

Mission Director Jal Jeevan Mission inspects development works

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: Mission Director, Jal Jeevan Mission, Dr. Syed Abid Rasheed Shah on Monday conducted an extensive visit of Samba and inspected various development works being executed in the district under Jal Jeevan Mission.

Chief Engineer, Jal Shakti Jammu, Munish Bhat, Superintendent Engineer, Jal Shakti, Sumit Puri besides members of Pani Samiti including Sarpanchs and locals were also present on the occasion.

Dr. Abid Rasheed inspected Water Supply Scheme Ramloo at Ramgarh and Rampura of Tehsil Ramgarh and Vijaypur respectively.

Chief Engineer informed that WSS Ramgarh is being constructed at a cost of Rs.



Mission Director, Jal Jeevan Mission, Dr. Syed Abid Rasheed Shah during visit to Samba.

474.60 lakh which will benefit habitants of 5 adjoining villages.

Giving details about the WWS Rampura in Vijaypur tehsil, it was informed that the project is being constructed at an cost of Rs. 439.23 lakh and will benefit people of Gudwal and Rampura villages.

Mission Director asked the executing agencies to expedite the construction works for speedy completion. He also interacted with the Pani Samiti members during the visit, who expressed gratitude towards early disposal of their genuine demands of piped water connections in each household.

Govt GLDM Degree College Hiranagar takes out rally on climate change



Faculty along with students taking out rally at Hiranagar.

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HIRANAGAR: Prof. Sujat Khan Co-ordinator IQAC Govt. GLDM Degree College, Hiranagar on Monday flagged off the rally on climate change under the Aegis of "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav" @ 75.

The Rally started from the college to Hiranagar Morh

and culminated back in the College Campus. In this rally a large number of NSS Volunteers and NCC cadets participated actively. The Rally escorted by Prof. Rakesh Sharma NSS Programme officer, Dr. Sukhdeep Singh Sasan NCC ANO, Prof. Ajay Kumar Sharma, HOD

Physics and Dr. Arun Kumar, HOD Sociology. The main motto of the rally was to convey the message in general public about the adverse effects of climate change which is the most burning issue now days. The participants of the rally carried play cards displaying different messages regarding the prevention of climate change.

In the conclusion of the rally in his address Prof. Suresh Kumar Sharma, Principal of the College congratulated and motivated the NSS Volunteers and NCC cadets for their active participation in such activities. He also applauded the efforts of Prof. Rakesh Sharma, NSS Programme officer and his NSS team.

Mission Youth: DC Samba for encouraging rural youth for self-employment ventures



DC Samba, Anuradha Gupta chairing DLTF Committee meeting.

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SAMBA: A meeting of the District Level Task Force (DLTF) Committee constituted to steer and implement schemes of the Mission Youth initiative of the Government at district level was held here under the Chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner, Samba, Anuradha Gupta.

During the meeting, Officer on Special Duty to Mission Youth, Gourav Gupta gave a detailed presentation about the objectives envisioned under Mission Youth and relevance with respect to socio-economic development of the district. He stated that Mission Youth is an Apex body of the government for youth engagement and outreach in J&K with its core agenda being positive engagement of youth for overall well being of society and to make them stakeholders in the development of the Union Territory. He sensitized all the officers present about the wide range of initiatives under the Mission Youth including promotion of self employment through schemes like Munkin, Tejaswani, Tourist Village Network, Skill Development, SAHYTA, AVSAR, PARVAZ, promotion of Youth Clubs, Holding Talent Hunts, Mega Sports events for giving positive direction to youth energy besides special initiatives for de-addiction, self employment of specially abled youth, Scholarship schemes like LG Super-75 (Boys and Girls), Sustainable Initiatives like Green

Youth Alliance. He also spoke in detail about the procedure for availing the various benefits under the schemes as well as how Mission Youth aims to be a one-stop solution for fulfillment of aspiration of youth in J&K.

Later, the DC took a detailed review of the progress under various schemes of Mission Youth and gave directions for fast-tracking the process of grant of benefit under the various schemes of the Mission Youth. She stressed that around 33% of the total population of the district falls under the age group of 18-35 years which emphasises the level of responsibility with which each department should assist the youth in the district. She gave directions to all the concerned line departments to put in sincere efforts to facilitate the youth in availing benefits under the Mission Youth. She stated that it is the need of the hour that youth energy is channelized and directed for socio-economic development of the district.

The DC issued strict directions and set deadlines for the Rural Development Department and Employment Department regarding self-employment of 5 youth in each Panchayat and 10 youth in Panchayats along the Border as per the directions of Lieutenant Governor. She asked the twin departments to start the identification of youth and ensure that the cases are approved at district level in the time bound manner.

of Vice Chancellor of SKUAST-Jammu, Prof. JP Sharma and Director Extension, Prof. SK Gupta.

Dr. Banarsi Lal, Scientist & Head of KVK, Reasi briefed the objectives of the workshop. While elaborating the monthly message he said that the new interventions should be communicated to the farmers to generate more income and employment. He discussed various field related issues and stressed on the timely and efficient management of different diseases and insect-pests in different diseases. He emphasised on the organic farming and said that there is need to commercialise the organic agriculture so that the income of the farmers of the area can be enhanced.

