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J&K admin hands over land papers to landless beneficiaries under PMAY

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, OCT 2

Jammu and Kashmir administration on Monday began the process of handing over land documents to the landless people of Jammu and Kashmir for house construction under the Pradhan Mantri Awas

Yojna. The documents were handed over to some of the selected beneficiaries by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at a function held here. "It is a matter of happiness that I handed over documents of 5 marlas land to some beneficiaries who are landless

but eligible for housing under PMAY. The respective Deputy Commissioners will do the same in their districts," Sinha said. Dispelling the charges that this scheme might be used to alter the demography of Jammu and Kashmir, Sinha asked the grassroots-level represen-



tatives to keep an eye on the list of beneficiaries in their respective areas. "The elected representatives are here. You should look at the beneficiary list and check if there is anyone from outside (JK). There are some people who are unnecessarily playing with the

emotions of the people on every issue," he said. "This decision was taken after a lot of thought that poor people should also have their own houses. But some people are doing politics even on this issue. This is one of the reasons why Jammu and

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

In terms of basic facilities, gaps between village and city are disappearing: LG Sinha

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 2

Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha today unveiled the statue of Mahatma Gandhi and a Charkha installation, as a mark of tribute to the Father of the Nation on his Jayanti, at Civil Secretariat.

"Puja Bapu always believed that the message of Charkha's circumference is much broader than its tangible circumference. The goal of the Charkha is to serve mankind, to live without hurting others, to create an inseparable bond between the rich and the poor, capital and labour," the Lt Governor said.

Charkha was used as a significant tool by Bapu



in the fight against British Rule. It is a symbol of Swadeshi movement, self-reliance and economic freedom, he said.

Paying tributes to Mahatma Gandhi, the Lt Governor said the ideals of Bapu are for all humanity.

"I hope our officers, inspired by Bapu's ideas and ideals, will continue to work dedicatedly for

the dignity of every citizen in the society, for equality, social justice, and for a developed and self-reliant Jammu Kashmir," the Lt Governor said.

The Lt Governor reiterated the commitment of the UT Administration to develop the villages as the centre of socio-economic growth and transform the lives of the rural popula-

tion. Today, villages in Jammu Kashmir are witnessing unprecedented growth due to the availability of various sources of income. New entrepreneurs are starting their new innings from villages. In terms of basic facilities, the gaps between village and the city are disappearing, the Lt Governor said.

Following the ideals of Puja Bapu, J&K in 2021-22 had established 21,640 manufacturing and service units in the villages with the help of KVIC, providing employment to more than 1.73 Lakh. In the last Financial Year, more than 10,628 new units had been installed, he added. The Lt Governor congratulated the Jammu &

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Efforts are being made to create J&K of Bapu's dreams: LG Sinha

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 2

Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha today addressed the UT-level event organized by the Department of School Education to celebrate the 154th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

The event also marked the culmination of the 'Shanti Yatra' started from Anantnag and series of other programmes which are the part of the month-long celebrations of Gandhi Jayanti held in schools across the UT.

In his address, the Lt Governor extended his greetings to the people on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti and the birth anniversary



of former Prime Minister Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri.

The Lt Governor recalled the eternal values of Mahatma Gandhi, which has been inspiring generations across the world and the

power of truth, ahimsa, satyagraha, simple living is guiding entire humanity on the path of peace and brotherhood.

"Bapu's thoughts are

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Rains lash parts of Kashmir, Snowfall on higher reaches

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, OCT 2

Rains lashed parts of Kashmir valley and higher reaches, including Zojila pass, experienced fresh snowfall on Monday, Meteorological office said.

The MeT office said Zojila Pass on strategic Srinagar-Ladakh highway witnessed a fresh snow-

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fall while parts of south Kashmir including Baniptora, Ganderbal experienced rains breaking the prolonged dry spell giving much respite to the people.

The source said currently it was raining in many places of south, north and central parts of Kashmir valley while upper reaches of Doda-Kishtwar in Jammu division witnessed

snowfall. Rains lashed Samba while it was dry at rest of the places in J&K.

Rain is likely to stop by afternoon and fair to partly cloudy weather will prevail thereafter in Kashmir and partly to generally cloudy at Doda in Jammu division, the MeT office said.

It said the weather will remain fairly to partly cloudy in both Jammu

and Kashmir regions from October 3-8.

The MeT office predicted that there was a possibility of light to moderate rain or snowfall over higher reaches at scattered places with 60-70 per cent chance during October 9-10.

It also advised the farmers that weather will be favourable for

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PM congratulates J&K for 100% J&K UT Villages achieving ODF plus status



AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, OCT 2

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has lauded Jammu and Kashmir for 100% J&K UT villages achieving ODF Plus status in 'Model' category under Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) phase-II.

Prime Minister Modi posted on X: "Laudatory effort, for which I congratulate the people of Jammu and Kashmir. This is a monumental step in our journey towards a cleaner and healthier India."

Govt's 'light' yet to reach 61% of public schools in J&K

JI NEWS SERVICE/KNO
SRINAGAR, OCT 2

In Jammu and Kashmir, at least 61 percent government-run schools are without any electricity—thus raising a question on promises made by the department of providing multiple infrastructural facilities to the students.

Besides, at least 45 percent of private schools in Jammu and Kashmir sans electricity facilities for the students enrolled in those educational institutes.

The official figures accessed by the news agency, reveals that out of the total number of government schools, at least 14,240 institutions were lacking electricity facilities.

It reveals that only 39 percent of educational institutions that amount to 8933 government schools were availing the electricity facility.

Similarly, out of the total of 5526 private schools of Jammu and Kashmir, only 2468 institutes were having electricity facilities available while as students of 3058 private schools were deprived of the facility.

The official figures further states that only 50 percent of aided schools functioning in the regions were having electricity facilities available for the students.

"In general, among all schools of Jammu and Kashmir, at least 27 percent of the institutions were

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Dr Jitendra Singh flags off 'recycling on wheels' to mark 'Swachhata

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, OCT 2

In alignment with the Swachhata Hi Seva (SHS) campaign, celebrated from September 15th to October 2nd this year, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology, MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh inaugurated the revolutionary "Recycling on Wheels Smart-ER" at Anusandhan Bhawan, New Delhi.

During the flag-off ceremony, Dr. Jitendra Singh stated, "The 'Recycling on Wheels Smart-ER' project aligns perfectly with the Swachhata Hi Seva campaign's objective of fostering a cleaner India." He said, it not only bolsters transportation efficiency and cost reduction but will also efficiently extract precious metals from shredded e-waste in its later phase, making a significant contribution to the



circular economy, thus aligning with the Swachh Bharat mission.

Dwelling on the Swachhata Hi Seva theme, Dr Jitendra Singh said, "Mahatma Gandhi gave us the virtue of Swachhata, while Prime Minister Narendra Modi made it a part of life."

The Minister elaborated that soon after taking charge in May, 2014, PM Modi has declared

Swachh Bharat Mission on 15th August, 2014 to make India Open Defecation Free Country. He said, the cleanliness mission got institutionalized within few years and it has become a way of life, a true mass movement (Jan Andolan).

Dr Jitendra Singh said, the swachhata campaign is not restricted to 2nd October

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Kashmir based BJP leaders' tender 'unconditional apology', after party's indiscipline notice

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 2

Eight Kashmir based Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leaders who were issued notice over indiscipline, have tendered "unconditional apology" for their conduct and have given undertaking to not repeat such acts in future.

This was stated by Chairman of Jammu and Kashmir Bharatiya Janta Party's Disciplinary Committee, Sunil Sethi on Monday in Jammu, as per news agency.

Sethi said that in response to the notice issued to eight BJP leaders, all of them have submitted their "unconditional apology" and have

also given undertaking not to repeat such conduct and not indulge in anti-party activities or indiscipline in future.

The leaders who were issued notice include Dr Ali Mohd Mir, G M Mir, Altaf Thakur, Manzoor Ahmed Bhat, Arif Raja, Bilal Parry, Anwar Khan and Asif Masoodi

Chairman BJP Disciplinary Committee Advocate Sethi said that the BJP Disciplinary Committee is satisfied with the apology and keeping in view their past standing and contribution to the party, the disciplinary committee has requested the party President J&K Ravinder Raina to close proceedings against them.

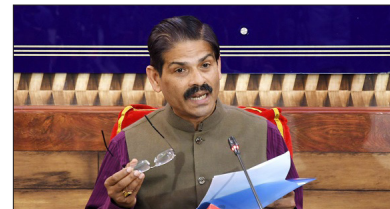
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Our aim is to root out fear from common man's heart and mind: Spl DG Swain

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, OCT 2

Jammu and Kashmir police's Special Director General (CID) RR Swain Monday said that police is trying its every bit to root out fear from the common man's heart and mind while the fight against those who promote violence is purely for the general public.

Talking to reporters on the sidelines of a mega Kashmir marathon organised by the J&K police, the special DG (CID) as per news agency, said that J&K is police quietly fight-



ing against the enemy which is "organised" after using the outside support and influence. "To fight some people who promote violence needs an extra bit of valour and that is found within the J&K police. Challenges before J&K police are quite different from what other forces

are facing," he said. "We are fighting this battle quietly, silently for the common man who is sitting in a far off village. Our fight is for a small farmer, a lawyer, a Khateeb and a small journalist or for that matter a common man who respects and abides by the law." J&K police had organised a massive marathon in which participants from Kashmir, Jammu and other parts of the country participated.

The event coincided with Gandhi Jayanti, the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, the father

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Search operation launched in Rajouri

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 2

Security forces on Monday launched a search operation in the forest area of Kalakote in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district following information about suspicious movement, officials said. The Army along with police cordoned off Broh and Soom forest belt in Kalakote area for the searches, the officials said.

They said a few rounds were heard during the cordon and search operation but it was later clarified that the security forces fired the probing shots to check the presence of suspected terrorists.

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Govt Departments, Educational Institutions celebrate Gandhi Jayanti with enthusiasm, fervour across Jammu Division

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCTOBER 2

The Government Departments and Educational Institutions organised an array of activities across Jammu division to mark the Gandhi Jayanti celebrations, today.

SWD Ramban: Social Welfare Department Ramban celebrated Gandhi Jayanti and Swachhta Hi Sewa event with the cleanliness drive and Swachhta Pledge in the District office, Tehsil offices as well as all Child Care Institutions.

The cleanliness activities were also carried out in One Stop Centre for Women in Ramban as well as DHEW, Ramban.

District Jail Jammu: The Gandhi Jayanti was celebrated in District Jail Jammu which was witnessed by the Jail Staff, CRPF Personnel and Jail Inmates under the supervision of Superintendent Jail Harish Kotwal.

All the participants paid rich tribute to Mahatma Gandhi on his 154th birth anniversary and highlighted the life history of Gandhiji.

Meanwhile, a convict undergoing life imprisonment was released from the Jail by the orders of J&K Government. The move will boost the morale of other convicts and prove a boon to reformation of the inmates.

Forest and Skill Development Department: Departments of Forest and Skill Development jointly celebrated the Birthday of Father of Nation, Mahatma Gandhi and to mark the "SWACHHTA HI SEWA" Abhiyan here in Government Industrial



Training Institute Jammu. The programme was chaired by Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests/Director Department of Social Forestry, Suresh Kr. Gupta.

A cleanliness drive was organized on the ITI campus including the play grounds and buildings of different departments of the Institute followed by a plantation drive. Around 100 plants of different species were planted by the dignitaries, staff and students of the Institute.

The programme was attended by the Corporator of the ward Sanjeev Panda, Sudershan Kumar, Director, SDD, Mohinder Kr. Gupta, Regional Director, Social Forestry Department and others.

Students of the Institute spoke on the importance of Swachhta Abhiyan.

GDC Doda: The special series of activities to mark the celebration of Gandhi Jayanti concluded with a grand valedictory function in Government Degree College Doda. The different activities and programs were organised from the 15th of September under the overall supervision and guidance

of Principal of the college Dr Attar Singh Kotwal and in presence of IQAC Coordinator and incharge principal Dr Ajaz Ahmed Wani.

GHSS (Boys) Doda: Government Boys Higher Secondary School Doda hosted a remarkable event on the eve of the 154th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and the conclusion of the nationwide Swachhta Hi Seva campaign. The event took place at the school premises, with the presence of District Development Commissioner, Vishesh Mahajan, along with Additional District Development Commissioner, Pran Singh, Chief Education Officer, Field Publicity officer CBC- Doda circle, Principal GHSS Boys, and other distinguished guests.

The event not only celebrated the legacy of Mahatma Gandhi but also served as a reminder of the need for collective efforts to maintain cleanliness and uphold the values he stood for.

A rally was also organized in which students, teachers, and community members participated enthusiastically.

GDC Ramban: Gandhi Jayanti-the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi, was celebrated with patriotic fervour and traditional gaiety in the Government



Degree College, Ramban under the aegis of the college Principal Prof. Archana Koul.

The programme began with the lighting of Diyas (earthen lamps) and offering of floral tributes to Mahatma Gandhi by the Principal, faculty members and students.

Students, including NSS volunteers took part in the programme under the guidance of NSS programme officer Prof. Vicky Rattan. Faculty and other college employees also attended the programme.

Government Polytechnic Ramban celebrated Gandhi Jayanti with Great Spirit, zeal and zest.

The programme started with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp by the Principal of the Institution, Er. Vivek Mahajan in presence of HOD E&C Er. Pawan Kumar.

Subsequently, floral tributes were paid by the principal of the institution, HOD E&C, staff and the students. In continuation of the programme



several pledges were also taken by the staff and students of the Institution on "NASHA MukT BHARAT" "NON-VIOLENCE" and "SWACHHTA HI SEVA".

Painting and poster making competition was held in which various students from different branches and semesters participated.

Anisha Devi, E&C 5th semester bagged 1st position, Shafia Tabasum from civil Engineering, 1st semester stood 2nd and Muthaheer Ahmed, civil 1st semester stood 3rd. A documentary based on the life of Mahatma Gandhi was also screened.

GDC Vijaypur: The NSS Unit (KIDMAT) of Government Degree College, Vijaypur under 'Swachhta Hi Sewa' campaign and the flagship banner of 'Meri Mati, Mera Desh', 'Nasha MukT Bharat Abhiyaan' and 'Gandhi Jayanti Celebrations 2023' organised door to door awareness campaign educating citizens regarding the importance and health benefits of cleanliness.

NSS volunteers, students and staff of the college actively participated in the campaign drive with great enthusiasm and fervour. The cleanliness

drive and campaign which was launched by the Principal, Dr. Vandana Gupta, on the college campus was extended to various localities in Samba and Jammu districts. Volunteers collected plastic, polythene, and other waste materials from their surrounding areas and disposed of them properly.

GDC Batote: Government Degree College Batote celebrated Gandhi Jayanti with great zeal and zest and a pledge was taken by the students and staff to up-hold principles of truth and non-violence and to promote the Nasha MukT Bharat campaign.

The Principal of the college, Prof. Nirlape Kour presided over the event.

