

Committed to provide quality civic infrastructure to every household: Pawan

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
UDHAMPUR: MLA Udhampur West, Pawan Kumar Gupta, inaugurated the much-awaited Tile Work Project at Bharatnagar, Udhampur; executed at an estimated cost of ₹21 lakh. The project aims to enhance public convenience, improve aesthetic appeal, and ensure better drainage and cleanliness in the locality.

Speaking on the occasion, Pawan Kumar Gupta said that we are fully committed to providing quality civic infrastructure and modern urban amenities to every household. He emphasized that such development works are part of a larger vision to make Udhampur a model constituency, where every ward receives equal attention and growth opportunities.

He further added, "Our priority has always been people's comfort and the uplift-



MLA Udhampur West, Pawan Kumar Gupta inaugurating civic work at Bharatnagar.

ment of every corner of Udhampur. This tile work project will not only add to the beauty of Bharatnagar but also make daily movement easier for residents, especially during the rainy season."

The MLA interacted with the local residents and listened to their suggestions regarding future civic

improvements. People of the area expressed immense happiness and gratitude, stating that this was a long-pending demand now fulfilled under the able leadership of Shri Pawan Kumar Gupta. Several residents felicitated the MLA with garlands and thanked him for continuously addressing the developmental needs of

the constituency. Accompanying officials from the concerned department briefed the MLA about the technical aspects of the project and assured timely completion with quality workmanship. Shri Gupta directed the executing agency to maintain high standards of work and ensure that the newly laid tiles provide

lasting and long-term benefits to the people.

He also mentioned that many similar projects - including blacktopping of roads, improvement of drains, upgradation of lanes, and enhancement of public facilities - are in progress across different wards of Udhampur West constituency. These initiatives are part of a comprehensive plan to uplift the overall living standards and promote urban renewal in the town.

Concluding his address, Shri Gupta reiterated his vision of "Development with Dedication", ensuring that every citizen feels the positive impact of efforts on the ground. He thanked the residents of Bharatnagar for their cooperation and assured them that more such people-centric projects would be launched in the near future.

ADC Nowshera visits border area Sair Makri, provides nutritional support to adopted TB patient

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
RAJOURI: As part of the ongoing National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme (NTEP) and on the directions of DC Rajouri Abhishek Sharma, Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Nowshera, Dr. Pritam Lal Thapa today visited the border area of Sair Makri.

During the visit, Dr. Thapa, who is also a Nikshay Mitra provided nutritional support to a tuberculosis (TB) patient adopted by him under the Pradhan Mantri TB Mukh Bharat Abhiyan (PMTBM-BA). The initiative aims to encourage individuals and institutions to support TB patients through nutritional and social assistance to ensure their complete recovery.

Dr. Thapa assured all possible assistance to the patient and appreciated the



efforts of the medical staff for their dedicated work under NTEP in the subdivision. He urged the health officials to continue awareness and outreach activities, particularly in remote and border areas to ensure early

detection and complete treatment of TB cases.

The visit reflected the administration's strong commitment to community-based initiatives and holistic healthcare delivery at the grassroots level.

Sarveshwar Group organises Basmati Export Promotion Programme

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SAMBA: Sarveshwar Foods Limited organized a "Basmati Value Chain Partnership Meet" at the SIDCO Industrial Area, Samba, bringing together Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), basmati producers, and traders to strengthen the basmati rice ecosystem - from cultivation and aggregation to quality control, processing, and exports.

The meet aimed to facilitate direct market access and better price realization for farmers through collective marketing by FPOs. It also emphasized the importance of sustainable and residue-free cultivation practices to meet international export standards and enhance the reputation of Jammu's premium basmati rice.



Chairman Sarveshwar Foods, Rohit Gupta honouring partner.

Speaking at the event, Rohit Gupta, Chairman Sarveshwar Foods highlighted that linking FPOs directly with producers and traders is key to building a transparent and sustainable model that benefits every stakeholder in the value chain. The initiative is expected to create

stronger partnerships between farmers, processors, and exporters, while ensuring quality consistency and traceability.

Dr. Gayatri Tandon discussed strategies for improving market linkages, quality certification, and branding, as well as intro-

ducing modern processing and packaging methods to boost competitiveness in domestic and global markets.

