

Pahari Tribe ST Forum delegation seeks immediate resolution of student grievances

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a significant development for student welfare and rights advocacy, a delegation of the Pahari Tribe ST Forum, under the leadership of Advocate Syed Waqar , conducted a crucial visit to the Pahari Hostel, Jammu. The delegation comprised active members of the forum, including Tokeer Malik, Toseef Malik, Sayaf Qureshi, and several other concerned youth leaders from the Pahari community. The primary objective of the visit was to assess the on-ground situation and address the grievances being faced by the students residing in the hostel.

During the visit, the delegation held a comprehensive and focused discussion with the hostel administration. The students raised multiple concerns, ranging from inadequate basic facilities, cleanliness issues, lack of proper maintenance, administrative delays, to insufficient grievance redressal mechanisms. In a constructive and solution-oriented



Forum members during visit to Pahari Hostel Jammu.

approach, many of the problems were resolved on the spot with the cooperation of the concerned officials, showcasing a positive response from the authorities.

One of the most critical issues addressed during the visit was the recently enforced "One Child Policy", which barred more than one sibling from the same family from availing hostel accommodation. This policy was widely condemned by the student community for being arbitrary, discriminatory, and unjust, particularly for Pahari families who have multiple children pursuing higher education simultaneously.

After detailed deliberation and persistent representation by the delegation, the hostel authorities agreed to withdraw the One Child Policy with immediate effect, a move that was met with overwhelming support and relief from the students.

The delegation also interacted individually with several students, attentively listening to their minor grievances and unresolved issues, and assured them of continued follow-up with the concerned departments to ensure lasting solutions.

The students expressed heartfelt gratitude to Advocate Syed Waqar and the Pahari Tribe ST Forum team for their proactive efforts and unwavering support. They also acknowledged the hostel authorities for showing readiness to engage in dialogue and act in the interest of student welfare.

This development is a testament to the power of constructive leadership, student unity, and collaborative engagement between community representatives and the administration. It sets a strong precedent for how grievances, when voiced collectively and responsibly, can lead to meaningful policy reversals and better conditions. The Pahari Tribe ST Forum delegation reaffirmed its firm commitment to standing with Pahari students and working tirelessly to ensure that their educational, residential, and social rights are upheld with dignity, fairness, and without any form of discrimination.

ICSSR Study in Rajouri collaborates with communities to map barriers for Tribal, PoJK Displaced & Women

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: As part of an ICSSR-sponsored research study led by Prof. Arvind Jasrotia, Department of Law, University of Jammu, a series of in-depth Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) were conducted across Rajouri district to holistically examine the lived realities of marginalized communities through immersive, context-sensitive methodologies. The research employed deep FGD techniques including stratified participant engagement with civil society representatives, NGOs, local leaders, and marginalized community voices to capture intersectional perspectives from tribal populations, women, and displaced persons from Pakistan-occupied Jammu & Kashmir (PoJK).

Facilitators anchored discussions in community spaces across Thanamandi, Darhal, Rajouri town, Nowshera, and Sunderbani, utilizing semi-structured guides with emergent probing to explore embodied experiences of marginalization, local interpretations of policy accessibility/effectiveness, pre/post-constitutional reforms scenario, and socio-



Officials and other dignitaries during the event.

bureaucratic barriers.

Over a three-day immersive fieldwork period, the team documented non-verbal cues, in-situ vernacular expressions, and participant-driven policy gap prioritization, enabling co-production of knowledge on place-based vulnerabilities.

Prof. Jasrotia noted these dialogues revealed community-specific cosmologies of justice and resistance, while uncovering tacit insights into ritualized bureaucratic challenges and gendered impacts of legal ambiguities. Research Assistant and Field investigators Dr.

Kartika Bakshi, Dr. Gazala Noor, Ms. Rupakshi Wazir, and Ms. Ritika Gupta ensured ethnographic rigor through reflexive notetaking, while key community interlocutors Vikrant Sharma, Abdul Qayoom Mir, Arif Jatt, Shakti Sharma, Hamid Malik, Dr. Sajjad Mir, Sabar Choudhary, Vinod Raina, Dr. Ajay Prasher, Rajesh Prasher, Sonam Sharma, Gurnam Kour, Ms. Pragati and Dr. Nitam Sharma provided emic validation of findings, strengthening the collaborative analysis of intersectional marginalization.

