

ACEO GeM calls on LG Mathur; apprises about initiatives taken by GeM to facilitate procurements in Ladakh

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

LEH: Joint Secretary and Additional Chief Executive Officer, Government e-Marketplace (GeM), Prakash Mirani, called on the Lieutenant of Ladakh, RK Mathur, at Raj Niwas on Monday.

ACEO GeM Prakash Mirani briefed about the need of GeM for transparency in the procurement process. He informed that the products listed and services provided on GeM and the provision of social inclusion have increased exponentially on GeM over the past few years.

He also informed about the creation of GeM Outlet Stores to promote small seller groups, including women self-help groups (SHGs); integration of APIs (application programming interfaces) with Udyam Ministry of Micro,



Joint Secretary and Additional Chief Executive Officer, GeM Prakash Mirani calling on LG Ladakh, RK Mathur at Raj Niwas on Monday.

Small and Medium Enterprises for seller's auto-registration and development of GeM Sahay App in collaboration with the Indian Software Product Industry Round Table (ISPIRIT) to promote access to markets and finance. ACEO GeM Prakash Mirani apprised about initiatives taken by GeM to facilitate procurement in Ladakh, viz. the appointment of a nodal officer and a dedicated

facilitator for Ladakh to guide and assist all the buyers; the State/UT Dashboard provided by GeM to enable the Administration to monitor and analyse the procurement on GeM; the plan to provide training seminars covering all the features and functionalities of GeM for buyers and master trainers, etc.

He also requested for assistance in setting up GeM Cell in the Finance/IT Department, identification

and nomination of master trainers to ensure training coverage, sharing the list of commonly used terms and conditions used by departments and buyer organisations, giving direction to departments presently not on board on GeM to register themselves and timely clearance of payments to sellers for purchases made on GeM.

LG Mathur requested GeM to ensure that the local filters of Ladakh work efficiently. He emphasised on the need to get all the departments on board that are yet to register themselves on GeM. LG Mathur informed about the plan to register local SHGs and sellers/entrepreneurs on GeM as MSME units. He requested to organise repeated camps to raise awareness among sellers about the process to register themselves on GeM.

BJP discusses forthcoming programmes

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu & Kashmir held a meeting of its senior party leaders including District Presidents, District Prabharris, District Sehbarhis, former Ministers, former MLAs and former MLCs at party headquarter, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

J&K BJP President Ravinder Raina and party General Secretary (Org.) Ashok Koul chiefly addressed the meeting, accompanied by former party State President & former MP Shamsheer Singh Manhas, former State President & former Minister Sat Sharma, former State President Ashok Khajuria, former Dy. CM Kavinder Gupta, party General Secretaries Sunil Sharma and Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal.

Ravinder Raina, while addressing the meeting congratulated the senior party leaders for the successful

massive rally addressed by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi at village Pali. He said that this massive rally speaks of the immense love and support of the public for the PM Modi. "Yesterday's massive participation proves the acceptance of BJP's policies by common masses" Raina said and added that the BJP leaders need to ensure that the policies of BJP are reflected in their every day to day activity in the public working. He also asked them to work more dedicatedly for ensuring the implementation of public welfare schemes of Modi government at the ground level.

Ashok Koul, in his address discussed the forthcoming party programmes in detail. He discussed the recently held series of programmes under "Samajik Nyay Pakhwada" by the BJP leaders which included Ayushman Bharat on 7th April, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna on 8th

April, Har Ghar Nal se Jal on 9th April, PM Kissan Scheme on 10th April, Jyotiba Phule Diwas on 11th April, Free Covid Vaccination scheme on 12th April, Garib Kalyan Ann Yojna on 13th April, Ambekar Jayanti on 14th April, Anusuchit Janjati Kalyan on 15th April, Asangathit Shramik on 16th April, Vitty Samavesh Gourav diwas on 17th April, Swach Bharat Mission on 18th April, Poshan Abhiyan on 19th April and Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav on 20th April. He also discussed the various programmes held on BJP Foundation Day on 6th April and other recently held events.