The meet was concluded by Dr. K. K. Sharma, former Director Agriculture with a shared vision to make Jammu's basmati rice supply chain more inclusive, traceable, and globally competitive, ensuring that farmers receive fair returns while maintaining the trust of consumers worldwide in the purity and aroma of Indian basmati rice.

The meet was attended by a large number of farmers, FPOs and Cooperatives and traders along with management of Sarveshwar Foods Limited.

Anil Sharma, Managing Director presented vote of thanks to the invited guests.

United Nations Day celebrated at GHS Upper Dharana



■ STATE TIMES NEWS
RAJOURI: The United Nations Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm by the Indian Army under, at Government High School, Upper Dharana, marking the 80th Anniversary of the United Nations. The event was organized by the Indian Army under the aegis of the Ace of Spades Division.

The celebration aimed to

educate students about the United Nations' pivotal role in promoting global peace, cooperation and sustainable development, while instilling the values of unity, equality and education among the youth to help build a better and inclusive future.

A painting competition on the theme "Education Shapes the Future" was held, witnessing spirited

participation from around 25 students. Winners were felicitated with prizes, while all participants received gifts as tokens of appreciation.

An interactive session with students and faculty members was also conducted, encouraging dialogue on the significance of education and international cooperation.

The event concluded with tea and refreshments, leaving behind an inspiring message of hope, harmony and collective responsibility.

The initiative reaffirmed the Indian Army's unwavering commitment to nation-building, youth empowerment and strengthening bonds with the local community through meaningful educational outreach.

KVK Reasi educates Krishi Udaymis/Input Dealers on INM

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
REASI: In continuation of 15 day certificate course on Integrated Nutrient Management (INM), Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Reasi under the aegis of Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technologies of Jammu (SKUAST-J) educated Krishi Udaymis of Kisan Khidmat Ghars (KKGs) and input dealers of both Reasi and Udhampur districts on Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) here at KVK Reasi campus.

KVK Reasi is working under the dynamic stewardship of Vice Chancellor, Prof. B. N. Tripathi and able guidance of Director Extension, Prof. Amrith Vaidof SKUAST-J. Various technical sessions were organised during the programme. Dr. Banarsi Lal, Chief Scientist & Head, KVK



KVK scientists during the training programme.

Reasi spoke in detail on Integrated Nutrient Management and guided participants on the Integrated Nutrient Management in aonla, lithi, walnut, wheat, mustard etc. He elaborated the use of various micro- and macro-nutrients for the plants. He also discussed on the different types of composts and their uses. He stressed on the balanced doses of nutrients for improving the producti-

ty of different crops. He also spoke on organic farming and natural farming and elaborated the benefits of edo-friendly farming. He also highlighted the soil fertility management by the Integrated Nutrient Management. Sh. Suman Charak, AEO, Department of Agriculture, Reasi spoke on the management of KKGs and highlighted the role of nutrients in various crops. He highlighted various

schemes undergoing in the district for the welfare of the farmers.

Dr. Arvinder Kumar narrated that through eco-friendly technologies both environment and human beings are benefited. He highlighted the benefits of biofertilizers and biopesticides and guided the participants about their formulations. He also spoke on farm management practices and guided participants to start

entrepreneurship development in vermicomposting. He also spoke on the timing and dose of various nutrients required for agricultural/horticultural crops. He highlighted the role of agro-advisories to uplift the socio-economic status of farmers. The participants also visited various units such as natural farming unit, greenshade net house, spices unit, DAMU, vermibed units etc. established at KVK and showed keen interest in the technologies demonstrated by the KVK. A special session on farmer-scientists interaction was also organised during which the various queries were raised by the participants which were answered satisfactorily by the experts. The programme was assisted by Sh. Manohar Lal, Sh. Sahil Kanathia and concluded by Dr. Arvinder Kumar with the formal vote of thanks.

DC Rajouri stresses on promotion of preventive healthcare through awareness

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
RAJOURI: Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Abhishek Sharma, convened a meeting to review the implementation of the health programmes launched under the National Health Mission (NHM) and assess the overall functioning of the Health Department in the district.

At the outset, Chief Medical Officer (CMO) Dr. Manohar Lal Rana presented a detailed account of the ongoing activities, achievements and challenges faced by the department in providing quality healthcare services to the people of Rajouri.

The Deputy Commissioner took a comprehensive review of key health indicators, availability



of medical and paramedical staff, infrastructure status, vaccination coverage and the implementation of flagship initiatives such as Ayushman Bharat, NHM and other centrally sponsored health schemes.

