

DISHA meeting: MP Jugal Kishore reviews achievements under CSS in Rajouri

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RAJOURI: Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha, Jammu-Poonch constituency, Jugal Kishore Sharma on Friday reviewed the progress achieved under different centrally sponsored schemes in district Rajouri here at the District Development Coordination & Monitoring Committee (DISHA) meeting held in the Conference Hall of PWD Dak Bungalow.

The MP also inaugurated 97.48 KM newly constructed road and bridge projects completed at a cost of Rs 60. 40 crore.

Among the others, DDC



MP Jugal Kishore Sharma chairing DISHA meeting at Rajouri.

Chairman, Chowdhury Naseem Liyaqat; Vice Chairman DDC, Shabir Khan; BDC chairpersons, DDC members, Chairpersons of MCs besides, Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal;

SSP, Mohd Aslam; ADDC, Pawan Kumar and district heads of line departments attended the meeting.

The MP reviewed the implementation of flagship development schemes MGNREGA,

14th Finance Commission, PMGSY, NSAP, SSA, PMDP-U, PMDP-R, IPDS, housing for all, PMAY-U, JJM, NABARD, CRF, IWMP and other centrally sponsored schemes was held threadbare in the meeting.

The meeting was told that against 6 Central Road fund schemes, 2 have been completed, while the work on 04 projects is in progress, while out of 52 NABARD projects 13 are complete in all respects.

The public and their representatives also apprised the MP about scores of issues and demands of their areas including inclusion of left out beneficiaries under PMAY-G, shortage of staff in health institutions, ambulances, work on GMC Rajouri to be completed

at the earliest, shortage of electricity poles etc.

Some more issues included exaggerated electricity bills, dilapidated condition of roads, implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission, repair and renovation of old hand pumps, construction of more chowks in the town to avoid traffic congestion, release of funds for the completion of Abdullah bridge, construction of Koterankha road and other related issues.

Addressing the meeting, the MP asked the Administration unit and Council to work with verve and cohesion to take the district to new heights of prosperity and development and make sure that the benefits of the development reaches to the last beneficiary of the district.

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JAMMU: Kathua has seen the rise of 19 bamboo units of cooperative societies, of which eight were sanctioned during the financial year 2021-22, thanks to the region's distinct topography and geo-climatic conditions that offer an environment conducive for bamboo plants, officials said.

"The Shivalik range of hills along the Jammu-Patankot highway in Kathua has a good concentration of bamboo plants. It has immense potential for generating income and employment in the district," a senior officer said.

The department has so far opened 19 bamboo units of cooperative societies, including eight during the financial year 2021-22, the officials said.

The department has sent nine local bamboo artisans to Assam for a 21-day capacity building and skill development training in bamboo craft, they said.

After getting trained in Assam, they are expected to act as catalysts by imparting training to the other interested local artisans.

According to the assistant director of Kathua handicrafts department, bamboo clusters will be opened in Dewal and Billawar under the North East Cane and Bamboo Development Council (NECBDC) for which survey is being conducted and camps organised to register artisans.

To strengthen the production and marketing of bamboo as an industry in Kathua. At the same time, it highlights the tremendous potential this industry holds to revolutionize the economy of the region besides offering limitless opportunities to the artisans of Kathua," the senior officer said.

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years, bamboo is closely interwoven with the life of people in Kathua in several ways. It is used as a construction material besides for the production of everyday utilities such as basket, chair, table, brush, almirah, bed and decorative items. The people also earn their livelihood by selling a number of bamboo artifacts," a unit holder said.

The department of handicrafts, Kathua, has one advanced and three elementary bamboo training centres. It also has a bamboo common facility centre and a showroom for exhibition of artifacts, they added.

It will create financial and market linkages for the bamboo produce and facilitate in the promotion of start-up entrepreneurship, besides developing training facilities for farmers, entrepreneurs, craftsmen, and villagers associated with the bamboo sector, they said.

It will also facilitate market awareness to entrepreneurs, and joint exhibitions and export promotions among others. With these developments, Kathua is slated to become the frontrunner in bamboo-based agricultural start-ups with its versatile properties and multiple uses in the form of agarbattis, pillars, fencing, housing, household products, raw materials of crafts, pulp, paper, boards, fabrics industry, fuel, fodder, charcoal, food, pickle, garments, socks, jewellery, tooth brushes and medicine among others, they said.

Four training centres are being run by the department of handicrafts in Kathua with an intake capacity of 80 trainees per year. The trained artisans are making a number of new bamboo products such as design pen stands, decorative table chair sets, flower baskets, models of Atal Setu (bridge), name plates, bamboo flowers with stands and round tables among others, they said.

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