

Secretary Cooperative reviews formation of new Farmers Producer Organisations by NCDC

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Secretary Cooperative, Babila Rakwal, on Friday reviewed formation of new Farmers Producer Organisations against the target allocated to NCDC for the Central Sector Scheme, "Formation of 10000 FPOs throughout the country".

Under this Central Sector Scheme with funding from Government of India, formation and promotion of FPOs is to be done through the Implementing Agencies like NABARD and NCDC.

The Secretary issued directions to the concerned officers and stakeholders to work in tandem so that the target of forming 69 FPOs is accomplished. Registrar Cooperative Societies, Mohammad Shafiq, apprised of the issues faced by the



Secretary Cooperative, Babila Rakwal reviewing formation of new Farmers Producer Organisations during a meeting on Friday.

field officers while forming FPO. General Manager NABARD, Anamika in her PPT, said that NABARD aims to enhance the income and livelihood of small and marginal farmers by providing them access to markets, technology, credit and other services. Regional Director NCDC, Vivek Tripathi, apprised that NCDC will provide financial and techni-

cal assistance to the FPOs, which are collective enterprises of farmers that aim to enhance their income and livelihood opportunities. The NCDC will also facilitate linkages with markets, value chains and other stakeholders for the FPOs.

Similarly, the role of CBBOs was highlighted by Head of the JKDCUL, Vikrant Dogra, who gave a

PPT on duties and responsibilities of CBBOs in assisting cluster identification besides supporting FPOs to federate on district and block level.

MD CEO, Muzaffer Sultan, also expressed few concerns regarding FPO formation, which were deliberated upon for redressal.

Secretary Health conducts late night visit to LD Hospital

Assesses healthcare facilities, inspects units of institute, interacts with stakeholders

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Secretary Health and Medical Education, Dr. Syed Abid Rasheed Shah, on Friday paid a surprise late night visit to Government Lalla Ded Hospital, Srinagar and assessed the healthcare services besides inspecting different units of the institute.

Secretary visited the casualty Ward and took an appraisal regarding the patient care and inflow of patients, management, various health interventions being given to the patients, security arrangements and other related aspects. He also inspected Hospital Canteen and interacted with the attendants of patients and sought their feedback on facilities available in the hospital.

Dr. Abid Rasheed also inspected doctors rooms, sanitary section and directed for upkeep and maintenance of hygiene in the establishment. He interacted with the doctors on duty and enquired about the health status of various patients admitted in wards.

He called upon the medicos and paramedics to work with utmost dedication and devotion towards ensuring best patient care. He exhorted upon them to provide enhanced healthcare facilities to the people visiting the hospital with kindness and compassion.

Dr. Abid Rasheed emphasized that the health sector is one of the topmost priorities of the government and numerous innovative measures are being taken up to provide best of the services



Secretary H&ME, Dr. Syed Abid Rasheed Shah during surprise visit to Government Lalla Ded Hospital, Srinagar.

to the people.

Secretary also had a discussion on several issues being faced by the hospital.

He directed the R&B officers to complete ongoing works in the Hospital within the fixed timeframe.

Principal GMC, Dr. Tanveer Masood, Medical Superintendent LD Hospital, Dr. Muzaffar Jan, DMS, Dr. Maimoona Gul, HoU Syed Masooma Rizvi and concerned faculty members were also present.

Power shutdown

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Chief Engineer, (Distribution) JPDCL, Jammu has informed that the power supply to Bawa Lal Di Gali, Circular Road, Peer Mitha, Wazarat Road, Dalpatnain Mohalla, Jain Bazar and adjoining areas will remain affected on February 04 from 9 am to 1 pm.

Similarly, the power supply to Gandhi Nagar, Police Line Jammu University, Bahu Plaza, Apsara Road, Shastri Nagar, Trikuta Nagar, Div. Com. Office and adjoining areas will remain affected on February 04 from 8 am to 11 am.

Likewise, the power sup-

ply to Talab Tillo, Kabir Colony, Bohri, Bharat Nagar, PHE, Top Paloura, Best Price and adjoining areas will remain affected on February 04, 05 and 06 from 8 am to 12 noon.

Similarly, the power supply to Upper Barnai, Lower Muthi, Paloura, JK Colony, Chandan Vihar, PHE Roop Mahar, MES Rajouri Lines, Patoli, BSF Paloura and adjoining areas will remain affected on February 04, 06 and 08 from 9 am to 1 pm.

