

Shailendra for enhancing coordination among admin, public to achieve set development goals

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
UDHAMPUR: Principal Secretary Agriculture Production Department, Shailendra Kumar, conducted a public outreach cum grievances redressal camp at Government Higher Secondary School, Panchari in Udhampur district.

The event was attended by District Development Council Chairman Udhampur, Lal Chand, Deputy Commissioner, Saloni Rai, Senior Superintendent of Police, Joginder Singh, Directors of various departments, Additional District Development Commissioner, Ghan Sham Singh, DDC member, Jasvir Singh, DFO Rushal Garg, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Joginder Singh Jasrotia, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Rafiq Ahmed Jaral along with other senior officers and local residents.

The public outreach pro-



Pr Secy Agriculture Production Department, Shailendra Kumar speaking during public outreach camp at Udhampur.

gram witnessed substantial participation from PRIs and the general public, expressing keen interest in the government's initiatives.

DDC member Jasvir Singh, former BDC Chairman Jeevan Sharma along with former PRIs and the public, raised various demands and issues during the program which included maintenance and repairing of Kaith gali to Panchari road, land compensation, establishment of GDC at Kaith gali, construction of school building, pending labor payment under JJM work, pending liabilities

under MGNREGA, providing helipad services in the area, roads upgradation and maintenance, inclusion of left out beneficiaries under PMAY houses, upgradation of PHC Panchari, dilapidated condition of road from Kaith gali to Mounagri, establishment of KV school and a sports stadium, slow progress of JJM works in the area.

While addressing the gathering, the Principal Secretary commended the local administration for effective public delivery system and successful implementation of government

schemes in the district. He asked the officers to make sincere efforts in extending the benefits of government schemes to the targeted sections of society to achieve the set goals of empowering people.

Earlier, the Principal Secretary, accompanied by the DDC Chairperson, inspected stalls set up by various departments to disseminate information about welfare and government schemes. He interacted with the officials, scheme beneficiaries, and conducted a comprehensive review of scheme implementation on ground, seeking feedback from beneficiaries.

The Principal Secretary also distributed Manta kits under BBBP and handed over power tillers machines, brush cutters to the beneficiaries besides partaking in BBBP pledge organized by the Social Welfare Department Udhampur.

Principal Secretary advocates collaborative efforts for overall growth, development

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SAMBA: Principal Secretary Higher Education, Alok Kumar, on Tuesday chaired a public Darbar at Deputy Commissioner's office here to take stock of public grievances and demands besides assessing development works being executed in the district.

The participants apprised the Principal Secretary about their development issues, seeking timely intervention for redressal of the same.

The issues and concerns raised during the event included updation of ration cards, improvement in condition of roads under PMGSY, rationalisation of teaching staff, culvert construction in unconnected areas, water availability in Padal, Sangwal and Deon villages, land allotment issue for Degree college, power supply challenges,



Principal Secretary Higher Education, Alok Kumar chairing a public Darbar.

augmentation of public health infrastructure, road connectivity from Goran to Samba, construction of incomplete roads, shortages of doctors, parking facility in Vijaypurpur town and compensation for land acquisition cases.

The Principal Secretary commended the awareness of locals on the welfare and development issues besides responsiveness of officers in redressing public issues. He reassured that genuine matters would be

addressed through the concerned departments, reiterating the government's steadfast commitment towards development of the district. He also emphasized collaborative efforts of all stakeholders for good of the community and development of the district and the UT as well.

The Principal Secretary, on the occasion, felicitated the students who have excelled in literature, academics, sports, and various other exams.

DDC Chairman, Keshav Dutt, in his address, highlighted the accountability and transparency achieved through public darbars.

The event witnessed the participation of notable figures, including DDC Chairman Keshav Dutt Sharma, Vice Chairman Balwan Singh, DC Samba Abhishek Sharma, ADDC Samba Rajinder Singh, ADC Samba Suresh Chander, DDC Members, and various District Officers.

GDC Udhampur celebrates National Girl Child Day

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
UDHAMPUR: NSS Units of GDC Udhampur in collaboration with Women Development Cell and NCC under the Patronage of Principal Prof. (Dr.) Romesh Kumar Gupta celebrated National Girl Child Day to commemorate the rights of Girl Child.

