

## Commissioner JMC inspects encroachment situation in City Chowk, Malhotra Mohalla

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, MAY 30

Commissioner, Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) Dr. Devansh Yadav today conducted an on-site inspection of Ward No. 11, covering City Chowk and Malhotra Mohalla areas, to assess the issue of encroachments on public footpaths and roads.

The visit was undertaken following repeated representations and requests from locals, who highlighted the difficulties being faced by pedestrians due to the widespread encroachment of footpaths by vendors and shopkeepers. During the inspection, Dr. Yadav observed that several vendors and traders had occupied pedestrian pathways by displaying and selling goods on the footpaths, leaving little or no space for public movement.

Acting on the spot, the Commissioner directed the concerned vendors and shopkeepers to immediately remove the encroachments and ensure that footpaths remain accessible to pedestrians. He emphasized that public spaces are



meant for the convenience and safety of citizens and cannot be allowed to be obstructed.

Speaking during the visit, Dr. Devansh Yadav stated that the Jammu Municipal Corporation is committed to finding a sustainable and practical solution to the issue. He informed that a meeting will soon be convened involving traders and business representatives from the affected areas,

along with the local MLA and other stakeholders to discuss measures for regulating commercial activities while safeguarding public convenience.

The Commissioner further noted that unchecked encroachments not only create hardships for pedestrians but also contribute significantly to traffic congestion in the city. He stressed that effective management of roadside vend-

ing and the commercial activities are essential to prevent traffic bottlenecks and ensure smooth vehicular movement across Jammu city. Dr. Yadav appealed to all traders, vendors and citizens to cooperate with the Jammu Municipal Corporation in maintaining orderly public spaces and keeping roads and footpaths free from encroachments in the larger interest of the public.

## DC Samba reviews progress of HADP, JKCIIP

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JAMMU, MAY 30

Deputy Commissioner Ayushi Sudan today chaired a meeting of the District Level Committee (DLC) at the Meeting Hall of the DC Office Complex to review the implementation and progress of the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP) and the Jammu & Kashmir Competitiveness Improvement of Agriculture and Allied Sectors Project (JK-CIP).

During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner held detailed deliberations on the status of major projects being implemented under HADP and JKCIIP across the district. The Committee reviewed applications received through the online HADP and JKCIIP portals and finalized the selection of eligible beneficiaries under various Agriculture and Allied Departments.

A total of 293 beneficiaries were approved under different projects of the Holistic Agriculture Development



Programme (HADP), while 57 beneficiaries were approved under JKCIIP, taking the total number of approved beneficiaries to 350.

The Deputy Commissioner emphasized the need to scale up the coverage of Vibrant Villages and directed all stakeholder departments to identify villages where fewer applications have been submitted under HADP. She stressed the importance of output tracking through digital monitoring mechanisms to ensure transparency, accountability and real-time

assessment of outcomes. The stakeholder departments were instructed to expedite the completion of Daksh Kissan training and certification programmes. She also underscored the need for timely establishment and effective tracking of units under the Kisan Samridhhi Outreach and Transformation (KSOT) initiative to ensure efficient on-ground implementation of projects.

Further, the Deputy Commissioner emphasized the enrolment of farmers under the Kisan Khidmat Ghar (KKG) initiative to

maximize the benefits of HADP and JKCIIP across the district. She also urged banks to prioritize the sponsorship and sanctioning of eligible loan cases and provide proper hand-holding support to beneficiaries for successful project implementation.

The meeting was attended by the Additional District Development Commissioner Samba, Chief Agriculture Officer, Chief Horticulture Officer, Chief Animal Husbandry Officer, District Sheep Husbandry Officer, and other concerned officers.

## SCERT organizes Divisional Level 53rd RSBVP 2025-26 at Kisan Bhawan

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, MAY 30

The Divisional Office Jammu of the State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT), J&K organized the Divisional Level 53rd Rajya Stariya Bal Vaigyanik Pradarshani (RSBVP) 2025-26 at Kisan Bhawan Jammu under the inspiring theme "STEM for Viksit and Atamnirbhar Bharat." The programme also featured an awareness seminar on "Reducing Plastic Pollution." The event was organized under the guidance of Director, SCERT J&K and Director School Education Jammu Dr. Naseem Javaid Choudhary.