"Various organizational programmes give us an opportunity to directly connect with the masses and form a 2 way channel between the party and the masses" Ashok Koul said and asked the party leaders to observe every event on the booth level.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAMBAN: The Health Department Ramban on Monday administered covid vaccine doses to 544 persons including 106 children in the 15-17 age group and 417 in the 12-14 year age group in the district. Continuing the drive to implement Covid protocol, the Enforcement teams fined scores of violators for roaming without wearing face masks and not maintaining physical distance. The enforcement teams, during the inspection in their respective jurisdictions, recovered a fine of Rs. 4800 from the violators.

The teams urged the people to wear face masks and maintain physical distance besides taking Covid vaccination doses at their nearest CVC. As per daily bulletin issued by the Chief Medical Officer, Ramban, Dr. Mohammad Fared Bhat, the Health Department has collected 1572 samples including 526 RTP-PCR and 1046 RAT samples besides administering Covid vaccine to 544 persons at various dedicated Vaccination Centres in the district.

GDC Kalakote organises essay writing competition on "Role of Moral Education in today's world"

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KALAKOTE: NSS unit in collaboration with EBSB Club of the college under the guidance and supervision of Dr. Romesh Kr. Gupta, Principal organized an Essay writing competition on "Role of Moral Education in today's World" under "Shikshit Bharat", where maximum students of Se. Ist participated in the Essay writing competition. The programme commenced with the formal address by Miss Priyanka Kumari, HOD Hindi where she highlighted the importance of morals in one's life. She said that moral values pave path for all decisions in life by helping the students in overcoming tough situations and without these life become directionless. In this competition students penned down their viewpoints and thoughts on moral education. The first place was bagged by Jyoti Devi of Semester Ist. Second and third position was bagged by Kajal Kumari and Vandhana Sharma of semester Ist respectively. Speaking on the occasion Principal, Dr. Romesh Kumar Gupta said that moral values are the building blocks of student's personality. Student's life is full of challenges and changes and those students with high ethical morals become responsible and honest as they are capable of distinguishing between right and wrong and these morals become their strength, he further added. All the faculty members of the college were present in the programme. In the end vote of thanks was given by Dr. Tariq Rashid Wani.

Noval seeks free ambulance services for PHCs, SDHs

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NOWSHERA: Noval Sharma, social activist, expressed resentment against the working of government in providing medical services to the rural areas of Jammu and Kashmir, seeking free ambulance services for Primary Health Centres and Sub District Hospitals across the Union Territory.

In a statement issued here on Monday, Sharma said that after more than 70 years of independence still the people of Jammu and Kashmir have deprived of medical services. "The condition of hospitals, dispensaries, medical care units in these areas is dismal. Health care area in

these mountainous districts is so dismal that even the elected representatives of these areas have been expressing their helplessness in persuading authorities to provide the hospitals with minimum facilities and medical staff," he added.

Sharma said that even the people of rural areas are not getting ambulance services due to which thousands of people have lost their lives. He said that complaints are regularly made by the people but the authorities sitting at the helm of affairs are not showing their serious concern towards this burning issue.

Sharma mentioned that during any medical emergency, the people of

Nowshera constituency are not able to get free ambulance services. This seems to be the unspeakable condition of the rural hospitals and the treatment that the Health Department authorities are meting out to them. The rural people in Jammu and Kashmir are destined to live poor and deprived life due to hollow policies of the BJP led government at the Centre. Sharma mentioned that the 108 Ambulance services started by government unable to provide emergency services to the people residing in remote areas due to which during medical emergencies they have to call ambulance free nearby health centres which seems to be a paid services.

He said that the medical infrastructure has been strengthened across the country under the Modi regime but the government should also take serious note of deaths occurred in J&K due to non-available of ambulance services during medical emergencies.

