

DC Kishtwar reviews progress on digitisation of land records

KISHTWAR, JANUARY 18: Deputy Commissioner, Pankaj Kumar Sharma today reviewed the progress of digitisation and freezing of Jamabandis in district Kishtwar in the presence of Special Secretary (Revenue), Ghulam Rasool.

The officers at the meeting evaluated the on-ground implementation of Revenue Department reforms. The department was asked to carry out the process strictly in accordance to the prescribed guidelines.

Tehsildar Nirbhay Sharma, while giving a Power Point presentation, highlighted the overall progress achieved in the district in the digitisation and freezing of Jamabandis.

It was informed that district profile reflects a substantial workload, comprising 156 revenue villages/Jamabandis and a total of 1,84,004 khasra numbers.

It was informed in the meeting that villages have been categorised as small, medium and large, based on the number of khatas.

HADP ushers a new era of Agricultural transformation

Over 92,000 units established under this programme across J&K

JAMMU, JANUARY 18:

For decades, agricultural interventions across the country largely followed a familiar pattern of rolling out schemes, extending subsidies and measuring success through beneficiary counts. While this approach ensured visibility, it often failed to deliver durable outcomes, particularly in regions marked by fragile ecologies, scattered landholdings and complex terrain. Jammu & Kashmir, despite its rich agro-climatic diversity and inherent strengths, remained constrained by weak value chains, low productivity and persistent dependence on external supplies.

It is against this backdrop that the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP), dedicated to the people of Jammu & Kashmir by the Prime Minister in 2024, represents a decisive shift in approach. Conceived not as a collection of schemes but as a comprehensive systems reform, HADP seeks to fundamentally re-engineer the agricultural economy of the Union Territory.

With a total outlay of ₹5,013 crore and 29 inter-linked projects spanning agriculture, horticulture and livestock sectors, HADP is designed with a clear objective: to transition J&K's agriculture from subsistence-driven practices to sustainable, resilient and income-generating livelihoods.

Why this systemic shift?

Agriculture and allied sectors are the backbone of Jammu & Kashmir's rural economy, supporting over 13 lakh families and contributing nearly one-fifth of the region's Gross State Value Added. However, structural bottlenecks—fragmented landholdings, low capital formation, limited mechanisation, inadequate access to quality inputs and underdeveloped post-harvest infrastructure—have historically suppressed productivity and farmer incomes.

These constraints reinforced a cycle of low investment and low returns. Even well-intentioned interventions often delivered limited impact as they ad-



Clear village-wise timelines have been set for the correction of identified errors, entry of mutation backlog, recording of grievances and final freezing of updated Jamabandis, extending up to March 15, 2026 for large villages.

Briefing on the current progress, it was informed that 4 tehsils have been completed. So far 1,66,242 khasra numbers (90%) have been completed at Mather Level, 1,53,102 Khasra Nos (83%) at Checker Level and 1,45,752 Khasra nos (79%) have been approved at Approval Level.

The Deputy Commissioner stressed that accurate and comprehensive

digitization would significantly improve land records and streamline revenue-related services.

Emphasizing the importance of quality checks, the DC directed the officers to maintain close coordination among field functionaries to expedite the process while ensuring accuracy.

The Deputy Commissioner also highlighted the sustained efforts put in by the revenue officers and field functionaries in achieving substantial milestones despite the district's difficult terrain and dispersed settlements.

He further stated that regular monitoring and focused interventions in lagging areas would continue to ensure strict adherence to prescribed timelines and the successful implementation of revenue reforms in letter and spirit.

The Special Secretary also conducted a comprehensive review of the status of khasra approvals, Jamabandi freezing and Grievances redressal mechanisms based on the latest updated position.

Similarly, Jamabandis have been frozen in 108 out of 156 villages (69 percent). Grievances collection has been initiated in 74 villages, with digitisation, verification and grievances redressal activities progressing simultaneously across the district.

Several tehsils have achieved near-completion or complete digitisation, while focused and targeted interventions are underway in tehsils with relatively lower progress to accelerate outcomes.

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dressed isolated components—boosting production without assured markets, providing assets without skills, or extending subsidies without enterprise orientation.

