

# JAMMU & KASHMIR

## DC Kishtwar reviews Pulse Polio drive; directs 100 pc vaccination coverage

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, JUNE 18

Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar and Chairman DLTFC Pankaj Kumar Sharma today chaired a District Level Task Force meeting to review and finalise preparedness for the Pulse Polio immunisation drive scheduled on June 28, 29 and 30, 2026, across the district.

Chief Medical Officer Kishtwar Dr Sanjay Bhat briefed the DC on the action plan and its implementation strategy. He informed the meeting that the vaccine was received on June 16, 2026 and has been safely stored at designated cold chain points. A total of 370 Pulse Polio booths have been established across the district, with 1,480 officials and staff deployed for the drive.

The DC directed ARTO Kishtwar to establish polio booths at Bus Stand Kishtwar, Gulabgarh (Paddar) and Chatroo and to initiate awareness activities among transporters and drivers. The Municipal Council Kishtwar was di-



rected to conduct awareness campaigns through vehicle-mounted public announcement systems. District Information Centre Kishtwar was directed to implement communication strategies through electronic, print and social media platforms. Chief Education Officer Kishtwar Sanjay Dogra was directed to arrange logistical support including school buildings across all parts of the district and to provide teachers as team members

wherever manpower shortages arise. The DC emphasised close coordination among Education, ICDS, MVD and allied departments to achieve 100% coverage of target beneficiaries. He directed that ASHAs, Anganwadi Workers, school teachers, NGOs, religious leaders and community influencers be mobilised for last-mile coverage, ensuring every child aged zero to five years receives polio vaccine drops as sched-

uled. Among those present were PO ICDS Kishtwar Rishi Kumar Sharma, ARTO Kishtwar Tasleem Wani, DNO Ayush Kishtwar Dr Vikram Singh Jamwal, MS DH Kishtwar Dr Yudhvir Singh Kotwal, BMO Paddar Dr Krishan Singh Katoch, BMO Kishtwar Dr Anil Sharma, BMO Dachhan Dr Sajjad Husain and BMO Chatroo Dr Saima Ageo, besides other staff from departments concerned.

## Yoga session held at Vibrant Village Kadyala ahead of Int'l Day of Yoga 2026

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, JUNE 18

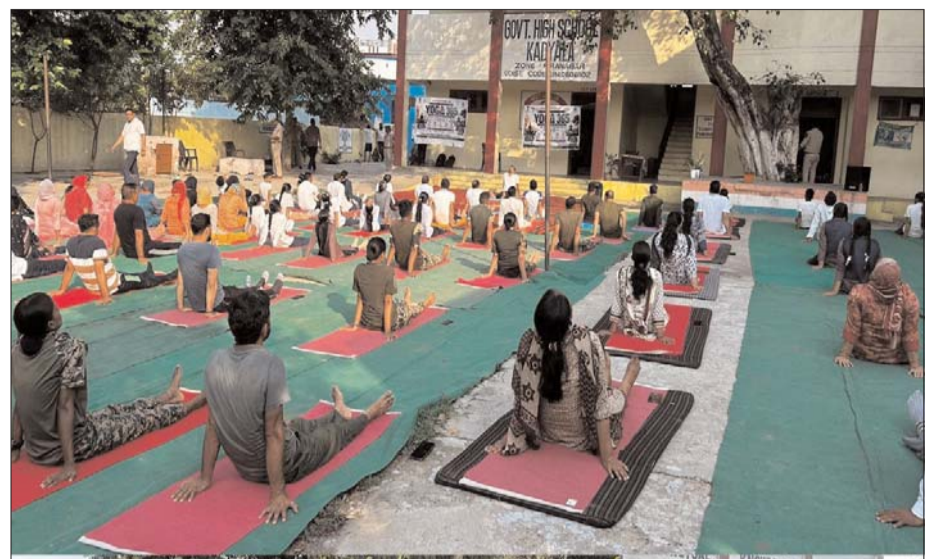
As part of prelude activities for the 12th International Day of Yoga 2026, a Yoga awareness and practice session was organised today at Government High School Kadyala, a Vibrant Village near the Zero Line of the Indo-Pak International Border in Tehsil Hiranagar.

The session saw participation from students, local residents, BSF personnel, Home Department staff, Panchayat representatives and officials from various departments.

Participants performed yoga asanas and breathing exercises under the guidance of trained instructors. Addressing the gathering, SDM Hiranagar Phulail Singh highlighted Yoga as a tool for physical, mental and emotional wellness and urged people to make it part of their daily routine.

