

2-Day Training of Yuva Doots under Mission YUVA concludes in District Doda

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As per the directions of Director Employment, Shahzad Alam and under the supervision of Deputy Commissioner, Doda, Harvinder Singh, the two-day training programme of Yuva Doots under Mission YUVA was successfully conducted in District Doda.

The training was organised in pursuance of the communication issued by the Directorate of Employment, J&K, regarding structured, initiative-wise training of Yuva Doots to ensure stage-specific interventions at the Panchayat and Municipal Ward levels. The programme concluded smoothly at both locations, with a total of 95 Yuva Doots trained at Doda and Thatri.

The sessions were conducted under the guidance of the Joint Director Employment, Jammu, Paramjeet Singh, while the training was delivered by the Assistant Director Employment, Doda and the



Employment Officer, Doda.

The session held on 17th February 2026 at the Conference Hall, DC Office Doda, was attended by Yuva Doots from the Business Help Desks (BHDs) of Assar, Doda and Bhaderwah, while the session held on 18th February 2026 at Dak Bungalow, Thatri was attended by Yuva Doots from the BHDs of Thatri

and Gandoh.

The training session was held in four phases—mobilisation of applications, credit follow-up of pending cases, beyond sanctions and seller on-boarding. The sessions were aimed at sensitising the Yuva Doots about their initiative-wise roles and responsibilities, clarifying field-level mandates and strengthening coordination for effective

implementation of Mission YUVA at the grassroots level. The mission seeks to promote youth entrepreneurship and self-employment by providing structured handholding, financial linkages and market access, and aims to create sustainable livelihood opportunities while strengthening the local economy through active youth participation.

JKEDI & GDC Shopian signs MoU to promote Entrepreneurship & Startup Culture

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In a significant initiative aimed at fostering entrepreneurship and strengthening the startup ecosystem among students, the Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI) Shopian has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Government Degree College Shopian.

The MoU was formally signed by JKEDI District Nodal Officer, Sayeem Rafiq, along with his team members, Mudasar Mohi-uddin and Syed Rizwan Andrabi.

Representing Government Degree College Shopian, the agreement was signed by the Principal, GDC, Prof. Tariq Hussain Mir, accompanied by Dr. Mohd Iqbal Dar and Dr. Nazir Ahmad Bhat.

The collaboration aims to strengthen institutional partnership for the promotion of entrepreneurship development, innovation



and startup-oriented activities among students.

Under the agreement, JKEDI Shopian will extend technical support through structured training pro-

grammes, entrepreneurship awareness sessions, mentorship and capacity-building initiatives designed to encourage students to explore

self-employment and enterprise creation as viable career pathways.

As part of the partnership, both institutions will jointly organize Entrepreneurship Awareness Programmes (EAPs), skill development workshops, startup boot camps, business plan competitions and incubation support activities. These initiatives are intended to equip students with practical entrepreneurial skills, enhance employability and contribute to the development of a vibrant startup ecosystem in the region.

Officials from both institutions emphasized that the MoU will play a crucial role in nurturing an entrepreneurial mindset among the youth of Shopian, while contributing to local economic growth and job creation. The initiative aligns with the broader vision of promoting innovation-driven growth and empowering educated youth to become job creators rather than job seekers.

DC Kishtwar reviews performance of Kissan Khidmat Ghars, sets one-week deadline for 100% farm registration

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A comprehensive review meeting of Krishi Udhymis (KUs) associated with Kissan Khidmat Ghar (KKG) Kishtwar was held today under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar, Pankaj Kumar Sharma to assess the progress and performance of KKGs across the district.

During the meeting, CAO Kishtwar, Kushal Chandel informed that a total of 25,949 farmers have been registered under the KKG App.

However, only 2,789 farms approximately 10 percent of the registered farmers have been added to the KKG portal so far.

The progress of e-KYC was also reported to be significantly low, with only 315 cases completed to date.

It was further highlighted that daily reporting by Krishi Udhymis remains unsatisfactory, as merely 20 KUs are submit-



ting daily reports regularly.

Taking serious note of the slow pace of progress, the Deputy Commissioner directed all Krishi Udhymis to intensify their efforts and ensure 100 percent farm registration of already registered farmers under the KKG App within one week.

He stressed the need for expediting e-KYC comple-

tion and maintaining consistent daily reporting without fail.

The Deputy Commissioner directed the allied departments to issue notices to non-functional or defunct KKGs and initiate the recruitment process for new Krishi Udhymis wherever necessary.

He further directed that weekly progress under al-

lied sectors be closely monitored to ensure timely achievement of targets.

The meeting was attended by CHO Kishtwar Sajid Mustafa, Incharge KVK Kishtwar Barjesh Ajriwat, LDM Kishtwar Harsh Rawal, NO KKG Kishtwar and other concerned officers and staff from concerned departments.