An intra-college quiz competition was also held on the theme "Truth and Non-violence." In all 16 students, comprising 4 teams participated in the competition. The team A comprising Ravinder Anthal, Ankesh Singh Katoch, Rahul Kumar and Harsh Dev emerged as the winner of the contest.

Gandhi Higher Secondary School Vijaypur today celebrated Gandhi Jayanti with great fervor and enthusiasm. Deputy Commissioner, Samba,

Abhishek Sharma was the Chief Guest on the occasion. CEO Samba Kewal Krishan also present on the occasion.

Performances centered around the theme of Gandhian principles, including 'Swachhta Abhiyan,' as well as speeches and cultural presentations by students, were featured during the event

While speaking on the occasion, the DC said that Mahatma Gandhi's adoption of peace and non-violence during the struggle for independence has also contributed to world peace. We should draw inspiration from his life and remember his contributions as we work towards making our nation a cleaner and better India, the DC added.

GGHSS Reasi: 154th Birth anniversary of Father of Nation Mahatma Gandhi was celebrated at District Reasi.

The program was organised at Government Girls HSS Reasi.

The event was inaugurated by Chief Education Officer Reasi, Sunita Bali and paid rich tributes to the Father of Nation.

Teachers and students of various Schools including Govt.Boys HSS Reasi, Girls HSS Reasi, Gurukul Public HSS Reasi and Tri-kuta Shiksha Niketan HS Reasi participated in the program and performed various activities on the life and teachings of the Mahatma Gandhi ji.

Chief Education Officer Reasi delivered a motivational lecture on the life of Gandhi ji and stressed upon the teachers and students to follow the principles of Gandhi ji.

Lt Governor awards Certificate of Achievement to DC Srinagar for Outstanding Leadership in achieving ODF+ Model Status of the District

J1 NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 2

The Jammu and Kashmir Government on Monday awarded Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad with Certificate of Achievement for his Exemplary Dedication, Unwavering Commitment & Outstanding Leadership in the pursuit of Swachhta and playing an instrumental role in achieving ODF+ Modal Status under an initiative of Swachh

Bharat Mission (SBM-2.0).

The Certificate of Achievement was awarded to Deputy Commissioner Srinagar by the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor, Shri Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhawan during a Felicitation Ceremony organized by Rural Development Department to honour the contribution of the Officers and recognise their outstanding capabilities in the pursuit of Cleanliness under an initiative of Swachh Bharat Mission(SBM-2.0)

The Deputy Commissioner Srinagar was honoured and given recognition by the J&K Government for encouraging and fostering the environment of cleanliness at different forums under his official capacity.

In this regard, the Deputy Commissioner Srinagar has thanked his RDD Team and members of PRIs for their brilliant work and support to District Administration which has led to attainment of important milestone under SBM-2.0.

CS e- inaugurates Geo-science Museum at SIDCO Budgam

J1 NEWS SERVICE
BUDGAM, OCTOBER 2

Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta today inaugurated Geology and Mining Department's first of its kind Geo-science Museum & District Mineral Office Budgam at SIDCO Budgam.

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Secretary appreciated the department of Geology and Mining for opening the Geoscience Museum as a centre for research for all geologists and scientists.

Dr Mehta said the centre would not only serve as a



spot of Geoscience tourism but also help preserving out rich geo heritage.

Chief Secretary virtually also inspected the 150 samples of fossils , rock minerals and industrial minerals of J&K preserved at the Museum.

He emphasised that the Museum is made a place of learning and awareness regarding the rich geo her-

itage of Jammu and Kashmir for the students also.

Secretary Mining, Dr Rashmi Singh who addressed a gathering during the inaugural function said that it is great achievement that rare and huge collection of minerals have been kept under one roof at this Museum.

She urged teachers and school heads to make

best use of this museum to generate awareness regarding preservation of rich heritage of J&K among students.

Secretary Mining also deliberated on the different facets of the Department preserving Mineral and Geological resources.

As a mark of tribute on Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi on Gandhi Jayanti various stone carved models including Charkha were also displayed in the Museum.

Paying rich tributes to Mahatma Gandhiji, the Secretary also led pledge

ceremony on Non-violence, Swachhta and Drugs on the occasion.

Compendium on District Mineral Foundation Trust and Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana was also released on the occasion.

The welcome address was presented by the Director Geology and Mining, Om Prakash Bhagat and Joint Director Nisar Ahmad Khawaja presented welcome address.

Professor GM Bhat presented the overview of preservation of fossils, minerals and other resources.

Gandhi Jayanti 2023: Div Com Jammu flags-in Shanti Yatra at Jammu- the final destination of inspirational voyage

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCTOBER 2

Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Ramesh Kumar, on Monday welcomed the Shanti Yatra to Jammu district, a commemorative expedition organized by the Directorate of School Education Jammu to pay homage to Mahatma Gandhi on his birth anniversary.

The Shanti Yatra, which traversed through the Jammu Division, spreading the principles of Gandhian philosophy, today reached its final destination Jammu. The grand reception took place at Padma Shri Sachdev Government PG College for Women Gandhinagar, where a splendid function was held to honour the winners of various competitions and the enthusiastic participants of the Yatra.

As part of the Gandhi Jayanti celebrations, the

Director of School Education Jammu shared that numerous competitions were conducted in schools and colleges across the Jammu division, including quizzes, painting, debates, essay writing, symposiums and more, spanning all districts. Furthermore, it was informed that the Shanti Yatra embarked on its journey from Poonch and arrived at Jammu after covering all the districts of the Jammu division.

Notably, 30100 students and 2234 teachers actively participated in the Yatra which involved 1254 schools. Shanti Yatra moved with great glory and honour receiving a warm welcome from administrators and commoners throughout the



Jammu Division.

On the occasion, Students of Higher Education Department and School Education Department presented a splendid cultural programme depicting life history of Gandhiji.

The UT level programme on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti was held at the SKICC Srinagar, which was watched online by the staff of Directorate of

School Education Jammu and Higher Education, teachers, students and the dignitaries present in the function. More over this program was also live relayed in schools and colleges of Jammu Province

On this auspicious occasion, Divisional Commissioner Ramesh Kumar and other esteemed dignitaries felicitated the students who presented cultural

items and to the winners and runners up of the Divisional Level Symposium competition on the theme Truth and Non violence held both at school and college level.

The event witnessed the presence of Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Sachin Kumar Vaishya; Director School Education, Ashok Sharma; JKBOSE Chairman, Parikshit Manhas

,Special Secretary school Education Kanta Rakwal, senior advisor of Gandhi Global family, Retd. Lt. General Rakesh Kumar, Dr. S.P Saraswat Parade College Jammu. Meenu Mahajan Principal of Women's College Gandhi Nagar; Joint Director School Education, Subah Mehta; in addition to several professors, teachers, and a large assembly of students.

BJP undertakes cleanliness campaign on birth anniversaries of Gandhi ji and Shastri ji



J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 2

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu & Kashmir led by its senior leaders undertook a number of cleanliness campaigns in the entire region of Jammu and Kashmir on the occasion of the birth anniversaries of Mahatma Gandhiji and Lal Bahadur Shastri ji. BJP leaders also

organized various 'Sewa' programmes like, medical camps, and blood donation camps on the occasion.

Senior BJP leaders also purchased Khadi products and prompted others to promote Khadi usage.

J&K BJP President Ravinder Raina paid tribute to Mahatma Gandhiji and former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri

Ji on their birth anniversary at Satwari Chowk in Jammu. He called on all to promote the concept of 'Shramdaan' for cleanliness in their surroundings for a better environment and better living conditions. Accompanied by other BJP leaders, he cleaned the statue of Mahatma Gandhiji at Satwari Chowk and the nearby area.

DC presides over Gram Sabha at Panchayat Saranoo

JNEWS SERVICE
RAJOURI, OCTOBER 2

In commemoration of the 154th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, a significant Gram Sabha was convened at Panchayat Saranoo, Rajouri, which was presided over by the Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal. The event was a remarkable display of participatory democracy and community empowerment, with the attendance of Sarpanches, Panches and local residents.

The Gram Sabha served as a platform to discuss and propose various developmental works under the Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP). Representatives from key departments including Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (RDD), Jal Shakti, Public Works Department (PWD), Revenue, Animal Husbandry and others were present to deliberate on these projects.

One of the key highlights of this gathering was the collaborative spirit exhibited by the attendees. The proposed projects spanned across a wide spectrum, with particular emphasis



on Rural Development Department, PWD, Jal Shakti, PDD and others. These proposed works were carefully curated and decided upon with the unanimous consent of the Sarpanch, Panches and local community members.

The Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal also addressed the gathering and shared inspiring insights on the life and principles of Mahatma Gandhi. He reminded everyone present of the timeless values of truth, non-violence, and community service that Gandhi Ji espoused throughout his life. His words resonated deeply with the audience, emphasizing the importance of collective action and unity in achieving progress and development in rural areas.

community.

Gram Sabha on Gandhi Jayanti at Panchayat Saranoo symbolizes the commitment of the local administration to empower grassroots governance and foster a sense of ownership and responsibility among the rural population. It underscores the dedication of the Government to inclusive development and participatory decision-making processes.

The event concluded with a renewed spirit of cooperation and determination among the attendees to work together for the betterment of their community, thereby honoring the legacy of Mahatma Gandhi. The projects proposed during this Gram Sabha are expected to make a meaningful impact on the lives of the residents of Panchayat Saranoo and contribute to the overall development of the region.

The Gram Sabha was attended by the Assistant Commissioner Development, Vijay Kumar; District Panchayat Officer, Auqil Nuvaid; Block Development Officer Dhangri, Mohd Javaid; Sarpanch, panches and locals Residents.

Sheetal Nanda inaugurates "VYOM" Child Developmental Centre at Lower Roopnagar

JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCTOBER 2

Commissioner Secretary, Social Welfare Department, Sheetal Nanda, today inaugurated "VYOM" (Vibrant Young Open Minds) a Child Developmental Centre at Lower Roopnagar here.

The VYOM has been established by Social Welfare Department in collaboration with Brainpreneurs Foundation.

Commissioner Secretary highlighted the challenges being faced by the parents in want of such child development centre. It has been a constant demand in UT for opening of such early intervention centre which caters to the need of intellectually challenged children with neurodiverse needs, she asserted. This facility of VYOM shall not only provide holistic state of the art facilities for develop-



ment needs of intellectual disabled children but also aims at identification of children who need early intervention.

Brainpreneurs' representatives, Dr. Sushil Razdan (Neurologist) and Sunaina Tickoo (CEO Brainpreneurs) highlighted VYOM's role in providing comprehensive services like physiotherapy, special education, speech therapy, occupational therapy, psychological assessments, parent and child counseling, life coaching, career counsel-

ing, and more, all under one roof.

It is pertinent to mention here that the department is providing child development centre facility free of cost to the PHH and AAY Ration card holders and very nominal charges shall be charged from other beneficiaries which shall ensure that the benefits of the centre is being taken by all in need of such care.

VYOM is designed to cater to children with various neurodiverse backgrounds, including intel-

lectual disabilities, slow learning, autism, ADHD, and cerebral palsy. Social Welfare Department's efforts and Brainpreneurs' expertise, VYOM's impact extend beyond its center. It has already conducted teacher training programs in various government schools, enhancing awareness and identification of special needs with the help of child and adolescent psychologists. VYOM will commence operations on October 3, 2023. Various representative of NGOs working for the interest of PWDs, Anganwadi workers, Superintendents of child care institutions and other officers and officials of the department participated in the program.

Vivek Sharma, Director General Social Welfare, Jammu, Harvinder Kour, Mission Director, Mission Vatsalya and other senior officers were also present on the occasion.

Col Mahan Singh pays heartfelt homage to Mahatma Gandhi on his birth anniversary

JNEWS SERVICE
PLAKH / BASOHLI (KATHUA)

On the eve of Gandhi Jayanti, Colonel Mahan Singh (Retired), the Chairman of the District Development Council (DDC) in Kathua, along with DDC Member Basohli, paid heartfelt homage to the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, in a moving ceremony.

The event took place at SC Basti Tandua, Plakh Panchayat, where the members of the Scheduled Caste (SC) community warmly welcomed DDC Chairman Col Mahan Singh. This gesture showcased the strong connection and camaraderie within the community.

In addition to the DDC Chairman, several dedicated individuals were in attendance, including local BJP workers such as Capt Harnam Singh, Yub-



karan Singh, Mohinder Singh, Angrez Singh, as well as community leader Ramesh Chander and others. During the event, Colonel Mahan Singh threw light on Mahatma Gandhi's profound ideology, his unwavering concern for the downtrodden, and his significant contributions towards bringing them into the mainstream of society. This tribute served as a reminder of the enduring values and principles that Mahatma Gandhi stood for.

In a remarkable dis-

play of community spirit, Colonel Mahan Singh also took the time to visit the Saheed Hans Raj memorial at Mandla Village. He led a cleanliness drive in the vicinity of the memorial and the statue, underlining the importance of cleanliness and civic responsibility.

To further commemorate this occasion, sweets were distributed to Karyakartas (party workers) and community members, fostering a sense of togetherness and unity among all present.

Chief Wildlife Warden J&K inaugurates Wildlife Week 2023

JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCTOBER 2

Wildlife Week celebration, starting from 2nd October 2023, was inaugurated today by Sarvesh Rai, Principal Conservator of Forests (Wildlife)/ Chief Wildlife Warden at Wildlife Complex, Manda Jammu. The inaugural event was marked by an exhibition of more than hundred paintings drawn by students as part of UT level painting competition organised by NGO "The Himalayan Avian" in collaboration with department of wildlife protection.

Painting competition was organised on the theme of wildlife conservation across different landscape and ecosystem.

Displayed paintings showcases the abundances of rich faunal diversity of Jammu & Kashmir and the vital role played by ecosystem in supporting such diverse fauna.

The exhibition was visited by parents along with their children's. Mr. Rai, while interacting with the students and parents, highlighted the crucial role played by children in wildlife conservation and spreading awareness among public, and active support of all sections of society in prevention of Human Animal conflict.

Painting Exhibition will remain open for general public at Manda NIC during the wildlife week celebration. Chosen best paintings will be acknowledged by presenting certificate and trophies to the concerned student artist during the wildlife week's concluding session. The programme was also attended amongst others by Regional Wildlife Warden, Jammu, Wildlife Warden Jammu, Guldev Raj (The Himalayan Avian) and staff of wildlife Division Jammu and volunteers of The Himalayan avian.

Shanti Rally taken out in Poonch to promote Gandhian philosophy of truth & non-violence

JNEWS SERVICE
POONCH, OCTOBER 2

Deputy Commissioner Poonch, Yasin M. Choudhary today flagged-off the Shanti Rally from Moori Gursai to Shahsitar.

The Shanti Rally was organised to spread the message of Mahatma Gandhi to all, more specifically with regard to the Gandhian philosophy of truth and non-violence.

The participants marched through the village, holding placards adorned with inspiring quotes from Mahatma Gandhi and chanting slogans advocating peace and harmony. The rally's overarching goal was to inspire individuals to embrace the path of non-violence and actively contribute to building a more peaceful society.

