

Rs 150 crore forestry units to be set up at Nurpur

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Forest Minister Rakesh Pathania lays the foundation stone of a forest interpretation centre at Nurpur on Tuesday.

To generate employment opportunities in the area, the state government has planned to set up Rs 150 crore forestry-based industrial units in Baduee gram panchayat in Nurpur. Laying the foundation stone of Rs 40 lakh forest inspection hut at Baduee yesterday, Forest, Sports and Youth Affairs Minister Rakesh Pathania said he would also stress upon creating self-employment avenues for the youth in the area. A herbal garden would also be set up at Baduee, he said.

In his daylong visit to his native Assembly constituency, Nurpur, Pathania laid the foundation stone of Rs 2 crore Forest Interpretation Centre and Rs 59 lakh expansion work of the forest rest house at Badni, and Rs 83 lakh bridge on the Band-Hatli link road. He also inaugurated Rs 103 lakh newly built PWD's rest house at Suliali.

Addressing a local gathering, the minister said Rs 80 crore was being spent on the construction of check dams in Nurpur, which would directly benefit the farmers and fruit growers in the area. He said the Forest Interpretation Centre in Nurpur would play an important role in disseminating information relating to all ongoing activities of the Forest Department, wild animal species and their conservation. "The centre will also provide information of the area to the tourists visiting Kangra valley. The Forest Department is also developing an eco-tourism park, with a yoga centre and boating facility," he said.

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