District AYUSH Officer Dr Rakesh Kumar Sharma said Yoga represents a holistic approach to health and preventive care and reiterated the AYUSH Department's commitment to promoting it as a people's movement.

The programme was organised under the directions of Deputy Commis-



sioner Kathua Rajesh Sharma and Director AYUSH J&K Dr Ajay Kumar Tickoo, under the supervision of Sub-Divisional Magistrate Hiranagar Phulail Singh and District

AYUSH Officer Kathua Dr Rakesh Kumar Sharma. Among those present were Tehsildar Hiranagar Anoop Singh, BDO Marheen Javaid, CDPO Priya Lakshmi, Nodal Offi-

cer Yoga Dr Bodh Paul, Medical Officers Dr Sanjeet Kumar and Dr Ritu Bala, Principal Government High School Kadyala and officers from various line departments.

## JKTPO conducts export awareness workshop and e-commerce onboarding drive at Kishtwar

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, JUNE 18

The Jammu and Kashmir Trade Promotion Organisation (JKTPO), Industries & Commerce Department, today organised an Export Awareness Workshop, E-Commerce Onboarding Drive and India-EU Free Trade Agreement (FTA) Awareness Session at Kishtwar under the guidance of Managing Director JKTPO Sudershan Kumar.

The programme was organised in collaboration with the District Administration Kishtwar and drew participation from nearly 50 entrepreneurs, artisans, farmers, MSMEs, self-help groups and aspiring exporters from across the district.

The event commenced with welcome remarks by Faculty JKTPO Vishal Ray, who highlighted the importance of export promotion, digital commerce adoption and market diversification and briefed participants on JKTPO's initiatives for facilitating market access, ca-



capacity building and export readiness.

Additional Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar Pawan Kotwal, who graced the event as Chief Guest, highlighted the district's potential in agriculture, horticulture, handloom, handicrafts and value-added products and encouraged entrepreneurs to explore national and international markets. General Manager District Industries Centre Kishtwar Rishi Sharma reiterated the administration's commitment to promoting entre-

preneurship, industrial growth and export development.

During the Export Awareness Session, Gaurav Gupta from the Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) provided insights into export procedures, documentation requirements, market identification and schemes available for exporters. Ullas Kumar from the Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India (ECGC) conducted a session on export credit insurance, risk mitigation and

financial safeguards for businesses venturing into international trade.

Representatives from the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) and the Government e-Marketplace (GeM) briefed participants on digital commerce opportunities, onboarding procedures and the advantages of accessing wider markets online. Three entrepreneurs submitted on-the-spot applications for onboarding on ONDC, with the process expected to be completed by the end of the day.

## ADDC Rajouri reviews preparedness for Pulse Polio immunisation in district

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, JUNE 18

Additional District Development Commissioner Rajouri Malik Zada Sheraz Ul Haq today chaired a review meeting to assess preparedness for the Pulse Polio immunisation drive scheduled on June 28, 2026, across the district.

The meeting reviewed micro-planning, manpower deployment, logistics, inter-departmental coordination and awareness activities for the Pulse Polio campaign.

Chief Medical Officer Rajouri Dr Manohar Lal Rana gave a detailed presentation on the campaign strategy, informing that 643 vaccination booths have been established. Booth-based immunisation activities will be carried out on June 28, followed by a door-to-door campaign over the next two days to ensure coverage of every eligible child below five years.



The CMO further informed that the district has an estimated 90,875 children below five years, for whom over 2,600 vaccination team members and 130 supervisors have been deployed. Special arrangements have been made for 12 transit points, 32 high-risk areas and 28 floating population sites.

The ADDC directed all departments concerned to ensure arrangements at every vaccination booth and maintain close coordination during the three-day campaign. He directed officers to strengthen IEC and public awareness efforts, mobilise communities through field functionaries and ensure active participation of An-

ganwadi Workers, ASHAs and other frontline workers. The meeting was attended by Block Medical Officers, besides ADC Nowsheera Pritam Lal Thapa, ADC Kalakote Mohd Tanvir, ADC Sunderbani Ramkesh Sharma, ADC Koteranka Dil Mir and SDM Thanamandi Abid Hussain participating virtually.

## Chief Secy assesses the circular economy framework for J&K



**SRINAGAR, JUNE 18:** Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today reviewed the proposed Circular Economy framework for J&K put forth by the Housing & Urban Development Department (H&UDD), aimed at establishing a resource-efficient, low-waste and environmentally sustainable development model across the Union Territory.

The meeting besides Commissioner Secretary, H&UDD was attended by Commissioner, JMC; CiTaG Professionals and other concerned officers.

