

# Prashant Goyal holds Public Darbar; listens to grievances

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
KISHTWAR: The Principal Secretary Housing & Urban Development Department Prashant Goyal on Tuesday visited Kishtwar and presided over a Public Darbar here at Conference Hall DC Office Complex Kishtwar to take stock of public grievances and development activities in the district.

Deputy Commissioner, Kishtwar Dr Devansh Yadav; SSP Kishtwar Khalil Ahmed Pswal; ADDC Sham Lal; ADC Inderjeet Singh Parihar; JD-Planning Mohd Iqbal, ACR Kishtwar Varunjeet Singh Charak and other district officers remained present on the occasion.

President Municipal Council Sajjad Najjar , BDCs, DDCs, PRIs besides social activists and locals also attended the Public Darbar.

During the event, an open discussion was held wherein PRIs & general public presented their demands and grievances for speedy disposal.

The Public Darbar witnessed overwhelming response from the public during which people apprised the Principal Secretary about their developmental issues and demands by seeking his intervention in redressing the same.

A delegation of Municipal councilors raised concerns regarding staffing shortages within the Municipality, inadequate drainage systems, inefficient Solid Waste Management, the Municipal Committee's income, the prompt construction of the Slaughter House in town, and the necessity to widen the road from Malipeth to the DC Office in Kishtwar.

DDC member Palmar highlighted grievances related to roads in Palmar and Dool areas and presented various demands on behalf of the people in the DDC Palmar constituency.

DDC Bounjwah emphasized the need for upgrading PHC Nali Bounjwah and dedicated Ambulance to Bounjwah, addressing staff shortages in schools, upgrading to Higher Secondary level at Patnazi, installing Bank ATMs, and other demands.

DDC member Drabshalla A focused on road issues and called for initiatives to promote Bimal Nag as a tourist attraction.

A delegation of prominent personalities urged the acceleration of the Rattan Nag Multipurpose Project and advocated for constructing Asrariya House/Inn for patients and attendants from



Principal Secretary HUDD Prashant Goyal chairing a meeting at Kishtwar.

Kishtwar in Doda.

DDC Drabshalla B highlighted concerns regarding roads, compensation for structures, and the implementation of e-KYC.

Sarpanch Thakrie demanded road development in Thakrie and emphasized the expedited implementation of the Water Supply Scheme under JJM.

Sarpanch Sigdi B advocated for establishing a higher secondary school and enhancing healthcare infrastructure in the panchayat.

A delegation led by BDC Kishtwar highlighted concerns about water supply, filter plants, and the maintenance of the Hatta road.

The Delegation of Beopar Mandal and Transport Union also expressed their concerns, issues, and demands.

Meanwhile, DC Kishtwar apprised the chair about the progress in the resolution of these issues besides threw light on some hindrances impeding the pace of developmental projects including road, water, drainage etc in the district & in the Town.

While taking cognizance of

the grievances raised by the general public, the Principal Secretary said that all grievances will be taken up with the concerned quarters for timely and early action.

Principal Secretary issued on spot directions to the concerned officers to look into all the issues projected by the delegations and the individuals and initiate action for early redressal of the same.

The Principal Secretary gave directions to the concerned officers to personally visit the places and find solutions to the problems for the benefit of public good.

He also directed the concerned HoDs to popularise the initiatives and schemes of the government so that more and more people get benefitted.

Speaking on the occasion, the Principal Secretary emphasized prioritizing feasible projects to ensure their timely and unhindered completion. He instructed the PWD authorities to expedite road construction and take strict measures against contractors who cause delays.

Additionally, he highlighted the importance of implement-

ing appropriate student-teacher ratios in schools and conducting regular teacher evaluations to improve educational efficiency.

Moreover, he assured prompt resolution of ambulance-related issues by engaging with the relevant authorities.

Addressing on the occasion, Prashant Goyal stressed on public service delivery with accountability and transparency in a time bound manner while asking officers and PRIs to contribute towards society's growth and development.

He said that main aim of conducting Public Darbar is to have a convergent bridge between the administration and the people. The theme of Public Darbar is administration at door step, he added.

The delegations expressed satisfaction over the outreach programme and said this provides them an opportunity to voice their grievances and for the government to expedite the resolution through the appropriate channels.

Speaking on the occasion, Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar said that the district administration is committed towards ensuring completion of developmental projects of the area in a time bound manner. He said all the directions and suggestions have been duly recorded and will be adhered to.

# Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra commences in Kishtwar



Participants taking Sankalp (pledge) in line with the vision of Viksit Bharat.

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
KISHTWAR: The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY) commenced in various Panchayats of block Dachhan, Marwah and Bounjwah of district Kishtwar on Tuesday under the overall supervision and guidance of Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar Dr. Devansh Yadav.

During the ongoing VBSY, the locals in these Panchayats received information and education about various government schemes and initiatives besides engaging and immersing in scheduled activities including pledge taking and Health camps with much enthusiasm and fervor.

The 5 panchayats where the Yatra commenced included Panchayat Chinger and Nowapachie-A of Block Marwah, Panchayat Patnazi-B of Block Bounjwah, Panchayat Soundar -A and Sondar B of Block Dachhan.

The Yatra has been rolled out with the intention to reach out to the unreached population and making the general masses aware of the multitude of government schemes, including the Jal Jeevan Mission, Ayushman Bharat

Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana, Jan Dhan Yojana, PM Awas Yojana, PM PRANAM Yojana and Urea Subsidy Scheme and the process to avail benefits.

An overwhelming response was witnessed from the locals who gathered at the event and enthusiastically listened to the officers and field functionaries of concerned departments regarding the campaign.

The main objective of Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra is to cover the unreached under the Government welfare schemes to achieve saturation.

Furthermore, the campaign seeks to raise awareness through various outreach activities covering all Panchayats of the District in order to benefit citizens from the Government schemes.

At all Panchayat the Block level Officers along with field functionaries attended the event. During the event, attendees took the Sankalp (pledge) in line with the vision of Viksit Bharat, aiming to foster India's development.

In the "Meri Kahani Meri Zubani" activity, successful

beneficiaries of various schemes shared their experiences at the event.

Officials and nodal officers organized a session on continuous agricultural activities, interacting with progressive farmers to discuss Natural Farming & Soil Health Cards.

Cultural performances, including "Dharti Kahe Pukar Ke", Swachata songs, etc., were conducted by women SHG Members, school students, and local artists at the venue.

Additionally, there were on-spot quizzes, felicitations, and rewards for women achievers, local sportspersons, celebrating achievements such as GP-100% digitization of land records, ODF+ status, and the successful saturation of the Jal Jeevan Mission.

Simultaneously, across all Panchayats, on-spot services such as health camps (TB Screening, Sickle Cell Anemia Screening in Tribal Areas), new enrollments and biometric authentication for PM Ujjwala, and MY BHARAT volunteer enrollments were conducted, witnessing significant participation from the public.

# GDC Vijaypur organises Voter Awareness Programme



Resource person speaking at a programme.

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SAMBHA: Department of Political Science, Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) and NSS Unit (KHIDMAT) of Government Degree College Vijaypur, in collaboration with District Election Office, on Tuesday organized Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation Program (SVEEP 2023) to create educate the young college students/citizens about the

importance of their participation in the elections.

The program was organized in collaboration with the Election Commission of India (ECI) and included several informative sessions and interactive activities to engage with the participants. The program was attended by faculty members, college students and NSS Volunteers. A team from District Election Office Sambha comprising Kameshwar Dubey (BLO

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
REASI: Provident Fund Commissioner, Rizwan Uddin on Tuesday presided over an Awareness and Outreach programme under "Nidhi Aapke Nikat 2.0" here in DC Office Reasi.

The Regional Provident Fund Commissioner explained the importance of social security in today's scenario. He highlighted the key features of the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 and the Employees' Deposit Linked Insurance Scheme, 1976. These two prominent social security schemes are being extended to workers in J&K and Ladakh from November, 2019. He also discussed the features of these schemes in detail.

The workshop lasted for more than one hour, where P. F. Commissioner Rizwan Uddin along with DNO Sanjeev Kumar heard the issues being faced by the establishments and employees. A hand holding and inter-



PF Commissioner, Rizwan Uddin with others at Outreach programme in Reasi.

active session continued for another hour in which various stakeholders went live and learnt how to deal with the problems faced by them and Issues and problems by the organizations in implementing the EPF & MP Act. 1952 were heard and advised to take necessary actions accordingly. Enrollment of the members, UAN Activation, Bank & Aadhaar Seeding, online claim filing, filing of e-nominations, e-sign, filing ECR were covered in the program. In the inaugural session Commissioner Rizwan expected that a significant number of employees are yet

to be enrolled under P F and Pension Fund, citing an example of recent accidents that had happened in UT of J&K, where employees/employers had remitted only one month's contribution. Employees untimely posed an eventuality before the family, however due eligibility of Pension dependents of deceased employees are drawing rupees four thousand five hundred per month as pension along with entitled amount of Employees' Deposit Linked Insurance, Scheme, 1976. Employers acknowledged this fact and appreciated the efforts made

by the P F Commissioner and team of EPFO. One employer was of the view earlier they have not been apprised about the benefits in this manner before. They came forward to enhance membership.