The programme started at 10 am in the Conference Hall where Worthy Principal sir along with senior faculty members viz. Prof. B.L.Thakur, Dr. Sonia Khajuria, Dr. Rajni Kumari, Prof. Shobana Sambyal, Dr. Anita Sharma and staff secretary Dr. Jagjeet Singh lightened the lamp and is followed by NSS song.

NSS POS Dr. Gurpreet Kour and Prof. Sanjeet Singh welcomed the guests and briefed about the event.

While addressing almost 50 Girls along with Pos and faculty members the Principal Prof.(Dr.) R omesh Kumar Gupta said we need women who are so strong they can be gentle, so educated they can be humble, so fierce they can be compassionate, they can be

rational and so disciplined they can be free.

The celebration continued with three major events viz. Poster-Making, Slogan Writing and Symposium conducted parallelly under the Supervision of Symposium and Cultural Committees of the College. Almost 10 Girls participated in symposium, 8 in poster making and 15 in Slogan Writing . Among these Sonali Dogra of sem 4th , Monika of sem 4th and Rupali of sem 6th were adjudged winners in symposium. In poster making Simran Bharti from sem 4th, Manyata from Sem. 6th and Ananya of PG Chemistry sem 1st became winners. Kinzim from PG sem 1st, Payal and Palak Rani from sem 4th were adjudged as winner in slogan writing. These students will represent GDC Udhampur in District level Inter College Competition on 24th January 2024.

The programme concluded with formal vote of thanks by Rishika Sharma a senior NSS Volunteer followed by National Anthem.

Sheetal Nanda exhorts officers for time bound redressal of public grievances

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
KATHUA: Commissioner Secretary, Social Welfare Department, Sheetal Nanda, presided over a mega public darbar at Mangloor panchayat in Dinga Amb block and took stock of grievances and demands of people of the area.

Deputy Commissioner, Dr Rakesh Minhas, Additional District Development Commissioner, Ankur Mahajan, Sub Divisional Magistrate Hiranagar and district officers besides DDC member, Nagrota Gujroo, Narayan Dutt Tripathi and scores of delegations were present on the occasion.

A delegation of former BDC Chairman Barnoti, Brijeshwar Singh and other several delegations also attended the public darbar and submitted memorandum of their demands.

The delegations expressed satisfaction over the conduct of outreach programme saying that this provides people an opportunity to voice their grievances besides enabling



Commissioner Secretary, SWD Sheetal Nanda visiting a stall set up by department at Kathua.

the administration to expedite disposal of public issues and concerns through appropriate channels.

Commissioner Secretary, while responding to public delegations, issued on spot directions to the concerned officers to address all the grievances put forth by the delegations during public darbar in a time bound manner. Sheetal Nanda assured all individuals and delegations that the issues and demands projected by them would be redressed on merit basis.

Commissioner

Secretary directed the concerned officers to personally visit their respective areas to assess problems of the public for speedy disposal. She emphasized that the top priority of the government is to ensure that basic facilities and services are delivered to the general public in an efficient and timely manner.

Earlier, Deputy Commissioner welcomed the participants and briefed about the district profile.

During the public darbar, DDC member Nagrota Gujroo raised the issues of

adding Ramkote area in the PWD Billawar sub division besides provision of DDC, BDC and panchayat buildings, protection crates for flood prone areas, promotion of solar panels and early allotment of proposed roads.

Another delegation of former BDC Chairman Barnoti demanded early completion of 10 km stretch of Dinga Amb- Barnoti road, initiation of work Chadwal-Mangloor road under NABARD, connecting Juthana-Lahri-Bohra through road link, early completion of Juthana Bridge besides projecting the issue of replacement of worn out electric wires under RDSS scheme.

Similarly, a delegation from panchayat Dhamaal raised the issue of shortage of drinking water in the area. Another delegation from Dinga Amb demanded adequate drinking water supply, skill development centre, veterinary hospital and health sub centre.

'My School My Pride' initiative transforms Kishtwar's Government Schools

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
KISHTWAR: In a transformative move, the "My School My Pride" initiative is leaving an indelible mark on government schools across Kishtwar district.

