

ACS Finance chairs stakeholders' consultation meeting for Ease of Doing Business

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, JUNE 19

As part of the ongoing consultative process to strengthen the Ease of Doing Business framework and finalise the revised Industrial Policy for Jammu & Kashmir, the Committee on Ease of Doing Business and revision of the Industrial Policy for Jammu and Kashmir today held its second meeting with the representatives of various industrial and trade associations from the Jammu Division at Udyog Bhawan, here.

The meeting was chaired by Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Finance Department, Shaileendra Kumar and was attended by Commissioner Secretary, Industries & Commerce, Vikramjit Singh; Zonal Head, J&K Bank, Ashok Gupta; Director, Industries & Commerce, Jammu, Dr. Arun Manhas and Commissioner, State Taxes, P.K. Bhat, among other senior officers.

Addressing the stakeholders, the Additional Chief Secretary emphasised the need to adopt a long-term and sustainable approach towards the industrial development of Jammu and Kashmir.



Shaileendra Kumar stressed on the need of using green energy and reducing the carbon footprint. He underlined that policy measures and regulatory reforms should be designed to promote ease of doing business while safeguarding the broader public interest and ensuring inclusive economic growth.

The ACS informed the participants that, in addition to the existing Single Window System, the government is in the process of introducing a dedicated Ease of Doing Business Act to streamline approvals

and eliminate unnecessary delays in obtaining departmental clearances.

During the meeting, detailed deliberations were held on the suggestions and recommendations submitted by the stakeholders in the previous round of consultations, with a view to incorporate practical reforms in the proposed Industrial Policy.

The event witnessed participation from prominent Industrial Associations including Chairman, Federation of Industries, Jammu- Virender Jain, Chairman, PHDCCI-Jammu Rakesh Wazir,

Chairman Assocham J&K Council Manik Batra., Member, National Executive, Laghu Udyog Bharti Parveen Pargal, President, Bari Brahmana Industrial Association Lalit Mahajan, ICC Chairman Rahul Sahai, Chairperson, FICCI-Flo Varsha Bansal, National Chairman of D2C1 India MA Alim, Chairman FADA Sanjay Agarwal, President Small and Tiny Industry Harvinder Singh, President CIC-J&K Rakesh Sharma besides prominent Industrialists and senior officers from Industries and Commerce Department.

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, JUNE 19

The Sub-Office of Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages (JKAACL) Kathua today organised a cultural programme at Higher Secondary School Ramkot as part of the Historic Annual Chowgan Mela celebrations to promote and preserve the folk traditions and cultural heritage of the Duggar region.

Member of Legislative Assembly Billawar Satish Sharma attended as Chief Guest. The programme drew enthusiastic participation from students, teachers, local residents and cultural enthusiasts.

Addressing the gathering, the Chief Guest appreciated JKAACL's efforts in promoting the diverse cultural traditions of Jammu and Kashmir, describing folk art forms and traditional music as a vital link



between generations and the cultural roots of the region. He lauded the Academy for taking cultural programmes to rural areas and educational institutions.

Renowned singer Bishan Dass, known for his song "Zindagi Sohni Hai," enthralled the audience with his melodious renditions. The programme also featured a presentation of the traditional folk art form

Geetru by folk artist Chatto Ram and his troupe. A significant tradition of the Duggar region, Geetru combines narrative singing, dance movements and theatrical expressions, with the lead performer supported by chorus singers and accompanied by Dholak and Chimta.

Special Officer Cultural Activities Sub-Office JKAACL Kathua Sanjeev

Gupta reiterated the Academy's commitment to preserving and promoting the cultural legacy of Jammu and Kashmir. He stated that under the guidance of Secretary JKAACL Harvinder Kour, the Academy has been organising cultural initiatives across the Union Territory to provide a platform to artists and strengthen connections with traditional art forms.

Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board extends nutritional support to TB patients under Nikshay Mitra Initiative

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, JUNE 19

State Tuberculosis Officer Jammu Dr Jyoti Jolly today received 270 nutritional food baskets from Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board Katra under the Nikshay Mitra Initiative and the TB Mukht Bharat Abhiyan, for TB patients of Block Katra and District Reasi of Jammu Division.

The support has been provided under the guidance of Director Health Services Jammu Dr Poonam Sethi as part of efforts to strengthen patient care and improve treatment outcomes through nutritional assistance.

The NTEP Jammu Team expressed gratitude to the management of the Shrine Board for this contribution, noting that the support will assist TB patients during



their treatment and recovery. The nutrition baskets will help improve recovery, reduce suffering and enhance treatment outcomes. The initiative also reflects

the spirit of Jan Bhagidari and community participation in achieving a TB-Mukht Jammu & Kashmir.

The State TB Cell Jammu acknowledged the contri-

bution of the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board and reiterated its commitment to strengthening partnerships in support of a TB-Free India.

Collective efforts essential to eliminate drug menace: Sheetal Nanda

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, JUNE 19

The District Administration Reasi today organized a mega awareness event under Nasha Mukht Jammu & Kashmir Abhiyaan at Spiritual Growth Centre, Katra, reaffirming its commitment to build a drug-free society through awareness, prevention, rehabilitation and collective action.

Commissioner Secretary, Forest, Ecology and Environment, Sheetal Nanda, graced the occasion as the chief guest. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from senior district administration officers, police officials, representatives of various departments, educational institutions, civil society organizations, youth groups and citizens, including students.

