

Progress of Jal Shakti & I&FC works reviewed at Rajouri



DDC Rajouri, Vikas Kundal chairing a meeting.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
RAJOURI: District Development Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal on Monday chaired a meeting and took a comprehensive review of the performance of Jal Shakti and I&FC sector.

During the meeting, threadbare discussion was held regarding the progress achieved under Jal Jeevan Mission, District Capex Budget, SSSY, BADP and Minor Irrigation.

The meeting was informed that out of 110 schemes proposed for Nowshera

Subdivision, the tenders for 103 have been allotted, while out of 183 schemes, the work on 44 schemes has been allotted in Rajouri sub-division. It was also apprised that work on most of the schemes was in progress.

The progress of 18 works taken up under the District Capex Budget was also reviewed by the DDC. He asked the concerned officer to expedite the progress and ensure timeline completion of works. Regarding SSSY projects, it was informed

that 2 approved works and both are complete, while out of 2 BADP works one has been completed.

Taking the review of the progress of works under Minor Irrigation, it was informed that out of 08 projects, two projects have been completed and the work on the rest was in progress.

The DDC asked the concerned officers to bring in the issues impeding the project work, if any, in the notice of the administration so that the same can be resolved to avoid any delay in execution of the projects.

Officers who attended the meeting were CPO, Mohammad Khurshid; ExEn Jal Shakti Rajouri; Adarsh Kalsotra; ExEn Jal Shakti Nowshera; Vipin Kumar; ExEn I&FC Nowshera, Sunil Seith and ExEn I&FC Rajouri, Asrar Ahmed Khan.

‘Govt HSS Ladha facing shortage of teaching staff’



Councilor Priti Khajuria along with locals.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
UDHAMPUR: Councilor Priti Khajuria flayed Govt false claims on boosting education system in the state. She said that Govt. Hr. School Laddha sans teaching staff and study of the students suffering badly.

Priti added that Govt made promise that every facility should reach the last person standing in the queue, but basic facilities

like road, water, electricity are always incomplete. She added Govt. Hr Sec School in Laddha where there are about 300 students sans staff with one lecturer, 4 teachers and a school peon. On occasion other who present were Dr Mansi dentist, sumeet Khajuria Sr ophth asstt, Umbrash Singh VT, Ved Parkash opd attendant, Muneesh sharma along with gramsewak Khem Raj, Sarpanch Kunj Lal.

PMFME awarenss camp held at Tikri; bank loan sanction letter handed-over to beneficiary

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
UDHAMPUR: An awareness camp on PMFME scheme was held by Department of Horticulture Planning and Marketing at Block Office Tikri in district Udhampur on Monday. Prime Minister's Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises Scheme is Flagship programme of MoFPI Government of India under Atamnirbhar Bharat Abhiyan. Horticulture Planning and Marketing Department, being District Nodal Agency for Udhampur district, is organising awareness camps on PMFME scheme in different areas of Udhampur district. In today's program, Nisha Sharma Chairman BDC Tikri, Area Marketing Officer Udhampur-Reasi, Dr Munish Senior Scientist SKUAST, Branch Manager J&K Bank Tikri, Sarpanchs, Horticulture Development Officer, Panchs and a number of growers & SHG members participated in the aware-



Officials of Horticulture Depti educating people.

ness camp. A loan application of Shivangi Sharma, uploaded on portal under PMFME only four days back, was sanctioned by the Branch Manager J&K Bank Tikri and sanction letter was handed over by the Chairman BDC to the beneficiary in front of people present on the occasion.

Chairman BDC applauded the Department of Horticulture Planning and Marketing for working in convergence with allied departments of agriculture and banking sector so as to make aware public about distinctive features of the scheme like easy Bank finance, 35% subsidy on

loan for machinery, complete hand holding to the applicants for DPR, FSSAI license, GST, Udhya number, packaging, labelling, branding and marketing. Dr Munish Sharma from SKUAST, AMO Udhampur, Branch Manager J&K Bank Tikri, HDO, Sarpanch Jassarkot Panchayat and Senior MI Kamal Kishor also addressed the gathering. On spot enquiries for availing benefits of PMFME scheme were generated on this occasion.

