

CGPWA, IIPA, Gandhi Nagar Morning Walkers celebrate I-Day

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Central Govt Pensioners' Welfare Association, Jammu celebrated the 79th Independence Day on 15th August with traditional fervor.

The ceremony was held at its premises at Wazarat road complex, attended by a large number of former civil servants. The President of the Association, Kuldeep Khoda hoisted the National Flag followed by the National Anthem.

Present on the occasion included B R Sharma, Ashok Angurana, Dr Sudarshan Kumar, O P Sharma, J K Vaid, B K Raina, Prem Gupta, S S Bijral, Ashok Gupta, Yoginder Kaul, M A Anjum, Nisar Ahmad, K S Jamwal, Sunil Sharma, Dattaji Ganjoo, G R Bhagat & K B Jandial. The area was tastefully decorated.

Speaking on the occasion, Khoda recalled the sacrifices made by the freedom fighters to liberate India from the British Empire in 1947 and said that the country faced many challenges which demanded strengthening of



President of Association, Kuldeep Khoda and others during flag hoisting ceremony.

bonds of unity, communal harmony and strengthening of democratic values.

At another function held at Indian Institute of Public Administration, J&K Regional Branch, the Tricolour was hoisted by the Chairman, IIPA, B R Sharma. The participants sung the national anthem. B R Sharma conveyed greetings to IIPA members on the happy occasion of 79th I-day. Present included Kuldeep Khoda, Er JBS Johar, K B Jandial, Er Madan Gupta, Joginder Kuthalia, Prem Gupta, Prof Anil Gupta, Capt. Anil Gour, S S Bijral, Nisar Ahmad & Yasin Kichloo.

The Gandhi Nagar Morning Walkers Association also organised a colorful Independence Day function in the morning. Senior members, Dr Subash Gupta, C L Koul, Er. JBS Johar, Puja Malhotra jointly hoisted the National Flags amidst thunderous "Vande Mataram" which rented the area. About 250 persons participated in this function. Dr C L Gupta in his speech, referred to the history of freedom struggle and called for remembering the supreme sacrifices of our freedom fighters.

He called upon the people to strengthen national unity. He, on behalf of the

Association, expressed profound grief over the loss of lives in the disaster near Michail, Kishtwar.

On the occasion, children presented patriotic poems. Present on the occasion, Chairman Morning walkers Association, Vijay Phoa. President of the Gandhi Nagar RWA, Er Chander Udhay, Vice President, Indu Bhushan and General Secretary Arun Sharma, senior Advisors-Prem Gupta, Mohinder Gupta, Vipen Malhotra, Advocate Kishan Kumar Gupta Subash Sharma, Suresh Sharma, Jagmohan Gupta, Kul Bhushan Atri, Bansil Lal Gupta, Dr. Gurang.

Bhandra was also organised on the occasion.

The T R Gupta Charitable Trust organised the I-Day function at its Marble Market Health Centre. Its chairman, nonagenarian T R Gupta, well-known philanthropist, unfurled the Tricolour. The economically poor children of the area were specially invited and gifts and sweets were distributed among them. Present on the occasion included trustees- Dr Ashok Gupta, Rajinder Motial, K B Jandial besides doctors and para medical staff of the health Centre being run by the Trust.

The School for Hearing Handicapped, Shaheedi Chowk also celebrated Independence Day. The Principal Roshan Bhan unfurled the Tricolour. He explained through sign language how our freedom fighters gave us the freedom 78 years ago through their supreme sacrifices and it is our duty to preserve it at every cost. The Officials of the Ayush Deptt who especially present on the occasion distributed eatables among the divyang students.

Work together to realize PM Modi's vision of self-reliant, stronger India: Rekha Mahajan

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Carrying forward the patriotic spirit and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's call for Har Ghar Tiranga, BJP J&K Vice President Rekha Mahajan has led multiple Independence Day celebrations across Jammu, turning the 79th year of freedom into a vibrant festival of unity and pride.

Beginning the day at Arya Samaj, Trikuta Nagar, Rekha Mahajan hoisted the Tricolour amid chants of Bharat Mata Ki Jai and the singing of the National Anthem. Addressing the gathering, she reminded everyone of the sacrifices made by countless freedom fighters and soldiers, adding that the best tribute to them is to work together in realising PM Modi's vision of a self-reliant, developed India.

She then joined celebrations at the Bharat Vikas Parishad, Trikuta Nagar branch, alongside the Rotary Club team led by Vanita Kohli. Mahajan praised civic groups and social organisations for playing an important role in nation-building and community service, saying such participation



BJP J&K Vice President Rekha Mahajan and others planting sapling during I-Day celebration.

embodies the true spirit of Amrit Kaal.

