

# JKACS, KU organize 5 km Run, 2 km Walk at Kashmir University for HIV/AIDS awareness

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: As part of ongoing efforts of J&K AIDS Control Society (JKACS) in containing HIV/AIDS in Jammu and Kashmir, a five kilometres run for creating awareness on the syndrome and Sexually Transmitted Infection (STIs) was organized on Saturday in collaboration with Department of Students Welfare, University of Kashmir.

This activity forms part of the two month long Intensified IEC Campaign launched on 12th August 2024 all over the country for enhancing the knowledge and create awareness about HIV and STIs among the general masses.

The activity started with flagging off of 5 km running competition called 'Red Run' which began from Nishat Foreshore Road to Gandhi Bhawan, University of Kashmir and was inaugurated by Vice Chancellor, University of Kashmir;



VC University of Kashmir, Professor Nilofer Khan, flagging off run.

Professor Nilofer Khan, in presence of Dr. Abdul Rouf Bhat, Project Director, JKACS, Guests of Honour, Professor Seema Naaz, Nodal Principal, Colleges of Kashmir Division, Professor Naseer Iqbal, Registrar, University of Kashmir, Professor Shamim Ahmad Shah, Dean Students Welfare, Kashmir University, Dr. Intiaz Ahmad Khan, Chief

Proctor, Kashmir University, Dr. Manu Bhatnagar, Additional Director, I/c CST division, JKACS alongwith other officials from the collaborating departments.

The 5 km Red Run activity was followed by a 2 Km Walkathon activity which was inaugurated by Dr. Abdul Rouf Bhat, Project Director, JKACS, H&ME Department,

J&K, in presence of other dignitaries. The technical staff from the Sports Department of the University of Kashmir was also present in the event in which more than two hundred students including boys and girls from different colleges, NGO members and University Staff participated.

The whole event was conducted under the guidance of Dr.

Shahid Ali Khan, Cultural Officer/ Nodal Officer Red Ribbon Club of DSW, University of Kashmir.

The winners of the Red Run were awarded by the Chief Guest alongwith other dignitaries present on the stage. The first position was bagged by Nusrat Jan in women's category from Srinagar Women's College, Zakura and Suhail Bashir in men's category from Government Degree College, Bemina. These winners will further participate in the national level running competition to be organized by the National AIDS Control Organization (NACO), MOH&FW, Government of India in the coming months.

Later, a felicitation function was held in which mementoes were presented to the dignitaries, nodal officers of the Red Ribbon Clubs and other concerned officials of the participating departments.

# Expenditure Observer holds meeting of contesting candidates, political parties



Election Expenditure Observer Sudeep Dabas chairing a meeting.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BANDIPORA: The Election Expenditure Observer for Bandipora District, Sudeep Dabas on Saturday convened a meeting with contesting candidates and representatives from various political parties representing the Bandipora and Sonawari Assembly Constituencies at Mini Secretariat, here.

During the meeting, the Expenditure Observer reviewed the Election

Expenditure Registers and expressed serious concern regarding candidates who failed to present their registers for the inspection.

He provided a 48-hour deadline for compliance and warned that failure to adhere to the guidelines may result in action as per Election Commission of India (ECI) regulations.

Emphasizing the importance of transparency and accountability, Dabas urged all contesting candidates to ensure they

obtain the necessary permissions for election-related activities and maintain daily expenditure records. He reiterated that the inspection of expenditure registers is a vital step in monitoring electoral spending and urged all participants to prioritize this responsibility to ensure a fair and transparent electoral process.

Nodal officer Expenditure Monitoring, Sheikh Aabid and other concerned were also present on the occasion.

# CMO Office Doda mourns demise of Medical Officer



Officials observing silence to mourn demise of MO.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

DODA: The staff of Chief Medical Officer Doda held a condolence meeting, here on Saturday to condole demise of Medical Officer posted at PHC Chinta Bhaderwah, Dr. Sunil Bhardwaj who passed away this morning due to terminal illness.

Chief Medical Officer, Dr Om Kumar and the staff and Dy. CMO Office expressed deep sorrow on the sad demise of Dr

Sunil Bhardwaj, terming it a great loss to the health department.

While offering heartfelt condolence, the CMO said "Our thoughts and prayers are with the bereaved family." He said that the Health Department stands shoulder to shoulder with the family at this difficult time. The speakers also shared the contribution of the deceased Medical Officer to the depart-

ment and the society as a whole.

A two minute silence was also observed by all the staff members in remembrance of the deceased.

Meanwhile, a condolence meeting was also held at SDH Bhaderwah. BMO Dr Mohd Ashraf expressed grief and condoled over the demise of Dr Sunil Bhardwaj and prayed for peace to the departed soul.

# Mega SVEEP event promotes voter awareness at Dul Bagh Park Soura

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: A mega Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) event was organised on Saturday at Dul Bagh Park Soura as part of the ongoing efforts to promote voter awareness ahead of key electoral events in the region.

