

# Govt committed to provide MSP to farmers: Bharat Bhushan

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
R S PURA: Hailing the Prime Minister Narendra Modi for initiating farmer friendly initiatives, DDC Jammu Chairman, Bharat Bhushan Bodhi has asserted that the Union Government stands committed to provide MSP to farmers without any mediator to ensure that they get reasonable rates for their produce. He said that such initiatives are bound to usher in a new dawn of economic prosperity for the food producers across the nation. He stated this during a function after inaugurating a Wheat Procurement Centre at border Village Trewa in RS Pura on Monday.

Addressing a limited gathering present on the occasion, Bharat Bhushan said that the procurement centre



DDC Jammu Chairman, Bharat Bhushan Bodhi inaugurating wheat procurement centre at village Trewa.

has been opened with a view to provide MSP to farmers at their door step. He further informed that this particular centre will benefit the farmers of 20 Panchayats and 50 villages of Block Arnia. DDC Chairman said that he lauds the people of this border village for wholeheartedly appreciating the move of BJP Government on

MSP. While informing that one of the farmers of the area namely Gurvinderjeet Singh has voluntarily offered 8 Kanals of land to Agriculture Department for establishment of a permanent Procurement Mandi for the welfare of farmers' community, he lauded the benevolent gesture of Gurvinderjeet and saluted

the farmer community on the whole for toiling hard amidst weather vagaries to provide food to the people of the nation.

Prominent among those present on the occasion were DDC Members Prof Garu Ram, Dharrvunder Kumar, Vidya Moten and Sarpanch Trewa Balbir Kour besides SDAO R S Pura, Narinder Pal Singh; AEOA, Dhredder Singh; AEA, Gurdeep Singh; AEOA Rajesh Sharma; Mandi owner Bihari Lal and a large number of prominent farmers of village Trewa. It is pertinent to mention here that all those present on the occasion strictly adhered to the COVID-19 protocol like wearing masks, using sanitizers, maintaining social distancing besides other necessary norms.

# Govt must provide ex-gratia to fire victims on priority basis: Manjit

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SAMBHA: Apni Party Provincial President Jammu Manjit Singh on Monday visited the fire victim families of Gujjar Community at Kurlian-Ramgarh in District Samba wherein 14 sheds along with their valuables got damaged in an intensive fire incident.

Besides Manjit Singh, Apni Party Gujjar Leader Saleem Alam also visited the fire victim families and took the stock of the situation.

The duo leaders provided the fire victim with relief packages including utensils, ration etc. The families thanked the leaders and expressed their grievances to the leaders.

Apni Party Provincial President urged the administration to dispatch assessments teams on ground zero so that they the cognizance of the situation and release ex-gratia in their favor.

"I urge the administration to help these families at an earliest and make proper assessments of the damage done so that compensations be give to these suffering families as soon as possible," Manjit Singh urged.

Apni Party Gujjar Leader Saleem Alam also requested the government for the immediate



Apni Party Provincial President Jammu Manjit Singh handing over relief material to affected families.

redressal of the grievances of the fire victim families in Kurlian.

"The administration must ensure that temporary accommodations are provided to these families keeping in view the current situation of Pandemic until their abodes are reconstructed," he demanded.

# Army organises talent hunt

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
REASI: In an effort to spread the message of peace and universal brotherhood, Army organised a talent show to harness local talent on the occasion of 'World Laughter Day' for the students of Govt Senior Secondary School, Gulabgarh in District Reasi.

A special event was organised where students can showcase their talents in standup comedy. A total of 20 Student's alongwith 30 locals participated the said event zeal and enthusiasm.

A fresh scintillating atmosphere spread across the gathered students, as jokes were being cracked by the participants.

The events of smiles and laughter surpass the self defined boundaries and are major tool towards promoting peace and harmony.

# COVID: Fogging drive carried out at Poonch Court



Fogging drive being carried out at Court Complex Poonch.

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
POONCH: A widespread fogging was done in the chambers of Advocates and at other places of District Court Poonch as maintenance of hygiene is must in fighting the COVID.

