

## Jat Mahasabha delegation meets CS, seeks ownership rights for land allotted to displaced families of 1965, 1971

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JAMMU: A delegation of All India Jat Mahasabha (AIJMS) led by its President Ch Manmohan Singh today met Chief Secretary Arun Kumar Mehta and sought ownership rights for the land chunks allotted to displaced Jat families during Indo-Pak wars of 1965 and 1971.

The delegation submitted a memorandum to the Chief Secretary highlighting the issues and demands of the over 5 lakh Jat community members living in the UT of J&K. The main demand raised by the AIJMS include ownership rights to the families who were allotted land at various places by the then state government post their displacement from their original homes during the Indo- Pak wars of 1965 and 1971. Giving instances of such injustice, Ch Manmohan cited the cases of National Highway passing through village Supwal, concrete bund under construction by the BSF in the area from village Kangwala in Samba district going across village Sai Kalan in RS Pura area and beyond, where Jat families



AIJMS delegation led by its President Ch Manmohan Singh calling on Chief Secretary Arun Kumar Mehta.

have been denied compensation just because of lack of the aforesaid rights.

The Jat leader also apprised the Chief Secretary that a survey was conducted by the NAHI authorities from Lakhampur to Jammu in 2008 to acquire the land along the National Highway and promised to pay the compensation of structures raised on the custodian land allotted to the displaced persons.

He mentioned that after passing of about 14 years, now the NHAI has desire to acquire the same land through the district administrations of Jammu,

Samba and Kathua.

He termed it unfortunate that the NHAI authorities are paying the compensation as per 2008 rates which were not acceptable to Jat community.

The delegation sought that the government should pay adequate compensation to Jat community people as per four times the current market value of the property.

He said that Jat community is not well-off like other business communities settled permanently in the city which can easily survive on alternative sources of income therefore government should take an

early decision to give them ownership rights of the land chunks which are under their possession and are being looked after since the day the government has allotted the same to them.

After listening to the plight of the AIJMS delegation the Chief Secretary assured to place the matter before the higher authorities for an early and favourable resolution.

The delegation consisted of Brig. Pawan Sauntra, Col S.R Choudhary, Sarpanch Parveen choudhary, Ch Prem Pal, Sarpanch Sarbjot Singh, Ch Rashpal Singh, Ch Rattan and N. Sarpanch Davinder Singh.

## BJP organises medical camps across J&K under Sewa Pakhwada



J&K BJP General Secretary (Org.) Ashok Koul after inaugurating medical camp at Khimber in Srinagar.

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JAMMU: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu & Kashmir organized more than 50 medical camps across Jammu & Kashmir under Sewa Pakhwada.

J&K BJP President Ravinder Raina, on the occasion said that the camps saw thousands of people visiting doctors.

J&K BJP General

Secretary (Org.) Ashok Koul said that the maximum medical camps were organized in the areas where free medical facilities are not easily accessible.

Ashok Koul inaugurated the free medical testing and medicine distribution camp at Khimber Harwan in Srinagar. Director Health Services Kashmir, Nodal Officer Dr. Irfat and others were also

present.

MP (Lok Sabha) Jugal Kishore Sharma, former Minister Sat Sharma, J&K BJP General Secretary Adv. Vibodh Gupta, Veenu Khanna, Media Incharge Dr. Pardeep Mahotra, Mandal President Keshav Chopra, Councillor Neelam Nargotra the free eye testing and medicine distribution camp at Shree Guru Ravidass Sabha, Talab Tillo.

BJP Vice-President Yudhvir Sethi organized a free medical testing camp at Prem Nagar, Ward 7, Jammu.

BJP General Secretary Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal accompanied by DDC Kartar Chand, DDC Ramesh Chander, DP Amar Singh inaugurated the free medical testing and medicine distribution camp at Nud Block in Samba.

## Arnia residents accord welcome to newly elected President Saini Sabha



Arnia residents welcoming Satpal Singh Saini, President of Saini Sabha.

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JAMMU: A warm welcome was accorded to New President of Saini Sabha Satpal Saini on his arrival in Arnia on Monday.

On reaching headquarters of the Saini fraternity at Arnia, the residents of town welcomed Satpal Singh Saini by taking out a rally. The outgoing president entrusted the work of the office to Satpal Saini. On this occasion, Satpal Saini also took

## Governing Body of SMVD College of Nursing finalises arrangements for Nursing Fest 'Tarang-2022'

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JAMMU: 42nd meeting of the Governing Body of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi College of Nursing (SMVDCoN), Kakryal, was held on Monday to discuss way forward for developing this institution as a centre of excellence for providing top quality nursing education to the students in consonance with the emerging requirements of healthcare system.

The meeting chaired by Suresh Kumar Sharma (Retd.) Judge, Chairman, SMVDCoN, Governing Body and Member Shrine Board; was attended by Anshul Garg, Chief Executive Officer, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board; Dr. Shakti Kumar Gupta, Director AIIMS, Jammu; Dr. Sharda Potukuchi, Associate Professor, Head of Biotechnology and Dean Academic Affairs, SMVDU; Dr. Sunil Sharma, Joint CEO of Shrine Board and Administrator of SMVDCoN and Dr. Shailla Cannie, Principal SMVDCoN.

