

Mission Director NHM reviews developmental initiatives in border villages of Samba

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 05

Mission Director National Health Mission (NHM) J&K Akriti Sagar, the designated Visiting Officer for border villages Rangoor and Samadhu in Block Rangarh, today undertook an extensive visit of the area to review the developmental initiatives proposed for the twin villages under the Vibrant Village Programme-II (VVP-II).

The Mission Director was briefed by the Chief Agriculture Officer (Nodal Officer, VVP-II Rangoor) on the status of the infrastructure and welfare projects proposed under the Vibrant Village Programme-II Action Plan (2026–27). The visiting officer reviewed the implementation of the proposed schemes, service delivery mechanisms and developmental interventions aimed at strengthening infrastructure, improving livelihoods and enhancing the quality of life in the border villages.

The Mission Director also interacted with locals residents, public representatives, members of civil society and Border Guarding Forces to obtain first-hand feedback on the implementation of government programmes and the developmental



needs of the area.

Around 150 residents from the twin villages participated in the programme and highlighted several developmental requirements, particularly those concerning the agrarian economy, public service delivery and departmental functioning. The Mission Director gave a patient hearing to the grievances and suggestions projected by the residents. He assured them that all genuine concerns would be taken up with the concerned departments for appropriate action.

He emphasized that the Vibrant Village Programme envisions inclusive and sustainable development through a multi-sectoral approach, ensuring better infrastructure, improved public services and enhanced livelihood opportunities for the border population. She also stressed the need to create people-centric facilities, particularly for the youth, to promote socio-economic development and contribute towards building a productive and drug-free society in the border areas of Samba district.

Ex-DDC Member Anita Choudhary and former Sarpanch and Panch also raised issues concerning the people residing in the two Vibrant Villages and highlighted their developmental aspirations.

The Visiting Officer also inspected stalls put up by the Agriculture and allied departments and obtained first-hand information regarding the welfare and social security schemes being implemented in the villages.

Appreciating the efforts of the nodal officers, the Mission Director commended the meticulous planning and successful conduct of the programme. She also appreciated their efforts in incorporating public issues and local developmental needs into the proposed action plan for the two villages under the Vibrant Village Programme-II.

Among those present during the visit were Chief Medical Officer, Chief Horticulture Officer, Assistant Director Fisheries, District Social Welfare Officer, Tehsildar, Block Development Officer and officers from various line departments.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by the Assistant Director Fisheries, Samba.

DC Kathua takes stock of Independence Day arrangements, Reviews progress of civil works

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Deputy Commissioner Kathua Rajesh Sharma today chaired a meeting to review the preparations being made for the celebration of Independence Day-2026 in the district.

The Deputy Commissioner took stock of the status of civil works, renovation of the venue and other logistical arrangements being made for the smooth conduct of the national function. He directed the concerned departments to expedite the completion of the ongoing works and put in place all arrangements well ahead of the scheduled celebrations.

Reviewing the sector-wise preparations, the Deputy Commissioner laid emphasis on seamless coordination among all departments. He instructed the officers to make fool-proof arrangements related to security, sanitation, seating, barricading, drinking water, uninterrupted power supply, transportation, invitation cards, prize distribution and illumination of important government buildings.

The meeting was in-



formed that the main function shall be held at the Sports Stadium. "The Chief Guest will hoist the National Flag at 8:55 AM and take the salute at the march past comprising contingents of Police, Army, Paramilitary Forces, NCC and students from various schools and colleges, besides bands of different institutions," the meeting was told. The celebrations will commence with playing of Shehnai Vadan and patriotic songs by the Information Department in the early hours at Offices of the Deputy Commissioner and SSP. ADDC Surinder Mohan Sharma; ADC

JKPCC hosts Pre-event activities ahead of 10th World Circular Economy Forum Webinar

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JAMMU, AUG 05

A webinar on Circular Economy was conducted today by Jammu Kashmir Pollution Control Committee (JKPCC) in its Conference Hall with participation from different stakeholders, institutions, industrialists, Municipal Bodies, officers from Tourism and other related Departments.

The Webinar- themed "Circular Tourism", formed part of the series of pre-event activities being organized in the run-up to the 10th World Circular Economy Forum (WCEF 2026) scheduled to be held on 15 to 18th September 2026 at Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

The pre-event webinar was conducted to generate awareness, encourage knowledge sharing and promote dialogue among



stakeholders on the principles of Circular Economy, while highlighting practical approaches for integrating sustainability into key sectors, including tourism.

