

Solar Plant in Palli functioning without any glitch

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: The Palli Panchayat in Jammu and Kashmir's border district of Samba has achieved the distinction of becoming the country's first Panchayat in adopting several government initiatives including the measures to become carbon neutral Panchayat. The Panchayat boasts of a 500 KW Solar Power Plant inaugurated by Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi on National Panchayat Day on 24th April, 2022.

Due to recent intermittent rains in and around district Samba, agricultural fields were water logged due to poor runoff from the surface. The site of the 500 KW Solar Power Plant, which is surrounded by paddy fields, also got water logged as such. However, the functioning of the Solar Plant was not affected as it continues to work normally.

Taking immediate cognizance of accumulation of water at the Solar Plant, the Deputy Commissioner Samba directed for earth leveling to resolve the problem of water-logging. Further, wild growth of grass has also been removed.

Meanwhile, the Teams of Rural Development, Power Development Department, District administration



Samba and JAKEDA also visited Palli Panchayat to inspect the condition of the 500 KW Solar Power Plant installed by CEL Public Sector undertaking under "Gram Urja Swaraj", a Panchayat owned systems operating model.

The team of JAKEDA officials headed by Additional Secretary, Science & Technology Department informed that the system is fully functional and generating the desired amount of energy which is being fed to the Utility Grid.

District Administration team was headed by ADDC, Rajinder Singh. The RDD was asked for prompt removal of the unwanted grass etc. from the Site, which has been removed.

The inspection of the Solar Power Plant has revealed that the SPV Panels are maintained in reasonably good structural integrity and no damage is caused to the said SPP.

The said Solar Plant is a first of its kind which has been developed as a Pilot Project at Village Palli in District Samba, making it the country's first Panchayat (village body) on its way to become Carbon Neutral.

The PRIs of Panchayat who were also present at site intimated that land for expansion of the Solar Power Plant has also been identified so that its capacity could be augmented for the benefit of the residents of the Palli Panchayat.

The development of such a Grid Connected Solar Project in J&K has helped DISCOMs in meeting the Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO) targets set by the Ministry of Power in respect of J&K.

It is pertinent to mention that after the visit of PM during the national PRI conference, Panchayat Palli is fast emerging as a model Panchayat. District administration is focusing on 100 percent saturation of all

major Government schemes in the Panchayat.

All landholders in Palli have been issued land passbooks. All individuals having houses in abadi-deh area have been issued property cards. The Panchayat is also saturated in Aadhar and Ayushman Sehat and other social security schemes.

The Nokia Smartpur, established in April 2022 during the PRI conference, has become a fountainhead of various citizen centric services. It is offering services on four verticals via financial inclusion, e-governance, digital library, livelihood support.

A calendar of activities has been issued by the district administration which is benefitting not only the inhabitants of Palli but also of adjoining panchayats.

The SHG members are also being trained in digital banking and digital marketing. Students as well as adults are also getting exposure in new fields.

Among many firsts, Palli has also formulated Climate Resilience Plan for making the Panchayat carbon neutral.

A detailed survey was conducted for studying carbon emission level and formulation of plan accordingly. Several important steps have already been undertaken like the planting of 500

plants of guava, lemon, jamun, mango etc and introduction of diversification of crops. Many other steps as suggested by experts have been incorporated in the plan which will make Palli completely carbon neutral within the next six years.

As part of Mission Amrit Sarovar, which was launched by the PM during the PRI conference, a beautiful Amrit Sarovar has been completed at Palli also with the stocking of 10,000 fingerlings to make it a source of income generation for the Panchayat.

Palli also has the distinction of being the first Panchayat in J&K to have an organized well functioning Solid waste management system, including door to door collection of waste, sanitization and start of 6 no. Biogas plants.

Palli also has a beautiful

Yog vriksha and Nakshatra garden which is open for all inhabitants as well as visitors. Renovation has also been carried out in Panchayat Ghar, schools and Health and Wellness center.

District administration Samba holds regular awareness and developmental activities in Palli Panchayat with the active participation of local inhabitants and elected representatives.

Ashok Koul stresses on induction of new voters, Aadhar linking

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SAMBA: J&K BJP General Secretary (Org.) Ashok Koul was addressed a meeting of BJP Samba regarding ongoing "revision of electoral rolls" exercise in Jammu & Kashmir.

J&K BJP Vice-President Surjeet Singh Slatia, General Secretary Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal, former Minister Chander Parkash Ganga, Prabhari Narayan Singh, District President Samba Amar Singh, DDC Chairman Keshav, Municipal Chairman Pawan, Ganesh, Bachan, BDC chairman Jogeshawar Singh, BLA1 Kashmir Singh, BLA1 Vijaypur Jai Ram Sharma, BLA 1 Ranbir Darhan Chowdhary, All Mandal Presidents, All District Office Bearers and others were present in the meeting.

