

FICCI FLO JKL commences Phase 1 of Flood Relief Donation Camp

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: FICCI FLO Jammu, Kashmir & Ladakh (JKL) on Saturday launched the first phase of its flood relief donation drive to support families affected by the recent natural calamity in the region.

As part of the initiative, members of FICCI FLO JKL handed over 150 sets of relief material, including blankets, mattresses, sheets, and pillows, to MLA Yudhvir Sethi and former Minister Priya Sethi.

The relief kits were formally handed over to the senior BJP leaders on the directions of Aarti Chowdhary, Chairperson, FICCI FLO JKL.

The relief distribution drive was led by Varuna Anand, National Vertical Head Partnerships and Collaboration; Varsha Bansal, Sr Vice Chairperson, Rupika Sahai - Vice Chairperson, Sona



MLA Yudhvir Sethi and former Minister Priya Sethi with FICCI FLO Jammu, Kashmir & Ladakh members at lood relief donation drive.

Mehta - Treasurer; Shipra Aggarwal- Joint Treasurer, Pooja Dewan Joint Secretary and Kamakshi Dewan, Member. The members present acknowledged and said that the initiative reflects FICCI FLO JKL's collective commitment towards social responsibility and community service.

They emphasized that timely assistance in the form of essential relief material would provide much-needed support to

the affected families and reaffirmed their resolve to continue extending help in subsequent phases of the relief campaign.

Aarti Chowdhary, in her message, expressed that FICCI FLO JKL remains committed to standing with communities in times of crisis.

"Our endeavor is to provide immediate support and relief to the affected families so they can rebuild their lives with dignity. This is just the beginning,

and we will continue to extend help wherever required," she said.

Aarti Chowdhary further said that the donation drive marks the commencement of Phase 1 of the relief operations.

FICCI FLO JKL has planned further interventions in the coming weeks to reach out to more flood-affected families across the Union Territory, she added.

SVMMC Hospital organizes Eye Donation Awareness Rally in collaboration with SOTTO J&K

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JAMMU: Swami Vivekananda Medical Mission Charitable (SVMMC) Hospital, Amphalla, in collaboration with SOTTO J&K organized an Eye Donation Awareness Rally on Saturday with the aim of spreading awareness about eye donation and inspiring people to pledge their eyes to help restore vision to the visually impaired. The rally commenced from Indira Gandhi Government Dental College (IGGDC), Jammu, and concluded at the SVMMC-H premises.

It was formally flagged off by Prof. (Dr.) Parveen Akhter Lone, Principal & Dean, IGGDC Jammu, along with B.S. Jamwal (Secretary, SVMMCCH) and Mohan Singh Chouhan (Treasurer, SVMMCCH).

A large number of doctors, medical and dental students, hospital staff, volunteers, and members of the general public participated in the rally with enthusiasm.

Doctors and students from ASCOMS also joined the event, promoting the noble message of eye donation. Addressing the gathering, Dr. Parveen



Principal & Dean IGGDC Jammu, Prof. (Dr.) Parveen Akhter Lone flagging off rally at Jammu on Saturday.

Akhter Lone emphasized that eye donation is an act of compassion and service to humanity. She urged the youth to take the lead in building a culture where pledging eyes becomes a social responsibility.

Dr. Suruchi Gupta, Senior Eye Consultant at SVMMCCH, highlighted that corneal blindness is among the leading causes of preventable blindness in India.

She explained that eye donation is a powerful way to restore dignity and independence to those living in darkness. Dr. Pallvi Sharma, Eye Consultant, emphasized that one eye

donor can help restore the sight of two individuals, giving them a new lease on life. Key hospital staff including Dr. Yash Karsyal, Dr. S.L. Fotra, Iqbal Deep Singh, Pawan Sharma, and C.L. Koul extended full support to the rally. At the culmination point, the rally was received by Amar Chand Gupta (Sr. Vice President) and B.B. Gupta (General Secretary).

Dr. Sachin Gupta, Member of the Management Committee, reiterated the mission's guiding principle of "Nar Sewa Narayan Sewa", encouraging the public to come forward and pledge their eyes.