The exhibition aimed at fostering scientific temperament, creativity, innovation and experiential learning among students through diverse thematic areas. The central theme, "STEM for Viksit and Atamnirbhar Bharat," encompassed sub-themes including Sustainable Agriculture, Waste Management and Alternatives to Plastics, Green Energy, Emerging Technologies,

Recreational Mathematical Modelling, Health and Hygiene and Water Conservation and Management. The exhibits prepared by students reflected practical applications of science and mathematics in addressing contemporary societal and environmental challenges.

A total of 1,350 innovative models from 98 educational zones were initially showcased at the zonal level, out of which 325 exhibits were shortlisted for district-level competitions. Finally, 54 outstanding exhibits qualified for the divisional-level exhibition organized by SCERT Jammu.

The exhibition featured participation of 92 students accompanied by 56 escort



teachers representing different districts of Jammu Division. The innovative models displayed by the students reflected scientific creativity, practical problem-solving abilities and awareness regarding sustainable development and emerging technologies.

The participants were formally welcomed by the Joint Director, SCERT J&K, while a detailed concept note highlighting the objectives and significance of the exhibition was presented by Dr. Rohini, Senior Academic Officer, SCERT Divisional Office Jammu.

Addressing the gathering, Joint Director, SCERT J&K Dr. Sindhu Kapoor emphasized the importance of nurturing scientific temperament, innovation and creativity among students. She highlighted that such platforms encourage learners to connect classroom learning with real-life challenges and contribute meaningfully towards the vision of a "Viksit and Atamnirbhar Bharat" through inquiry-based learning, environmental awareness and problem-solving skills.

The event was further en-

riched by the keynote address of the chief guest, faculty member, Department of Education in Science and Mathematics (DESM), NCERT, New Delhi, Prof. C. V. Shimray. He lauded the innovative spirit and scientific aptitude demonstrated by the students.

Ms. Manisha, Personnel Officer Directorate of School Education Jammu, Dr. O.P. Vidhyarthi, Sahitya Akademi Awardee, Retired Indian Forest Service Officer with 54 books on different aspects of Biodiversity and Dr. Karuna Nidhi, Deputy Director, Farmer Training Centre, Agriculture Production & Farmers Welfare Department, graced the occasion as guests of honour.

An expert talk on the seminar theme "Reducing Plastic Pollution" was delivered by Rajesh Hali, Senior Academic Officer, SCERT Divisional Office Jammu, who emphasized the urgent need for environmental consciousness, sustainable practices and collective responsibility towards minimizing plastic waste.

The exhibits were evaluated by an eminent jury comprising Dr. Anupama

Pandotra, Associate Professor, Department of Zoology, Government Degree College R.S. Pura; Dr. Renu Sharma, Assistant Professor, Department of Botany, Government Degree College R.S. Pura; Dr. Deep Kumar Bangotra, Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science, GDC Akhnoor; Dr. Ram Dayal, Senior Assistant Professor, GDC Marh and Anamika Vaid, Academic Officer, SCERT Divisional Office Jammu. The jury members appreciated the originality, scientific approach and societal relevance reflected in the student exhibits aligned with the identified themes.

During the valedictory session the results of the exhibition were formally declared, wherein three outstanding exhibits each from the seven sub-themes were felicitated for their exceptional creativity, scientific temperament and innovative approach. Out of the 54 exhibits showcased at the divisional level, 21 exhibits were shortlisted for participation at the national level in accordance with NCERT guidelines. The valedictory session was moderated by Manisha chun.

## DLSA Kathua organises Rally, Nukkad Natak to mark World Anti-Tobacco Day

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, MAY 30

To mark World Anti-Tobacco Day, the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Kathua organized an awareness rally and a series of awareness activities at the District Court Complex, Kathua, under the leadership of Chairman DLSA and Principal District & Sessions Judge, Kathua, Jatinder Singh Jamwal and under the guidance of Secretary DLSA and Sub-Judge, Urvasi R. Bhargav.

The programme commenced with a Nukkad Natak presented by students of Jammu Sanskriti School Kathua, highlighting the harmful effects of tobacco consumption and the importance of adopting a healthy and tobacco-free lifestyle. The performance was witnessed by advocates, judicial officers, court officials and public, who appreciated the students for effectively conveying the anti-tobacco message.