In Ward No. 57, where the event was organised by Balvinder Kumar, and Ward No. 53, hosted by Mittali Gupta and Shubchander Verma, Rekha Mahajan was welcomed by enthusiastic residents waving the National Flag. She urged citizens to keep the tricolour not just in their homes but in their hearts, living by the ideals it represents-peace, progress, and unity.

The celebrations concluded at Arya Samaj, Gandhi Nagar, where Rekha reiterated BJP's commitment under PM Modi's leadership to uplift every section of society, strengthen national security, and preserve India's cultural heritage.

"Under Prime Minister Modi's guidance, we are not just celebrating our past achievements but working every day to shape India's bright future," she said, calling on citizens to contribute actively to the nation's growth.

NHPC Regional Office Jammu celebrates 79th I-Day



Ram Swaroop, ED, Regional Office, Jammu, NHPC Limited hoisting the National Flag.

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JAMMU: NHPC Regional Office, Jammu celebrated 79th Independence Day. In the office premises, Ram Swaroop, ED, Regional Office, Jammu, NHPC Limited hoisted the National Flag and sang the National Anthem along with people. In his address, Ram

Swaroop wished everyone a Happy Independence Day and said that we got independence on 15th August 1947 after a long struggle. He further informed that NHPC is a 100% green energy company which is entering new areas of energy production. Ram Swaroop honored 5 DGR secu-

urity personnel who have performed excellent service.

The event was attended by Satnam Singh, GM(C), Pankaj Vashisth, GM (C), RP Maurya, GM (HR) and other officers and employees with family members, CISE, DGR Security personnel and outsourced manpower.

BJP dispatches essential supplies, sets up helplines for Kishtwar flood-hit families

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu & Kashmir Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), led by its General Secretary (Organization) Ashok Koul, convened an urgent meeting to review the situation arising out of the devastating cloudburst at Chashoti village in Kishtwar and to chalk out immediate relief measures for the affected families.

BJP National Secretary & MLA Dr. Narinder Singh Raina, J&K BJP Vice-President Rakesh Mahajan, General Secretary Sanjita Dogra, MLAs Sham Lal Sharma, Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal, Yudhvir Sethi, Arvind Gupta, Ch. Vikram Randhawa and Surinder Bhagat, All Cells Incharge Ved Sharma, Nand Kishore Sharma, Adv.



BJP General Secretary (Org) Ashok Koul during a meeting.

Rajesh Gupta, Arun Prabhat, Prof. Kulbhushan Mohtra, Sham Langer and others participated in the meeting. The leaders assessed the dire need for urgent assistance and resolved to extend all possible help to the victims.

Addressing the meeting, Ashok Koul expressed deep anguish over the tragic inci-

dent, medical care, or monetary help is delivered to the victims. At this difficult time, we also pray for the safety and well-being of all those in the affected region," he said.

As part of immediate relief, three truckloads of essential supplies, including drinking water, were dispatched from Jammu and Udhampur. More consignments are being mobilized to ensure uninterrupted assistance. The party has also set up a dedicated helpdesk to coordinate relief efforts.

The BJP entrusted its youth wing, BJYM, with the special responsibility of taking care of patients and their families admitted to hospitals. A duty roster of BJYM activists has already been finalized to ensure

round-the-clock assistance. For streamlined communication, BJP announced helpline numbers for both Kishtwar and Jammu. In Kishtwar, helplines include Ravi Parihar (9858605447, 9906348916, 9469443317), Banwari Lal Sharma (9419272760), Ramesh (9906268944), and Pawan Parihar (9906907959). Jammu helplines are Office Landline (0191247771), Arun Prabhat (9596673435), Rajesh Gupta (9419191395), and Som Nath (9622005950).

BJP MLAs reiterated their commitment to serving the people in need and conveyed that the party stands shoulder to shoulder with the distressed families, ensuring that no affected household is left unattended in this critical time.

Tricolour hoisted at Provincial Headquarters of RSS

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JAMMU: The 79th Independence Day was celebrated at the Provincial Headquarters of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), Keshav Bhavan.

On this occasion, Dr. Gautam Mengi, Prant Sanghehalak of RSS Jammu & Kashmir, hoisted the National Flag and extended Independence Day greetings to the Swayamsevaks (volunteers) and security personnel present. The program was organized by Dr. Hedgewar Smriti Nyas, Jammu & Kashmir.



RSS members during I-day celebrations.

After the National Anthem, in his brief address, Dr. Gautam Mengi expressed grief over the death of several devotees who had gone for the

Machail Mata Yatra in Chishoti area of Kishtwar district due to a cloudburst. He conveyed his heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families. He

also paid tribute to the countless martyrs who sacrificed their lives during the freedom struggle and highlighted the contribution of the Sangh in India's independence movement.