He appealed to the Lt Governor and Deputy Commissioner Rajouri to take necessary steps on war-footing to improve the plight of people living in these far-flung areas by providing atleast free ambulance services in all the Primary Health Centres and Sub District Hospitals in the general interest of people of Jammu and Kashmir.

Sericulture, Fisheries Departments conduct joint cleanliness drive at Bhimgarh Fort

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

REASI: Sericulture and Fishery departments on Monday conducted a joint cleanliness drive at Bhimgarh Fort Reasi, here early this morning.

The Reasi admin has launched a month-long cleanliness drive at the iconic Fort where the departments take turns to carry out the cleanliness operations.

The Sericulture team was led by District Sericulture Officer Sushma Gautam and the Fisheries team was led by AD Fisheries Sanjesh Gupta.

During the drive, a well inside the Fort was cleaned thoroughly by removing Plastic waste inside it.

Apart from this, all biodegradable and non-biodegradable wastes were collected and segregated for safe disposal.

When the entire district is celebrating Gram Swaraj Abhiyan in unanimity, the month-long cleanliness drive at Bhimgarh Fort has been initiated by the district administration to revive the glory of this iconic fort. The Fort offers an ideal location for photo shoot and film shoot.

A state protected monument, Bhim Garh Fort is one of the most important historical symbols which if taken care of properly will emerge as a potential tourist destination.

DLAC discusses promotion of 'safe food, healthy diet & eat right' initiatives in district Kishtwar

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KISHTWAR: The District Level Advisory Committee (DLAC) on promotion of Food Safety discussed a range of issues here at its meeting chaired by Adjudicating Officer FSSA-Kishtwar (ADC) Kishori Lal Sharma here in his office chamber.

The Committee discussed the road map for effective implementation of Food Safety & Standards Act, Rules, Regulations made thereunder & guidelines framed by FSSAI.

At the onset, Assistant Commissioner Food Safety, DFCO Taraq Ahmed Batt apprised the DLAC members about the status of Food Safety parameters in Kishtwar & the steps to be undertaken by the Department of Food Safety (DFCO) to enforce the rules and regulations to ensure availability of safe, pure, Hygienic,

healthy & quality food to the consumers & public in General & proper Adjudication thereto.

The Officer elaborated the specifications of Eat Right challenge-2 besides extended warm complements to the quorum regarding the successful registration of Kishtwar with Eat Right challenge 2.

Furthermore, he informed about Eat right Initiatives including Surveillance, MFPTV, FoSTaC, Hygiene ratings, RUCO, BHOG, Training to Asha workers, Anganwari workers with Tool kits, Eat Right School, Eat Right Campus & allied initiatives added with important role of Fortification in ICDS, PDS & Mid Day Meals.

To overcome the challenges of health hazards due to smoking, COPTA was also discussed at

length for the welfare of Society.

The Adjudicating officer stressed on effective implementations of the agenda of the DLAC Meeting including the services to be undertaken for enforcement of Food Safety norms & ensuring availability of safe & Hygienic Food in the market & to enforce Fortification in ICDS centers & MDM to overcome lack of Essential nutrients in Food served.

He instructed the DLAC members to constitute squads for market checking to check the standards of food being sold in the market. He also emphasized for organizing training workshops & awareness programmes for the vendors, Food Business fraternity, Stakeholders involved in the sector to ensure the quality of Food standards according to the norms set by the Govt.

The meeting was attended by the General Manager, DIC Kishtwar, Dr. Khalid Hussain Malik, Assistant Commissioner Food Safety District Kishtwar Taraq Ahmed Batt, DSWO/DIO Kishtwar Tariq Parveaz Qazi, DySP (HQ) Ashish Kumar, PO ICDS, Chief Medical Officer Kishtwar Dr R S Manhas, Chief Education Officer Kishtwar Sudershan Kumar Sharma, CDPs, Tehsil Supply Officer Food & Civil Supplies District Kishtwar, Professionals on Food Safety & Nutrition, Representative of Chief Agriculture Office Kishtwar, Consumer Organization, Food Business, besides Food Safety Officer HQ, Food Safety Officers of DFC District Kishtwar.