Spearheaded by Deputy Commissioner Dr. Devansh Yadav, this initiative is a joint effort of the District Administration and the School Education Department. The core objective of "My School My Pride" is to activate School Management Committees (SMCs) that have remained inactive in government schools for several years. These committees, comprising parents, teachers, and a PRI Member, play a pivotal role in overseeing and enhancing the learning environment in government schools. Dr. Devansh Yadav emphasized the proactive role of SMCs in beautifying the school walls with "Building as Learning Aids" (BALA) paintings. These paintings, funded voluntarily by parents, depict the learning jour-

ney of students in these schools. The initiative has gained momentum, with more than 800 government schools in the district set to benefit.

The DC praised the commitment of parents, highlighting their voluntary contributions to transforming government schools into vibrant learning spaces. The "My School My Pride" initiative, a year-long collaboration between the district administration, education department Kishtwar, and India Education Collective (an NGO), aims to cover all elementary, primary, and middle schools in the district.

"My School My Pride" signifies a paradigm shift, showcasing the power of community collaboration in reshaping educational landscapes. The commitment of parents and the involvement of School Management Committees are instrumental in creating dynamic and engaging learning environments for students across Kishtwar.

CSIR-IIIM distributes QPM under Floriculture Mission at farmers interactive workshop

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SAMBA: CSIR-IIIM Jammu under CSIR Floriculture Mission organised a workshop on production and crop management of floricultural crops and QPM distribution programme at KVK, Samba under the guidance of Dr Zabeer Ahmed, Director CSIR-IIIM, Jammu. 100participants were imparted hands-on training of scientific cultivation and crop management of floricultural crops and high quality seed material of marigold was also distributed among the participating farmers. At the outset of the programme, Dr Sanjay Khajuria, Chief Scientist &Head KVK Samba welcomed the participants at the event and apprised that KVK Samba is earnestly striving for the betterment of the farmers of the district and further expressed his gratitude to CSIR-IIIM for extending the activities of the Floriculture Mission in the district. In his address, Dr Shahid Rasool, Nodal



Glimpses of workshop organised by CSIR-IIIM at Samba on Tuesday.

Scientist, CSIR Floriculture Mission in his interaction with the farmers said that the Mission is among many of the agri-industry oriented, innovation-driven initiatives launched by the CSIR, Ministry of Science and Technology for the inclusive economic prosperity of small and marginal farmers and sustainable development of floriculture sector. In the UT of J&K the activities undertaken in the Mission during the last three years had a significant impact in commercial floriculture farming through

area expansion and production of multiple types of cut and loose flower varieties. He appreciated the coordinated efforts of the Officers of Department of Agriculture and KVK, Samba for the successful conduct of the event. Amarinder Singh Reen, Joint Director, Agriculture, Jammu while speaking at the programme appreciated the efforts of CSIR-IIIM in providing scientific and technological assistance to farmers of the UT and exhorted upon participating farmers to take benefit from such societal

development initiatives. In the technical sessions of the workshops, lecture on scientific cultivation of Marigold was delivered by Dr Iqra Farooq Sr. Project Associate, CSIR-IIIM and Dr Saurav Gupta, Senior Scientist, KVK, Samba. Later, on-field demonstration of quality nursery production of marigold was also conducted by Dy Neeraj Sharma, Sr. Scientist, KVK Samba and method demonstration of use of bio-control agents in floriculture was demonstrated by Dr Anamika Jamwal, Sr.

Scientist, KVK Kathua. Tejinder Singh Wazir, Prakash Chowdhary, prominent J&K Kissan Advisory Board members and participating farmers hailed the outreach of the CSIR IIIM for timely distribution of the quality planting material. Vote of thanks was delivered by Dr S. R Meena, Sr Tech Officer, CSIR IIIM.

Gaddi Sabha holds meeting, highlights issues

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
UDHAMPUR: A meeting of All Jammu and Kashmir Gaddi Sabha (AJKGS) held under the chairmanship of Kuldeep Kumar Youth President Sabha at Dhar Gaddian, at far flung remote area of District Udhampur on Tuesday.

Appraising leader, local people raised different issues regarding the upliftment of tribal people and found that despite the several initiative taken by UT Govt of J&K, there is no development in the area, no proper network and tourism, despite having rich tourism potential but no tourism facilities like tourism hut, good road connectivity and other facilities are available there at.

