

Satish reviews development projects, flagship schemes in Reasi

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
REASI: Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Transport, Science & Technology, IT, Youth Services & Sports and ARI, Satish Sharma, today chaired a review meeting to assess progress on development projects and flagship schemes under implementation across Reasi district.

The meeting was attended by DDC Chairperson Reasi, Saraf Singh Nag; MLA Shri Mata Vaishno Devi, Baldev Raj Sharma; MLA Reasi, Kuldeep Raj Dubey; MLA Gulabgarh, Er. Khurshied Ahmed; Deputy Commissioner Reasi, Nidhi Malik; Vice Chairperson DDC, Sajra Qadir, along with Heads of Departments and senior officers from different sectors.

Reviewing major infrastructure works, the Minister assessed the status of Delhi-Amritsar-Katra Express Highway, Reasi-Arnas-Mahore Road and other important road projects. He had a comprehensive department-wise review of Social Welfare,



Cabinet Minister Satish Sharma chairing meeting at Reasi.

Health, Education, Food Supplies, Youth Services & Sports and several allied sectors. He emphasized achieving 100 percent coverage of all eligible beneficiaries under government schemes. He called for intensified public awareness efforts so that the people can avail these benefits to the fullest.

Appreciating the ongoing activities under the Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan, the Minister directed the departments to strengthen

efforts towards making Reasi a drug-free district. He also acknowledged the district's remarkable achievements under the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP). He instructed the agricultural and allied departments to extend maximum benefits to the eligible farmers.

The public representatives raised several issues concerning roads, transport and tourism. The Minister assured that

all their genuine concerns would be addressed within stipulated timelines. He instructed the officers to ensure active involvement of elected representatives in all developmental programs for enhanced outcomes. He also directed the departments to keep them updated regularly.

While reviewing functioning of the Motor Vehicles Department, the Minister asked the RTO Reasi to conduct regular medical examinations of drivers to promote road safety and prevent accidents caused by health-related issues.

The Minister further directed the Sports department to consult local MLAs while planning the construction and upgradation of playgrounds.

He directed the Assistant Director, Food, to hold consultations with the local residents to improve the food distribution system and address ground-level concerns effectively.

The Minister exhorted upon all the departments to work with renewed com-

mitment towards ensuring the holistic and inclusive development of Reasi district.

Issues concerning the migrant families residing in Talwara were prominently raised during the meeting. It was highlighted that these families have not been receiving benefits under the government schemes and are yet to be included in the ration card system.

The Minister assured that the issue would be taken up with the concerned department for early redressal.

He also reviewed the status of compensation for the people affected by recent heavy rains and landslides, directing the departments to ensure timely relief to all eligible beneficiaries.

Earlier, Deputy Commissioner Nidhi Malik gave a detailed sector-wise PowerPoint Presentation on ongoing projects. She highlighted the progress achieved, so far, on major initiatives across the district.

IAS Probationer reviews implementation of developmental initiatives in Vibrant Village Namblan

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
RAJOURI: The implementation of developmental initiatives under Vibrant Villages Programme (VVP-II) in village Namblan was reviewed today at a meeting chaired by IAS Probationer, Seerat Baji.

The review focused on saturation of central and UT government schemes, strengthening of basic infrastructure and augmentation of civic amenities in the strategically important border village.

At the outset, the Probationer reviewed the functioning of local schools with emphasis on the pupil-teacher ratio and the proposal for up-gradation of the Government High School. Issues related to strengthening infrastructure and improving academic indicators were also discussed. The Officer reviewed the functioning of Health Sub Centre Dhara Sangla and instructed the concerned authorities to upgrade the healthcare facilities as provided



IAS Probationer, Seerat Baji chairing meeting at Rajouri.

sioned under the scheme.

The functioning of the FCS&CA and Veterinary Department was also reviewed, wherein instructions were passed to ensure uninterrupted supply of essential commodities and timely availability of veterinary services in the area.

Taking stock of the functioning of the Agriculture and Horticulture departments, she reviewed irrigation facilities, availability of inputs and challenges posed by monkey menace. She directed officers to submit feasibility reports for construction of a check dam to meet local irrigation needs.

Reviewing the Cooperative Department, the Officer emphasized extension of the cooperative societies to enhance benefits for the local population. While reviewing the progress under NRLM, she directed the department to register at least 10 new Self Help Groups in the area in one month.

The Probationer also inquired about the progress made in providing electricity connections to left-out households in the area. The performance of the Rural Engineering Wing with respect to execution of development works was also reviewed.

GDC Thannamandi launches 10- Day Training Course on Entrepreneurship under Mission Yuva

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

THANNAMANDI: Government Degree College (GDC) Thannamandi Department of Economics in collaboration with L.I.C (Institutions Innovation Council) and Career Counselling Cell successfully conducted Day-1 and 2nd of the 10 day Hybrid Training Course on Entrepreneurship and Business Management, Technology for Entrepreneurs, Innovation, and Design Thinking under Mission Yuva Udyam Jagriti 4.0 here today.

