

Govt undermining interest of rural, hilly areas: Chib

STATE TIMES NEWS
RAMNAGAR: Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) on Wednesday celebrated its second Foundation Day here with party leaders seeking action oriented programmes for rural, hilly and border areas of Jammu and Kashmir.

Addressing a public meeting here in Udhampur district as part of celebrations of Foundation Day, General Secretary RS Chib while congratulating party members on DPAP's Foundation Day, lashed out at government for ignoring people of rural, hilly and border areas who continue to suffer due to neglect and apathy of the administration.

Its a matter of pride that DPAP has successfully completed a year of its formation under chairman Ghulam Nabi Azad who has guided and mentored the party leadership and workers across J&K by working 24X7 to



DPAP General Secretary RS Chib during the public meeting.

ensure its reach in every nook and corner, said Chib during a function organised by Sanjeev Jandiyal, councillor of Ramnagar municipality.

Expressing concern at the government's approach and outreach towards far flung areas, the former minister and party veteran reminded people of the tenure of Ghulam Nabi Azad as chief minister which was referred to as the golden period of development.

Ramnagar was accorded sub-division status by

Ghulam Nabi Azad as chief minister and since then the area has hardly seen any development; be it roads, colleges or hospitals, electricity and water supply," argued Chib.

Provincial President Jugal Kishore Sharma also congratulated DPAP leaders and workers and urged them to be ready for ULB and Panchayat polls. Even though there are delay tactics on holding of elections in J&K, DPAP should not be complacent on this count since we

are a young party, affirmed Sharma.

Playing the administration for failing to take concrete steps in terms of development, Sharma substantiated his criticism by citing examples of bad road conditions in Ramnagar. Both the party leaders pointed to the condition of Ramnagar-Udhampur road which is in dilapidated condition for decades now. Apart from bad road conditions, Asha workers have been deprived of their due salaries also which reflects on the governance model adopted by the current administration, said Sharma.

General Secretary Jammu Province Brijmohan Sharma emphasised on the party outreach while Vishal Chopra General Secretary Jammu province & (media incharge) reminded people about chairmans tenure as chief minister and they should work for his return to lead J&K again.

GDC Khour organises cleanliness drive in adopted village

STATE TIMES NEWS
KHOUR: NSS unit of GDC Khour organised cleanliness drive under the aegis of "Swachhta Hi Sewa". NSS volunteers visited their adopted village Naryana and collected plastic and wet waste around the lotus pond in the area. This activity was conducted in the presence of village Sarpanch Sharda Devi.

Volunteers Gourav Singh, Sweety Manhas, Supriya Devi, Honey Choudhary, Sourav Singh, Riya Sharma, Riya Bhagat, Chander Shekhar, Sahil Mattu, Rohan Singh and Jabee Singh participated in this Swachhta Abhiyan. This programme was organised by NSS Programme Officer Gurvinder Kour under the guidance of Principal of the College, Prof. (Dr) T K Sharma.

DC presides over weekly Block Diwas at Panchayat Barta-Udhampur

STATE TIMES NEWS
UDHAMPUR: Deputy Commissioner Udhampur Saloni Rai on Wednesday presided over the weekly Block Diwas program in Panchayat Barta in Block Jaganoo.

During his visit, she attentively listened to the concerns and issues raised by the public.

The event saw the participation of prominent figures, including BDC Chairman, Sanjeet Kumar, DDC Councillor, Prikshit Singh, Additional District Development Commissioner Ghan Shyam Singh, along with other district officers, PRIs, and the general public from neighboring Panchayats within the Block.

A wide array of issues and demands were put forth during this gathering. They sought construction of a playground, upgradation of the Jaganoo road and Kuhl Nallah Khas Chanunta road, repair of solar

lights, filling of potholes on the Patli to Trilla road under PMGSY, establishment of a Veterinary center; repairing work of the Health sub-center building in Johnu, augmentation of drinking water supply, upgradation of a High School to GHSS, opening of an ATM, blacktopping and maintenance work of various roads, measures to end monkey menace, meeting shortage of staff at GHSS Barta, resolving water-logging problems, additional accommodation for GMS Sattani, repairing of hand pumps, shifting of the ZEO office, inclusion of left-out beneficiaries under Awas Plus Yojana, and various other concerns raised by PRI members.