DC Reasi calls for joint action to curb drug menace,prescription misuse under probe

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

REASI: A District Level Narco Coordination Committee (NCORD) meeting was convened on Wednesday under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Reasi, Nidhi Malik at the DC Office Complex. The meeting saw active participation from key departments including Police, Health, Education, Excise, Social Welfare, and Rural Development.

The Deputy Commissioner conducted a comprehensive review of the ongoing anti-drug measures in the district and emphasized the urgent need to identify areas where Cannabis Sativa is being cultivated. She directed the Forest Department, in coordination with the Agriculture Department, to take immediate action for the destruction of such crops.

DC Nidhi Malik also instructed the Police Department to share detailed intelligence on locations of illicit crop cultivation to facilitate coordinated enforcement. Additionally, the Forest Department was asked to promote the cultivation of alternative crops to prevent the resurgence of Cannabis Sativa.

Following a concern raised in the NCORD meeting about a psychiatrist in



DC Reasi, Nidhi Malik chairing a meeting.

Katra-who was reportedly overprescribing habit-forming drugs and flagged as a potential contributor to drug dependency, with serious violations in drug handling and record-keeping-the DC Reasi ordered an immediate inquiry and directed the submission of a final report within two days for further action, emphasising a zero-tolerance policy towards drug abuse.

Further, the Drug Inspector was directed to intensify inspections of medical shops across the district. The Deputy Commissioner emphasized that all medical shops must be equipped with CCTV surveillance and operate with fully computerized billing systems to enhance accountability and prevent

the misuse of prescription drugs.

Deputy Commissioner also reviewed the status of IEC activities under the Nasha Mukta J&K Abhiyaan. She directed that all pending activities be completed within a week and stressed the importance of ensuring maximum public participation in awareness initiatives.

Reaffirming the district administration's commitment to a drug-free Reasi, the Deputy Commissioner called for stronger inter-departmental coordination to effectively combat the menace.

The meeting was attended by SSP Reasi Paramvir Singh, ADC Rakesh Kumar, Additional SP, ACR, ACD, DFO Reasi, and other concerned officers.

DC Rajouri reviews allotment process of Minor Mineral Blocks

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Abhishek Sharma today chaired a meeting of the District Level Task Force to review the status of allotment process of minor mineral blocks including issuance of No Objection Certificates (NOCs). He directed for expeditious disposal of pending cases.

During the meeting, it was informed that NOCs have been issued while only few are under process. The Deputy Commissioner emphasized the importance of timely completion of the NOC process to ensure smooth functioning of developmental works and to facilitate legal mining activities.

He directed the Assistant Commissioner Revenue (ACR) to expedite the issuance of the pending NOC and ensure that a certificate of non-involvement in illegal mining is also obtained. The DC also stressed on inter-departmental coordination and adherence to timelines to avoid delays in the allotment and operationalization of minor mineral blocks.

Mahila Morcha forms backbone of party's grassroots structure: Mohan Lal



MLA Mohan Lal Bhagat along with members of Mahila Morcha.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

AKHNOOR: In a significant move towards strengthening the organizational framework and accelerating developmental initiatives in Akhnoor constituency, Member of Legislative Assembly, Mohan Lal Bhagat held an intensive meeting with prominent leaders of the BJP Mahila Morcha.

During the interaction, MLA Mohan Lal emphasized the pivotal role of women in politics and community development. He

stated that the Mahila Morcha forms the backbone of the party's grassroots structure and that their active participation is instrumental in achieving both organizational and developmental goals.

Key topics discussed included enhancing women's involvement at the booth level, strategizing for upcoming public outreach initiatives, and ensuring inclusive development across all segments of the constituency.

Notable attendees in the meeting included former

District Mahila Morcha President Rajni Sharma, former Akhnoor Mandal Mahila Morcha President Anuradha Sharma, along with Nisha Bhagat, Sudarshan Sharma, Neelam Sharma, Jyoti Devi, Aashu Devi, Ritu Devi, and Sheetal Devi, among others.