Dr. Ravinder Singh Soodan, Sr.Scientist, PBG, SKUAST-J discussed on the recom-

mended varieties of different crops. He also spoke on the scientific agriculture for the better returns. He urged the participants to take the consultations from the experts of SKUAST-J before the further dissemination of technologies to the farmers.

Dr. Vikas Sharma, Prof. & Head, Div. of Soil Science spoke in detail on soil health management practices and highlighted the importance of organic farming in present era. He also discussed on the organic cultivation of garlic. He stressed on the ecofriendly practices so as to produce the safe and healthy food. He added that organic farming can reduce the cost of cultivation and can play a significant role in enhancing the income and employment among the farmers. Dr. SK Singh, Assoc. Prof., SKUAST-J highlighted the formulation and use of

Poonch Admn targets to develop 5 villages under Tourist Village Network Scheme

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POONCH: District Administration Poonch has identified 5 villages to develop under Tourist Village Network Scheme, besides many other avenues earmarked under Mission Youth to engage the rural youth in gainful activities.

The information was given in a meeting of the District Level Task Force Committee for implementation of Mission Youth Initiatives held on Monday with Additional District Development Commissioner Abdul Sattar in the chair.

The meeting reviewed implementation of various livelihood related initiatives of Mission Youth and also finalised road map for providing self employment to the unemployed youth in the district.

Officer on Special Duty Mission Youth and incharge for district Poonch, Dr. Abdul Khahir gave a detailed resume of various livelihood, skill, career & psycho-social counselling, recreation and social engagement related initiatives of Mission Youth. He apprised the DLTF about eligibility criteria,



ADDC Abdul Sattar chairing a meeting at Poonch.

selection process, funding pattern etc under each scheme.

During the meeting it was informed that a wide range of activities comes under the ambit of Mission Youth including promotion of self-employment through schemes like Tejaswini, MUMKIN, AVSAR, Rise Together, SAHYTA, development of Tourist Village network etc.

Threadbare discussion was held regarding identification of unemployed rural youth to provide them self employment opportunities offered in their field of interest. It was informed in the meeting that a database of the youth has been prepared and now the mapping process is going

on where Youth are being mapped to the particular sector as per their chosen field of interest.

Nodal Officer Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneur Development Institute Poonch informed that the institution has formulated 81 DPRs under Tejaswani scheme and formulation of another bunch of 51 is in process.

Giving details about the Tourist Village network scheme, the Chief Executive Officer Poonch Development Authority (PDA) informed that 5 villages Mandhar, Nangali, Behramgala, Sakhimaidan and Chhajla Rampur- identified for development to attract Tourists.

The Detailed Project

Reports for these villages have also been framed for providing amenities to the tourists. The meeting decided to promote the Paying Guest mode for Tourists in these villages to benefit the Tribal population.

The District Youth Services and Sports Officer informed that a proposal for holding a mega sports event under LG rolling trophy has been submitted and the same would be held as per scheduled calendar.

The Officer on Special Duty, Mission Youth informed that Youth outreach programmes are being conducted at subdivision level and a calendar for the month of December would be issued soon.

It was also informed in the meeting that modernisation of class rooms under recently launched Smart School projects in Tribal areas has been taken up and necessary infrastructure is being revamped.

Under Tribal sector activities, the development of Cluster Tribal Model Villages, Mini Sheep farm, Modernisation of Hostels, Establishment of Milk

Villages, Sheep extension centres, Tribal transit accommodation were reviewed.

The ADDC asked the concerned departments to start the identification process for providing self employment to 5 youth in each Panchayat in the district as per the instructions of LG and link them under relevant livelihood initiatives of Mission Youth.

He also directed the concerned officers to generate mass awareness about the schemes being implemented by their Departments under Mission Youth so that the public can avail the benefits of the same.

The meeting was attended by CEO Tourism, Dr. Mohd. Tanveer; AD Employment Abid Hussain Shah; DSWO Shakeel Ahmed Malik; AD Planning Iftar Khan; CEO Abdul Majid; Superintendent ITI, Principal Polytechnic Poonch, District Nodal Officer EDI, Chief Animal Husbandry Officer, District Sheep Husbandry Officer, Warden G&B Hostel Poonch.

GDC Nowshera observes NCC Day

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NOWSHERA: NCC Unit of Government Degree College Nowshera observed NCC Day 2021 by organised series of programme under "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav" initiative.

Dr. Akhil Khajuria, Care taker Officer, GDC Nowshera presented the significance of the day highlighting the motto of NCC - Unity and Discipline in the lives of cadets and the students. Further a PowerPoint presentation presented by Dr. Akhil Khajuria, showcasing the activities conducted by the NCC cadets during the past two years. The NCC cadets marched along with the chief guest (Principal of the College) as the ceremony commenced. Series of Lectures, Patriotic songs and Poems was presented by the cadets and the staff members. The event started with welcome address by Dr.