The GB also discussed the possibilities for exploring



Governing Body of SMVDCoN during a meeting at Katra.

introduction of Post Graduate Programme in the college through online/Hybrid mode in the various disciplines like Health Care Quality and Patient Safety & Community Care for catering to the needs of working population from Health background (clinical/ academic settings) as the master's degree is becoming the standard credential for most medical/ healthcare positions.

Besides, the availability of these programs in India is limited and introduction of the same shall increase accessibility to high quality education for a large number of aspiring students through distance-learning modalities.

The meeting, while approving the calendar of events of the College for the year 2022-23, appreciated various activities undertaken by the institution on varied subjects by associating experts in the relevant fields during the past months for the benefit of the students and faculty.

The Governing Body also finalised the arrangements for organising 2-day Inter-College Competition "Tarang-2022" by the SMVDCoN for the various Nursing Colleges of the UT which is scheduled to be held on 22nd and 23rd September, 2022.

The inaugural function and other events on the first day of the competition will be held at the Shri Mata Vaishno

Devi University campus at Kakryal. The events scheduled for second day will be organised at the Shrine Board's Sports Complex, Katra, while the valedictory function of the Inter-College Competition will be held at the Spiritual Growth Centre, Katra. The events to be organised include Rangoli making, Face Painting and on the spot poster competition besides, short film making, street play, sports and cultural programmes.

In addition, referring to the high importance of the capacity building of the Nursing College on a continuing basis, the GB stressed on entering into mutual/ Inter-institutional agreements with AIIMS, Jammu in which the expertise and services of one institute's faculty members are exchanged with the other for promotion of teaching and research collaboration to the faculties of both institutions. The meeting also called for exploring the opportunities of job placements for the students of the Nursing College with such institutions for their better career prospects.

## Dogri Sanstha Jammu organises Bal Kahani Goshthi

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JAMMU: Dogri Sanstha Jammu organized Dogri Bal Kahani Goshthi in which four story writers Dr. Sheetal Sharma, Dr. Manoj Heer, Dr. Sonika Jasrotia and Dr. Radha Rani presented their stories.

The programme started with Dr. Sheetal Sharma presenting her short stories 'Sukh Suvidha' and 'Shaitan Bachche' thereafter Dr. Manoj Heer presented 'Mehnat' and ' Wahm' , Dr. Sonika Jasrotia presented 'Pakki Dosti' whereas in the end Dr. Radha Rani presented 'Bajaru Gudda' and 'Nama Mahol'.

The programme was presided over by well-known dogri writer and Ex- Head of Department , Dogri Department , Jammu University Prof. Shivdev

Singh Manhas, who in his presidential address complemented the writers for their well knitted children short stories.

He said that it is a good sign that now more and more writers are getting interested to pen down their creative writing keeping in view the children that will really help in infusing a spirit in others also and our children literature will be enriched.

He advised the young writers to keep writing and read children literature written not only in Dogri but in other languages also that will help them to realize to what direction children literature is advancing in recent times.

The programme was conducted by General Secretary Dogri Sanstha and Sahitya Akademi's Bal Sahitya awardee Rajeshwar Singh

'Raju' while appreciating all story tellers assured that Dogri Sanstha will continue providing platforms to aspiring talents regularly thus coming up to the expectations of litterateurs and Dogri lovers.

He hoped that Sanstha will continue getting support from all Dogras so that it will be able to present different programs on varied subjects and connect with inhabitants in every corner of Duggar Pradesh.

The technical support for smooth conduct of program was given well-known theatre activist and Dogri writer Pawan Verma, who also presented vote of thanks.

It was watched on Facebook page of Dogri Sanstha Jammu and appreciated throughout India and abroad even.

## CS inspects ongoing renovation works at Mubarak Mandi Heritage Complex

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JAMMU: Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta on Monday visited Mubarak Mandi Heritage Complex and inspected the progress of restoration and conservation work being carried out there.

Principal Secretary Higher Education and Information, Rohit Kansal, Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Ramesh Kumar, Deputy Commissioner Jammu Avny Lavasa, Director Tourism Nityanand Rai, Commissioner JMC Rahul Yadav, Director Museum and Archives Pardeep Kumar, Executive Director, Mubarak Mandi Jammu Heritage Society, Deepika K Sharma, Addl. CEO Smart City Project Jammu Hitesh Gupta and other concerned officers were present on the occasion.

Dr. Mehta took a round of different segments and sections of the Mubarak Mandi Complex and sought a detailed briefing on the progress of the ongoing restoration and renovation



CS, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta interacting with DC Jammu Avni Lavasa during visit to Mubarak Mandi Complex.

works. He inspected the progress and quality of work which is at different phases of completion.

