

# Plantation drives mark World Environment Day celebration across Jammu Division

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The World Environment Day was celebrated across Jammu Division, featuring awareness events, plantation drives and informative lectures.

**At UDHAMPUR:** The district administration Udhampur, in collaboration with the Forest Department, organized a plantation and cleanliness drive at Devika Ghat.

Deputy Commissioner Minga Sherpa, Additional Deputy Commissioner Prem Singh, officers and officials from line departments and other stakeholders actively joined the plantation, cleanliness and awareness activities.

The Deputy Commissioner emphasized the need for generating greater environmental awareness in the society, adding "The environment can be protected only through the collective efforts and active participation of every citizen. He noted that the primary objective of celebrating World Environment Day was to sensitize the younger generation towards environmental conservation and sustainable practices.

The programme also featured awareness activities under the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan, reinforcing the message of a drug-free society and encouraging citizens, particularly the youth to adopt healthy and responsible lifestyles. Participants pledged their commitment towards environmental protection and the fight against substance abuse, promoting the vision of a clean, green and addiction-free society.

Meanwhile, the Jammu & Kashmir Pollution Control Committee, Divisional Office Udhampur celebrated World Environment Day 2026 under the theme "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" with a series of plantation and awareness activities across the district. The celebrations culminated at Bhartiya Vidya Mandir Higher Secondary School, Udhampur, where plantation drive and awareness programme were organized. Students actively participated by reciting environmental slogans and delivering speeches highlighting the need for environmental protection and conservation.

Divisional Officer, J&KPCU Udhampur S.K. Tripathi emphasized the importance of tree plantation in maintaining ecological balance and urged students to contribute towards a cleaner, greener and sustainable environment.

As part of the celebrations, plantation drives were conducted in various industrial units and stone crusher establishments under the jurisdiction of the Divisional Office Udhampur, where management and employees actively participated by planting saplings within their premises.

**AT DODA:** World Environment Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm across district Doda under the theme "Our Environment, Our Responsibility – Together We Can Make a Difference." The main district-level function was organized at the DC Office Complex. Deputy Commissioner Krishan Lal led the celebrations and actively participated in a plantation drive organized at the venue.

Saplings of various species were planted to promote greenery and reinforce the importance of environmental protection. Similar activities were conducted across different parts of the district to mark the occasion.

The programme was attended by senior functionaries of district administration. Their presence reflected a strong commitment towards environmental sustainability and ecological preservation.

Similarly, a plantation drive was conducted by the Forest Division Bhandarwah with active participation of ADC Sunil Kumar Bhutyal. The event witnessed the presence of the forest range officer and staff members of the Forest Department.

Meanwhile, World Environment Day 2026 was celebrated with great enthusiasm across all government and private schools of the district under the guidance of Chief Education Officer Bhushan Kumar Pathak.

The celebrations were held under the supervision of school heads, witnessing active participation from students, staff and parents. A range of activities was organized to promote environmental awareness and encourage sustainable practices among the younger generation.

A major highlight of the day was the launch of the national initiative "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam 3.0," which commenced across the district. As part of the drive, saplings were planted within school premises as well as in nearby areas, reflecting a collective commitment to environmental conservation.

**AT RAJOURI:** District Administration Rajouri organized an aware-



ness event here at Government Boys Model Higher Secondary School. Additional District Development Commissioner Malikzada Sheraz-ul-Haq was the chief guest.

The ADDC underscored the importance of environmental conservation and called upon students to become active stakeholders in protecting nature and promoting sustainable development.

A plantation drive was also launched on the occasion. Saplings of different plant species were planted by the Chief Guest, the school Principal Wali Mohammad and others. The initiative symbolized the institution's commitment towards fostering environmental awareness and creating a greener future.

**AT KATHUA:** Deputy Commissioner Rajesh Kumar participated in a Cyclothon-cum-Walkathon organised by district administration and Sanskriti School to mark World Environment Day.

The Deputy Commissioner joined students, faculty members and officers in the awareness event and cycled alongside the enthusiastic participants, promoting the message of environmental conservation and healthy living.

The Deputy Commissioner highlighted the significance of World Environment Day and stressed the need for collective efforts to protect the environment. He observed that excessive exploitation of natural resources has adversely impacted ecological balance and called for sustainable development practices that harmonise developmental needs with environmental preservation.

He urged citizens to actively participate in plantation drives and adopt environmentally responsible behaviour to safeguard nature for future generations.

