

## DC Rajouri reviews progress of development projects; stresses on timeline completion

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Abhishek Sharma chaired a comprehensive review meeting to assess the progress of developmental works being executed by the Public Works Department (PWD) and those undertaken under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in the district.

Detailed discussions were held on the status of works under the District Sector, UT Capex, NABARD, PMGSY and SASCI schemes across Rajouri, Thanamandi, Kalakote, Kotranka, Nowshera and Sunderbani divisions.

The Deputy Commissioner emphasized the need to expedite tendering and execution processes to ensure timely utilization of available funds. He directed officers to accord priority to roads of strategic and security importance and ensure strict adherence to quality standards in all ongoing works.

Reviewing the construction of school buildings, the DC stressed on maintain-



Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Abhishek Sharma chairing meeting.

ing architectural aesthetics and ensuring that playgrounds are preserved during construction activities to promote a holistic learning environment for students. He further directed for strict quality control in the execution of works related to educational and health infra-

structure across all divisions.

The Deputy Commissioner also reviewed the progress of health building projects and the status of bridge works under UT Capex, District Capex, NABARD, SASCI, DAJGUA and other schemes. He urged officers to focus on removing bottlenecks and to complete all projects within the stipulated time frame.

Among those present in the meeting were ADDC Rajouri, Malikzada Sheraz ul Haq, ADC Kalakote, Tanvir Ahmed, ADC Kotranka, Dilmir Chowdhary, ADC Nowshera, Pritam Lal Thapa, ADC Sunderbani, Ramkesh Sharma, SDM, Abid Hussain, SE, Tilak Raj, CPO, Maqsood Ahmed, ACD, Auqil Naveed, Executive Engineer Rajouri, Aftab Anwar, Executive Engineer Thanamandi, Executive Engineer Nowshera, Sarwar Mehmood, Executive Engineer PMGSY, Executive Engineer Kalakote and other district and sectoral officers.

## DC Reasi reviews functioning of Kisan Khidmat Ghars Stresses on strengthening agricultural support services

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

REASI: Deputy Commissioner Reasi, Nidhi Malik chaired a meeting with Krishi Udyamis managing Kisan Khidmat Ghars (KKGs) to review their functioning and progress.

The Deputy Commissioner reviewed the revenue generation, transactions, and overall operational status of the Kisan Khidmat Ghars. She also interacted with the Krishi Udyamis to understand the challenges faced by them in running these centers effectively.

To promote the role of KKGs, the DC directed the concerned officers to conduct extensive outreach programs to promote the services offered through these centers. She encouraged the Krishi



Deputy Commissioner Reasi, Nidhi Malik chairing meeting on Thursday.

Udyamis to work proactively towards expanding the business potential of KKGs and to make them self-sustaining enterprises.

DC Malik further stressed on organizing regular training sessions for Krishi Udyamis and providing them study materials to enhance their knowledge of the KKG

online portal. She also noted that KKGs can function as Common Service Centres (CSCs) to offer a wider range of public services.

The Deputy Commissioner advised the Krishi Udyamis to apply for licenses for seeds, fertilizers and pesticides, which would not only help them generate additional

income but also create greater awareness among farmers about the services available at Kisan Khidmat Ghars.

CPO Narinder Kumar, Chief Agriculture Officer, Chief Animal Husbandry Officer, District Sheep Husbandry Officer and other officers were present in the meeting.

## Prize, certificate distribution ceremony held at RSETI Samba

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SAMBA: A Prize and Certificate Distribution Programme was organized today at the Rural Self Employment Training Institute (RSETI) Vijaypur, Samba.

Deputy Commissioner Ayushi Sudan was the Chief Guest. S D M Vijaypur Sandeep Dubey and Tehsildar Vijaypur, Sudesh Kumar were also present on the occasion.

A total of 45 women entrepreneurs from ongoing and previous batches participated in the event. Certificates and prizes were distributed among the candidates of the Junior Beauty Practitioner Batch No. 262 by the Chief Guest. Prizes were also

awarded to the winners of the Mehndi Competition organized at RSETI.

