

## Javid Dar visits Kissan Ghar, J&K agro cold storage facilities in new Delhi

**NEW DELHI, MAY 25:** Minister for Agriculture Production, Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, Cooperative and Election Departments, Javid Ahmad Dar, today visited Kissan Ghar and J&K Agro cold storage facilities in New Delhi and reviewed the progress of ongoing works as well as the functioning of these facilities.

The Minister was accompanied by Managing Director, J&K HPMC, Mohamad Farooq Ahmad, along with other senior officers.

During the visit, the Minister inspected the ongoing construction of a Common Facility Centre under the Additional Market Development project, being developed at an estimated cost of ₹1986.57 lakh with NABARD support. The facility is aimed at strengthening the post-harvest management and marketing support for horticulture produce from Jammu and Kashmir.

The officials informed that the new cold storage facility will have a capacity of 3800 metric tonnes, comprising 10 multi-purpose chambers with advanced insulation systems and five deep-freeze chambers with dual temperature options for preservation of perishable produce.

The Minister also reviewed the upgraded existing cold storage infrastructure of 4000 metric tonnes capacity, originally constructed in 1976 and presently being modernised under a NABARD-



funded project costing ₹1024.34 lakh. Emphasising the importance of modern storage and marketing infrastructure, the Minister stated that such facilities are vital for improving farmers' returns and reducing post-harvest losses in the horticulture sector.

Later, the Minister inspected the ongoing construction of the additional block at Kissan Ghar. He directed the officials to expedite the works for timely completion.

He also urged the officers to extend all possible support to residents from Jammu and Kashmir during their stay and also ensure that best possible services are provided to the visitors.

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## DC Samba reviews progress under PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, MAY 25

A meeting to review the progress of PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana was held today at the Office of the Deputy Commissioner Samba. Deputy Commissioner Ayushi Sudan chaired the meeting attended by senior functionaries from JPDCL, representatives from other departments, bank officials and empanelled vendors.

The meeting conducted a detailed review of the progress achieved by ED Vijaypur under the scheme. It was informed that a total of 3,119 applications have been received in Samba district, out of which 2,555 consumers have selected vendors, while 1,069 rooftop solar installations have been completed and 1,039 cases have been com-



missioned (inspection approved). Subsidy has been disbursed in 952 cases.

Sub-division-wise progress, pending inspections, vendor performance and consumer awareness activities were also reviewed. The Deputy Commissioner directed JPDCL to expedite pending inspections, increase the conver-

sion of vendor-selected applications into installations and intensify IEC activities to motivate more consumers to opt for rooftop solar systems under the scheme.

The Deputy Commissioner directed the concerned officers to ensure close coordination with vendors, timely execution

of installations and release of subsidies. Emphasis was also laid on conducting awareness camps and targeting high electricity consumption households for coverage under the scheme. The meeting concluded with directions for weekly monitoring and focused efforts to achieve the set targets.

## DC Samba reviews formulation of RDD Plans under Annual Budget 2026-27

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, MAY 25

District Development Commissioner Samba Ayushi Sudan today chaired a meeting here in the meeting Hall of the District Administrative Complex to review the formulation of annual PRI, BDC, DDC, ABDP, APDP and SSY plans by the Rural Development Department under the District Capex Budget 2026-27.

During the meeting, the DC took a detailed review and directed the officers of the Rural Development Department to prepare and finalize the plans under each head through Gram Sabhas and in due consultation with the elected representatives.



Emphasis was laid on considering and incorporating the works which are impact-oriented and beneficial to the community at

large. Instructions were issued to finalize and submit the work plans on or before May 27, 2026.

The meeting was at-

tended by ADDC Champa Devi Thakur; CPO Kasturi Lal; ACD, Executive Engineer REW, all BDOs and other concerned officers.

## DC Kathua reviews arrangements for Eid-ul-Azha celebrations

**KATHUA, MAY 25:** Deputy Commissioner Kathua Rajesh Sharma today chaired a meeting of district officers to review and finalise arrangements for the smooth and peaceful celebration of Eid-ul-Azha across the district.

