

DC Rajouri inspects progress of PWD projects

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
RAJOURI: Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal, conducted an inspection of the Public Works Department (PWD) projects in the district. The primary objective of the visit was to assess the progress and quality of the NABARD-funded projects.

One of the projects inspected was the NABARD Road from Darhali bridge to Rehtal lower. This road project has an estimated cost of Rs 237.43 lacs and spans a distance of 2.5 kilometers. During the inspection, it was noted that 1.5 kilometers of earthwork has been completed successfully. The Deputy



DC Rajouri, Vikas Kundal conducting inspection of PWD projects.

Commissioner Rajouri expressed his satisfaction with the progress made so far and emphasized the importance of timely completion to ensure enhanced connectivity for the people of Rajouri.

Another significant project inspected was the newly sanctioned NABARD-funded Bridge at Atti. This project involves the construction of a 70-meter bridge and at an estimated cost of Rs 5.50

crore.

The Deputy Commissioner assessed the site and discussed the implementation plan to expedite the construction process. The DC emphasized the importance of the bridge in improving transportation and connectivity in the region.

Officers who accompanied the Deputy Commissioner during his visit were Chief Planning Officer, Mohammad Khurshid; Executive Engineer (XEN) of PWD(R&B) Rajouri, Sardar Khan and other concerned officers.

The Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal highlighted the significance of these infra-

GDC Khour organises slogan writing competition on ‘Truth & Non-Violence’

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
KHOUR: NSS Unit of GDC Khour organized a Slogan Writing Competition in commemoration of Gandhi Jayanti, themed "Truth and Non-Violence". The aim of the activity was to pay tribute to the ideals and philosophies of Mahatma Gandhi, a pioneer of truth and non-violence, whose life and teachings continue to resonate with people globally. Best slogan was made by Needhi Kumari of Semester 5 th, 2nd position was shared by Simran and Barsha Bhau of Semester 5th and 3rd position was shared by Samriti Gouria and Sweetie Manhas of Semester 5 th.



Faculty along with students during the contest.

Participants were judged based on the relevance to the theme, and impact of their slogans. Addressing the students Principal of the college highlighted that Mahatma Gandhi's values of truth and non-violence are as relevant today as they were during the independence movement". This programme was organised by NSS Programme Officer Gurvinder Kour under the guidance of Principal of the college, Prof. (Dr) T K Sharma.

NSS volunteers conduct Swachita Abhiyan in GDC Bhadarwah



Faculty along with NSS volunteers during the programme.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
BHADERWAH: NSS Unit GDC Bhaderwah under the aegis of Prof. (Dr) Kuldeep Kumar Sharma, Principal GDC Bhaderwah and under the leadership of Dr. Mushtaq Ahmed Program Officer conducted a Swachita Abhiyan in the College premises in which 50 students participated actively in a cleanliness drive.

The faculty members of the

college Prof Pinky Kotwal, Prof Sanjay Kumar, Prof Deep Chand and others lead the drive and actively engaged themselves and students.

Dr. Mushtaq Ahmed Program Officer spoke on the occasion related to the theme "Swachita Abhiyan". He emphasized on maintaining a green campus that should lead to the sustainable development of the college campus.

As a part of Gandhi Jayanti celebration and Meri Maati, Mera Desh- Mitti Ko Naman, Verron ko Vandan, the college has taken the task of making the campus plastic free and cent percent green.

In this context, Program Officer also said that NSS Unit has made an action plan and will properly make it functional in future.

DDC Reasi reviews tendering of development works under capex budget

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
REASI: District Development Commissioner, Reasi, Babila Rakwal chaired a meeting of officers in the Video Conference Hall of District Administrative Complex, to review the progress and status of works under District Capex Budget 2023-24.

During the meeting, the District Development Commissioner took detailed sector wise review & progress under the District Capex Budget including UT Capex, Area Development Fund, Aspirational Bock Development Programme & Aspirational Panchayat Development Programme in education, RDD, PDD, PHE, Health and other sectors.