The Deputy Commissioner interacted with the trainees of the ongoing Beauty Parlour Batch No. 269 and encouraged them to become financially self-reliant. She

also urged the candidates to avail financial assistance and entrepreneurship opportunities under the Mission YUVA scheme. A few trainees shared their experiences and success stories during the interaction session. The event concluded with a formal vote of thanks presented by Director RSETI, Vikrant Singh Rana.

Prizes were also awarded to the winners of the Mehndi Competition organized at RSETI. The Deputy Commissioner interacted with the trainees of the ongoing Beauty Parlour Batch No. 269 and encouraged them to become financially self-reliant. She also urged the candidates to avail financial assistance and entrepreneurship opportunities under the Mission YUVA scheme. A few trainees shared their experiences and success stories during the interaction session. The event concluded with a formal vote of thanks presented by Director RSETI, Vikrant Singh Rana.

## DC Udhampur reviews performance of banks; stresses on inclusive growth by roping in underserved

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: Deputy Commissioner Udhampur Saloni Rai chaired the meeting of District Level Review Committee and District Consultative Committee to review the performance of banks for the quarter ending September 2025.

At the outset, the Lead District Manager briefed the chair about the overall performance and achievements of the banks under the Annual Credit Plan for the current financial year.

Detailed discussions were held on bank and sector-wise achievements in lending to priority and non-priority sectors, the status of deposits and advances during the quarter, credit disbursement under government-sponsored schemes, issuance of Kisan Credit Cards, financing of joint liability farming groups of Bloominthen Kisans, imple-



DC Saloni Rai chairing meeting at Udhampur.

mentation of the Financial Inclusion Plan, Stand-Up India Programme and the number of financial literacy programmes conducted by rural bank branches during the quarter. The timely submission of data by banks and other related matters were also reviewed in detail.

While reviewing the performance of various banks, the DC directed the bankers to enhance outreach activities and ensure that target groups are

effectively covered under all financial schemes. She emphasized the importance of teamwork and mission-oriented efforts to accelerate progress and achieve tangible results on the ground.

The Chief Agriculture Officer was instructed to sensitize farmers regarding the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme. The DC urged all stakeholders to ensure that the benefits of banking schemes

reach the intended beneficiaries promptly, thereby contributing to the socio-economic upliftment of the deprived sections of society.

For priority sector lending, the bankers were directed to organize awareness programmes on education loans at higher secondary and college levels, involving both students and their parents to maximize the outreach and benefits of such schemes.

Emphasizing the need for better coordination between bankers and government departments, the DC called for a joint approach to achieve the fixed targets for the welfare of the rural population. She exhorted the bank officers and line departments to set realistic targets based on the needs and potential of their respective areas to ensure optimum results within the stipulated time frame.

## Gandoh celebrates 150th anniversary of Vande Mataram

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DODA: As part of the ongoing nationwide celebrations marking 150 glorious years of the National Song "Vande Mataram," a grand commemorative event was organized at the Sub-Divisional Headquarters, Gandoh. The program witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, teachers, officials and members of the local community, all united in their patriotic spirit to honour the timeless song that symbolizes India's unity, strength and devotion to the motherland.

Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM), Arun Kumar Badyal led the recitation of "Vande Mataram" along with students and officials. The recitation filled the atmosphere with patriotic fervour and reverence.

In his address, the SDM highlighted the profound

historical significance of "Vande Mataram," recalling how the song became a powerful source of inspiration for India's freedom fighters.

The event also featured patriotic songs, speeches and cultural performances by students from different educational institutions, showcasing their talent and deep affection for the country. The celebration concluded with a collective pledge by all participants to preserve national unity, promote peace and protect the environment, truly reflecting the spirit of "Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat."

The commemoration at Gandoh stood as a glowing reminder of India's cultural richness and patriotic heritage, perfectly aligning with the ongoing district-wide celebrations of 150 glorious years of "Vande Mataram."

