

## Modi Govt committed to fulfill aspirations of people living in remote & far-flung areas: Col Mahan

### STATE TIMES NEWS

**KATHUA:** Marking a significant milestone in infrastructure development, Col Mahan Singh (Retd), Chairman District Development Council (DDC) Kathua, along with MLA Basohli Thakur Darshan Singh, inaugurated three major road projects in Nagrota Pretha and Passi areas of Basohli Sub-District under the PWD Division Basohli. These projects, aimed at improving connectivity in densely populated regions, included the 2-km Nagrota to Kharmiat road, constructed under the District Capex Plan at a cost of Rs 50 lakhs, the 1.2-km Khaloo-Plassi road under the State Sector Plan costing Rs 2.5 crores, and the blacktopping of the Wadi-Plassi and Nagrota-Khudku sections of the Nagrota-Plassi road, executed



Mahan Singh (Retd), Chairman DDC Kathua, along with MLA Basohli Thakur Darshan Singh inaugurating road projects in Nagrota.

ed under the C&T Road Plan at an estimated cost of Rs 80 lakhs.

Addressing the gathering, Col Mahan Singh expressed his gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh, and the J&K UT Government for their unwavering support and provision of funds to fulfill the aspirations of people living in remote and far-flung areas.

PMGSY, emphasizing the transformative impact of these initiatives. He thanked the residents for their overwhelming support during the Lok Sabha and UT Assembly elections, where the BJP achieved record-breaking victories.

Col Mahan Singh also stressed the importance of quality workmanship and timely completion of projects, asserting that the ongoing development under the current leadership is unparalleled in India's history.

Prominent among those who were present included Er Bharat Gupta, Executive Engineer of PWD Division Basohli, along with his staff and local leaders such as Capt Des Raj, Kishori Lal, Balvinder Singh, Som Parkash, PC Sharma, Bhagat Ram, and Naresh Basotra.

## Rana conducts extensive tour of far off areas of Rajouri

### STATE TIMES NEWS

**RAJOURI:** Minister for Jal Shakti, Forests and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana, today held a series of public darbars at Allal, Darhali Morh and Dak Bungalow Kotranka during his extensive tour of various far off areas of Rajouri.

The Minister also paid obeisance at the revered Shahadara Sharif Shrine, interacted with devotees and enquired about facilities being provided to them there.

During the public interaction at Allal village, Javed Rana directed the Irrigation Department to explore the feasibility of a lift irrigation scheme for the villages adjoining Allal. He announced that a water supply scheme for Thanamandi town has been approved under the AMRUT scheme, a significant step towards enhancing water availability in the region.

At Darhali Morh, the



Minister for Jal Shakti, Forests and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana during visit to Rajouri.

Minister directed the Forest Department to prepare a Detailed Project Report (DPR) for establishment of an Eco Park at shrine Sain Qader Baksh. This initiative aims to promote environmental conservation while boosting pilgrimage tourism.

In a grand public gathering at Kotranka Dak Bungalow, the Minister was apprised of various issues and concerns of the area by MLA Budhal, Javed Iqbal Choudhary, DDC member, Shazia Choudhary and other prominent personalities.

The Minister assured that all grievances and demands would be addressed on priority.

He emphasised the government's commitment towards addressing unemployment, resolving developmental issues and regularising daily wagers.

Javed Rana also highlighted the need for effective implementation of the Forest Rights Act in Jammu & Kashmir, assuring the public that no harassment would be

tolerated. He added that approvals for road construction projects would be prioritized.

The Minister issued several directives including preparation of a revised DPR for an irrigation scheme by the Irrigation Department, expeditious completion of ongoing schemes under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) and ensuring coverage of left-out areas by the Jal Shakti Department.

MLA Budhal, Javed Iqbal urged upon the Minister to resolve key issues, including land compensation and regularisation of daily wagers.

The event witnessed active participation from locals, who expressed their gratitude for government's developmental initiatives and raised their concerns.

The Minister directed all the officers to redress public grievances on priority, reiterating government's resolve to ensure equitable development across the Pir Panjal region.

## 187 Bn CRPF organises free medical camp



Commandant Md. Sazid inaugurating camp.

### STATE TIMES NEWS

**UDHAMPUR:** 187 Bn of CRPF organised free medical camp under civic action program under supervision of Md. Sazid, Commandant of Bn at village-Punara in Udhampur.