The High Court has already directed the Court to function through virtual mode and has restricted the physical appear-

ance only in urgent matters. The Sessions Judge Poonch had also issued an order prohibiting the entry of public, litigants and clerks of advocates in the Court premises.

The advocates of Bar Association Poonch have stated this fogging may be done at least twice a week in the Courts and its surrounding areas.

# Set-up exclusive crop procurement centres for border villages: Tony

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
R S PURA: DDC Member Suchetgarh, Taranjit Singh Tony on Monday appealed to the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and Divisional Commissioner Dr Raghav Langer to establish separate Rabi crop procurement centres for the border belt of R S Pura to alleviate the problems faced by the farmer community.

In a statement issued here, he said that the farming community of the border belt including villages Sai, Suchetgarh, Baspur Bangla and several other falling in the R S Pura area has to surrender before private millers as there is no government procurement cen-

tre in the vicinity and to sell the produce on Minimum Support Price (MSP) the farmers have to travel to distant places which escalates the expenditure due to cost of journey. He said to avoid the carriage expenditure the farmers opt to have trade-off and sell their produce to middle-men or the millers which results in heavy losses. He said non-availability of procurement centres is a big issue as farmers feel fleeced by those who buy their yield by giving much cheaper rates as compared to the MSP fixed by the government. He said, "This is exactly opposite to what Prime Minister Narendra Modi has prom-

ised. How come such prejudice will ensure that farmers get double the amount which they are getting today?"

Tony said that there is no facility of crop procurement in aforesaid villages and the farmers are compelled to sell their produce to millers which offer very less price.

"As the livelihood of most of the farmers solely depend on the agricultural produce therefore the non-availability of procurement centres is proving to be nightmare for these tillers", he said and added that the rate of Rabi crop at government procurement centre is Rs 1,975 per quintal but the private millers are offering only

1,600 per quintal.

"The concerned Department is hand in glove with private millers to exploit the farmers", he alleged and urged the government to provide such facilities to border villages so that the farmers may not face any problems and get adequate price of their produce. "There is dire need to install more procurement centres near the border villages so that farmers get the facilities at their door steps", the DDC member appealed to the government and also demanded a robust system to have check on exploitation of farmers by setting up a foolproof mechanism.

# COVID awareness programme organised through teleconferencing

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
POONCH: Army conducted an online interaction with locals through teleconferencing to spread awareness about the devastating prevalent situation of COVID-19 pandemic in the country and to suggested mitigation actions at Basoni in District Poonch (J&K).

The local opinion makers such as Sarpanchs and Numberdars representing all communities in the teleconferencing were educated on COVID-19 outbreak and basic preventive measures like maintaining social distancing, washing hands with soap, wearing mask, avoid social gatherings etc. Locals were also

educated on all symptoms of COVID-19 seen in 2nd strain of COVID surge. The attendees were also briefed about regular viral fever due to changing weather, which people mistakenly relate to COVID and create panic situation.

Through the teleconferencing the locals were also educated about the online procedure to register themselves for third phase of vaccination drive via www.cowin.gov.in application, which has already started from 01 May 2021 onwards. The gesture of Indian Army was welcomed by the populace and will go a long way in consolidating of military civil bond.

# Highway 4-Lanning: DC Ramban reviews progress on Nashri-Banihal section

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
RAMBAN: Deputy Commissioner, Ramban, Mussarat Islam on Monday conducted a virtual meeting with the officers of National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) to discuss and resolve issues and take stock of the progress on the prestigious Nashri-Ramban and Ramban-Banihal sections of Jammu-Srinagar National Highway 4-Lanning Project.

Additional Deputy Commissioner, Harbans Lal, who is also the Collector, Land Acquisition (National Highway); Project Director, Parshotam Kumar, representatives of construction companies besides other senior officers of district administration attended the meeting.

During the meeting, the issues including land acquisition, shifting of HT towers,



DC Ramban, Mussarat Islam chairing a meeting.

maintenance of existing road, land and structure damage compensation cases were discussed. The DC resolved most of the issues and bottlenecks highlighted by the representatives of construction agencies by passing necessary directions to the concerned officers besides reviewing location-wise issues of land acquisition and compensation cases. Executing agencies were

directed to come up with a comprehensive land acquisition plan and submit indent for the same. They were also asked to take local people on board to resolve the local issues.