The DDC reviewed estimation of works done, Administrative Approval Accorded, number of works tendered, allotment of works, works initiated and completed and other related issues.

During the meeting it was informed that the total number of works under District Capex 2023-24 including NFB,ADF, ABDP and

APDP is 3036 which includes 2599 new works & 437 ongoing works.

The District Development Commissioner directed the officers to expedite the estimation and tendering process. She further directed them to personally monitor the quality and progress of all ongoing works and allotment of works and make best utilization of the working season to complete all the works.

The meeting was attended by ADDC, Reasi Jyoti Slathia; CPO, Sunita Kanchan; ACD, Executive Engineer, REW, Executive Engineer, PWD(R&B), Mahore/Reasi, Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti, Reasi, BDO's and other concerned officers.

GDC Reasi organises six-day workshop on Automatic Speech Recording software

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
REASI: Government General Zorawar Singh Memorial Degree College, Reasi has organized a six-day workshop on Automatic Speech Recording Software in Dogri under the direction of college principal Dr. Kulvinder Kour.

The workshop was initially fixed for three days but keeping in mind the participation of a large number of students, the workshop was later extended to six days. On the last day of the workshop, Dr. Surita Sharma, Assistant Prof. of Dogri welcomed all the guests, experts, and students. Further, she also encouraged the students to take part in extra activities like workshops, seminars

etc.

Later, the nominated coordinators Atul Kumar, Meenakshi Devi and Sonia Kumari discussed the various experiences related to the workshop. In the end, Dr. Kulvinder Kour, college principal extended thanks to the Nodal Principal, GCW Parade, Jammu for deputing a team of experts including Preeti Dubey, Assistant Prof. of Computer Science, Navedika Mishra and Rakesh Kumar. The whole Program was hoisted and coordinated by Dr. Preeti Dubey, Dr. Surita Sharma, Prof. Sunil Mangotra and Shashi Kumar Sharma. Dr. Samriti Aggarwal presented the vote of thanks in the end.

Two-day craft carnival celebrating local handloom, handicraft concludes

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
POONCH: The two-day Craft Carnival, organized by the Handloom and Handicrafts department in collaboration with the district administration Poonch, concluded here today on a high note.

The event, held at Krishan Chander Park Poonch, witnessed a remarkable display of traditional craftsmanship and creativity, showcasing the rich cultural heritage of the region.

The concluding ceremony was graced by the presence of the chief guest, Additional District Development Commissioner Poonch, Sandesh Kumar Sharma.



Trophies being distributed among participants.

The proceedings of the program were skillfully conducted by Darshan Bharti (Master), adding a touch of elegance to the event.

The ceremony was attended by PO ICDS, Khalid Hussain Wafa; CEO, Poonch Dev. Authority; Dr. Mohammad Tanveer;

exceptional craft products. He encouraged them to explore opportunities to sell their exquisite handmade products, such as shawls, wood artifacts, Painting etc. beyond the boundaries of the Union Territory. By venturing outside the state, the artisans could maximize their earnings and benefit from higher rates, he said.

Later, the Additional District Development Commissioner presented mementos to the participants who contributed to the success of the program. The Department of Handloom also extended their gratitude by presenting mementos to the AADC, PO ICDS, CEO Tourism, DEPO, and other distinguished individuals.

Dr. Mohammad Tanveer, CEO Tourism, expressed his optimism regarding the craft fair's potential to boost tourism in the district. The event showcased the exquisite artistic skills of local artisans, serving as a magnet for tourists seeking an authentic cultural experience.

In conclusion, Assistant Director of Handloom/ Handicraft, Shazia Rehman expressed her heartfelt gratitude to all those who played a pivotal role in making the Craft Carnival a resounding success. Their collective efforts and support ensured that this celebration of traditional artistry left a lasting impact on both visitors and participants.

