

Shaleen Kabra calls for associating community in monitoring, execution of schemes

STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Jal Shakti, Shaleen Kabra conducted a Public Outreach cum Grievance Redressal camp at Government Higher Secondary School Panchari here today.

The purpose of the camp was to address public issues and demands while assessing impact of development projects in the district.

DDC Chairperson Udhampur Lal Chand, Deputy Commissioner Saloni Rai, SSP Joginder Singh, Additional District Development Commissioner Rajinder Singh, DDC member Jasvir Singh, IAS probationer Swati Sheemar, DFO, Navneet Singh ACR, Dr. Umesh Shan, ACD Dr. Ranjit Singh Kotwal, CPO Mohammad Iqbal, and other senior officers, along with former Legislature Pawan Kumar Gupta and PRI members, participated in the camp.

Upon arrival at Panchari, Shaleen Kabra received a warm welcome from the general public and former PRI



ACS Jal Shakti, Shaleen Kabra addressing a gathering at Udhampur.

members. The program witnessed enthusiastic participation from the community, representing various areas.

The general public and PRI members raised numerous issues and demands, including the upgradation of PHC Panchari to CHC, filling potholes on the Kanthgali-Galiote road, opening an ATM counter at Panchari, left-out beneficiaries under PMAY houses, addressing inadequate staff in government schools and health institutions, expediting JJM work in the district, granting Sub-Division status to Panchari, upgrading HSS Galiote to HSS, ensuring road connectivity to the

Sawalkote power project from Udhampur Panchari, establishing a Health Sub-Centre at Badhota, promoting the area on the tourism map etc.

They also demanded funds for the construction and maintenance of various roads, upgrading Galiote, Panjar, and Kutiyar schools to GHSS, establishing separate administrative blocks in Education and Agriculture for Moungr, establishing a cold store at the block level, and setting up PDD and PHE office cum grievance redressal cells in Panchari.

Responding to the issues and demands raised by the public, the ACS assured that

the demands and the grievances raised in the public darbar would receive due attention, on a priority basis. He reiterated that the DC and SSP would ensure grievance redressal with the best possible resources. He also encouraged the use of JK Samadhan Portal for early and prompt redressal of grievances.

Regarding the JJM scheme, ACS mentioned significant progress but highlighted the major challenge of water availability from natural sources. He directed XENs to complete the pending work on all JJM schemes by December 2024. He emphasized the importance

of a proper monitoring system for the JJM scheme and urged people to report deficiencies and any lacunae in execution.

Shaleen Kabra underscored the role of local communities and panchayats in monitoring the execution of water supply schemes and ensuring quality of work. He reiterated the government's commitment to ensure access to basic facilities and services for all citizens.

Later, Shaleen Kabra inspected stalls set up by various departments to disseminate information about welfare and government schemes to the masses. He interacted with the staff and scheme beneficiaries, conducting a comprehensive review of scheme implementation on the ground. He also sought feedback from the beneficiaries of various government schemes.

Earlier, DC Udhampur briefed him on the progress of issues raised in the previous public darbar at Dudu. An action taken report was presented, highlighting the progress of various schemes.

Congress, NC did criminal injustice with J&K residents: Raina

STATE TIMES NEWS

BISHNAH: Congress and National Conference, in connivance with each other, did criminal injustice to the residents of Jammu & Kashmir, which was undone by the Modi government on 5th of August 2019, said Ravinder Raina.

Ravinder Raina, President, J&K BJP, and Ashok Koul, General Secretary (organization) congratulated the party workers from Jammu South, Suchetgarh, Bishnah and Vijaypur Assembly constituencies for organizing a massive rally commemorating the 5th Anniversary of the abrogation of temporary Article 370.

Ravinder Raina, while addressing the senior party leaders from the abovesaid Assembly Constituencies said that the 5th of August 2019 is a landmark day in the history of Jammu & Kashmir. He said that the draconian Article brought by the Congress government under the leadership of former Prime Minister Nehru did a grave injustice to the residents of Jammu &



Ravinder Raina, President, J&K BJP, and Ashok Koul, General Secretary (organization) chairing a meeting.