Billawaria inspects rain-hit areas in Jammu, urges swift relief measures



BJP J&K General Secretary Baldev Singh Billawaria during visit to various rain-affected area.

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JAMMU: BJP Jammu & Kashmir General Secretary and former Deputy Mayor of Jammu, Baldev Singh Billawaria, conducted a visit to various rain-affected wards of Jammu city to assess the damage caused by the recent heavy rainfall.

During his visit, he met with the affected residents, listened to their concerns, and reviewed the status of ongoing relief efforts.

Billawaria emphasized that the BJP's top priority

is to ensure that those impacted by the natural disaster receive immediate relief and compensation. He urged the local administration to expedite aid distribution and provide essential supplies to the victims.

Interacting with local residents, Billawaria assured them that both the Modi Government at the Centre and BJP workers stand firmly with the people of Jammu in this time of crisis.

He said that Union Home

Dr. Pardeep raises alarm on soaring prices of essential commodities, urges Govt to be vigil

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Dr. Pardeep Mahotra, Media Incharge of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) J&K, has expressed deep concern over the sharp rise in prices of essential commodities, particularly vegetables and fruits, which is severely impacting the common households of Jammu and Kashmir.

Dr. Pardeep said that while incessant rains and floods have undoubtedly caused large-scale damage to crops, homes, roads, bridges, and transportation networks across the region, the crisis is now being compounded by unchecked price rise.

The supply chains have been badly disrupted, crops have been washed away, and the pockets of ordinary citizens are bleeding under the unbearable cost of daily essentials, he said.

Dr. Pardeep strongly cautioned that this grim situation cannot be allowed to worsen under the excuse of natural calamity alone. He said that the end of rainfall does not automatically bring relief, and inflation is already looming



large over the vulnerable population. "It is now the duty of the government and the concerned departments to ensure that the tragedy of floods is not converted into an opportunity for black-marketers," he warned.

Dr. Pardeep urged the J&K Government to immediately intervene by ensuring adequate supply, curbing hoarding, and strictly monitoring the market to prevent over-pricing. "Those indulging in hoarding, black-marketing and looting the helpless citizens must be dealt with iron hands. The government must not allow profiteers to feed on the blood of the vulnerable," Dr. Pardeep asserted.

Dr. Pardeep demanded that the administration work out clear mechanisms to restore smooth availability of essentials and protect the interests of the people.

"The people of J&K are already battling the aftermath of floods. They cannot be left to further suffer at the mercy of exploiters in the markets," he added.

Samvedna Society organizes 100th Free Eye & Skin Check-up Camp for flood-affected people



Doctor examining patients at a camp.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a dedicated effort to provide vital healthcare to flood-affected residents, Samvedna Society, under the chairmanship of Keshav Chopra, successfully organized its 100th Free Eye Screening and Skin (Derma) Check-up Camp at Goswami Colony, Jammu.

The camp, held in collaboration with the Government Medical College and SMGS Hospital Jammu, was inaugurated by MLA Jammu East Yudhvir Sethi and President Sanatan Dharma Sabha J&K Parshotam Dadhichi.

The camp provided free consultations and medicines to more than 103 patients suffer-

ing from eye and skin-related ailments. Speaking on the occasion, Yudhvir Sethi praised the initiative, stating, "It is heartening to see social organizations like Samvedna Society stepping up to provide timely and crucial medical services, especially to those affected by floods. Such efforts are vital for community well-being, and I commend Keshav Chopra and his team for this remarkable achievement." Echoing similar sentiments, Parshotam Dadhichi said, "This camp reflects the true spirit of service and compassion. Offering free healthcare to those in need is among the highest forms of humanitarian work, and we are proud to support this noble cause."

