

DDC Jammu chairs Block Diwas at Gharota

Announces Rs 20 lakh funds for urgent development works in local schools

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 19

District Development Commissioner (DDC) Dr Rakesh Minhas chaired Block Diwas at Bhalwal on Wednesday, hearing out grievances of the residents and issuing directions to officers on several pending development works.

Among the announcements, he sanctioned Rs 20 lakh additional funds for urgent development works in block schools. The grant, he said, would cover immediate development needs of local schools, including ground preparation at Government Higher Secondary School (GHSS) Gharota. For Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya (JNV), he directed PDD functionaries to take up upgradation of the power transformer.

He informed the gathering that the tender for Ghaink-Aghore road has been issued and that work on some of the vital roads in the block is set to commence tomorrow.

Demands for development of ponds were noted. The ACP was directed to inspect the sites. Health-related concerns and a request for improvement of the local playground were



also taken on record, with necessary directions issued.

The DDC referred to the ongoing Nasha Mukti JK Abhiyan, noting that structures built with proceeds of the drug trade continue to be demolished, with 40 residential and commercial structures razed in the district so far. He asked the public to remain vigilant and report drug-related information.

Responding to other demands, he said a procedure has already been started to resolve issues related to ration cards. On PDD and Jal

Shakti Mission grievances, he said the Gharota tubewell, ready for operation, would be made functional through alternative arrangements.

Tehsildar Bhalwal was directed to facilitate conferring of ownership rights on West Pakistan Refugees and Displaced Persons of 1965 & 1971. He said last year's flood-related compensation has been paid, with further compensation to follow as per government directions. Issues concerning the local shamshan ghat, patwarkhana and local trans-

port were also addressed.

Major issues raised included PMGSY road repairs, power outages affecting water supply, pond development, health services and school upgradation. ADDC Sher Singh, SDM Jammu North Dr Deepak Kumar, CPO Ajaypal Singh, Assistant Commissioner Development Danish Rasool, Assistant Commissioner Panchayats, Block Development Officer and other district officers attended, along with a large turnout of residents and former public representatives.

DC Rajouri reviews arrangements for Eid Milad-un-Nabi

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Deputy Commissioner Rajouri Abhishek Sharma today reviewed the arrangements for the smooth observance of Eid Milad-un-Nabi in the district, with emphasis on ensuring adequate civic, medical, security and traffic facilities for devotees.

While reviewing the arrangements, the DC stressed upon the concerned officers to ensure availability of drinking water, sanitation, medical facilities, critical care ambulances, transport facilities and uninterrupted power supply at major congregation sites. He called for close inter-departmental coordination to ensure that all requisite arrangements are put in place well in advance.

??The PDD and Jal Shakti departments were



directed to ensure uninterrupted power and water supply at major congregation sites. Backup transformers, generators and mobile water tankers were also directed to be kept available as backup arrangements.

??The police authorities were asked to ensure adequate deployment of personnel along the procession route. The DySP Traffic was directed to prepare a comprehensive traf-

fic management and parking plan for hassle-free movement of devotees and vehicles.

??The EO Municipal Council Rajouri was directed to ensure thorough cleanliness around major mosques and other places of worship throughout the Milad celebrations, besides ensuring proper functioning of street lights and other civic amenities.

??The Deputy Commissioner called upon all

stakeholders to work in close coordination and ensure that the celebrations are conducted smoothly, safely and with due regard to the convenience of the general public.

??The meeting was attended by the SSP Gaurav Sikarwar; ADDC Malikzada Sheraz ul Haq; ADC Ravi Kumar Sihag ; ACR Mohd Jahagir Khan; ARTO Ashiq Rafiq Malik; AD FCS&CA, Sageer Ahmed; EO Municipal Council Umar Yousaf; Dy SP Traffic Ajaz Choudhary and other concerned officers.

??Besides, Shafqat Mir, President Islamic Welfare Organisation; Molana Mohd Younis; Molana Farooq Nakshbandi; Tazeem Dar Spokesperson Islamic Welfare; Manzoor Husaain Shah; Haji Yousaf Dar; Rajesh Gupta President Beopar Mandal Rajouri and Asif Bhat were also present.

DDC Doda holds Public Outreach Programme at Sewa Block Chiralla, Reviews developmental issues

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District Development Commissioner (DDC) Doda Krishan Lal today visited Sewa Block, Chiralla and participated in a Public Outreach Programme (Block Diwas) aimed at addressing the public grievances and developmental issues at the grassroots level.

The DDC was accompanied by Chief Planning Officer Manesh Kumar ; Assistant Commissioner Development Din Mohd Afagi ; District Social Welfare Officer Zubair Ahmed ; Tehsildar, Block Development Officer and other district and sectoral officers.

A large number of local residents and adjoining areas participated in the programme and put forth their issues and demands before the DDC and officers.

The departments established stalls to disseminate information about government schemes and welfare programmes and facilitate registration of eligible beneficiaries. Awareness and registration activities were carried out under the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP), PM-SYM, PMEGP, Mission Yuva and financial inclusion schemes. Information regarding self-employment and social assistance schemes was also provided to the public. A health check-up camp was organised along with awareness activities under the National TB Elimination Programme (NTEP).

