

Dy CM Choudhary highlights NC Government’s developmental achievements

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
NOWSHERA: Senior National Conference (NC) leader and Deputy Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, Surinder Choudhary, addressed a large and enthusiastic gathering at a public rally in Naushera. In his speech, Choudhary highlighted the significant achievements of the Omar Abdullah-led government in driving transformation across the region, particularly in infrastructure development and the enhancement of essential services.

Choudhary urged critics of the NC government to visit the far-flung areas of Jammu to witness firsthand the sweeping changes that have taken place.

He emphasized the remarkable progress in building roads, improving alleys, and upgrading civic and utility infrastructure, particularly in the Pir Panjal region, which had suffered from neg-



Dy CM Surinder Choudhary, addressin gathering at Naushera.

lect for nearly a decade. "The NC government has worked tirelessly to bring this region back into the fold of development and ensure its equitable progress," he said.

On the contentious issue of SMVD Medical College seat allocations, Choudhary condemned attempts to create division by raising divisive issues. He remarked, "Those questioning this matter are undermining the very essence of peace and pluralism that Jammu and

Kashmir represents. The SMVD University is home to students from various religious and regional backgrounds, who study, live, and coexist harmoniously.

Targeting the Medical College while overlooking the broader spirit of unity in our region is unacceptable."

He also reiterated that Mata Vaishno Devi, a revered spiritual figure in the region, belongs to all people, irrespective of their community or faith. "Jammu has always been a beacon of tolerance, a place where temples, Sufis, and saints have coexisted peacefully for centuries," he said. "It is the rich heritage of pluralism and coexistence that defines Jammu, and we will not allow anyone to tarnish this core value."

Choudhary reaffirmed the National Conference's commitment to fostering development while safeguarding the region's harmony. "Jammu and Kashmir belongs to all its citizens, and our focus will remain on building a united, peaceful, and progressive future for the region," he asserted.

Provincial President of NC, Ratan Lal Gupta, also addressed the rally, enumerating several key pro-people initiatives undertaken by the government, including age relaxation for Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Service (JKAS) candidates, but it is condemnable that LG administration has not extended the age relaxation

Col Mahan Singh chairs workshop on ‘Online Banking Fraud Prevention for Veterans’

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
KATHUA: A day-long awareness workshop on online banking fraud prevention for veterans was held at Hotel Royal Residency, Kathua, under the chairmanship of Col Mahan Singh (Retd), DDC Chairman Kathua.

The programme was organised by ICICI Bank Ltd, Kathua, and attended by Sandeep Sharma, Territory Manager for J&K and Ladakh, along with senior officials of the bank.

The experts delivered a detailed presentation highlighting the latest online banking facilities, common vulnerabilities, and the rising fraud risks faced by senior citizens. The session aimed at empowering veterans with knowledge to safeguard their financial assets in an increasingly digital banking environment.

Speaking on the occasion, Col Mahan Singh cautioned participants - primarily senior citizens - to remain



vigilant and updated about online banking services.

"Cyber frauds are evolving every day. Senior citizens must stay alert and avoid falling into the trap of online fraudsters," he said.

He urged veterans to follow safe digital practices and immediately report any suspicious activity to the authorities or the concerned bank.

Addressing the gathering, Sandeep Sharma, Territory Head, advised customers never to share their OTPs, passwords, or account details over phone or inter-

SDM Gool inspects progress of work on GDC Campus Building

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
RAMBAN: Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Gool, Intiaz inspected the progress of work on Government Degree College (GDC) campus building, here at Moila. He was accompanied by Naib Tehsildar Dharm Shakeel Ahmed and other concerned officials.

During the visit, the SDM reviewed the progress of the structural works, the quality of material being used and adherence to the specifications. He interacted with engineers, site supervisors and representatives from the executing agency to gather firsthand



SDM Gool, Intiaz inspecting work.

information about the pace and status of the project.

The SDM directed the concerned officials to adhere to quality stan-

Sunil Sharma takes out extensive tour of Paddar, Gandhari

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
KISHTWAR: Leader of Opposition (LoP) Sunil Sharma, undertook two-day extensive tour of Paddar and Gandhari areas of the Paddar-Nagseni Assembly Constituency in Kishtwar, accompanied by senior officials of the district administration. His visit focused on reviewing ongoing developmental works, assessing public concerns, and ensuring timely execution of projects in the remote region.

