

JAMMU & KASHMIR

World Wetlands Day: EIACP hosts Mansar Lake tour for GCW- Parade students

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, FEB 03

To mark World Wetlands Day 2026, Department of Ecology, Environment & Remote Sensing (EIACP) J&K Hub on Tuesday organized an awareness and outreach programme in alignment with the global theme of "Wetlands and traditional knowledge: Celebrating cultural heritage" and the Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) initiative. The event aimed to sensitize students and the local community to the ecological, cultural and environmental significance of wetlands.

Students from the Department of Environmental Sciences (EVS), Government College for Women (GCW), Parade, along with Dr. Harmanmeet Kour, HOD & Dr. Neha were taken on an educational field visit to Mansar Lake, a renowned wetland and a Ramsar site of Jammu region. During the visit, an awareness rally was organized around the periphery of the lake, where students



actively spread messages

discouraging the use of

plastic and highlighting its

harmful effects on wetlands

and biodiversity.

A cleanliness drive was

also conducted along the

lake area, in which students

participated enthusiastically.

The drive resulted in

the collection of approxi-

mately 70 kilograms of plastic

waste (handed over to

Wildlife department for dis-

posal under rule), reinforcing

the core principles of

Mission LiFE through

collective action and responsi-

bility.

The participants were

briefed about the ecological

importance of Mansar Lake

by Yashbeer Singh, Block

Development Officer (BDO),

who highlighted its

biodiversity, conservation

challenges and sustainable

management practices.

The Programme Officer-

EIACP J&K Hub, Dr. Kirti

Bhatt elaborated on the

cultural significance of wet-

lands, Ramsar sites and

their role in maintaining

ecological balance, empha-

sizing the need for commu-

nity participation in wet-

land conservation.

The programme was at-

tended by Range Officer, Anil Sharma, Nitin Sharma, Chetan Gupta along with

the staff of the NMSHE Pro-

ject. The event witnessed

the active participation of

nearly 60 students and

stakeholders, making it a

meaningful and impactful

observance of World Wet-

lands Day 2026. The pro-

gramme was organized un-

der the supervision of Dr.

Rajan Singh, Coordinator,

EIACP J&K hub; TSO; Inspec-

tor Fisheries

DDC Kishtwar chairs District Level Cooperative Development Committee Meeting

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, FEB 03

The 5th meeting of the District Level Cooperative Development Committee (DLCDC) was held today to review the working and progress of the Cooperative sector in Kishtwar District.

District Development Commissioner (DC) and the Chairman of the Committee, Pankaj Kumar Sharma chaired the meeting.

The meeting was con-

vened by the Deputy Regis-

trar, Mirza Mumtaz Iqbal

and attended by ADDC, Vinod Kumar Behnal; ACP, Neeraj Sharma; AD Handi-

crafts, Pardeep Shan; CAO, Kushal Chandel; AR Coop-

erative, Amit Sharma; AR Coop-

erative, Sanjay Singh; BM JCCB, Sameer Nabi; TSO; Inspector Fisheries



and other concerned.

Detailed discussions were

held on the computerization

of PACS under the 2nd

phase, implementation of

the World's Largest Grain

Storage Plan, approval of

projects under the Cooper-

ative Infrastructure Devel-

opment Fund (CIDF)

Scheme and establishment

of PACS as Pradhan Mantri

Kisan Samridhi Kendras/Kisan

Khidmat Ghars.

The District Development

Commissioner directed the

officers and committee

members to expedite the

implementation of the ini-

tatives at the grassroots

level, including the opera-

tionalization of PM Kisan

Samridhi Kendras/Kisan

Khidmat Ghars.

Female trainees awarded certificates on completing Tailoring course

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, FEB 03

Jammu & Kashmir Khadi and Village Industries Board (J&K KVIB) today awarded certificates to female trainees on completion of six-month Cutting and Training course here at Beli Charana.

The certificates were given away by Secretary Dr. Basharat Hussain. He congratulated the participants and encouraged them to establish micro-enterprises in the tailoring sector. "Skill development is the foundation of self-reliance," he said and wished the participants a successful and healthy future as they embark on their entrepreneurial journey.

This initiative, sanctioned



by J&K KVIB, is part of a

broader mission to create

sustainable livelihood op-

portunities and promote

self-employment among

women in Jammu & Kash-

trainees and other stake-

holders, who collectively

appreciated the Board's ef-

forts in fostering women-

led entrepreneurship and

skill development.

Director Agriculture reviews progress of key departmental schemes

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, FEB 03

Director Agriculture Jammu, Anil Gupta today convened a review meeting in the Conference Hall, Krichi Bhawan to assess the physical and financial progress of key agricultural initiatives across Jammu Division.

The meeting focused on the implementation status of the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP), Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS), Capital Expenditure (CAPEX) works, NABARD-funded projects and the uploading of information on various portals.

The meeting was attended by SMS-RL, Krishan Kant; Deputy Director Agriculture (Planning), Mo-



hammad Yaqoob Zargar; Accounts Officer, Vruti Upal, along with officers from the CSS and Planning Sec-

tions of the Directorate. The

Chief Agriculture Officers

(CAOs) of Jammu Division

and Farm Managers,

Chakro and Chinore, par-

ticipated in the meeting, while

ensuring transparency, ac-

countability and strict com-

pliance with prescribed

guidelines.

Laying special emphasis

on the RKVY and Farm

Mechanization compo-

nents, Anil Gupta directed

officers to accord priority to

these sectors to enhance irri-

gation, agricultural produc-

tivity and mechanization.

The Chief Agriculture Offi-

cers were asked to closely

monitor the progress of

HADP projects and ensure

that expenditure under all

components is completed up

to 100 percent within the

prescribed timelines.

District Task Force conducts inspection drive against Child Labour in Bandipora

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, FEB 03

Under the Pan-India Rescue and Rehabilitation Campaign for the eradication of child and adolescent labour, the District Task Force under the Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1996, conducted a comprehensive awareness and inspection drive in the main town of Bandipora and its adjoining areas.

During the campaign, multiple establishments including hotels, shops, and

units in both organized and

unorganized sectors were

inspected to identify in-

stances of child and adoles-

cent labour.

As part of the initiative, business owners and general public were sensitized about the legal implications

of employing children and the harmful impact of child labour on their health, education, and future. Authorities also emphasized the crucial role of community participation in reporting child labour cases to concerned departments for timely intervention.

The campaign witnessed active participation from of-

ficials of Mission Vatsalya, Labour Department, and District Legal Services Au-

thority Bandipora, who col-

lectively reinforced aware-

ness about Child Rights,

legal safeguards, and reha-

bilitation support for res-

cued children.



tection and rehabilitation of vulnerable children.

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