

VC SKUAST-K chairs 14th Scientific Advisory Committee Meeting of KVK Shopian

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 01

The 14th Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) Meeting of KVK Shopian and the 20th SAC Meeting of KVK Kulgam were held today at the Conference Hall of KVK Shopian under the chairmanship of Prof. Nazir Ahmad Ganai, Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-Kashmir.

Adv. Shabir Ahmad Kullay, MLA, Shopian, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest, while Prof. Raihana Habib Kanth, Director Extension, SKUAST-Kashmir, was the Guest of Honour.

The meeting was attended by Prof. Najeeb-ur-Rehman Sofi, Associate Director Research, MRCFC Khudwani; Head, Research Station Sallar; Programme Coordinators of KVKs of the Kashmir Division; officers from the Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry, and Sheep Husbandry Departments; scientists from KVK Shopian, KVK Kulgam, and AARC Pahnnoo; along with progressive and champion farmers from the districts of Shopian and Kulgam.

Addressing the gathering, Adv. Shabir Ahmad Kullay commended the farmer-centric initiatives of both KVKs and assured continued support for agricultural



development.

Prof. Nazir Ahmad Ganai lauded the outstanding work of KVK Shopian and KVK Kulgam in improving farmers' livelihoods and emphasized the promotion of Integrated Farming Systems (IFS), value addition, agri-entrepreneurship, and market-oriented farming for sustainable agricultural growth.

At the outset, Welcoming the participants, Prof. Raihana Habib Kanth highlighted the importance of SAC meetings in strengthening research-extension-

farmer linkages.

She also congratulated KVK Shopian on the release of its bulletin (Success Story), 3rd Newsletter, and extension folders, appreciating the scientific staff for effectively disseminating university technologies to farmers.

Dr. Zaffar Afroz Badri, Head, KVK Shopian, and the Head, KVK Kulgam, presented the Annual Progress Reports

(2025-26) and Annual Action Plans (2026-27), showcasing achievements in technology dissemination,

farmer capacity building, and sustainable agriculture.

Representatives of the line departments appreciated the initiatives of both KVKs and emphasized greater convergence, while progressive farmers shared positive feedback on the impact of KVK interventions on farm productivity and income.

The meeting concluded with an interactive discussion and valuable recommendations from scientists, departmental officers, and farmers.

Div Com Kashmir reviews progress on Compassionate Appointment Cases

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Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Anshul Garg, today chaired a meeting of Deputy Commissioners (DCs) to review the progress of compassionate appointment matters, pending SVAMITA cases under MAPS 1.0, implementation of AgriStack, and the locking of Jamabandies across the Kashmir Division.

During the meeting, the Divisional Commissioner conducted a district-wise review of the progress achieved under each initiative and emphasized the need for timely completion of all pending tasks. He directed the Deputy Commissioners to ensure that the prescribed targets are achieved within the stipulated timelines through close monitoring and coordinated efforts.

Reviewing the status of compassionate appointment cases, the Divisional Commissioner instructed the DCs to expedite the disposal of all pending cases in accordance with the estab-



lished norms and procedures.

The Divisional Commissioner also directed the Deputy Commissioners to furnish details of encroachments on public land and public spaces by religious

structures within the next two days to facilitate further action.

To prevent the dissemination of misinformation and fake news on social media platforms, the Divisional Commissioner in-

structed all Deputy Commissioners to ensure strict adherence by media channels & users to the advisories issued by the Information Department and take punitive action in case of noncompliance.

FDA issues Public Health Advisory against Unsafe "New Fast Tea"

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 01: The Food & Drugs Administration (FDA), Jammu & Kashmir, has issued a public health advisory advising consumers not to purchase or consume "Dust Tea (Premium Instant Mix Tea)" marketed under the brand "New Fast Tea", Batch No. 10, packed by M/s INAAM Tea Agency, Thane, Maharashtra, after the product was declared Unsafe by the National Food Laboratory (NFL), Ghaziabad.

The sample was lifted by the Food Safety Officer, Tral, on 27.06.2026 during routine enforcement activities and forwarded to the National Food Laboratory, Ghaziabad, for analysis.

As per Food Analyst's Report, the sample was found to contain the prohibited synthetic food colours, Tartrazine and Sunset Yellow, rendering the product Unsafe under the provisions of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and the regulations

made thereunder.

Based on the laboratory findings, the Designated Officer (Assistant Commissioner), Pulwama, has issued a Prohibition Order under Section 36(3)(b) read with Section 18(1)(f) of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, prohibiting the sale and distribution of the affected batch within District Pulwama. Further regulatory proceedings under the Act have also been initiated.

DG Rural reviews SBM (G) progress in Kupwaraa



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Director General, Rural Sanitation, J&K, Anoo Malhotra, today chaired a comprehensive review meeting in Kupwara to assess the progress of key Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) initiatives across the district.