He directed for effective implementation of all health schemes, with a special focus on extending healthcare services to far-

flung and border areas of the district. He stressed the importance of regular monitoring and timely utilization of funds to achieve the desired outcomes.

The DC also emphasized on improving patient care facilities, ensuring adequate availability of medicines and diagnostic services in all health institutions.

He laid stress promoting preventive healthcare practices through mass awareness.

He urged the department to maintain close coordination with other departments to strengthen the healthcare delivery system and ensure better outreach at the grassroots level.

The meeting was attended by senior officers of the Health Department and other concerned officials.

DDC Poonch reviews progress of RDD; stresses timeline completion

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
POONCH: District Development Commissioner Poonch, Ashok Kumar Sharma today chaired a meeting of the Rural Development Department (RDD) to assess the progress of ongoing developmental works and the implementation of flagship schemes across the district.

The District Development Commissioner reviewed the performance of five blocks - Poonch, NSSB, Sathra, Mandi and Loran.

Officers presented block-wise details of physical and



DDC Poonch, Ashok Kumar Sharma chairing meeting.

financial achievements under key RDD schemes, including the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY), Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) and MGNREGA.

The DDC emphasized the need to expedite the execution of works under MGNREGA, fast-track ongoing projects, ensure timely tendering, allotment and execution of new works to meet targets within the stipulated timeframe.

He directed the Block Development Officers of blocks with slow perform-

ance to focus on achieving targets.

The Assistant Commissioner Development (ACD) and Assistant Commissioner Panchayat (ACP) were instructed to conduct physical inspections in such areas to monitor progress and ensure on-ground improvement.

Reviewing the Swachh Bharat Mission activities, the DDC instructed BDOs to impose fine on shopkeepers using polythene and intensify cleanliness and sanitation drives in their respective areas.

The DDC also directed all concerned officials - including Gram Rozgar Sevaks (GRS), Panchayat Secretaries and Technical Assistants - to complete estimation of all works within 10 days and ensure that all ongoing works are physically completed within set deadlines.

Further, the DDC instructed the ACD and BDOs to complete all pending and old works within a week and submit compliance report to the DC office.

He also directed them to complete e-KYC of job card holders by October 31 and finalize the labour budget under MGNREGA at the earliest.

The Executive Engineer (REW) was asked to expedite the tendering and allotment process to start the works before the onset of winter and snowfall.

In addition, the DDC directed Tehsildars and BDOs to verify defaulter PMAY beneficiaries and caution them against further delay in construction of the houses.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
RAJOURI: As part of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations of the historic Battle of OP Hill, the Indian Army's Balnoi Battalion under the Krishna Ghati Brigade organized a Talent Hunt Competition for school students from six border schools, Higher Secondary School Achhad, Salani, Balnoi, Ghani, Sagra and Mankote.

The event was conducted in honour of the valour and supreme sacrifice of the brave heroes of the Battle of OP Hill, whose courage and dedication continue to inspire generations and remain a proud chapter in India's military history.

The competition provided a vibrant platform for young students to showcase their artistic and cultural talents, fostering creativity, confidence and community spirit among the youth of the border areas. The event featured three major categories: Singing, Dancing and Painting and witnessed enthusiastic participation from over 150 students.



The performances reflected the rich cultural heritage, energy and immense potential of children living in these remote villages. This initiative forms part of the Indian Army's ongoing efforts to promote holistic development among children and strengthen the civil-military bond through educational and cultural outreach.

By encouraging students to express themselves through art and performance, the Indian Army aims to nurture young talent, instil self-confidence and inspire pride in the nation's

shared heritage.

The competition also served as a heartfelt tribute to the indomitable spirit and sacrifice of the soldiers who fought valiantly in the Battle of OP Hill, reminding participants and attendees of the enduring legacy of courage, determination and patriotism displayed by the Indian Army in defending the nation's borders. Winners in each category were felicitated by the Indian Army in recognition of their outstanding performances.

The event received overwhelming appreciation from

school authorities, parents and the local community, who expressed heartfelt gratitude to the Indian Army for providing such a meaningful and inspiring opportunity to the children of border villages.

Through such initiatives, the Indian Army continues to honour the memory of its war heroes, inspire the younger generation and reaffirm its unwavering commitment to peace, unity and the holistic development of communities residing in remote border areas along the Line of Control.

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