Kashmir. "Pt Nehru in connivance with Abdullah did a series of criminal injustices with Jammu & Kashmir and its residents and pushed the state into a bloody turmoil and halted development. The state of Jammu & Kashmir was pushed behind the other states in terms of development and socio-economic policies. The communities like WPRs, PoJK displaced, Gujjar-Bakerwals, SCs, STs, OBCs, Paharis and others had to suffer for generations. This historic blunder was undone by Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led Union government on 05th August 2019", said Raina.

Ravinder Raina further said that the residents of Jammu & Kashmir have seen the unprecedented development that has taken place after the abrogation and added that the day will always be remembered as a golden day to change the discourse of the development

story of Jammu & Kashmir. Raina said that the BJP cadre from these Assembly Constituencies and the adjoining areas deserve applause for the successful conduct of this massive rally where the people thronged to celebrate the abrogation of controversial Article 370.

Ashok Koul, on the occasion, said that before the abrogation of Article 370, many sections of the society of Jammu and Kashmir including West Pakistan Refugees (WPRs) were denied rights enshrined in the Constitution of India. "They did not have the right to own property, employment by the State Government, and the right to cast a vote in the legislative assembly and local body elections of Jammu and Kashmir. He asked the party leaders to take these blunders of Congress, NC, and PDP to the public and teach them a befitting lesson in the upcoming Assembly elections.

Govt Degree College Khour empowers youth through SVEEP



STATE TIMES NEWS

KHOUR: Govt. Degree College Khour, in collaboration with ICDS Poshan Project Khour of the Department of Social Welfare organized a Systematic Voter's Education and Electoral Participation program on August 7, 2024. The program aimed to educate students about the importance of voting and encourage them to exercise their democratic right. Principal Prof. (Dr.) T.K. Sharma addressed the students, emphasizing the significance of voting in shaping the country's future. He encouraged students to take an active role in the electoral process and become responsible citizens.

Usha Rani, Supervisor, Social Welfare Department, Khour, also spoke on the occasion, elaborating on the SVEEP (Systematic Voter's Education and Electoral Participation) program. She highlighted the initiatives undertaken by the department to promote electoral awareness and participation among citizens. The program witnessed an overwhelming response. This initiative marks a significant step towards empowering the youth and fostering a culture of electoral participation. Principal Prof.(Dr.) T.K. Sharma told students that we are proud to have taken this initiative, which aligns with our college's commitment to holistic education. The program was conducted under the SVEEP which aims to promote electoral awareness and participation among citizens. The program was a resounding success, with students actively participating in the registration process. Prof. Sunil Kumar, PTL, played a crucial role in facilitating the program and guiding students through the process.

Shrine Board launches cleanliness campaign for Banganga Rivulet under Swachhta Pakhwada

STATE TIMES NEWS

KATRA: In a determined effort to enhance environmental sustainability and promote cleanliness, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board in collaboration with local authorities has launched a comprehensive cleanliness campaign of the Banganga rivulet under the nationwide Swachhta Pakhwada initiative.

This campaign aligns with the broader objectives of the Swachh Bharat Mission, aiming to foster a clean and green environment besides, maintaining the sanctity and cleanliness of the holy river.

The drive has been launched as per the directions of Chairman SMVDSB, Manoj Sinha, Lt. Governor, JK-UT, led by Anshul Garg, Chief Executive Officer, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board in the presence of Vishesh Paul Mahajan, Deputy Commissioner Reasi with the Swachhta Pledge being taken by all the participants which includes officers / officials from Shrine Board and



Anshul Garg, CEO SMVD Shrine Board, Vishesh Paul Mahajan, DC Reasi and others during the drive.

local authorities, prominent citizen of Katra, volunteers and local residents who collectively removed litter / debris and silt from the rivulet.

On the occasion, the CEO said that the cleanliness drive under Swachhta Pakhwada is undertaken to ensure that the Banganga rivulet which is an integral part of the pilgrimage route remains clean and free from pollution. He remarked that "Banganga river rejuvenation is a very important focus area for the Shrine Board as a stakeholder and we would like to put in a system that works". This includes emphasis on water management and environ-

ment management besides focus on synchronised development and contiguous of its embankments. He added that in a bid to enhance the spiritual and aesthetic experience of devotees, the Shrine Board is also conceiving a plan to start a Banganga Arti and Multimedia Laser Show at its embankment.