The event also witnessed the administration of the NMJKA pledge, with participants reaffirming their commitment to stay away from drugs and actively contribute towards a drug-free Jammu and Kashmir.

RTO Surinder Sharma; ACR Vishav Partap Singh; Tehsildar; ARTO; the host school Principal, faculty members, officials and a large number of students participated in the event.

**AT SAMBA:** The district administration Samba celebrated World Environment Day 2026 with a massive district-wide plantation campaign, resulting in the planting of over 1,045 saplings across public spaces, government institutions, educational establishments, municipal areas and panchayats.

The campaign was conducted under the guidance of Deputy Commissioner Ayushi Sudan.

The celebration commenced at the historic Samba Fort, where a plantation drive was organised by the Municipal Council led by Chief Executive Officer Jodh Raj.

Additional District Development Commissioner Champa Devi planted saplings and urged citizens to embrace tree plantation as both a civic duty and a moral responsibility towards future generations.

Another major plantation programme was conducted within the Deputy Commissioner's Office Complex by the Forest Department team led by Divisional Forest Officer Shahzad Choudhary. A variety of ornamental, shade-bearing and fruit-bearing saplings were planted, reflecting the district administration's resolve to strengthen and sustain the green cover of the district.

Meanwhile, plantation drives were organised at the Block Development Office Samba and Bari Brahmana under the supervision of respective Block Development Officers.

The plantation campaign extended across all municipal areas, panchayats, educational institutions and government offices.

The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from officials, employees and locals.

**AT KISHTWAR:** On the occasion of World Environment Day 2026, the Kishtwar Forest Division, in collabora-

tion with the District Administration and other stakeholders organized a plantation drive at the Mini Secretariat District Complex Kishtwar.

The event was led by Deputy Commissioner Pankaj Kumar Sharma, who planted a Deodar sapling in the premises of the Mini Secretariat New DC Office Complex, Kishtwar. The DC appealed to the residents of the district and other stakeholders to protect and preserve the environment by planting more and more trees.

The event also highlighted the ongoing campaign "Ek Ped Nashe Ke Virudh" as part of the 100 Days Nasha Mukta Jammu and Kashmir Abhiyan, which was launched by the Lieutenant Governor, UT of J&K, on April 11, 2026. In addition, plantation drives were conducted at the block level across the Division, ensuring active participation from local communities and institutions.

On this occasion, a large number of plants were planted and distributed by the Kishtwar Forest Division, symbolizing a collective commitment towards environmental conservation and sustainable development.

The event was attended by ADC Pankaj Kotwal; Tehsildar HQA to the DC Mohammad Rafie Naik; DFO Mahesh Thakur; AD Handicrafts & Handloom Pardeep Shan; Range Officer, Forest Division Raj Kumar; I/C Fire and Emergency Services besides other officials and staff members from the Forest Division Kishtwar and various departments.

**AT RAMBAN:** World Environment Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm across Ramban district under the leadership of Deputy Commissioner Mohammad Alyas Khan, with various departments organizing plantation drives and awareness programmes to promote environmental conservation.

In Sub-Division Gool, a mega plantation drive was organized under the supervision of SDM Gool Intiaz in collaboration with the Forest Department and Social Forestry Division. Observed under the theme "Our Land Our Future. We are Generation Restoration," the programme witnessed plantation activities at the SDM Office, Munsiff Court Gool and educational institutions. Munsiff Judge Ajay, Tehsildar Harjeet Singh, BDO Saddam Hussain, Ranger Officer Sajid Ahmed and other officers participated in the drive and urged people to adopt eco-friendly practices.

Meanwhile, the Forest Department Banihal Range organized a series of plantation and awareness programmes across Banihal.

Plantation drives were held at the Munsiff Court Complex, Tehsil Complex, Government Higher Secondary School Banihal and several other locations.

A major highlight of the celebrations was the plantation drive at Nawar Playground, Chapnari, where hundreds of native saplings were planted with active participation of youth, sportspersons and local residents from more than 30 villages.

**SKUAST-Jammu and JKST&IC:** World Environment Day was celebrated at Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Jammu (SKUAST-Jammu) in collaboration with the Jammu & Kashmir Science, Technology and Innovation Council (JKST&IC).

Director Research SKUASTJr Dr. S.K. Gupta was the chief guest. Assistant Director JKSTIC Shruti Khanna, Statutory officers of the university, Faculty members, researchers and students were also present on the occasion. Dr. C. M. Seth, former IFS officer was the lead speaker.