PF Commissioner thanked Deputy Commissioner Vishesh Mahajan for elaborate arrangements and facilitating successful organization of the event "Nidhi Apke Nikat 2.0" at Reasi. Among other dignitaries present in the Programme included Assistant Labour Commissioner Reasi Mrs. Reenu Bala.

Services and benefits of

"Social Security"-Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 and enhanced quantum (up to Rupees Seven Lakhs) of Employees' Deposit Linked Insurance Schemes, 1976 are being rendered to employees of Union territory of Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh with effect from November 2019 onwards. The features of these schemes were discussed in detail at the Nidhi Aapke Nikat programme.

Nidhi Aapke Nikat 2.0 programme for the month of November, 2023 was held at DC Office Reasi by District Nodal Officer Sanjeev Kumar, EO/AO, at Little Angels Higher Secondary School, Kathua by Devinder Singh, Rangreth Industrial Area, Budgam by Ankur Janghu.

The programme was also held at Moravian Mission School, Karzu, Leh by Pawan Kumar, EO/AO where representatives of establishments and employees were present in the program.

# MVD conducts enforcement drive in Reasi

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
REASI: A Team led by ARTO Reasi Tara Mani, on Tuesday conducted an enforcement drive in the Reasi town. During the drive the team checked 31 vehicles.

During the surprise inspection as many as 8 vehicles were found to be operating in contravention of different provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act and were challaned accordingly.

An amount of Rs. 5400 fine was retrieved from compounded challans and more than twenty five thousand is expected out of challans imposed for different violations as per MV Act.

Beyond the enforcement measures, the drivers were sensitized to the significance of safe driving practices. Emphasis was placed on aspects such as proper seat belt usage, vehicle fitness, the hazards of using mobile phones, adherence to speed limits, and compliance of all traffic laws in its true spirit.

# VBSY launched in Bhalla Block Panchayats

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
DODA: Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY), an ambitious initiative aimed at empowering rural communities and fostering development, was launched on Tuesday at Saura and Khellani Panchayats of Bhalla Block.

The program witnessed the inauguration of a Yatra Rath - a Mobile publicity LED mounted Van by Sangeeta Rani Bhagat, Vice Chairperson DDC in presence of Sarpanch Kashi Nath Chopra.

The inaugural function was conducted under the guidance of local BDO, Mahesh Chander. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation of beneficiaries, farmers, local residents and representatives from different departments.

The Viksit Bharat Sankalp

Yatra aims to uplift rural communities by implementing developmental programs and initiatives, focusing on skill development, agricultural advancements, and infrastructural improvements.

The Vice Chairperson, in her inaugural speech, emphasized the significance of such initiatives in driving holistic growth in rural areas. She highlighted the importance of community participation and cooperation for the success of the developmental endeavors.

Kashi Nath Chopra, Sarpanch, extended his gratitude to all the participants and emphasized the commitment of the community towards embracing positive changes for a progressive future.

Sanjay Saraf, a political leader, stressed the importance of collaborative efforts

between government bodies, local authorities, and citizens for the effective implementation of development schemes.

The function witnessed an active involvement of beneficiaries, farmers, and local populace, showcasing their keen interest and support for the initiatives planned under the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra.

Various departments under the guidance of District Administration Doda, were actively engaged in the launch, indicating a collaborative effort towards the holistic development of the region.

The event concluded with a Pledge "Humara sankalp Viksit Bharat" with a commitment to continuous efforts and collaboration to ensure the successful implementation of developmental programs for the upliftment of rural communities in the region.

# UT admin committed to time bound redressal of public concerns: Pr Secy PDD

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
DODA: "The Jammu and Kashmir government is committed towards time bound redressal of public issues and concerns at their doorsteps. We strive to hear the unheard, deprived and unprivileged people ensuring equitable development of every part of the region", stated Principal Secretary Power Development Department, H Rajesh Prasad, during an extensive public outreach programme held at DC office complex here on Tuesday.

Principal Secretary, who is also designated Administrative Secretary for Doda, was accompanied by District Development Council Chairman, Dhananther Singh Kotwal,

Deputy Commissioner, Harvinder Singh and other district officers during the event.

