

# FCS&CA, Legal Metrology conduct market inspection in Greater Kailash; violations detected, penalties imposed

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, JULY 14

On the directions of Director Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA) Jammu Rajesh Kumar Shavan, a joint enforcement team headed by Deputy Director Food & Rationing Sham Abrol, along with officers of the FCS&CA Department and officials of the Legal Metrology Department, today conducted a comprehensive market inspection drive in the Greater Kailash area of Jammu.

The joint team inspected a large number of grocery (Karyana) shops, electrical shops, food establishments and other commercial outlets to ensure compliance with the provisions of the Essential Commodities Act, Legal Metrology Act, Consumer Protection Act and other relevant laws. The inspection focused on display of rate lists, accurate weighing and measuring instruments, quality of commodities, MRP compliance, expiry dates, billing practices and consumer rights.

During the inspection, several violations were no-



ticed, including non-display of rate lists, non-calibration of weighing and measuring instruments, deficiencies in mandatory disclosures and other irregularities. The erring establishments were penalised, with fines amounting to approximately ₹62,000 imposed. The violators were also issued strict warnings to ensure compliance in future, failing which stringent legal action shall be initiated.

Director FCS&CA Rajesh

Kumar Shavan reiterated that the Department is committed to safeguarding consumer interests by ensuring fair trade practices, transparency in pricing and availability of quality commodities. He said no trader or business establishment would be allowed to indulge in unfair trade practices, overcharging or any activity prejudicial to consumer welfare.

The Department has appealed to traders and business establishments to strictly adhere to statutory

provisions relating to price display, correct weighing and measuring practices, quality standards, hygiene and consumer rights. Such market inspection drives will continue across Jammu division on a regular basis to protect consumers and maintain transparency in the market. The Assistant Director (ADs) have been asked to personally supervise market inspections and seek assistance of allied agencies as per guidelines issued by the Government.

# DC Kathua assesses progress under PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana, Smart Metering Programme

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Deputy Commissioner Kathua Rajesh Sharma today chaired a review meeting to assess progress of the PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana (PMSGMBY) and the Smart Metering Programme.

Reviewing implementation of the PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana, the DC took note of the pace of progress, observing that the district has so far achieved only 53.63 per cent of the target. He directed officers concerned and the executing agency to prepare a comprehensive schedule for installation of rooftop solar systems to ensure time-bound completion.

The Deputy Commissioner directed intensification of public awareness regarding the scheme so that



more eligible households avail its benefits. He asked departments concerned to undertake sustained IEC activities to enhance outreach and accelerate enrolment under the scheme.

Reviewing the status of loan-linked applications, the DC directed stakehold-

ers concerned to pursue all pending loan cases and ensure their timely disposal. He instructed that bottlenecks or procedural issues delaying sanction of loan applications be reported promptly to the District Administration for resolution.

Reviewing the Smart Metering Programme, the Deputy Commissioner directed the executing agency to furnish details of beneficiaries where rooftop solar systems have already been installed, to facilitate synchronised installation of smart meters.

# Agriculture Department organises training on AI-enabled DCS application for Kharif 2026

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, JULY 14

The Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare Jammu today organised a one-day Training of Master Trainers on AI-enabled features in the Digital Crop Survey (DCS) Application for the Kharif 2026 season.

The programme inaugurated by Director Agriculture Jammu Anil Gupta was held at Baba Jitto Kisan Kendra, Talab Tillo, Jammu, and aimed to strengthen the capacity of Master Trainers for effective implementation of the Digital Crop Survey across Jammu division.

The technical sessions were conducted by Ifrat Sheikh and Tanya of the Central Project Management Unit (CPMU), AgriStack, New Delhi, covering a walkthrough of the updated DCS application, introduction to newly integrated AI-enabled features in the Surveyor App, practical demonstrations on use of artificial intelligence during field surveys and a question-and-answer session.

Director Anil Gupta said



the Digital Crop Survey has emerged as a key initiative in building a reliable and transparent agricultural database for evidence-based planning and timely delivery of farmer-centric services. He said integration of artificial intelligence into the DCS application would improve accuracy, efficiency and credibility of crop survey data while reducing manual errors and ensuring faster field verification.

The Director said the success of the Digital Crop

Survey depends on the preparedness of Master Trainers, who will train field functionaries across all districts.

He urged participants to understand the new AI-enabled functionalities and transfer the knowledge to survey teams to ensure uniform implementation across Jammu division, and called for close coordination among stakeholders for successful execution of DCS-Kharif 2026.

The programme concluded with an interactive

session in which participants shared feedback and sought clarifications on the updated application.

Among those present were Divisional Nodal Officer (DCS) Jammu, SMS (RL) Krishan Kant, Deputy Director Trainings Karuna Nidhi, senior officers from the Farmers Training Centre and officers from the DCS Section of the Directorate of Agriculture Jammu. Around 110 participants attended, representing the Agriculture, Revenue and Horticulture Departments.

# Chief Secy reviews progress of JKCIP with IFAD Supervision Mission

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JAMMU, JULY 14

Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today chaired a high-level review meeting with the visiting International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) Supervision Mission, led by its Country Coordinator, Meera Mishra, to assess the progress achieved under the Jammu & Kashmir Competitiveness Improvement of Agriculture and Allied Sectors Project (JKCIP), a flagship initiative jointly financed by IFAD, the Government of India and Government of Jammu & Kashmir.

The IFAD Supervision Mission, presently on a two-week visit to the Union Territory from 2nd to 14th July, 2026, is undertaking an extensive field appraisal across Jammu and Kashmir to obtain a first-hand assessment of the implementation, quality and impact of interventions executed under the project.