Newly elected YC president receives grand welcome

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
BASOHLI: The newly elected President of Youth Congress, Jammu & Kashmir, Aakash Bharat, returned to his hometown of Basohli amidst a spectacular welcome. The vibrant town of Basohli came alive as supporters and well-wishers gathered to extend their warm greetings to their dynamic leader.

A grand rally was organized to celebrate this homecoming, commencing at the iconic Atal Setu Bridge and continuing through the heart of Basohli. Thousands of enthusiastic supporters cheered as Aakash Bharat walked alongside them, reaffirming his commitment to empower the youth of Jammu & Kashmir.

In an interaction with the media, Aakash Bharat expressed his dedication to working tirelessly for the betterment of the region's youth. He declared, "The Youth Congress is fully prepared for the upcoming elections, and we are determined to bring the Congress party back to power. Congress is the party that tirelessly serves the people and prioritizes employment opportunities for the youth."



Newly elected President of Youth Congress, Jammu & Kashmir; Aakash Bharat being given rousing reception at Basohli.

Aakash Bharat went on to criticize the current government, alleging a series of scams in government recruitment that have deceived the youth of Jammu & Kashmir. He emphasized the urgent need for change and promised to restore integrity to the recruitment process.

Speaking about the state of Basohli municipality, Aakash Bharat lamented the lack of progress and development. He declared, "The municipality in Basohli has not lived up to its potential. If the people of Basohli elect a committed Chairman for the municipality, we will make every effort to drive the development and progress that this town deserves."

The homecoming event in Basohli not only marked a significant moment for Aakash Bharat but also highlighted his strong vision for the future of Jammu & Kashmir. Those were present Vishal Padwal, Aamir Ansari, Ankush Mehra, Shiv Padha, Asish Bharat, Amrisha Sharma, Sahil Balowria, Ayush Gaur, Gourav Jamwal and others.

Col Mahan takes stock of people's issues, assures early redressal



Col Mahan Singh (Retd), DDC Chairman Kathua and others during public meeting.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
KATHUA: Col Mahan Singh (Retd), DDC Chairman Kathua, along with Dr. Shaveta Kumari, DDC Member Kedian Gandyal, visited Kurti, an extremely remote and underdeveloped village situated in the Kandi region of District Kathua. The visit aimed to assess the needs and challenges faced by the village and its residents.

Upon their arrival, the villagers, including elders, women, and children, extended a warm and enthusiastic welcome to the DDC Chairman and the local DDC Member.

The Sarpanch of Thein, Ex Sarpanch Maan Singh, Capt Kishan Singh, several prominent residents, and numerous BJP functionaries also joined the DDC entourage for the journey, covering a hilly track of nearly 5 kilometers on foot.

During the visit, the vil-

lagers brought to light their most pressing issue, which is the lack of road connectivity. They expressed their frustration over the inability of successive governments and public representatives to address this issue effectively. Additionally, the villagers shared their hardships due to the village falling within a wildlife sanctuary. Concerns related to access to drinking water, the absence of a health center, erratic electricity supply, and inflated electricity bills were also discussed.

Col Mahan patiently listened to the problems raised by the villagers and assured them that their genuine concerns, including road connectivity, would be addressed. He emphasized his commitment to finding practical solutions to the challenges faced by the residents of Kurti.

The DDC Chairman

highlighted the significant achievements of the Modi government over the past nine years. He applauded central government schemes such as Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY), the old-age pension scheme, health cards, and Garib Kalyan Yojana, which have positively impacted the lives of citizens across the country.

Col Mahan also noted that for the first time, the Forest Rights Act has been implemented in the Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory, granting grazing and other rights to tribals and forest dwellers residing in forest areas.

As a symbolic gesture of respect and honor, Col Mahan Singh collected soil from the house of Martyr Baldev Singh as part of the "Meri Maati Mera Desh" initiative, paying homage to the brave soldiers who have made the ultimate sacrifice for the nation.

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