Keshav Chopra honours outstanding individuals at "Duggar De Rattan" Awards

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Chairman of the Samvedna Society Keshav Chopra hosted the "Duggar De Rattan" Awards 2025 at the Indian Institute of Administration (IIPA) to felicitate individuals who have made significant contributions across various fields. The awards recognized outstanding Singers, Dogri artists, Dancers Choreographers, activists, members of Jagran Committees Influencers Bloggers, Satsang Mandli's, all of whom were honoured for their exceptional work. Senior Superintendent of Police Traffic Police Jammu Farooq Qaiser JKPS and Joint Director Information Deepak Dubey JKASDistributed Awards among the awardees.

The awards ceremony was organized with the primary motive of boosting the morale of these individuals,



SSP Traffic Police Jammu Farooq Qaiser awarding a woman.

their hard work, and encouraging the next generation to actively participate in preserving the rich culture of Jammu and Kashmir.

SSP Traffic Farooq Qaiser commended the Samvedna Society for its initiative. He highlighted the importance of such events in promoting positive change and building a stronger community. "It's heartening to see such a vibrant celebration of talent and dedication," said Qaiser.

"Recognizing the efforts of these individuals not only motivates them but also sends a powerful message to the entire society about the value of hard work and cultural pride. This is a commendable step towards creating a better society." He also appealed to the citizens to strictly follow Traffic rules for their own safety and the smooth movement of vehi-Avoid overspeeding,

mobile phones while driving and also avoid modification of vehicles SSP said. Deepak Dubey, Joint

Director of Information also praised the awardees and the organizers. "This felicitation program is a wonderful platform to acknowledge the selfless service and talent within our community," noted. Dubey Samvedna Society's efforts in honouring these individuals will undoubtedly inspire many others to contribute to the social and cultural development of Jammu and Kashmir. It's an excellent example of how civil society can play a crucial role in nation-building."

During the event, Keshav Chopra, Chairman of the Society, Samvedna addressed the gathering, emphasizing the importance of cultural preservation and social responsibility. "Our aim with the 'Duggar De Rattan' awards is to recoggems of our region," he stated. "Their dedication is crucial for keeping our traditions alive and inspiring our vouth. I also urge everyone to join hands in the fight against drug abuse, a menace that is destroying our society. Let's channel our energy into our talents and make our families and our region proud."

Rahul Dutta Director & Editor, Rajat Sharma MD Unique Voice, Sahil Mahajan MD Maa Bawe Wali UrjaSingh Records, Cultural and Social Activist, Dr Alka Sharma President Mahila Wing (GGF), Jatin Kumar Co-ordinator IIPA, Karuna Gupta, Jatinder Mengi, Aneesha Sharma First International Shooter from J&K, Deepak Kumar, Pt Tripat Upadhyay and many others were also pres-

The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Senior Artist Parveen

Shiv Sainiks pray to Ganpati for protection from nature's fury, urge end to reckless development

JAMMU: On the occasion of Ganesh festival, the Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and Kashmir unit organized prayers at the party's State Central Office, where Lord Ganpati was seated and special prayers were offered for protection from natural disasters and to calm nature's

Extending greetings for the festival, State Chief Manish Sahni expressed deep grief over the destruction caused by recent heavy rains in Jammu and Kashmir, including the tragic loss of 31 devotees in a landslide on the Vaishno Devi Yatra route in Katra last Tuesday, and four people who lost their lives in a cloudburst in Doda district. Sahni strongly criticized

the administration for ignoring repeated warnings by scientists and weather experts regarding climate change, heavy rainfall, and cloudbursts. He said the people are paying the price



in terms of loss of lives and property, while water levels of rivers like Tarna, Ujh, Maggar Khad, Sahar Khad and their tributaries in Kathua, Basantar in Samba, and Tawi, Jhelum, and Chenab in Jammu have crossed the danger mark.

He further alleged that reckless development without expert consultation, unplanned mountain demolition, deforestation, and illegal mining have disturbed the ecological balance, resulting in premature

deaths. "The ruling party washes its hands off such tragedies by terming them 'natural disasters' instead of addressing the root causes, Sahni remarked.