A major highlight of the programme was the active participation of students from schools across the Reasi district, who engaged in a range of awareness activities aimed at sensitizing the public about the harmful effects of substance abuse. Through symposiums, students eloquently expressed their views on the devastating impact of drug addiction on individuals, families and society. They also presented thought-provoking nukkad natak, while local artists performed songs carrying strong anti-drug messages, reinforcing the campaign's objective of promoting a drug-free lifestyle.

Addressing the gathering, Deputy Commissioner Reasi Kumar Abhishek re-



iterated the district administration's unwavering commitment to make Reasi drug-free under the ongoing Nasha Mukht J&K Abhiyaan. Highlighting the campaign's three core pillars, awareness generation, stringent action against drug peddlers and rehabilitation of victims, he stressed the importance of collective public participation in combating the drug menace.

The Deputy Commissioner informed that strict action has been taken against the drug offenders, including registration of cases and attachment of properties linked to drug peddlers. Emphasizing the administration's focus on rehabilitation, he stated that de-addiction centres are operational in the district and that treatment fa-

cilities at District Hospital Reasi would be further strengthened.

He urged the citizens to break the social stigma associated with addiction, report drug-related cases confidentially and support the affected individuals in seeking timely treatment. He also highlighted the significant role played by trained school counselors, Mahila Nigrani Samitis and ASHA workers in spreading awareness and preventing drug abuse at the grassroots level.

In her address, Commissioner Secretary Sheetal Nanda emphasized that effectively tackling the drug menace requires a balanced and comprehensive strategy addressing both the demand and supply sides of the problem. She observed that while aware-

ness campaigns, counselling and rehabilitation are essential to reducing drug dependency, strict legal action against peddlers, including property attachment, is equally necessary to curb the supply network.

Appreciating the efforts of the District Administration in successfully implementing the 100-day Nasha Mukht Jammu & Kashmir Abhiyaan, she underscored the importance of active community participation and stated that collective efforts are crucial for building a drug-free society.

Highlighting the growing threat of substance abuse, she called upon the parents, particularly mothers, to remain vigilant regarding changes in their children's behaviour and peer groups.

DC reviews TB Mukht Bharat Abhiyan in Udhampur

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, JUNE 19

Deputy Commissioner Udhampur Minga Sherpa today chaired a review meeting with Health Department officers to assess progress under the TB Mukht Bharat Abhiyan and strategise measures to accelerate efforts towards a TB-free Udhampur.

Chief Medical Officer Udhampur Dr Anil Manhas and District Tuberculosis Officer Dr Anil Saloch presented the district's performance under the campaign, covering tuberculosis detection, treatment outcomes, screening coverage and other key indicators.

The DC reviewed the implementation of the Nikshay Mitra Initiative under the Pradhan Mantri TB Mukht Bharat Abhiyan,



which provides nutritional, social and community support to TB patients to improve treatment adherence and outcomes.

He directed the Health Department to expand TB testing, strengthen diagnostic facilities and ensure timely identification and treatment of patients. He called for enhanced coun-

selling services and active involvement of frontline health workers in identifying suspected cases and ensuring uninterrupted treatment.

The Deputy Commissioner directed intensification of awareness campaigns at the grassroots level, increased community participation and stronger

inter-departmental coordination to achieve 100 per cent screening coverage. The DTO was instructed to organise dedicated health camps and conduct awareness drives across urban and rural areas to facilitate early diagnosis, prompt treatment and improved public awareness about tuberculosis.

DC reviews Solid Waste Management Rules-2026 implementation in Udhampur

UDHAMPUR, JUNE 19:

Deputy Commissioner Udhampur Minga Sherpa today chaired a review meeting to assess implementation of the Solid Waste Management Rules-2026 across urban and rural areas of the district.

The Deputy Commissioner directed the departments concerned to prepare a comprehensive list and ensure identification and registration of all waste-generating institutions, bulk waste generators and other establishments across the district. He directed waste segrega-



tion at source at all levels and called for intensified awareness and enforce-

ment measures to strengthen compliance with the Rules, in adher-

ence to the directions of the Supreme Court on source segregation.

Dy CM inspects new Legislative Assembly building project in Jammu; emphasizes timely, quality completion

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, JUNE 19

Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary today inspected the ongoing construction work of the new Legislative Assembly building in Jammu and reviewed the progress achieved on the prestigious project.

During the inspection, the Deputy Chief Minister assessed various components of the construction work and emphasized the

importance of maintaining the highest standards of quality while ensuring adherence to the prescribed timelines.

He directed the concerned officers and executing agencies to expedite the pace of work so that the project is completed within the stipulated timeframe.

The Deputy Chief Minister underscored that the new Legislative Assembly building is a vital public in-

frastructure project and a symbol of democratic governance. He stressed that there should be no compromise on quality and called for regular monitoring to ensure smooth and efficient execution of the work.

Later, the Deputy Chief Minister visited Bajalta, Jammu, to express his heartfelt condolences to former District Development Council (DDC) Member, Shameema Begum, on

the demise of her husband.

He conveyed his sympathies to the bereaved family and prayed for eternal peace to the departed soul. He shared the grief of the family and prayed for strength and courage for them to bear the irreparable loss.

Several officers, engineers and local representatives accompanied the Deputy Chief Minister during the visit.