev Raj Gupta chairman of the Trust presented the vote of thanks. And programme concluded with national anthem sung by all.

DEO Rajouri reviews election preparations in district



DEO Rajouri, Abhishek Sharma chairing a meeting.

STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: District Election Officer (DEO) Rajouri, Abhishek Sharma, chaired a comprehensive review meeting with District Nodal Officers at Dak Bungalow Rajouri to assess and advance the preparations for the upcoming elections in the district. The meeting focused on a wide range of critical issues, including the number of polling stations, the recent visits of ROs to polling stations, vulnerability mapping, and the status of counting and strong rooms. DEO, Sharma also reviewed the Elector Population (EP) ratio, the plan for home voting, transport logistics, and the communication plan to ensure smooth election conduct. DEO Sharma issued specific instructions for conducting mock drills in vul-

nerable polling stations, particularly those near the Line of Control (LOC). Emphasizing the importance of security and transparency, he directed the installation of two cameras; one inside and one outside each polling station.

Additionally, he called for the training of videographers who will be assigned to home voting operations. The DEO also instructed Returning Officers to hold meetings with sector officers and representatives of political parties. He emphasized the need to designate intermediate strong rooms at select locations to address any potential security issues during the elections.

A significant directive was given to identify polling stations with a history of ceasefire violations or clashes to ensure

enhanced security and vigilance in those areas. He urged all officers to thoroughly familiarize themselves with the guidelines of the Election Commission of India (ECI) to avoid any lapses. Special emphasis was placed on the strict enforcement of the Model Code of Conduct (MCC), Media Certification and Monitoring Committee (MCMC) protocols, and expenditure management.

The meeting was attended by ADDC Raj Kumar Thapa, ADC Rajouri, Rajeev Kumar Khajuria; ADC Sunderbani, Rajeev Magotra; ADC Nowshera, Babu Ram Tandan; ADC Kalakote, Mohd Tanveer; ADC Kotranka, Dilmir; Deputy DEO, Shakeel Malik; along with all other ROs, Nodal Officers, and concerned officials.

DEO Poonch convenes meeting with representatives of Political Parties



DEO Poonch, Vikas Kundal chairing a meeting.

STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH: The District Election Officer (DEO) Poonch, Vikas Kundal, convened a meeting with representatives of various political parties to discuss the implementation of the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) and other applicable guidelines of the Election Commission of India, in view of the upcoming Assembly Election-2024.

During the meeting, the DEO emphasized the importance of seeking prior permission for election campaigning,

rallies, and the use of loudspeakers. He stressed the significance of adhering to the Model Code of Conduct, which is crucial for ensuring free and fair elections.

He outlined the responsibilities of political parties and their candidates in maintaining the integrity of the electoral process. The discussion also covered logistical arrangements, voter education, and measures to enhance transparency and prevent electoral malpractice. Representatives from the political parties

expressed their concerns and suggestions, which were acknowledged and discussed in detail. The representatives present at the meeting appreciated the efforts of the District Administration, particularly for their cooperation during the conduct of the last Lok Sabha Election 2024, especially in the timely issuance of permissions to political parties.

The meeting was attended by ADC Tahir Mustafa Malik, Election Officials, alongside representatives from various political parties.

People across Bhandarwah celebrates Raksha Bandhan festival, markets abuzz with shoppers

STATE TIMES NEWS

BHANDARWAH: Raksha Bandhan festival, which symbolises the love and duty between brothers and sisters, is being celebrated with gaiety, fraternity and chastity throughout Bhandarwah Valley here today. The festival was celebrated by tying Rakhi by sisters during this auspicious occasion.

The markets across the Bhandarwah Valley were abuzz with activities with girls and women buying colourful and varied Rakhis and gifts for their brothers.

Sweetshops also did brisk business as women and girls bought sweets to serve to their brothers, after tying Rakhi.

Bhandarwah-the city of Nag Temples celebrated Raksha Bandhan with full religious fervour and enthusiasm.



Girls purchasing rakhis at Bhandarwah market.

Sisters dressed in their best adorn tied their brothers hand with colourful threads, which represent a sign of their love and togetherness. Sweets and gifts were also distributed among each other and loads of delicious food has been prepared today.

Many makeshift shops were set up in different locali-

ties of Bhandarwah including famous Seri Bazaar, Ganpat Bazaar, Jaie Road, Lakshmi Narayan Chowk etc.

Our Reporter Raja Rehber Jamal visited different markets and talked with people came to market for Raksha Bandhan shopping.

Beautiful Rakhis were displayed at these shops.

"These rakhis are a bit

expensive and starts from Rs 100 and goes upto Rs 400. But people with an ethnic choice choose such rakhis as they even look beautiful," shares Sunil.

Komal from Bhandarwah said that "I want to buy the best Rakhi for my brother and I am so excited that what gift I would get from him on this Rakha Bandan. This is my favourite festival." she was running eagerly at every shop to find the best Rakhi for her brother.

On the occasion, Muslim also participated in the festival and greeted Hindu brethren on this auspicious occasion.

It is notable that sisters tie 'Rakhis' to their brothers praying for their long and prosperous life, and in turn, the brothers also promise to protect their sisters.

DEO Ramban reviews election preparedness for smooth conduct of Assembly Polls

STATE TIMES NEWS

RAMBAN: District Election Officer (DEO) Ramban, Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary, today chaired a meeting of officers to discuss the district's preparedness for Assembly Elections-2024.

The meeting focused on ensuring a free, fair, and transparent election process.