On the occasion, the DC said that the Shanti Rally is aimed to popularize the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi with regard to peace and universal brotherhood.

DC also urged students on maintaining cleanliness not only in houses but also on roads, drains, public places including tourist spots and all other surroundings for the healthy society.

He also commended the School Education department for organising Shanti Yatra to commemorate the birth anniversary of the father of the nation.

Chief Education Officer Poonch, ACR Zaheer Ahmed Kaifi, SDM Surankote/Mendhar, Assistant Commissioner Panchayat, BDO, DEPO Poonch N.M. Suri, Principal, Teachers and other concerned were present on the occasion.

BJP OBC Morcha organized Blood donation camp

JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 2

Sunil Prajapati (State President BJP OBC Morcha), Suresh Salgotra (Vice President BJP OBC Morcha), Ravi Mehra (Vice President BJP OBC Morcha), Ashok Verma (State Secretary BJP OBC Morcha), Purushottam kumar (State Social Media Secretary), Sanjay kumar (State Executive Member), Ashok Salgotra (District President BJP OBC Morcha), Parveen Kumar (Vice President District Jammu OBC Morcha), Gopal Sanotra (District General Secretary OBC Morcha), Rakesh Mandal Mandal President Ambhphalla Mandal OBC Morcha, Jai Kishan (District General Secretary Jammu Border) were present in the camp.

Dr. Devinder Manyal appreciated the working



of the OBC Morcha and said that we commemorated the birth anniversary of Gandhi Jayanti, a peace icon and great personality who has dedicated his entire life to humanity.

"We feel that if we can do our bid to serve the society today, then we are certain that we have done a tribute to Gandhi ji and Shastri ji", he added.

Dr. Manyal explained further that the blood donation camp itself is an activity that saves a lot of lives as each pint of blood

collected saves three lives at a time. He said that here is an urgent need to create awareness especially among youth on Blood Donation as this noble act can help those suffering from life-threatening conditions.

Sunil Prajapati said BJP organized Blood donation camp under sewa Pakhwada. He said every single donation is a precious life saving gift and repeat donation is the key to building a safe and sustainable blood supply.

DLSA collaborates with civic bodies to conduct sanitation drives at Kathua, Lakhanpur

JNEWS SERVICE
KATHUA, OCTOBER 2

As per the directions of the JK Legal Services Authority (JKLSA) and under the radiant guidance and overall supervision of Ashok Kumar Shavan Chairman DLSA (also Principal District & Sessions Judge), Rekha Kapoor Nischal Secretary, District Legal Services Authority Kathua organized sanitation drives in collaboration with Municipal Council Kathua and Municipal Council Lakhanpur around DC Office and New Toll Plaza Lakhanpur which were manned by the staff of New Toll Plaza, locals and Para Legal Volunteers of DLSA Kathua. Besides this, an Awareness Program under the theme "Hara Geela, Sookha Neela: 2-Bin System" was also organized by DLSA Kathua at Panchayat Ghar Logate wherein the Resource Person Rajesh Kumar Panel Advocate, DLSA Kathua highlighted and



discussed the importance of source segregation to promote effective recycling and waste management under Swachta Hi Sewa Campaign (SHS) 2023.

The proceedings of the program were conducted by Sarpanch, Raja Ram. Para Legal Volunteers of DLSA Kathua, Panches, and locals were also present in the awareness programme.

In addition to this, a Swachta Pledge Taking Event was also organized by DLSA, Kathua in collaboration with District Administration Kathua at Government Higher Secondary School (Girls) Kathua in the presence of

school staff, students and Para Legal Volunteers of DLSA Kathua as a commitment towards making India Garbage Free.

The objective of organizing all these programmes/activities was to encourage individuals to adopt simple changes in their daily life that can contribute in maintaining better cleanliness in the surroundings on implementation of Swachta Hi Sewa Campaign (SHS) 2023, to disseminate the importance of Sampoorna Swachh Kathua and to reinforce the concept of Sanitation as everyone's business make aware the local masses of the District Kathua.

DDC Chairman, DC distribute Lease Orders to Landless PMAY-G Beneficiaries at Udhampur

JNEWS SERVICE
UDHAMPUR, OCTOBER 2

District Development Council Chairman Lal Chand along with Deputy Commissioner, Saloni Rai and other officers distributed allotment/lease orders to six landless beneficiaries of the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Gramin (PMAY-G) at a ceremony held in the Conference Hall DC Office Complex, today.

BDC Chairman, Balwan Singh; Additional District Development Commissioner, Ghan Sham Singh; Additional Deputy Commissioner, Joginder Singh Jasrotia; Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Rafiq Ahmed Jaral and other officers were present.

During the interaction with the beneficiaries, the Chairman DDC and DC extended congratulations to all the recipients. They emphasized the need to expedite the identification and verification process, ensuring that eligible beneficiaries receive their entitlements promptly. They also underscored the importance of raising public awareness about the eligibility criteria to ensure that only eligible individuals come forward to process their cases.

Gandhi Jayanti Celebration District Administration Ramban pays rich tributes to Mahatma Gandhi Ji



JNEWS SERVICE
RAMBAN, OCTOBER 2

District Administration Ramban today celebrated Gandhi Jayanti with national fervour and enthusiasm to pay rich tributes to the father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi Ji and launched a cleanliness campaign at many places in the district.

At a district level function held in Conference hall of District Administrative Complex, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Harbans Lal along with other officers and officials paid rich tributes to the Mahatma Gandhi Ji. ACR, Gias Ul Haq; CPO, Dr. Kasturi Lal; ACD, Ashok Singh Katoch and several other officers and officials of different departments took a pledge for maintaining peace and communal harmony.

Meanwhile, District Social Welfare Officer, Rahul Gupta also administered a pledge to partici-

pants under Nasha Mukht Abhiyan.

Speaking on the occasion, the ADC said that under the aegis of the Deputy Commissioner Ramban, Mussarat Islam the line departments and institutions conducted more than four thousand cleanliness drives and other events across the district to pay tributes to Shri Mahatma Gandhi ji as part of Sankalp Saptaah campaign.

Recalling contributions of Mahatma Gandhi ji in the freedom struggle, he described Gandhi ji as a great visionary and an International personality. The ADC said that Gandhi ji was an apostle of non-violence and a staunch peace lover. "The United Nations has declared this day as International Non Violence Day, thus recognizing contributions and philosophy of Gandhi ji which is more relevant in the current scenario across the world," he added.

EDITORIAL

Opposition's crucial meet

Peoples Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD) constituents, mainly leaders of all opposition parties, are scheduled to hold an important meeting in Jammu tomorrow to discuss, what they call, current political situation in Jammu and Kashmir. It has been given out that these leaders will evolve a strategy to counter the 'anti-people' policies allegedly being pursued by the BJP-led NDA government at the Centre. The meeting holds significance against the backdrop of the rumours that the Centre is likely to defer the urban local bodies and Panchayat polls in Jammu and Kashmir. After the media reports, these political parties have individually targeted the BJP and observed that Jammu and Kashmir has become a 'slippery slope' for the Saffron Party. They believe that the Union territory administration reportedly deciding to hold the urban local bodies polls and the panchayat elections, originally scheduled for later this year, after the 2024 Lok Sabha polls and it is being done because the BJP has 'lost its ground' due to certain decisions taken by the UT administration and the central government. The opposition parties coming together is not a new phenomenon because these parties have formed I.N.D.I.A bloc to unitedly contest Lok Sabha elections in order to ensure "possible defeat" of the BJP. The opposition groups are of the opinion that it is the high time for them in Jammu and Kashmir as well to sit and understand each other, discuss the emerging situation (in Jammu and Kashmir) and find a commonality in their approach to counter the policies which are being forced on the people without their consent. Till now, these groups have failed to make any significant impact or dent to the BJP in Jammu and Kashmir. The saffron party has managed to sneak into the rural pockets of Kashmir Valley while it strengthened its base in Muslim dominated areas of Jammu region as well. The BJP, due to some unpopular decisions taken by the UT administration including installation of smart meters, imposition of property tax etc, has been feeling the heat in Jammu region. The recent shutdown call given by various groups was a reflection of the people's anger against these decisions. It was a warning signal for the BJP to go for introspection instead of planning to hold urban local bodies polls—the verdict of which it sensed to go against it. The meeting of united opposition seems to be imperative as people are undeniably suffering due to the wrong decisions of the administration. The PAGD is now using every opportunity, even a feeble one to raise its voice vociferously. The political spectrum of Jammu and Kashmir is fast changing and it is going to be interesting in the coming days. For the time being, political leaders, having different ideologies, have also rolled up their sleeves for tomorrow's meeting. The BJP is definitely keeping a close watch on the outcome of this meeting.

OMKAR DATTATRAY

Prime minister Narendra Modi is the firm believer that there is need and necessity for the youth to be attracted towards the games, athletes and sports. Thus Modi is the big advocate and propounder of the games and supports and likes the youth take active part in games and supports and shine their name and the name of their country at the international arena. Therefore Modi takes immense interest in popularizing the games and sports among the youth so that a strong personalities will be built which will become assets for the nation. Modi some time before has given the novel idea and slogan of Khelo INDIA and through it is making efforts to hone the energies of the youth and channelize these into productive endeavors so that it will be beneficial for the youth and the nation. Modi wants to build a physically strong nation and for this noble cause, he lays great stress on the games and sports so that a physically strong India will be created.

More recently Modi has given the slogan of Jyo Khalega Vehi tu Khilaga and thus emphasizes that games and sports are very important for the growth, development and blooming of the individual personalities and therefore youth of the nation should take part in games and sports and thus contribute in the well being of the individual personalities and thus lead to the development of the country. Jyo Khalega Vehi Khilaga is the new mantra of Modi and he likes all youth to take an active part in games and sports and thus make the physically strong personalities possible who can contribute to the well being of

Jo Kheleaga Vehi tu Khilaga



the nation. Modi believes that in our small and far off villages there is enough potential and talent present and there is need to exploit, harness and channelize this into bringing about the youth into suitable personalities and this is possible only when the sporting talent is harnessed. Modi has laid down the good structure of the stadiums in various parts of the country. According to Modi it is very important to develop sports and games and this will result in the well being and development of the country. The new education policy 2020 laid enough and required stress on the games and sports and it made the games and sports as an equal subject like all other subjects and the students will have to pass the subject of games and sports to pass the examination.

Thus equal stress has been given to sports and games in the new curriculum in the NEP 2020 and this will in fact lead to much transformation and revolution through education in the individual personalities and lead to the development of the country. Modi's government is spending thousands of crores of the money for the development of the sports infrastructure in every nook and corner

of the country so that strong personalities come out from cities and rural areas who will contribute their might in the growth and development of the country. Various state and UT governments are spending crores of money on the development of sports infrastructure so that it can lead to the growth of strong and fit individuals who will contribute to the development and growth of the nation. Khelo India is in fact the right way to impart the sports education to the youth and this will definitely lead to the development of the country and when we are able to cultivate strong personalities and this can help us to fight the games and sports at the international level and bring laurels to the country. Thus the youth of the country should be encouraged to take active part in games and sports so that they will create a niche in the field of games and sports so that the name of the individual sportsmen and also the name of our country will shine at the international level.

Modi is big votary and champion of making youth interested in games and sports and thus he wants the youth to be equipped with the sports infra-

structure so that they can take advantage of this and participate in games and sports at the international level and compete with the world and led to shining of the Indian youth at the international level. This is only possible when the youth of the country will attach much importance to games and sports and involve themselves in the games so that they can compete with the players at the international level and in this way peace and friendship will develop to vast extent and conflicts and war are kept away and thus the participation in games and sports will give a boost to peace, security and tranquility in the world which stands threatened by the enemies of the humanity. So the participation in games and sports will open the channels of peace and development in the greed torn world and make peace and tranquility possible so that required development will be possible in the world. PM Modi gave the very apt slogan of jo Khilega wohi tu Kileaga while laying the foundation stone of the international cricket stadium in Varanasi, UP which is the religious and spiritual city. Galaxy of cricketing greats graced the important occasion. Modi said that one place of Shiv Shakti is on the moon, while the other one is here in Kashi.

The design of the international stadium in Kashi is dedicated to Lord Mahadav. Modi further said when the sports infrastructure is built which has not only, a positive impact on nurturing young sports talent but also augurs well for the local economy as it will give boost to the local products and in fact to the mood of the nation is-Jo Khelega wohi tu Khilega and this is the

apt and practical slogan of PM Modi. He further added that the government moves with the athletes like a team member from school to the Olympic podium. According to Modi, youth coming from small towns and villages have become the pride of the nation today. As per Modi, expansion of sports infrastructure is essential for the development of a nation. The PM Modi laid the foundation stone of the international cricket stadium in Varanasi the other day.

The modern international cricket stadium will be developed in Ganjari, Rajatalab, Varanasi at a cost of about Rs 450 crores and will spread across an area of more than 30 acres. Addressing the gathering Modi expressed delight in getting the opportunity to visit Varanasi once again and remarked that that the joy of this city is beyond words. PM said that he is visiting Kashi on a day, exactly one month after India reached the Shiv-Shakti point on the moon where Chandrayaan landed on the moon on the 23rd of the last month. Modi remarked one place of Shiv -Shakti is on the moon, while other one is here in Kashi. The PM highlighted that the design of the international stadium dedicated to Lord Mahadev has installed a feeling of pride among the citizens of Kashi. PM underlined that the development of sports infrastructure of such scale not only has positive effect on sports but also has a positive impact on the regional economy. In short Kashi has now become a sangam of spirituality and modernism and this admixture of the two should be maintained for the sportsmen and also for the general public. Modi deserves Kudos for this important feat.

Pakistan's Selective Minority Community Outreach

NILESH KUNWAR

Pakistan army chief Gen Syed Asim Munir's recent interaction with a Christian delegation at General Headquarters (GHQ) Rawalpindi was obviously meant to soothe frayed nerves and allay fears of this community that witnessed the horrendous torching of more than 20 churches and several houses of their brethren by frenzied mobs over allegations of blasphemy.

The scale of destruction wrecked by arsonists in Faisalabad district's Jarawal area was humongous and did merit state intervention at the highest level. But when an army chief and not a politician, bureaucrat or religious scholar met a civilian delegation led by a religious head to discuss inter-faith amity it only reaffirmed the harsh reality that Pakistan is not a country with an army, but an army with a country.

As numero uno in Pakistan's list of all-powerfuls, Gen Munir giving audience to the delegation led by the Moderator and President Bishops [Church of Pakistan and Bishop of Raiwind] aptly conveyed a message that the highest echelon of authority in the country had taken note of the Jarawal arson.

Being a devout Muslim, an Islamic scholar and 'Hafiz-e-Quran' [one who has memorised the entire Quran], who could be better than Gen Munir to clarify any erroneous or misplaced notions about Islam that the delegation members or the Christian community may have been harbouring.

