

Youth Congress distributes relief material in flood-affected areas of Jammu East

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Continuing its relief initiatives, the J&K Pradesh Youth Congress (JKPYC) carried out a relief distribution drive in the flood-affected areas of Jammu East, providing essential aid to families impacted by recent heavy rains and flooding. The drive was conducted under the guidance of IYC Secretary Incharge J&K Maan Singh Rathore and JKPYC General Secretary Anirudh Sawhney, following the instructions of Indian Youth Congress President Uday Bhamu Chib.

Assembly President Jammu East, Mehul Abrol, led the distribution efforts in the presence of Ward President Sahil Dogra and other youth leaders,



JKPYC members distributing relief among flood-affected people.

ers, including Divya Sharma (General Secretary PYC), Anmol Kohli (Secretary PYC), Showkat Hussain Malik, and numerous volunteers. Relief materials, including essential medicines, food, and clothes, were distributed to affected families to provide immediate support in this time of crisis.

Speaking during the drive, Youth Congress leaders emphasized that their primary focus is to stand by the residents of Jammu East, who have suffered severe losses due to the floods. They highlighted the importance of timely relief, especially food and medicines, to ensure that affected families do not face additional hardships while recovering from the

Ashok Koul distributes Ayushman Vay Vandana Cards to senior citizens



J&K BJP General Secretary (Org) Ashok Koul distributing Ayushman Vay Vandana Cards to senior citizens.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: J&K BJP General Secretary (Organization) Ashok Koul, accompanied by health & medical cell convenor Puneet Mahajan, senior leader Shailja Gupta, and Trikuta Nagar Welfare Society President Rajinder Prasad Kakkar, distributed Ayushman Vay Vandana Cards to senior citizens aged 70 years and above at the Trikuta Nagar Welfare Society office, Trikuta Nagar.

The event was organized by the BJP Health and Medical Cell, and senior BJP leader Shailja Gupta in collaboration with the Trikuta Nagar Welfare Society.

Addressing the gathering, Ashok Koul said that the Narendra Modi-led Government has been working tirelessly for the welfare of every section of society, with a special focus on senior citizens and vulnerable groups. He highlighted the numerous welfare schemes launched by the government

to provide social security, healthcare, and financial stability to citizens. Stressing the importance of community participation, he said that local societies and organizations have a greater role to play in ensuring the saturation of government schemes so that benefits reach the last person in need.

Koul also appealed to party workers to organize welfare camps across different localities, describing them as a true service to society and a befitting way to mark the upcoming 75th birthday of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Speaking on the occasion, Puneet Mahajan, Convenor of the BJP Health and Medical Cell, elaborated on the key aspects of the Ayushman Vay Vandana Yojana. He emphasized that the scheme is a lifeline for senior citizens, ensuring healthcare access and financial support in old age. He urged all stakeholders to extend cooperation to

achieve 100% outreach, ensuring that no eligible beneficiary is left behind. He said that initiatives like these bring dignity and care to senior citizens who have contributed their whole life to society.

BJP Senior Leader Shailja Gupta, in her address, lauded the Narendra Modi government's welfare vision and said that all should pledge to continue spreading awareness about government schemes and to organize more such camps in the future, benefitting larger sections of society.

Rajinder Prasad Kakkar, President of the Trikuta Nagar Welfare Society, expressed heartfelt gratitude to the Chief Guest and dignitaries for sparing their valuable time and motivating senior citizens through such noble initiatives. He reaffirmed the Welfare Society's commitment to work hand-in-hand with BJP units to ensure the success of people-centric programs.

DC visits border villages of Karnah; reviews dev works



■ STATE TIMES NEWS
KUPWARA: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Shrikant Balasaheb Suse, on Sunday undertook an extensive tour of border villages in Karnah sub-division to assess developmental works and interact with the local population.