The meeting was attended by Senior Superintendent of Police, Kulbir Singh; Additional Deputy Commissioner, Varunjeet Singh; Returning Officer for AC-54 Ramban (ACR) S. Harpal Singh; RO for AC-55 Banihal, Rizwan Asgar; (SDM) Ramsoo, Ghansham Basotra; Deputy District Election



DEO Ramban, Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary chairing a meeting.

Officer, Abdul Jabar; AROs; Nodal Officers, and other concerned officers.

During the meeting, the DEO emphasized the importance of adherence to the rules, regulations, and guidelines issued by the Election Commission of India to ensure a level playing field for all contestants, including politi-

cal parties and independent candidates.

He also outlined the roles and responsibilities of various departments and officials during the ongoing election preparations and stressed the need for effective communication. The DEO reviewed the arrangements related to commu-

nication, security, transport, training, polling stations, and other critical components of the election process.

The DEO issued directions for the strict implementation of the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) throughout the district during the election period. He also instructed

SSP Kulbir Singh discussed various points regarding security and law and order situation during the election period.

He emphasized the need for coordinated efforts between officers and various departments' level to ensure the smooth conduct of elections across the district.

Doctoral Degree awarded to Suhail in School of Business, SMVDU

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KATRA: Suhail Gupta, son of Lt. Jagdish Gupta and Arti Gupta has been declared for the award of degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in the School of Business by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU) Katra, J&K. The candidate has worked on the topic "An Empirical Study on the Adoption of Digital Transactions among Rural Consumers in Jammu Region" under the supervision of Dr. SyedaShazia



Bukhari, Assistant Professor, School of Business, SMVDU, Katra. Mr. Suhail Gupta has published his research work in various reputed high-impact factor ABDC/SCI/SCIE and Scopus journals, and also present-

ed papers in international conferences. The candidate thanked Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University for granting all the necessary support and facilities for carrying out the research work. Prof. (Dr.) Pragati Kumar (Vice-Chancellor, SMVDU), Dr. AshutoshVashistha (Dean Faculty of Management), and Dr. SyedaShazia Bukhari (Supervisor, SOB) and other committee members congratulated the candidate and wished him a bright future ahead.

General Assembly Elections: ADDC Doda reviews election preparedness



ADDC Doda Pran Singh chairing a meeting.

STATE TIMES NEWS

DODA: With the implementation of Model Code of Conduct, a meeting regarding election preparedness, the ADDC Doda Pran Singh (Nodal officer MCC Doda)

convened a crucial meeting for the upcoming Assembly Elections-2024 at DC Office.

The meeting was attended by the ROs, Dy District Election Officer Doda, Master Trainers, members of Assistant Expenditure observers, Flying Squads teams, Static surveillance teams, Video surveillance teams, Video Viewing teams, Accounting teams and team of Media cell Doda.

During the meeting, ADDC Doda emphasized the importance of being well-versed in the legal framework, monitoring and enforcement mechanisms and reporting requirements related to

election expenditure monitoring.

He highlighted the significance of transparency and accountability in the electoral process and urged the team to uphold these principles.

He also directed the Media Certification and Monitoring Cell to conduct social media monitoring, as well as monitor paid news and other advertisements in print and print electronic media during the election process.

Special emphasis was placed on the polling station and the formation of static surveillance teams and flying squads teams was also discussed in the meeting.

Army organises Medical Camp at Baba Banda Singh Bahadur Gurudwara

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NOWSHERA: On Rakshabandhan Medical screening and health awareness campaign was organised as part of Operation Sadhbavana and AWWA activity at Baba Banda Singh Bahadur Gurudwara by

general health among the people. Provide general health care services and counsel them on basic health and hygiene.

A total of 30 civil (women) participated and were felicitated. Medical team comprising of Doctor and Nursing



Indian Army. The aim of the medical camp & health lecture was to create awareness of

Assistant from Advanced Dressing Station (ADS), Naushera helped in the smooth conduct of event.

Annual Kanwar Yatra taken out at Sudhmahadev



Devotees during the religious programme.

STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: Workers of Aware India Foundation (AIF) along with Mahadev Mandal Sudhmahadev and Namami DevikaTeerthhskhetra and Lord Shiva devotees took out Kanwar Yatra on the eve of Rakshabandan and being last Monday of Savan today. Kanwar Yatra taken was out from Gourikund to Shree Shool Panieshwer Mahadev Temple Sudhmahadev in District Udhampur for peace prosperity, tranquility and also prayed for good health and drug free youth of Jammu and Kashmir.

According to District president (AIF) Vimal Sharma Kabad Yatra taken out continuously for the 9th

time started way back in the year 2016 at that time this yatra was the first ever yatra in Jammu and Kashmir with blessing of Guru ji. Today yatra was flagged off by Retd. Head Mistress Raj Kumari along with Pujari of Gouri Kund Temple after chanting mantras for success of yatra.

All the participants after reaching Shul Panieshwer temple Sudhmahadev and done Abheskheka of Shiv Ling with the water carried out on shoulders by all kabad madal members from Gourikund to Shree Shool Panieshwer They also prayed to Bhagwan Shree S h u l p a n e s h w a r Sudhmahadev for welfare of all and prayed bhagwan to

bless all of us around the world with good health. District president of AIF Vimal Sharma said this particular Yatra shall be continue in routine manner for further time in the month of Savan also. Members also decided to promote spiritual and sanctity as Rudraksh Nagri by distributing Rudraksh plants to habitats on the banks of Devika at Sudhmahadev.

Prominent among who joined Yatra were Sukriti Khajuria, Bindu Sharma, Rajinder Kumar, Vikundal Sharma, Ritika Sharma, Shoba Devi, Arjun Kumar Master Aaadesh, Miss Devika, Master Arvind, Master Devesh and many more.

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