Likewise, the power supply to Abdullian, Kang, Korotona and adjoining areas will remain affected on February 05 from 10 am to 2 pm. Similarly, the

power supply to Abdullian, BSF, Kadyal Badyal Brahmana and adjoining areas will remain affected on February 06 from 10 am to 2 pm.

Likewise, the power supply to Simbal, Kullian and adjoining areas will remain affected on February 08 from 10 am to 2 pm.

Meanwhile, Executive Engineer, Electric Division -III JPDCL, Jammu has informed that the power supply to Pamposh Colony, SDM Office Janipur Main Stop and its adjoining areas will remain affected on February 04 from 10 am to 12 noon.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Chairperson J&K Khadi Village Industries Board (KVIB), Dr. Hina Shafi Bhat, on Friday convened awareness camp cum interactive session with educated unemployed youth and aspiring entrepreneurs at Khojipur, Jammu.

The camp was also attended by Secretary CEO KVIB, Dr. Jagdish Chander, senior officers from Board, representatives from PRIs and unemployed youth and aspirant entrepreneurs of border area.

Dr. Hina Shafi Bhat, while speaking on the occasion, enjoined upon the prospective entrepreneurs to seize the opportunities being extended by the government through



Chairperson J&K KVIB, Dr. Hina Shafi Bhat speaking at awareness camp.

numerous self employment schemes and establish their own micro-enterprises. She added that employment generation programmes like Prime Minister's Employment Generation Program and JK Rural Employment Generation Program have been designed to empower the common

masses; thus fostering economic independence and driving positive change in the region.

She emphasized the need for ensuring active engagement of all stakeholders to ensure that the employment schemes leave an effective impact across the UT. She announced that a KVIB

would soon establish a skill training centre for women in the panchayat.

Dr. Hina Shafi reiterated the need for synchronized efforts by the implementing agencies and concerned banks to ensure that the benefits of employment generation programmes like PMEGP and JKREGP are percolated

among the targeted population.

It was informed in the meeting that a margin money of Rs. 36.57 crore has been released for establishment of 1448 units in Jammu district during last five years, thereby creating employment opportunities for 11038 persons.

During the awareness camp cum interactive session, the officers gave detailed presentation on modalities involved in implementation of JKREGP and PMEGP. The stakeholders and people of the border areas were informed that these schemes are online and aspirant entrepreneurs can apply online for availing financial assistance under these schemes.

Commissioner State Taxes interacts with trade, industry associations

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: The Commissioner State Taxes Department, P K Bhat on Friday held an extensive interactive with over 40 representatives of apex trade bodies at Excise & Taxation Complex, Srinagar to deliberate over different matters for encouraging taxpayers for submission of GST and issues confronted by traders while paying tax.

The meeting was attended by Additional Commissioner State Taxes, Kashmir Division Shakeel Maqbool, representatives of KTMF, KCCI, PHD Chamber and Commerce, Travel Agents Federation, Hoteliers,



Commissioner State Taxes Department, P K Bhat interacting with traders.

Houseboat Owners Association and other stakeholders.

The participants raised several issues regarding interpretation and implementation of GST policy, Technical glitches faced by

Taxpayers, adoption of cordial approach for tax collection, sensitization of enforcement officers, halting of vehicles at Udhampur, extension in Amnesty Scheme, invoice amendment for B2B

Transactions, and Handholding of Traders besides other issues.

While responding to multiple queries and demands of Trade & Industry associations, the Commissioner outlined that some of the issues including awareness regarding GST interpretation is confronted by many across the country which can be only addressed by the GST Council. He outlined that he will sincerely take up the issues with concerned quarters.

Regarding cordial approach for tax collection, he maintained that

any action is mandated by the Law and the action is always taken only for non-compliance after serving notices.

He assured that no vehicle is halted unnecessarily at Lakhimpur, Udhampur and LowerMunda. The action is taken only against those who avoid detection at check posts.

He sought cooperation from stakeholders in streamlining the tax collection and bringing the unregistered sector under the purview of GST as their operation is causing loss to the registered sector.

