

DC inspects civic amenities in Poonch Market

STATE TIMES NEWS
POONCH: Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal on Friday conducted an extensive tour of the Poonch market and its surroundings to evaluate the quality of municipal facilities, including lighting, public toilets and ongoing construction projects.

The Deputy Commissioner engaged with local shopkeepers and members of the Beopar Mandal, who expressed gratitude to the DC for conducting the on-ground assessment and giving them the opportunity to voice their concerns.



DC Vikas Kundal during visit to Poonch city.

The Shopkeepers called for replacing old electric wires, construction of a toilet complex at Parade Park, modifying the ashes place of

renowned novelist Krishan Chander, enhancing security with the installation of CCTV cameras behind the Poonch Fort, besides raising

several other issues of public importance. The Deputy Commissioner was accompanied by ADC Tahir Mustafa Malik, Tehsildar Haveli, Police officers, ARTO, Legal Metrology Officer, EO Municipality, Executive Engineers of JPDCL, Jal Shakti, PWD (R&B), Food Safety Commissioner and other officers/officials.

The Deputy Commissioner also visited Krishan Chander Park and Poonch Fort to monitor the facilities available to the public. The effectiveness of the drainage system was scrutinized,

along with the availability of essential services such as lighting, water supply, and overall cleanliness in the market.

The Deputy Commissioner urged the executive engineer of PWD to expedite footpath construction to ensure public accessibility and directed installation of mirrors at Nakha Wali Chowk for improved traffic safety.

The Deputy Commissioner assured the community that all legitimate demands would be addressed promptly, including the installation of electric cable wires throughout the market.

GDC Nowshera hosts successful GEET certificate distribution ceremony



Participant being given certificate during the event.

STATE TIMES NEWS
NOWSHERA: The Graduate Employability Enhancement Training (GEET) team at Government Degree College Nowshera is thrilled to announce the successful completion of the Certificate Distribution Ceremony. The event, held at the college premises, was graced by the esteemed presence of Principal Dr. Shamim Ahmed Azad and other respected faculty members.

The ceremony was a testament to the hard work and

dedication of the students, who were awarded certificates in recognition of their achievements. The event was made possible through the collaborative efforts of the GEET team, Learnnet Skills, and the college administration.

The GEET, a 3-month Employability skills course implemented under INFOSYS, in collaboration with Learnnet Skills Limited, was designed to equip students with essential competencies, enhancing their employability and career prospects.

"We are delighted to celebrate the success of our students," said Principal Sh. Shamim Ahmed Azad. "This ceremony is a reflection of our commitment to providing industry skills and empowering graduates to achieve their goals."

The college extends special thanks to Mr. Iqbal, Shubkriti Sharma (Center head), Prangit Bhardwaj and Digpal Syal (Trainers) from Learnnet Skills for their invaluable support in making the project a grand success.

Week-long campaign on Citizenship Skills, Constitutional Values, and Knowledge of India concludes at Jindrah

STATE TIMES NEWS
JINDRAH: In a remarkable initiative under the PM SHRI (Prime Minister Schools for Rising India) scheme, the PM Shri Govt Girls Middle School Jindrah successfully conducted a week-long campaign on Citizenship Skills, Constitutional Values, and Knowledge of India. The campaign aimed to inculcate a strong sense of civic responsibility, constitutional awareness, and national pride among students.

Key Activities of the Campaign include

A special session was conducted by Dr. Shakoor Ahmed Dar, who provided in-depth insights into the Fundamental Rights and Duties enshrined in the Indian Constitution. He emphasized the importance of democratic participation, equality, and social justice, encouraging students to become responsible citizens.

A seminar on constitu-



Participant student being honoured during the event.

tional values was organized, highlighting the core principles of justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity. The session focused on how these values shape India's governance and impact the daily lives of citizens.

Students participated in a Preamble Pledge, reaffirming their commitment to uphold the ideals of the Indian Constitution. This event aimed to instill a deep respect for the nation's democratic ethos.

As part of the campaign, General Knowledge books were distributed among students to enhance their understanding of India's history, governance, and global position. The initiative aimed to develop their critical thinking and awareness of national affairs.

A series of debate competitions were held, allowing students to express their perspectives on citizenship, governance, and democracy. Additionally, an awareness

camp was conducted where students learned about the role of youth in nation-building and the significance of constitutional literacy.

The PM SHRI (Prime Minister Schools for Rising India) scheme, launched by the Government of India, aims to transform schools into model institutions by integrating innovative education practices, values-based learning, and national development goals.

The week-long campaign at PM Shri Govt Girls Middle School Jindrah aligns with the scheme's objectives in which Students were educated about their constitutional rights and responsibilities, preparing them to become active participants in democracy.