The session was led by Dr. Nagina Kousser, Resource Person and Convener of Mission Yuva, who addressed the registered applicants participating in the 10-day training programme. Dr. Kousser guided the students through the objectives of Mission Yuva and emphasized the importance of entrepreneurial

capabilities, innovation-driven thinking and digital competency in today's professional landscape.

As part of the training, students were enrolled on the Skill India Digital Hub (SIDH)-a national platform that connects youth with job opportunities and acts as a bridge between employers and job seekers. Participants created their SIDH login accounts, explored the skill-course section, and identified learning modules aligned with their interests.

The applicants also registered for the Foundation Skills Program - Advanced Entrepreneurship Course, which equips learners with essential digital, financial, and entrepreneurship skills. The course aims to build a strong foundation for aspiring entrepreneurs and enhance their employability in the evolving job market.

Shaheed Diwas of Dy Commandant Shamsher Singh observed

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

AKHNOOR: The 24th Shaheed Diwas of Deputy Commandant Shaheed Shamsher Singh (BSF)-the brave son of the soil who made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty-was observed today at Shaheed Dy. Commandant Shamsher Singh Govt. Higher Secondary School, Jourian, the institution proudly named in his honour. The event was marked by profound patriotism, fervour, and collective national pride.

The solemn ceremony was graced by Mohan Lal Bhagat, MLA, as the Chief Guest. Distinguished guests present on the occasion included Daljeet Singh Chib, Ex-Vice Chairman, Kissan Advisory Board, and Shri Bhushan Bral, DDC. Their presence added dignity to the commemorative event and reflected the community's deep respect for the martyr.



Tributes being paid to Deputy Commandant Shaheed Shamsher Singh at Jourian.

Adding grandeur to the tribute by Dy Commandant Rohit Tomar 195 Battalion BSF, Akhnoor presented a Rashtriya Salute along with a Floral Tribute to honour the supreme sacrifice of the valiant officer. Additionally, 44 Battalion BSF, represented by Dy. Commandant P. C. Singh, also offered a floral tribute, symbolising the unwavering respect of the

force for one of its finest sons.

Addressing the gathering, the speakers paid glowing tributes to Dy. Commandant Shamsher Singh, recalling his unmatched courage, steadfast devotion to duty, and unwavering commitment to safeguarding the nation's sovereignty. They highlighted his inspiring journey from Jourian to the highest eche-

lons of the Border Security Force-an enduring emblem of valour and patriotism for generations to come.

Students and staff of the institution presented patriotic songs, emotional shradhanjali, and a brief biographical narrative to honour the martyr's life and ideals.

I/C Principal Brij Nandan Singh Jamwal honoured the Veer Nari Smt. Krishna Devi by presenting a shawl and memento. The school administration reaffirmed its dedication to preserving the legacy of such national heroes through meaningful educational and patriotic initiatives.

The event concluded with a heartfelt Shaheedon ko Naman, as the entire gathering vowed to uphold the values of duty, sacrifice, and the nation-first spirit epitomised by Shaheed Dy. Commandant Shamsher Singh.

Poonch Administration finalises arrangements for National Immunization Day

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

POONCH: Deputy Commissioner Poonch Ashok Kumar Sharma today chaired a meeting of the District Task Force to review preparedness for the National Immunization Day (Pulse Polio) scheduled for December 21, 2025.

At the outset, Chief Medical Officer, Dr Parvaiz Ahmed Khan briefed the meeting that District Poonch has an estimated population of 74,765 children (0-5 years) for which 426 vaccination booths are being established across 3 Blocks. "A total of 1704 booth team members, 86 supervisors and 13 transit teams will carry out the immunization at 21 vaccine delivery points," he informed. The Department has mapped 30 high-risk areas including slums, brick kilns, nomadic clusters and stone crusher sites, he added.

Transit vaccination points



DC Poonch Ashok Kumar Sharma chairing meeting.

identified in urban Poonch include Auto Stand near Fort, Main Bus Stand, Passenger Shed near S.K Bridge and Qazi Mohra Chungi. In Block Mandi, identified areas include Mandi Mandhir, Chandak Chowk and Bridge Bandichechian. In Block Mendhar, the Transit vaccination points would be set up at BG main Chowk, Jalal

Chowk and Bus stand.

Similarly, four transit vaccination points would be set up in Block Surankote at Buziaz Chowk, Main Bus Stand and Potha Near Petrol Pump. Workforce deployment includes Health workers, Ashas and AWWs.

It was further informed that booth-level vaccination would be held on December 21 at designated centres,

while house-to-house drive would be carried out on December 22 and 23 across all blocks in the District.

The Deputy Commissioner directed the stakeholders to ensure 100 percent vaccination of the targeted population with special focus on high-risk habitations and transit points. He called for close coordination, timely logistics and real-time monitoring so that no child is left uncovered during the Pulse Polio campaign.