The meeting was attended by senior officers of the Agriculture Production Department including ACS, APD; MD, HADP; Project Management Unit (JKCIP), and other stakeholders associated with the implementation of the project.

During the meeting, the Chief Secretary was presented with a comprehensive overview of the project's progress, achievements and future roadmap through a detailed presentation highlighting physical and financial accomplishments, implementation status, digital governance initiatives and the Annual Work Plan and Budget for the coming financial year.

While appreciating the progress achieved, the Chief Secretary emphasized that the project should now focus on translating approvals into tangible assets and sustainable livelihoods on the ground. He directed all implementing agencies to further expedite field execution and ensure that benefits reach eligible beneficiaries within stipulated timelines.

The Chief Secretary also reviewed the status of credit linkage under the project. He observed that although over 2,550 applications have been forwarded to financial institutions, the pace of loan disbursement



needs more focus to improve the outcomes. Stressing the critical role of institutional finance in promoting rural enterprises, he called for close coordination with banks and financial institutions to remove procedural bottlenecks and ensure timely sanction and release of credit to beneficiaries.

The meeting was apprised by the ACS, APD, Dr Ashish Chandra Verma that farmer registrations on the portal have increased to 58,307, while applications received have crossed 64,750. More than 39,900 applications have already been approved and 7,406 livelihood units established across the Union Territory, registering substantial growth over the previous review period.

The presentation made by the MD, HADP highlighted that the Climate Smart and Market-Led Production component continues to account for the largest share of project interventions, followed by significant progress under support to vulnerable communities and gradual expansion of the agribusiness ecosystem.

The mission was further informed that the project has already recorded notable achievements across diverse sectors. These include large-scale expansion of niche and high-value crops such as vegetables, Bhaderwah Rajmash, Mushkbadji, Basmati, saffron and other specialty crops, establishment of water management infrastructure, promotion of protected cultivation, mushroom and honey pro-

duction units, development of seed villages and expansion of high-density horticulture orchards.

The meeting was further informed that the project has facilitated establishment of grading and post-harvest infrastructure, incubation of innovative agri-startups, entrepreneurship promotion, buyer-seller interactions and participation in national trade fairs to strengthen agricultural value chains and improve market access for producers.

Special emphasis has also been laid on livelihood enhancement of pastoralists and vulnerable communities through establishment of income-generating sheep units, distribution of ice boxes to fisherfolk, support for diversified enterprises, creation of milk collection centres and promotion of improved livestock breeding initiatives.

The Chief Secretary also reviewed the Annual Work Plan and Budget and appreciated the strategic planning undertaken for the forthcoming financial year. He emphasized the need for timely execution of proposed activities, efficient utilization of available financial resources and strict adherence to project timelines so that intended developmental outcomes are achieved within the project period.

The IFAD delegation appreciated the progress made by the Government of Jammu & Kashmir in institutionalizing transparent digital systems for project implementation and ac-

knowledge the substantial improvements witnessed since the previous supervision mission. The Mission also shared valuable observations and recommendations aimed at further strengthening implementation quality, sustainability of interventions and community participation.

Speaking on the occasion, IFAD Country Coordinator Ms. Merra Mishra reiterated IFAD's continued commitment towards supporting sustainable agricultural transformation, climate-resilient farming systems, inclusive rural livelihoods and entrepreneurship development in Jammu & Kashmir. She appreciated the efforts of the Agriculture Production Department and all implementing agencies in accelerating project implementation and expressed confidence that the recommendations emerging from the supervision mission would further enhance project outcomes.

The Chief Secretary reiterated the Government's commitment towards successful implementation of JKCIP and directed all stakeholder departments to maintain close coordination with the IFAD Mission for effective incorporation of its recommendations. He emphasized that the project offers a significant opportunity to transform agriculture into a competitive, climate-resilient and market-oriented sector while generating sustainable livelihoods for farmers, youth, women and vulnerable communities across Jammu and Kashmir.

# DC Kathua reviews implementation of TB Mukh Bharat Abhiyan

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Deputy Commissioner Kathua Rajesh Sharma today chaired a meeting of officers concerned to review implementation and progress of the TB Mukh Bharat Abhiyan.

District Tuberculosis Officer Dr Radha Krishan presented an overview of the district's performance under the TB Mukh Bharat Abhiyan.

The meeting reviewed progress of key interventions, including TB Nikshay Shivers, active case finding, engagement of Nikshay Mitras and implementation of the Ni-kshay Poshan initiative for nutritional support to TB patients.

The Deputy Commissioner directed officers concerned to roll out a comprehensive schedule of TB Ni-kshay Shivers across the district for systematic screening of the population. He instructed ADCs and SDMs to ensure wide dissemination of information about screening camps to achieve maximum pub-



lic participation and enable eligible individuals to avail free chest X-ray screening and other diagnostic facilities.

The District TB Elimination Committee will closely monitor the pace of implementation and ensure comprehensive coverage in screening, case detection,

contact tracing, treatment adherence and patient monitoring. The Deputy Commissioner stressed sustained inter-departmental coordination and regular field-level monitoring to achieve the objectives of the Abhiyan.

Among those present were Additional Deputy

Commissioner Kathua Mahima Madan, Chief Planning Officer Ranjeet Thakur, Sub-Divisional Magistrate Hiranagar Phulail Singh, Chief Medical Officer Kathua Dr Vijay Raina, Assistant Commissioner Development Akhil Sadotra and other officers concerned.