The initiative combined academic knowledge with experiential learning, ensuring a well-rounded educational approach. The

programmes emphasized the principles of the Indian Constitution, the program nurtured respect for diversity, equality, and social justice.

The week-long campaign at PM Shri Govt Girls Middle School Jindrah successfully instilled a sense of national pride, democratic responsibility, and civic consciousness among students. The efforts of Shamash Din (Incharge), Sadaket Ali, Lakshmi Devi, and Bindya Rani were instrumental in making this initiative a success.

The school administration expressed gratitude to all participants, experts, and students for their enthusiasm and commitment to the program. This initiative marks a significant step towards empowering young minds with constitutional knowledge and fostering a generation of informed and responsible citizens, in line with the PM SHRI vision.

CIPMC Jammu conducts National Pest Surveillance System Training at Ramban

STATE TIMES NEWS
RAMBAN: The Central Integrated Pest Management Centre (CIPMC), Jammu, under the Union Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, on Friday organized a one-day National Pest Surveillance System (NPSS) Training Programme in Ramban. The session was presided over by Chief Agriculture Officer Ram Gopal Sharma. The CIPMC scientists, including Deputy Director Dr. Mithlesh Arya, Assistant Plant Protection Officer Dr. Haroon Rashid Hakka and Ravi Chhapre gave a PowerPoint presentation demonstrating the NPSS App. Farmers were guided on downloading and using the app to identify harmful pests in their fields and access instant online assistance for effective pest control. This initiative aims to enhance crop productivity and improve farmers' income.

Speaking on the occasion, the CAO emphasized the importance of adopting modern pest

surveillance techniques to minimize crop losses and enhance agricultural productivity. He highlighted the Agriculture Department's commitment to empowering farmers by integrating digital tools like the NPSS App, which helps in early pest detection and effective management. He further stressed that such initiatives are crucial for promoting sustainable farming practices and ensuring better livelihoods for the farming community in Ramban. Prolonged officials present at the event were District Nodal Officer NPSS, Ravi Sharma, Sub-Divisional Agriculture Officer Ramban, Kuldeep Kumar, Soil Conservation Officer, Vikram Jeey Singh and Agriculture Extension Officers from Ramban and Chandkerote.

The training program emphasized the importance of digital tools in modern agriculture, equipping farmers with advanced pest management techniques to ensure sustainable and profitable farming in the region.

Shrimad Bhagwat Katha concludes in R S Pura, devotees participate in Bhandara

STATE TIMES NEWS
R S PURA: The week-long Shrimad Bhagwat Katha in Badayal Brahmin village, R.S. Pura, concluded on Friday with a grand Bhandara (community feast), where a large number of devotees received prasad.

On the final day, renowned spiritual speaker Shri Rakesh Shastri Ji Maharaj mesmerized the devotees with his divine discourse. He emphasized the importance of Prabhu Simran (remembrance of God) and good deeds in his sermons.

The closing ceremony was graced by MLA Prof. Garu Ram Bhagat and Sarpanch Binny Sharma as chief guests. They paid their respects to the Katha Vyas and prayed for peace,



prosperity, and happiness in Jammu & Kashmir.

Devotees experienced spiritual bliss through the recitation of the Bhagwat Katha and later participated in the Bhandara, making the event a grand success. The villagers expressed special gratitude to the family of former Sarpanch Bihari Lal

Sharma for their contributions to the event's success.

The occasion was attended by former Sarpanch Om Prakash, Balbir Choudhary, Pandit Subhash Sharma, Ramesh Choudhary, Tilak Raj Sharma, and other members of the Bhagwat Katha committee.

Awareness meetings on 'One Nation One Election' held in Kathua, Samba

STATE TIMES NEWS
KATHUA/SAMBA: To raise awareness and gather support for the 'One Nation One Election' initiative, significant meetings were held in District Kathua and District Samba.

The meeting in Kathua was chaired by District Development Council (DDC) Chairman Col Mahan Singh, while the Samba meeting was presided over by DDC Chairman Keshav Dutt Sharma.

Both events witnessed enthusiastic participation from local leaders, representatives, and members of various social organizations.

The keynote speaker for both events was former Deputy Mayor of Jammu and BJP senior leader Baldev Singh Billawaria, who is spearheading the campaign for 'One Nation One Election.'

Addressing the gather-



DDC Chairman Col Mahan Singh and others during the event.

ings, Billawaria highlighted the importance of this initiative, emphasizing its potential to transform the country's electoral system.

He explained that the meetings are being held across all district levels to involve local public representatives and seek support from all sections of society.

During his address, Billawaria described the 'One Nation One Election'

to better governance and economic growth.

He stressed that frequent elections not only disrupt development activities but also impose a massive economic burden on the country.

