

# Col Mahan Singh visits cloudburst hit areas in Basohli; over 200 houses damaged

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
BASOHLI: "The district representatives, SDRF teams, volunteers, and local residents are working tirelessly to ensure rescue, relief, and rehabilitation. The BJP cadre, UT administration, and the Modi government stand firmly with the affected people in these testing times," said Col. Mahan Singh (Retd.), DDC Chairman Kathua, during his extensive tour of the cloudburst-hit areas in Basohli sub-district on Sunday.

The DDC Chairman visited Mandla, Kudera, Rehan, and Kadgera, where the cloudburst near Mandla SC Basti on the outskirts of



Col. Mahan Singh (Retd.), DDC Chairman Kathua taking stock of damages.

Basohli town caused massive damage. More than 200 houses, roads, and key infrastructure, including the Brahma Kumari Ashram and Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) building, were severely affected.

Col. Mahan Singh personally led the rescue operation, ensuring nearly 500 affected persons were evacuated to safer places such as Radha Swami Ashram, local Mandirs, Dharamshalas, and Town Hall Basohli. Relief centres

were immediately set up with arrangements for food, blankets, mattresses, and medicines for displaced families. During his visit, he also inspected Brahma Kumari Ashram in Basohli, which was struck by a landslide, and Kudera village in Ghograre Panchayat, where a land patch measuring nearly 500x500 meters has begun sinking, posing new challenges for residents and the administration. He was accompanied by Tehsildar Basohli Sagar Vishvakarma, SDPO Suresh Sharma, SHO Tribhawan Khajuria, Sarpanch Rajinder Singh, Capt. Yubkaran Singh, and several officials and local

leaders, who together coordinated ongoing relief operations. Reports of destruction also came in from Kalibari Kathua, Tikri on the Bani-Basohli road, Kashka, Sabar, Danni, Padu Nallah, and Barmar Gala, where heavy rainfall damaged roads, homes, and connectivity routes. Col. Mahan Singh assured that immediate relief is being provided and long-term rehabilitation and reconstruction works will follow. He appealed for patience and public cooperation, stressing that coordinated efforts would help overcome this natural calamity and rebuild stronger.

# DC Rajouri reviews disaster preparedness; Inspects progress of work on Bridge Project in Frontier Nowshera

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
RAJOURI: Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Abhishek Sharma, on Sunday conducted an extensive tour of the frontier areas of Nowshera, including Pukarni, Jajot Kandoo, Lam and Qila Darhal to assess disaster preparedness and review damages caused by incessant rainfall in the region.



DC Rajouri, Abhishek Sharma during tour of Nowshera.

During the visit, Deputy Commissioner inspected critical infrastructure, including the ongoing work on the Steel Super Structure Bridge over Jambhir Nallah, which is being executed at a cost of Rs 5.61 crore. He emphasized the timely completion of the project to ensure enhanced connectivity and convenience for

residents. The Deputy Commissioner also held interactions with the local populace, listening to their concerns and resolving several grievances on the spot. He took a detailed review of essential services, including water supply, electricity and other basic amenities being provided

to the public and issued necessary instructions to officers for further improvements. ADC Nowshera, Pritam Lal Thapa, Tehsildar Qila Darhal, Jahangir Khan, SI Police Post Lam and other district and sectoral officers accompanied the Deputy Commissioner during the visit.

# Bhaderwah Administration on high alert amid IMD weather warning, helplines activated, advisory issued

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
BHADERWAH: In view of continuous inclement weather conditions and fresh alerts issued by the India Meteorological Department (IMD), the administration in Jammu and Kashmir's Bhaderwah subdivision remains on high alert. Despite Sunday being a holiday, all government offices were kept operational to tackle any emergency situation, including waterlogging and flash floods.

Water level in Bhaderwah and its adjoining areas is increasing in Rivers and nallahs due to torrential rains since last 8 hours. Speaking to Media, Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Bhaderwah, Sunil Kumar Bhutiyal, issued an advisory urging the public to stay indoors and avoid unnecessary travel for their safety. He said, "In light of the pre-

vailing weather conditions across Bhaderwah, control rooms have been established at the ASP Office and Sub-District Hospital (SDH) Bhaderwah to assist the public." While urging people to stay indoors for their safety, ADC said, "We cannot afford another tragedy like Chashoti, where we lost 69 precious lives. Public cooperation is essential to prevent such incidents." He further emphasized that citizens must strictly adhere to the advisories issued by the district administration.

To ensure public safety and provide timely assistance, the administration has also activated 24/7 helpline numbers. These helplines will cater to emergency situations, road blockages, and weather-related incidents. People have been advised to report any such emergencies

promptly. Important Helpline Numbers: PCR Doda: 01996-233530 / 7298923100 / 100 ERSS (Emergency Response Support System): 112, SSP Office Doda: 01996-233396, Addl. SP Bhaderwah: 9419105133 Public Advisory Highlights: Avoid unnecessary travel, especially in landslide-prone areas. Stay updated with official weather bulletins and advisories. Maintain regular communication with family, particularly in remote locations. Cooperate with police, SDRF, and rescue agencies in case of emergencies. Follow traffic regulations and road safety measures. Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Doda reaffirmed the administration's commitment to public safety, stating, "The safety and well-being of our citizens is our top priority."