The Executive Director MMHC, apprised the CS regarding progress of works including adaptive use of library building into cafeteria at Mubarak Mandi Heritage Complex which will be completed within 15 month from the date of starting with an estimated cost of Rs.3.14 crore.

It was informed that the works regarding Cafeteria included dismantling of existing RCC slab for laying of traditional roofing, providing

and fixing of traditional furniture, sanitary and electric fitting.

Regarding present status of work, it was informed that dismantling of first floor and basement roof is completed and structural stitching is also completed for South-western end of the building where as procurement of ISMB and wooden joist for basement is under progress.

The Chief Secretary issued specific directions to the concerned for expediting the pace of renovation works at Mubarak Mandi as the complex is expected to become a major tourist attraction of Jammu City.

The Chief Secretary directed the concerned officers to expedite the progress of work by increasing manpower and ensure that all the executed works are completed within set timelines.

He also instructed the Executive Director to be in regular touch with contractors, consultants for resolving minor issues, if any, for speedy completion of all the ongoing works.

The Chief Secretary instructed the executing agencies to take special care for maintaining the aesthetic ambience of the prestigious heritage complex.

## BJP's massive outreach to last person in society jitters opposition: Rana

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UNA: BJP Co-Prabhari for Himachal Pradesh elections, Devender Singh Rana on Monday said the opposition jitteriness reflects the frustration over the BJP's massive outreach to last person in the society in a bid to elicit their participation in the implementation of various schemes tailored for their welfare, empowerment and progress.

Addressing Scheduled Caste Convention at Kutlahar Mandal, during the second leg tour of the Una District, Devender Rana castigated the Congress for being inimical to the interests of Scheduled Castes, saying that it has been exploiting the weaker sections as a vote bank in a desperate bid to become relevant in the Indian politics after being rejected by the people.

Prominent among those pres-



BJP Co-Prabhari for HP elections, Devender Singh Rana addressing a gathering at Una.

ent on the occasion included senior HP Minister for Agriculture, Rural Development, Panchayati Raj, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries Virendra Kanwar, Rajya Sabha MP Dr. Sikander Kumar, Parliamentary constituency co-in-charge Sunith Sharma, District President Manohar Lal, Tarsem Lal, Devraj and others.

He exhorted the cadre to reach out to the members of the

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KARGIL: A day-long workshop cum training programme on mushroom cultivation was organized by the Govt Degree College (GDC), Drass in the Union Territory of Ladakh in collaboration with the National Mission on Himalayan Studies (NMHS) and implemented by the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Govt of India and the Department of Botany, University of Jammu.

During the workshop, Prof. Yash Pal Sharma, Department of Botany, JU enlightened the participants on the life cycle patterns of mushrooms, mushroom diversity, their ecological role, and economic importance.

"The edible mushroom species we consume today were once growing only in the wild and later domesticated by



Participants of the workshop posing for a photograph at Drass.

the humans as an alternative vegetable food for fulfilling our nutritional needs" informed Prof Sharma.

Elaborating further, Prof Sharma said that due to increasing population and shrinking land resources due to rapid urbanization, society is facing the diverse challenges of food security, deteriorating quality of health, unemployment, and increasing environmental deterioration.

Giving details of the mush-

room diversity and its forms with respect to the Northwestern Himalayan regions of Jammu, Kashmir, and Ladakh, the mycologist said that edible mushrooms are nature's best non-green veggies and health food constituting all-in-one package of nutritional, medicinal, and economic attributes.

He congratulated Dr. Amjad Ali Abbasi, Principal GDC, Drass, and the local implementing partner of the

NMHS project, for introducing the Skill Development Course on Mushroom Cultivation for undergraduate students under NEP 2020 this year.

Dr. Tahir Mehmood, the Project Fellow, NMHS project presented detailed protocols of mushroom cultivation to the workshop participants. In the afternoon session, a field expedition was organized to understand the habitat and ecology of wild mushrooms.

about the weaker sections to be provided just basic amenities, the BJP is committed towards their active participation in governance and bringing them into mainstream as equals, he added. Rana exuded confidence about the Scheduled Castes coming in a big way to support the path breaking policies of Narendra Modi and re-electing the BJP government in Himachal Pradesh for continuity in the implementation of various schemes introduced for holistic development of their habitations and empowerment of the youth.

"The people of Himachal Pradesh in general and the Scheduled Castes in particular can see for themselves the strides taken over the years by the BJP for elevating their life standard and ensuring the benefits of development and welfare schemes reaching last per-

son in the society", Rana said and referred to the initiatives taken over the years.

He said 50 per cent beneficiaries under the Mudra scheme belong to SC community across the country, which has given a big fillip to employment.

Paying tributes to the Father of Indian Constitution Dr B R Ambedkar for his huge contribution towards nation building and emancipation of the weaker sections, said besides various measures the Himachal Pradesh Government has established libraries in the name of Babasaheb in every district of the state.

Rana complimented the SC leaders of the BJP for intensifying their mass outreach campaign across Himachal Pradesh, saying this will enable blooming of Lotus on a massive scale during ensuring assembly elections.