During the visit to village Taad, situated in close proximity to the Zero Line on the LoC, DC held an interaction with local residents who highlighted their developmental concerns and day-to-day challenges faced in the border belt. DC gave a patient hearing and assured them that the administration is committed to bridging infrastructure gaps, addressing connectivity issues, and improving basic amenities in these remote villages. He reiterated that special attention is being given to far-flung and border areas under various Government schemes.

Later, DC paid a visit to the historic Sharda Peeth Temple at Teetwal, where he offered prayers and sought blessings. He also paid respects at the adjacent Gurudwara, symbolizing the spirit of communal harmony of the region.

On the occasion, DC also joined devotees in the Yatra Rally taken out from Sharda Temple. The participation of people from diverse backgrounds in the event, he said, is a testimony to the cultural

richness and peaceful coexistence of the area.

At the Teetwal Sports Ground, DC interacted with enthusiastic youth and local sportspersons. He assured that the administration would explore all avenues to strengthen sports infrastructure in Tanghdar sub-division. He also visited the Army Goodwill School at Teetwal, and assured that the district administration is committed to supporting educational initiatives in border areas.

During the tour, DC inspected the Kandi Madrassa building, which was severely damaged in a fire incident last night. He expressed solidarity with the Madrassa management.

Speaking during the visit, DC reiterated that border residents are the priority of the district administration, and assured continuous efforts are being made to bring development, better infrastructure, and essential services to their doorsteps despite challenging geographical and climatic conditions.

He called upon the locals to actively cooperate with the administration in implementation of developmental projects for the overall progress of the district.

DC was accompanied by ACR Kupwara, SDM Karnah, and officers from

various line departments during the visit.

Plea in SC seeks direction to EC to frame rules for registration, regulation of political parties

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: A plea has been filed in the Supreme Court seeking a direction to the Election Commission to frame rules for registration and regulation of political parties to promote secularism, transparency and political justice.

The plea alleged that "bogus political parties" were not only posing a serious threat to democracy but also maligning the country by appointing hardcore criminals, kidnappers, drug smugglers and money launderers as national and state office bearers after taking huge amounts of money from them.

"There are no rules and regulations for political parties. Therefore, many separatists have formed their political party to collect donations. Some office bearers of these parties have succeeded in getting police protection also," said the plea, filed by advocate Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay.

Referring to a recent media report, the plea claimed that

disaster. The leaders further noted that the Youth Congress has consistently taken the lead in community service and disaster relief, underscoring that the organization's work extends beyond politics to serve the welfare of people. They stressed that immediate action on the ground is crucial, alongside the government's long-term rehabilitation efforts.

In their appeal, the Youth Congress urged the administration to expedite damage assessments and ensure adequate compensation for families who have lost homes, livelihoods, and essential resources.

They reiterated that while civil society and volunteer organizations play a critical role in providing immediate relief, it is ultimately the responsibility of the government to guarantee long-term support and rehabilitation for affected communities.

BJP committed to stand by people 365 days a year: Sat

BJP embodies spirit of 'Of the People, By the People, For the People'

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Jammu & Kashmir on Sunday reaffirmed its unwavering commitment to serve the people of Jammu region with dedication and selfless spirit.

A public meeting was addressed at Gangyal, Jammu by J&K BJP President Sat Sharma, Leader of Opposition in J&K Assembly Sunil Sharma, J&K BJP General Secretary Baldev Singh Billawaria, and MLA Ranbir Singh Pathania, in the presence of party activists and prominent citizens.

Addressing the gathering, Sat Sharma said that BJP is the true voice of the people, working relentlessly for 365 days a year without break. He said that the people of Jammu have faced severe agony and losses due to incessant rains and flash floods this year. From the very first day of the tragedy,



J&K BJP President Sat Sharma speaking at a programme.

BJP leaders and activists stood shoulder-to-shoulder with the affected people, participating directly in rescue and relief operations at the ground level. BJP will never compromise on its ideology of selfless service and sacrifice for society, he stated, adding that the party truly embodies the spirit of 'of the people, by the people and for the people'.