PO ICDS Naheem In Nissa Bhatti; District Social Welfare Officer Khalil Ahmed Bandy; Medical Superintendent District Hospital Dr. Shafiq Chowhan; Xen PDD, DPO Education, Dy Chief Medical Officer, Block Medical Officers Mendhar, Mandi, Surankote, DPU along with other officials from stakeholder departments attended the meeting.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

UDHAMPUR: The Department of Urdu, Government College for Women (GCW) Udhampur, organized an enlightening extension lecture on the theme "Art of Story Writing." The resource person for the event was Prof. Mushtaq Ahmed Wani, a renowned Urdu fiction writer, who delivered an insightful and engaging session for the students.

Prof. Wani spoke in detail about the essential elements of story writing, narrative techniques, and the creative process behind crafting impactful fiction. He also read one of his own stories, offering students a practical demonstration of storytelling skills. He also motivated the students about creative writing and encouraged them to read



Faculty members and students during the programme.

the renowned writers of different languages. In the end he also distributed some copies of literary Magazine of "Dabistan-e-Himala" among the students.

Students from Different Languages like Urdu, Hindi and Dogri participated enthusiastically and interacted with the resource person during the

session. The lecture proved to be a valuable learning experience, inspiring young learners to explore creativity and refine their storytelling skills.

The programme began with a welcome address by Dr. Mool Raj, Head of the Department of Urdu. Where as Dr. Shahid Iqbal presented Vote of thanks.

The lecture was attended

by Dr. Rafia Akhter, faculty member from GDC Kotranka, who appreciated the initiative of the Urdu Department. Dr. Om Prakash, HoD Sanskrit, Prof. Yash Kumar (Dept. of Music), Prof. Mushtaq Ahmed, Prof. Sandesh Kumar (Dept. of Hindi), Dr. Sushma Kumari (Dept. of Dogri) were also present in the occasion.

GMC Udhampur launches Spine Surgery Services

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

UDHAMPUR: The Department of Orthopaedics, Government Medical College Udhampur has announced successful initiation of the spine surgery services. Over the past week, the Orthopaedics team performed two lumbar laminectomies and discectomies for patients suffering from chronic lower

back pain and radiating limb pain.

Both cases were operated successfully, marking a significant step forward in delivering advanced orthopaedic care to the region. The surgeries were performed by the Orthopaedic faculty team consisting of Dr. Omeshwar Singh, Dr. Qazi Waris and Dr. Sayar Ahmed. They extended sincere gratitude to Prof. (Dr.) Anil Gupta, HOD Orthopaedics for his vision and guidance and to Prof. (Dr.) Parmod Kalsotra, Principal GMC for his continuous support and facilitation of essential logistics that made these services



possible. The team also acknowledged the vital contribution of the Anaesthesia team - Dr. Vishal and Dr. Vandana - and the seamless coordination provided by Ravi, OT Incharge, along with the dedicated theatre staff.

"The milestone reflects our commitment to expanding comprehensive spine care services and enhancing patient outcomes at GMC Udhampur," the Medical Team said.

Public grievances redressal camp held at Panchayat Seripura-Gool

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

RAMBAN: Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Gool Intiaz today convened a Public Grievances Redressal Camp at Panchayat Seripura in Block Sangaldan. The camp was organised as part of the administration's ongoing outreach initiative aimed at strengthening grassroots level governance and ensuring timely resolution of public grievances.

A large number of residents from Seripura and adjoining areas participated in the programme and raised issues related to basic amenities, infrastructure development and delivery of public services. The SDM gave a patient hearing to the delegations and individuals and assured prompt action on the demands projected.

The people projected varied demands seeking road connectivity, adequate power and water supply, ration availability, health facilities and agricultural support. Officers from concerned departments noted the public demands. Many grievances were addressed on the spot.

The SDM appreciated the active participation of the local community and assured that such outreach initiatives will continue across other panchayats of the sub-division to ensure equitable development and efficient public service delivery.

The programme was attended by Naib Tehsildar, ZEO, TSO, AEE PWD and officials from Jal Shakti, Agriculture, Sericulture, Fisheries, Power Development Department, Health and ICDS.

DYSS Poonch hosts District-Level Trekking Expedition at Than-Peer



Organisers along with students posing for photograph.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

POONCH: The Youth Services & Sports (YSS) Department Poonch on Tuesday hosted an adrenaline-filled district level trekking adventure at the breathtaking Than-Peer highlands, attracting enthusiastic participation from young trekkers from various schools of the district. The expedition was flagged

off early this morning by the Additional Deputy Commissioner Tahir Mustafa Malik. He applauded the YSS Department for consistently providing youth with meaningful outdoor learning opportunities. The young participants trekked through steep forest paths, rugged mountain ridges, serene meadows and panoramic viewpoints, experi-

encing the pristine natural beauty of Than-Peer. The adventure significantly boosted their endurance, teamwork, leadership skills and connection with nature.

As part of the ongoing initiative, the YSS Department is also set to organise a Girls' Trekking expedition, providing equal opportunity to young female students.

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