As per Pakistan army's media wing Inter Services Public Relations [ISPR], And Gen Munir informed the delegation members that "Islam is a religion of peace and there is no space for intolerance and extremism in Islam and society," making it clear that the Jarawal incident violated fundamental tenets of Islam. By adding that "No one can be allowed to take law in his own hands in a civilised society," the army chief indicated that the culprits would definitely be taken to task.

In its press release, Pakistan army's media wing Inter Services Public Relations [ISPR] has mentioned that "During

the meeting matters of mutual interest, religious and inter-faith harmony were discussed. COAS lauded the contributions of Pakistani Christian Community in national development, including promotion of quality education, healthcare and philanthropic services and outstanding role played by them for the defence of the motherland."

The press release goes on to state that the "Christian Community members acknowledged Pakistan Army's efforts in combating terrorism and providing secure environment to the minorities in the country." That members of the Christian community "appreciated Army Chief's gesture as an inspiration for Pakistani minorities to take greater and more active part in nation building and in restoring their faith in a cohesive and tolerant society," is heartening.

From the ISPR press release it appears that this engagement has been extremely beneficial in restoring faith of Pakistan's minority Christian community, and hence Gen Munir definitely deserves accolades for his commendable initiative. Unfortunately, his outreach also raises some disconcerting questions regarding the state's response to rampant persecution of minority communities in Pakistan.

No one would begrudge the Pakistan army chief's decision of walking the extra mile to comfort a traumatised minority community. However, this development raises a question—since there are several other minority communities in Pakistan like the Ahmadis, Shias, Hindus and Sikhs who are also facing persecution orchestrated by fundamentalist forces, what's holding back Gen Munir from holding similar meetings with them too?

The contribution of the Ahmadiyya community in nation building and defence of Pakistan has been remarkable and despite institutionalised persecution, its members have reconciled to this gross injustice and are living peacefully. Yet unprovoked murderous assaults on its community members are commonplace in Pakistan. Not only this, Ahmadiyya places of worship are continuously attacked, damaged and desecrated in broad daylight with brazen impunity as perpetrators

of such hate crimes are seldom punished.

What's even more alarming is that law enforcing agencies are openly participating in damaging Ahmadiyya worship places. Human Rights Commission of Pakistan [HRCP] has documented at least 34 attacks on Ahmadiyya religious sites in this year alone, and The Friday Times has reported five incidents of police destroying minarets of Ahmadiyya prayer halls in just a single week. Al Jazeera has quoted a local saying that at least 74 Ahmadi graves were vandalised last month!

These alarming statistics provide an insight into the wretched condition of Ahmadis in Pakistan, but yet Gen Munir doesn't consider it necessary to meet and reassure the beleaguered Ahmadiyya community!

The condition of Pakistan's minority Hindu community is no better. Abduction, forcible conversion and marriage of Hindu girls [often minors] has become Pakistan's new normal. In a news report carried by Dawn [5,000 Hindus migrating to India every year, NA told', May, 13, 2014], Ramesh Kumar Vankwani, a Hindu member of the National assembly of Pakistan revealed that about 5,000 Hindus migrate annually from Pakistan to India due to fear of forced conversions.

Nearly 90 per cent of the Hindus in Pakistan reside in Sindh province and in November 2016, a bill declaring forced conversion a punishable offence was passed by the Sindh Provincial Assembly. However, the Governor succumbed to objections from religious parties and pressure from fundamentalists and refused to ratify the bill into a law.

Desecration and destruction of Hindu temples and religious sites also continues unabated. Since January 2020, at least 10 Hindu temples and shrines in Pakistan have been either destroyed or vandalised by mobs. Many incidents of desecration go unreported due to fear of retribution and refusal of the police to allow registration of complaints.

With a large section of Pakistan police harbouring communal hatred towards Hindus, this minority community has

become an easy target for dacoits and criminals. In its tweet of July 16, Human Rights Commission of Pakistan [HRCP] revealed that about 30 members of the Hindu community were taken hostage by "organised criminal gangs" in the Kashmir and Ghotki districts of Sindh. Even a green horn will tell you that two and a half dozen people can't be abducted without active police connivance.

Unfortunately, the miserable plight of the minority Hindu community living in Pakistan doesn't seem to stir Gen Munir's conscience!

Pakistan's largest minority community of Shia Muslims is also a hapless victim of faith-driven persecution and it is estimated that about 4,800 Shias lost their lives in sectarian violence between 2001 and 2018. The minority Sikh community too is extremely vulnerable to the abduction and forcible marriage of their womenfolk, and the men are often subjected to murderous attacks, but it seems that the Pakistan army chief apparently has no time for the Shias or Sikhs.

Returning to the question of why Gen Munir has been so miserly in reaching out to Pakistan's victimised religious minorities, there are two possibilities. One, due lack of meaningful steps taken by the powers that be for ending persecution of minority communities on the basis of religion, has created a major trust deficit between the establishment and these minority communities.

Convinced that such meetings are merely photo ops choreographed by ISPR, these marginalised minority communities avoid the same as it exploits and also mocks their poor plight. However, the counter to this assumption is that if GHQ seriously wants to hold such meetings, there's no way that the vulnerable communities can refuse to oblige. So, this argument is not convincing.

The second supposition is that Gen Munir is intentionally avoiding meeting delegations from other persecuted minority communities since doing so is fraught with the danger of antagonising the powerful radical lobby and fringe elements.

Both the political class as

well as the army in Pakistan has been indiscriminately using religion as an expedient tool for mobilising the masses which has allowed fundamentalist ideology to take root and spawned a host of far-right Islamic extremist political and religious parties.

Though the Frankenstein thus created are completely unreasonable and absolutely intolerant, they have a huge following and as such their power cannot be underestimated. So, it goes without saying that any meeting of Gen Munir with members of the Ahmadiyya community will outrightly be deemed a sacrilegious act by these radicals.

Similarly, in Pakistan Hinduism is portrayed as an existential threat to Islam and hence, any attempt to apply a 'healing touch' to this community of 'Kafirs' [non-believers] is akin to sleeping with the enemy. Any attempts at reconciliation with the Shia community would be tantamount to betraying the majority community and hence not acceptable to the religious bigots who hold sway over the masses in Pakistan.

The communally instigated Jarawal incident infuriated the West and occurred at a time when resumption of financial aid by the International Monetary Fund [IMF] had just recommenced after a prolonged hiatus. Needless to say, Pakistan could ill-afford bad blood with Western powers that fund and control IMF at this critical stage and hence it's quite likely that Gen Munir's decision of reaching out to the Christian community was an exercise in maintaining cordial international relations.

This also explains why Gen Munir's minority community outreach terminated with just a single meeting. Interacting with the Christian community delegation was an inescapable requirement to pacify the West. Conversely, while there's nothing much to gain by interacting with delegations of other minority communities, there's definitely a lot to lose—probably that's why the wily Gen Munir has wisely avoided any interaction with other minority community members!

Modi Govt works tirelessly to ensure equal opportunity to lead dignified life: Adv Purnima

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 2

Adv Purnima Sharma, Spokesperson of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu & Kashmir, and former Deputy Mayor Jammu, reaffirmed the unwavering dedication of the Modi Government towards achieving social justice. She made these remarks while interacting with people during the ongoing "Basti Sampark Abhiyan," a campaign aimed at connecting with marginalized sections of society and showcasing Prime Minister Narendra Modi's initiatives for their empowerment, at Bawe Wali Gali, Ward No 7 in Jammu East Constituency. She was accompanied with party leaders Jaspal Singh, Vicky Mahajan, Rajesh Gupta and others visited beneficiaries of central sponsored schemes and



got their feedback. During her interaction with the public, Purnima Sharma emphasized the numerous initiatives and policies implemented by the Modi Government that have directly benefited the underprivileged and weaker sections of society. She highlighted the government's relentless commitment to uplift the lives of those who have historically been underserved and underrepresented.

Purnima Sharma pointed out several welfare schemes introduced by the Modi Government, such as Pradhan Mantri

Awas Yojana (PMAY), Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY), Jan Aushadhi Yojana, Stand Up India, National Health Mission (NHM), Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY), Post-Matric Scholarship for SC Students, National Scholarship Portal (NSP), Digital India, Ujjwala Yojana, Saubhagya Yojana, etc. which have positively impacted the lives of millions. She also underscored the efforts made by the government to bring financial inclusion to the

masses, enabling them to access banking and financial services easily. Additionally, she praised the government's initiatives promoting the empowerment of women, like the Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao campaign and the Maternity Benefit Programme.

Purnima Sharma expressed her gratitude to the people for their active participation in the "Basti Sampark Abhiyan" and their enthusiasm for the development initiatives led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The BJP spokesperson emphasized that the government at the Centre headed by PM Narendra Modi will continue to work tirelessly to ensure that every citizen, regardless of their background, has an equal opportunity to lead a dignified life and contribute to the progress of the nation.

'Basti Sampark Abhiyan'; PM Modi is elevating quality of life of SC, STs: Raman Suri

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 2

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) J&K Executive Member, Raman Suri spearheaded a crucial meeting at Qasim Nagar, Ward No. 19 of Jammu East Assembly Constituency today, as part of the impactful 'Basti Sampark Abhiyan' campaign. He was joined by Kuldeep Kandhari General Secretary BJP District Jammu, Manav Mahajan Vice President BJP District Jammu, Sanjay Mahey Spokesperson District Jammu, Rajesh Nischal Vice President Jammu East Mandal, Chaman Angral Mandal President SC Morcha Jammu East, Swarn Singh BJP President Ward No. 19, Harvinder Singh Sonu Shakti Kendra Parmukh, Local Residents Pinku, Uttam, Deepak, Toshi Devi and many others.

Inaugurated by Party Chief J P Nadda at Delhi, the campaign aims to facilitate a deeper engagement with these communities. During this initiative, the BJP workers and leaders will be visiting approximately 75000 slums, 7500 hostels, and various other



Bastis to disseminate information about the myriad of schemes launched by the central and state governments, while also highlighting the list of beneficiaries.

Raman Suri, shedding light on the essence of the party's vision in the meeting, emphasized the need for outreach. He pointed out that substantial proportions of beneficiaries under key schemes like Kisan Samman Nidhi, Jal Jeevan, and PM Aawas belong to the SC, ST communities. He stressed the vital role of BJP workers as bridges, ensuring that these welfare schemes reach the most marginalized sections of the society. Suri highlighted significant SC Welfare Schemes, including Dr Ambedkar Post-Matric Scholarship, which offers

crucial financial assistance for higher education. He also mentioned the establishment of the Scheduled Castes Development Corporation (SCDC), which is focused on encouraging self-employment and skill development. Additionally, the Venture Capital Fund for Scheduled Castes has been set up to provide concessional finance to SC entrepreneurs.

Raman Suri along with others visited more than 50 households, contacted more than 100 people including children and distributed notebooks, pencils and refreshment among them all. Interacting with the residents of Qasim Nagar Basti, Raman Suri shared insights on the establishment of the National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC), pro-

viding financial support for income-generating activities. The local population also acknowledged the impact of ST Welfare Schemes such as Van Bandhu Kalyan Yojana, Tribal Sub Plan (TSP), and Eklayva Model Residential Schools.

Community members attested to the positive transformation brought about by these schemes, leading to an overall enhancement in the quality of life for tribal communities. They noted additional funding for infrastructure and developmental activities in tribal areas.

Raman Suri assured attendees that in case they encounter any challenges in availing the benefits of these schemes, they can directly contact him. He emphasized the Modi Government's commitment to transparency and to improving the lives of SC and ST communities. Suri urged individuals from these communities to assert their rights with confidence, knowing that BJP leaders and workers stand ready to support them in uplifting every section of the society.

Congress commemorate Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, Lal Bahadur Shastri in Jammu

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 2

The Congress party gathered at the Gandhi Statue in Satwari Chowk, Jammu, to pay floral tribute to Mahatma Gandhi and commemorate Former Prime Minister of India Late. Sh. Lal Bahadur Shastri Ji on their birth anniversaries. PCC President Vikar Rasool Wani, Working President PCC Raman Bhalla, Yogesh Sawhney Former Minister J&K and other senior Congress leaders were present. The Congress leaders paid their respects with floral tributes and remembered the unsurpassed contributions of the leaders as imprinted in the history of India.

PCC President Vikar Rasool Wani addressed the gathering, saying, Gandhi Jayanti is an important day in that it serves as a reminder of the values that Mahatma Gandhi lived and died for. His message of non-violence, truth, and social justice is as relevant today as it was in his time. The Congress party strives to uphold these values and work towards a more just and equitable society. Lal Bahadur Shastri Ji was the second Prime Minister of



India, a great politician and contributor to Indian politics. He brought positive and necessary changes. He led the country during the Second India-Pakistan War. His philosophy of Jai Jawan Jai Kisaan guide several of Congress party's initiatives and movements till today. We remember both Gandhi Ji and Lal Bahadur Shastri Ji with immense reverence and gratitude today on the occasion of their birth anniversaries, he said.

Working President PCC Raman Bhalla emphasized the need for unity and said, today, on Gandhi Jayanti, we should remember that Mahatma Gandhi's call for unity and harmony is more critical than ever. All should work together, transcending dividing lines, to build a stronger and more prosperous Jammu and Kashmir. Congress has committed to follow through the guiding phi-

losophy of the father of the nation Mahatma Gandhi in bringing positive change in the upcoming electoral opportunities. Bhalla also paid tribute to Lal Bahadur Shastri and recalled his contributions to the nation as a freedom fighter and India's Prime Minister in the formative years of the country as an independent nation. His tenure as Prime Minister marked a period of significant change and progress for India. As a leader, he held various key positions, including Minister of External Affairs and Railways.

On the occasion, Former Minister J&K Yogesh Sawhney, InCharge District President Jammu (Urban) also spoke to the people and said that he saluted the indomitable spirit of Mahatma Gandhi and Lal Bahadur Shastri Ji on their birth anniversaries today. He said, their dedication to the cause of India's inde-

pendence was unwavering. People today draw inspiration from their lives and choosing the path of truth, we must strive for a better future for our J&K. Gandhi Jayanti and Lal Bahadur Shastri Jayanti serves as a reminder of the enduring legacies of great leaders, whose ideals continue to guide the nation towards progress and righteousness. Sawhney asserted on the reaffirmation of their commitment to upholding these timeless values.

Alongwith Vikar Rasool, Raman Bhalla, Yogesh Sawhney, Manmohan Singh, Kanta Bhan, TS Tony, Vijay Sharma Babbi, Indu Pawar, Satish Sharma, Pawan Dev Singh, Uttam Chib, Satpal Sapoliya, Dawarka Choudhary, Sandeep Dogra, Bhanu Mahajan, Pritam Singh, Raspal Bhardwaj, Rakesh Sharma, Vijay Malhotra, Pardeep Bhalla, Nageshwar Narayan, Pardeep Bhagat, Ajay Lakotra, Sardar Parveen Singh, Ajay Mehra, Sardar Lal, Tarshaim Sharma, Monika Sharma, Prem Sharma, Ashok Sharma, Vijay Khajuria, Arvind Sharma, Omkar Singh, Bhupinder Kaur, Veena Devi, Suman Choudhary, and others were present.

