

Historic Sankri Devta Mela from Sept 15, arrangements discussed

STATE TIMES NEWS
 UDHAMPUR: In anticipation to the upcoming 3-day historic Sankri Devta Mela scheduled to commence on September 15, 2023 at village Meer in Block Panchari, a meeting of district officials from different departments was convened today to discuss the arrangements for the historical event.

The meeting, chaired by Deputy Commissioner, Saloni Rai, took place in the Conference Hall, DC Office Complex.

Extensive deliberations were held regarding multiple aspects of event logistics, including security, sanitation, healthcare, transport, traffic management, drinking water, power supply, and the monitoring of essential commodity prices.



Deputy Commissioner, Saloni Rai chairing a meeting.

The DC emphasized the importance of seamless collaboration among all district officers to finalize necessary arrangements well in advance of the commencement of the Mela. She urged local mela committee members to actively participate in ensuring the event's grand success, recognizing the significance of public involvement in bolstering tourism and the local economy.

Key directives included ensuring a steady supply of drinking water by the Executive Engineer PHE and uninterrupted power supply by the Executive Engineer PDD during the mela. The Executive Engineer PMGSY was tasked with road maintenance and pothole repairs. In terms of healthcare provision, the Chief Medical Officer was directed to deploy a team of doctors and an ambulance at the mela site to offer first aid facilities. The Information Department was assigned the responsibility of providing a Public Address System (PAS) for comprehensive event coverage. The District Youth Services and Sports Officer was instructed to organize various sports and activities throughout the mela.

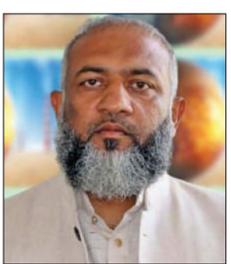
To guarantee security, the District Police will deploy an adequate number of personnel during the event, and the ARTO will provide a sufficient fleet of buses from various locations. Additionally, various departmental stalls will be set up to raise awareness about government schemes. Tehsildar Panchari has been appointed as the Mela Officer, and the Legal Metrology Department will oversee the inspection of rates and the quality of consumables in coordination with relevant departments.

The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner Joginder Singh Jasrotia, DDC Councillor Panchari Jasvir Singh, BDC Chairman Jeevan Sharma, Additional SP Anwar-Ul-Haq, Assistant Commissioner Revenue Rafiq Ahmed Jaral, and other district officers from various departments.

Schools, colleges & hospitals in Poonch are under staff: BADC

STATE TIMES NEWS
 POONCH: Jammu and Kashmir Border Area Development Conference (JK_BADC), a registered organization working for the welfare of residents of border areas of J & K has expressed serious concern over the shortage of staff in almost all public offices in border district Poonch and has demanded immediate deployment of adequate staff therein.

Dr Shazad Ahmed Malik, Chairman of BADC and former Vice Chancellor has stated that several posts of doctors, Technicians, Paramedical staff are lying vacant in government health institutes in district Poonch and same is the case with Colleges and



Schools wherein posts of Professors, Lecturers, teachers librarian and lab technicians are lying vacant in these educational institutes of the border district. He informed that despite repeated prayers and requests by the residents of the border district neither the government nor the senior officers of the concerned

department pay any attention towards this serious issue and the innocent people of the area continue to suffer.

The BADC Chairperson appealed the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha to take note of this serious of shortage of at least medical staff in the government health institutions of Poonch and fill the gap between sanctioned strength and posted strength of staff.

Dr Shazad said JK_BADC would continue to highlight the problems of the common people as this organization has been set up with the sole motive to serve and to operate for welfare of the people of border areas.

Camp under Bhrashtachar Mukht J&K held



ADC Nowshera speaking during the camp.

STATE TIMES NEWS
 NOWSHERA: The Government of India is launching a flagship programme, Digital India, which aims to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy. In reference to Circular No. 25-JK(GAD) of 2023, Dated-02.09.2023. Under the chairmanship of Additional Deputy Commissioner Nowshera, Revenue Department Nowshera

organized a camp under the heading Bhrashtacharmukt, J&K in which all the departments of Nowshera Sub-division participated with great enthusiasm. Various online services are being displayed by all the departments of Nowshera Sub-Division.

In order to aware and provide services at the door step by using the digital platform a programme was organized in Government Girls Higher Secondary School Nowshera. In the programme many students spoke on the said topic. The officers were line department provide the awareness regarding the event.

In the end Additional Deputy Commissioner Nowshera gave a detailed information regarding the use of digital techniques and also stressed the students to make aware about the society. Baristachare mukt week was also inaugurated at ADC office Nowshera and students were made aware regarding different forms of Baristachar and to wipe out this menace. A pledge was also taken to provide transparent, hassle free environment to the society.

In the last the Principal of Government Higher Secondary School Nowshera presented vote of thanks.

J&K stands at top in providing online services: Col Mahan Singh

STATE TIMES NEWS
 KATHUA: The Digital Week campaign continued on 5th day across district Kathua featuring informative Stalls, Awareness Camps, Digi Vans, Mega Rallies and live demonstrations of e-governance platforms aimed at enhancing digital literacy among the people.