Citing Election Commission data, Billawaria revealed that Rs. 5-7 lakh crore is spent on holding elections every three years, a cost that could be significantly reduced through simultaneous elections. He concluded with optimism, stating that the implementation of 'One Nation One Election' would save time and resources while accelerating progress in education and development.

District Development Council Chairman, Col Mahan Singh, and his

members in Kathua expressed their full support for the proposal, calling it a visionary step by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Similarly, Samba's DDC Chairman, Keshav Dutt Sharma, alongside his members, endorsed the initiative and pledged to raise awareness among various sections of society through community outreach programs.

Municipal Committees of Kathua and Samba, along with other social organizations, also extended their support for the campaign. The meetings concluded with a collective commitment to take the message of 'One Nation One Election' to every corner of the districts, followed by the singing of the national anthem.

Fit India Movement initiative starts at GDC Thannamandi



STATE TIMES NEWS
THANNAMANDI: The Fit India Movement was launched today at Government Degree College (GDC) Thannamandi with a friendly cricket match between staff and students, reinforcing the importance of physical fitness and an

active lifestyle. The event was inaugurated by Principal Prof. Farooq Ahmad, who stressed the need for integrating fitness into daily routines. Prof. Nazakat Hussain, Head of the History Department, and Dr. Nazar Ul Islam, Nodal Officer, also addressed the gathering, highlighting the significance of such initiatives in promoting overall well-being.

A thrilling cricket match marked the occasion, with Prof. Athar Aziz Raina (HoD Mathematics) and Prof. Nazakat Hussain leading their respective teams as captains. After an intense and engaging game, Annas Mumtaz Mir was declared Man of the Match for his outstanding performance.

Several faculty members

actively participated in the match. Prof. Rakesh Puri, Dr. Goher Iqbal, Dr. Gulshan Rashid Bhat, Dr. Shiraz Ahmad, Dr. Altaf Hussain, Dr. Junaid Ahmad, Dr. Athar Aziz Raina, Prof. Fatima, Dr. Rumi Dar, Dr. Nagina Koser, Rizwana Koser, Dr. Atiqul Rehman, Dr. Mudasar Gori, Dr. Mohd Zubair, and Dr. Mohd Shakoor.

The college administration announced that this was just the beginning of a series of activities under the Fit India Movement. In the coming weeks, GDC Thannamandi will organize various fitness-related events, including aerobics sessions, symposiums, and awareness programs, to further promote the message of a healthy lifestyle.

Prof Garu Ram inaugurates road paving work in Nanowali village

STATE TIMES NEWS
R S PURA: Suchetgarh BJP MLA Prof. Garu Ram Bhagat on Friday inaugurated the road paving work for the dilapidated link road connecting Nanowali village. The event was attended by District Development Council (DDC) member Sardar Taranjit Singh Tony and several prominent local figures.

MLA Prof. Garu Ram Bhagat stated that this development project will improve transportation for the villagers and



MLA Prof. Garu Ram Bhagat inaugurating road work.

strengthen the area's infrastructure. He

assured the residents that continuous efforts are being made for regional development and that more projects will be implemented in the near future.

Local residents welcomed the initiative and expressed their gratitude to the MLA. Officials present at the event assured that the road construction would be completed within the stipulated timeframe.

Former Sarpanch Rajni Choudhary, Sunny Mahajan, BJP workers, and local residents were

also present on the occasion.

Daily wagers declare 72-hour strike over unfulfilled regularization promise



PHE daily wagers staging protest at Poonch.

STATE TIMES NEWS
POONCH: A major disruption to water supply services looms over Jammu & Kashmir as daily wagers working in the Public Health Engineering (PHE) department have announced a 72-hour strike.

The strike, declared by District President of the Daily Wagers Association, Maqbool Hussain, during a press briefing in Poonch, is a strong protest against the government's failure to regularize their employment.

Maqbool Hussain highlighted the prolonged neglect by successive governments, particularly point-

ing to unfulfilled promises made during the tenure of the Omar Abdullah-led National Conference (NC) government.

"We have been tirelessly providing essential services to the people for years, yet the commitment of regularization remains unfulfilled. This has forced us to take this extreme step," Hussain said while addressing the media.

The strike will result in the complete halt of water supply operations across various districts, including Poonch, posing serious concerns for the residents.

Daily wagers argue that despite years of dedicated service, they continue to

work without job security, facing financial instability and hardship.

The association has also issued a stern warning that if their demands are ignored, they will escalate their agitation and launch mass protests across the Union Territory.

The daily wagers remain firm in their stance, urging the government to honor its long-pending promise and secure their employment.

The ongoing strike and looming crisis underline the urgent need for government intervention to resolve the grievances and ensure uninterrupted essential services to the public.

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