Training on development of farm livelihood held

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
UDHAMPUR: A day long training on development of farm livelihoods for Krishi Sakhi and Pashu Sakhi was organised by JKRLM Basantgarh in convergence with the Agriculture and Animal Husbandry department.

During the training programme, Community resource persons (Krishi Sakhi and Pashu sakhi) were sensitized on different schemes of the twin departments.

Agriculture extension Officer, Sanjeev Gupta and Dr. Zubair were the chief resource persons. The officials from Agriculture and Animal Husbandry departments and BPM Dudu-Basantgarh Naresh Mathur were also present.

Principal GDC Kathua felicitates winners of Inter-college Kho-Kho (M) Tournament

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
KATHUA: Principal GDC Kathua Prof. Sumanesh Singh Jasrotia today felicitated the winners of Jammu University Kho-Kho (M) Inter-college team organized by Directorate of Physical Education and Sports, University of Jammu from December 5 to 9, 2022.

The felicitation ceremony was organized by the Department of Physical Education and Sports, GDC Kathua. The Kho-Kho (M) Team of GDC Kathua defeated the Kho-Kho (M) team of Govt. Degree College Akhnoor in straight set of matches by the lead of 14 points. Previously, Kho-Kho (M) team got the BYE and fought for the second match and entered the quarter Finals with Govt. Degree College Samba, where GDC Kathua boys out played GDC



Faculty along with winner students during the event.

Samba by 10 points and Entered to Semi Final with Govt. Degree College Udhampur.

GDC Kathua played well but, lost to GDC Udhampur in Semi Final by 02 points. In the last GDC Kathua played a crucial match for third Position with GDC

Bhaderwah and won by one minute lead. GDC Kathua secured third position in the battle of 35 teams from all the affiliated colleges of Jammu University. The team led by Dr Shaweta Swaroop, Assistant Professor, Department of Botany GDC Kathua.

The Principal applauded the students of Kho-Kho (M) team for this marvelous win in the University level tournament. He also congratulated the Physical Director Dr Jogbinder Singh Soodan for the miraculous achievement of the students of the college. The Principal appreciated the members of College Men Kho-Kho Team for their regular hard practice and Punctuality for the game. He also stressed upon the fact that he sports persons of the college are always bringing great laurels to this premier institute in University Intercollegiate Competitions, All India Inter University, State level and National and Sr. National Level.

He also explained that the department of Physical Education and Sports under the supervision of Physical Director/PTI is showing out-

standing performance not only in the field of sports but, in academics also by organizing one International Certificate Course and two International Webinars in collaboration with Foreign Universities and International Organizations of the world.

Principal was accompanied by the senior faculty members of the College including Prof.(Dr.) Seema Malpotra HOD English, Prof. Raj Kiran (Convener Sports Board), Prof. Jaswinder Singh, HOD Physics and Convener IQAC, Prof. Rakesh Singh Jasrotia Head Department of Chemistry and Coordinator IGNOU, Dr. Shivani Kotval Department of English, Dr J S Soodan, Physical Director and Dr Nitu. Later on, Principal welcomed the winners and honoured them in the presence of students and teachers.

Government ITI Doda organises Apprenticeship Mela

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
DODA: To provide real time employment training with required standards of skills in industries and other sectors, Government Industrial Training Institute (ITI) Doda on Monday organized "Apprenticeship Mela" at its campus.

A large number of aspiring candidates and over a dozen local establishments took part in the Mela.

The programme was aimed to educate unemployed Youth about the apprenticeship Scheme and its benefits. ITI Doda has also set up Help Desk to facilitate Industrial units as well as aspiring candidates to register them online on the apprenticeship portal.