In response to these issues and demands, the Deputy Commissioner issued immediate instructions to relevant officers to prioritize and address these matters. Many grievances were resolved on the spot, fol-

lowing the DC directives to concerned department officials. She assured the public that all genuine demands would be examined and addressed promptly. Additionally, the ADDC was instructed to conduct a survey of the Patli to Trilla road and ensure the quality of work. The DC emphasized the importance of quality work and the involvement of PRIs in monitoring ongoing projects, urging relevant departments to expedite the pace of work for timely completion. While engaging with the public, the DC highlighted the significance of platforms like Block Diwas, which enable the District Administration to understand the challenges faced by the people. She encouraged officers to inform the public about income-generating and beneficiary-oriented schemes launched by the Government of India and the UT Government.

BGSBU celebrates World Tourism Day



Faculty along with students during the event at Rajouri.

STATE TIMES NEWS
RAJOURI: Centre for Hospitality and Tourism, Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University celebrated World Tourism Day. This year World Tourism Day is celebrated under the theme "Tourism and green investment".

Vice Chancellor BGSBU Prof. Akbar applauded the efforts of the Centre in organising the event aimed at promoting the need for more and better-targeted investments

for the Sustainable Development Goals.

On the occasion a lecture on the theme of the day was delivered by Dr. Danish Iqbal Raina, Deputy Director, Centre for Hospitality and Tourism. Dr. Raina highlighted the possibilities of strategic investments to contribute to the SDGs. Dr. Raina mentioned that this day has brought in an opportunity for the International Institutions, Governments and investors across the

globe to come together to redefine and recalibrate the direction of tourism investments for a more sustainable future for the future generations.

On the occasion a cleanliness drive was conducted by the students, scholars and faculty of the Centre. Those who were present on the occasion included Asrar Ghaus, Dr. Shah Nawaz Chowdhury, Priyanka Khajuria, Scholars and Students.

Reasi Admn conducts cleanliness drive on World Tourism Day

STATE TIMES NEWS
REASI: On World Tourism Day, as part of Swachhta hi Sewa 2023, the District Administration of Reasi, led by Deputy Commissioner Reasi Babila Rakwal, orchestrated a mega cleanliness drive at Nau Deviyon.

This initiative saw active participation from various stakeholders, including CRPF personnel, PRIs members, market association members, local youths, women, and members of the trust.

The collaborative effort yielded substantial results, with approximately 200 participants, including CRPF personnel and government officials such as ADDC



DC Babila Rakwal and others carrying out cleanliness drive.

Reasi, ACD Reasi, ACP Reasi, SDM Katra, and DPO Reasi, working diligently to clean up litter in and around the temple. Moreover, their efforts extended to raising awareness about cleanliness and sanitation.

The drive successfully disposed of around 50 kg

of plastic waste, ensuring proper segregation. This collective endeavor not only enhanced the temple's surroundings but also emphasized the vital role of responsible tourism and community participation in maintaining a clean and sustainable environment for both locals and tourists.

Army commences tourist guides course

STATE TIMES NEWS
KISHITWAR : The Indian Army is organising two weeks "Training of Tourist Guide Course" with effect from 26 Sep 2023 to 08 Oct 2023 at Village Mughal Maidan of Kishitwar District in J&K. The aim of course is to enhance the skills and knowledge of aspiring youths in the field of tourism. The course has commenced with participation of 15 motivated youths from village Mughal Maidan and nearby areas, and the number of participants is expected to increase as the course progresses. The two weeks comprehensive capsule will provide participants with understanding of the responsibilities and skills required to excel in the field of tourism. The course is open for all. The said course consists

of Interpretation of Historical and Cultural Sites, Customer Service and Communication Skills, Environmental and Wildlife Awareness, Emergency Response and First Aid, Guiding Techniques and Local Geography. Proficiency certificates will be distributed to the trainees on completion of the course. The development of tourist guide not only beneficial for individuals but also contributes to the overall prosperity of region. It also encourages individuals to seize this opportunity for personal and professional growth. This initiative of Indian Army is a testament of commitment to fostering tourism and contributing to the professional development of individuals of such far flung area.

Police takes out Kalsh Yatra in connection with Meri Maati Mera Desh campaign



DySP Hqrs. Kathua Manjeet Singh and others during the event.

STATE TIMES NEWS
KATHUA: Kathua Police under the overall supervision of SSP Kathua Shivdeep Singh Janwal on Wednesday organised Kalsh Yatra in connection with "Meri Maati Mera Desh Campaign" which starts from Police Station Kathua led by DySP Hqrs. Kathua

Manjeet Singh & SHO PS Kathua Insp. Sudhir Sadhotra alongwith other police officers commenced from P/S Kathua to Saheedi Chowk Kathua in which Govt. Girls Higher Secondary School Kathua students and staff around 70/80 people actively participated.