During the interaction, residents raised several important developmental issues, seeking improvement of roads, establishment of a J&K Bank branch and a Primary Health Centre in the area, augmentation of drinking water in the Panchayats facing scarcity, expediting pending Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) works, filling of vacant teacher posts in the local Government Higher Secondary School and improvement of mobile



and internet connectivity.

The public was informed that out of 222 JJM schemes, 112 have been completed, while the work on remaining schemes is at different stages. The DDC directed the stakeholder department to closely monitor the pending works and ensure that the identified issues are addressed on priority.

Complaining about poor mobile network connectivity, the public sought early activation of mobile towers already erected in the area. Responding to the issue, the DDC informed that a district-wide assessment of low-connectivity and shadow areas has identified the requirement of 16 additional mobile towers, which were subsequently sanctioned by the Government of India. He informed that around 30 out of approximately 49 planned towers have already been radiated, while two completed towers in the Chiralla area are awaiting the required radiation equipment.

The DDC said that the matter has been taken up with BSNL on an emergency basis, particularly in view of the security concerns arising from poor connectivity. He expressed confidence

that the two towers would be activated as soon as the necessary equipment was made available. The DDC also stressed the importance of collective efforts by the administration, community, parents and other stakeholders to protect children and youth from drug abuse and other negative influences. He informed that strict action has been initiated against illegal cultivation of opium in the surrounding areas, with FIRs lodged against five persons. Red Entries have also been made in the revenue records of persons involved in such illegal cultivation, besides making them ineligible for benefits under government schemes, as per applicable rules.

Emphasising the need for a compassionate and rehabilitative approach towards victims of addiction, the DDC said that drug-dependent youth should be treated as victims requiring counselling, care and rehabilitation rather than hatred or social exclusion. He informed that treatment facilities are available at Government Medical College and that the district administration is also focusing on rehabilitation and livelihood support. He further in-

formed that four youth affected by addiction have already been rehabilitated and integrated with welfare schemes in Doda district.

The DDC further urged the public to actively participate in the district's TB-Free campaign and stressed that TB cases should not be concealed due to social stigma. He informed that TB treatment is available free of cost, along with financial assistance and nutritional support for eligible patients. He also highlighted the importance of preventive treatment for family members of TB patients to protect them from infection and transmission.

While interacting with the public, the DDC urged residents to make maximum use of the JK Samadhan Portal for registration of grievances, assuring that the mechanism would facilitate prompt, transparent and accountable redressal of public concerns.

The DDC directed all concerned officers to remain accessible to the public, regularly review the issues raised during the outreach programme and ensure time-bound action on genuine demands within the prescribed rules and available resources.

JMC Commissioner inspects Modern Food Zone coming up at Gandhi Nagar

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Commissioner, Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) Dr. Devansh Yadav today inspected the modern food zone being developed at Gandhi Nagar and interacted with the vendors who have been allotted the newly constructed food carts.

The initiative is part of the JMC's ongoing efforts to modernize Jammu city, improve urban infrastructure and provide street vendors with a cleaner, more organized and dignified vending environment. The site earlier housed an old rehri zone developed by the JMC, which is now being transformed into a modern food zone under the directions of the Commissioner.

The first phase of the project has been completed with 22 modern food carts, while 120 food carts in total are planned for the site.

The JMC is also developing essential supporting infrastructure, including water supply, rooftop facilities, street lighting and regular sanitation and cleanliness arrangements, to ensure a better experience for both vendors and visitors.

The food carts will be allotted to vendors who were already operating in the area and possess valid licences.

The initiative is aimed at upgrading their existing vending operations while



ensuring that the area develops into a well-planned and attractive food destination.

During the inspection, Dr. Yadav interacted with the vendors, reviewed the facilities being developed and emphasized the importance of maintaining

high standards of cleanliness and hygiene. He urged the vendors to take ownership of the cleanliness of the food zone and appealed to citizens to cooperate with the JMC in keeping public spaces clean.

The Commissioner said

that the transformation of the old rehri zone into a modern food zone reflects JMC's commitment to creating a cleaner, more organized, modern and citizen-friendly Jammu, while ensuring better facilities and opportunities for existing vendors.

DHS Jammu inspects patient care services at SDH Bhaderwah

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Director Health Services Jammu Dr Poonam Sethi today paid an official visit to district Doda to take stock of the functioning of healthcare institutions, review the availability of medical services and assess the overall healthcare delivery system in the district.

During the tour, the DHS Jammu visited Sub-District Hospital Bhaderwah. Upon her arrival, the Block Medical Officer Dr Versha Sharma, along with the hospital staff, accorded a warm welcome to the Director.

Dr Poonam Sethi conducted a detailed inspection of various sections of the hospital, including the OPD, IPD, laboratory, X-ray section and other important service areas. She also inspected the Dialysis Unit and reviewed the ongoing works being executed at the hospital.

BMO Dr Versha Sharma briefed the Director about the overall functioning of the hospital and the healthcare services being provided to patients.

The Director also interacted with the staff on duty and patients to obtain first-hand feedback regarding



the availability and quality of healthcare services. She appreciated the efforts of the hospital staff and impressed upon them to work with dedication, sincerity

and commitment towards ensuring better patient care. She directed the staff to maintain high standards of healthcare delivery and ensure that patients receive

timely and quality services. Assistant Director (Schemes), DHS Jammu, Dr Ila Gupta accompanied the Director during her visit to district Doda.