Highlighting the motive behind the initiative, Keshav Chopra remarked, "Our primary objective is to ensure that flood-affected people receive the best possible medical treatment. Organizing the 100th camp is a milestone for our society, and we remain deeply grateful to everyone who supported us in this journey." He also expressed gratitude to Sewa Samiti J&K for their assistance. Prominent attendees included Sanjay Gupta (General Secretary, Sanatan Dharma Sabha J&K), Dr. Riya Sharma, Dr. Bhavya Jad, Dr. Sushil, Dr. Rahul Sharma, Dr. Suhaib Bin Yaqoob, Anil Kumar (Chief Refractionist), Sumit Saharan (President, Sewa Samiti J&K), Aman Sharma (Vice President, Sewa Samiti J&K) along with several other dignitaries and volunteers.

The milestone event highlighted the power of community collaboration in addressing public health needs and reaffirmed the commitment of social organizations towards serving society in times of crisis.

Welfare and Establishment Board Meeting held at JKAP-8th Bn

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JAMMU: A Welfare and Establishment Board Meeting was held at the Battalion Headquarters of JKAP-8th Battalion, Miran Sahib, Jammu, under the chairmanship of Suram Singh, SSP, Commandant JKAP-8th Battalion, to review transfer cases and welfare loan applications of the unit personnel.

During the meeting, 14 transfer-related representations were examined, out of which four were found genuine and recommended to higher authorities for further action. Additionally, 17 welfare loan cases were reviewed; five were sanctioned a loan of Rs. 50,000 each, while five more cases were forwarded for higher-level consideration.

Senior officers present included Chanderjeet Singh-SSP (Dy. CO), Bhupinder Singh (Dy. SP), Om Parkash Chib (Dy. SP), Prabhu Dyal (Dy. SP), Inspr. Javid Ahmad (IC Estt), Inspr. Parmet Singh (PTO), and SI (M) Jankar Singh (IC Accts.).



Organizers presenting memento to Ranjodh Singh Nalwa, President of Minority Morecha BJP J&K.

'Wakefulness Night' event organized Nalwa stresses for promoting peace, spirituality, brotherhood across J&K

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JAMMU: In a remarkable display of spiritual unity and musical celebration, Ranjodh Singh Nalwa, President of Minority Morecha BJP J&K, was warmly welcomed as Chief Guest at the grand 'Wakefulness Night' event held at Gandhi Nagar, here.

The night witnessed a gathering of over 2,000 attendees from across Jammu & Kashmir, celebrating a message of peace, love, and faith.

Journalist and entrepreneur Boney Kumar was the Guest of Honour on the occasion. The event was elevated by the soul-stirring performance of world-famous Gospel singer Stephen Munir, whose powerful voice and spiritual message left the audience deeply moved.

Organised by Pastor Dr. Zion Richard, Senior Pastor of The Church of Prayers and Wonders, the Wakefulness Night was a powerful celebration of

faith, hope, and communal harmony.

Pastor Zion led prayers and blessings over the gathering and specially prayed for Ranjodh Singh Nalwa, asking for divine favour and double growth in his life, family, and political career.

Addressing the massive crowd, Ranjodh Singh Nalwa shared a heartfelt message of love and peace as taught by Lord Jesus Christ, emphasizing unity across faiths and cultures.

He affirmed his personal commitment-as well as that of the BJP Minority Morecha-to support such faith-based gatherings that promote peace, spirituality, and brotherhood across Jammu & Kashmir.

The evening also attended by numerous Christian political leaders and spiritual heads from different parts of J&K, reflecting the growing spirit of religious harmony and interfaith dialogue in the region.

10-day Shri Ganesh Chaturthi Mahotsav concludes with Murti Immersion in River Chenab

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The 10-day long Shri Ganesh Chaturthi Mahotsav, celebrated with great devotion and enthusiasm, concluded today with the immersion of Lord Ganesha's Murti in the sacred waters of River Chenab at Jia Pota, Akhnoor.

The Mahotsav commenced on 27th August with the installation of a beautifully adorned Murti of Lord Ganesha, performed by learned Shastries amidst full religious rituals and chanting of mantras. The event was organized under the guidance of Th. Gulchain Singh Charak, Former Minister and President of the Trust, and coordinated by Sh. S.C. Rekhi, General Secretary of the Trust.