The event themed "Renewable Energy for Sustainable Future" and attended by a large number of students, featured a series of activities including poster making, speech competition, ideation and awareness lectures. Revenue Training Institute Jammu, under the guidance of the Financial Commissioner, Revenue (Addl. Chief Secretary) J&K Shaleen Kabra, organized a mega plantation



drive under the supervision of Principal Sunaina Sharma Mehta. The plantation drive was conducted in the presence of Tehsildar RTI Rajesh Kumar Baru, Accounts Officer RTI Anita Jamwal and other officers and officials from the Revenue Department.

The Principal emphasized the critical importance of environmental stewardship in the current climate crisis. "Environmental preservation is not merely a choice but a responsibility we owe to future generations," she stated.

**Horticulture Directorate:** A plantation drive was organized today at the Directorate of Horticulture Jammu amid enthusiastic participation from officers and officials of the department.

Director Gul Syed planted a mango sapling in the Directorate premises and inaugurated the plantation drive. The event was attended by Joint Director Salil Gupta; Deputy Director (Central); Accounts Officer and other officers and officials of the Directorate of Horticulture Jammu.

Speaking on the occasion, the Director highlighted the vital role of trees in maintaining ecological balance, improving air quality, conserving biodiversity and ensuring a sustainable future for coming generations.

**84 Battalion CRPF:** The 84 Battalion of the CRPF celebrated World Environment Day by organizing a series of environmental awareness and conservation activities in Chanderkote and Batote areas of Ramban district.

The battalion organized a painting competition for school children and a mass tree plantation drive at various locations. As many as 50 students from PM Shri Government High School Chanderkote and Government Girls Primary School Chanderkote participated enthusiastically in the painting competition. Winners were felicitated with prizes and certificates.

Meanwhile, more than 500 CRPF personnel, family members, officials of the Social Forestry Department, teachers and students planted nearly 1,500 saplings along hill slopes, riverbanks, roadsides, camp premises and other identified locations in Chanderkote and Batote.

**Traffic Police (Rural) Jammu:** In observance of World Environment Day, the Traffic Police (Rural)

Jammu organized a plantation drive across its jurisdiction to promote environmental conservation and generate awareness about the importance of afforestation and sustainable living.

The drive was led by SSP Traffic (Rural) Jammu Farooq Qaiser and witnessed enthusiastic participation from DySP Traffic Samba-Kathua Sukhdev Singh, all DTIs, SOs and other officials of the unit.

As part of the initiative, SSP Traffic (Rural) Jammu planted a sapling at the PWD Rest House, Sunderbani in presence of Probationary DySP Shakhishi Nagar, SHO P/S Sunderbani Inspector Mohan Lal, DTI Sunderbani, SO Sunderbani and other staff.

Simultaneously, DySP Traffic Samba-Kathua conducted a plantation drive at the office premises in Jatwal, District Samba, accompanied by Inspector Varinder Singh, DTI Samba and other subordinate staff members. Similar drives were launched by other DTIs and SOs of the unit in their respective areas. A large number of saplings were planted across the districts of Samba, Kathua, Rajouri and Poonch symbolizing the department's commitment to fostering a greener, healthier and more sustainable environment.

**JMC:** On the occasion of World Environment Day, the Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC), in collaboration with the Urban Forestry Division Jammu, organized a large-scale tree plantation drive at the Suryaputri Tawi River Front Jammu to promote environmental conservation and enhance the city's green cover.

Commissioner, Jammu Municipal Corporation Dr. Devansh Yadav, graced the occasion as the chief guest and participated in the plantation drive along with other dignitaries and citizens. A large number of people gathered at the Tawi River Front and actively planted saplings, demonstrating their commitment towards environmental protection and sustainable development.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from officials of Jammu Municipal Corporation, officers and staff of the Urban Forestry Division Jammu, volunteers from various non-governmental organizations (NGOs), Swachhata Champions, students and citizens from different parts of the city.

Dr. Devansh Yadav emphasized the importance of tree plantation in combating climate change, improving air quality and creating a healthier environment for future generations. He urged citizens to not only plant trees but also take responsibility for their care and maintenance to ensure their survival and growth.

The plantation drive formed part of the broader efforts being undertaken by JMC to promote environmental awareness, strengthen urban greenery, and encourage public participation in conservation initiatives. Participants pledged to continue supporting activities aimed at preserving and protecting the environment.

The programme concluded with a collective appeal to citizens to adopt eco-friendly practices and contribute actively towards making Jammu a greener, cleaner, and more sustainable city.