The DLAC Meeting ended with valuable suggestions & commitments.

Workshop on ODOP under 'Kisan Bhagidari, Prathmikta Hamari' campaign organised

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KISHTWAR: Continuing the endeavours to realize the Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of doubling farmers income through various initiatives like One District One Product, a one day workshop was organised in the conference hall of DC office Kishtwar.

The programme was attended by Deputy Commissioner, Ashok Sharma and Director Horticulture Planning and Marketing, Vishesh Mahajan. In his address, the DC spoke about the opportunities available for youngsters for setting up enterprises under ODOP scheme. He also motivated youth to set up modern units for processing, packaging of walnuts.

"District administration is working out a plan for the establishment of Model "Mandi" in the district. A

chunk of 50 Kanal land has been identified alongside the national highway to build a common platform for the display, sale and marketing of the product besides providing national level access to farmers" he said. Vishesh Mahajan, Director Horticulture (P&M) made the audience aware of different schemes and subsidies available for entrepreneurs, who wish to venture into the agro food sector.

Both Director HPM and DC Kishtwar motivated youth to develop a passion for entrepreneurship and be the role model of growth for the region as well as for the whole of J&K.

DPO Kishtwar, Sunil Bhutyal, Area Marketing Officers Kishtwar Sunil Singh and Nodal officer Jammu Sourabh Sangral, besides about 300 farmers and orchardists drawn from different parts of the dis-

trict Kishtwar also participated in the workshop.

During the workshop Area Marketing Officer Sunil Singh and Nodal officer Jammu Sourabh Sangral re-oriented and sensitized the farmers and the orchardists on "Processing and Value addition of Walnuts in District Kishtwar" besides highlighted the aim and objectives of the newly rolled out "Kisan Bhagidari, Prathmikta Hamari" campaign rolled out by govt of India across the India and in UT of JK which has started on the direction of Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

It was informed in the workshop that the campaign which starts from April 25 will continue till April 30 as a part of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' celebration.

The Area Marketing officer shared various insights of the campaign with the

farmers and informed that the scheme adopts the "One District One Product" (ODOP) approach to reap the benefit of scale in terms of procurement of inputs, availing common services and marketing of products.

Focusing on tapping the potential of the District to produce the walnut on large scale, the speakers also maintained that the Support for this products would be for their processing along with efforts to reduce wastage, proper assaying, and storage and marketing.

During the workshop the exports from the SKAUST Jammu and SKAUST Kashmir deliver a lecture on "Scope and future strategies for Processing and Value Addition of Walnuts in J&K, particularly in District Kishtwar".

Army organises awareness campaign on basic first-aid & health issues

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KISHTWAR: Army conducted an awareness drive for villagers on the topic "Basic First Aid and Health issues" in District Kishtwar (J&K). The aim of this awareness campaign was to impart basic knowledge on providing first aid and managing cases of snake bite, fractures, burn injuries and control of bleeding in case of minor accident. Locals were taught about First Aid measures to be adopted in such circumstances and thereby save life or limb.

The awareness camp has helped in ameliorating the medical problems of the people and reaffirmed the connect with Army. A total of 48 locals attended the same. During interactive session with the locals, few of the attendees contributed notably with their views on the subject. This initiative by Indian Army was highly appreciated by the locals populace and they expressed their gratitude for the knowledge imparted to them.

DDC Rajouri reviews achievements in Animal Husbandry sector



DDC Rajouri, Vikas Kundal chairing a meeting.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: District Development Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal on Monday reviewed the performance of the Animal Husbandry Department in the implementation of different schemes, here at a meeting held in his office chamber.