Thereafter, an awareness



rally was flagged off from the District Court Complex Kathua with the objective of sensitizing people about the health hazards associated with tobacco use and encouraging collective efforts towards building a tobacco-free society. The students were accompanied by Advocate Harshit Sambyal and LADC Vishal Sardhalia, who acted as resource person.

Speaking on the occasion, Chairman DLSA and Principal District & Sessions Judge, Kathua Jatinder

Singh Jamwal emphasized the need for generating awareness among the younger generation about the dangers of tobacco addiction and called upon all sections of society to actively participate in tobacco-control initiatives.

The event was attended by Additional District Judge, Kathua, Pravin Pandoh, as Guest of Honour, Chief Judicial Magistrate, Kathua, Ajay Kumar, other judicial officers, members of the Bar, court staff and students.

The programme was coordinated and hosted by Secretary DLSA/ Sub-Judge, Kathua, Urvasi R. Bhargav, who reiterated the commitment of DLSA Kathua towards promoting public awareness on health and social issues through legal literacy and community outreach programmes.

The event concluded with a pledge by participants to spread awareness about the harmful effects of tobacco and contribute towards creating a healthier and tobacco-free society.

## DC Rajouri reviews implementation of 100-Day Nasha Mukta Jammu & Kashmir Abhiyan

RAJOURI, MAY 30:

Deputy Commissioner Rajouri Abhishek Sharma today chaired a comprehensive review meeting to assess the quality and impact of activities being organized under the ongoing 100-Day Nasha Mukta Jammu & Kashmir Abhiyan across the district.

During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner reviewed the range of awareness, sports, educational and community-based activities being conducted under the campaign and emphasized the need to ensure meaningful public participation and tangible outcomes.

He directed all concerned officers to further intensify the campaign by organizing more awareness and outreach events across all 312 Panchayats and municipal areas of the district.

The Deputy Commissioner stressed the importance of involving representatives of various associations, community groups, educational institutions and civil society organizations to broaden the



reach and effectiveness of the campaign. He also directed the officers to submit information regarding any government official, Lambardar or Chowkidar found involved in drug-related activities so that appropriate action could be initiated.

Reviewing the functioning of de-addiction centres in the district, the Deputy Commissioner emphasized the need for greater awareness regarding the treatment and rehabilitation facilities available for addicts, particularly in remote and far-flung areas. He called

upon all stakeholders to disseminate information about de-addiction services so that affected individuals and their families can seek timely assistance.

The Deputy Commissioner further stressed that recovered patients should be connected with livelihood and self-employment opportunities under MISSION YUVA to facilitate their reintegration into society and ensure sustainable rehabilitation.

To strengthen community vigilance, he emphasized the engagement of school and college-going

students as anti-drug vigilantes and directed the concerned departments to facilitate registration of youth clubs on the My Bharat Portal. He also called for the activation of Mahila Nigrani Samitis at the grassroots level to enhance community monitoring and awareness efforts. The Deputy Commissioner directed the officers to plan and organize mega awareness and sports events, especially in border villages, to engage youth positively and reinforce the message of a drug-free society.

## Farewell function organised at Directorate of Horticulture Jammu on retirement of Harmeet Singh

JAMMU, MAY 30:

A farewell function was organised today in the Conference Hall of the Directorate of Horticulture, Jammu, on the occasion of the retirement of S. Harmeet Singh, Chauffeur, after 27 years of service to the Department.

The function was attended by Director Horticulture Jammu Gul Syed, Deputy Director Horticulture (Central), Jammu Mukesh Sharma, Deputy Director Planning Divya



Mahajan, Accounts Officer, Chief Horticulture Officer Jammu R. Kotwal, Technical Section Officers, Horticulture Information and Publicity Officer Randhir

Singh Parihar, NRO Satish Kumar, Assistant Director Sunil Gupta, DL-SMSs, Horticulture Development Officer Information Dr. Vijay Kumar, HDOs and other

officers and officials of the Department.

Speaking on the occasion, the Director appreciated the dedication, honesty and commitment displayed by S. Harmeet Singh throughout his service career. He conveyed his best wishes for a healthy, happy and prosperous retired life. The officers and staff members also extended their wishes and appreciation to the retiree and acknowledged his contributions to the department over the years.