The proposed policy envisions transforming Jammu & Kashmir into a regenerative Himalayan economy where waste materials are going to be converted into productive resource

flows safeguarding the region's ecological integrity, enhancing urban governance and generating sustainable livelihoods.

During the presentation, the Chief Secretary was informed that the policy has been conceived in response to emerging regulatory requirements under the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2026, judicial directives concerning waste management and environmental protection, increasing waste generation linked to tourism and pilgrimage activities, and the need to protect the UT's ecologically sensitive lakes, wetlands, forests and mountain landscapes.

The framework recognises unique circular economy opportunities of J&K owing to the large tourism footfall, extensive pilgrimage circuits, a well established horticulture economy worth nearly ₹12,000 Cr and the geographical realities of mountainous terrain. Accordingly, the policy proposes an implementation architecture tailored specifically to the capacities and circumstances of different urban local bodies and regions.

A key feature of the policy, as highlighted by the Commissioner Secretary, Mandeep Kaur is the adoption of a 'Differentiated Circularity Frame-

work', under which urban local bodies will be assigned implementation responsibilities according to their operational capacity, waste generation levels and infrastructure readiness.

Under the proposed framework, she made out that the smaller and remote urban local bodies will adopt a Basic Circular Model centred on waste reduction, reuse and aggregation. These local bodies will establish ward-level Reduce-Reuse-Recycle (RRR) centres, encourage household composting, create collection systems for recyclables and rely upon cluster-level processing facilities rather than investing in expensive standalone infrastructure. The model seeks to minimise transportation costs while ensuring effective waste recovery in geographically challenging regions.

The roadmap also envisages medium-sized urban local bodies implementing the Circular+ Model, which introduces decentralised composting systems, mini material recovery facilities, small-scale biogas plants, repair-and-reuse initiatives and strengthened compliance mechanisms for bulk waste generators. The model focuses on local processing of wet waste while building stronger recycling and recovery systems.

For Jammu and Srinagar cities, the Commissioner JMC, Devansh Yadav elucidated that the policy proposes an advanced Circular++ Model, positioning both cities as regional circular economy anchors.

He revealed that the model envisages integrated resource recovery systems comprising city-wide segregation, biomethanation and compressed biogas facilities, construction and demolition waste processing plants, bulk waste generator compliance mechanisms, wastewater reuse through sewage treatment plants, digital traceability systems and regional support functions for surrounding urban centres. The two capital cities are expected to serve as processing and market hubs for higher-order circular economy activities.

The presentation further highlighted the adoption of a Cluster-Based Circular Economy Model following a hub-and-spoke architecture wherein advanced processing infrastructure is concentrated at strategic hubs while smaller urban centres function as collection and aggregation nodes.

Seven priority circular economy clusters have been proposed, namely the Jammu Metropolitan Urban Mate-

rials and Construction & Demolition Cluster; Srinagar Valley Organics and Lake-Sensitive Circularity Cluster; Apple and Horticulture Biomass Cluster; Pilgrimage and Tourism Circular Services Cluster; Artisan, Silk and Upcycling Cluster; Mountain Decentralised Circular Livelihoods Cluster; and Urban Water Reuse and Sludge Recovery Cluster.

The framework also identifies nine priority value chains for intervention including municipal dry waste recovery, organic waste and bio-inputs, plastic and packaging recovery, horticulture biomass, tourism and pilgrimage waste management, construction and demolition waste recycling, wastewater reuse, repair and refurbishment systems, and artisan-based circular production networks.

To ensure effective implementation, the policy proposes a six-pillar architecture comprising regulatory reforms, financial mechanisms, institutional arrangements, market development systems, digital governance tools and livelihood-generation initiatives.

The implementation roadmap has been structured into four phases. The first phase will focus on institutional activation, baseline assessments, tier-

ing of urban local bodies and infrastructure preparation for the smooth and flawless implementation of the framework.

The second phase will concentrate on pilot clusters, compliance systems and market activation. The third phase envisages scaling-up and replication across the Union Territory, while the final phase focuses on mature circular systems, cost recovery and long-term sustainability.

The Chief Secretary stressed the importance of developing a practical, technology-driven and financially sustainable framework capable of delivering measurable environmental, economic and social outcomes. He emphasised the need for strong inter-departmental coordination, effective convergence of existing schemes and robust digital monitoring systems to ensure successful implementation of the policy.

He maintained that once implemented, the framework is expected to significantly improve waste recovery rates, reduce landfill dependence, strengthen ecological protection, generate green livelihoods, promote circular enterprises and enhance overall urban governance across Jammu & Kashmir.