Education of Sanatan Dharma is important for building national, personal character: Col Mankotiya

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 2

The first of its kind quiz was organized by the local branch of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh on Monday in Sainik Colony area of the city. More than 125 children from classes 1 to 12 participated in the competition. Retired Major General SK Sharma and Brigadier SS Saini were also specially present on this occasion. Both these former military officers also honoured the children by presenting them awards.

Apart from parents, a large number of volunteers and spectators were present to encourage the children. This was the first quiz competition of its kind in which all 125 contestants won prizes. Sainik Colony branch of Sangh made the arrangements, but the entire program was conducted by



the children themselves. The stage management was done very efficiently by Ms. Gunjan Chaudhary and Ms. Dhvani. The program started with the recitation of Saraswati Vandana. Presenting the vote of thanks in the program, Colonel Sukhveer Mankotiya thanked everyone and said that education of San-

atan Dharma is the only way to make the countrymen patriots. He said that if we want our country to become a world leader then our "national character" and "individual character" should be supreme and the path to this passes through the teachings of Sanatan Dharma.

All the people pres-

ent on this occasion appreciated the efforts of Sainik Colony Branch and expressed gratitude for organizing such an event for the inspiration and character building of the children. All the parents and the entire public unanimously requested to organize such events in future also.

Basti Sampark Abhiyan to develop greater connect with backward communities: Vinay Gupta

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 2

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Senior leader and Seh Prabhari District Jammu North Vinay Gupta launches door-to-door campaign in Flain Mandal of Jammu North and connects through its impoverished populace has embarked on a mega outreach program called 'Basti Sampark Abhiyan' for making an inroad into direct connect with the general public. Vinay Gupta stated that this outreach is aimed at educating the SC community and other segments of society about the Modi government's schemes, which have been launched in the past nine years of good governance.

Vinay Gupta was accompanied by Nihal Singh BJP Mandal President Flain Madal, Madan Lal BDC Chairman, Ishya Deci Sarpanch, Tirth Ram Mandal President SC Morcha, Panch Gharu Ram, Panch Girdhari Lal, Sukhdev Sharma Kissan Morcha Mandal Presi-



dent, Pt Bharat Bhushan and other partymen were present on the occasion.

During the Jan Chetna Abhiyaan also known as "Basti Sampark Abhiyaan" in connection with the Seva Pakhwada fort night-long public outreach program, Vinay Gupta remarked about the schemes given under the dynamic and vibrant leadership of PM Modi. Vinay expressed while addressing the general public and counted many public-friendly schemes and said that the present central government is working day and night for the poor ie Ujjwala Yojana for the poor, Jan Dhan Yojana, getting food grains during the Covid

period, Ayushman Bharat Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, etc. A lot of attachment to the Prime Minister's party was seen among all the people, everywhere there was talk of making Narendra Modi the Prime Minister again in 2024.

Vinay highlights that more than 12 crore toilets have been built, 40 per cent are for Scheduled Caste community people. Many political party leaders will give only speeches that we have done this, done that for Dalits and other backward communities.

Vinay also spoke about the core idea behind the party's vision and their course of action regard-

ing the welfare schemes of the government. "Since 1951, our journey has only been dedicated to the country and society. He said the ideals that were laid down by Deendayal Upadhyaya were taken forward by PM Shri Modi in the name of "Sabka Sath Sabka Vikas", Vinay said. He also educates the local inhabitants that 'Kisan Samman Nidhi', 'Jal Jeevan' 'PM Aawas' 34 per cent beneficiaries belong to the scheduled castes, Dalits, and Adivasis only. Vinay also appeals to BJP Karyakartas to act as bridges and ensure that all the welfare schemes of the government reach the most backward and down-trodden as well.

Dharam sansad will be held in Press Club Jammu on Oct 26: Rajesh Bittu

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU 2-10-2023

A press conference was addressed by sadhu samaj in Jammu over various important issues.

Speaking on the occasion Mahant Rajesh Bittu informed that Dharam sansad will be organized in Jammu on 26 October. Before this the dharam sansad was organized in RS Pura by in which many sadhu saints participated and various issues were addressed. And now this sansad will be organised in Press Club Jammu in which various issues of sadhu samaj will be discussed and what the central and ut government is doing for the sadhu samaj will also be discussed. Many sadhu sants will be coming from across the country to participate in this sansad. Mahant Rajesh Bittu said that before this sansad sadhu samaj will meet LG and discuss the arrangements and other things related to sansad. Mahant ji said that government make many religious boards but the sadhus are



not taken into confidence. This will also be discussed. He said keeping in view the Pitir paksh a Samuhik Pitir puja will be held on 8 October to pay the tributes to the martyrs and ancestors. He appealed everyone to come forward and pay tributes to the martyrs and ancestors.

Present on the occasion Mahant Datt Giri ji Mahraj also briefed about the dharam sansad. This kind of dharam sansad is organised to redress the issues of sadhu samaj. He said that many important issues will be discussed in the sansad like issues of

Sant samaj, Land grabbing of temples, reopening of temples in Kashmir and many more. Mahant Datt Giri ji mahraj said at the present time there are many temples and shops of temples that are illegally occupied sadhu samaj is trying to release the such grabbed temple property which will be discussed in this occasion.

Decisions will also be taken in this sansad. He appealed all to be the part of dharam sansad.

Mohan Giri expressed vote of thanks to all the sadhu samaj present on the occasion.

TMF chairman greets on the eve of Gandhi Jyanti

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 2

Team Mask Force chairman vijay Sharma in a press release here this morning greeted countrymen on the eve of Birth anniversary of Bapu, the Mahatma Gandhi and Lal Bahadur Shastri. In his message vijay said the birth anniversary of the father of Nation, Mahatma Gandhi is an occasion for all of us to rededicate ourselves to his teaching of Nonviolence, peace, truth tolerance, and communal harmony and work for the Nation building. Priya Bapu's lifelong mission was to transform the lives of people and rural India. His life and thoughts represent the eternal values of humanity, which are guiding different societies across the world. The significance of puja Bapu's ideas and ideals and his philosophy of Nonviolence and peace is relevant today as never before. On the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti let's take a pledge to follow the path of peace, truth and Non violence and strife to remove social inequalities in our society

BJP leaders pay tribute to Mahatma Gandhi, Shastri at Bahu

J1NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 2

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leaders led by senior functionary Rajeev Charak today paid rich tributes to father of Nation Mahatma Gandhi and former Prime Minister of the country Late Lal Bahadur Shastri on their birth anniversaries.

A program was organized on the occasion of the birth anniversaries of legend in Shivanagar and Rajeev Nagar of Bahu Assembly constituency in which the BJP leader Rajeev Charak was mainly present.

Speaking on the occasion, BJP leader said that in India, we celebrate Gandhi Jayanti and the birth anniversary of the country's former Prime Minister Late Lal Bahadur Shastri every year on 2 October.

On this day we celebrate the birth anniversary of Father of the



Nation Mahatma Gandhi. Gandhiji played an important role in achieving independence for our country.

He said that it was impossible to face the British Empire without resorting to weapons; hence we cannot forget those freedom fighters and those warriors of the village group who sacrificed their lives and established self-rule in the country.

Charak said that Gandhiji's sympathy towards the poor, the oppressed and backward caste people was absolutely unique. This great man deserves

respect not only in India but all over the world.

BJP leader Rajiv Charak said that to make farmers self-reliant and to show their importance, Lal Bahadur Shastri gave the slogan 'Jai Jawan-Jai Kisan'. He said that soldiers protect our borders, keep the country safe and farmers are ours. Provide sustenance, hence this announcement will be meaningful.

He said that one of the biggest characteristics of Shastri ji was that 'he was born in an ordinary family, he was brought up

in an ordinary family and even when he reached an important post like the Prime Minister of the country, he remained ordinary. Humility, simplicity and straightforwardness were a hallmark of his personality.

On this occasion, Captain Motilal, Ajay Kumar Sharma, Mukhtiar Singh Deepak Kumar Vinod Kumar, Dr. Davinder Singh, Suraj Singh Rana, Ashok Kumar Vaid, Harish Kumar, Rakesh Kumar, Sardar Harsh Deep Singh and other dignitaries were present.

JKPCC condoles demise of Smt. Kanta Devi

J1NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 2

Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee has deeply condoled the sad demise of Smt. Kanta Devi Wife of former Minister & Sr Congress leader Shri Mula Ram.

In a condolence message, JKPCC President Vikar Rasool Wani and other leaders of the party have expressed deep shock over passing away of Smt. Kanta Devi.

The leadership and entire rank & file of the party conveyed heartfelt condolences to the family and prayed for peace to the departed soul.

Those who condoled the sad demise include S/Shri Ghulam Ahmed Mir, Raman Bhalla, Tara Chand, Ravinder Sharma, Rajnesh Sharma, Yogesh Sawhney, Smt. Kanta Bhan, Smt. Indu Pawar, Th. Balwan Singh, Th. Manmohan Singh, Vinod Sharma, Ashok Dogra, Krishan Chand Bhagat, Pranav Shagotra, Sha-meema Raina, Hari Singh Chib, Shiv Kumar Sharma, Ved Mahajan, Pawan Raina, Thomas Khokhar, Shashi Sharma, Satish Sharma, Dr. Karan Bhagat, Rajveer Singh, Udhey Bhanu Chib, Namrata Sharma, T S Tony, Narinder Gupta, Narinder Sharma, Sanjeev Sharma, Rajni Bala, Harvinder Mehta, Kapil Chib, Santosh Manhas, Santosh Majotra and others.

Donating blood a significant service to society, mankind: Ritika

J1NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 2

Blood donation is a noble cause and deeply ingrained in our rich culture and tradition of Seva and Sahyog. I implore and call on all citizens to come forward and donate blood as part of the countrywide Raktdaan Amrit Mahotsav. Donating blood is a significant service to society and mankind in addition to fulfilling the requirement for the country." This was stated by Chief Spokesperson BJP Mahila Morcha J&KUT Ritika after donating blood during blood donation camp at Gandhi Nagar Govt Hospital organized by management of Amar Ujala. Councillor Rahul Kumar Ward 20, Ward President Satbir Singh, District Executive Member Sandeep Gupta Media Incharge and senior BJP member Vijay Verma also accompanied Ritika to blood donation camp.

Accentuating the importance of blood donation and Raktdaan Amrit Mahotsav, Ritika said, "In India, the demand for blood transfusion arises for every 2 seconds. On an average, 14.6 million blood is needed every year and there is always a shortage of 1 million. Besides lack of understanding and awareness, several myths and facts are associated with a blood donation that could be discouraging healthy people from turning into blood donors. Patients like Cancer patients, Sickle cell



anemia and Thalassemia patients, require blood frequently. In every two seconds, someone in India needs blood and one out of every three of us will need blood in our lifetime, she stated.

"Despite the technological advancements, there remains no alternative to blood and 1 unit of blood can save as many as three lives", Ritika noted. Raktdaan Amrit Mahotsav aims to increase awareness regarding regular non-remunerated voluntary blood donations and ensure that blood or its components are available, accessible, affordable and safe.

Debunking myths surrounding blood donation, Ritika stated that "Blood donation doesn't cause weakness, this is a misconception. A person has 5 - 6 litres of blood in their body and can donate blood

every 90 days (3 months)." Body can recover blood very quickly. No weakness comes from this, on the contrary, people have to understand that before donating blood, a blood checkup is done before that, and you cannot donate blood before 3 months, blood donation is very important.

Emphasizing on the fact that we need to create awareness about blood donation, Ritika said, "We should understand and teach our future generation about the importance of blood donation and organ donation. She also appealed to the people of the world to donate blood. She also mentioned that we need to spread awareness about debunking the blood donation myths in rural areas, as people in rural areas are still more surrounded by these myths."

Modi Govt schemes benefited weaker sections in last nine years: Neelam Langeh

J1NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 2

Neelam Langeh, State President Scheduled Caste Morcha, BJP, J&K, and former Legislator, on Monday intensified the ongoing Basti Sampark Abhiyan at Ban Sultan area of Miran Sahib Mandal of RS Pura.

On the occasion, District President Scheduled Caste Morcha of District Jammu South, Umesh Kumar Gabbar, District General Secretary Manohar Lal, District Vice President Parveen Kumari, Vijay Krishna Dogra and Mandal President Ramesh



Dogra, Rakesh Kumar Baba were present.

Langeh conducted door to door campaign and interacted with the local residents and shed light on the numerous welfare schemes initiated by the Modi Government over

the past nine years.

After interacting with people, he observed that how these schemes have positively impacted the lives of the weaker sections of society, bringing transformative changes. He highlighted that almost

every household in his constituency is benefiting from central-sponsored schemes, a testament to the government's commitment to inclusive development. He expressed the widespread contentment and satisfaction among the people with the work of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

He noted that the Modi Government's direct benefits through centrally sponsored schemes have significantly improved the quality of life for the weaker sections of society, ensuring a more equitable and prosperous future for all.

'BJP-EC conniving to deny democratic rights to J&K people' Hold elections in J&K in consonance with assurance given in SC: Harsh Dev

J1NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 2

Accusing the Election Commission of scuttling the election process initiated for Local Bodies polls in J&K at the behest of BJP, a strong contingent of JKNPP led by its State President and former Minister Mr. Harsh Dev Singh held a massive protest outside Nirvachan Bhawan in Jammu today. The protesters raised the slogans of 'BJP-EC Gathbandhan Hai Hai', 'Loktantra Ke Qatil Murdabaad', 'T.N Seshan Amar Rahein' demanding immediate conduct of Municipal elections as per the original schedule. They further sought immediate holding of Assembly polls in J&K which have been denied to erstwhile State for the last five years only to allow BJP to continue its proxy rule in the UT.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Harsh Dev Singh said that during the recent hearing on Art 370 and allied matters in the



Supreme Court, the Constitution Bench of the Apex Court had questioned the govt over the denial of electoral democracy to the people of J&K. And the BJP govt had categorically stated that the process for Municipal elections had already been set in motion and that they were going to be held shortly. "And to ensure the implementation of its assurance to SC, the State election body had issued the process and announced the reservation chart also for all the wards of the UT. But the said process seems to have died a quite death after

BJP's disagreement with the said proposal", said Harsh. He further maintained that the govt had taken a stand through its Attorney in the Supreme Court that it was all prepared for the Assembly elections also and that the final call would be taken by Election Commission. It was shocking however that despite an unambiguous statement made before the Supreme Court, the elections were again being evaded only to address the political concerns of the ruling party, anguished Harsh added. Urging upon the EC to

proceed with its original schedule for timely Municipal Elections, Mr. Singh said that any postponement of the said elections would not only amount to contempt of Supreme Court but also erode the left over credibility of the top Election Body of the country. He said that EC had already invited objections in respect of reservation roster and the J&K govt including its helmsmen and LG had also repeatedly announced installation of local self govt on time so as to avail uninterrupted flow of Central funds. "As such any further postponement of the said elections only to please a particular political party would be the biggest insult to democracy, rule of Law and the Constitution", asserted Harsh.

