

## JKPSA raises flash flood concerns with SDM Marh



JKPSA delegation meeting with Pallavi Mishra, Sub Divisional Magistrate Marh.

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A delegation of the Jammu & Kashmir Private Schools Association (JKPSA) met with Pallavi Mishra, Sub Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Marh, to highlight the difficulties faced by a private school in Marh due to recent flash floods. Ajay Gupta, President of the association, presented photographs of Shakti Shiksha Kendra Higher Secondary School, expressing serious concerns over the administration's response during the devastating floods. He stated that the ground floor of the school was submerged under 4 to 5 feet of mud, along with dangerous aquatic insects. The open areas remained waterlogged for three consecutive days due to a nearby drain/canal overflow-

ing. Gupta added that electronic devices, amplifiers, furniture, and school buses parked on the premises were submerged, and essential school documents were destroyed.

He said repeated requests for assistance by Principal Lal Chand went unanswered, leaving him "at the mercy of God," a situation described as both inhumane and unethical by the delegation. The delegation demanded a five-foot increase in the height of the existing embankment to prevent water from entering the school in the future. They also requested insecticide spraying to sanitize the premises before reopening.

Pallavi Mishra gave a patient hearing and assured the delegation that steps would be taken to raise the embankment

and divert water from the nearby drain/canal, preventing similar incidents in the future. She noted that she had assumed charge of SDM Marh on the day of the floods and promised timely remedial action.

The delegation included Rameshwar Mengi (Chief Patron JKPSA), Ajay Singh (Vice President), Sat Paul Mansotra (General Secretary), Rakesh Gupta, Laddi Sharma, Rachpal Singh, Gansara Singh, Naresh Kumar, Rajeev Jasrotia, Rishabh Mengi, and Karuneshwar Gandotra.

The meeting concluded with a commitment from the administration to support private schools in flood mitigation and ensure safety measures are implemented promptly.

## ABVP's sustained efforts yield results: Rs 2.53 Cr Scholarship Funds sanctioned for ST-2 tribal students in J&K

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) has announced a major breakthrough in its sustained efforts to address the long-standing issue of pending scholarships for ST-2 tribal students in Jammu and Kashmir. Following a persistent campaign involving memoranda submissions and a hunger strike, the Tribal Affairs Ministry has sanctioned ₹2.53 crore for the release of these overdue scholarships. Sannak Shrivats, State Secretary of ABVP Jammu & Kashmir, expressed delight over the development, stating that it reflects the organization's unwavering commitment to protecting the rights of marginalized students. "Our relentless efforts have finally borne fruit. The sanctioning of ₹2.53 crore scholarship funds for ST-2 tribal students is not merely financial aid; it is about safeguarding the fundamental right to education for these students," he said. The ABVP highlighted that the achievement is the result of consistent advocacy and pressure on the authorities, compelling the government to act in favour of deserving students who were awaiting scholarships for an extended period. The organization emphasized that no eligible student should be denied educational opportunities due to administrative delays or financial negligence.

The state unit of ABVP assured students that it will continue monitoring the implementation of welfare schemes and work constructively with all stakeholders to ensure timely release of benefits. "We stand firmly with students across Jammu and Kashmir and will continue to fight for their rights, ensuring that every effort is made to secure their educational future," Shrivats added.

ABVP underlined that the campaign was not just for financial assistance but aimed at upholding the broader principle of educational equity. The organization reiterated its commitment to protecting the rights of underprivileged students and ensuring that government welfare schemes reach the intended beneficiaries promptly. This sanction is expected to benefit thousands of tribal students, providing them with much-needed support to pursue their education without disruption.

## Billawaria releases devotional Qawwali "Murshid Ki Shaan"



BJP J&K General Secretary Baldev Singh Billawaria releasing devotional Qawwali titled 'Murshid Ki Shaan'.

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: BJP J&K General Secretary and former Deputy Mayor, Baldev Singh Billawaria, along with BJP Jammu Spokesperson Keshav Chopra, today released a soulful devotional Qawwali titled "Murshid Ki Shaan" at a function held at the Press Club of Jammu.

The event also saw the presence of Tarun Sharma, Incharge Cultural Cell, BJYM.

The Qawwali, sung by talented artist Biba Qawaal, is a spiritual tribute celebrating the glory of a Murshid (spiritual guide). The project brings together multiple creative

talents - music composed by R B Music Studio, lyrics by Faqeroo Ke Bol, editing by K D Productions, direction by Rahul Dutta, and cinematography by Raj Kumar.

