

JAMMU & KASHMIR

Acceptance Testing of newly established Kisan Helpline Centre conducted at Jammu

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, JULY 03

As part of the nationwide rollout of the revamped Kisan Helpline Centre (KHC) under the Government of India's KHC RFP-2025 initiative, the Acceptance Testing (AT) of the newly established Kisan Helpline Centre, Jammu was conducted today at the Directorate of Agriculture Krishi Bhawan Talab Tillo Jammu under the supervision of Joint Director Agriculture (Extension) Jammu Sanjay Anand.

The Acceptance Testing was undertaken in compliance with the directions issued by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India, to assess the operational readiness of the newly established Kisan Helpline Centre. The exercise involved a comprehensive evaluation of the Centre's infrastructure, information technology systems, communication facilities, software applications and service delivery mechanisms to ensure adherence to the prescribed technical specifications and service standards.

The revamped Kisan Helpline Centre has been established to replace the erstwhile Kisan Call Centre with an integrated, technology-enabled platform providing farmers with a single-window facility for agricultural advisories, grievance redressal



and information on government schemes and services.

During the inspection, Sanjay Anand reviewed the overall functioning of the Centre and expressed satisfaction with the arrangements made for delivering prompt and effective services to the farming community.

Speaking on the occasion, Sanjay Anand said that the Kisan Helpline Centre would play a vital role in strengthening the agricultural extension system by ensuring timely dissemination of expert advisories, efficient grievance redressal and easy access to various government programmes through a modern digital platform. He expressed confidence that the initiative would significantly enhance the quality and outreach of extension services across the Union Territories of Jammu &

Kashmir and Ladakh.

The Joint Director also urged all Chief Agriculture Officers (CAOs) and district-level officers to create widespread awareness about the Kisan Helpline Centre at the grassroots level, particularly through Panchayats, Farmer Awareness Programmes and extension activities. He appealed to the field functionaries to actively promote the toll-free helpline number 1800-180-1551 so that a larger number of farmers could avail themselves of the advisory and grievance redressal services offered through the Centre.

Earlier, Manager, Kisan Helpline Centre, Jammu Naveen Kumar briefed the Joint Director about the functioning of the Centre. He informed that during the peak agricultural season, the Centre receives an average of around 400 calls daily from farmers

seeking guidance and grievance redressal related to agriculture, horticulture and allied sectors.

The Centre serves as a single-window platform where farmers can obtain scientific crop advisories, information on government schemes, pest and disease management, weather-related guidance, input management, market-related information and other agriculture-related services through a panel of subject matter experts.

The Acceptance Testing was conducted in the presence of Joint Director Agriculture (Extension), Jammu Sanjay Anand; Programme Officer (JDA Extension) Vivek Mahajan; Manager, Kisan Helpline Centre, Jammu Naveen Kumar; Supervisor, Kisan Helpline Centre, Jammu Nikhet Rafiq and officers of the Agriculture Department, Jammu.

Special Aarti at Shri Raghunath Ji Temple marks commencement of Shri Amarnath Yatra

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JAMMU, JULY 03

A spiritually uplifting evening Aarti was performed with great devotion and religious fervour at the historic Shri Raghunath Ji Temple, Jammu, under the aegis of the J&K Dharmarth Trust.

The occasion assumed special significance as it coincided with the flagging off of the first batch of pilgrims for the annual Shri Amarnath Yatra, with devotees offering heartfelt prayers for the safe, peaceful and successful completion of the sacred pilgrimage.

Addressing the gathering, Kunwarani Dr. Ritu Singh, Chairperson of the Jammu Aarti Sanstha, highlighted the spiritual, cultural and civilizational significance of the daily Aarti at Shri Raghunath Ji Temple. She said the sacred tradition serves as a powerful medium for strengthening faith, preserving Sanatan values



and inspiring devotees with a deep sense of devotion and spiritual awakening.

She also expressed her heartfelt gratitude to Dr Karan Singh ji, Hon'ble Chairperson of the Dharmarth Trust for granting permission to conduct the daily evening Aarti at the historic temple, describing his support as instrumental in reviving and sustaining this sacred spiritual

tradition for the benefit of devotees.

The Vice President of the Jammu Aarti Sanstha thanked the J&K Dharmarth Trust for its continuous guidance, coordination and wholehearted cooperation in ensuring the smooth and devotional conduct of the daily Aarti.

A large number of devotees participated in the Aarti and collectively prayed for peace, har-

mony, prosperity and the well-being of all pilgrims undertaking the Shri Amarnath Yatra.

During the programme, renowned singer Sonali Dogra mesmerized the gathering with her melodious voice.

On the occasion, Ashok Kumar Sharma (IPS Retd), Secretary J&K Dharmarth Trust and prominent persons of the city were also present.

DC, SSP Anantnag flag off Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra along Pahalgam Axis from Nunwan Base Camp

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JAMMU, JULY 03

Amid jubilation and devotional fervor, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Anantnag (Yatra Officer), Dr. Bilal Mohiuddin Bhat and Senior Superintendent of Police, Amod Ashok Nagpure, jointly flagged off the Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra 2026 along the Pahalgam Axis in the wee hours today from the Nunwan Base Camp, Pahalgam.