The event was a joint collaboration of District Election Officer Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din; RO Zadibal, Khalid Hussain; District Nodal Officer SVEEP Srinagar, Shabina Qaiser and Nodal Officer SVEEP AC 24 Zadibal, Firdous Ali Wani.

The event was formally inaugurated by District Nodal Officer SVEEP Srinagar in presence of Nodal



A section of dignitaries during the programme.

Officer SVEEP Zadibal-AC and other Officers and officials by releasing tricolour balloons in the sky.

Mega event was graced by many distinguished guests from civil and police administration including Deputy Chief Education Officer Srinagar, all members of SVEEP Team Srinagar,

Principals, staff and students from Govt and Pvt. Higher Secondary and High Schools of Zadibal Constituency.

The event witnessed cultural and musical events, pledge ceremony, SVEEP mascot, fun activities, kite flying, nukkad natak, speeches, ladishah, signature cam-

paign etc.

The District Nodal Officer for SVEEP Srinagar, while addressing participants at the event, underscored the need for first-time voters to come forward and take part in the electoral process. The officer reaffirmed that the SVEEP campaign remains committed to reaching out to

all segments of society, ensuring that voters, especially the younger generation, are empowered to make informed choices in the upcoming elections.

Dy Chief Education Officer in her address impressed upon all to make judicious use of vote in upcoming Assembly Elections.

The event witnessed active engagement from students, teachers, and members of the local community, highlighting the importance of education and participation in the democratic process.

The event culminated with a Human Chain which symbolised the resolve of all participants to become active citizens of our country by voting on 25th September.

# DLSA Bandipora organsies Legal Awareness programme

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BANDIPORA: As per the calendar of Activities, the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Bandipora in coordination with Tehsil Legal Services Committee Bandipora and in collaboration with Education Department Bandipora on Saturday organized an awareness programme Legal Service to Drug Abuse and Eradication of Drug Menace

Scheme, 2015.

The programme was organised under the chairmanship of Khalil Ahmad Choudhary, Chairman DLSA Bandipora and under the supervision of Iqbal Ahmad Akhoun, Secretary DLSA Bandipora at Govt. High School Bagh, Bandipora.Resource persons for the day Adv. Nawaz ul Haq (Assistant LADC Bandipora), Parvaiz Ahmad Bhat, Para Legal Volunteer of DLSA,

Bandipora spoke on the importance of the day. While shedding light on the subject, they said that today drug abuse has become an international concern and it has destroyed thousands of individuals and their families.

They requested everyone that three things are needed to fight drug abuse viz. awareness, motivation and will power.

They threw light on various laws related to drug abuse and

said anyone involved in drugs shall face tough legal consequences and stressed on staying away from drugs for eradicating this menace.

The speakers emphasized how imperative it is to generate awareness through preventive programmes at grass-roots level particularly in schools, colleges and public places to educate and inform the public about the ill effects of drug abuse and drug addiction.

They also called upon the staff members and students to collectively fight towards eradication and elimination of drug abuse from Distt Bandipora. They requested youth to be motivated, aware and create will power to avoid drugs.

The programme was attended by Staff Members of DLSA Bandipora and LADCs, Staff Members and Students of the said institution, PLVs of DLSA Bandipora.

# Attention Commuters traveling on Thathri -Kishtwar Road

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KISHTWAR: For laying DBM at Drabshalla Market, Authorities have put restriction on traffic movement to and fro from Thathri Bridge Police Naka to Kishtwar on September 22, 2024 from 7:00 PM to September 23, 2024 till 6:00 AM and on September 23, 2024 from 7:00 PM to 24-092024 till 6:00 AM.

"In view of laying of DBM at Drabshalla market area, it is hereby

ordered that there shall be no traffic movement from both sides i.e Thathri Bridge Police Naka to Kishtwar and from Kishtwar to Thathri Bridge Police Naka on 22-09-2024 from 7 pm to 23-09-2024 till 6 am and on 23-09-2024 from 7 pm to 24-09-2024 till 6 am. Senior Superintendent of Police Kishtwar shall ensure the implementation of this order in letter and spirit" an order issued here on Saturday stated.

# DEO Udhampur launches unique aerial voter awareness campaign



Election Officer Udhampur Saloni, Rai launching campaign.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: To boost voter participation in the upcoming assembly elections, District Election Officer Udhampur Saloni, Rai on Saturday launched an innovative aerial awareness campaign as

part of the Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation program.

This unique initiative features two large air balloons, strategically elevated at key locations, including the busy Tikri Highway and Jakheni, catching the eye of residents and commuters alike.

The balloons, emblazoned with bold messages encouraging electoral participation, have already garnered significant public attention, sparking curiosity and conversation among voters.

The purpose behind this novel approach is to motivate voters to exercise their democratic right on October 1st.

By using visual engagement tools like air balloons, the campaign hopes to drive home the message of the critical role each vote plays in shaping the future.

The floating balloons, which have already attracted widespread attention, are not only designed to inform but also inspire citizens to participate actively in the upcoming elections.