**STC Talwara:** On the occasion of World Environment Day, a plantation drive was organized at STC Talwara with great enthusiasm and active participation of trainees and staff members. The event was conducted with the objective of promoting environmental awareness and encouraging collective responsibility towards the protection and conservation of nature. During the drive, a large number of saplings of various species were planted within the campus to enhance green cover and contribute towards a cleaner and healthier environment.

**GDC Ramkote:** The NSS Unit of Government Degree College (GDC) Ramkote celebrated World Environment Day by organizing an Awareness Talk for students on the significance of environmental protection and the key principles of Mission LIFE (Lifestyle for Environment). The programme aimed to sensitize students to environmental sustainability and encourage eco-friendly practices in their daily lives.

The Principal Dr. Rakesh Kumar Koul appreciated the NSS Unit for organizing the awareness programme and emphasized the importance of nurturing environmental consciousness among the youth.

IQAC convener Prof. Pankaj Nandan highlighted the global importance of World Environment Day as a platform for raising awareness and inspiring collective action to address pressing environmental challenges such as pollution, climate change, biodiversity loss and resource depletion.

**GCOE:** Government College of Education celebrated World Environment Day 2026 by organizing a visit to Ramnagar Wildlife Sanctuary. The tour was organized in collaboration with Peace Initiative Trust and in partnership with Chinara Uphar Foundation.

The event was graced by Commissioner Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) Devyansh Yadav, who addressed the participants and stressed the need for community participation in environmental conservation.

## CS reviews preparations for NEET (UG) re-examination



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Chief Secretary Atal Duloo today chaired a high-level meeting to review and finalize foolproof arrangements for the smooth, secure and transparent conduct of the NEET (UG) re-examination scheduled to be held on June 21, 2026, across Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting was attended by Director General, National Testing Agency (NTA); Principal Secretary, Home; ADGP, Law & Order; Commissioner Secretary, General Administration Department; Commissioner Secretary, School Education Department; Divisional Commissioner, Jammu/Kashmir; IGP Kashmir; Deputy Commissioner, Srinagar; Director, School Education, Jammu/Kashmir, besides other senior officers.

Deputy Commissioners and Senior Superintendents of Police from all districts participated through video conferencing.

During the meeting, the Chief Secretary underscored the need for meticulous planning and seamless coordination among all stakeholder departments to ensure the examination is conducted in a fair, transparent and secure manner. He directed the concerned authorities to prepare a comprehensive checklist of all arrangements and activities required for the successful conduct of the examination.

Emphasising accountability at the district level, Duloo instructed the Deputy Commissioners to personally supervise the preparations in their respective districts in close coordination with the Police Department and the NTA-designated City Coordinators. He stressed that examination centres should, as far as possible, be established in government educational institutions and be thoroughly inspected well in advance of the examination date.

The Chief Secretary further directed the district administrations to ensure the availability and functionality of CCTV surveillance

systems, mobile jammers, uninterrupted power supply with backup arrangements, drinking water facilities and other essential amenities at every examination centre.

He also reviewed district-wise preparedness and sought detailed inputs from the Divisional Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners regarding the number of examination centres, candidates appearing and the arrangements being put in place within their jurisdictions.

Earlier, Director General, NTA, Abhishek Singh, briefed the meeting about the comprehensive and technology-driven measures being adopted to ensure the conduct of the examination in an exceptionally fair, transparent and efficient manner. He stressed the need to effectively curb rumour-mongering on social media and other platforms, directing the concerned authorities to take proactive measures against the dissemination of any misleading or unverified information that could adversely impact the interests and morale of the aspirants.

The DG further informed that the inspection of all examination centres is scheduled to be completed by

June 14. He also highlighted the constitution of State Level Coordination Committees (SLCCs) headed by senior officers and District Level Coordination Committees under the respective District Magistrates for effective monitoring and coordination.

Singh also revealed that question papers would be airlifted to the designated examination cities and answer sheets transported after the examination with the support of the Indian Air Force to maintain the highest standards of security and confidentiality. He added that mock drills would be conducted on June 20, a day before the examination, to assess preparedness and ensure smooth conduct of the examination.

The meeting was informed that each examination centre would be assigned a Magistrate by the district administration and a designated police officer for close monitoring. Flying squads would undertake surprise inspections, particularly at sensitive centres, while independent observers deployed by the NTA would also oversee the conduct of the examination.

It was further informed that all centres would be equipped with biometric