Camp Director Atul Kumar, SDM Pahalgam, Additional Camp Directors, and senior officers from the police and line departments were present during the flag-off ceremony.

Following their departure from the Nunwan Base Camp, the pilgrims were ferried in vehicles to Chandanwari via a special shuttle service provided by the Motor Vehicles (MV) Department.

To ensure a blissful and enriching spiritual experience for the Yatri, adequate arrangements have been put in place at various camps, stations and places



of importance enroute the Holy Cave. All essential facilities will be provided to the pilgrims during the pilgrimage period so that it is conducted in a smooth, and

successful manner. Besides, service augmentation and other necessary safety and security measures along the track were planned and executed in advance.

The Yatri expressed their satisfaction with the overall arrangements and were highly motivated as they began their spiritual journey to the Holy Cave.

DC Ramban flags off Door-to-Door Garbage Collection Vehicle

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, JULY 03

Deputy Commissioner Ramban, Mohammad Alyas Khan, today flagged off a Door-to-Door Garbage Collection Hydraulic Vehicle for Block Ramban under the initiative of the Rural Development Department to strengthen rural sanitation and promoting effective solid waste management.

Additional Deputy Commissioner Varunjeet Singh Charak, Assistant Commissioner Development Sheraz

Ahmed, Tehsildar Ramban Deep Kumar, Block Development Officer Ramban Sunil Kumar, Block Development Officer Batote Farman-Ul-Din, Block Development Officer Headquarters Shalini Chandel, along with other officers and officials, were present on the occasion.

The vehicle has been deployed to ensure collection and scientific disposal of household waste, contributing to cleaner villages and improved public health. The initiative is aimed at enhancing sanitation services at the

grassroots level and reinforcing the objectives of the Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen).

The Deputy Commissioner emphasized the importance of community participation in maintaining cleanliness and urged the public to cooperate with the sanitation staff by ensuring proper segregation and timely disposal of household waste. He reiterated the district administration's commitment to creating a clean, healthy and sustainable environment across the district.



rected the Municipal Council to coordinate with NHIDCL for the desilting of drains to facilitate the smooth flow of rainwater and prevent waterlogging, emphasizing the need for timely execution of the works in the larger public interest.

Interacting with locals, the Deputy Commissioner sought feedback, listened to their concerns and reiter-

ated the administration's commitment to strengthening basic amenities and civic infrastructure through coordinated efforts. He also issued on-the-spot directions to the concerned departments for immediate redressal of identified issues, reaffirming the administration's commitment to improving public services, strengthening civic infrastructure and ensuring

better amenities for the public.

The Deputy Commissioner was accompanied by ADC Pawan Kotwal, ACR Idrees Lone, EO Municipal Council Mirza Mumtaz Iqbal, Tehsildar Nirbhay Sharma, Tehsildar Hqrs. Mohammad Rafie Naik, Executive Engineer Jal Shakti, Executive Engineer PWD R&B besides other officers and concerned staff.

DC conducts extensive inspection of Kishtwar town; Reviews sanitation, drainage and developmental works

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Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar Pankaj Kumar Sharma today conducted an extensive inspection of Kishtwar Town to undertake a comprehensive assessment of public utility services and review the status of ongoing developmental initiatives.

The inspection covered areas near Dak Bungalow, Shaheedi Road, Gudhali Chowk, Jamia Masjid and the main market with a focus on assessing and improving sanitation, drainage and developmental works.

During the inspection, the DC carried out a detailed assessment of the drainage network to ensure its efficient functioning. He stressed the need to identify and remove blockages to prevent waterlogging and other potential hazards. He directed the Jal Shakti Department to shift utilities wherever required and address leakages at various locations on priority.

The Deputy Commissioner also directed the EO Municipal Council Kishtwar to ensure comprehensive cleanliness and sanitation across the Town. He di-

CM meets MLAs, trade and tourism stakeholders; reviews development, business and tourism issues

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
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Several public representatives and delegations and various stakeholders today called on Chief Minister Omar Abdullah at Raabita, during which a wide range of issues relating to development, public welfare, trade, tourism and business were discussed.

MLA Jasrota Rajiv Jasrota, MLA Habba Kadal Shamima Firdous and MLA Doda Mehraj Malik, called on the Chief Minister and apprised him of the developmental priorities and public welfare concerns of their respective constituencies.

The legislators highlighted various issues requiring the government's attention, including infrastructure development, delivery of public services, implementation of ongoing development projects and other constituency-specific matters aimed at improving



the quality of life of the people.

The Chief Minister gave a patient hearing to their concerns and assured them that all genuine issues would be examined for appropriate action.

A delegation led by President Kashmir Traders and Manufacturers Federation (KTMF), Mohammad Yaseen Khan, met the chief minister and raised issues concerning the trade and

business community.

Another delegation led by Chairman of the Tourist Trade Interest Guild, Zahoor Ahmed Karnai, also met the Chief Minister.

The delegation discussed measures for the promotion of tourism in Kashmir. Various initiatives aimed at boosting tourist inflow, expanding outreach and strengthening the tourism sector were also deliberated upon.

The Chief Minister appreciated the constructive suggestions put forward during the meetings and reiterated the government's commitment to maintaining regular engagement with public representatives, trade organisations and other stakeholders to ensure responsive governance, inclusive development and sustained economic progress across Jammu and Kashmir.