The meeting was attended by the Deputy Director, Rural Sanitation, Kashmir, Shabir Ahmad

Hakak, Assistant Commissioner Panchayat (ACP) Kupwara, Ab Rashid Sheikh, Assistant Commissioner Development (ACD) Kupwara, Ab Rashid Ganaie, Block Development Officers (BDOs), Assistant Engineers, Junior Engineers, Consultants of the Directorate and other concerned officers.

The review focused on the status of rural sanitation assets, door-to-door

waste collection services, tendering of sanitation infrastructure, operation and maintenance of existing assets, and other SBM(G)-related works being implemented across the district.

During the meeting, the Director General conducted a block-wise review of ongoing projects and directed all Block Development Officers to accelerate the pace of implementation.

She emphasized that Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) should remain a priority and instructed the officers to ensure timely execution of all sanctioned works.

Stressing the importance of efficient service delivery, the Director General Rural Sanitation called for the time-bound completion of all ongoing sanitation projects and directed the Assistant Commissioner Panchayat, Kupwara, to closely monitor progress and ensure that all works are completed within the stipulated timelines.

She also underscored the need for strengthening door-to-door waste collection services and ensuring that sanitation assets like Plastic Waste Management Units, Segregation Sheds and other allied assets are made fully functional for the benefit of rural communities.

Anoo Malhotra reiterated that effective planning, regular monitoring, and coordinated efforts at the block level are essential to achieving the objectives of Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) and maintaining sustainable rural sanitation across the district.

Director Sainik Welfare conducts Interactive Outreach Session for Ex-Servicemen in Gurez

BANDIPORA, AUGUST 01: The Director, Sainik Welfare Department, J&K, conducted an Ex-Servicemen (ESM) Outreach Programme on Saturday at the remote border area of Gurez in Bandipora district.

The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from Ex-Servicemen and widows of Ex-Servicemen.

Addressing the gathering, the Director highlighted the Department's three key focus areas viz. healthcare and medical initiatives for Ex-Servicemen, employment and self-employment opportunities for Ex-Servicemen and their wards, and educational incentives for the children of Ex-Servicemen.

He urged eligible Ex-Servicemen aspiring to secure Government jobs under the 6% reservation quota for Ex-Servicemen in Jammu & Kashmir to prepare themselves adequately and obtain the required qualifying marks to improve their chances of selection.

Encouraging entrepreneurship, the Director advised Ex-Servicemen interested in self-employment to approach the Department for guidance on various Government schemes and skill development programmes. He particularly encouraged them to explore opportunities in agriculture and tourism sectors with significant growth potential in the Gurez region.

The Director informed the participants that the

Department will be proposing several new welfare initiatives during the forthcoming meeting of the State Managing Committee on the Armed Forces Flag Day Fund. The proposed initiatives are aimed at strengthening medical assistance, re-employment support, self-employment promotion, and educational incentives for the Ex-Servicemen community and their dependents.

He also apprised the gathering that the Department is actively pursuing the establishment of a Zila Sainik Welfare Office (ZSWO) at Bandipora to improve accessibility of welfare services for Ex-Servicemen residing in the district.

During the interaction,

the Director patiently listened to the issues and suggestions raised by the participants and assured them that the Department would examine their concerns and take appropriate action wherever feasible.

Highlighting the Department's efforts to improve outreach, the Director announced the launch of an E-Outreach Initiative to complement the existing physical outreach programmes conducted by Zila Sainik Welfare Offices. He directed the ZSWO Baramulla, who is also responsible for Gurez, to conduct an online outreach session once every fortnight and urged Ex-Servicemen from the area to actively participate in these virtual interactions.



STOP ...!

MOSQUITO BREEDING

PREVENT MALARIA, DENGUE, CHIKUNGUNYA AND STAY HEALTHY

- Do not allow water to stagnate in and around your surroundings.
- Keep water tanks and other water containers tightly covered with lids.
- Get your Blood tested from Govt. Hospital/ Health Worker in case of Fever with chills, rigors and headache.
- Empty water coolers once in a week.

- Discard/destroy Junk items like old tyres etc.
- Empty air coolers, drums, flower pots and birds bath weekly.
- Use Mosquito repellent creams and Bed nets while sleeping.
- Wear full body clothes to prevent mosquito bites.
- Improve basic sanitation.

In case of positive result get free treatment from the nearest Health Institution



STATE MALARIOLOGIST/STATE PROGRAMME OFFICER,
NATIONAL VECTOR BORNE DISEASES CONTROL PROGRAMME [NVBDCP] J&K
DIRECTORATE OF HEALTH SERVICES JAMMU

DIP/J-7171/26. Dt: 01.08.2026