Prominent among those who were present in the protest included Paramjeet Singh Marshall (Vice President JKNPP), Karan Singh, Gurjeet Singh besides others.

Kundal corners BJP over 'delay' in holding elections in J&K

J1NEWS SERVICE
RAMGARH, OCT 2

Demanding the BJP to set a deadline for holding urban local body, panchayat and assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir, former minister Jammu and Kashmir and senior Congress leader Yashpal Kundal alleged that the saffron party is running away from the democratic exercise because He is afraid of losing. Addressing a public meeting under Ramgarh assembly, Kundal said that for how long will people be deprived of elections to urban local bodies, panchayats and assemblies? Kundal said, the only reason for delay in holding elections is that BJP is afraid of defeat and it will have a negative impact on the Lok Sabha elections to be held next year.

Attacking the BJP



over the "delay" in holding assembly elections, Kundal said the BJP party talks about "claims of Mission 50 Plus" but despite this it has deliberately stayed away from the exercise for the last five years. Kundal said that in the last five years, BJP has killed democracy in Jammu and Kashmir and that is why people are protesting on the streets for their rights. The Election Commission

has surrendered before the BJP. He claimed that in the last five years, the Election Commission has been delaying the elections for one reason or the other only on the instructions of the BJP. Kundal said that BJP knows that its policies are wrong. For this reason it is not possible for them to win the elections. Therefore, she is using strategies to continue her rule.

Swachh Bharat Abhiyan make strides in J&K: Dilbahadur

J1NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU OCTOBER 2

Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, the nationwide cleanliness campaign initiated by the Government of India, has been making significant strides in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, said Er. Dil Bahadur Singh Jamwal and Er T.K. Sharma State BJP Convener and Co convener of Swachh Bharat Mission while speaking at the cleanliness drive initiated in Ghrota and Agore in Mandal Amb Ghrota and Athwar in Nagrota Assembly constituency along with the local party functionaries and general public under the on-going Swachhhta Pakhwara "Swachhhta Hi Sewa Hai".

The Bicycle For Change Club organizes Cycle Rally from Sports Stadium in Kathua

J1NEWS SERVICE
KATHUA, OCT 2

The Bicycle For Change Club marked the birth anniversaries of Mahatma Gandhi and Lal Bahadur Shastri with a Cycle Rally that commenced at the Sports Stadium in Kathua and culminated at the bustling Main Bazar Kathua. The event garnered the enthusiastic participation of over 450 Cyclist esteemed citizens of the community, and cycling enthusiasts from the Pathankot Riders Club.

The central theme of the event, "Say No to Single Use Plastic," resonated strongly with the participants and spectators alike. The rally served as a platform to raise awareness about the critical issue of plastic pollution and the urgent need to stop our reliance on single-use plastics.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our generous sponsors, including Satyam Cements and TMT Saria, Radio Nation, Kawa Reading Club, and Black Pepper, whose support made this event possible.

The event commenced with the flag-off by Chief



guest Shri Uttam Singh, representing the District Administration and serving as the Chief Planning Officer. Special guests included the SHO Kathua Sudhir, the President of the JK Pvt School Association, Mr Satpaul Mansotra, Er. Naresh Kumar, and members of the Pathankot Riders Club, who added their support and encouragement to the rally. As participants pedaled through the heart of Kathua, they were greeted with enthusiastic cheers from onlookers who had gathered to witness this inspiring event. The "Say No to Single Use Plastic" message was effectively conveyed through banners, placards, and eco-friendly decorations that

adorned the bicycles. The rally passed through Police line road, college Road, Saheedi Chowk, Jrai Chowk concluded at Main Bazar Kathua, where participants and spectators engaged in discussions about the importance of sustainable living and reducing plastic waste. Chief guest appreciated the step taken by club and assured every support by the District administration kathua. on the other side Sho Kathua aware about the hazards of Polythene. The Rotary Club Kathua generously sponsored refreshments, providing a delightful conclusion to the event. The Bicycle For Change Club believes that this cycle rally has successfully ignited a spark

of change in our community. By coming together to celebrate the legacies of Mahatma Gandhi and Lal Bahadur Shastri and advocating for a plastic-free future, we take a significant step towards a cleaner, greener, and more sustainable tomorrow. In this program president of the club Sunil Sharma presented vote of thanks for making the event grand success. Sr vice President Cdr. Amit Khajuria, Secretary Maninder Paul Singh, Add. General Secretary Deep Sharma, Sachin Sharma executive member. narinder Raina, Rahul Kad, Shubham Sharma, Tony, Arun salotra, Mital Mahajan, and many others were present.

NSS units GCW Parade Ground, Jammu organizes series of cleanliness activities

J NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 2

NSS Units of the college organised cleanliness drives from 29th September to 1st October under the banner "Swachhta Hi Sewa", proposed by Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Govt of India under the supervision of principal of the College Dr S. P. Sarswat. Almost 50 NSS Volunteers participated in the Cleanliness drives. On 29th September, an extensive cleanliness drive was conducted by NSS Unit 1 of the college inside the institution where SUP was separated from the other waste materials. On 30th September, NSS Volunteers of Units 1 and 3 visited the adopted Villages of Belicharana and Rakh Raipur Satwari along with their Programme Officers, Dr Gurpreet Kour and Dr Mohd Majeed and carried out an awareness campaign for maintain-



ing the cleanliness. The volunteers also cleaned the adjoining park of the area and streets thereof. The three-day program culminated today on 1st October where NSS Volunteers of all the units and faculty members along with the Principal of the College Dr S. P. Sarswat took a Swachhta Pledge to commit themselves to the cause of maintaining cleanliness and spreading awareness regarding that in the surroundings. The program was envisioned under the title "Ek Tareekh, Ek Ghanta,

Ek Saath Shramdhaan". Two localities were identified to spread awareness and dedicate one hour of Cleanliness. Almost 100 participants including the staff members, NSS Volunteers of all the units, NSS Programme Officers, and Principal of the College visited nearby Parade Mandi wherein Volunteers along with the faculty members carried out a cleanliness drive. After that NSS Volunteers along with the faculty members carried out cleanliness related activities at Gujjar Nagar Tawi Front.

RS Pura farmers resent over losses due to unavailability of proper rice seeds

J NEWS SERVICE
R.S PURA, OCT 2

Farmers of Gandali Kool Kalan village in the R.S Pura are facing significant losses due to the unavailability of proper rice seeds. Expressing their anger against the VNR Company, which supplies rice seeds, the village farmers have demanded swift compensation against the company failing which they would be forced to come on streets.

Sarpanch Gurdeep Singh, along with farmers Harjinder Singh, Harjeet Singh, Hardeep Singh, Jujhar Singh, and Sarvjeet Singh, among others, revealed that the farmers had planted 2355 seeds provided by the company with the assurance that these were high-yield hybrid seeds. Contrary to the company's claims, the crop has matured, but the grains haven't developed as expected, resulting in significant losses for the farmers. Their hard work



has gone in vain, and many farmers in the village have invested heavily in cultivating their fields, he said. The Sarpanch emphasized that the company bears full responsibility for this situation and must take immediate steps to compensate the affected farmers. If this issue isn't resolved promptly, the farmers will not only pro-

test on the streets but also pursue legal actions, he warned. Sarpanch Gurdeep Singh appealed to the Lt Governor to intervene in this matter and give necessary directions to the authorities concerned to take adequate steps and provide relief to the farmers so they can prepare for the next crop and recover their expenses.

NSS GDC Kathua organizes online symposium on Mahatama Gandhi, Lal Bahadur Shastri Jyanti

J NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 2

On the occasion of "Mahatama Gandhi and Lal Bahadur Shastri Jyanti, NSS units of Degree college Kathua organized an online symposium. The theme of the symposium was "Life and contribution of Mahatama Gandhi Ji and Lal Bahadur Shastri Ji in the Indian freedom struggle movement." More than twenty NSS Volunteers participated as speaker in the symposium. The program was started with formal welcome address by Senior most NSS Prog officer Prof Manmohan Singh. He also delivered a very informative and valuable lecture on the life and contribution of Mahatama Gandhi Ji and Lal Bahadur Shastri Ji before the proceedings of the symposium started. The participated volunteers who shared their views on this occasion were Kirti Salaria, Iqra Kouser, Meenakshi Devi, Keshav Sambyal, Nandani Jasrotia, Sneha Sharma, Ritu Jasrotia, Nikita Sharma, Natasha Mehra, Tannu Bhagat etc. Volunteers while expressing their views focussed on Gandhi Ji's freedom struggle movements like Champaran Satyagraha



Movement, Non-Cooperation Movement, Civil Disobedience Movement and Quit India Movement. The other volunteers apprised the audience the statesmanship qualities of Our second Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri Ji during Indo Pak War and rest of his tenure during his prime ministership. They also focussed on importance of the slogans of Jai Jawan Jai Kissan given by Lal Bahadur Shastri Ji during his tenure. On this occasion Prof Neha Bandral NSS Prog Officer also expressed her views. In her address, she appealed the volunteers to go through the life of Mahatama Gandhi ji and

Lal Bahadur Shastri Ji and follow their footsteps to promote the patriotism, culture and diversity of India to everyone. She also appreciated the efforts of NSS volunteers to expressing their views on these great personalities. Programme was concluded with vote of thanks. The proceedings of the programme was conducted by Dr Suresh Sharma NSS Prog officer. The event was organised under the patronage of Principal Prof Seema Mir and supervised by NSS Program officers Prof Manmohan Singh, Prof Neha Bandral and Dr Suresh Sharma.

Godrej Group and Mumbai First unveil Sohrab Pirojsha Godrej Environment Award to Honor Environmental Excellence

J NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 2

Godrej Group, in partnership with Mumbai First, today, announced the launch of the Sohrab Pirojsha Godrej Environment Award, an initiative dedicated to recognizing and honoring individuals who have demonstrated exceptional excellence in the field of environment and sustainability, with a focus on Mumbai. This prestigious award serves as a tribute to Mr. S.P. Godrej's pioneering work in environmental protection and commemorates his enduring legacy by inspiring the next generation of environmental champions. The Sohrab Pirojsha Godrej Environment Award has a set of pivotal objectives. It aims to not only recognize the pioneers who have spearheaded sustainable environmental projects within the Mumbai Metropolitan Region, but also seeks to

disseminate best practices to ignite and motivate the adoption of environmentally responsible actions. It also aspires to honor impactful efforts in crucial areas such as preservation, pollution control, and conservation. Nadir Godrej, Chairman and Managing Director of Godrej Industries, stated, "At Godrej, we are deeply committed to protecting our environment, because we understand it's not just a choice but a responsibility we all share. The Sohrab Pirojsha Godrej Environment Award carries a special meaning for us. It is a symbol of our continuing dedication to people, the planet, alongside profit and a tribute to legendary SP Godrej who was a great environmentalist. It would be a privilege for us to celebrate and stand beside the incredible individuals and organizations who work tirelessly to protect our environment. Together, let's support

these 'Environment Champions,' drawing inspiration from their remarkable efforts as we strive to create a better world for future generations." The evaluation criteria for the Sohrab Pirojsha Godrej Environment Award encompass key aspects such as impact, leadership, and commitment to the environment causes. It also takes into account community engagement, innovative approaches, advocacy efforts, scalability of initiatives, educational outreach, and a science-based approach. Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar, FRS, Former Chairman of National Innovation Foundation and Former Director-General of CSIR, and jury member of the Sohrab Pirojsha Godrej Environment Award, stated, "S P Godrej was a timeless inspirator well ahead of his time. He lives on even today with his eternal message of the critical

importance environmental protection as a key to our sustainable future. The awards created in his name for championing this noble cause will inspire generations to come." Roger C. B. Pereira, Vice Chairman of Mumbai First, commented, "Mr. S. P. Godrej was a man born much before his time! He devoted his entire life, giving of his Time, Money & Talents, unstintingly to the cause of the Environment, literally 24x7. I feel really fulfilled that Nadir Godrej has wholeheartedly supported Mumbai First in its endeavor to commemorate this giant of a human being." The Sohrab Pirojsha Godrej Environment Awards open for nominations until September 30, 2023. To learn more about the award and access the nomination form, please visit our website at <https://spgodrejenvironmentawards.com/>

Aakash BYJU'S Launches PrimeClass in Shaheen Public Sr. Sec School, Faridabad, Doda, Jammu
J NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 2

Aakash BYJU'S, India's leader in test preparatory services, has introduced PrimeClass, a new age satellite-based technology school integrated program designed to provide higher-order subject matter exposure to students. The sessions will be conducted by national level faculty using new age satellite mode. The program aims to impart an integrated learning honing board and competition preparation for JEE & NEET. The program will be delivered using state-of-the-art, two-way interactive VSAT technology offering the added advantage of review and revision. The programme was initiated at the Shaheen Public Sr. Sec School, Faridabad, Doda, Jammu. Highly qualified and experienced Aakash BYJU'S faculty will deliver live lessons utilizing new age satellite technology, providing a physical classroom experience. The course is designed for the students of Class 11 & 12 preparing for boards, JEE (main & advanced) & NEET. The course will also offer motivational and infotainment sessions, smart assessment systems providing holistic learning solutions for students to better their preparation skills. Furthermore, state-of-the-art technology will ensure an uninterrupted learning experience with no dependence on the internet with seamless transmission of high-quality data. Students will enjoy both peer to peer learning accompanied with online testing. To add value, school faculties will also participate as coordinators to enhance subject matter expertise. Extensive curriculum is created focusing on competition exams and high-quality study material will be provided keeping in sync syllabus of Class XI while covering subjects like Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics. Some advantages of the new initiative are: State-of-the-art Technology to ensure uninterrupted learning.

Mula Ram Bhagat bereaved

J NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCTOBER 2

Jammu & Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee has deeply condoled the sad demise of Smt. Kanta Devi Wife of Former Minister & Senior Congress Leader Shri Mula Ram Bhagat. President JKPC Shri Vikar Rasool Wani and all Senior leaders of the party have condoled the sad demise of Smt. Kanta Devi and conveyed their condolences to Shri Mula Ram Bhagat and other family members. He described Kanta Devi a pious and kind lady who remained socially active throughout her life. PCC Chief conveyed heartfelt condolences on behalf of the rank and file of the party.