The CEO underscored that by fostering a culture of cleanliness and sustainability, the Board hopes to inspire lasting positive change and contribute to the realization of the Swachh Bharat Mission. He also emphasized the importance of maintaining cleanliness and sanitation in the

holy town and urged locals and pilgrims to cooperate in keeping the area clean.

Notably, the Shrine Board has taken various initiatives for ensuring sanitation and cleanliness along the tracks and conservation of environment and ecology of Trikuta Hills. These measures include setting up a mule dung based biogas plant at Banganga, Sewage Treatment Plants at various locations on the track for waste water treatment and for green initiative the construction of water harvesting ponds, afforestation drives in Trikuta Hills, recycling of sewage treatment plants and rooftop rainwater harvesting etc. In addition, the Shrine Board has been planting more than 1.50 lakh seedlings every year in the forest area for retention of water and prevention of soil erosion. Recently, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board launched a drone-based afforestation drive on Trikuta Hills to increase green cover by using cutting-edge technology.

Growth Multipurpose Cooperative Society organises plantation campaign

STATE TIMES NEWS

SUNDERBANI: Growth Multipurpose Cooperative Society, which works for agriculture, horticulture and facilities of farmers in Sunderbani, today organized a plantation campaign inside the government high school Kalideh.

On this occasion, President of Growth Multipurpose Cooperative Society, Vice President Vipin Pal, Secretary Dr. Ajay Parashar, Treasurer Anil Chandra, Assistant Registrar of Cooperative Department from Sunderbani Antar Singh, his assistant Sahil Anand and all the employees,



teachers and other supporting staff of government High School Kalideh.

The employees of the school participated enthusiastically in this plantation campaign and planted saplings of guava, amla, galgal, lemon, peepal etc.

35 cases of ChickenPox symptoms detected in Madrassa in Bhaderwah

STATE TIMES NEWS

BHADERWAH: After reports of suspected chickenpox cases in students of a Madrassa in Bhaderwah, Health Department Doda immediately took precautionary measures and conducted screening of all enrolled students of the Madrassa Isha-Tul-Aloom.

The screening cum awareness camp was organized under the guidance of DC Doda Harvinder Singh, Director Dr Tajamul and CMO Doda.

A team comprising of DIO Dr Versha Sharma, BMO Bhaderwah Dr Mohd Ashraf, Paediatrician Dr Sangeeta Kotwal, Extension Educator Tariq, Dental Dr Touseef Malik, MO, JHI, HE, Lab tech and others visited Madrassa Isha-tul-Aloom in Gatha village of block Bhaderwah.

The prominent Madrassa Isha-Tul-Aloom is located at Gatha area of Bhaderwah having about 100 students enrolled from Rajouri, Doda,



Bhaderwah, Gaudoh, Kishtwar and other areas.

District Immunization Officer (DIO) Doda Dr Varsha Sharma said that 100 students were screened for VPD, TB & other medical conditions. 35 students found complaining of fever with rash, other with eye & skin conditions having Chicken pox symptoms.

"Chickenpox spreads primarily through respiratory droplets expelled when an infected person coughs or sneezes. Additionally, it can spread by direct contact with the fluid

from chickenpox blisters. The virus is highly contagious, and individuals are most infectious from a day or two before the rash appears until all the blisters have crusted over," Dr Varsha added.

"Lack of immunity or vaccination increases the risk of contracting chickenpox, especially in crowded environments like schools/Madrassa," DIO Doda informed. Awareness was given about chicken pox disease, its prevention & treatment, importance about isolation & hygiene and Immunization.

While addressing students and staff, Dr Varsha said, "maintaining good hygiene practices, such as regular hand-washing with soap and water, and covering coughs and sneezes, can further prevent spread. Who have symptoms of chickenpox, isolate them until all lesions have crusted over, and avoid sharing personal items to minimize transmission."

Child Specialist Dr Sangeeta Kotwal informed that among the suspected cases, most of students have not taken any required and mandatory immunization since their birth, which is matter of great concern for the overall health and immunity of a children to fight with any kind disease.

