

ADDC Kishtwar flags off batch of 96 Farmers for 7-day exposure visit/training programme to Palampur

KISHTWAR, JULY 06: To enhance farmers' knowledge and exposing them to modern agricultural technologies and best farming practices, the Agriculture Department Kishtwar on Monday organized a seven-day exposure visit/training Programme for a batch of 96 farmers from different parts of the district to Palampur Himachal Pradesh under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) ATMA 2026-27.

The exposure visit is being conducted from 06.07.2026 to 12.07.2026 at CSK Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishwavidyalaya Palampur, Himachal Pradesh.

The batch of farmers was flagged off by Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Vinod Kumar Behnal in presence of Additional Deputy Commissioner Pawan Kotwal; Chief Agriculture Officer (CAO) Kushal Chandel and other officers and officials of the Agriculture Department.

During the seven-day training programme, the participating farmers will be exposed to advanced and scientific agricultural practices through visits to the University Farms, where they will observe the



latest crop production technologies and research initiatives. The programme also includes interactive sessions with progressive farmers to facilitate the exchange of practical experiences and innovative farming techniques. In addition, the farmers will visit tea farms and tea processing units to learn about tea cultivation and value addition, the Hing Research Station to understand the cultivation and research of high-value crops and the Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology (IHBT) to gain knowledge about biore-

source management, agri-innovations and technology-driven farming practices. The ADDC highlighted that exposure visits under CSS-ATMA are an important extension activity aimed at bridging the gap between agricultural research and field-level adoption. He expressed confidence that the knowledge and practical experience gained during the programme would enable the participating farmers to adopt improved technologies, diversify their farming systems and enhance productivity and income. He also urged the farmers to

share their learnings with other farmers in their respective villages after returning from the tour. The participating farmers expressed immense enthusiasm and gratitude towards the Agriculture Department Kishtwar for providing them with the opportunity to visit one of the country's premier agricultural institutions. The Farmers were excited to learn modern farming techniques, interact with experts and progressive farmers and bring back valuable knowledge that would help improve agriculture in Kishtwar district.

JKAACL commemorates 126th birth anniversary of Dr Shyama Prasad Mukherjee



HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, JULY 06

The Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages (JKAACL), in collaboration with Viraj Kala Kendra, presented the Hindi play Hey Yugadhar – Shyama Prasad Mukherjee to commemorate the birth anniversary of educationist, politician and nationalist leader Dr Shyama Prasad Mukherjee. The play depicted his life, vision and contributions through

theatrical presentation.

Written and directed by Rajneesh Kumar Gupta, the play traces milestones of Dr Mukherjee's life through a narrative in which a group of young scholars researching his life gradually transform into characters depicting different phases of his journey.

Amit Bhalla portrayed the role of Dr Mukherjee. He was supported by Meera Tapasvi, Mukesh, Dr Meetu Meenia, Rishab Manhas, Arun Sharma,

Mannat Bhau, Amanjeet Verma, Nitesh Verma and Krishya Bhatia. Music was composed by Ankush Kumar, with musical direction by Yuvraj Gupta. Lighting was by Pankaj Sharma, makeup by Pintoo Ji, and costumes and properties by Amanjeet Verma.

Secretary JKAACL Harvinder Kour was the chief guest. She appreciated the artists' efforts and said the Academy remains committed to productions based on the lives of great

personalities to educate the younger generation about India's cultural heritage. She also commended the production's artistic excellence.

The performance was attended by prominent citizens, theatre lovers and a large audience. Speaking on the occasion, Rajneesh Kumar Gupta thanked JKAACL for its support and reaffirmed Viraj Kala Kendra's commitment to producing meaningful, socially relevant theatre.

ADC inspects civic amenities at Lodgement Centres, reviews arrangements for Shri Amarnathji Yatra Pilgrims

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, JULY 06

As per the directions of Deputy Commissioner Udhampur Minga Sherpa, the Additional Deputy Commissioner Prem Singh today conducted a comprehensive inspection of the civic amenities and essential services at various lodgement centres and Langer sites established for Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra pilgrims along the National Highway from Jakhani to Kali Mata Temple Tikri.