The meeting was attended by Chief Planning Officer, Mohd Khurshid; DSEO, Sandeep Sharma; CAHO, Dr Fazal Hussain, TO to CAHO, Dr Yasir and other concerned officers of the department.

At the outset, the CAHO gave a detailed presentation on the achievements of the department. The meeting

was informed that the total production of Milk in the district has touched 3.80 lakh litres per day.

The DDC set a target for argumentation of the Milk production to 4.00 lakh litres per day and asked the department to initiate the process to constitute Milk Cooperative societies so that better market linkage can be provided to the Milk producers.

The DDC set the target of constituting 150 cooperatives societies in the district this financial year.

While reviewing the performance under IDDS scheme, the meeting was informed that the increase in

Milk production was due to the establishment of Dairy units under the IDDS and other schemes.

He informed that so far 114 dairy units have been established in the district under IDDS scheme.

While appraising the chair about the amount of subsidy involved, the CAHO informed that Rs 114.31 lacs have been released against 63 units.

He further informed that Under TSP 51 Dairy units have been established in Milk village Leeran and 16 units at Lam/Androith. He further informed that 8 units under TSP are in the process at Lam on the pattern of IDDS. "Under Feed and Fodder development scheme, 3 nano feed mills have been established and 34 chaff cutters have been distributed among the farmers," the CAHO Informed further.

He also informed that under Integrated Poultry Development Scheme 10 poultry units (3 of 10k birds, 5 of 5k birds and 2 of 2.5k birds) were established in the district.

Army hosts Iftar Party



Army officials along with people of all sections of society during Iftar Party at Sangaldan.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAMBAN: The Islamic holy month of Ramadan is a pious time for Muslims all over the world. With an aim to foster and reinforce the spirit of peace and communal harmony, Indian Army hosted the Iftar Party at Sangaldan in district Ramban. The event provided a platform for locals of all religions and walks of life to interact on common issues and celebrate the auspicious month of Ramadan with the noble goal of strengthening the bond between locals and the Army.

A large number of Awam

gathered for the Iftar Party and prayed for peace, happiness and prosperity in the region. The local populace and community leaders expressed their hope that such events would improve communal harmony in the region and that locals and Indian Army would work together for the betterment of society and the region. This initiative will also assist in fomenting the belief of people friendly Indian Army. The initiative was applauded by the villagers who expressed their gratitude to the goodwill act of the men in uniform.

Rajouri: DDC takes stock of water supply scenario

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: District Development Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal on Monday chaired a review meeting of the Jal Shakti Department and took stock of the drinking water supply scenario in the district

The meeting was attended by Chief Planning Officer Mohd Khurshid; SE Hydraulics, JP Singh; ACR, Imran Kataria; DSEO, Sandeep Sharma; AD Planning, Mohd Rafiq; EXN Jal Shakti, Mohd Mushtaq and other officers of the department.

The meeting discussed the remedial measures to overcome problems like irregular power supply; shortage of equipment; time-consuming process in the repair of pumps etc.

The District Development Commissioner also reviewed the progress in the implementation of the Jal Jeevan Mission. He directed the Department to identify alternate land for bore-well at Bela colony, keeping in view the demand of the public. The department was directed to

submit a report in this connection at the earliest.

While reviewing the overall drinking water position in the district, the District Development Commissioner directed the Department to take necessary corrective measures like plugging of leakages, rationalization of supply and augmentation of the existing to ensure adequate water supply to the city and its peripheries.

The Concerned Executive Engineers were directed to personally monitor the supply position and plug the gaps, if any, to ensure regular water supply to the people during the scorching summer months. He also asked them to conduct surprise inspections and execute work on ongoing projects in double shifts.

He instructed the officers to regularly conduct field visits for checking water supply positions and keep the provision of mobile water tankers for the highly water stressed areas or to meet any exigency so that the people may not suffer for the want of drinking water during the summer season.