BMO Bhaderwah Dr Mohd Ashraf Kuchey said that after getting information about the symptoms in students of a Madrassa near SDH Bhaderwah, we immediately organised this camp with DIO

Doda Dr Varsha Sharma to screen and provide them required treatment.

It was also requested to the head of the Madrassa Isha-tul-Aloom Gatha, Mufti Mohd Ayoub to check the immunization status of each student at the time of admission & contact with Health Department in case of any help.

Meanwhile examination along with required Medicines were also distributed among patients, beside samples were collected for further investigation.

"We had 35 suspected cases of chickenpox among our students. The medical team confirmed it," said Mufti Mohd Ayoub, Head of Madrassa, adding that students showing symptoms of the contagious disease have been isolated.

Mufti Ayoub also thanked Health authorities for their prompt response to organize special screening cum awareness camp in the institution.

DLIC Udhampur approves 53 loan cases under Mumkin, Tejaswini & Spurring Schemes

STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: Additional District Development Commissioner Udhampur, Rajinder Singh, presided over a meeting of the District Level Implementation Committee under the Mission Youth scheme at the Conference Hall, DC Office Complex, Udhampur.

At the outset, Priyanka Gupta, Assistant Director

Employment, provided a concise overview of the achievements under the Mission Youth framework.

During the meeting, a total of 98 cases were reviewed, out of which 53 financial assistance cases were approved. These included 8 loan applications under the Tejaswini scheme, 40 under the Mumkin scheme, and 5 under the Spurring Entrepreneurship scheme.

The ADDC emphasized the government's commitment to empowering unemployed youth through these schemes, providing them with opportunities to carve a niche in society. He reiterated ongoing efforts to offer more opportunities and proper facilities, urging youth to educate themselves about and capitalize on government-sponsored schemes to realize their dreams and aspirations.

CUJ celebrates Swachhta Pakhwada with 'Ek Ped Maa ke Naam, Ek Ped Shaheedon ke Naam' at Purmandal Heritage Site

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Office of Dean Students Welfare in collaboration with the Department of Tourism and Travel Management (DTTM), NSS Unit, and NCC Unit of Central University of Jammu, organized the 'Swachhta Pakhwada - Ek Ped Maa ke Naam, Ek Ped Shaheedon ke Naam' event. This initiative saw the enthusiastic participation of around 100 students and scholars who had an inspiring visit to the Purmandal Heritage Destination of Jammu.

The event, held to recognize and honor the vital importance of trees in our lives, our motherland, and in tribute to the braveheart soldiers of



our country, was graced by the esteemed presence of Ms. Akanksha Gupta, BDO Purmandal and her office team, Dr. Rajesh Raina, Tourist Officer, Samba and his team, Dr. Ranjeet Kumar Raman, Head Department of Tourism and Travel Management, was the overall convener of the event. He was supported by a dedicated team comprising Dr.

Bharti Gupta, Dr. Pankaj Mehta, Dr. Anita Gupta, Dr. Sujata Kundan, and Dr. Vishal. Their involvement significantly bolstered the morale and enthusiasm of all the participants. Together, they ensured the smooth execution of this meaningful event.

The day began with a ceremonial tree planting session, where partici-

pants planted trees in the name of their mothers and the nation's martyrs, symbolizing respect and gratitude. This act not only emphasized the importance of environmental conservation but also enhanced a deep sense of patriotism and respect for our heritage and heroes. The cleanliness drive by the NCC and NSS volunteers in the Purmandal Heritage Destination followed this.

The event was culminated by a rally in the Purmandal Market to create awareness of the Swachhta Pakhwada with slogans of 'Ek Ped Maa kai Naam; and Ek Ped Shahido ke Naam'

The Block Development Officer

applauded the efforts of the Central University of Jammu and encouraged the students to continue participating in such noble causes. They emphasized the importance of tree plantation and significantly to the larger goal of preserving our environment and honoring our heritage.

The visit to the Purmandal Heritage destination provided the participants with a unique opportunity to connect with the cultural and historical richness of the region. It also served as a reminder of the collective responsibility we share in environmental conservation efforts and honoring those who have laid down their lives for our country.

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