It was disclosed that particular remote belt is dominated by tribal people and lack of basic facilities due to which tribal people lacking behind



Sabha members along with locals at Dhar Gaddian.

as compared to modern advancement. In the meeting people requested the LG administration to look forward towards this far flung area and provide with the basic facilities in the interest of poor tribal people specially good road facility, Kendriya vidyalaya, mobile towers for mobile network and also bring the area under tourism map. In meeting a committee of 12 members was constituted comprising Parshotam

Singh, Jia Lal, Pankaj Kumar, Karan Singh, Onkar Singh, Vijay Kumar, Mukhtyar Singh, Pardeep Singh, Roshan Lal, Bala, Kaka Ram, Romal Singh, Baldev Chand as member. Other prominent members who present were Hans Raj, Yash Pal, Gian Chand, Bhushan, Satpal, Rohit Kumar, Dwarka Nath, Hans Raj, Dev Raj, Naseeb Chand, Manohar Singh, Inder Singh and Subash Singh.

DC Kathua finalises Republic Day arrangements

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
KATHUA: The District Administration Kathua on Tuesday convened a crucial meeting under the guidance of Deputy Commissioner Dr. Rakesh Minhas in the Conference Hall of the DC

Office Complex to finalize the preparations for the Republic Day celebration in the district.

The meeting, attended by high rank officials including SSP Shivdeep Singh Janwal, ADC Ranjeet Singh, RTO Kathua Sunil Kumar, GM DIC Prem Singh Chib, and representatives from the line departments, focused on ensuring a seamless and memorable 75th Republic Day 2024 celebration.

It was given out in the meeting that Sports Stadium Kathua will be given befitting aesthetic look for smooth hosting of National Event where the chief guest would unfurl the National Flag, overseeing a grand March past featuring over 40 contin-

gents from the army, police, forest department, and an enthusiastic participation of students from schools and colleges. To kick off the National Day festivities, 'Shehnai Vadan' will resonate at identified locations across the district, in the wee hours of the National Day- courtesy District Information Centre.

Deputy Commissioner Dr. Rakesh Minhas issued comprehensive directives to address various aspects of the event, encompassing security, traffic management, cleanliness, sanitation, seating arrangements, drinking water, power supply, medical facilities, refreshments, prize distribution, road clearance, fire tender deployment, and distribution of invitation

cards.

The Chief Education Officer and the District Youth Services & Sports Officer received specific instructions to coordinate and organize a vibrant cultural program for the day. In preparation for the grand celebration, a full dress rehearsal is scheduled for January 24, 2024.

Emphasizing adherence to flag code and other protocols, the Deputy Commissioner provided specific guidance regarding the ceremonial unfurling of the national flag.

The district administration, in collaboration with various departments, is committed to delivering a flawless and patriotic Republic Day celebration for the citizens of Kathua.

Empowering Artisans: Pradhan Mantri Vishwakarma Yojana launched at ITI Doda

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
DODA: In a pivotal move towards skill development, the Department of Skill Development J&K and District Administration Doda collaborated to inaugurate the Pradhan Mantri Vishwakarma Yojana at ITI Doda on Tuesday.

Deputy Commissioner, Harvinder Singh, graced the event as the Chief Guest. The ITI Doda extended a warm welcome, providing an overview of the ongoing and upcoming faculties in the institute.

In his address, the DC encouraged participating artisans to leverage the benefits of the government-sponsored Vishwakarma Scheme, emphasizing its potential to generate respectful livelihoods. He highlighted the scheme as an optimal avenue for arti-



DC Harvinder Singh during launch of Yojna at ITI Doda.

sans to establish and grow their businesses.

The DC also provided an insightful overview of the Vishwakarma Scheme, urging participants to consider setting up their own businesses by embracing the opportunities afforded by the scheme.

The primary objective of organizing this program was the official launch of the Vishwakarma Scheme,

designed to support small artisans and workers nationwide. This initiative offers financial assistance, training, advanced techniques, and skill-related guidance, underscoring a collective effort to empower traditional artisans and preserve their invaluable skills.*

Key dignitaries present at the event included the Deputy Director

Employment/Industries Doda, Zonal Manager JK Bank, LDM, Superintendent ITI Doda, and Executive Officer Municipal Committee Doda.

Launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on September 17, 2023, the Pradhan Mantri Vishwakarma Yojana focuses on fortifying entrepreneurs in small enterprises, with a specific emphasis on supporting traditional creators and crafters.

The program witnessed enthusiastic participation from Deputy Director of Employment and Counseling Centre Doda, Superintendent of ITI, zonal Manager JK Bank, LDM, Executive Officer MC Doda, students, and officials from the concerned department.

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