Ashok Koul, in his address stressed on the induction of



J&K BJP General Secretary (Org.) Ashok Koul chairing a meeting of BJP leaders in Samba.

new voters and linking of Aadhar with Voter Card which remained the two main agendas of the meeting. He asked the party leaders to guide people on voter rights and responsibilities to empower first-time voters to make informed decisions during the upcoming assembly elections.

"Focus on the basic rights of the voter as enshrined in the Constitution, and enumerate the responsibilities voters need to consider before and after casting their votes. For the whole exercise BJP leaders have to devote themselves to the task and reach up to every single household to strengthen the democracy", Koul said.

Dr. Devinder Manyal stressed on to speed up the process of registration of voters including new voters. He asked BJP workers to contribute to voter registration, updating of electoral rolls and Aadhar linking. He asked the party activists to ensure door-to-door campaign to educate the masses on whole exercise.

Medical camp, screening of children held at GMS Kandni

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KISHTWAR: A Medical cum Screening camp was held on Tuesday at Government Middle School (GMS) Kandni of Zone Drabshala by Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakarm (RBSK) team of health Block Kishtwar. The school children were screened by RBSK team under the guidance and supervision of Block Medical Officer (BMO) Kishtwar; Dr Sat Lal Manhas,

MSCB Trust's four-day 'National Art Workshop' concludes at Patnitop

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

PATNITOP:

Four days National Art workshop organized by Master Sansar Chand Baru Trust Jammu and Kashmir under the joint aegis of State Lalit Kala Akademi, Uttar Pradesh

concluded successfully at Patnitop here today.

Famous artists from across the nation participated in this workshop

portraying their thoughts and ideas by

playing with colours using the strokes

of the brush excellently transforming

their creativity on the canvas.

It is pertinent to mention that Master

Sansar Chand Baru Trust has been established in the name of renowned personality in arts namely Master

Sansar Chand Baru, who is famous for

his artifacts and there are multiple

books in which his name figures among

the great artists of the country.

Voluminous details have been conveyed

in the aforesaid books about his profes-

sional journey as an artist and the

feats which he had achieved during his

lifetime.

The Trust established in his name

aims to promote art and culture across

the nation so that more and more people

especially the youngsters get

inclined to the field of fine arts making

it their career.

The young artists are provided ample

time to interact with the visiting art

scholars to enhance their abilities and

promote art in the UT of Jammu and

Kashmir.

Anuradha Rishi said that in the pres-

ent scenario there is a dire need to host such workshops across Jammu and Kashmir on a regular basis as these can prove to be very helpful in bringing out the hidden talent among the youngsters thus enabling them to participate in National and International Art Competitions and related events.

She informed that this time the artists participating in the workshop amid charming beauty of the famous tourist hill resort Patnitop had come from Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab and Haryana to take part in this workshop.

On the last day of the workshop, art material including colour, paint-colours were also distributed among the school students.

DLSA Udhampur organises awareness prog on Int'l Girl Child Day

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: Following the Common Minimum Programme provided by J&K Legal Services Authority, and under the Chairmanship of Chairman

District Legal Services Authority Udhampur, Y.P. Bourne and overall Supervision of Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, Udhampur Rajni Sharma, the DLSA

Udhampur on Tuesdays organized an Awareness Programme at Government Hr. Secondary School Battal Ballian to observe International Girl Child Day. The aim of the Programme was to raise awareness about the issues related to Girl Child. This year's theme is 'Our Time Is

Now - Our Rights, Our

Future.'

The Resource Persons for the Programme were Panel Lawyers Adv. Mallikarjun Singh Slatia, Adv. Nikhileshwar Singh and Adv. Akash Samnotra. The Resource Persons highlighted that International Day of the Girl Child is observed to celebrate the achievements of girls worldwide.

This day also aims to educate girls about their rights, which will enable them to realize their full potential and transform the world around them. The Principal of the School along with the school staff and students were also present in the Programme. PLVs were also present in the programme.

Special Secy for ensuring quality, timely completion of works

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KATHUA:

Special Secretary Forests Department, Er. Narinder Singh Bali, conducted an extensive tour of district Kathua to inspect ongoing works of

NGT ponds, Amritsrovaras and other forest developmental activities of all wings of the forest department, the other day.

During the inspection, the Special Secretary also interacted with several deputations of local PRIs and laid emphasis on their active participation in keeping the water bod-

ies clean and to maintain a healthy environment.

The Special Secretary appreciated the works of the departments and instructed them to complete the remaining works at the earliest while maintaining the quality of the works.

Among others ACD Kathua Kishore Singh, District Soil Conservation Officer Kathua, Rahul Singh, BDO Kathua Pardeep Singh, Range Officers, and the field staff of territorial, Soil & Water Conservation and Social forestry Department Kathua were also present.

Seeshwan, Marheen, Lachipora.

The plantation strips of the Social Forestry department in Giruba Chack, Maggar Khad, Jagatpur, Lakhnupur and Amritsrovar of the Rural Development department in Saha area were also present.

Special Secretary appreciated the works of the departments and instructed them to complete the remaining works at the earliest while maintaining the quality of the works.

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