Block Diwas program held across Doda district

STATE TIMES NEWS
DODA: Public outreach programmes under the banner of Block Diwas were held across the district at four different locations. The programmes were held under the overall supervision of Deputy Commissioner Doda Vishesh Mahajan. UT administration has taken multiple campaigns/ initiatives wherein administration reaches to the people at their doorsteps to assess the gaps in development, listen to the public aspirations and plan out a holistic programme to address their genuine issues and aspirations. Block Diwas program is one among them which is held at various designated

locations every Wednesday in district Doda.

This week, the Block Diwas program was held at Block Headquarter Baderwah, Sub District Baderwah; Panchayat Dosa, Sub Division Gandoh; Panchayat Ganhotra, Sub Division Assar and Panchayat Barshalla, Sub Division Thathri.

People in large numbers attended the Block Diwas at all four locations and demanded up-gradation of local infrastructure in the Health, Education sector besides extension of road connectivity, water and power facilities in the area. During the programme, demands regarding the macadamisation of roads,

execution of works under MGNREGA, and upgradation of electric poles, among others, were raised by the participants.

The Block Diwas mechanism has been instrumental in bridging the gap between people and the administration.

During the day long Block Diwas proceedings, Public and PRIs put forth a range of issues/ demands. The Presiding officers of the Block Diwas gave patient hearing to the issues and demands and directed the concerned officers to prepare a list of issues/grievances raised pertaining to their departments and resolve the same at an earliest.

STATE TIMES NEWS
RAJOURI: Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal on Wednesday conducted a thorough inspection of the ongoing construction work on the Koteranka Khawas road. He was accompanied by the Executive Engineer (XEN) of the Public Works Department Koteranka, Vikas Bhel. The 30.2 kilometer Koteranka Khawas road project, a cornerstone of regional infrastructure development, carries an estimated cost of Rs 68 crore, the road holds immense promise in improving the lives of the local population residing along its route.

During the inspection, the Deputy Commissioner underscored the critical



DC Rajouri, Vikas Kundal inspecting work on Koteranka Khawas road.

importance of adhering to stringent quality parameters throughout the construction process. He emphasized the need for uncompromising commitment to quality, ensuring that the road not only connects communities but also stands as a symbol of durability and resilience in the face of environmental challenges. "The Koteranka Khawas road is more than just a physical connection; it is a lifeline that will enhance connectivity, facilitate trade and open new avenues of progress for the people of this region. We must ensure that it meets the highest standards of construction, adheres to timelines, and becomes a source of pride

for generations to come," he said.

The visit of the Deputy Commissioner and his unequivocal commitment to the success of the project has injected renewed enthusiasm among the teams working tirelessly on its implementation. The local community, too, eagerly anticipates the completion of the road recognizing the transformational impact it will have on their lives.

As the project continues to progress, the administration and stakeholders remain steadfast in their dedication to delivering a world-class road infrastructure that will stand as a testament to growth and development of Rajouri district.

Sajjad Shaheen asks party cadres to intensify public outreach

STATE TIMES NEWS
BANIHAL: National Conference (NC) leader and district president Ramban Sajjad Shaheen on Wednesday asked his party cadres to intensify their political activities and public outreach to maintain grassroots-level engagement. Addressing prominent party functionaries during the inauguration of the party office in Maitra, Ramban, Shaheen stated, "In anticipation of the upcoming ULB and Panchayat elections, it is necessary for all of us to proactively prepare people for their participation in the democratic process. Staying closely connected with the masses will also aid in raising awareness about the party's pro-people agenda and policies." He further added, "It is our responsibility to help people understand that the National Conference is dedicated to safeguarding fundamental and democratic

rights of the people. The party's primary objective is to establish lasting peace, sustainable prosperity, and development in all the three regions of the erstwhile State of Jammu and Kashmir while simultaneously working towards the economic and political empowerment of its people." Shaheen said that, "NC has a well-defined political agenda for a modern and model Jammu and Kashmir and the party's objective has never been power but dignity and development of the state and its people. He further said

that "We do not deceive people by emotional blackmailing, slogans, falsehood, bias and creating hatred between various regions and sections of the society for votes. District Secretary Mohd Arif Mir; DDC counselors Mohd Shafi Zargar and Shameema Akhter; zonal Vice President Mohd Arif Wani, District president Women's wing Adv Aruna Thakur; District president SC cell Devi Ditta, District president YNC Nafees Mir; Zonal Joint Secretary Adil Mir; block president Batote Raja Arshad Ali besides Mohd Aslam