According to reports in camp nearly 350 patients of all age group including women hailing from Khaned, Raichek, Kadua, Sang Punara and nearby villages participated in camp to took benefit of medical camp. In camp free medicine were provided to the patients. Team of Doctors and paramedical staff owd by Dr. Manish Rundla, Medical officer of 137 Bn, CRPF, and Dr. Yashir Shekh BMO Basantgarh attended the patients. During this occasion Ranjit Kumar 2-I/C,

Satish Kumar, A/C, Nitheesh N. A/C 187 Bn, CRPF and Shamshad Akhter Sarpanch Khaned, Purushottam, Paneh Punara, Dev Raj Nayab Sarpanch Lodra, Mustaq Ali. Md. Sazid, Commandant while addressing the villagers present in the medical camp, stated that C.R.P.F. 187 Bn always there to help local populace and high lighted about various social out reach programmes for welfare and develop the connect with villagers. Further emphasized on CRPF performing operational duties in the all part of the Nation and constantly doing works/programs related to development in social and human aspects of rural people so that they become good citizen and contribute to progress of the Nation.

## DC Kathua inaugurates maiden Millet Restaurant under HADP

### STATE TIMES NEWS

**KATHUA:** Deputy Commissioner Kathua, Dr. Rakesh Minhas on Wednesday inaugurated a Millet Restaurant in Pathwal, Kathua marking a significant milestone in the district's efforts to promote holistic agriculture development.

The Krishna Millet restaurant, run by a Women Self-Help Group (SHG), caters to all age groups, providing a unique opportunity for them to experience the nutritional benefits of millets.

The initiative is part of the Holistic Agriculture Development Program (HADP) 2024-25, aiming to encourage the consumption of nutri-cereal millets, such as Ragi and Jowar, which offer numerous health benefits. It also aligns with the United Nations General Assembly's declaration of 2023 as the "International Year of Millet-2023".

Dr. Minhas congratulated the SHG members on their initiative and urged others to extend support for the promotion of millets.



DC Kathua, Dr. Rakesh Minhas after inaugurating restaurant.

Accompanied by District Officers, including ADC Ranjit Singh, SDM Hiranagar Rakesh Kumar and CPO Kathua Ranjeet Singh Thakur, CAO Kathua Sanjeev Rai, Dr. Minhas emphasized the importance of promoting healthy living through sustainable agriculture practices.

Pertinently, the restaurant's operating hours are from 7:00 AM to 9:30 PM, making it convenient for patrons to visit at their preferred time. This schedule allows customers to enjoy a nutritious breakfast, lunch, or dinner, while supporting local women entrepreneurs

and promoting sustainable agriculture.

The DC highlighted that Millets are good for health and also beneficial for farmers and environment friendly. The Millets are energy dense, drought resistant, with lower water requirements and can be grown with ease in Kandi areas and are less susceptible to pests.

Dr. Minhas further appealed to the public to visit the restaurant and savor the nutritious food, highlighting its benefits for health, environment, and climate. "Millets require less water and are suitable for Kandi Areas, making them an ideal

crop for our region," he added.

Listing different government schemes, the DC urged the farming community to take advantage of subsidies offered by the Agriculture Department for millet cultivation and farm equipment procurement under the Holistic Agriculture Development Program (HADP). He highlighted that two millet processing units are now operational in Kathua, addressing the challenge of processing millets, a hardy crop requiring special handling.

Notably, Kathua has emerged as a leading producer of millets, showcasing the district's potential in promoting this nutritious and climate-resilient crop.

The inauguration ceremony showcased the Kathua administration's commitment to promoting holistic agriculture development, women empowerment and community well-being.

By supporting this initiative, the citizens can contribute to a healthier and more sustainable future.

## Certificate training programme of Master Volunteers identified under Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyan held



Officials during the training programme.

### STATE TIMES NEWS

**REASI:** Social Welfare Department in collaboration with State Level Coordinating Agency, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India, organized a comprehensive day long capacity building program of identified Master Volunteers under Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyan at Conference Hall, Mini Secretariat, Reasi.

The resource person from SLCA, Pallavi Singh, gave a detailed presentation on the role of Master Volunteers in generating awareness, providing basic counselling, identifying and referring drug victims to need based services etc. She also described the ill effects of Drugs abuse.