Speaking on the occasion, Billawaria appreciated the artistic endeavour and underlined the BJP's commitment to preserving and promoting cultural values. "The release of 'Murshid Ki Shaan' is a beautiful moment for art and culture in our region. This Qawwali is not just a song; it is a spiritual journey that touches the soul. Our party is dedicated to supporting artists who work tirelessly to preserve the

rich cultural heritage of Jammu and Kashmir," he said.

Echoing similar sentiments, Keshav Chopra lauded the efforts of the local artists and emphasized the need to encourage them. "We are immensely proud of the talent from our region. By supporting such initiatives, we ensure that our artists feel motivated to work harder and reach greater heights," he added.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by Tarun Sharma, who acknowledged the dedication and teamwork of all those associated with the project.

## Bhalla urges Union Govt for immediate relief to flood-affected families

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: JKPC Working President Raman Bhalla has launched a attack on the Union Government for its failure to respond effectively to the recent flood situation in the Jammu division. During a visit to several flood-affected areas, including Barmini village, Greater Kailash, Lower Gadigarh, Rohi Morh, Ajcet Nagar, and Manguchak, Bhalla witnessed the widespread devastation caused by heavy rains and floods. Accompanied by senior Congress leaders and party workers such as Amrit Bali (General Secretary), Rajinder Singh Nathu (Chairman, Minority JKPC), Pawan Bhagat (Secretary), Gurmeet Singh (Block President Miran Sahib), Inderpal Singh, Jatin Vashist, Mangat Ram, Gurbax Singh,



JKPCC Working President Raman Bhalla interacting with flood-hit residents.

Chain Ram Panch, and others, Bhalla expressed deep concern over the state of affected communities.

He alleged that the government's negligence, inefficiency, and lack of preparedness had worsened the crisis, accusing the administration of remaining inactive and failing to provide timely relief and rehabilitation measures. Bhalla emphasized that announcements of

relief packages are not enough, and people need immediate ground-level support, including food, clean water, shelter, and medical care. Bhalla demanded urgent government action to provide basic amenities such as electricity, healthcare, and drinking water; and called for the setup of temporary shelters and health camps, restoration of road connectivity, and compensation for farmers who have

suffered crop and livelihood losses.

He also stressed the need for accountability and transparency in the utilization of disaster relief funds. Highlighting the importance of a comprehensive damage survey, Bhalla said it was essential to assess the extent of the disaster and determine the specific needs of each affected area. This, he noted, would help in formulating a more effective and targeted relief and rehabilitation strategy.

Bhalla assured that the Congress party stands firmly with the people of Jammu division in this hour of distress and will continue to demand action from the government while extending every possible support to the flood-hit families.

He reiterated that the government must act now and prioritize immediate relief for the affected, especially in terms of food, water, shelter, medical care, and other essential supplies.

## Natrang stages Dogri play 'Diary Kuse Loknath Di'

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Despite heavy rains, Natrang Jammu upheld its unwavering commitment to theatre by staging Prof. Madan Mohan Sharma's Dogri play 'Diary Kuse Loknath Di' under the direction of Neeraj Kant as part of its regular Sunday Theatre Series.

The inclement weather could not dampen the spirit of the troupe, which continues to carry forward its legacy of dedication and consistency. This effort not only reflected the passion and resilience of the artists but also reinforced Natrang's mission of keeping the essence of theatre alive, inspiring audiences with its unbroken tradition of cultural enrichment.

As the title suggests, the play revolves around the diary of one 'Lok Nath'. The writer's son finds a diary from a pack and takes it to his home. The cover of the diary was so tempting and attractive that the writer could not resist going through it, knowingly that peeping into someone's personal affairs is not a good habit but reading the pages of the diary, he finds a very interesting and dramatic life account of Lok Nath.



Natrang artists performing in a play.

Whenever there was any unusual happening in the life of Lok Nath he has not forgotten to pen it down.

The life of Lok Nath is portrayed in such an interesting manner that a common-man identifies with each situation and turns of his life. The opening pages finds Lok Nath disillusioned with everyone around him even to the extent that he has lost faith in God. Later he looks for something exciting to happen

in his life.

Cash starved Lok Nath opts to do tuitions by teaching the children of his own boss, this way he will be able to please the hierarchy and make some pocket money as well. Here he happens to have some encounter with the sister-in-law of the boss. Lok Nath finds her very attractive, charming and pleasing, which prompts him to venture into an affair. Every day he goes with a new plan to approach her but is unable to muster courage to do so.