The meeting concluded with a collective resolve to strengthen the party at the grassroots and to continue empowering women across the region, aligning with the vision of a stronger and more inclusive BJP organization.

DC Poonch reviews implementation of PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH: Deputy Commissioner Poonch Vikas Kundal on Wednesday chaired a comprehensive review meeting to assess the progress of the PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana in the district. The meeting focused on key components including rooftop solar installation status, applica-

tion trends and financial disbursements under the scheme. During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner took a brief review of the status of installations across the district. Officers from all subdivisions - Mandi, Mendhar, Surankote, and Poonch (Haveli) - presented

detailed reports on their respective progress. It was informed that a total of 1,210 applications were received from across the district, out of which 206 installations have been completed so far.

The Deputy Commissioner directed all concerned officers to intensify efforts and significantly increase the



number of installations in the coming weeks. To enhance public participation, the DC instructed stakeholder departments to initiate a mass awareness campaign to educate citizens about the benefits of the scheme and to simplify the registration process to ensure maximum outreach.

He emphasized the need for timely approvals, hassle-free processing, and proactive handholding of beneficiaries for the successful implementation of the scheme.

The Deputy Commissioner urged the Power Development Department (PDD), banking institutions and empanelled vendors to work in close synergy to overcome any technical, financial or procedural challenges being faced by applicants.

Pawan, DC inaugurate construction work of Tricolour structure, Sergah Road Project



MLA Udhampur West Pawan Kumar Gupta inaugurating the project.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: Member Legislative Assembly Udhampur West Pawan Kumar Gupta today inaugurated the construction work on a Tricolour structure and

Sergah to Devika Temple road here in the Township.

The Tricolour Structure, being constructed under the Untied Grant at an estimated cost of Rs 11.18 lakh, is being executed by the Public

Works Department.

Later, the MLA Udhampur West and DC also inaugurated the construction work of the Sergah road under the District Plan, with a projected cost of Rs 30.11 lakh. The

road, which will provide smoother access to the Devika Temple, is yet another milestone in the town development.

The inauguration was held in the presence of Deputy Commissioner Saloni Rai, Chief Planning Officer Uttam Singh, Executive Engineer PWD, other district officers and prominent

local citizens.

The MLA and Deputy Commissioner congratulated the public on the fulfillment of their long-pending demand. The MLA Udhampur West commended the tireless efforts of the District Administration, especially DC in ensuring the timely execution of the twin projects. He also congratulated

the general public and the DC for improving accessibility to the revered Devika Temple.

Local residents expressed gratitude to the MLA Udhampur West and District Administration for fulfilling their long-standing demands and executing the development works within record time.



DEPARTMENT OF REMOTE SENSING & GIS

UNIVERSITY OF JAMMU

Advertisement Notice for the position of Junior Research Fellow (JRF)

Applications are invited on plain paper from Indian nationals with complete CV and necessary qualifications/experience certificates for the position of **Junior Research Fellow (JRF)** in a project **Cryosphere Sciences and Application program (CAP)** on **"Glacier studies in Indus (North/South) basin"** funded by Cryosphere Sciences Division Geo-Sciences, Hydrology, Cryosphere Sciences and Application Group, Earth, Ocean, Atmosphere, Planetary Sciences and Applications Area, Space Application Centre (SAC), ISRO, Ahmedabad with following details:

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No TA/DA will be paid for the interview.

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Sd/-
Prof. Avtar Singh Jasrotia
Principal Investigator

DIP/J1483-P/25

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, MECHANICAL & HOSPITAL DIVISION JAMMU

MHDJ/e-NIT 146 of 2025-26 NOTICE INVITING TENDER (Short Term)

Dated: 29.07.2025 Due : 07.08.2025

On behalf of the President of India, e-tenders in two cover system on turnkey basis are invited from registered/reputed firms having sufficient relevant experience for the work mentioned below:

S. No	Description of work	Project Authority	Estt	Earnest Money Deposit	Cost of tender document	Time of completion	Eligibility Criterion of Bidder
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