Throughout the 10 days, daily morning and evening Poojas and Aartis were performed with deep devotion. Hundreds of devotees, along with trustees and special invitees, participated in the Maha Aarti every day, followed



Devotees carrying Lord Ganesha's Murti for immersion at River Chenab.

by the distribution of Prasad in large quantities arranged by the devotees and Mandir committee.

On the final day, September 6, a special Maha Pooja was conducted in the Mandir, attended by trustees, invitees, and a large gathering of devotees. Thereafter, the Murti of Lord Ganesha was carried in a beautifully decorated vehicle, accompanied by trustees and Shastries, to Jia Pota, Akhnoor, where it was

immersed in the River Chenab with prayers for the Lord's blessings and with the hope of His divine darshan again next year.

Prominent devotees who participated in the Visarjan ceremony included Sh. S.C. Rekhi (Gen. Secy), Harish Malhotra, Romesh Thakur, V.K. Abrol, P.C. Gupta, Sumesh Damral, K.B. Magotra, Smt. Kiran Rajput, Smt. Uma Sharma, Samar Dev Singh Charak, Krishan P. Gupta,

Sandeep Singh, Parshant Sharma, Ved Verma, Pankul Vaid, Tarun Gupta, Kulbir Singh Chib, Ashok Gupta, Col. Pushaphas Sharma, along with trustees, invitees, and a large number of devotees.

The event concluded with collective prayers seeking the blessings of Lord Ganesha for peace, prosperity, and well-being of all.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Jammu & Kashmir General Secretary (Organization), Ashok Koul, convened a meeting of senior party leaders at the party headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu, to chalk out the strategy for the forthcoming 'Seva Pakhwada' programmes.

J&K BJP Vice-President Rashpal Verma, General Secretaries Sanjita Dogra and Gopal Mahajan, Secretaries Reema Padha and Pawan Sharma, as well as senior leaders Ved Parkash, Munish Khajuria, Praduman Singh, J.D. Singh, Puneet Mahajan, Rajinder Koul,



BJP J&K General Secretary (Org), Ashok Koul chairing a meeting.

Deepak Kapahi, Narinder Singh and others attended the meeting.

Addressing the meeting, Ashok Koul underlined that 'Seva Pakhwada' will be observed at the national level to mark the birthday of Prime Minister Narendra Modi on September 17. He said

that this unique campaign is not merely a commemoration, but a reaffirmation of BJP's core principle.

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi has redefined politics as a mission of selfless service, dedicating every moment of his life to the welfare of the poor, deprived, and mar-

ginalized. His birthday is an occasion to strengthen this spirit of service through meaningful initiatives that touch the lives of people directly," Koul remarked.

He announced that during the Seva Pakhwada, a series of programmes will be conducted across Jammu and Kashmir, including medical check-up and blood donation camps, cleanliness drives, drawing competitions, intellectual meets, plantation drives, exhibitions, and felicitation of specially-abled persons. These activities, he said, are designed to involve every section of society and spread the message of collective

responsibility toward humanity.

Koul stressed that these programmes must be organized at the grassroots level with mass participation. He urged party leaders and activists to ensure maximum involvement of civil society members, social activists, and professionals, so that the message of Seva reaches every household.

Ashok Koul stressed that the Seva Pakhwada is not about political symbolism, it is about reaffirming our duty to humanity. Each activity, each camp, each initiative should inspire people with the noble message of service before self, he added.

Author Anil Sehgal presents book to GOC Tiger Division



Noted author and journalist Squadron Leader Anil Sehgal presenting his bestselling book to Maj Gen Mukesh Bhanwala, GOC Tiger Division.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Noted author and journalist Squadron Leader Anil Sehgal presented his bestselling book, "Jammu Jottings: A Commentary on Dogras and Their Culture," to Major General Mukesh Bhanwala, General Officer Commanding, Tiger Division of the Indian Army.

The widely acclaimed book offers a comprehensive introduction to the valiant Dogras, exploring their ethics, aspirations, and rich cultural heritage.

It serves as a valuable resource for anyone seeking to understand the Dogra identity and legacy.

The presentation marked a meeting of literary insight and military valour, celebrating the enduring spirit of the Dogra community.