Finally he withdraws his plan for the reason that if his boss will come to know about his intentions he is not only going to lose the girl of his dreams but the tuition and the regular job as well. The most interesting part of the play was its language which was itself a complete theatre.

Neeraj Kant as 'Writer' maintained the required tonality whereas Pawan Verma as 'Lok Nath' portrayed the inner conflicts of the character in a beautiful manner. The lights and the music of the play were executed by Kartik Kumar and the show was coordinated by Mohd. Yaseen.

## Inner Wheel Club New Gen Jammu spreads joy and care at Ambphala Orphanage



Inner Wheel Club New Gen Jammu members and others at Dental checkup camp.

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a heartwarming display of compassion and community service, Inner Wheel Club New Gen Jammu visited the Ambphala Orphanage in Jammu. Under the leadership of President Manpreet Kaur, the club embarked on a mission to bring smiles to the faces of the orphaned children.

Guided by Past President Ambika Samnotra, ISO Anita Goel, and Secretary Ritu Sharma, with Editor Amarjeet

Kaur overseeing the initiative, the club successfully executed impactful projects. The highlight of the visit was a dental checkup camp, expertly conducted by Dr. Anubhav Goel. The children received thorough dental examinations, and the club distributed toothbrushes, toothpaste, and a variety of nutritious eatables to ensure their overall well-being.

Additionally, the club donated essential stationery items to support the children's educa-

tional needs, empowering them with the tools necessary for their learning and development. Dr. Anubhav Goel not only provided medical care but also educated the children on the importance of maintaining good dental hygiene. The joy and gratitude displayed by the children were truly uplifting, making the effort worthwhile.

This visit is a testament to Inner Wheel Club New Gen Jammu's commitment to regular community service activities. Through such initiatives, the club continues to make a positive impact on the lives of those in need.

The Inner Wheel Club New Gen Jammu extends its thanks to Dr. Anubhav Goel for his invaluable support and to all members who contributed to the success of this noble endeavor.

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu-Kashmir unit has blamed the dual power system of Jammu-Kashmir and the delay in announcing the relief package by the Central Government for the ongoing delay in providing proper relief to the people affected by the horrific rains, landslides and cloudburst in Jammu division, including the delay in repairing bridges and roads and improving the electricity and water supply, and has demanded immediate announcement of a proper relief package.

In a press conference held today at the party's State Central Office, State Chief Manish Sahni said that natural disasters have caused huge destruction in Jammu division but it is surprising that despite being a Union Territory, no relief package has been announced by the Central Government till



now.

On the other hand, despite the instructions of Chief Minister Omar Abdullah to the top officials for immediate relief, proper relief is not reaching the ground level. He said that on August 14, a cloudburst incident (in which 60 people died) took place on the Machail Mata Yatra route in Chasoti village of Kishtwar. Despite more than two weeks hav-

ing passed, no relief package has been announced. About five days ago, a tragic incident of landslide took place on the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Yatra route (35 devotees died), the Yatra has still not been restored.

Sahni said that due to the devastating rains and the rising water level of the Tawi river, there was a lot of devastation in Jammu city and surrounding areas, people suffered huge economic losses and infrastructure including roads and bridges was heavily damaged. In some areas, electricity and water supply has completely stopped. People have to depend on water tankers and candles.

The lands along with the houses and belongings of the people living in the hilly areas have also been destroyed.

The havoc of nature is not stopping. The devastating rains till

now, including the landslide and cloudburst in Ramban and Reasi on last Saturday, have taken the lives of about 140-150 people along with heavy economic loss. Hundreds of people are forced to spend day and night with their families in tents, government schools and public places.

Sahni said that there is information that the country's Home Minister Amit Shah is reaching Jammu on Monday.

He demands from the Home Minister to announce a proper relief package without any delay, provide land to the affected people, proper financial help and at least one crore cash to the families of those who lost their lives.

Sahni has also demanded immediate repair of all the infrastructure including the affected bridges, roads, electricity, water supply.

## BJP Mahila Morcha protests against Congress derogatory remarks on PM Modi's mother

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Bharatiya Janata Party Mahila Morcha, Jammu & Kashmir, led by its President Adv. Neha Mahajan, today organized a strong Protest March from Residency Road Parking to the Congress Party Office, Jammu, against the shameful remarks of Congress leaders insulting the respected mother of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji. BJP J&K Vice Presidents Priya Sethi and Adv. Rekha Mahajan, BJP General Secretary Sanjita Dogra, Mahila Morcha President Adv. Neha Mahajan, and hundreds of Mahila Morcha activists participated in the march, raising powerful slogans exposing the anti-women mindset of the Congress Party. The senior leadership, along with Mahila Morcha activists and local citizens, sent out a strong message of unity and resistance against such derogatory politics.