# KVK Reasi conducts training programme on Agri-entrepreneurship under ARYA Project

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
REASI: Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Reasi under the administrative control of Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Jammu (SKUAST-J) organised training programme on agri-entrepreneurship here at Dasano village in Reasi distt. of J&K under Attracting and Retaining Youths in Agriculture project (ARYA) project. The programme was attended by the number of females rural youths of the village. The programme was organised under the dynamic leadership of Vice Chancellor, Prof.B.N. Tripathi and able guidance of Director Extension, Prof. Amrish Vaid of SKUAST-J. Chief Scientist & Head of Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Reasi, Dr. Banarsi Lal said that the objective



of ARYA project is to attract and empower the rural youths to take agriculture and allied sector enterprises for sustainable income and gainful employment. He narrated that Attracting and Retaining Youths in Agriculture (ARYA) project has been initiated in Reasi distt. by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research in Reasi distt. of J&K through which the KVK is promoting the agri-entrepreneur-

ship development among the rural youths so that they can be made self-reliant and empowered. He added that there is an increase in the migration of rural youths to urban areas in search of employment and there is need to make agriculture more profitable so that the rural youths can be attracted towards this occupation. He guided the participants on scientific commercial floriculture, organic farming, backyard poultry

farming and value addition in fruits and vegetables as they can play a significant role in generating more income and employment among the rural youths of the district. He stressed on the agri-entrepreneurship development among the rural youths for enhancing the farmers' income. He encouraged the rural youths for the commercial floriculture, organic farming, poultry farming and value addition in fruits and

vegetables. He discussed the timely diseases and insect-pests management practices in crops for more farm returns. He further said Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Reasi is making efforts to enhance the income of the rural youths of Reasi district so as to generate more income and employment in rural areas of the hilly areas. He informed that by observing the successful results of successful rural youths many new rural youths are coming forward for agri-entrepreneurship. During the programme an awardee woman farmer of the area, Smt. Sunita Devi was also present who shared her experiences on progressive farming with other participants. Programme was assisted by Sh. Manohar Lal and concluded by Ms. Sunita Devi with the formal vote of thanks.

# DIG Jammu conducts joint inspection in Kathua following Logate Mor Bridge collapse

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
KATHUA: On the directions of DGP J&K, Nalin Prabhat (IPS), and IGP Jammu Zone, Bhim Sen Tuti (IPS), DIG Jammu-Samba-Kathua Range, Shiv Kumar Sharma (IPS), visited Kathua district to assess the situation following the collapse of the Logate Mor National Highway (NH) bridge.

During his visit, DIG Sharma conducted a joint inspection, reviewed the damage, and coordinated planning for the restoration of traffic on the Jammu-Kathua section of NHW-44. The bridge collapse has caused significant disruption to vehicular movement, prompting urgent remedial action. Senior officers present during the inspection



DIG JSK Range, Shiv Kumar Sharma at Kathua.

included SSP Kathua Shri Shobit Saxena (IPS), SSP Traffic Rural Shri Girdhari Lal (JKPS), and Commandant IRP 18th Battalion Shri Atul Sharma (JKPS). The team also identified alternative routes to restore traffic flow between Jammu and Kathua. Following the inspection, a high-level coordination meeting was held at DPL

Kathua. The meeting brought together key stakeholders including officers from the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), Deputy Commissioner Kathua, Commandant CRPF Kathua, SDRF officials, SDPOs, SHOs, DTI Traffic, and others. The primary focus of the meeting was to streamline

the movement of traffic on the Jammu-Pathankot highway and ensure unhindered passage for tourists, patients, ambulances, and vehicles carrying essential services. All officers were directed to activate their control rooms and deploy field staff to ensure real-time coordination and effective facilitation for the general public. The administration emphasized the importance of seamless traffic management until permanent restoration of the damaged bridge is completed. The initiative reflects the swift and coordinated efforts of police, civil administration, and infrastructure authorities to address public inconvenience and ensure safety across the region.

# Customers of JKSCARD Bank demand immediate release of FD Payments

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SUNDERBANI: The customers of the Jammu and Kashmir State Cooperative Agriculture and Rural Development Bank (JKSCARD) held a press conference at Dak Bungalow, Sunderbani, demanding the immediate release of maturity amounts for all Fixed Deposit (FD) account holders.