While directing the concerned officers to expedite the pace of work, the DC also impressed upon them to adhere to SOPs to contain the spread of Covid infection.

The DC assured NHAI officers of full support of the District Administration to achieve the targets in the completion of the prestigious four laning Project, which will provide better connectivity to people of Jammu and Kashmir.

In light of the directions passed by the Government from time to time, he urged the NHAI and other construction companies to engage local youth in National projects and train them in various skills related to construction engineering, which shall enhance their chances of employability.

Keeping in view of the surge in Covid positive cases, the Deputy Commissioner informed the executing agencies that in order to resolve the issues for hassle-free construction, the District Administration will continue to hold periodic virtual meets.

# DC Rajouri reviews progress on Oxygen Plant installation at GMC&AH

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
RAJOURI: Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Rajesh K Shavan on Monday visited to Government Medical College & Associate Hospital and took stock of the progress on the oxygen concentrator plant under installation, quality health services, medical facilities being provided to the patients and Covid containment measures.

Chief Medical Officer, Dr Sharmim Un Nissa Bhatti; Block Medical, Medical Superintendent DH, Dr Mehmoed; Assistant Executive Engineer Mechanical, Vinod Sharma and paramedical staff of the GMC&AH were present on the occasion.

The Deputy Commissioner was apprised



DC Rajouri, Rajesh K Shavan taking stock of work progress on oxygen concentrator plant.

that 1000 litre per min (LPM) capacity Oxygen concentrator plant is being commissioned in the GMC&AH and work on the installation of the plant would be completed within two days in all respects.

The Deputy Commissioner

was further apprised that the upcoming Oxygen concentrator Plant will help in augmenting bed capacities in the district for successful treatment of Covid-19 positive patients.

The Deputy Commissioner appreciated

the efforts of the concerned executing agency for the speedy execution of the work on the installation of the plant and asked them to further speed up the pace so that the plant can be made available within the shortest possible time for the convenience of the COVID patients.

The Deputy Commissioner also directed the concerned Health Authorities to put in place extra efforts to provide the best possible and quality health services to the patients so that they don't feel any inconveniences.

Deputy Commissioner also urged the public to follow all the SOPs regarding COVID19 and help the district administration to mitigate the pandemic in the district.

# DDC Poonch reviews functioning of Edu Deptt

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
POONCH: District Development Commissioner Poonch, Inder Jeet on Monday reviewed the functioning of the Education Department, here at a meeting of the concerned officers.

The meeting discussed literacy rate, Aadhar seeding of the students, repair and renovation of the playgrounds, construction of new playgrounds for each Panchayat, distribution of sports kits among the youth, bringing back school dropouts, on-line classes, besides other related points were discussed threadbare in the meeting.

It was informed that online classes are being conducted in the district daily. However, problems are being faced due to the fact that many students do not have smart phones and some areas of the district lack internet connectivity.

The proposal for organizing the community classes with a minimum strength of the students in adherence to the COVID-19 SOPs was also presented in the meeting. The DDC assured that due consideration would be given to the proposal.

Concerning the dropout students in the district, the DDC asked the concerned Officer to take concrete measures to reduce the rate and motivate them to come back to schools. He also asked them to submit the details of the current literacy rate in the district.

Regarding the development of the existing playgrounds, the DDC asked the concerned officer to utilize the local funds available with the Panchayats for the minor repair and renovation of the playgrounds. He also asked for the identification of land for the development of a playground in each Panchayat of the district. The land for the said purpose would be identified in consultation with the PRIs.

About the Aadhar Seeding of the students in the district, the meeting was informed that the Aadhar Seeding is 92 per cent at present. DDC asked to ensure a hundred per cent aadhar seeding of the students to enable them to avail the benefits of different Government schemes being implemented in the district

for their welfare.

Regarding the sport kits to be distributed among the youth in every Panchayat under the Back to Village Programme, the DDC asked the concerned officer to submit the list of the left out Panchayats and cover the same within the shortest possible time.