All other senior leaders of the party included Former PCC President & Member CWC Shri G.A. Mir, Shri Raman Bhalla (Working President PCC), Sh. Tara Chand (Ex-Dy CM), Shri Yogesh Sawhney, Ravinder Sharma, Th. Balwan Singh, T.S. Bajwa, Smt. Kanta Bhan, Smt. Gurbachan Kumari Rana, Rajnish Sharma, Th. Manmohan Singh, Vinod Sharma, Th. Balbir Singh, Shabir Ahmed Khan, Ch. Shah Mohammad, Ved Mahajan, Hari Singh Chib, K.C. Bhagat, Pankaj Dogra, Sanjeev Sharma, Kapil Singh, Pranav Shagotra, Pawan Raina, Shashi Sharma, Narinder Gupta, Narinder Sharma, Ashwani Puri, Sajeev Panda, Neeraj Gupta, Thomas Khokhar, Manjeet Singh Jatt, Satish Sharma, Shiv Kumar Sharma, Vijay Sharma, Karan Bhagat, S. Amolak Singh, S. Gurdarshan Singh, H.S. Mehta, Suresh Dogra, Rajveer Singh, Rajinder Singh Nathu, Jatin Raina, Ricky Dalotra, Com. Gurmeet Singh, Michael Wazir, Camres David Babloo, and others have expressed deep shock and conveyed their heartfelt condolences to bereaved family. Former PCC Presidents Prof. Saifuddin Soz and Peerzada Mohd Sayeed, Shri Amrit Malhotra (Ex-Chairman Legislative Council), S. Gurmukh Singh (Ex-Dy Chairman Legislative Council) also deeply condoled the death of Smt. Kanta Devi and conveyed their heartfelt condolence to the bereaved family and prayed for peace to the departed soul in heaven.

84 Bn CRPF holds mass cleanliness drive at Chanderkote, Batote

J NEWS SERVICE
RAMBAN, OCTOBER 2:

Under the aegis of Swachh Bharat Mission and to celebrate Mahatma Gandhi's Jayantit, 84 Battalion of Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) organized mass cleanliness campaign at Chanderkote and Batote area of Ramban district.

The drive was led by N Ranbir Singh Commandant, A K Dixit Second in Command and more than 100 Officers, Subordinate Officers and Other Ranks participated in the drive.

With the theme of 'Garbage Free India', the drive was conducted at three locations at Chanderkote, Batote area, astride NH 44 and surrounding area of Jamia Masjid Chanderkote, by cutting grass, collecting garbage and



polybags, etc. More than 200 participants of 84 Bn CRPF, District Police Ramban, School children, local civilians took part in the cleanliness campaign.

84 Bn CRPF has been deployed in J&K since 2009, with its Battalion Headquarters established at Chatha Jammu and its Companies are deployed in Ramban and Udhampur Districts and performing operationally very sensitive Road Opening Parties duty on NH 44. The battalion has been ensuring smooth passage of Security Forces convoys and other vehicles in Udhampur and Ramban Districts of J&K.

During the drive, while interacting with the participants, Commandant 84 Bn highlighted that all the citizens must join hands, to work towards a clean and green India, by undertaking shramdaan activities through a janandolan, with community participation. The concept of "Sanitation as everyone's business" should be promoted and nurtured and spread to the nook and corner of the country.

Modi Govt going full-throttle to ensure J&K's all round devp: Kavinder Kick-start devp work

J NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 2

The BJP Government led by PM Narendra Modi is going full throttle to achieve the mission of J&K's all round development with no room left for any kind of prejudice. This was stated by senior BJP leader and former Deputy Minister Kavinder Gupta after the launch of work of renovation and face lifting of the pond here at Chhani Himmat with an estimated cost of Rs 2.5 crore.

Rajkumar Tarkhan, former Chairman JMC and Corporator Ward No.51 Channi Himmat also accompanied the former deputy Chief Minister during the inauguration of the aforesaid development work.

Kavinder said unlike NC, PDP and Congress parties which seek mandate using divisive tactics, the BJP has taken the 'development route' to become popular among the masses. "It has set the goal of serving the society without distinction and discrimination of region, religion or linguistic contours. This is the reason that people of all hues and ethnic groups have started showing undaunted faith



in the party which earnestly believe in Sabka Saath Sabka Vishwas", he said, adding that people should give overwhelming support to BJP in the upcoming polls to ensure that party continues with the development spree with more confidence and added pace.

Kavinder said the momentum of development process in the UT of J&K after abrogation of Article 370 is unprecedented and the same is continuing unabated giving shape to aspirations of the people in an extraordinary manner", he said, adding that no other party has will and guts to emulate the precedent set by the BJP in ensuring development making the party the first choice of all. Later, he interacted

with people of the area and listened to their issues related to civic amenities. He assured them that their issues will be redressed in a shortest possible time by taking the same with the authorities concerned.

Prominent among those who were present include Jeewan Singh Charak, Surinder Singh Charak, Arun Gupta, Deepak Kumar, Multan Singh, Arun Dutta, Pawan Kumar, Vikas Mahajan, Sameer Majumdar, Radhey Sham, Ramakant, Aditya Manhas, Rajesh Gupta, Anil Gupta, Anil Malhotra, Arun, Gulzar Singh Charak, Vikram Singh, Prof. Veena, Sanjay Sharma, Ajay Kapoor, Pawan Sharma, Mukesh, Konik Jain, Manjeet Singh, K. L. Basson, Mirza Bhagat, Vimal Sharma and Dinesh Malhotra.

Two-day volleyball tournament ends at Chakal village of Basantgarh Tehsil

JI NEWS SERVICE
UDHAMPUR, OCT 2

A two-day volleyball tournament was organized in Chakal village of Basantgarh, a remote tehsil of district Udhampur, which provided an opportunity to the youth to become drug-free and showcase their talent. And the volleyball tournament ended with enthusiasm and enthusiasm in the final match. Happened.

Twenty-five teams participated in this volleyball tournament, including Lohi Malhar, Nathi, Jakhed, Basantgarh and many other teams. And through cultural dance program, local artists displayed their talent and attracted the youth towards becoming drug free.

Rakesh Kumar and



Pawan Rasal played important roles in making the volleyball tournament successful.

In the volleyball tournament final, Ramnagar Club won the final match between Ramnagar Volleyball Club and Lathi Volleyball Team by 2-0.

This two-day volleyball tournament not only showcased excellent sportsmanship but also

highlighted the spirit of unity and cooperation within the community.

On this occasion, the chief guest was Tehsildar Basantgarh Karanjeet Singh, Sarpanch Shanto Devi, Advocate Pawan Dev Singh, Pushpinder Singh, Advocate Anoop Singh, Rakesh Singh, Vicky Dalip Singh, Shel Singh and a large number of villagers were present.

'Basti Sampark Abhiyaan' strengthened SCs ties with BJP: Munish Sharma

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, SEPT 02

Expressing his pleasure over the massive response to party's week long 'Basti Sampark Abhiyaan', Jammu and Kashmir BJP senior leader and former General Secretary, Munish Sharma, said that it provided an opportunity to reach maximum population of the SCs as the party activists from state to mandal and ward levels were in various localities under the campaign.

Munish Sharma said that under 'Basti Sampark Abhiyaan', the BJP had drawn a programme for direct interaction with the members of the Scheduled Caste (SC) category and the party activists were required to visit the localities housing the population of this class. They were also asked to pay visit to the families,



share with them the programmes and policies of the party as well as the union government under PM Narendra Modi, aimed at their socio-economic upliftment and enable them to lead dignified life.

He said that the feedback, as received from the party activists at different levels has been very positive as the SCs have appreciated the welfare schemes launched by Narendra Modi government has benefited them a lot and their lives changed to great extent.

They were of the view that while availing the financial help, there was no agent or middle man and the money reached directly into their bank accounts through DBT mode.

This campaign has strengthened the ties of the BJP with the SC community, he claimed.

Munish Sharma, meanwhile, appealed the SCs to not get misled by the false propaganda of the parties like Congress, NC and PDP and strengthen BJP through their support and vote.

District Court Bhandarwah Observes 'Gandhi Jayanti'



JI NEWS SERVICE
BHADERWAH, OCT 2

The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Bhandarwah observed Gandhi Jayanti in the court premises to commemorate the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi under the supervision of worthy chairman DLSA (Pr. District and sessions Judge Bhandarwah), Sunit Gupta and Secretary DLSA (Sub Judge) Ramesh Lal. On this occasion participants, PLVs, staff of the court, Executive Officer Municipal Committee Bhandarwah Sanjay Kumar Sharma and Advocate Mohd Majid Malik also offered floral tributes to Mahatma Gandhi. Advocate Mohd Majid Malik who is voluntarily participating in all awareness and cleanliness drive camps related to Swachhata Hi Seva campaign spoke in detail about the relevance of Gandhiji's values in the modern era and his principles of social justice and concerns about the environment and urged the participants and youngsters to imbibe these values so as to lead a meaningful life. He also threw light on the Legal Services

Authorities Act 1987 and also enlightened the gathering on Mahatma Gandhi's life, his social works and efforts to inculcate the 'Dignity of Labour' in the Indian society. Meanwhile a cleanliness drive was also launched in and around court premises by the Municipal Committee in collaboration DLSA Bhandarwah and other staff members. Adv Mohd Majid Malik informed that Mahatma Gandhi, also known as the Father of the Nation, Babu or Mahatma, was a political ethicist, nationalist and lawyer and Gandhi dedicated his life to the freedom of the nation and advocated for the path of peace, truth and non-violence. He also said Gandhi led many successful Satyagraha and Ahimsa movements to free India from British colonial rule and informed that Gandhi dedicated his life to the struggle for freedom. His non-violent approach and ability to win over people with love and tolerance profoundly impacted the Indian civil rights movement and the day honours Mahatma Gandhi, the values of non-violence and tolerance he preached, added.

GBC celebrates Jayanti of Mahatma Gandhi, Lal Bahadur Shastri

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 2

Gandhi Bhawan Committee this year also celebrated Mahatma Gandhi ji & Lal Bahadur Shastri Ji's Jayanti at Gandhi Bhawan auditorium. Dr Gautam Mengi, President Gandhi Bhawan Committee welcomed guests after Traditional lighting of lamp by the Chief Guest Anil Masoom, Cooperator, JMC & other dignitaries.

Tribute were paid to Mahatma Gandhi & Lal Bahadur Shastri. Chief orator Jagdish expressed views on Mahatma Gandhi's thoughts. Students of DBN Mubarak Mandi & SNS Vidya Mandir presented their programs, Sampkalp Gandhian Chapter, Project Gandhi Bhawan Committee & Gandhi Sewa Sadan placed their reports of the year & presented their programs also.

Suresh Sharma (Retd Judge) President, Gandhi Sewa Sadan, Yudhvir Sethi prominent social worker, was present on the occasion. Rajendra Kakkar, Secretary, Gandhi Bhawan Committee presented vote of thanks.

Narinder starts cleaning of Nallah with contribution of locals in RS Pura

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 2

Social and political Activist Narinder Sharma today started cleaning of main Nallah at Kotli Shah Doula Panchayat in RS Pura constituency with the contribution of locals. Speaking on the occasion, Sharma alleged that the desilting of the said nallah has not been taken up for years as a result of this the nallah is full with silt and garbage and has become a health hazard for the general public. Sharma also said that political leaders remains indulged in political rhetoric instead of actually working on the ground. These leaders he said were merely interested in photo sessions and did nothing for the cleanliness of Nallahs and solving other problems of the people. Sharma said that concerned authorities failed to ensure pre-monsoon nallah cleaning work.



He claimed that the work is delayed every year and the first monsoon showers lead to flooding. The solid waste department should undertake pre-monsoon nallah cleaning work every year. In case of pre-monsoon or first monsoon showers, most residents living in low-lying areas have to suffer loss of property due to flooding. Sharma further said, "The nallah-cleaning work does not end even after mon-

soon sets in as the entire process begins late. The public representatives have to face the ire of people affected by flooding due to unclean nallahs. The civic administration should also study the water logging spots and find reasons for water logging. It is also necessary to clean the drains twice a year for which a budgetary provision needs to be made in budget estimate, added Sharma."

Bharat Sharma leads 'Basti Sampark Abhiyan' in Deeli ward-55

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 2

Bharat Sharma, Senior Leader, BJP Jammu & Kashmir leads 'Basti Sampark Abhiyan', here today and visit Deeli, Ward No. 55 along with Ajay Pargal BJP Jammu & Kashmir President's Office Incharge, Adv. Ishant Gupta, State IT Head, BJP J&K, Jatinder Slathia (Monu Slathai) District President BJYM Jammu South, Raju and others.

Bharat Sharma along with other BJP Leaders leads door-to-door campaign, reaching out to local residents and interact with people of all age groups, including women and youth.

During this visit, Sharma passionately interacted with the community, raising awareness about the myriad policies and schemes for public welfare initiated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Government such as



Ayushman Bharat, Stand Up India, Skill India, Ujjwala Yojana, Gareeb Kalyan Yojana and much more. The enthusiastic response from the people of Deeli underscores the transformative impact of these schemes on their lives.

Sharma's efforts in bridging the gap between governance and the grassroots exemplify the BJP's commitment to building a stronger, more informed, and connected society with a mantra "Sab Ka Saath, Sab Ka Vikas, Sab Ka Vishwas, Sab Ka Prayas". Ajay Pargal encour-

aged party volunteers to do more to communicate with people in their communities. He wanted to make sure that everyone knows about the Life-Changing Schemes and Programs for the benefit of Poor, Marginalized Masses, which have been introduced by dynamic Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Ishant Gupta assured people that BJP activists are always ready to provide information and assistance regarding these schemes for their benefits. This shows the party's commitment of serving the public.

Gandhi Jayanti celebrated at Govt Middle School Sangli, Katwalt

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 2

Today on 2nd October 2023, event of Gandhi Jayanti celebrated at Govt Middle school Sangli, students, staff and prominent people of locality with great pomp and enthusiasm.

Students showed colourful shows to pay tributes on the occasion of birthday of Mahatma Gandhi. A rich tribute is given by all members



present on the occasion of this day and pray that our country may progress on the virtues of non violence, peace, hormont, satyagrah, etc.

On the occasion Mr Kuldeep Kumar sheds light on the principles of Mahatma Gandhi and inculcated into the minds of students which they have to follow

in their life.

Similar Programme was also held at Govt High school Katwalt by Sulekha Devi Headmaster, MS Chigli Katwalt by BS and Narinder Singh, Govt Smart Tribal school Puji Mata, MS Dullar, GPS Katwalt, PS Padder, PS Ranger, PS Mariel, MS Bhari, PS Pathala

Learn modern education, deeni taleem alike: Khatana



JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCT 2

BJP MP Rajya Sabha Er. Gulam Ali Khatana urged the youth to work hard to learn the modern education and deeni taleem too. He said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's slogan of Ek Haath Mein Koran, Ek Haath Mein Computer" is aimed at bettering the lot of Muslim community especially pasmanda and backward classes who have not benefited during last 70 years.

Addressing a massive gathering at Madarassa markaz Al-Marif at Bathandi here today to celebrate the birth anniversary of Mahatama Gandhi organized by the locals, Er. Gulam Ali Khatana said that PM Modi has transformed the whole thinking about the ideals of Mahatama Gandhi and has turned his dreams into action. Earlier Octo-

ber 2 was just a holiday, now it's a true tribute Swachhannjali to Mahatama Gandhi when whole nation is galvanized to clean their surroundings on the call of PM Modi.

MP Gulam Ali said that he was very happy to come to Markaz Al-Marif and interact with students and their teachers who are combing science and religious teachings together to teach young students and become a success in the modern world.

District president Jammu South, BJP Rekha Mahajan also spoke on the occasion and shed light on various schemes initiated by the Modi government for minorities.