During the inspection, the ADC visited several lodgement centres and Langer sites to review the accommodation facilities and other basic amenities being provided to the Yatris. He assessed the arrangements for sanitation, drinking water, power, healthcare and overall cleanliness to ensure the comfort and well-being of the pilgrims.

The ADC also interacted with the pilgrims to obtain



first-hand feedback on the facilities and services being provided. The Yatris expressed satisfaction with the arrangements made by the district administration and appreciated the well-maintained lodgement centres, efficient civic services and the warm hospitality extended to them

during their stay.

The ADC issued directions to the concerned officers to ensure availability of all essential services at the lodgement centres and Langer sites throughout the Yatra period. He stressed the importance of maintaining high standards of cleanliness,

prompt service delivery and coordinated efforts among all departments for the convenience and safety of the pilgrims.

As part of the hospitality arrangements, the district administration also served wholesome meals to the pilgrims at the lodgement centres.

DC Rajouri reviews progress of Aspirational Block Development Programme in Khawas, calls for accelerated implementation

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, JULY 06

Deputy Commissioner Rajouri Abhishek Sharma today chaired a review meeting to assess implementation of the Aspirational Block Development Programme (ABDP) in Khawas, calling for coordinated efforts and timely achievement of development targets.

The meeting reviewed the performance of key departments under the programme, including Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), Rural Development Department (RDD), Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry, Health, Social Welfare, Micro Irrigation and other allied sectors. Several developmental works under the ABDP are currently in progress in Khawas and departments were directed to maintain momentum and ensure timely completion while adhering to quality stan-



dards. The Deputy Commissioner said the ABDP aims to accelerate socio-economic development by improving key indicators across priority sectors and that all prescribed targets must be achieved within stipulated timelines.

The Deputy Commissioner directed officers concerned to undertake regular field visits to

Khawas, closely monitor ongoing works, identify bottlenecks and ensure prompt resolution of issues; departments were further directed to adopt a collaborative and result-oriented approach to bridge developmental gaps, expedite execution of projects and ensure effective convergence among departments to maximise the impact of government

interventions in the aspirational block.

Among those present were Additional District Development Commissioner Malikzada Sherazul-Haq, Assistant Commissioner Auqil Nuvaid, DDE Mohd Nawaz Choudhary, Chief Medical Officer Dr Manohar Lal Rana and officers concerned from the departments.

Health Deptt Doda observes World Zoonoses Day with district-wide awareness campaign

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, JULY 06

The Health Department Doda today observed World Zoonoses Day with a series of awareness programmes across all medical blocks of the district to educate the public on zoonotic diseases and the importance of preventing their transmission.

The main district level programme was organized at the Government ANMT School Doda and was attended by the students of the institution organized by IDSP Unit under the banner of District Health Society Doda.

The programme was graced by Dy Chief Medical Officer Dr. Sat Lal Manhas, Block Medical Officer, Dr. Abdul Gafoor, Principal Government ANMT School Vidya Kotwal, Umar Anayat (Epidemiologist), Sanjeev Rana (Health Educator), Roma Sharma (Data Manager, IDSP) and Saima



Kousar (Tutor, ANMT School).

The programme commenced with a welcome address by Umar Anayat, who highlighted the significance of World Zoonoses Day and gave a brief overview of zoonotic diseases, their modes of transmission and

the need for coordinated preventive measures.

Addressing the gathering, Dr. Sat Lal Manhas emphasized the importance of generating awareness on zoonotic diseases and adopting preventive practices to reduce the risk of infections transmitted

from animals to humans. He urged the students to act as ambassadors of health awareness in their communities.

Dr. Abdul Gafoor also delivered an informative lecture on the prevention and control of zoonotic diseases, stressing the importance of personal hygiene, food safety, vaccination of animals and early reporting of suspected cases.