Dr. Gautam Mengi said

that the coming times will be full of challenges for the country. However, through Operation Sindoor, the nation has already demonstrated its strength and capabilities. Yet, many more milestones remain to be crossed for India to become a Vishwaguru (world leader). Therefore, every citizen must sincerely fulfill their duty towards the nation.

On this occasion, Nagarmal Gupta, Prant Vyavastha Pramukh, Gagan Kumar, Prant Sharirik Pramukh, swayamsevaks, CRPF personnel, and J&K Police personnel were prominently present.

Independence Day a reminder of sacrifice, freedom: Balbir

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Senior BJP leader and former Vice Chairman, Balbir Ram Rattan, has said that Independence Day is not merely a celebration but a solemn reminder of the immense sacrifices made by countless patriots who laid down their lives for the nation's freedom.

Speaking on the significance of this day, Balbir paid rich tributes to the

Indian who dreamed of a free nation and a reminder of the price paid in blood, sweat, and sacrifice by our forefathers for the liberty we enjoy today."

He emphasized that freedom comes with duties and responsibilities.

"It is not only about the right to speak or act freely," he remarked. "It also means respecting our Constitution, valuing democratic principles, and working together for the development of our country."

Balbir Ram Rattan called upon the youth to draw inspiration from the lives of freedom fighters and contribute actively to nation-building.

He stressed that India's true strength lies in its unity in diversity and urged everyone to work with the spirit of brotherhood that guided the freedom struggle.

He said that on Independence Day, every citizen should reaffirm his pledge to serve the nation with honesty, dedication, and a spirit of selfless service.



freedom fighters and unsung heroes whose courage and determination helped India break the chains of colonial rule. "August 15 is not just a date in the calendar," he said.

"It is the story of every

Chairman JKICS stands in solidarity with Kishtwar victims; urges swift relief and rehabilitation

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: S.S. Sodhi, Chairman of the Jammu & Kashmir Intellectual Civil Society (JKICS), has expressed profound grief and sorrow over the tragic loss of lives and devastation caused by the recent cloudburst in Kishtwar. He conveyed heartfelt solidarity with the victims and their families, assuring them that the entire civil society of J&K stands by them in this hour of grief.

Calling the calamity a grave humanitarian crisis, Sodhi appealed to the Lieutenant Governor of J&K, the Chief Minister, and concerned authorities to take urgent steps



for the rebuilding of Kishtwar on a priority basis.

He further demanded substantial compensation for all affected families and urged the government to ensure that a suitable job is provided to at least one member of each vic-

tim's family, enabling them to regain stability and dignity.

Sodhi also made an earnest appeal to the citizens of Jammu & Kashmir to come forward and contribute with open hearts for the rebuilding of Kishtwar. He urged NGOs, civil society groups, and philanthropic organizations to adopt the affected villages and extend support in rehabilitation, infrastructure rebuilding, and livelihood restoration.

"This is a time for collective compassion and action. Let us join hands to not only mourn the tragedy but to rebuild lives and communities with resilience and hope," Sodhi said.

CCI Jammu celebrates 79th Independence Day with fervour



Chamber members during the Independence Day celebrations.

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JAMMU: An impressive programme was organized at the Chamber House which commenced with the hoisting of National Flag by Arun Gupta, President Chamber of Commerce and Industry Jammu in presence of other office bearers and senior members of the CCI after which the whole premises reverberated with the singing of National Anthem amid salutations to the National Tricolour. The Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Jammu, extended its heartfelt greetings to the people of the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir on the auspicious occasion of the 79th Independence Day of India. This historic day reminds us of the supreme sacrifices made by our freedom fighters and the resilience of our nation in upholding the values of democracy, unity, and progress. On this day, the Chamber reiterated its commitment towards the economic development of Jammu & Kashmir and assures continued efforts to strengthen the spirit of entrepreneurship, trade, and industry for the overall growth of the region. Arun Gupta further reiterated that the terrorists who massacred innocent peo-

ple tried to create fear and division among the people but the general public strongly condemned this heinous and drastic act of terrorism in one voice. He also said that operation Sindoor was a befitting reply to dismantle the base of terrorism while operation Mahadev delivered justice to actual perpetrators of Pahalgam killings. On this Independence Day, let us resolve to move forward with renewed determination to build a prosperous and peaceful Jammu & Kashmir while paying homage to those who sacrificed their lives for the nation. At the same time, the Chamber expressed its profound grief and solidarity with the bereaved families of those who lost their lives in the recent cloudburst tragedy at Kishtwar. We stand united with the affected families in this hour of grief and pray for the speedy recovery of the injured. Two minutes silence was observed by the members to pay tributes to the departed souls. The Chamber also appealed to the Government to provide adequate relief and rehabilitation measures for the victims and extend every possible support to the affected population.