HADP was conceptualised precisely to break this cycle by redesigning the agricultural ecosystem as an integrated whole.

What distinguishes HADP

Unlike conventional programmes organised around departmental silos, HADP is structured along value chains. It simultaneously strengthens core systems such as quality seed and planting material, breeding and nurseries, feed and fodder, mechanisation and extension services, while also building downstream capacity in processing, storage, branding and marketing.

Climate resilience, diversification and technology-enabled advisory services are embedded within project design, rather than treated as peripheral components.

Equally significant is the programme's governance framework. HADP was conceptualised through an apex committee of nationally recognised experts and is being implemented in mission mode with phased roll-out, continuous monitoring and mid-course correction.

A robust digital backbone underpins this delivery architecture. Farmer onboarding and applications are routed through the Kisan Sathi portal, capacity building and decision support are delivered through DakshKisan, while last-mile facilitation is enabled through over 2,000 KisanKhidmatGhars—entrepreneur-driven, IT-enabled single-window centres operating across a wide panchayat network. Field verification and outcome monitoring are conducted through the Output Tracking App, enabling real-time tracking of assets and results.

From intent to impact: the mid-term picture

As HADP advances into deeper stages of implementation, the transition from policy intent to on-ground delivery is clearly visible.

More than 3.7 lakh farmers have been registered under the programme, input systems are being strengthened to reduce cost and risk. Competitive advantages such as niche crops, temperate vegetables, livestock and fisheries are being organised into vi-

able enterprises. Value chains are being built to ensure that production is linked with storage, processing, branding and strategic market access. Technology is deployed not as a slogan, but as an enabler of transparency, advisory services and real-time decision-making.

This coherence allows HADP to function as an integrated system rather than a set of fragmented interventions.

Beyond Jammu & Kash-

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Though tailored to the unique agro-ecological realities of Jammu & Kashmir, elements of HADP's design are drawing attention beyond the Union Territory. Its emphasis on technology-enabled delivery, enterprise-linked support and outcome-based monitoring reflects a broader evolution in agricultural governance towards transparency, accountability and income-led interventions.

Officials note that the programme's focus on execution quality and measurable outcomes has generated interest in how similar models could be adapted to other climatically diverse and hill regions, where scheme-driven approaches have produced uneven results.

The road ahead

With foundational systems now firmly in place, the focus under HADP has shifted towards scale and consolidation. Capacities created across seed systems, livestock development, protected cultivation, mechanisation and post-harvest infrastructure are expected to yield higher productivity and returns as utilisation deepens over the remaining programme period.

Going forward, emphasis will be placed on expanding coverage, strengthening market linkages and ensuring commercial viability of enterprises already established. As outcomes compound across sectors, HADP is increasingly being positioned not merely as a programme, but as a long-term framework for agricultural transformation in Jammu & Kashmir—aligning public investment with farmer incomes, enterprise growth and food security objectives.

ASTRO ZINDAGI

(Weekly Horoscope Jan 19 - 25, 2025)

ARIES :

This week blends fiery passion with quiet reflection in your love life. With Mars pushing for intensity and the Venus highlighting your emotional needs, you may crave both thrill and emotional grounding. Singles might reconnect with someone from the past or feel intrigued by a familiar energy. Couples benefit from deeper emotional exchanges, small gestures and honest conversations will strengthen bonds. Financially, Mercury clears up confusion, helping you make bolder, well-considered moves. A long-awaited payment may arrive, easing stress. Freelancers and business owners see signs of growth. Opportunities may arise through networking so just read the fine print in partnerships. Career-wise, efforts begin to bear fruit. Recognition comes with responsibility, so lead with calm confidence.

TAURUS :

This week, you are experiencing a subtle but powerful shift in your emotional life. Whether it's rebuilding trust in an existing relationship or opening up to someone new, you are learning to trust more deeply. The energy encourages quiet reflection and meaningful conversations, where listening takes precedence over speaking. If you're single, focus on genuine, heartfelt connections. A heart-to-heart talk could clear up past misunderstandings, and your emotional growth will feel steady and gradual. On the financial front, your approach remains cautious. Saturn's influence strengthens your focus on long-term security, so take your time before making big purchases or financial decisions.