# Mega SVEEP awareness event held in Bani to encourage voter participation

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: A mega SVEEP (Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation) activity was organized on Saturday in Bani with the objective of raising voter awareness and encouraging greater participation in the upcoming elections.

The event was held under the leadership of Returning Officer (RO) Bani, Gias ul Haq (SDM) and witnessed the active involvement of ARO Bani, Predhyum Atri, BDO Bani, Rajesh Padha, Nodal Officer SOPs, Dr. Resham Singh, and Women Nodal Officer, Ravinder Kour(CDPO Duggan)

The event drew participation from students and staff



Rally being taken out in Bani.

members of various educational institutes, including Govt. Degree College Bani, ITI Bani, Govt. Higher Secondary School Bani, and Government Girls High School Bani. Supervisors,

ASHA workers, and Anganwadi workers were also present.

The program commenced with a welcome address by SVEEP Nodal Officer, Prof. Naseeb Kr. Bhagat. Chief

Guest, RO Bani, Gias ul Haq, emphasized the importance of youth and women's participation in voting to strengthen the democratic framework of Jammu & Kashmir. He urged students to spread the message of ethical voting within their communities.

ARO Bani also addressed the gathering, highlighting the critical role of SVEEP in educating the public about the importance of voting. The proceedings of the event were conducted by Ashok Choudhary, a teacher at Government Higher Secondary School Bani. As part of the program, students formed a human chain on the school premises before leading a mega awareness rally through Bani market. The rally, which began at

Government High School Bani and concluded at the Forest Check Post, saw over 500 participants, including officials from the Health and Medical Education Department, the Revenue Department, as well as Anganwadi workers and supervisors. The students held placards with powerful messages in Hindi, English and Urdu, displaying slogans such as "My Vote, My Right," "Voting is Power," and "My Vote, My Choice."

SVEEP Nodal Officer Bani, Prof. Bhagat, expressed gratitude to all participants for their enthusiastic involvement and dedication to promoting voter awareness ahead of the upcoming voting day on 1st October 2024.

# Mushaira under SVEEP held at GCOE Srinagar

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: A grand Mushaira under Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) Campaign was organized on Saturday at Auditorium of Government College of Education (GCOE), M.A. Road here.

The event, aimed at promoting the importance of voting and democracy, was organized by the Nodal Principal of Kashmir Division Colleges and Returning Officer of Lal Chowk constituency.

Election Observer, Chandresh Kumar was Chief Guest on the occasion while as Police Observer, R. Suhas was Guest of Honour.

Nodal officer for SVEEP, Akhter Husain



Poets during the mushaira.

Qazi; Media Nodal Officer for CEO office J&K, Sapna Kotwal; Returning Officer of Lal Chowk Constituency, Amir Choudhary; Nodal Officer of SVEEP Lalchowk AC, Prof. Lateef Ahmad Shah and other officers were also present on the occasion.

The Mushaira, moderated by Arshid Souleh, saw the participation of students and faculty members from ten colleges across the city. Ten distinguished poets recited poetry centring around the themes of voting and democracy, inspiring the audience with their pro-

found reflections.

In his address, Election Observer, emphasized on the critical role of voting in a democracy and even shared a few lines of poetry to highlight its significance.

Police Observer, R. Suhas echoed these sentiments, underscoring the

value of every vote.

Qazi Akhter and Sapna Kotwal also shared their thoughts on the importance of voting, with Akhter reciting a few couplets on the theme. Prof. Lateef Ahmad Shah added his views on the power of the vote.

The event began with a warm welcome speech by the Nodal Principal of the College, Prof. Seema Naz, who expressed her gratitude to the distinguished guests. The event concluded with a vote of thanks proposed by Prof. A.G. Kumar.

This Mushaira was a unique blend of art and civic responsibility, successfully engaging students and faculty alike in the democratic discourse through the power of poetry.

# Home Voting records 96.90% polling in District Rajouri



A woman exercising franchise from home.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: An impressive 96.90% polling was recorded during the home voting process across District Rajouri. The voting concluded on Saturday after three days of extensive efforts by polling teams.

The process, which commenced on September 19, focused on facilitating home voting for senior citizens and persons with disabilities (PWD).

Going by constituency-wise, Kalakote-

Sunderbani Assembly Constituency recorded 97.93%; Nowshera Assembly Constituency, 97.19%; Rajouri Assembly Constituency, 96.40%; Budhal Assembly Constituency, 95.20%; Thanamandi Assembly Constituency, 97.42%.

Under the instructions of District Election Officer (DEO) Abhishek Sharma, as many as 150 polling teams were deployed across the district to ensure home voting was accessible to all eligible voters, particularly those residing in hilly and remote areas. The teams were responsible for conducting home voting for 1,615 voters aged 85 and above and 744 PwD voters.

Braving challenging terrain, the teams successfully reached the voters, ensuring that no eligible individual was left out of the democratic process.

The DEO Rajouri commended the teams for their dedication and emphasized that the successful completion of home voting in such conditions reflects the district's commitment to inclusivity in the electoral process.