DDC Mahajan discusses arrangements for Maha Shivratri Mela

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
REASI: District Development Commissioner Reasi Vishesh Mahajan, on Friday chaired a meeting to discuss arrangements for Maha Shivratri Mela 2024 at Ransoo. The three-day congregation is set to commence on 7th March and conclude on 9th March, 2024.

DDC Mahajan led discussions on crucial aspects, including provisions for drinking water, uninterrupted power supply, sanitation, road repairs, security, and medical facilities. Emphasizing the importance of meticulous planning, he urged concerned departments

to ensure all arrangements are to be in place well in advance for a seamless celebration of Maha Shivratri.

In the realm of medical facilities, the District Development Commissioner directed Chief Medical Officer Reasi that an ample number of medical staff, ambulances, and necessary medical infrastructure will be deployed to handle any potential emergencies during the event.

DDC Mahajan emphasized the need for cleanliness in all parking areas, insisting on the provision of toilet facilities. Additionally, he underscored a

strict ban on the use of single-use plastics on the track trail and in the vicinity of the cave. Adl. SSP Reasi Popsy provided a detailed briefing to DDC Mahajan on the security and traffic management plan, highlighting the commitment to ensuring a secure and well-organized environment for all participants.

ACR Anshumali Sharma, ACD Anirudh Rai, Executive Officer SSKSB Pardeep Kumar, DIO (info), ARTO, CEO, Chief Agriculture Officer, BDO's, Members of SSKSB and other senior district officers were present in the meeting.

PMRU hosts consumers' awareness program on pharmaceutical drugs at District Hospital Kathua

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
KATHUA: An Orientation Programme to generate consumer awareness on price monitoring and availability of pharmaceutical drugs was organized on Friday here in District Hospital Kathua. The event was hosted by Price Monitoring & Resource Unit, (PMRU) J&K under the supervision of Controller, Drugs & Food Control Organization, J&K Lotika Khajuria.

The objective of the Programme was to highlight the importance of affordability and availability of safe, quality and efficacious drugs to the end users and to ensure that there is no shortage of Life saving/essential medicines in the U T of J&K. The said Programme was attended by various stakeholders, general public, representatives from Pharma Associations and Drug

regulatory authorities.

Deputy Drugs Controller, Mohammad Iqbal Palla was the Chief Guest of the function, who informed that the primary function of PMRUs is to assist NPPA in monitoring the prices of drugs, ensuring availability of drugs and raising consumer awareness. He said that PMRUs act as collaborating partners of NPPA with information gathering mechanisms at the grass-roots level to ensure seamless availability of all essential medicines and report the violations on notified prices of scheduled and non-scheduled formulation to NPPA through State Drugs Controller.

Rajesh Anguralla, DDC (ILC) added that PMRU can play an important role in the healthcare system as our BPL population can get benefitted if drug molecules are prescribed in generic names only. He emphasized that an aggressive awareness campaign can help to generate mass awareness about consumer related issues in pharma business.

Archana Mujoo, ADC (HQ) Jammu sought active co-operation of all stakeholders for bringing effective changes in the pricing scenario of drug molecules. She said that the department shall continue to organize several

awareness programmes to rope in support for the PMRU initiatives.

Hina Hamid gave a detailed overview of the activities undertaken by PRMU of the UT. She explained the activities undertaken by NPPA and PMRU.

She sought the coordination of Stake Holders required to expose incidents of overcharging by pharma companies for initiating action by NPPA.

The participants from trade shared their practical experience with the stakeholders. They unanimously advocated for effective surveillance over drug molecules which are not uniformly priced but have a broader relevance

Pankaj Malhotra, Assistant Controller Drugs, (ILC) Jammu presented vote of thanks to the participants. He said that all the stakeholders shall work together to achieve the mandate of PMRU.

The trade members were impressed upon to share the inputs of over pricing of formulations to the PMRU Unit so that necessary punitive action against the erring manufacturing houses could be taken by the NPPA Authorities. The trade members have assured of a full support in this perspective in large public interest.

Competent Committees approve 4062 financial assistance cases under different self-employment schemes

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
DODA: District Level Competent Committees, under the Chairmanship of District Development Commissioner (DDC) Doda, Harvinder Singh on Friday approved 4062 cases for the subsidised financial assistance to the eligible unemployed youth under MUMKIN, Tejaswini, PMREGP, Spurring Entrepreneurship Scheme, and PM Vishwakarma.