Prominent among others present were Master Rashid Principal, Master Saleem,

Maqbool Naib Sarpanch, Bashir Ahmed, Ch Puttu Chairman, Yousaf Parrray.

Shiv Sena Hindustan frames new unit in District Udhampur



JI NEWS SERVICE
UDHAMPUR, OCT 2

Shiv Sena Hindustan J&K President Pt Rajesh Kesri today framed new unit in District Udhampur. According to handout issued here, Rajesh Khajuria was made the District President, Amit Vijay Kumar made the District Rural President, Rajendra Singh and Vijay Singh were made vice Presidents, Intiaz Hussain was made District General Secretary, Mohan Lal Malhotra made Chief Advisor and Treasurer, Rajendra Khajuria made Organizer Sanjay Pandit, Organization secretary, Dharam Kapoor made Public Secretary. On this occasion, dozens of people joined the District Udhampur unit of Shiv Sena Hindustan.

Kesri, speaking on the occasion, said that soon Shiv Sena will field its candidates in the upcoming elections in J&K. Kesri told the newly appointed office bearer that we will have to connect with the people at the grassroots level, we will have to understand the pulse of people's suffering. We will have to follow the understanding of the people. We will have to understand and connect with the people for the

things that people need. We will have to curbe the increasing number of drugs in the society. Today, some mischievous people in the society are introducing many dirty drugs like chita capsules to the young generation. Intoxicating pills, Corex etc are being sold which is a conspiracy of Pakistan so that our young generation gets trapped in their nefarious designs.

Kesri further said that drugs are being pumped into J&K to exploit young generation and this drug money is collected and used towards terrorism so that our country can become weak. We have to stop these things. Since last eight month, we have banned these things in Jammu, Samba, Kathua and all the border areas. The police is also giving full cooperation in this. We also inform the people that the drug dealers come here to sell drugs, we should Inform the police, their names will be kept under wraps and will not be published among the common people so that these enemies of humanity can be punished. Balbir Kumar, Rajkumar, Rajesh Handa, Darshana Devi, Jyoti Devi and other Shiv Sainiks were present on the occasion.

Swachhta pakwada celebrated with fervour by Poshan, Majalta

JI NEWS SERVICE
MAJALTA, OCT 2

As per the directions of Government of Jammu and Kashmir, Swachhta pakwada to be celebrated from 15th September to 2nd October was celebrated by poshan Majalta under the guidance of Child Development Project Officer Majalta Aamir Bashir Runyal JKAS. One hour cleanliness drive from 10 am to 11 am was conducted at all the anganwadi centres giving more impetus to shramdhaan under the



jurisdiction of Poshan Project Majalta where in supervisors, anganwadi workers dedicatedly made the programme a success. Various events like painting competition, singing competition, skits encouraging clean environment were also conducted at various anganwadi centres.

Besides this, swachhta pledge was also taken at all the 150 functional Anganwadi centres and all vowed to keep the nature and environment clean for the future generations.

Brave and unique Ayhika, Sutirtha lose in semis, claim bronze in women's doubles TT

AGENCIES
HANGZHOU, OCT 2

Ayhika Mukherjee and Sutirtha Mukherjee are a unique pair in table tennis. They both play with different rubbers on their racquets, thus giving their opponents the taste of four rubbers and different variations in speed, spin and combination.

They are also 'different' table tennis players particularly Sutirtha- overweight and happy with how they are and playing in the international Circuit at a time when being lean and thin is the norm.

On Monday, Ayhika and Sutirtha lost the match 11-7, 8-11, 11-7, 8-11, 9-11, 11-5, 2-11 in a well-fought encounter. They came back from 2-3 games down to level the match at three games each but could not close out the match.

"We tried our best today and gave it our all. But in the seventh and final we conceded a big lead and could not fight back," said Ayhika after the match.



On winning their first medal in the Asian Games, Ayhika said, "It feels surreal. The competitions are very tough. We are from the same academy (in Kolkata) and know each other's game so well. We tried our best but could not win."

Normally a defensive pair that relies on their blocks to unsettle their opponents, Ayhika and Sutirtha changed their tactics in the sixth game switching to an attacking tactic in which one of them blocked while the

other attacked. It worked well as the Indians came back to level the match score at 3-3 games.

"As that tactic had worked in the previous game, we tried to implement it in the seventh game too. But they lost the first few points, came under pressure and went for winners in an attempt to claim points. They conceded a big lead and could not make a comeback," said coach Mamta Prabhu.

The Indians, a unique pair in world table tennis that plays with different rubbers on all four surfaces on their racquets - Sutirtha has pimped rubber on forehand side and normal on backhand while Ayhika uses pimped on forehand and anti-spin on the other side. They troubled the North Koreans in the first few games before their opponents figured their game out.

The Indian pair, which won the women's doubles title in a WTT Contender event this year, too early

lead in the first game and won it easily. Though the Koreans fought back to win the second, Ayhika and Sutirtha again took the lead by winning the third game.

However, the North Korean pair, egged on by a partisan crowd of predominantly Chinese people, levelled the scores again, capitalising on an early lead in the fourth game. They surged ahead 4-8 and though the Indians fought back to level the scores 8-8 before the Koreans won the next three points to win the game. Coach Mamta said she does not see any problem in players being a bit bulky. "Yes, being fit is absolutely necessary but then some players have a certain body type. Table tennis is also a game of skills, so if you are gifted and have the skills, I don't see any problem. Sutirtha is very quick at the table and has very good hand-eye coordination," she said.

Men's ODI WC: Former India captain Ajay Jadeja named Afghanistan's team mentor

AGENCIES
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, OCT 2

The Afghanistan Cricket Board (ACB) on Monday announced that it has roped in former India captain Ajay Jadeja as its team mentor for the upcoming Men's ODI World Cup happening from October 5 to November 19 in India.

Jadeja captained India in 13 ODIs, and overall played 196 matches, becoming its eighth-highest run-getter in the format by scoring 5359 runs while averaging 37.47 with six hundreds and 30 fifties against his name, apart from playing three World Cups.

One of his most memorable ODI innings was his cameo of 45 off 25 balls in the 1996 Cricket World Cup quarter-final against Pakistan in Bengaluru, including smashing 40 runs off the final two overs against fast-bowling great Waqar Younis.

Indian men's hockey team beats Bangladesh 12-0 to top Pool A, confirms semifinal berth



AGENCIES
HANGZHOU, OCT 2

The Indian men's hockey team on Monday qualified for the semifinal round of the 19th Asian Games Hangzhou 2022, with a 12-0 win over Bangladesh.

With five wins in all their five Pool stage matches, India ended the Pool stage as table toppers. Harmanpreet Singh (2', 4', 32'), and Mandeep Singh (18', 24', 46) scored hat-tricks each, while Abhishek (41', 57) scored a brace for India. Lalit Kumar Upadhyay (23'), Amit Rohidas (28'), Nilakanta Sharma (47'), and Gurjant Singh (56') also scored a goal each to help India get the win.

Jarmanpreet Singh led the first attack of the match from the right flanks to start the proceedings. The in-form Indian Captain Harmanpreet Singh (2') was right on target on the first penalty corner as India took an early 1-0 lead. Moments later, Harmanpreet (4') converted another set-piece to make it 2-0. Despite the early lead, the relentless Indian team continued to press deep, not allowing Bangladesh to make any inroads into their circle, and India maintained their 2-0 lead to close out the first quarter.

The start of the second quarter saw Bangladesh stringing along a few passes inside India's half, but the attack was broken down by Sanjay. Minutes later, Mandeep Singh (18') combined with Abhishek inside the circle to make it 3-0 for India. Abhishek provided his second assist of the match as a pass from him was deflected beautifully into the nets

by Lalit Kumar Upadhyay (23'). A minute later, Mandeep Singh (24') picked up a rebound from a penalty corner and struck it into the nets to make it 5-0 for India. Amit Rohidas (28') showcased his dragkick abilities, scoring from a late penalty corner and India went into halftime with a 6-0 lead.

The second half started with India maintaining possession and looking to increase their lead. As Abhishek managed to earn an early penalty corner for India in the third quarter, Harmanpreet Singh (32') found the nets again to complete his hat-trick. Amit Rohidas and Nilakanta Sharma defended well as Bangladesh made dangerous runs of their own. Late into the quarter, Abhishek (41') picked up a long pass and hammered a powerful reverse hit into the nets, and India went into the final quarter with 8-0 lead.

At the start of the final quarter, Mandeep Singh (46') struck the ball into the nets after receiving an aerial pass from Abhishek. Moments later, Nilakanta Sharma (47') hit a powerful shot past Bangladesh's goalkeeper as India took their goal tally to double digits. Exploiting a small gap available on the left flank, Sumit made a late circle penetration and passed the ball to Gurjant Singh (56') in front of the nets who struck it past the goalkeeper to make it 11-0 for India. A minute later, Abhishek (57') picked a pass from Gurjant Singh and struck it into the nets as India won the match 12-0.

Indian will compete in the semifinals on Wednesday.

Parul, Priti bag silver, bronze in 3000m steeplechase with personal best times

AGENCIES
HANGZHOU, OCT 2

Parul Chaudhary and Priti Lamba clocked personal best timing to claim silver and bronze medal, respectively, for India in the women's 3000m steeplechase at the 19th Asian Games, here on Monday.

A day after Avinash Sable romped to victory in the men's event. Parul and Priti ran superb tactical races to finish behind Bahrain's Olympic and World leader Winfred Mutile Yavi, who set an Asian Games Record of 9:18.28.

Parul clocked 9:27.63 while Priti finished third in 9:43.32, also her personal best.

It is a great performance by Parul, who stayed on the heels of the Bahraini before opened up a big gap with three laps to go. She continued and went to break her personal best, for the third time in a month after doing it twice at the World Champion-



ships. Knowing that the Bahraini runner wastoo strong, they did not expend their energy in trying to be with her but kept themselves in the battle for the second and

third positions and made their moves at an appropriate times.

These were India's first medals in athletics on Monday after the country bagged nine medals on Sunday.

India win bronze medal in men's & women's 3000m relay team speed skating events

AGENCIES
HANGZHOU, OCT 2

The Indian Speed Skating team, consisting of Sanjana Bathula, Karthika Jagadeeswaran, Heeral Sadhu, and Aarathy Kasturi Raj, clinched a bronze medal after clocking an impressive 4:34.861 in the finals of the 3000 m relay, at the Asian Games, here on Monday.

The Indian quartet completed the race in 4 minutes and 34.861 seconds, earning them third place. The gold medal went to Chinese Taipei with a time of 4 minutes and 19.447 seconds, while South Korea claimed silver with a time of 4 minutes and 21.146 seconds.

Meanwhile, the Indian men's quartet of Aryanpal Singh Ghuman, Anandkumar Velkumar, Siddhant Kamble, and Vikram Ingale bagged another bronze medal by clocking in at 4:10.128 in the men's team relay.

Chinese Taipei



(4:05.692) and South Korea (4:05.702) were in first and second positions respectively.

Vithya Ramraj equals PT Usha's 40-year-old Women's 400m hurdles record, qualifies for the final

AGENCIES
HANGZHOU, OCT 2

India's Vithya Ramraj set the 400m track at the Hangzhou Olympic Sports Complex ablaze here on Monday by equalling the legendary PT Usha's 40-year-old National Record in the women's 400m hurdles at the 19th Asian Games here on Monday.

Vithya, who once contemplated quitting athletics altogether as things were not going well for her and was not able to make a breakthrough at the international stage, clocked 55.42 seconds in the heats for the 400m hurdles in Monday's morning session to equal one of the oldest records still existing in Indian athletics.

Usha, now the president of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA), had



set the National Record way back in the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles when she missed the bronze medal by a whisker. Running in the first heat, the 24-year-old Vithya, who hails from Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, finished first ahead of Jamal Aminat Oluwaseun Yusuf of Bahrain. The Indian runner got off to a slow start but made up for it later as she cruised to her personal best time of 55.42.

A few weeks back,

Vithya had come close to breaking Usha's record when she clocked 55.43, missing equalling the record by 0.01 seconds. On Monday in Hangzhou, she managed to equal that time, clocking the second-best timing in the field behind Bahrain's

Oluwakemi Mujidat Adekoya, who finished Heat 2 in 55.17. Bahrain's African import Adekoya will be the runner to beat in the final in which Vithya will be attempting to break Usha's record.

Hockey India announces 20-member Sub Junior men, women squads for Netherlands tour

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, OCT 2

Hockey India on Monday announced the 20-member Sub Junior Men and Women squads that will embark on an exciting tour of the Netherlands, scheduled from October 9 to October 16.

This tour marks the first time that the Indian Sub Junior Men and Women's Teams will compete in international matches, a testament to the growing prowess of Indian hockey at the grassroots level, while also elevating the country's stature on the global hockey stage.

During this tour, the Indian Sub Junior Men's Team will face off against the Netherlands Boys U18 team and the Netherlands Boys U16 side, with two games scheduled against each.

On the other hand, the Indian Sub Junior Women's



Team will battle it out against the Netherlands Girls U18 team and the Netherlands Girls U16 side, also playing two games against each opponent.

Also, during the tour, Indian Sub Junior Men and Women's Teams will play a match against Men and Women's teams of a senior club in the Netherlands.

Notably, the Indian Sub Junior Men's team will be Captained by Manmeet Singh Rai, while Aashu Maurya will serve as the Vice Captain. For the Indian Sub Junior Women's Team, Bhavya has been appointed as the Captain, while Rajni Kerketta has been named as the Vice Captain.

Meanwhile, coaches of the Sub Junior Men and Women's Teams expressed their excitement about this tour.

Indian Sub Junior Men's

Teams:

Men's;
Goalkeeper: Rahul Bhardwaj
Defenders: Rohit Kullu, Pradip Mandal, Sohil Ali, Ujjwal Pal, Sukhmanpreet Singh, Aashu Maurya (Vice Captain), Neeraj,
Midfielders: Rahul Yadav, Rohit Turkey, Suresh Sharma Adhikarimayum, Manmeet Singh Rai (Captain), Rahul Rajbhar, Ghuran Lohra,
Forwards: Ritender Singh, Deepak Pradhan, Ajeet Yadav, Ketan Kushwaha, Rohit Irengbam Singh, Srijan Yadav
Women's;
Goalkeepers: Hodam Pabitra Devi, Tarra Sailaja
Defenders: Bhavya (Captain), Komal Pal, Parwati Topno, Ritika Ahirwar,
Midfielders: Rajni Kerketta (Vice Captain), Tamanna, Karuna Minz, Priyanka, Tanuja Toppo, Kajal Pundir, Kirti
Forwards: Krishna Sharma, Kajal, Purnima Yadav, Switi Dungdung, Doli Bhoi, Nisha Dadel, Ravina

Team Coach Sardar Singh said, "This tour represents a historic milestone in the journey of our budding talents. We are exhilarated about this opportunity for our young players to showcase their skills on

the grand international stage. The experience gained here will be a catalyst for their growth and development as they take their first steps toward becoming future stalwarts of Indian hockey."