Er. Ravinder Singh Bhatti, Superintendent ITI Doda elaborated in detail about the apprenticeship scheme. It was also briefed that Apprentices Act

was enacted with the objective of regulating the program of training of apprentices in the industry/establishment by utilizing the facilities available therein for imparting on-the-job training. Govt. ITI Doda being the nodal ITI of the District played a key role in creating a platform between aspiring Candidates and Establishments. As per the scheme guidelines, All establishments having workforce (regular and contract employees) of 30 or more are mandated to engage Apprentices in a range from 2.5% to 15% of its workforce, for establishments having a workforce between 4 and 29 this is optional and Establishments having a workforce of 3 or less are not permitted to engage apprentices.

Besides, the apprentices are also entitled stipend under this scheme. Upon the completion of apprentice

training, the apprentice will appear at an All India Trade Test in designated trade. Successful apprentices will be awarded National Apprentice Certificate (NTC), which is a recognized qualification for employment for both in Government and Private Sector.

Hon'ble Vice Chairperson, District Development council Doda madam Sangeeta Bhagat was the Chief Guest on the occasion who spoke in length and encouraged the aspirants to take benefits of the scheme and excel in their lives. Ashraf wani DIO Doda was the Guest of the honour who is also a mentor under SANKALP-MGNF district Doda. Representatives from District Employment Doda also participated and spoke on the employment related schemes of their department.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
NOWSHERA: Department of Botany, GDC Nowshera set up a HERBAL GARDEN in college campus in March, 2021. A fallow piece of land was selected for the purpose. On Monday plantation of more herbacious plants of medicinal importance was done in the Herbal Garden. A variety of plants like Aloe-vera, Papaya, Allium, Ashwagandha, Murraya (currypatta), mint, Tradescantia, Kalanchoe (patharehatta) etc. were planted. A large number of students from the discipline of Botany enthusiastically planted the saplings. The plants were contributed by



Faculty and students planting saplings.

students and staff of the Department of Botany.

The plantation was done under the supervision of Dr. K.K. Sharma, Principal of the college. Dr. Sharma

appreciated the efforts of Botany Department for making the college campus clean and green. He stressed upon the importance of local plants in tra-

ditional system of medicine and motivated the students and staff to enrich the herbal garden with more plants in future. Prof. Pooja Devi, HOD, Botany and Dr. Gouhar Ahmed, Lecturer in Botany enlightened the students about the medicinal uses of various plants growing locally in the area. Dr. Sunil Sharma, HOD, Dogri was also present on the occasion and he also contributed in plantation process. At last, Prof. Pooja Devi thanked all the students and staff members who played an important role in enriching the campus flora by their contributions.

Ministry of Agriculture & Farmer's Welfare starts Natural Farming training programme



Dignitaries during the training programme.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
BHADARWAH: To encourage farmers to adopt chemical free farming, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmer's Welfare through Krishi Vigyan Kendra started training programme on natural farming in hilly Doda district from Monday.

The flagship programme of the Ministry of Agriculture

and Farmers welfare is primarily aimed at to promote organic farming by motivating and training the farmers to adopt natural and traditional ways of farming techniques there by minimising the use of chemical fertilizers, pesticides and insecticides.

The training programme in which 50 farmers drawn from different panchayats of Doda district are participating started at KVK Bhadarwah, where Scientist and Subject matter specialists (SMS) will train the participants in natural farming. The programme was inaugurated by DDC Councilor from Bhadarwah west Thakur Yudhvir Singh Billawaria, who was the chief guest on the occasion while Incharge KVK Bhadarwah Dr Amit Charak Presided the inaugural func-

tion.

It's notable to mention here that out of total 766 districts in India 425 districts have been chosen for Natural farming across India by Ministry and District Doda is one among them.

Speaking with the farmers Dr Amit Charak said that Natural Farming is the need of the time and center Govt has made a resolve to replace chemical farming with natural farming.