Parrey, Abdul Gani Wani, Mehraj Ud Din, Pooja Jaggi, Shama Begum also spoke in the meeting. The programme was organised by Er Suresh Khajuria who joined the party in Jammu recently. Later Sajjad Shaheen also went to the residence of the party block president Chanderkote, Mr Mushtaq Ahmed Lone along with party colleagues to offer condolences to him on the sad demise of his mother who died of illness a few days back. Special prayers were also held for the eternal peace of the departed soul.

Nowshera Forest Division organises events for celebration of Gandhi Jayanti

STATE TIMES NEWS
NOWSHERA: In order to commemorate Gandhi Jayanti-2023 and to make that special day illustrious, officials of Lamberi Forest Range conducted plantation drive at Ram Mandir Gagrote, cleanliness drive at office and residential complex of Range Forest Officer Lamberi, cleanliness drive & plastic free environment campaign at Government Middle School Allya and cleanliness drive at resin transit depot

Dabbar with the objective of making people aware regarding menace of plastic and its ill effects on environment. PRI members, children, senior citizens and women from nearby areas participated in campaign.

Range Officer Lamberi Sudesh Kumar told that a calendar of different events related to awareness and protection of forests, water bodies and other natural resources, plantation drives with involvement of PRI members & school children, adoption of healthy lifestyles & sustainable food systems, Paryavaran rallies and many other events to be conducted in different areas coming in ambit of Lamberi Forest Range has been prepared for whole week up to 2nd of October.

He also told that on same pattern a calendar for different events has been prepared for areas coming in ambit of Sunderbani Forest Range which will continue up to 2nd of October. These activities and campaigns were planned and conducted in the supervision of Divisional Forest Officer Nowshera Satyendra Mounrya and Conservator of Forest west circle Rajouri Vivek Verma.

DBT-PG Programme Advisory Committee meeting organises at SMVDU

STATE TIMES NEWS
KATRA: A committee meeting of DBT-PG Programme was held SMVDU, Katra. The meeting was conducted by the School of Biotechnology and chaired by Prof. Pragati Kumar Vice-Chancellor, SMVDU.

In the Prof. Kumar shared his delight in learning about the DBT-PG programme being run in the School of Biotechnology and enlightened the audience about the support provided by SMVDU to the programme, both financially in the form of fee reduction and providing of infrastructure and further added that SMVDU charges only one third of regular fee from the candidates who qualify GAT-B exam and there is a provision of a monthly stipend of Rs 5000. The meeting was attended by DBT,



Committee members during the meeting at SMVDU Katra.

Govt of India nominee, Prof. V. Ravichandran, Director, NIPER Kolkata and Mr. Yogesh Verma, CEO, Perfect Square, New Delhi. The two-year programme of M.Sc. Biotechnology is being sponsored by DBT-Govt. of India and the students are admitted through GAT-B Test conducted by RCB Gurgaon.

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Session on "Career Opportunities after Graduation" held at GDC Samba

STATE TIMES NEWS
SAMBA: Career counselling cell (CCC) of Pt. Prem Nath Dogra GDC Samba under the aegis of IQAC organised one-day session on "Career opportunities after Graduation". The programme started felicitating the resource person Nawaz Sharif, Social Welfare Deptt, Samba by the Principal and Senior Faculty members. The welcome address was presented by Dr. Ram Singh, HOD, Education. The resource person Nawaz Sharif awarded the students about various career opportunities available after graduation. He further entrusted about how to prepare for the competitive exams of both state and national level. Further, he motivated the students to shape their destiny by setting up their goals and following

the success mantras i.e., hard work, discipline and focus.

Principal, Dr. Twinkle Suri applauded the efforts of the career counselling cell for organising such a meaningful programme which will help in grooming young minds.

The proceeding of the programme was conducted by Prof. Sukhvinder Kaur, Member, Career Counselling Cell. The Report of the workshop was presented by Prof. Pawan Kumar Gupta, Convenor, Career Counselling Cell.

The formal vote of thanks was presented by Dr. Asha Devi.

The workshop was attended by students from different streams and faculty members namely, Prof. Shivali Rattan, Dr. Manjula Gupta, Prof. Suman Bala and Dr. Neha.

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