Sunil Sharma, in his address, emphasized that the BJP's strength lies in its continuous and consistent

effort to remain among the people. He stressed that the BJP is not a party that surfaces only during elections. BJP is present in every household, every mohalla, and every village, 24x7, 365 days a year. We appeal to the people to feel free to approach BJP leaders at any time regarding their concerns. BJP is the natural party of every Indian, he asserted.

Baldev Singh Billawaria highlighted the sacrifices of party workers who, leaving

behind personal comforts, rushed to help distressed families during natural calamities. Our leaders and workers have proved time and again that public service is above personal goals, he remarked.

Ranbir Singh Pathania reiterated that BJP remains committed to building a safe, secure, and prosperous Jammu & Kashmir. "Our efforts are directed towards ensuring that no citizen feels abandoned in times of crisis, he added.

BJP J&K listens to 125th episode of PM Modi's Mann Ki Baat at 5000 booths



BJP leaders listening to 125th episode of PM Narendra Modi's Mann Ki Baat.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Jammu & Kashmir Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Sunday organized extensive programmes across the Union Territory to collectively listen to the 125th episode of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's monthly radio address Mann Ki Baat. The programme was heard at around 5000 booths, drawing enthusiastic participation from BJP activists, booth-level workers, and prominent local citizens.

At Booth No. 111, Gangyal, Kunjwani Mandal in BJP District Jammu South, J&K BJP President Sat Sharma, Leader of Opposition in J&K Assembly Sunil Sharma, J&K BJP General Secretary Baldev Singh Billawaria, and MLA Ranbir Singh Pathania

joined the activists and local residents to listen to the broadcast.

Similarly, at Booth No. 83 in Bishnah Constituency of BJP District Jammu Border, J&K BJP General Secretary Baldev Singh Billawaria, and MLA Dr. Rajeev Bhagat,

participated in the programme along with party workers and people from the community.

On the occasion, Sat Sharma said that Mann Ki Baat has evolved into a "people's movement" that directly connects the citizens with the vision and mission of

Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He said that the Prime Minister's monthly address is not merely a broadcast but a moral inspiration that motivates society to contribute towards cleanliness, social reforms, women empowerment, and overall nation-building. This series

Dir Agriculture conducts extensive tour of Kulgam

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
KULGAM: Director Agriculture Kashmir, Sartaj Ahmad Shah on Sunday visited several areas of Kulgam and held interaction with farmers.

During the tour, the Director visited fields of innovative farmers who have successfully cultivated paddy in a high density apple nursery in Tangjan Village.

Director also took feedback from the concerned farmer Mohammad Amin Ganaie regarding the experiment and successful innovation he has adopted.

He appreciated him and highlighted the importance of innovative practices in the crop cultivation sector. He said the experiment would be replicated in different areas and the results would be analysed on scientific lines.

Shah impressed upon the young educated farmers to take the inspiration from progressive farmers like Mohammad Amin and adopt an innovative approach during the cultivation of agriculture crops.

After interacting with the farmers at different places, the Director reiterated his commitment to ensure all the technical support to the farmers during their different endeavours.

He directed the field functionaries to work in close coordination with the farming community of the area and guide them during all the pre and post harvesting operations of different agriculture crops.

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'Mark Enterprises' outlet opened in Jammu

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: In a significant step towards transforming the retail landscape of Jammu, M/S Mark Enterprises has inaugurated its Branded Warehouse at Toph Sherkhania, strategically located near Best Price.

This innovative concept brings together a wide array of branded items under one roof, with the core promise of offering products at prices "cheaper than online".

Launched under the leadership of Er. Kapil Sharma, the Branded Warehouse is part of the Bharat Udhyan initiative, which promotes entrepreneurship and self-reliance across India.