Topics taken in the training programme were Role of

Master volunteers, Categories of drugs and their ill effects on Central Nervous System and organs and concepts of therapeutic intervention. The program was presided over by the District Social Welfare Officer, Sachin Sharma. This initiative was executed as part of ongoing efforts to mitigate drug abuse across the nation. Addressing the occasion, Sachin Sharma provided insights into the multiple initiatives launched by District Administration Reasi aimed at combating drug related issues.

Members of SLCA, Participants from different Departments and educational institutions were present in the event. The day-long training program concluded with the certificate distribution to all the Master Volunteers.

## Jashn-e-Mehfil organised as part of Poonch Day Celebration 2024



Dignitaries during the event at Poonch.

### STATE TIMES NEWS

**POONCH:** A spectacular and electrifying Musical Soiree, hosted by the Poonch Brigade at Pritam Stadium, Poonch, was nothing short of a monumental triumph, attracting an enthusiastic crowd of over 3,000 attendees. The event featured a dynamic and diverse array of musical

performances, crafting an unforgettable and exhilarating experience that resonated deeply with the local community.

The highlight of the fest was the captivating performances by renowned artists Kabul Bukhari & Team, Amandeep Andotra and the talented ensemble from Saraswati Sangeet

Kala Kendra (SSKK). They were joined by many other exceptional artists, offering a rich variety of music that resonated with the audience. The event began at 12:30 PM, and the stadium was soon buzzing with excitement as families, friends, and music lovers gathered to celebrate. Each performance was met with enthusiastic applause, and the lively atmosphere brought joy and unity to all present. The overwhelming response from the crowd, their energy and their appreciation for the performances highlighted the success of this musical fest.

The festival was not only a celebration of music but also a tribute to the enduring spirit of the people of Poonch.

## SBI installs Grid Solar System in Old Age Home Kathua

### STATE TIMES NEWS

**KATHUA:** Under Corporate Social Responsibility, State Bank of India, College Road Kathua installed a 3 KV OFF Grid Solar System in Old age Home Kathua.



On this Occasion Bank Staff Ankur Sharma (Branch Manager), Jagjit Singh Puri (ATM Manager) Ashwani Kumar (Deputy Manager) and Jyoti Swaroop (Senior Associate) Were Present.

After Installation of this Solar System Approx 22

Residents of the Old age Home will be able to Anjoy 24 Hour Electricity Facility. Khajuria Secretary



Old age Home Gave a Vote of Thanks to the Bank on Behalf of all the Residents.

This is a First Instance of CSR Activity in Kathua and Bank will Continue to Fulfill its Social Responsibility in Future also by Conducting Similar Activities in the Region.

## GDC Vijaypur organises 2-day Yoga - Meditation Camp

### STATE TIMES NEWS

**SAMBA:** Department of Education in collaboration Department of Physical Education and Sports, Government Degree College Vijaypur conducted a 2-day yoga and meditation session for its students and faculty members on 19th and 20th November, 2024.

The camp was aimed to promote the benefits of yoga for physical well-being and meditation for mental well-being among the college community. The sessions included instruction on various yoga postures (asanas), breathing exercises (pranayama) and meditation techniques. The camp was well-received by participants, who appreciated the opportunity to learn and practice yoga under the guidance of experienced instructors. The sessions provided a platform

for students and faculty to relax, de-stress and improve their overall health.

The technical yoga sessions were taken by Dr. Jan Mohd. Wani (PTI) and Prof. Pooja Devi (Lecturer, Department of Sociology) on Day 1 while for day two the technical expert was Prof. Meetu Sharma (HOD Geography). The meditation session was taken up by Prof. Ritu Bhagat (HOD Education) in which she apprised the students that meditation is an approach to training the mind similar to the way that yoga is an approach to training the body.

Principal GDC Vijaypur, Dr. Vandana Verma expressed her gratitude to the organizing committee yoga. She lauded the efforts of the Department of Education and Physical Education and Sports for organizing such a

successful event, highlighting the positive impact it had on the college community. Dr. Verma further emphasized the importance of incorporating such wellness programs regularly and expressed her hope for more similar events in the near future.