During the tour, Sunil Sharma conducted a comprehensive inspection of various development projects currently under execution. These included road connectivity upgrades, water supply works, school



LoP Sunil Sharma during visit to Paddar.

infrastructure improvements, and health-care-related facilities. He emphasized the need for strict adherence to quality standards and directed the concerned departments to expedite pending works that are crucial for improving the lives of people in the far-flung belts of Paddar and Gandhari.

Sharma also held a series of public darbars at multiple places, providing a platform for residents to raise their issues directly. People highlighted concerns related to road connectivity, drinking water shortages, erratic electricity supply, and gaps in basic amenities.

The Leader of Opposition instructed the senior officials accompanying him to

take immediate and effective measures to address genuine grievances. He further stressed the importance of transparent communication between departments and the local people to ensure accountability and timely resolution of problems.

As part of the review, Sharma took detailed stock of the distribution of solar lights, a key initiative aimed at supporting households in remote villages that continue to face power supply challenges. He directed officials to ensure that the distribution process remains fair, need-based, and fully documented, so that benefits reach all eligible families without delay.

Speaking to the public, Sunil Sharma said that his priority is to ensure that the voices of the people of Paddar and Gandhari are

heard with seriousness and responded to with action. Development cannot remain on paper; it must be visible, measurable, and felt by every household. He informed that he has directed the administration to remove bottlenecks, accelerate ongoing projects, and work with renewed urgency so that these areas receive their rightful share of growth.

"The people here have waited long enough, and I assure them that I will continue to monitor every issue raised during this visit until satisfactory progress is achieved, he said.

Sharma reaffirmed his commitment to regularly visiting remote areas and maintaining close coordination with district authorities to ensure sustained development across Kishtwar district.

DC Doda pitches for promotion of modern trade practices to achieve rural prosperity

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
DODA: To unlock the global potential of Doda's unique produce and empower local entrepreneurs, the Jammu & Kashmir Trade Promotion Organization (JKTPO) in coordination with the District Administration Doda organized a mega Export Awareness Workshop cum E-Commerce On-boarding Drive today.

Deputy Commissioner Harvinder Singh inaugurated the event and highlighted the growing importance of export-oriented strategies for strengthening the district's economic landscape.

In his inaugural address, the DC urged participants to take advantage of technical sessions to understand global market trends, export



DC Harvinder Singh chairing meeting at Doda.

procedures and the emerging role of e-commerce platforms. He encouraged FPOs, MSMEs, agri-startups, artisans and progressive farmers to adopt modern business practices with commitment and consistency, noting that their progress would significantly contribute to the growth of the rural economy. He further assured full administrative support from all concerned departments to help local entrepreneurs transition from local trade to international markets.

The workshop saw an overwhelming participation from around 200 stakeholders, including MSMEs, startups, FPOs, progressive farmers, traders, artisans, weavers

and officials from Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal and Sheep Husbandry, Handicrafts, Handlooms, Fisheries, Sericulture, Agriculture Marketing and DIC. The diverse attendance reflected growing enthusiasm among local producers to explore global opportunities and enhance product quality, branding, and packaging to meet international standards.

Technical sessions conducted by experts from GeM, DGFT, FIEO and ECGC provided valuable insights into export documentation, credit guarantees, quality certifications and e-commerce on-boarding. The experts also discussed market access strategies, international buyer expectations and financial risk mitigation tools. The workshop concluded with an interactive Q&A session, during which participants received clarity on logistics, export promotion schemes, packaging requirements, and opportunities under national and international trade platforms.

Man-animal Conflict: Wildlife Division Kathua hosts training workshop for field staff

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
KATHUA: Wildlife Division Kathua organized one-day awareness cum training workshop for Forest Officers and staff at Jasrota Training Centre of Jasrota Wildlife Sanctuary.