The DDC directed the concerned officer to submit the details of the school buildings under RMSA on which the work has not been started and the buildings under SSA which are incomplete so that the matter can be taken up with the concerned authorities for necessary action at their end.

He further directed the Ex En PWD to complete the work on the KGBV building at Balakote in all respects within six months, also asked for the identification of the land for the construction of the KGBV at Mandi.

The DDC directed the concerned authorities from the School Education Department to put in place added efforts to provide the best possible learning platform to the students amid the Corona Virus pandemic and ensure that their online classes are organized daily so that their studies don't suffer due to the COVID 19.

# Online painting competition held on life & teachings of Guru Tegh Bahadur

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
REASI: To celebrate 400th birth anniversary of Guru Tegh Bahadur, Govt. General Zorawar Singh Memorial Degree College Reasi in collaboration with District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Reasi, organised an online painting competition on the life and teachings of Guru Tegh Bahadur.

A number of students of the college made wonderful posters on the above mentioned theme.

Students were asked to send posters online on 1st and 2nd May 2021 and result was declared on 3rd May 2021. Of all the stu-

dents who participated, Riya Manhas of B.A Sem I bagged first prize, whereas Priya Lakhnotra of B.Sc Sem 3 got second prize and Parjinder Kour and Khushi Sharma of B.A Sem I got 3rd prize. Event was organized by Dr. Amit Bali, NSS Programme officer, Dr. Anu Sharma, Head Dept. of Botany and Prof. Sunil Mangotra NCC Officer.

E- Certificates shall be issued to all the candidates who have bagged the prizes. Whole event was organized under the able guidance of Dr. Chandher Shekhar, Principal of the college.

# DC Samba reviews domicile pendency; sets deadline for clearing petitions

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SAMBHA: Deputy Commissioner Samba, Anuradha Gupta on Monday chaired a meeting of revenue officers to review the pendency in issuance of domicile certificate.

During the meeting, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Jitender Mishra, Tehsildar of Vijaypur, Baribrahmana, Ramgarh, Ghagwal, Rajpura besides other field staff of revenue Dept were also present.

In the meeting it was informed that 89658 domicile certificates have been issued online against 108219 applications, while 14577 were found



DC Samba, Anuradha Gupta chairing a meeting.

deficient and returned. The pendency in issuance of domicile certificates was viewed seriously by the Deputy Commissioner and directions for immediate clearance were issued.

The DC asked the Revenue Officers to expedite the issuance of domicile certificates by holding regular public service camps. She also directed to

submit status report within a week to her office with maximum disposal of pendency.

Later, the meeting discussed grey areas/pockets where there is zero mobile Internet connectivity. The Deputy Commissioner directed tehsildars to identify such areas in coordination with SDEO BSNL for resolving the Internet connectivity issues.

# COVID-19 SoPs implementation: Rs 3,000 fine recovered from violators

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
RAMBAN: Continuing the drive to implement COVID protocol across the district Ramban, the Enforcement teams today 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 3,000 taking the total amount fined since April 1, 2021 to Rs. 5, 25,400. The Enforcement officers urged the people to wear face masks and maintain physical distance besides

taking Covid vaccination doses at their nearest CVC. District Immunization Officer, Ramban, Dr. Suresh informed that as many as 1848 persons were administered first and second Covid vaccine doses across Ramban district.

As per daily bulletin issued by the Chief Medical Officer, Ramban, Dr. Mohammad Fareed Bhat, the Health Department has collected 1022 samples including 293 RT-PCR and 729 RAT samples besides administering Covid vaccine to 1848 persons at dedicated Vaccination Centres in the district.

# Houses, crops damaged in cloud burst at Dingla

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
POONCH: Dingla, a village near to Poonch city faced a great loss due to cloud burst on Monday.

Sources said that at about 03:30 pm, a cloud has been burst in Village Dingla which caused huge loss to public property as some houses and crops were damaged. Inhabitants of the area appealed to the District Development Commissioner Poonch to review the condition and help the victims as soon as possible.



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