During the occasion, Sahni along with Shiv Sainiks prayed at the feet of Ganpati Bappa for freedom and protection from natural calamities in the future. Senior leaders including General Secretary Vikas Bakshi and Executive President Sanjeev Kohli

PM Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana awareness drive held at EPFO's Nidhi Aapke Nikat 2.0



Regional PF Commissioner-II, Naresh Kumar Yadav chairing the programme. Commissioner-II, Naresh

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) on Tuesday organised its flagship outreach programme Nidhi Aapke Nikat 2.0 at the Conference Hall of Ravenbhel Biotech, Bari Brahmna, Samba, with a special focus on creating $_{
m the}$ Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana (PMVBRY). The event was

Kumar Yadav, and witnessed the participation of over 20 employers and employees from different sectors. District Nodal Officer and Accounts Officer, Shri Jatin Gupta, briefed the gathering about services explained the objectives, benefits, and operational framework of PMVBRY. He highlighted that the scheme, with a financial outlay of Rs 1 lakh crore,

aims to generate 3.5 crore employment opportunities across the country and will remain operational for two vears from August 1, 2025. For the manufacturing sector, benefits under the scheme will extend up to four years, he informed. The awareness pro-

gramme also covered key vation, UAN updation, and

aspects of member services such as Joint Declaration, KYC updation, UAN actiplay a vital role in fostering formal employment and ensuring wider social security coverage.

Participants were provided insights into the compliance framework, operational procedures, and the dual benefits of the scheme for both employers and employees. Queries from company representatives, employers, and employees were also addressed by the District Nodal Officers during the interactive session.

Naresh Kumar Yadav thanked all the stakeholders for their active participation and termed the event a "massive success" in reinforcing awareness about EPFO schemes and the PMVBRY in the Jammu Division. Key industry representatives including Vikas Sharma (Executive Kamal Sharma Manager (Assistant Accounts), and Abhimanyu Jasrotia (HR) were also

Sat, Sham visit flash flood-affected areas of Jammu North, assure full support



BJP Chief Sat Sharma along with MLA Sham Lal during visit to flood affected areas.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Jammu & Kashmir President Sat Sharma, accompanied by senior party leader and MLA Jammu North Assembly Constituency Sham Lal Sharma, visited the flash floodaffected areas of Jammu North to take stock of the situation and meet the affected families.

The leaders toured Sarika Vihar, Shivalik Puram, Roop Nagar, and the camp sites established for the flash flood victims at Kailash Resort housing about 250 flood affected families from ward-67, Kullain

New Basti and another camp inside Aap Shambhu Mandir at Upper Roop Nagar housing about 150 flood-affected families. They interacted with the displaced families, enquired about their well-being, and assured them of every possible support.

Pankaj Padha, Sahil Ravish Mengi, Mahajan, Suresh Khajuria, Rekha Manhas, Sunita Gupta, and several other BJP leaders were also present.

Expressing deep concern over the damage caused by the floods, Sat Sharma said that the calamity has brought immense suffering to several

Abdul Quddir calls for unity, patience, cooperation in

wake of natural calamity

families who have lost their homes and belongings. He stated that the BJP stands firmly with the victims in this hour of distress and will leave no stone unturned in ensuring maximum relief through the government and administration. He stressed upon the concerned departments to initiate relief and rehabilitation measures on a war-footing, covering proper shelter, food, health facilities, and restoration of damaged infrastructure. He assured that BJP will continuously monitor the situation and press upon the authorities to

Sat Sharma reassured the people that the BJP under the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, is committed to their welfare and will make sure that relief and rehabilitation reach every affected person without delay. They further assured them that the party and the administration will stand by them until normalcy is fully restored.

Sham Lal Sharma emphasized the importance of preparedness in the wake of recurring natural calamities. He said that both the administration and the people must remain alert and ready to deal with any further natural fury. Highlighting the urgent need for long-term planning, he called for improved drainage systems, disaster management mechanisms, and public awareness campaigns to minimize the impact of such disasters in

He assured that BJP legislators will act as a bridge between the people and the government to ensure grievances are addressed on priority.