Calling for a "back to the basics" approach, Dr G N Jha of KVK said, "We need to replicate this innovative model through which in a few States, farmers are already being trained in this practice. Steps such as this can help in doubling our farmers' income and KVK through aggressive training in motivating programmes will try it's best to make it possible in the length and breadth of hilly Doda district."

Yudhvir Singh Thakur, DDC Member, Sarpanch Parveen Jaryal, Jaswant Manhas Progressive Farmer (Matka Khad) and others were present on the occasion.

Zero budget natural farming (ZBNF) is a method of chemical-free agriculture drawing from traditional Indian practices.

Govt PG College Rajouri organises International Webinar on Mountains

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
RAJOURI: The Research and Development Cell (RDC) of Govt. PG College Rajouri organised International webinar on mountains to mark International Mountain day as part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav here on Sunday. On this occasion an international webinar on the theme "Women move mountains" organized under the patronage of the officiating Principal of the college, Prof. Javed Mughal who said that mountains are great natural resources which are under

threat from climate change and over-exploitation. Any problem with mountains affects us all so we must reduce our carbon footprint and take care of these jewels, he added.

OP Sharma Vidyarthi, Former, PCCF/ Director Ecology, Environment and Remote Sensing, J&K, Dr. Hasrat Arjumund, Founder President & CEO Grassroots Institute, Canada and Dr. Ritu Dhingra, Regional Vice Chair, East and Southern Asia-International Union for Conservation of Nature

(IUCN)-Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEEESP) were resource persons. Vidyarthi spoke at length on Mountains Ecology and Wildlife Conservation in the context of mountain ecosystems whereas Dr. Hasrat deliberated upon the Legal Aspects of Mountains in International Context. Dr. Ritu gave a presentation on Women Activism in Environmental Conservation and illustrated how women move the mountains. The resource persons urged the

need of conservation of these natural treasures. Earlier, Dr. Ashaq Malik, Director - RDC of College and moderator, introduced the audience about the history of this day being celebrated since 2003, importance of mountains that are home to 15% of the world's population and host about half of the world's biodiversity hotspots besides providing freshwater for everyday life to half of humanity and relevance of celebrating this mountain day in

college. Dr. Shiraz Ahmed presented the formal vote of thanks. A large number of participants from various universities and colleges from J&K and across the country, IUCN and other countries participated. Prominent among others present on the occasion were Prof. Ghulam Abas, Dr. Shamim Akhter; Dr. Anjad Ali Baber; Dr. Mohd Akhlaq, Dr. Gohar Iqbal, Prof. Anjad Khan Bhatti, Anuj Bali and Prof. Salma Farooq.

Chairperson DDC, DC inaugurate JJM Water Supply Scheme at Aghar Jitto

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

REASI: Retrofitting and augmentation of water supply scheme under Jal Jeevan Mission Scheme was today inaugurated and dedicated to public of Aghar Jitto by District Council Chairperson, Reasi Saraf Singh Nag in presence of Deputy Commissioner, Reasi Babila Rakval. Executive Engineer PHE apprised the chairperson about the scheme. He said that this scheme was approved at an estimated cost of Rs 454.73 lakh. He informed that under this scheme 13884 souls would be benefitted. Chairperson DDC said that the Jal Jeevan Mission is a centrally sponsored scheme launched by the government of India with the objective to provide tap water to all households across the nation. He stressed for tapping of all sustainable water resources to benefit the community. The Chairperson DDC further stressed that the PHE sector was the main priority sector and all officers/officials should work hard to reach out to the people. He exhorted the officers of the PHE department to implement the schemes in letter and spirit in the district. He called upon the people to come forward to avail the benefits of various schemes and programs. The DDC Chairperson stated that functional tap water connection for every household is the goal of the ambitious Jal Jeevan Mission besides "Access to drinking water facilities is the basic right of every citizen," he added. Local people thanked the District Administration for completion of the project in a record time.

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