The officers from CPCB Regional Directorate North (Chandigarh) PCCs and PCBs also participated in the Webinar.

The opening remarks were made by Member Secretary JKPCC Dr. R. Gopinath. Regional Director Jammu Suresh Manda and Nodal Officer (WCEF) Er Anil Kumar Sharma were also present.

Resource person -Assistant Professor Dr. Harish Chander Dutt of Jammu

GDC Basohli organises painting competition themed 'Important Events of Freedom Struggle'

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 05

Government Degree College Basohli today organised a Painting Competition on the theme "Important Events of the Freedom Struggle" as part of the Independence Day Celebrations 2026.

The event was conducted under the patronage of Principal Prof. Raj Kiran Sharma. A total of 15 Students from different semesters took part in the competition, showcasing their artistic talent and deep sense of patriotism through their creative expressions.

The panel of judges consisting of Dr. Shubh Kumar, Dr. Verinder Singh



and Roshan Lal Sharma evaluated the paintings on the basis of creativity, originality, relevance to the theme, artistic presentation and overall impact.

Suman Kumari of Semester V bagged the First Position, followed by Divya Thakur of Semester III who secured the Second Position and Poonam Pathania of Semester III who stood Third. The winners were applauded by the Principal, faculty members and students for their outstanding artistic expression and meaningful depiction of the freedom struggle.

DC Ramban visits Pernote area, Reviews road restoration, traffic regulation measures

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 05

Deputy Commissioner Ramban Mohammad Alyas Khan, today visited the Pernote land subsidence area to inspect the road restoration works and review the traffic regulation measures on the Ramban-Gool Road.

During the visit, the Deputy Commissioner was accompanied by SSP Arun Gupta, Additional Deputy Commissioner Varunjeet Singh Charak, Tehsildar Ramban Deep Kumar and other concerned officers.

The Deputy Commissioner took stock of the restoration work being carried out at the affected stretch and directed the executing agency BRO to ensure proper maintenance of the road and keep it traffic-worthy for the convenience and safety of commuters. He stressed the need for continuous monitoring of the vulnerable stretch and instructed the concerned officers to maintain close coordination for



smooth traffic management.

Later, the Deputy Commissioner visited Yatri Niwas Chanderkote to review the arrangements made for the ongoing Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra. He inspected various facilities available for pilgrims, including accommodation, sanitation, drinking water, power supply, healthcare, security and other essential services.

The Deputy Commissioner directed the concerned departments to ensure that all arrangements remain in place and that pilgrims are provided with every possible assistance for a safe, smooth and comfortable pilgrimage. He emphasized maintaining cleanliness, uninterrupted essential services and effective inter-departmental coordination throughout the Yatra period.

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Municipal Council Kathua, under the aegis of the Directorate of Urban Local Bodies Jammu today organised a 'Swachhata Sankalp' awareness programme in the main market of Kathua to promote cleanliness, source segregation of waste and community participation in creating a clean and healthy environment.

Additional District Development Commissioner Kathua Surinder Mohan Sharma was the chief guest on the occasion.

Addressing the gathering, the ADDC emphasised that cleanliness is a shared responsibility and urged citizens to adopt the practice of segregating wet and dry waste at source, refrain from littering and actively contribute towards making Kathua a clean, healthy and sustainable town. He said that small individual efforts can collectively bring about significant improvements in public health and environmental conservation.

The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, teachers, shopkeepers and members of the public, who



were sensitised about the importance of scientific waste management and maintaining cleanliness in their surroundings.

Adding enthusiasm to the awareness campaign, RJ Sarang from RED FM interacted with the participants and highlighted the significance of waste segregation, responsible waste disposal and personal as well as community hygiene. He encouraged students to become ambassadors of cleanliness and spread the message of Swachhata in their homes, schools and neighbourhoods.

The campaign carried forward the message, "Safai Apnao, Bimari Bhagao", underscoring the role of cleanliness in preventing diseases and improving the quality of life.

The speakers also highlighted that proper segregation of biodegradable and non-biodegradable waste facilitates efficient waste management, promotes recycling, conserves resources and helps reduce environmental pollution. Citizens were urged to minimise the use of single-use plastics and adopt sustainable waste management practices. The programme concluded with a Swachhata Sankalp, wherein all participants pledged to maintain cleanliness, protect the environment and motivate others to actively contribute towards the nationwide cleanliness movement.