Kesri demands instant relief for flood-affected farmers in Jammu District

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Shiv Sena Hindustan, led by Jammu and Kashmir President Pandit Rajesh Kesri, held a press conference to demand Jammu district. The press conference was attended by prominent leaders, including Sanjeev Sharma, Balbir Kumar, Balwant Saini, Rai Kumar. Baba Suresh Kumar, and Satpal. The press conference highlighted the plight of farmers in border areas, including Nowshera, Arnia, Bishnah, Miran Sahib, Ramgarh, and others, where the

majority of the population

depends on agriculture. Addressing media persons, Kesri expressed concern over the plight of farmers, particularly those relief for farmers affected living in border areas, by the recent floods in whose crops have been damaged due to the floods. Kesri demanded that the government provide compensation to farmers who have lost their crops, especially rice, which is a crucial crop for their livelihood.

He urged the government to send SDM, Tehsildar, and agriculture department officials to assess the damage and provide relief to affected farmers. He also

BJP holds meetings to assess flood losses &

strengthen relief operations

demanded that the government provide relief to families who have lost their homes or have been affected by the floods.

Kesri called upon the government to take immediate action to provide relief to flood-affected farmers and families in Jammu district. recent floods in Jammu district have caused significant damage to crops and homes, affecting the livelihood of many Shivfarmers. Hindustan's demand for relief and compensation is a timely reminder of the need for government support to affected families.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Eminent Dogri and Urdu writer Abdul Kundria expressed deep sorrow and concern over the widespread devastation caused by the recent spell of heavy rains across Jammu and Kashmir and in other parts of the country. The calamity has resulted in tragic loss of lives, destruction of homes, and damage to infrastructure, leaving almost every family in the region affected



Kundria said that this is a time for patience, courage, and collective resilience. He stressed that society must rise above political considerations and focus entirely on humanity. Only through compassion and solidarity, he said, can people ensure

Highlighting the role of grassroots-level officials, he appealed to the public to extend complete cooperation to Patwaris, electricity linemen, Panchayat secretaries, teachers, police personnel, sarpanches, panches, lamchowkidars. bardars. Anganwadi workers, helpers, and staff of other departments. According to him, it is only with the support and coordination of these officials that the extent of losses can be properly recorded and forwarded to the administration, enabling victims to receive timely aid.

Abdul Quddir Kundria also made a heartfelt request to the district administration

efforts reach every house- cerned departments to per- Almighty Allah to grant hold that has suffered. sonally visit the affected patience and strength to the areas. He urged them to meet people face-to-face, listen to their grievances, assess their losses, and encourage them to stand firm in this difficult time. He said such steps would not only help in efficient relief distribution but also restore the confidence of citizens who are feeling helpless in the wake of the disaster.

act swiftly, so that no affected

The writer offered special prayers for those who lost their lives across Jammu and Kashmir, particularly in the districts of Reasi, Mahore, Katra, Vaishno Devi, Chassoti, Kishtwar, Kathua, Udhampur, Rajouri, Poonch, Ramban in other affected

that relief and rehabilitation and all officers of the con-regions. He prayed to bereaved families, and for courage to those who are struggling to rebuild their lives. Concluding his message, Kundria said that the path ahead will not be easy, but with unity, cooperation, and compassion, society can overcome this calamity.

He emphasized that only by supporting one another can the people of Jammu and Kashmir move forward and emerge stronger from this tragedy.

Dr. Karan Singh seeks Centre's support to tackle crisis in Jammu Region

deep shock

and anguish over the devastating natural calamities that have struck the State, particularly the Jammu region.

leader said, "While greeting everyone on Ganesh Chaturthi, I must express my shock and horror at the natural calamities that have hit the State, particularly the Jammu region. I extend my deep sympathy to the bereaved families of those who have perished, and pray

Chowdhary Zulfkar expresses shock over loss of lives, property, crops in heavy rains



Vice President J&K BJP Chowdhary Zulfkar Ali interacting with locals.

STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: Former Cabinet President J&KChowdhary Zulfkar Ali expressed shock over the loss of lives, property and crops across the UT of Jammu and Kashmir particularly in Rajouri and Poonch Region in recent flash floods, heavy Rains

In a press statement

Chowdhary Zulfkar Ali sympathies with bereaved families major landslides.

ed that huge loss has happened across the PirPangal Regions of Rajouri and Poonch districts due to the

incessant Rains, heavy flood, landslides have damaged the standing crops, the horticulture produces and even the property worth several crores have been lost to the people of the region. He demanded adequate

compensation to the sufbesides ferers Government must send the special revenue teams to access the losses on the ground and provide adequate compensation to the sufferers of this disastrous natural calamity.

Chowdhary Zulfkar visited several areas of Rajouri district interacted with the

Chowdhary appreciated the district Administration Rajouri both civil and Police besides SDRF teams for prompt action.

STATE TIMES NEWS JAMMU: Former Sadr-e-Riyasat Jammu Kashmir, Dr. Karan Singh, has expressed

In a handout issued here today, the nonagenarian

for speedy recovery of those injured."

The former Member Parliament hoped that the Central Government will extend all necessary support to the State administration to deal effectively with the current crisis.

BJP leaders during the meeting in Jammu. STATE TIMES NEWS also accompanied by party JAMMU: Jammu & Kashmir General Secretaries Sanjita Dogra and Baldev Singh Bharativa Janata Party (BJP) held a series of meet-Billawaria. ings at the party headquarters, MLAs Sham Lal Sharma, Yudhvir Sethi, Dr. Rajiv Trikuta Nagar, Jammu, to Bhagat, Arvind Gupta, Prof. review the situation arising out Sat Sharma, while addressof the recent flash floods trig-Gharu Ram Bhagat, Surinder Bhagat, former Minister Priya Sethi, district Presidents, sen-

gered by incessant rains in the The meetings began with a homage to the victims of the landslide tragedy on the route to Mata Vaishno Devi Bhawan, followed by prayers for the swift recovery of the injured.

meetings addressed by J&K BJP President Sat Sharma, party General Secretary (Org.) Ashok Koul and Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) Jugal Kishore Sharma, who were ior leaders, and the District Units were present in these meetings spanned over the day in the party headquarters.

During the deliberations, leaders from different districts shared first-hand accounts of the ground situation, highlighting the widespread loss of life and property, severe damage to public infrastructure such as roads, electric poles, embankments of Tawi and Nikki Tawi rivers, drains,

houses, household essentials, total loss of electric and electronic goods, eatables, dry ration, vehicles, crops, and livestock. It was observed that normal life in many areas had been completely disrupted.

ing the meetings, said that the party stands firmly with the affected people in this hour of crisis and it should be witnessed in the working of every activist. He said that the priority is to ensure timely relief and rehabilitation of all victims. He said that all the district units and activists must remain at the forefront of rescue and relief operations. He directed that the relief camps must be strengthened with essential supplies so that no family remains unattended.

immediate medical assistance. After floods, the risk of outbreak of communicable diseases rises sharply. Public awareness campaigns, medical camps, and preventive measures must be initiated without delay, he added. Ashok Koul said that the

He also stressed the need for

party cadre has already been actively participating in rescue operations in various affected localities. He said that the party is coordinating with administration to ensure electricity, drinking water, medicines, and communication services, which need to be restored at the earliest. BJP workers will continue to assist the people till normalcy returns, he assured.

Jugal Kishore Sharma expressed solidarity with the victims, stating that the scale of damage is massive, and intervention urgent required. He shared that after having first hand assessment of the situation, he has already taken up the matter at the appropriate levels to ensure adequate measures for the relief to the affected families and for speedy restoration of infrastructure.

expressed deep shock and Adhkavri tragedy in katra where scores of Pilgrimage of Shri Mata Vaishno Davi Ji lost their lives in a Chowdhary Zulfkar stat-