ADC Bhaderwah visits Thanalla and Khani Top to inspect public facilities

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Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Bhaderwah, Sunil Kumar Bhutyal conducted a visit to Thanalla and Khani Top to inspect arrangements for water supply, power supply and road clearance in the area.

During the visit, the ADC interacted with the residents of Thanalla and took stock of their grievances and demands. He assured the public that necessary steps would be taken to ensure smooth functioning of essential services.

The ADC also visited the Army Camp at Khani Top and the Police Chowki at village Thanalla, where he interacted with the personnel and appreciated their efforts in maintaining security and assisting the ad-



ministration.

He was accompanied by Tehsildar Bhaderwah, Kamalpreet Singh, along with

officials from the concerned departments and police personnel.

The inspection was

aimed at ensuring uninterrupted basic amenities and maintaining public convenience in the region.

SKUAST-K concludes 21-Day winter school on regenerative agriculture

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In a significant move toward fortifying India's agricultural future against the rising challenges of climate change, Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir concluded a 21-day ICAR Winter School today at its Shalimar campus.

The intensive program, 'Fostering Climate Resilience and Sustainability through Organic and Regenerative Agriculture', brought together an elite group of 30 scientists and faculty members representing 10 different states and Union Territories, marking a milestone in national collaborative research.

The program was conducted under the supervision of Course Director Prof Parmeet Singh, Chief Scientist of Agronomy, who designed a curriculum that bridged the gap between traditional organic practices and modern regenerative science. Over the course of three weeks, the Directorate of Research transformed into a hub of global intellectual exchange, featuring a rigorous schedule of 40 offline and 10 online sessions de-



livered by some of the most influential voices in world agriculture.

The academic rigor of the Winter School was underscored by the participation of legendary soil scientist and World Food Prize Laureate, Dr Rattan Lal, whose insights into carbon sequestration and soil health provided a visionary framework for the participants. Other international luminaries included Prof Baghirath Singh Chauhan from the University of Queensland, Australia, and Dr Asmita Murumukar of Ohio State University, USA. The sessions were further enriched by Dr Ramesh Singh, Global Leader for Regenerative Agriculture at ICRISAT, and Dr K

Kathiresan, former Vice-Chancellor of Annamalai University, alongside specialized resource persons from the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and various State Agricultural Universities.

During the valedictory function, Dr Haroon Rashid Naik, Director, Research SKUAST-K, commended the organizers for maintaining a high standard of scientific discourse. The highlights of the program were interactive lectures, practical laboratory work, and field exposure visits that allowed participants to see regenerative principles in action. He encouraged the visiting scientists to act as ambassadors for these "nature-positive"

technologies, urging them to implement and scale the knowledge gained within their home institutions to ensure a ripple effect across India's diverse agro-climatic zones.

The ceremony concluded with the distribution of participation certificates by Chief Guest Vice Chancellor, Prof Nazir Ahmad Ganai, who thanked ICAR for its continued trust in SKUAST-K to lead such vital national initiatives. He said the completion of the Winter School has effectively sown the seeds for a more sustainable and resilient agricultural landscape, positioning Kashmir at the forefront of the global regenerative movement.

Awareness under Bal Vivah Mukh Bharat held at Sumbal, Hajin and Ajas areas of Bandipora

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As part of the national Bal Vivah Mukh Bharat (Child Marriage Free India) 100-Days Intensive Awareness Campaign, officials from the District Child Protection Unit, Child Welfare Committee, Child Helpline and Child Helpdesk conducted extensive sensitization and outreach programmes across the Sumbal, Hajin, and Ajas areas of district Bandipora.

Under the structured drive against early and illegal marriages, frontline child protection officials engaged with diverse community groups including shopkeepers, drivers, students, general public, and local residents to raise awareness about the legal provisions and serious consequences under the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006, which prohibits marriages involving minors and mandates reporting of suspected cases.

During the activities, officers emphasized the importance of community vigilance and urged citizens to report any suspected incidents of child marriage



immediately by calling Child Helpline 1098, a toll-free emergency number dedicated to reporting and intervening in child protection concerns. IEC (Information, Education and Communication) materials including pamphlets and posters highlighting legal punishments and how to safeguard child rights were distributed to residents and prominently displayed at markets, bus stands,

schools, and other high-footfall locations in these areas. Officials highlighted that community outreach and awareness are key pillars of the national campaign launched by the Ministry of Women and Child Development Government of India to mobilize stakeholders for prevention of child marriages, promote child Rights and protection, and ensure widespread knowledge about le-

gal remedies and reporting avenues under law.

The outreach in Sumbal, Hajin and Ajas reflects the ongoing drive by district administration to involve local communities in the national mission to make India child-marriage-free by enhancing grassroots awareness, strengthening reporting systems, and reinforcing legal literacy among parents, youth and community members.