The mega event was held at GDC Basohli where Chairman DDC Kathua Col (Retd) Mahan Singh presided over the function which witnessed huge participation of people from all walks of life.

The Chairman DDC inspected various stalls of the departments including ICDS, Revenue, ITI, CSC, Bank, JJM, Animal Husbandry, Education, Horticulture, Treasury, Food department and got



Chairman DDC Kathua Col (Retd) Mahan Singh speaking during the programme.

detailed feedback from the officers and representatives about the progress of enrollment of beneficiaries.

Col (Retd) Mahan Singh also presided over an awareness camp in the GDC where a spree of informative sessions by different departments which was aimed to sensitize the audience about the ambit of public oriented government services being offered through online for the convenience of the public.

Addressing the participants especially students, the Chairman DDC asked them to get proper awareness of the online applications required for availing different Government schemes adding that the students are the responsible citizens of tomorrow. He also asked the students to become ambassadors and spread digital awareness among the people.

Col (Retd) Mahan Singh said that ever since public services through Digital mode have been started by the government the trend of corruption in government offices has significantly declined. "Bhrashtachar Mukht J&K campaign is part of the robust resolve of the present dispensation which has taken a number of steps to bring transparency and accountability in governance in Jammu and

Kashmir especially after the abrogation of article 370 has come into effect, added Chairman DDC.

The DDC appealed to the people to take maximum benefit of the ongoing Digital Week.

President MC Basohli Suresh Spolia urged the people to avail benefits of online services of different sectors to avoid frequent visits to the Government offices and other services providers besides highlighting the importance of Digital Week campaign.

Earlier school students expressed their views on means and ways to root out the corrupt practices from society.

ADC Basohli Ajeet Singh, PRI members besides, officers from line departments attended the camp.

District Rajouri launches "Bhrashtachar Mukht J&K Week" to combat Corruption, Foster Transparent Governance

STATE TIMES NEWS
 RAJOURI: To root out corruption and promote transparent and accountable governance, the "Bhrashtachar Mukht J and K Week" is being observed with great enthusiasm across District Rajouri from September 4th to September 10th, 2023.

The week-long campaign, spearheaded by Deputy Commissioner, Vikas Kundal, kicked off with a pledge-taking ceremony held at the DC Office complex, to be followed by a series of activities during the period.

The initiative, taken in consonance with the UT



wide campaign, aims to rally the community against corruption and raise awareness about the empowerment opportunities offered through the Janbhagidari portal.

It will focus on engaging all sections of society, particularly the rural populace, through the organization of

special Gram Sabha meetings across all Panchayats in the district. These meetings will concentrate on cultivating a corruption-free environment in Jammu and Kashmir.

Notably, the Deputy Commissioner has outlined key areas of focus, including crucial government departments like Revenue, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (RDD), Public Works Department (PWD), and Power Development Department (PDD). The campaign places an emphasis on addressing grievances related to the Revenue Department, such as land records, mutations, and

demarcations, ensuring that these issues are promptly and effectively resolved at the appropriate levels.

Furthermore, Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal passed directions to all public officers to prioritize matters of public importance and take swift action to address them. Particular attention will be given to achieving full household tap connections and resolving electricity-related issues, resolution of land revenue matters etc. All complaints received during this period shall be addressed on overriding priority within the week.

As part of this initiative, a

series of engaging events will be organized on Teachers' Day, including quizzes, debates, skits, paintings, rangoli and poster making competitions to encourage students for an active participation in the fight against corruption.

In a bid to facilitate the reporting and resolution of corruption-related grievances, special counters have been established at the tehsil, block, and district levels.

The "Bhrashtachar Mukht J and K Week" is not just a campaign; it's a collective commitment to build a corruption-free and accountable society.

Shrine Board Employees Union holds meet, highlights demands



Union members after the meeting at Katra.

STATE TIMES NEWS
 KATRA: A meeting of Shrine Board Employees Union was held in Aadhkavari in Monday in which a large number of employees, including Union President Raj Kumar, General Sector Parshotam Singh Safai Union Diwan Chand, and Parveen Kumar participated.

It has been alleged that the administration has been written many times regarding the pending demands of the staff, vehicles for the children and traveling allowance staff, removal of manpower shortage and other demands. On August 8, personnel from different places handed over memoran-

dum to CEO for the same and he assured the workers that one or two demands will be resolved soon, but a month has passed, no issue has been resolved. They warned that if in time, the demands are not resolved, then the staff will be forced to go on pen down strike.

Narotam starts tile works in Pir Mitha



Councillor Ward 3, Narotam Sharma inaugurating development work.

STATE TIMES NEWS
 JAMMU: Councillor Ward 3, Narotam Sharma, on Monday inaugurated tile work of lanes in Peer Mitha

area leading to holy shrine of Peer Kho.