The store offers an extensive range of products, including electronics, apparels, small and large home appliances, e-commerce surplus stock, liquidation goods, and open-box items. By combining affordability with authenticity, the venture addresses a growing consumer demand for value without compromising on quality. Er. Kapil Sharma, while speaking at the launch, shared his motivation behind the project.

"The idea is to make premium branded products accessible and affordable for everyone.



Customers shouldn't have to compromise between price and quality. With our Branded Warehouse, we ensure both."

He invites the people of Jammu to experience this one-of-a-kind shopping destination that redefines smart buying. With this launch, the brand sets a new benchmark in the region for affordable, high-quality retail under a single roof.

Hindus in Sambhal scared, Centre and state should take steps to protect them: Pramod Krishnam

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SAMBHAL: Acharya Pramod Krishnam, former Congress leader and head of the Kalki Dham, has expressed concern over the recent judicial commission report on the Sambhal violence and said that the Centre and the Uttar Pradesh Government should take steps for the security of Hindus in the district as the community is scared.

"It is very important to protect the Kalki Dham, the residents of Sambhal and particularly the Hindus of Sambhal. Otherwise, a day will come when Hindus will migrate from Sambhal just as they did from Kashmir," he told reporters on Saturday evening.

While referring to the judicial report, he claimed that only 15 per cent of the population in Sambhal is Hindu. He voiced fears that this number could drop further if the government changes in 2027.

"The Hindus in Sambhal are scared," he said. "This is a place of grave unrighteousness and oppression. The population has fallen from 45

per cent to 15 per cent."

He accused the political leadership of Sambhal, specifically mentioning former MP Shafiqur Rahman Barq, of fostering this environment.

"For 40 years, Dr. Shafiqur Rahman Barq ruled here," he said. "Hindus and Muslims have been pitted against each other, and the local politics is responsible for all the communal riots in Sambhal."

Krishnam said that since the Yogi Adityanath government came to power, and particularly after Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit for the foundation stone laying ceremony of the Kalki Dham, things have improved. However, he warned of a deep-seated fear among the community.

"I appeal to the governments of India and Uttar Pradesh to ensure strong security for Hindus in Sambhal," he said.

"Sambhal is currently a target for international agencies. Since Prime Minister Modi came, Kalki Dham has been a target. It is very important to protect the Kalki Dham, the residents of

Sambhal, and particularly the Hindus of Sambhal. Otherwise, a day will come when Hindus will migrate from Sambhal just as they did from Kashmir."

According to government sources, the judicial panel's report on the November 2024 Sambhal violence claims Hindus have "consistently been made the primary target in every riot since 1947" and were again the focus of a plot during the flare-up.

The report, submitted to the CM's office on Thursday, credits Uttar Pradesh Police with preventing a "massacre". It alleges that rioters were brought in from outside and links internal clashes to longstanding Turk-Pathan tensions.

It says controversy over the Harihar temple, which was allegedly replaced by a mosque, was stoked by references to Babur's legacy, worsening the atmosphere.

The report highlights major demographic shifts, noting Hindus have fallen from 45 per cent of Sambhal's municipal population at Independence to 15

per cent, while Muslims now make up 85 per cent. It alleges radical organisations and illegal arms and drug networks were activated to destabilise the region, while praising swift state action.

The panel traces Sambhal's history of communal strife to a 1953 Shia-Sunni clash, with major riots in 1956, 1959, 1962 (when Jan Sangh MLA Mahesh Gupta was stabbed), 1966, and 1976, when a mosque committee dispute and a maulvi's murder triggered temple attacks and curfew. It also notes Mulayam Singh Yadav's 2006 move to recognise some 1976 riot accused as "democracy fighters."

Authorities cleared over 1,000 illegal encroachments, reclaimed 68 hectares, and demolished 35 unauthorised religious structures in the past year, the report adds.

The commission was set up on November 28, 2024, in the aftermath of the violence that erupted near the Shahi Jama Masjid on November 24 during an ASI-monitored survey of the mosque, leaving four people dead and several others injured.