Surinder Kumar, principal of the college. He said that the aim of organizing this event to celebrate NCC day 2021 and is to aware the students and the faculty about the values of NCC, Elucidating the importance and need of discipline in one's life, Dr. Surinder Kumar, (Principal) urged all the students to imbibe the values of unity and discipline and encouraged them to join the Indian army and thereby serve the Nation. A felicitation ceremony was also organized where the NCC cadets who participated in different ATC and Trekking competition organized by NCC and certificate were honored by chief Guest Dr. Surinder Kumar (Principal) along with other faculty members. Prof. Joginder Singh also motivated the cadets delivered the vote of thanks. The event concluded with the NCC song 'Hum Sabh Bharatiy He'.

DDC Chairperson Ramban inaugurates Dalwah-Gool link road

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RAMBAN: Chairperson District Development Council (DDC) Ramban, Dr. Shamshad Shan on Monday visited Dalwah area of Sub-division Gool and inaugurated newly constructed Dalwah to Gool link road via Maglogi, Sherkundi, Duttar and Hill. Speaking on the occasion, the DDC Chairperson said that the road project will provide smooth transport connectivity to the area benefiting a huge number of people. She said that the government is committed to fulfill the genuine demands of the people and the PRIs should bring public demands and issues in the notice of administration for their timely redressal. Interacting with the locals, Dr. Shan impressed upon them to chalk out and formulate developmental and welfare plans. She said the government has empowered the PRIs by involving them in development and other activities at grassroots level.

■ SHAKEELA ANDRABI SRINAGAR: The new variant of COVID-19 Omicron has once again put entire world in a situation of confusion and distress. Where Israel and other European countries have banned flights to all African countries, India is deliberating with experts regarding reopening of international flights, which was early scheduled to begin from December 15. Despite a warning issued by WHO about next deadly wave of virus, people are still violating COVID-19 protocols especially in the summer capital of UT.

According to Dr Randeep Gularia, Director AIIMS New Delhi, that Omicron has been reported to have at least 32 mutations and 2,000 cases have been confirmed spread over a number of

countries."There are reports that someone got infected just by passing near an infected individual, adding that high transmission chances could make this variant 'deadlier than Delta'. Even if the virus does not cause severe disease but if it spreads and infects a higher number of people, we will eventually have more hospitalisations and deaths," he warned.

Several other health experts said that people need to strictly follow COVID-19 appropriate behavior and wear masks. While drawing attention to the number of deaths among unvaccinated people in Kashmir, experts added that it was unfortunate that Kashmir still has people who are still not vaccinated. Experts fear that violations of COVID SoPs may hasten the predicted third wave

of virus as an increase in COVID-19 positive cases have been witnessed during past few weeks. Though police and other agencies have been imposing fines on violators from time to time, the violations are increasing with every passing day.

District Administration Srinagar has also asked people to adhere to safety guidelines, with Deputy Commissioner Srinagar Aijaz Assad saying, 'violation of COVID-19 safety guidelines would be an invitation to third wave'.

After a recent decline, Srinagar district has witnessed the highest number of positive COVID-19 cases among other districts in recent past weeks. Doctors have expressed concern over high number of casualties due to COVID-19, especially among unvaccinated in Kashmir. Three people, all unvaccinated, lost battle

with SARS-CoV2 at Chest Diseases Hospital.

Recently, J&K government released an analysis of casualties due to COVID-19 in Kashmir division. As per the data pertaining to approximately three months period, those who had not taken COVID19 vaccine were at least five times more at risk of dying than those who had taken both the doses of vaccine.

On 19 November, this year Government reviewed preventive efforts of the District Administrations against surge in COVID cases. District Administrations were directed to adopt systematic and innovative means for effective clinical management measures in a planned manner. People must adhere to COVID-19 protocols in letter and spirit to avoid imposition of lockdown.

RDD Director reviews performance of department in Kathua District

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KATHUA: Director, Rural Development Jammu Mohammad Muntaz Ali on Monday chaired a meeting of officers of Rural Development to review the functioning of the Department including implementation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes in Kathua district.

At the outset, Assistant Commissioner Kathua Sohan Lal gave a presentation about the achievements under the flagship schemes like MGNREGA, PMAY, 14th FC, & others. The Director stressed on time bound payments under MGNREGA while laying stress on providing 100 day

employment to the registered job card holders. He directed BDOs to check the status of PMAY beneficiaries and issue notice to the defaulters. The officers were asked to be punctual and adhere to the time line fixed for payment of wages, completion of works, geo tagging, preparation of bills, Aadhaar seeding, completion of PMAY (G) houses within stipulated timeline fixed by the Administrative Department.

The Director asked the BDOs to formulate Self Help Groups in Basohli, Bani, Barnoti and Lohai Malhar under MGNREGA. He also called upon the field functionaries to for-

mulate a District Bamboo plan within a week.

Issues like pending liability under MGNREGA, lowering of rejected transaction, reconciliation and expenditure etc was also discussed at length during the meeting. He enjoined upon all the officers to work with a missionary zeal and deliver the benefits of the schemes at the grassroots level by involving the PRIs in various development related issues.

The meeting was attended by Superintendent Engineer, Jammu, District Panchayat Officer, XEN REW and all Block Development Officers of Kathua district.

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