Priya Sethi strongly condemned the derogatory statement by Congress leaders and said that by insulting the moth-



Bharatiya Janata Party Mahila Morcha members during a protest at Jammu.

er of our Prime Minister, Congress has insulted the dignity of every Indian woman. This is an attack on our civilizational values. Women of J&K will give a befitting reply to such a mindset, she added.

Adv. Rekha Mahajan said that the remarks show Congress's frustration and its loss of connect with the people. Mothers are revered in Indian culture, and any insult to them will not be tolerated. She said that such cheap politics will boomerang on Congress.

Sanjita Dogra lamented that the Congress has lost its moral compass. Their words reflect

not strength but desperation. She added that the women of Jammu & Kashmir stand firmly with Prime Minister Modi Ji and reject this politics of insult and degradation.

Leading the protest, Adv. Neha Mahajan said that the derogatory remarks against the respected mother of Hon'ble PM Modi Ji reflect Congress's bankrupt mentality. "This insult is not limited to one family-it is an insult to every mother of this nation. Women across the country stand like a rock behind Prime Minister Modi Ji. The people of Jammu & Kashmir will never tolerate

such behavior. Congress should apologize to the mothers and daughters of India for this shameful act. BJP Mahila Morcha will continue to expose their anti-women attitude on every platform," she asserted.

The protest march culminated with Mahila Morcha activists echoing slogans like "Shame Shame Congress Shame," "Maa Ka Apmaan Nahin Sahega Hindustan," and "Congress Party Murlabad," while sending out a strong message that the women of Jammu & Kashmir are united in defending the honor of mothers and Bharat Mata.

## Sanjeevani Sharada Kendra celebrates its foundation day

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Sanjeevani Sharada Kendra (SSK) celebrated its foundation day on the occasion of Sharda Ashtami on Sunday at Anand Nagar, Bohri. Since its foundation in 1995 SSK celebrates the day every year with fervor and gaiety to remember and revere Mata Sharda, the sacred Goddess of knowledge and learning. A Mahayagya was held to pay obeisance to Mata Sharda whose very ancient temple stand in the Kishan ganga valley in the Pakistan Occupied Jammu and Kashmir. The programme started with offering of flowers to Mata Sharda followed by Sharda Vandana. The Chief Guest at the function was Swami Yagya Dharanand, Secretary Ramakrishna Mission Jammu. While elaborating the importance of remembering the sacrifices and courage of the Kashmiri Hindu legacy in preserving the cultural her-



Sanjeevani Sharada Kendra members honouring a dignitary.

itage and surviving the onslaught of the invaders for more than a thousand year, he appreciated the efforts of SSK in helping to imbibe the cultural traditions to the younger generation and imparting skill based education. While elaborating the vision of Swami Vivekanand, he highlighted the role of economic, spiritual and cultural growth of Bharat in order to become a Vishwaguru. The Guest of Honour Dr Vikrant, Sah Sangh Chalak, Rashtriya

Swayam Sewak Sangh, Jammu and Kashmir congratulated SSK for celebrating its foundation day and outlined the importance of remembering our forefathers and their sacrifices in saving the culture, heritage and dharma and asked to follow their path for a strong nation. He emphasized that for a better world a strong Bharat is must for which unity, discipline and culturally alive community is important.

This year the Sharda Puskar was presented to

Dr. Chaman Lal Raina for his outstanding contribution towards language, literature, spiritual practices, Shaiv darshan, Shakti Agamas and Shakti tatva.

The award was received by Prof. Ashwani Wangnoo on behalf of Dr. Raina. On the occasion a citation in honour of Dr. Raina was also read. Prof. Wangnoo read a thanks giving message from Dr. Raina on the occasion.

The Chairman of SSK Dr. M. K. Bharat presented a formal welcome address and narrated the history of the establishment of kendra in 1995 and highlighting various activities carried out by the Kendra. The students were presented Diploma and participation certificates by the guests.

Ratan Lal Ganjoo presented vote of thanks. M. K. Bhat manned the stage with Khushi Pandita and Mahesh Preet while Anushka highlighted the significance of Sharda Ashtami.