## Labour Department organises awareness program for workers

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RAMBAN: An Awareness-cum-Registration Program on Labour department schemes was today held at Panchayat Ghar Rajgarh. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from labourers, construction workers and local youth.

During the program, ALC Amit Kumar provided a detailed overview of the welfare schemes offered by the Jammu and Kashmir Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board (JKBOCWWB) and the Labour Department. Key schemes discussed included education assistance, disability assistance, marriage assistance, death/funeral assistance and the meritorious award program. Special



Officials of labour dept during the camp.

focus was laid on the pension scheme, Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan Yojana (PMSYM), with ALC urging local CSC operators to ensure all unregistered workers are enrolled under JKBOCWWB and PMSYM schemes.

JK Bank Manager conducted an informative ses-

sion on government-backed financial inclusion, pension and insurance schemes such as PMJJBY, PMAPY and PMSBY. Around 70 application forms were distributed among workers and 19 forms were filled on the spot to register eligible workers under these schemes.

The event also saw participation from the Block

Development Chairperson, ex-sarpanches and Panch members, who contributed to the discussions. ALC Ramban, who also holds the additional charge of Assistant Director Employment Ramban, briefed the youth about Mission YUVA and encouraged them to take advantage of the scheme to establish their own business ventures.

The program concluded with a question-and-answer session, where grievances related to the renewal and approval of new labour cards were addressed and resolved on the spot. The event highlighted the Labour Department's commitment to worker welfare and youth empowerment in the region.

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KATHUA: A meeting to review the progress and implementation of works under the District Capex Budget for the financial year 2025-26 was today convened under the chairmanship of District Development Commissioner Kathua, Rajesh Sharma at the DC Office Complex.

The meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner, Surinder Mohan Sharma, Chief Planning Officer, Ranjeet Thakur, Assistant Commissioner, Akhil Sadotra, Chief Education Officer, Executive Engineers of PWD Kathua, JPDCL and Ground Water, District Youth Services and

Sports Officer, Block Development Officers, sectoral officers and other concerned officials.

Executive Engineers of PWD Basohli, Hiranagar, Billawar and BDOs also joined the meeting virtually. During the meeting, the DDC reviewed sector-wise and department-wise physical and financial progress of works taken up under different components of the District Capex Budget including Regular Schemes, Seema Samridhi Yojna, Area Development Funds, PRI Grants and other ongoing projects.

The DDC emphasized the need for expeditions completion of all ongoing developmental works to ensure timely creation of durable public assets. He directed

all departments to adhere to approved timelines and maintain transparency and quality standards during execution.

While reviewing the progress, the DDC directed officers to prioritize people-centric projects, particularly those related to rural infrastructure, water supply, education, health and road connectivity. He called for effective coordination among departments to remove bottlenecks and ensure smooth implementation of projects.

The meeting also discussed fund utilization, tendering processes and submission of utilization certificates.

The DDC instructed officers to ensure that all allocated funds are fully uti-

lized within the stipulated time frame.

He further directed that all departments complete both physical and financial targets by December 31, 2025, noting that a 75 percent expenditure cut-off will be imposed thereafter.

The DDC asked departments to give special focus to Billawar and Bani areas in view of the approaching winter season which may hamper developmental activities in those regions.

The DDC underlined the importance of timely and quality execution of developmental projects to strengthen grassroots governance and improve public service delivery, urging officers to work with dedication, efficiency and accountability.

## GDC Surankote, SKUAST-Jammu organize Bootcamp



Dignitaries along with faculty members during the programme.

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SURANKOTE: Government Degree College Surankote, in collaboration with SKUAST-Jammu, organized an innovative Bootcamp under the supervision and

guidance of Dr. Rani Mughal, Worthy Principal, GDC Surankote.

