

JMC launches Coconut Shredding Unit to prevent drain blockages, promote sustainable waste management

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
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As part of its continued efforts under the Swachh Bharat Mission to strengthen scientific waste management and keep the city clean, the Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) today launched a Coconut Shredding Unit at Bhagwati Nagar. The unit was inaugurated by Commissioner Jammu Municipal Corporation Dr. Devansh Yadav.

The initiative has been introduced to address a major challenge during the monsoon season, when discarded coconut shells often choke drains and sewer networks, resulting in waterlogging and the overflow of wastewater onto roads. After consuming coconut water, empty shells are frequently discarded on streets, in garbage bins, or directly into drains, creating sanitation and environmental concerns.

Under the new initiative, the JMC will collect dis-



carded coconut shells directly from vendors across Jammu city and transport them to the Coconut Shredding Unit at Bhagwati Nagar. The shells will be scientifically processed into cocopeat, an eco-friendly growing medium widely used in horticulture, landscaping and composting.

Dr. Devansh Yadav said that all coconut vendors will be provided with special JMC identification stickers. These stickers will help municipal collection vehicles easily identify registered

vendors and ensure the regular collection of discarded coconut shells. He said the initiative will not only prevent drain blockages and reduce waterlogging during the rainy season but also convert waste into a valuable resource, reinforcing JMC's commitment to sustainable and circular waste management.

The Commissioner also urged citizens and vendors to actively support the initiative by disposing of coconut shells responsibly and cooperating with the

municipal collection system to help keep Jammu clean and free from drainage obstructions. Among those present on the occasion were Joint Commissioner (Health & Sanitation), Abdul Sattar, Health Officer, Dr. Shahid Hussain, Assistant Floriculture Officer, Dr. Rabia Khan, Veterinary Assistant Surgeon, Dr. Divya Sharma, Executive Engineer (Mechanical Division), Talat Mahmood Khan and other officers and officials of the Jammu Municipal Corporation.

ADC Billawar Reviews Mission YUVA Progress, Calls for Timely Achievement of Targets

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Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Billawar, Vishavjeet Singh (JKAS), on Saturday reviewed the progress of Mission YUVA and directed officials to intensify efforts to achieve the programme's targets within the stipulated timeframe.

The review meeting, held at the PWD Guest House, Billawar, was attended by Block Development Officer (BDO) Mandli Amir Choudhary, BDO Baggan Raj Kumar, YUVA Doots, the Mission YUVA Coordinator and other concerned officials.

During the meeting, the ADC assessed the block-wise implementation of the programme and stressed the need for coordinated efforts to ensure effective ex-



ecution at the grassroots level. He instructed officers and field functionaries to strengthen outreach activities and facilitate eligible youth in availing the benefits of the scheme.

Vishavjeet Singh also directed the Sub-Divisional Agriculture Officer (SDAO), Billawar, to en-

sure that Junior Agriculture Extension Officers (JAEs) provide pan-chayat-wise assistance to YUVA Doots for improving implementation and expanding outreach among eligible beneficiaries.

Emphasising the importance of inter-departmental coordination, the ADC

urged all stakeholders to work in close collaboration for the successful implementation of Mission YUVA. He said the initiative aims to promote self-employment and entrepreneurship among the youth and called for sustained efforts to achieve the desired outcomes.

IRCS organises drug de-addiction awareness programme at GDC Ramnagar

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The Indian Red Cross Society J&K, in collaboration with the District Red Cross Society Udhampur and Government Degree College Ramnagar today organised a drug de-addiction awareness programme under the theme Say No to Drugs, Say Yes to Life at GDC Ramnagar.

Principal of the College, Dr D. S Manhas was the chief guest, while Secretary District Red Cross Society Udhampur presided over the programme.

The programme was attended by S.L Bhardwaj, Secretary, District Red Cross Society Udhampur; Ashok Chandel from the Indian Red Cross Society, J&K, tehsil-level officers, faculty members, staff and a large number of students.



The chief guest highlighted the growing menace of substance abuse and stressed the pivotal role of youth in building a drug-free society. Students were encouraged to actively participate in awareness campaigns and serve as am-

assadors of positive change by spreading the anti-drug message among their peers, families and communities.

Resource persons Dr. Manpreet Kour and Vormica Marbha from the Indian Red Cross Society,

J&K sensitised the students about the harmful effects of drug abuse. They elaborated on the social, economic and health consequences of addiction and urged the youth to adopt a healthy, responsible and drug-free lifestyle.

MLA Bhaderwah, ADC attend public grievance redressal camp at Panchayat Sangoi

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A public grievance redressal camp was organized today at the Sangoi Panchayat, Village Himote, Bhaderwah to provide a platform for direct interaction between the administration and the public, facilitating the prompt redressal of public issues.

