

DC launches ‘YES, I CAN’ initiative from GCW Udhampur

Releases college publications, Book ‘Culture & Colonialism’

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, OCT 09

Deputy Commissioner Udhampur Minga Sherpa today launched ‘YES, I CAN’, campaign here from Government College for Women. An initiative of the District Administration Udhampur, the inspirational campaign aims to encourage young minds to set high goals and strive for excellence in their field of interest.

The event was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner Prem Singh; Principal of the College Prof. Dr. Nalini Pathania, officers of the District Administration, faculty members and students.

Interacting with the media after the launch, the DC said that ‘YES, I CAN’ is an inspirational initiative aimed at empowering, nurturing, igniting aspirations among youth. “The District Administration will help youth with the right guidance, direction and opportunities to help them realise their full potential,” he said.

He emphasised that Udhampur district possesses immense human potential, with talented students, dedicated teachers, hardworking families and youth capable of excelling in diverse fields. He stressed the need to create an enabling environment where young people



believe in their abilities, receive proper guidance and develop the confidence to compete at the highest level.

The DC urged the head of the College and faculty members to encourage deserving and interested students to actively participate in the initiative and make the best use of the opportunities available through it.

Later, the GCW management organised a function in the Girls’ Common Room to release its annual publications for the academic session 2026–27, including Science Pulse, Himtal and the College newsletter.

Deputy Commissioner Minga Sherpa formally released the publications in the presence of ADC Prem Singh and other dignitaries.

The event also witnessed the release of a book ‘Culture and Colonialism’ au-

thored by Principal Prof. Dr Nalini Pathania.

Earlier, the dignitaries were accorded a guard of honour by the NCC cadets of the College, followed by Saraswati Vandana, marking the formal commencement of the programme.

Dr. Gitanjali Rajput, Convener of the Newsletter Committee, presented an overview of the college publications, highlighting their role in showcasing academic activities, achievements and creative contributions of students and faculty members.

ADC Prem Singh also shared his insights on various government initiatives in the education sector and emphasised the importance of education in shaping the future of young people.

Prof. Dr Nalini Pathania spoke about her book Culture and Colonialism and

elaborated on its central themes.

The book explores India’s remarkable transformation following a century of British rule and its emergence as a significant force on the global stage.

While addressing the students, the DC emphasised the importance of staying informed about emerging technologies and innovations, particularly Artificial Intelligence. Drawing examples from his own life, he encouraged students to remain focused, work hard and pursue their goals with dedication, reiterating that there are no shortcuts to success.

At the end, students of the Department of Music presented Jagarna, a popular folk dance of the region, showcasing the rich cultural heritage of Jammu and Kashmir.

Mushroom Farming Training Course concludes under Op Sadbhavana at Ramban

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The Mushroom Farming Training Course 2026–27, organised by 23 Rashtriya Rifles under Op Sadbhavana in coordination with the District Agriculture Department, concluded successfully here today.

The initiative aimed at imparting practical skills to local youth enabling them to gain sustainable livelihood through mushroom cultivation.

Major Pankaj Gupta of 23 Rashtriya Rifles, while addressing the participants, appreciated the coordinated efforts of the Army and the Agriculture Department in organising the training programme. He highlighted the Indian Army’s commitment to the welfare and socio-economic development of local communities, particularly those residing in rural and remote areas.

He emphasised that skill-oriented initiatives play a vital role in empowering people and encouraging self-reliance.

He also appreciated the technical support extended by the Agriculture Department and expressed hope that such collaborative efforts would continue to contribute towards rural development and livelihood generation in the district.

Chief Agriculture Officer Dr. Vinay Kumar Jandial



highlighted the potential of mushroom cultivation as a viable subsidiary occupation, particularly for farmers and rural households with limited land resources. He said that mushroom farming requires comparatively less space and offers opportunities for additional income and employment, especially for women and unemployed youth. He encouraged the trainees to apply the techniques learned during the course and avail themselves of the technical

guidance and departmental support available for promoting mushroom cultivation.

The training programme was coordinated by District Subject Matter Specialist (SMS) Jyoti Prakash and Junior Agriculture Extension Officer (JAEO) Vikram Bandu, in coordination with Subedar Bhoj Raj Singh of 23 Rashtriya Rifles. The technical sessions focused on imparting practical knowledge and essential skills for scientific and suc-

cessful mushroom cultivation.

District Agriculture Officer Kuldeep Bassan was also associated with the programme and highlighted the importance of promoting scientific farming practices and livelihood-oriented agricultural activities to strengthen the rural economy.

At the end, certificates were given away to the participants in recognition of successful completion of the training.