Prof. Ritu Bhagat, (HOD Education) expressed heartfelt gratitude to all the participants and guests. She also thanked the staff members and the Principal for unwavering support and encouragement. Refreshment was also distributed at the end of each technical session.

The camp was organized with full support of the senior faculty members namely Prof. Anita Janwal (HOD Political Science), Prof. Mamta Gupta (HOD Commerce) and Dr. Anoop Kumar Bhagat (HOD Sociology).

## DLC approves 61 applications under JKREGP Scheme

### STATE TIMES NEWS

**REASI:** In a significant move to promote employment opportunities among the local youth, a meeting of District Level Task Force Committee (DLTFC) was convened today here under the chairmanship of the District Development Commissioner Vishesh Mahajan.

The meeting, held in the VC hall of the DC Office Complex,

was organised to assess applications under the Jammu & Kashmir Rural Employment Generation Programme (JKREGP), with J&K Khadi and Village Industries Board (KVIB) as the implementing agency. The DC emphasised that the Reasi Administration is taking every possible step to give impetus to employment generation in the District.

After a detailed interview of applicants seeking financial assistance under the JKREGP scheme, 61 out of total 95 applications were forwarded for sponsorship to banks as 34 applicants did not turn up for the meeting.

The DDC stressed the importance of facilitating financial assistance to eligible applicants in a timely manner, allowing them to establish and expand their businesses. Meeting was attended by Narayan Dass, I/C District Officer KVIB Reasi and other committee members.

## Data analytics training concludes at BGSBU

### STATE TIMES NEWS

**RAJOURI:** Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University (BGSBU) successfully concluded a 100-hour intensive Data Analytics training program, organized by its Training and Placement Cell in collaboration with the ICT Academy and supported by Infosys India. The training aimed to enhance students' employability by equipping them with advanced data analytics skills. The Vice Chancellor of BGSBU, Prof. Jawaid Iqbal, expressed his appreciation for the successful completion of the program. He emphasized that such initiatives bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and its practical application, which is essential for both research and industry needs. Registrar Shahbaz Ahmad Mirza and Dr. A.A. Shah, Associate Dean of the



Faculty members along with participants after the training programme.

School of Engineering and Technology, also congratulated the organizers and reaffirmed their commitment to supporting similar skill development programs in the future. The program, coordinated by Dr. Malik Mubashir Hussain, Convener of the University Placement Committee, saw enthusiastic participation from B.Tech and MCA students. Mr. Adil Yousaf, a seasoned expert from ICT Academy, delivered insight-

ful training sessions that blended theoretical concepts with hands-on practical applications. During the valedictory ceremony, Dr. Malik Mubashir Hussain highlighted the significance of such training programs in preparing students for the competitive job market. He announced plans for additional training initiatives and placement drives to further boost the employability of BGSBU students. Dr. Shafiqat Nabi Mughal, Head

of the Electrical Engineering Department, also addressed the gathering, emphasizing the importance of skill development courses. Dr. Manmeet Singh, Senior Faculty of the ITE Department, proposed the vote of thanks.

This successful training program underscores BGSBU's commitment to empowering students with the skills needed to thrive in the ever-evolving job market.

## DC Udhampur holds public grievance redressal camp

### STATE TIMES NEWS

**UDHAMPUR:** Deputy Commissioner Udhampur, Saloni Rai on Wednesday conducted an extensive tour of Block Narsoo and convened a public grievance redressal camp at Panchayat Ghar Moud.

The initiative aimed to address public concerns and review developmental projects being implemented across various sectors in the Block. The camp witnessed active participation from DDC Councillor Subash Chander, former PRI members and residents from neighboring panchayats.

During the programme, the local and former PRI members raised several pressing issues and demands, including construction and maintenance of roads, shortage of drinking water supply, establishment of Sports Stadium,

completion of Jal Jeevan Mission projects, organizing training camps under the PM Vishwakarma Yojana Scheme, filling vacant positions, including the Headmaster post and other key roles, upgradation of Government High School Kither Chirdli to a Higher Secondary School, inclusion of left-out beneficiaries under the PMAF scheme, opening of ration depot etc.

The DC listened to the grievances and assured the public that necessary steps would be taken to resolve their issues in accordance with prescribed norms. She also instructed the concerned officers to prioritize the redressal of these demands and submit detailed reports on any pending matters, so unresolved issues could be escalated to higher authorities for consideration.

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