During the day long public interaction, various individual and community grievances were raised.

Principal Secretary, while responding to issues projected by the public, assured that their concerns would be taken up with concerned for an early redressal.

The issues raised in the programme included monkey menace in Doda town, stray animals in the market, early completion of Government Degree College Kastigarh, upgradation of GHS Hanah and other schools, pending land compensation acquired for various developmental projects, repairing of lift in

GMC, appointment of required doctors and faculty in peoples, establishment of new receiving stations, replacement of wooden poles, reducing electricity curtailment, rationalisation of teachers, posting of adequate healthcare staff in the health institutions in rural Doda, augmentation and improvement of road infrastructure, RTC busses for internal roads, establishment of Trauma Hospital at Assar, early completion of JJM and other developmental works, disbursement of payments to the contractors pending due to technical issue in the designated portal, construction of new Sports Stadium including early establishment of Beerbagh stadium and other such issues.

Various individuals and deputations who met with the visiting officer included, BDC Chairpersons, DDC Councilors, Chenab Citizens Forum, Hoteliers Association Doda, Contractors Association, MC Councilors, other prominent citizens and individuals.

Principal Secretary, later, distributed sanction letters of LPG connections among the beneficiaries under Ujjawala Scheme.

H. Rajesh Prasad advocated for collective responsibility of every citizen in attaining Swachhta in our cities, towns and villages. He emphasized on using the electricity judiciously and paying the tariffs timely so that uninterrupted power supply is provided at affordable cost to the public.

# Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra reaches Rural Reasi

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
REASI: The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra camps were on Tuesday held across numerous Panchayats of Reasi Viz Bhagga, Aghar Jitto, Channa-B, Hunder, Allya & Garan Panchayat attracting massive public participation.

Aimed at empowering rural communities by ensuring the effective implementation of key government initiatives, the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra Van traversed through these panchayats fostering community engagement and disseminating awareness regarding myriads of Govt schemes and initiatives and to serve the underserved areas.

The yatra was warmly welcomed and received by PRIs, Senior Citizens, Officials and local residents and were engaged with Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) setups. They listened attentively to a recorded video message from the Prime Minister, emphasizing the significance of the campaign. Participants took the Viksit Sankalp Bharat pledge, affirming their commitment to holistic national development.

Under the banner of Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, students showcased their artistic talents through mesmerizing cultural performances. Dance and music reflected



DDC Vishesh Mahajan visiting a stall.

the diversity and richness of the cultural heritage, fostering a sense of unity and celebration among the spectators.

Simultaneously, the sports events added an adrenaline-fueled dimension to the Yatra. Athletes demonstrated their skills and sportsmanship, turning the Yatra into a dynamic arena of

friendly competition and athleticism. The cheers and applause from the audience echoed the success of these sporting endeavors.

A significant highlight of the event was the "Meri Kahani, Meri Zubani", on spot quiz, cultural performance "Dharti Kahe Pukar Ke" Swachata Song by women SHG members and

school students, session of Satat Krishi Activities- Drone Demonstration, interaction with progressive Farmers on Natural Farming and soil health cards, where beneficiaries of various schemes shared their firsthand experiences.

DDC Vishesh Mahajan, recognizing the crucial role of women in agriculture, pledged concrete support to facilitate the sale of their produce. He emphasized that these schemes not only provide comprehensive support but also aim to bridge the gap between citizens and government initiatives, ensuring maximum outreach and participation in developmental endeavors.

He said the primary goal of Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra is to transcend boundaries and reach those areas that are often underserved or have limited access to these schemes. "Our aim is to serve all individuals in these unserved and far off areas of the district with an understanding of myriads of schemes provided by both Government of India and JK UT Govt" he added.

The yatra highlighted flagship schemes such as the Jal Jeevan Mission, Ayushman Bharat Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana, Jan Dhan Yojana, PM Awas Yojana, PM PRANAM Yojana, and

the Urea Subsidy Scheme. The initiative sought to bring these transformative schemes closer to the community, fostering a spirit of development and progress.

Beneficiaries shared success stories, showcasing the transformative impact of various developmental schemes/initiatives.

VBSY event provided a platform for beneficiaries to inspire others to actively participate in schemes tailored for their betterment. Notable attendees included ADC Abdul Star, ACD Anirudh Rai, Chief Horticulture and Agriculture Officer, BDOs, Tehsildar, PRI Members, among others.

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