The District Level Task Force Committee (DLTFC), chaired by DDC Harvinder Singh interacted with aspiring entrepreneurs and asked them about prospects, scope of the setup proposed by each applicant, and operational strategy of their ventures. The DDC stressed the con-

cerned officers to provide adequate handholding to beneficiaries and ensure timely disbursement of the approved cases. He advised the beneficiary entrepreneurs to work hard, prove their potential, and create avenues of employment for not only themselves but also for others.

The District Level Implementation Committee (DLIC) Doda, chaired by DDC Harvinder Singh, evaluated the implementation of Mission Youth schemes, including MUMKIN, Tejaswini, and Spurring Entrepreneurship Scheme. Chaired by the District Development Commissioner (DDC), the meeting aimed to assess the impact of these youth-centric initiatives.

In the opening discussion,

the committee scrutinized the status of the Mission Youth schemes. Notably, the committee granted approval to 51 cases/applications received online under the MUMKIN scheme.

Under the Tejaswini schemes, three women received approval for the financial assistance to start their own business establishment for gainful livelihood, while under the Spurring Entrepreneurship Scheme, 6 unemployed youth got approval for their proposed ventures.

Furthermore, the District Level Task Force Committee (DLTFC) approved 33 self-employment cases under the Jammu and Kashmir Rural Employment Generation Programme (JKREGP) for

financial assistance to the eligible unemployed beneficiaries to start their own livelihood venture.

The District Development Commissioner Doda also approved 3969 cases under the PM Vishwakarma scheme during the meeting.

The General Manager, District Industries Centre, provided an updated list of 3969 artisans who have been approved at the district level committee after thorough second-level verification.

It was also informed that 240 cases have already been approved, and a list of 13094 artisans is ready with the department who have applied online.

The DC undertook a thorough evaluation of the progress in artisan registration, verification

processes in rural and urban areas, stakeholder capacity building, and the monitoring and evaluation mechanism for artisans. He emphasized the importance of concerted efforts and creating awareness among the masses to maximize the scheme's impact on the socio-economic development of artisans.

The meeting was attended by GM DIC/ Dy Director Employment, CPO Doda, ACP Doda, AD Planning DC Office Doda, Lead District Manager, District Coordinator J&K Bank Doda, EO MC Doda/ Thathri/ Bhaderwah, District Manager KVIB, representatives from Polytechnic College Doda, ITI Doda, other concerned and Co-Opted members of the committees.

Deputy Commissioner Rajouri inspects proposed site for Mini Secretariat building

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
RAJOURI: Deputy Commissioner Rajouri Om Prakash Bhagat, in a proactive and hands-on approach to advance the infrastructural development in Rajouri, embarked on a detailed on-site visit to the proposed location earmarked for the construction of the Mini Secretariat building.

The visit was rich in direct observation and assessment, marking a pivotal moment in the trajectory of the project.

He was accompanied by the Chief Planning Officer, Mohammad Khurshid, SE PWD(R&B), Devi Dyal; Tehsildar Rajouri, Varinder Sharma; Executive Engineer of the Public Works Department (R&B) Rajouri, Sardar Khan. The Deputy Commissioner conducted a comprehensive evaluation of the expansive 88 kanal and 14 marla land slated for the Mini Secretariat. The objective was clear - to meticulously inspect and gauge various aspects that

would contribute to the success and efficiency of this crucial infrastructural endeavor.

During the on-site visit, emphasis was placed on crucial factors such as accessibility, environmental impact, and the potential for future expansion.

The Deputy Commissioner, through this inspection, aimed to ensure that the selected site aligns seamlessly with the vision of the Mini Secretariat as a central hub for government

departments, streamlining administrative processes, and significantly improving public service delivery in Rajouri. Additionally he also asked the concerned officer from the PWD (R&B) to prepare the DPR for the mini secretariat building at the earliest.

This on-site visit, led by Deputy Commissioner Om Prakash Bhagat, is a landmark step forward in the realization of the Mini Secretariat project. It stands as a testament to the commitment of the

administration to ensure that the construction aligns with the needs and aspirations of the people of Rajouri.

Backed by various stakeholders, this project is poised to contribute significantly to the growth, efficiency, and overall development of the district. The administration, along with the various stakeholders, is determined to see this project through to completion, ensuring that it serves the people of the district effectively and efficiently.

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