GEMINI :

With Mercury and Venus working in your favor this week, heartfelt communication becomes your superpower. In love, this is your chance to clear misunderstandings and grow closer. Speak with honesty, but choose gentle words. If you are single, someone clever or quick-witted may catch your attention, let real conversations guide the connection. Financially, Mars urges caution as unexpected expenses could show up, especially around home or travel. Stick to a careful budget and avoid impulse buys. Now is a smart time to plan for future earnings, not to rush into risky decisions.

CANCER :

This week begins with a reflective mood in your love life, guided by the gentle influence of the Moon and Venus. You are drawn inward, seeking clarity on your emotional needs. In relationships, quiet support means more than words, simple acts of care go a long way. If single, someone emotionally grounded may catch your attention. Trust your instincts, but don't rush. Deeper connections are forming quietly, so allow them to unfold naturally. Emotional honesty brings comfort and strengthens bonds. Midweek, Jupiter's energy supports a disciplined review of your expenses and obligations. Now is the time to renegotiate terms, clear old dues, and avoid overcommitting. True gains will come through steady effort rather than shortcuts.

CAPRICORN :

As the week opens, the Moon's influence heightens emotional awareness, urging you to assess the give-and-take in your love life. In relationships, heartfelt conversations help heal unspoken tensions. Singles may feel pulled toward someone with quiet strength and shared values—a slow-burning connection with long-term potential. Trust your gut over surface appearances. By midweek, Mercury supports financial clarity. A previously delayed payment or shelved idea may finally move forward. Don't rush—shared financial dealings need transparency. Keep expectations pragmatic and focus on small, smart decisions that build lasting value.

AQUARIUS :

This week begins with emotional intensity as the Moon connects with the South Node, bringing up past feelings or memories. It's a chance to heal, not to dwell. Venus encourages deep love and honest talks. Singles may feel drawn to someone familiar, while couples can rebuild closeness through shared goals. Small disagreements may come up, but Mercury supports clear and kind communication to strengthen understanding. Mid-week, your view of money matures. Saturn helps you stay focused and patient, even if some payments are delayed. Mars gives energy to create smart money strategies, while Mercury brings helpful advice from others.

PISCES :

The week opens with the Moon enhancing your emotional sensitivity, helping you pick up on subtle shifts in your love life. Venus deepens your romantic intuition, but with Mercury also active, don't let assumptions replace real conversations. In relationships, this is a good time to revisit shared goals. If single, Mars may pull you toward someone with emotional depth and artistic flair. North Node influence urges you to stay grounded while seeking soulful connection. Financially, Jupiter brings productive energy, especially in creative or entrepreneurial areas. Early in the week, Venus may attract small but meaningful gains.

Advocates Cannot Seek Information Under RTI Act For Clients' Cases: CIC

NEW DELHI, JAN 18:

The Central Information Commission (CIC) has ruled that advocates cannot use the Right to Information (RTI) Act to seek details regarding cases they are handling for clients, observing that using the transparency law in this manner fails to advance its core objectives.

Dismissing a second appeal filed by an advocate in a dispute related to the termination of a fruits-and-vegetables supply contract at a Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya in Haryana, Information Commissioner Sudha Rani Relangi noted that the appellant had sought information "on behalf of his client per se, which is not permissible".

used to be supplier of vegetables/fruits to the respondent public authority".

The commission further explained that "a practising advocate cannot seek information relating to the cases instituted by him on behalf of his client".

Quoting a Madras High Court order, the CIC underlined that "a practising advocate has sought information on behalf of his client per se, which is not permissible".

Taking note of the claims made by the public authority that several records were destroyed in a fire and that personal information was rightly denied under exemptions, the CIC said it found "no infirmity in the reply furnished by the CPIO".

ting information on behalf of his client", which "does not advance the objects of the scheme of the RTI Act".

The commission further quoted the ruling to stress that the "laudable objectives of the RTI Act cannot be used for personal ends and should not become a tool in the hands of the advocate for seeking all kinds of information in order to promote his practice".

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