Speaking at the conference, account holder Nishi Kant Sharma and others expressed strong displeasure over the alleged refusal by some branch managers and bank officials to release payments. According to the customers, these officials are calling a recent directive "wrong" and stating that payments will only be made to those whose FDs have



Customers briefing media at Sunderbani.

matured and who can prove an emergency need. The account holders rejected this stance and asserted that, according to the official order issued by the Managing Director (MD) of the bank on August 21, all matured FDs should be paid without delay. They claimed that any effort to

misinterpret or reverse this directive is unacceptable. The customers warned that if the order is not implemented promptly and fairly, they will be forced to take serious action. "If any attempt is made to change the MD's order, all 24 JKSCARD branches in Jammu will be locked down

and we will be left with no option but to take to the streets," they said, holding the concerned officials accountable for any such consequences. Account holders including Baburam, Sanjay Kumar, Sahil Kumar, and Purna Chand addressed the media, emphasizing that the government's order should be respected and implemented in full. They urged the bank administration to support the customers and send suggestions to higher authorities that prioritize the release of payments, rather than obstruct them. The press conference concluded with a united call for immediate action from the bank, reinforcing that the delay is causing financial distress among many depositors.

# Kesri leads protest against frequent accidents on Kalyana bridge in Arnia

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
ARNIA: Shiv Sena Hindustan activists under the leadership of J&K President Pt Rajesh Kesri today organized strong protest against injuries to at least 15 passengers after a Bus on its way to Jammu from Arnia veered off the road and crashed into a field in Kalyana village. Kesri speaking on the occasion demanded immediate widening of Bridge of Kalyana village which has been delayed despite availabili-



SSH activists staging protest at Arnia.

ty of funds and despite bridge being very narrow, frequent accidents take place in the area. Kesri said that despite its strategic value, the bridge is also marked by potholes and is without proper lighting which makes it difficult to pass through the area during night. He further said that the Roads and Building Department has failed to keep the bridge in good condition. "It is very unfortunate that no step has been taken to carry

out the necessary repairs on the bridge. The administration should give due consideration to the road infrastructure in rural areas," Kesri said adding that the Bridge is also used by security forces to reach border areas. A bus passes from here with great difficulty. Every year, buses and small vehicles fall here, said Kesri. Kesri further said that hundreds of villagers including school going

children go to the city from here which makes this bridge even vital. But whosoever leaves village Kalyana, feels uncomfortable and frightened while crossing this bridge as the bridge is very narrow and also potential cause of accidents in the area. Kesri further said that earlier also, a bus fell from here and 40 people were injured here, out of which 10 people were badly injured and they have not received any compensation from the government till now. He demanded from the government to give compensation to the people who have been injured in bus accident yesterday. Prominent among those present on the occasion include Balveer Kumar, Suresh Kumar, Balwant Fauji, Prince Jagjivan Kumar, Basant Kumar, Rajesh Kumar, Lalchand, Sanjeev Kumar, Darshana Devi, Rajni Devi, Neeru Devi, Vijay Kumari.

# Army distributes furniture to Khalabhat Higher Secondary School

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
RAJOURI: Army handed over twenty benches and desks to Khalabhat Higher Secondary School, Kallar Mohra. The initiative, undertaken as part of Operation Sadbhavana, is aimed at strengthening educational infrastructure in remote areas and addressing the basic needs of students. The provision of new furniture will substantially improve the learning environment of the school, which has been facing constraints due to shortage of adequate classroom facilities. This support will directly benefit the students by providing them with comfortable seating arrangements and an improved academic setting, thereby motivating them to pursue education with greater enthusiasm. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation of students, teachers and troops. Teachers and local community members expressed gratitude for the assistance, highlighting that such initiatives go a long way in bridging gaps in resources and fostering trust between the Army and the populace.

# Abhishek honoured with National Youth Excellence Award 2025 for social work

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Abhishek Raina from Jammu, Jammu & Kashmir has been conferred with the prestigious National Youth Excellence Award 2025 in the category of Social Work. He was among 40 outstanding awardees from 15 states of India recognized for their remarkable contributions towards nation-building. The award was presented during the National Youth Exchange Programme 2025, jointly organized by Live For Others - Being Helpful Foundation and the Department of Home Science, University of Jammu, at the Brigadier Rajinder Singh Auditorium, University of Jammu. The ceremony was graced by S.P. Vaid, Former Director General of Police J&K, who presented the award in the presence of Vivek Parihar, Director, LFO-BHF, and Prof. Sarika Manhas, HOD, Department of Home Science, University of Jammu. The awardee's journey in social work began in 2022



Abhishek Raina receiving National Youth Excellence Award 2025.

with active involvement in initiatives such as medical camps, blanket donation drives, visits to Balgram Ashram, and free education for underprivileged children from slum areas. In 2023, he was appointed Secretary of the Jammu Province of LFO-BHF and entrusted with leading the Health Domain. Under his leadership, a major CSR project in collaboration with J&K Bank was successfully executed across all 20 districts of J&K, spreading awareness on menstrual hygiene. In recognition of his continued efforts, he was promoted in 2024 as Secretary of the National Body, where

he now contributes at a larger scale, expanding the NGO's mission nationwide. Speaking after receiving the award, Raina said, "This honor is a motivation to continue working with dedication towards social causes. It is a recognition of collective effort, and I hope it inspires more youth to come forward and contribute to building a better society." The National Youth Excellence Award 2025 is a true acknowledgment of his passion, leadership, and commitment to community service, bringing pride to Jammu & Kashmir and inspiring youth across the nation.

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