The camp was attended by the Member of Legislative Assembly Bhaderwah Daleep Singh Parihar and Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Sunil Kumar Bhutyal.

Executive Engineers, CDPO, BMO, AEEs, Ex BDC Chairman, officers from Agriculture, Horticulture, Social Welfare, Forest and various Sub District Officers and senior citizens were also present.

A large number of public representatives and locals from Bhalla Block Kari Chhatra Panchayat, Chiralala Panchayat Bilara and Gudaka Panchayat highlighted demands related to road connectivity, power supply, Iron poles instead of wooden poles, demand of a wider Bus Stand, drinking water, healthcare facilities, Ration Depot,

Animal Sub- Center, Internet Facility and other urgent developmental concerns.

The MLA emphasized the importance of sustained public outreach programmes in ensuring people-centric governance. He reiterated his commitment to addressing public concerns and ensuring that the developmental aspirations of the people are fulfilled in a timely manner. He stressed that coordinated efforts between public representatives and the administration are essential for accelerating developmental works and improv-

ing public service delivery.

ADC assured the public that all genuine issues and demands raised during the camp would be taken up with the concerned departments for timely resolution. He emphasized that such grievance redressal camps serve as an effective bridge between the administration and the people, helping identify and address issues at the grassroots level.

The officers present also interacted with the public, listened to their grievances and assured necessary action on the issues highlighted during the camp.

Poonch admin expresses gratitude to Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board for timely relief support

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The District administration Poonch has expressed its deep gratitude to Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB), Jammu, for extending generous and timely relief support to families af-

ected by the recent floods, heavy rainfall and landslides in the district.

The district administration received a substantial consignment of essential relief material from the Shrine Board to support affected households during the ongoing rehabilitation process. The relief material included ration

kits, kitchen utensil sets, family tents/tarpaulins, emergency lights, first-aid kits and other daily use items.

The aid to flood affected families in form of relief material provided by the Shrine Board was immediately distributed to the affected families through a dedicated team of officials

in Surankote, Mandi, Mendhar and other affected areas.

Deputy Commissioner Poonch Ashok Kumar Sharma highlighted such impactful support and assistance during the floods and expressed his heartfelt gratitude to Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board.

MLA Thanamandi, DC Rajouri inspect flood-affected areas, Direct immediate restoration

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Member of Legislative Assembly Thanamandi Muzaffar Iqbal Khan accompanied by Deputy Commissioner Rajouri Abhishek Sharma today visited the flood-affected Galhuti-Shadra Sharief road and adjoining areas to assess the damage caused by the recent flash floods and review the restoration works being undertaken.

During the inspection of the Galhuti-Shadra Sharief road, it was found that a portion of the road became non-motorable due to flood damage. The Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Rajouri was directed to immediately restore the damaged stretch and ensure that the road is made motorable at the ear-



liest for the convenience of the public.

The I&FC Department was directed to identify all flood-damaged spots, prepare detailed estimates and submit them at the earliest to ensure the timely execution of

restoration and flood protection works. It was emphasized that vulnerable locations should be taken up on priority to prevent the recurrence of such incidents and ensure public safety.

Reiterating the adminis-

tration's commitment to the speedy restoration of public infrastructure, the Deputy Commissioner directed the concerned departments to work in close coordination and complete the restoration works on priority.

DC Rajouri reviews progress of Heritage Conservation Projects; Stresses timely completion

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Deputy Commissioner Rajouri Abhishek Sharma, today chaired a review meeting to assess the progress of works being executed under the Revival, Restoration, Preservation and Maintenance of Heritage Sites and Monuments across the district.

During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner conducted a detailed project-wise review of all ongoing heritage conservation works and took stock of their physical progress. He sought updates from the concerned officers on each project and reviewed the status of works to ensure their timely execution.



Emphasising timely completion of all heritage conservation projects, the DC directed the concerned officers to ensure that no unnecessary delays oc-

cur in the execution of works. He instructed them to monitor the progress of each project on a daily basis and take prompt measures to resolve any issues so that all works are completed within the stipulated timelines while maintaining the prescribed conservation standards.

The meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner Malikzada Sheraz Ul Haq, Additional Deputy Commissioner Ravi Kumar Sihag, Chief Planning Officer Maqsood Ahmed, while Superintending Engineer, PWD (R&B) Circle Rajouri Manzoor Ahmed and Executive Engineers of PWD (R&B) Divisions Rajouri, Kalakote, Thanamandi, Nowshera and Koteranka attended the meeting through virtual mode.