Speaking on the occasion, Vidya Kotwal appreciated the initiative of the Health Department and encouraged the students to actively participate in public health awareness activities.

An interactive question and answer session was also held, during which students enthusiastically participated and clarified their queries regarding zoonotic diseases and their prevention.

The proceedings of the programme were conducted by Faizan A. Tramboo.

ADDC Reasi reviews arrangements for joint mock drill on early warning system, flood preparedness

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, JULY 06

Additional District Development Commissioner Reasi Krishan Lal today chaired a meeting to review and finalise arrangements for a joint mock drill on the Early Warning System (EWS), flood preparedness and rescue operations, to be conducted in the downstream areas of the Salal Power Station Dam. The joint mock drill will be conducted at Nambala in Reasi on July 7.

The meeting was convened to ensure coordination among stakeholder departments for the mock drill, aimed

at strengthening disaster preparedness, testing emergency response mechanisms and enhancing coordination among agencies in the event of a dam-related emergency.

The ADDC reviewed the action plan and directed all departments concerned to ensure effective coordination, timely communication and adequate deployment of manpower, equipment and other essential resources. The exercise will assess the operational readiness of participating agencies, evaluate the efficiency of the Early Warning System and generate awareness among residents living in

vulnerable downstream areas.

The ADDC stressed close cooperation among the district administration, Disaster Management Authority, Police, Health, State Disaster Response Force (SDRF), National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), Civil Defence, Fire and Emergency Services, NHPC and other line departments for effective execution of the mock drill. He directed officers concerned to make necessary logistical arrangements, identify vulnerable locations, establish communication channels and ensure active participation of local residents.

DC Bandipora reviews progress of Bunpora OHT, AMRUT Scheme at Sumbal; Directs expedited completion of Works

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, JULY 06

Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Indu Kanwal Chib, today chaired separate review meetings to assess the progress of the 75,000 Gallons Over Head Tank (OHT) at Bunpora Hajin under the Languishing Scheme and the AMRUT Scheme at Sumbal Town, with emphasis on expediting the completion of both projects at the VC Room, Mini Secretariat Bandipora.

Reviewing the progress of the 75,000 Gallons OHT at Bunpora Hajin, the Deputy Commissioner held detailed deliberations on the testing and commissioning of the facility.

The Deputy Commissioner directed the Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE) Division Sopore to take all necessary steps, in coordination with the concerned stakeholders, to facilitate the early testing and commissioning of the OHT so that the

water supply scheme is made functional at the earliest for the benefit of the public.

The meeting was attended by the Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE) Division Sopore, along with officers of the department, besides other concerned officials.

The Deputy Commissioner also reviewed the progress of the AMRUT Scheme at Sumbal Town, particularly the laying of the AMRUT pipeline and restoration of the PMGSY road.

The Deputy Commissioner directed the PMGSY Division, Bandipora and Jal Shakti (PHE) Division Sopore to work in close coordination to ensure laying of the pipeline on the pending road stretch without further delay. On the occasion, the DC further directed that a joint inspection be conducted by the officers of the PMGSY Division Bandipora and Jal Shakti (PHE) Division Sopore under the supervision of the Chief Planning Officer, Bandipora after completion of

this PMGSY stretch to assess the extent of road restoration required.

The Deputy Commissioner also directed the concerned departments to complete the road restoration estimates promptly and explore the use of suitable machinery, including a JCB fitted with a narrow bucket, to minimize damage to the existing road surface during trench excavation.

Emphasizing timely completion of both projects, the Deputy Commissioner directed all concerned officers to maintain close coordination, expedite the pending works, and ensure that all procedural formalities are completed at the earliest so that the projects are completed without unnecessary delay and the intended public benefits are delivered promptly.

The meeting was attended by the Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE) Division Sopore; Executive Engineer, PMGSY Division Bandipora, along with officers of the concerned departments.