Sahil Gupta, Manager, Incubation and Innovation Centre, SKUAST-Jammu, delivered a detailed lecture on "Competitiveness Improvement of Agriculture and Allied Sectors Project (JKCIP)". He highlighted the objectives of JKCIP and informed students about the funding opportunities available for startups under its Agribusiness and Incubation System component.

Gupta urged students to participate actively in ideathons and hackathons, encouraging them to present innovative ideas for

potential funding support. During an interactive session, students worked in groups to identify problems, develop business models, and propose creative solutions, reflecting their enthusiasm and entrepreneurial spirit.

The event was chaired by Dr. Rani Mughal, while Prof. Fateh Mohammad Abbasi conducted the proceedings.

Prof. Fatima, NSS Programme Officer, coordinated the programme, and Prof. Javed Manzoor and Dr. Assum Mustafa were among the faculty members present. A large number of students and staff participated in the programme.

## Musical concert held at Poonch to celebrate 150 years of Vande Mataram

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POONCH: District Administration Poonch in collaboration with Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages, organized a patriotic musical concert today at KCM Government Degree College Poonch to commemorate 150 years of Vande Mataram. The event was attended by students from different institutions, civil society members, College Faculty. The event featured performances by young artists from the district, including Tohid Ahmed, Liaquat Ali and Shazia. The renowned local musicians including Prem Prakash Khajuria and Sanjay Chamkeela left the audience spellbound. Senior Lecturer, Haroon Rathore conducted the program. The event began with the national anthem, followed by a rendition of Vande Mataram. Additional Deputy Commissioner Tahir Mustafa Malik and Vice Principal Professor Aurangzeb Anjum were among the guests.

Earlier, District Cultural Officer Dr. Alamdar Adam welcomed the guests. The officials from the District Information Centre were also present.

## Reasi Administration organises 'Vande Mataram' Rally

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REASI: A massive "Vande Mataram" rally was today organized by the Youth Services and Sports and Police Department here under the supervision of Deputy Commissioner Reasi, Nidhi Malik. More than 1500 students, teachers, NSS volunteers and officials took part in the rally, waving tricolours and chanting slogans in praise of mother land. The streets of Reasi came alive with patriotic energy as participants celebrated the legacy of Vande Mataram. The rally culminated at General Zorawar Singh Stadium, where participants took a pledge to uphold the ideals of unity, integrity and love for the nation. The event concluded with the rendition of Vande Mataram and words of appreciation for all departments involved. Similar rally events were organised across the district in which large number of people participated. The event highlighted the message of national unity, respect for the motherland, and the timeless relevance of Vande Mataram in inspiring generations towards patriotism and service to the nation.

## DC Ramban inaugurates 3-day training programme on women and child friendly panchayats

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAMBAN: Deputy Commissioner Ramban, Mohammad Alyas Khan, inaugurated a three-day training programme for field functionaries of line departments on Women Friendly Panchayats and Child Friendly Panchayats at the Conference Hall, Ramban. The programme is being organized by the Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, with the aim of strengthening inclusive governance at the grassroots level. The inaugural session was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner, Varunjeet Singh Charak, Assistant Commissioner, Sheraz Ahmed and other senior officers from different departments.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner encouraged the participants to take maximum benefit from the training and work collectively to create Gram Panchayats where women and children can live with dignity, exercise their rights, and pursue their aspirations in a safe and inclusive environment. He emphasized the importance of empowering women and ensuring that every child has access to health, nutrition, education and protection services across the district.



Deputy Commissioner Ramban, Mohammad Alyas Khan during the training programme.

The DC highlighted that women friendly and child friendly panchayats are transformative initiatives designed to promote gender equality and child rights at the local governance level. These Panchayats aim to ensure active participation of women in decision-making processes and provide

access to essential resources including education, healthcare and livelihood opportunities.

Earlier, ACD Sheraz Ahmed briefed the gathering about the district's progress, informing that 169 developmental goals are being implemented through various departments.

He added that these initiatives are aligned with the Government's vision to localize the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into nine thematic areas for Panchayats to achieve holistic and inclusive development.

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