As many as 42 forest officers (Range officers/Foresters) of Kathua, Billawar, Samba, Udhampur, Ramnagar and Jammu Forest Divisions along with Forest Protection Force (FPF) personnel from J3 Kathua and staff of wildlife Divisions Jammu and

Kathua participated in the Workshop.

Assistant Conservator of Forests (ACF) Research Amit Sharma delivered a detailed PowerPoint Presentation (PPT) and shared his experiences on Human Wildlife Conflict and equipment used during rescue operations. He further highlighted the significance of the coordination and real time information sharing with sister wings of the Forest Department, Police, Local Administration and PRLs while dealing with Human Wildlife Conflict.

ADC Bhaderwah reviews progress of Mission YUVA

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
B H A D E R W A H : Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Bhaderwah Sunil Kumar Bhutyal today convened a key meeting to review the implementation and progress of Mission YUVA in the sub-division.

The ADC discussed different initiatives aimed at youth empowerment, skill development and capacity building under the mission. Officers from concerned departments presented updates on ongoing activities and highlighted areas requiring further attention.

The ADC stressed the need for coordinated efforts to ensure that the benefits of Mission YUVA reach every eligible youth in Bhaderwah and Bhalla. He directed the officials to strengthen awareness campaigns and expedite pending works to improve overall outreach.

The meeting was attended by Agriculture Extension Officers, Branch Manager J&K Bank, Panchayat Accounts Assistants and Yuva Doots besides officials and officers from other departments.

Major education overhaul for Bishnah Constituency: Dr Rajeev secures Rs 9.32 crore

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
BISHNAH: In a major development poised to transform the educational landscape of Bishnah, MLA Dr. Rajeev Kumar Bhagat has successfully secured a colossal sanction of ₹932.90 Lakh (approximately Rs 9.32 Crore) for the comprehensive upgradation and remodelling of schools across the constituency. This significant financial boost is a major step toward realizing the vision of making Bishnah a Model Constituency.

The cornerstone of this ambitious project is the Higher Secondary School (Boys) Bishnah, which has been allocated a substantial amount of ₹586.18 Laes. This fund is earmarked for the crucial remodelling and extensive upgradation of the school, including the construction of a modern double-storey building and the necessary leveling of the ground. This investment will drastically improve the primary infrastructure for hundreds of students.



Beyond this flagship project, the sanctioned funds will address the urgent need for expanded capacity in 16 other educational institutions throughout the region. The projects include the construction of additional class rooms in the schools namely Girls Higher Secondary School Sarore costing 36.00, Girls Middle School Chak Chinnna costing rupees 20.84, Girls Middle School, Kanhal costing rupees 20.84, Girls Primary School, Camp Trewa costing 10.42, Girls Primary School Kotli Mian Fateh costing

BJP Rajouri gears up for Sushasan Diwas with renewed organizational vigour

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
RAJOURI: The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) continued its intensive organizational outreach in Rajouri with a key district-level meeting chaired by J&K BJP General Secretary (Organization) Ashok Koul.

The meeting was attended by district office bearers, morcha presidents, morcha prabharis, mandal representatives, and senior party functionaries. Prominent leaders including former MLC Adv. Vibodh Gupta, Prabhari Munish Sharma, District President Rajouri Dev Raj Sharma, and Seh-



J&K BJP General Secretary (Organization) Ashok Koul along with party workers during the programme.

Prabhari Suraj Singh also addressed the meeting.

Addressing the meeting, Ashok Koul outlined a comprehensive roadmap aimed at further deepening the BJP's grassroots footprint across Rajouri district. He emphasized that the party's real strength emanates from its disciplined and dedicated cadre system, which has consistently powered the BJP's rise across the nation. Stressing the need for seamless coordination between district teams, mandals, and morchas, he urged leaders to work in complete synergy to

strengthen organizational efficiency.

Ashok Koul highlighted the ongoing implementation of major national programmes including Atma Nirbhar Bharat, asserting that these transformative initiatives have significantly uplifted socio-economic structures. He informed that all ongoing activities would culminate meaningfully on Sushasan Diwas on 25 December, which will be observed at every booth to honour the vision of good governance. He also called for maximum participation in Mann Ki Baat, describing

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