Honouring the demand of the locals regarding repair of renovation of lanes in Ward

3, Narotam in the presence of prominent leaders of the BJP, locals and officers of JMC started development works amounting Rs 43 lakh.

KPC meets MP Parvesh Verma, calls for urgent action on displacement, justice

STATE TIMES NEWS
 JAMMU: The Kashmiri Pandit Conference (KPC) led by President Kundan Kashmiri convened a crucial meeting with Member of Parliament, Parvesh Verma on Friday, highlighting the pressing issues and grievances faced by the displaced Kashmiri Pandit community.

In an earnest discussion, KPC President Kundan Kashmiri reiterated the long-standing demand for Constitutional arrangements to facilitate the return and rehabilitation of the approximately four to five lakh displaced Kashmiri

Pandits.

He proposed the creation of a dedicated area, named Kashyap in the Kashmir Valley, with Indian Constitutional and institutional guarantees, as well as associated laws and provisions.

The KPC delegation expressed their frustration with the lack of progress on this front, despite having presented the rehabilitation roadmap to various government authorities and political parties over the past three decades.

Kundan Kashmiri drew attention to the tragic loss of more than a thousand innocent Kashmiri Pandit community members who were brutally martyred, massacred, and subjected to property destruction, land encroachment, and other horrors. Despite their repeated requests, justice remains elusive, with no commission of inquiry initiated.

Additionally, the KPC emphasized the deep ancestral ties and special relations that Kashmiri Pandits have with the land, natural resources, traditions, and languages of Kashmir. They urged Member of Parliament Parvesh Verma to advocate for granting indigenous status to the community, akin to the recognition granted to other

communities in India. The delegation also sought to shed the label of "migrants" and instead be officially recognized as Internally Displaced People (IDPs), considering the forced exodus, genocide, and ethnic cleansing they have endured.

Kundan Kashmiri further urged the central government to establish an institutional, inter-ministerial mechanism to collaborate with Kashmiri Pandit representatives, focusing on the effective implementation of their demands. They also called for solutions to issues like unemployment among Kashmiri Pandit youths, enhancements to the monthly relief package, the passing of the shrine and temple bill, and the KP rehabilitation Bill in Parliament.

Lastly, the KPC Chief pleaded for the recognition of the displaced Kashmiri Pandit community as legitimate stakeholders in Kashmir's future, emphasizing the need to preserve their social, cultural, and religious legacy against radicalized threats. At the conclusion of the meeting, the KPC delegation submitted a memorandum to Member of Parliament Parvesh Verma, addressed to the Prime Minister and Home Minister of India, seeking immediate action on their demands.

Army Introduces 15 days electrician course for skill development

STATE TIMES NEWS
 KISHITWAR: In a bid to empower local residents with valuable skills and career opportunities Indian Army introduced a 15 days Electrician Course with effect from 03 Sep 2023 to 15 Sep 2023 at Village Kuchhal, Kishitwar. 28 motivated youth from Kuchhal and nearby are attending the course.

This initiative aimed at equipping individuals with the essential knowledge and hands-on training needed to excel in the field of electrical work. Designed to cater for beginners and those looking to enhance their existing skills, the Electrician Course will cover a wide range of topics, including electrical systems, safety protocols, wiring techniques, troubleshooting and more. Proficiency certificates will be distributed to the trainees on completion of the course.

The training aimed to foster self-reliance and creating avenues for sustainable livelihood within community as well as commitment to skill development and empowerment. This initiative by Indian Army was highly appreciated by the youth and locals who thanked Indian Army for providing such unique platform for creating job opportunities.

The conduct of such training will go a long way in helping the unemployed youth of the area to find gainful employment and to be bread winners for their families.

Meri Maati Mera Desh Campaign kicks off in Ward 44 by BJP leaders

STATE TIMES NEWS
 JAMMU: The 'Meri Maati Mera Desh' campaign gained momentum as it was

launched in Booth No 119 within Ward 44, with the active participation of ward members and senior BJP leader Vijay Kumar Gupta, Mandal President Bharat Bhushan, Vice President Surjeet Singh, Vice President Vinay Gupta of the BJP Gandhi Nagar Mandal, Ward President Arvind Sharma, and other BJP members.

The campaign began with an enthusiastic door-to-door outreach effort, where BJP members joined forces to connect with the local community. The team's energy and commitment were palpa-



BJP leaders during launch of campaign.

ble as they engaged with residents, sharing information about the government's beneficiary schemes provided by the BJP.

Following the door-to-door initiative, a booth level meet-

ing was convened in Booth No. 119, led by Bharat Bhushan.

During the meeting, strategies were discussed to conduct more outreach programmes, raising awareness

among the people about the various schemes implemented by the BJP-led government. The Meri Maati Mera Desh campaign is aimed at strengthening the BJP's connection with the grassroots, allowing leaders and party members to engage directly with the public, and ensuring that the benefits of government programs reach the citizens effectively.

The active involvement of BJP leaders and members reflects their dedication to serving the community and promoting the party's initiatives for the betterment of the nation.

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