The meeting was attended by ADDC Surinder Mohan Sharma; ADC Mahima Madan; ADC Basohli ADC Billawar, officers from Police, Health, Municipal Committees, Jal Shakti, Power Development Department, Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Rural Development, Transport and other line departments.

During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner took a comprehensive review of the preparations being put in place to facilitate devotees and ensure hassle-free observance of the festival. He directed all departments to work in close coordination and make necessary arrangements well in advance.

The DC instructed the Municipal Committees to ensure proper sanitation, cleanliness and waste disposal around Eidgahs, mosques and other congregation venues. He also stressed the need for adequate drinking water facilities and directed the Jal Shakti Department to ensure uninterrupted water supply at all religious



places and adjoining areas.

Reviewing power supply arrangements, the Deputy Commissioner directed the concerned officers to maintain uninterrupted electricity supply during the festival and keep emergency response teams on standby to address any contingencies promptly.

The Health Department was instructed to ensure availability of medical teams, emergency medi-

cines and ambulance services at strategic locations. The Deputy Commissioner also directed the Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs Department to keep a close watch on the availability and quality of essential commodities in the markets.

Emphasising the importance of public convenience and safety, the DC directed the Police and Traffic authorities to put in place ade-

quate security and traffic management arrangements at all major congregation points to ensure smooth movement of devotees and maintain law and order.

The Deputy Commissioner further stressed the need for coordinated efforts among all departments to ensure that the festival is celebrated in a peaceful, orderly and harmonious atmosphere.

## DHSJ conducts surprise inspection of healthcare facilities

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, MAY 25

Director Health Services Jammu (DHSJ) Dr. Poonam Sethi conducted a surprise visit to Sub-District Hospital- Kot Bhalwal, Community Health Centre-Sohanjana and Ayushman Arogya Mandhir (AAM)-Surechak to review the functioning of the institution and assess the quality of healthcare services being provided to the public.

During the visit, the Director inspected various sections of each hospital including the Outpatient Department (OPD), Emergency Wing, Labour Room, Pharmacy and Laboratory. She interacted with the medical and paramedical staff and took feedback



from patients regarding the facilities and services available at the hospital.

She laid special emphasis on the functioning of Emergency Rooms (ER Rooms) with Cleanliness, availability of emergency drugs and life-saving medicines to ensure prompt

management of patients during emergencies. She also reviewed implementation of the ongoing National Health Programmes like AB-PMJAY, JSSK and JSSY.

The Director Health Services stressed on quality patient care, proper main-

tenance of records, sanitation and cleanliness, punctuality and patient-friendly behavior. She assured that all necessary support shall be extended by the Directorate to strengthen health infrastructure and manpower at these Health Institutes.

## Awareness programmes organised across Budgam under Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyan

**BUDGAM, MAY 20:** A series of awareness programmes, pledge ceremonies and outreach activities were organised across district Budgam under the Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyan (NMBA) to spread awareness about the harmful effects of drug abuse and to encourage collective responsibility towards building a healthy and drug-free society.

A Mental Health Awareness Programme under the Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyan was organised at PM SHRI Government Higher Secondary School Dagger Budgam. During the programme, students were sensitized about emotional well-being, stress management, healthy living and the importance of staying away from substance abuse. Participants actively took part in the awareness



session and were encouraged to seek support and guidance whenever needed. Meanwhile, a Nasha Mukt Bharat pledge ceremony was organised at the office of Sub Divisional Agriculture Officer Budgam. Officials and staff reaffirmed their commit-

ment towards spreading awareness against drug abuse and promoting a healthy and responsible social environment.

Officials and staff of different departments of Budgam also participated in a pledge and awareness programme organised un-

der the Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyan. The programme highlighted the importance of collective responsibility, awareness and community participation in safeguarding youth from substance abuse and creating a disciplined, healthy and addiction-free society.