DIPR Reasi promotes health awareness, responsible AI use among students

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The Department of Information and Public Relations (DIPR) Reasi Centre today organised a symposium here at Government Higher Secondary School (Boys) on the topics “Nutrition and Fitness” and “Use Artificial Intelligence Responsibly and Creatively” under the ongoing Youth Empowerment Programme in the district.

The symposium aimed to sensitise students about the importance of balanced nutrition, physical fitness and a healthy lifestyle, while promoting the ethical, responsible and creative use of Artificial Intelligence (AI). Students were encouraged to adopt healthy eating habits, engage in regular physical activities and maintain their physical and mental well-being.

The programme witnessed active participation from students and faculty members. Students enthusiastically participated in the symposium and shared their views on healthy living and the responsible use of AI in daily life, reflecting



their awareness of the importance of personal well-being and the constructive application of emerging technologies.

Later, an official from DIPR briefed the students about various youth-centric government schemes and employment opportunities available in Jammu and Kashmir. The students were encouraged to explore skill development programmes, entrepreneurship initiatives and other avenues for career

development and self-employment.

Vice Principal of the School Hukam Chand, while addressing the gathering, emphasised the importance of healthy habits, physical fitness and the responsible use of AI by students for academic and other purposes. He appreciated the DIPR for organising the symposium and expressed hope that similar awareness programmes would be organised in the

future. The programme was conducted under the supervision of District Information Officer Mukesh Kumar Sharma. The initiative reaffirmed DIPR Reasi’s commitment to promoting youth engagement, awareness and personality development through educational and informative activities.

Prizes were distributed among the students for their outstanding performances in the symposium.

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Deputy Commissioner (DC) Krishan Lal, along with Transport Commissioner, Vishesh Mahajan, who is also the Mentor for the digitization of land records for district Doda, today chaired a review meeting to assess the progress of digitization of land records and Agristack initiative, including creation of farmer IDs.

The meeting conducted a meticulous review of the progress of Agristack implementation, digitisation of land records, updation of Jamabandis, creation of farmer IDs, disposal of pending mutation cases and other important matters concerning revenue administration.

The deliberations centered on measures to ensure accuracy and transparency in land records, improve administrative efficiency and strengthen public service delivery. Emphasis was laid on expediting pending cases, adhering to prescribed timelines and ensuring effective



coordination among revenue officials.

The DC stressed the need for maintaining accurate, updated and transparent revenue records to ensure efficient public service delivery and timely resolution of public grievances. He directed the revenue officers to closely monitor the progress of ongoing initiatives, expedite the disposal of pending mutation cases and en-

sure the timely updation of Jamabandis and land records.

The Transport Commissioner also reviewed the physical Jamabandis and examined the status of revenue records. He directed the Patwaris concerned to expedite the work, identify and rectify deficiencies in the records and ensure that necessary corrections and updates are completed within the

stipulated timeline.

The Transport Commissioner further reviewed the progress of Agristack implementation and the status of data uploading on the designated portal.

The meeting was attended by ADC Anil Kumar Thakur, ACR Ashraf Parvaz, Tehsildars, Chief Agriculture Officer, Naib Tehsildars, Patwaris and other concerned revenue officials.

Kathua admin bids warm farewell to ADC Mahima Madan



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The District Administration Kathua today accorded a warm farewell to Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Mahima Madan on her transfer from the district.

Deputy Commissioner Rajesh Sharma along with ACR Vishav Partap Singh, CPO Ranjeet Thakur and other officers and officials of the district administration extended their best wishes to outgoing ADC for her future assignments.

The Deputy Commis-

sioner appreciated the contribution of Mahima Madan during her tenure in the district and acknowledged her dedication, professionalism and commitment to public service.

He wished her success in her future assignments and expressed confidence that

she would continue to serve with the same zeal and dedication.

ADC Mahima Madan expressed gratitude to the Deputy Commissioner and the entire team of the District Administration Kathua for their cooperation and support during her tenure.

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Deputy Commissioner Udhampur Minga Sherpa today flagged off a tour of group of local progressive kiwi orchardists and officials of the Horticulture Department on an exposure tour to Ziro Valley, Arunachal Pradesh, here from the DC Office Complex.

Additional Deputy Commissioner Prem Singh, Assistant Commissioner Revenue Dr. Umesh Shan and other officers were present on the occasion.

The exposure tour has been organised with financial assistance from the District Administration Udhampur, in convergence



with the Agricultural Technology Management Agency.

Interacting with the farmers, the DC highlighted the importance of adopting modern and scientific techniques for kiwi cultivation.

He said the exposure visit would provide the participating kiwi growers with practical knowledge and firsthand experience in advanced cultivation and production technologies, along with value addition practices.

He expressed hope that the knowledge and skills acquired during the visit would help the farmers replicate successful kiwi cultivation practices in the Udhampur district.