

Javid Dar meets North Kashmir delegations; visits Hazrat Sheikh Hamza Makhdoom (RA) Dargah

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 08

Minister for Agriculture Production, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Cooperative and Election Department, Javid Ahmad Dar, today met various public delegations from North Kashmir and assured time-bound redressal of their grievances.

During the interaction, residents and representatives projected issues related to roads, civic amenities, basic infrastructure and other developmental requirements in their respective areas.

The Minister gave a patient hearing to the delegations and said that their genuine concerns would be examined on priority and taken up with the concerned departments for early resolution. He reiterated the government's commitment to equitable and people-centric development across Jammu



and Kashmir.

Later, the Minister paid obeisance at the revered Dargah of Hazrat Sheikh Hamza Makhdoom (RA) at Tujjar Sharief, Sopore and prayed for peace, prosperity and well-being of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

During his visit to the shrine, the Minister

bowed in reverence and sought the blessings of the revered Sufi saint, popularly known as Sultan-ul-Arifeen and Mehboob-ul-Alam. He offered prayers for peace, harmony and continued progress of J&K. Speaking on the occasion, Javid Dar said the rich Sufi legacy of Kashmir embodies the timeless

values of peace, compassion, tolerance, brotherhood and communal harmony. He stressed the importance of preserving this spiritual and cultural heritage and carrying forward the message of love, humanity and harmony associated with the region's revered Sufi traditions.

Acting Chief Justice chairs awareness programme on NALSA's SAMVAD Scheme

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Acting Chief Justice High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, Sanjeev Kumar and Executive Chairman, J&K Legal Services Authority, in presence of M.K. Sharma, Registrar General, High Court of J&K and Ladakh today presided over an awareness programme on NALSA's SAMVAD (Strengthening Access to Justice for Marginalized, Vulnerable Adivasis and De notified/ Nomadic Tribes) Scheme at Imtiyaz Memorial Government Degree College, Shopian.

The programme was organized by the District Legal Services Authority, Shopian under the aegis of J&K Legal Services Authority.

On arrival, the Acting Chief Justice and other dignitaries inspected various stalls presented by the different government departments of district Shopian.

In his presidential address, the Acting Chief Justice lauded the efforts of DLSA Shopian and J&K LSA for organizing such programmes. He highlighted the constitutional and legal rights of tribal communities and emphasized the role of Legal Services Authorities in ensuring access to justice at the grassroots level. He stressed that NALSA's SAMVAD Scheme, 2025" is



aimed at bridging the gap between tribal people and legal aid services.

Delivering the welcome address, Mehmood Ahmad Chowdhary, Principal District & Sessions Judge & Chairman, DLSA Shopian highlighted the importance of spreading legal awareness and community outreach among the tribal populations.

MLA Shopian, Deputy Commissioner Shopian and SSP Shopian were also present.

Later, the dignitaries released the publication "Sabeel", prepared by District Legal Services Authority, Shopian.

A vibrant cultural programme was presented by the tribal boys and girls which showcased the rich culture and heritage of the

tribal community of Shopian.

The event was attended by more than two thousand Tribal people of every nook and corner of Shopian who were made aware about the Samvad Scheme 2025.

During the programme, felicitation certificates were distributed among the achievers of tribal community of the district. Apart from that beneficiaries of various government schemes from the tribal community were awarded the benefits on the spot by the Acting Chief Justice and other dignitaries.

The members of Bar, representatives of tribal communities and officers of various departments also spoke on the occasion and shared their views regarding implementation of

tribal welfare schemes.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by Principal Magistrate, JJB Shopian.

Later, the Acting Chief Justice and Registrar General visited and inspected the newly constructed District Court Complex, Shopian.

This was followed by an interaction with the Judicial Officers of District Shopian and an interaction with the Members of the Bar Association, Shopian where issues relating to legal aid and access to justice were discussed.

Registrar Vigilance, Registrar Judicial, Registrar IT and Joint Registrar Protocol from the High Court of J&K and Ladakh and other officers of Shopian district were also present.

DC reviews arrangements for Har Ghar Tiranga campaign-2026 in Udhampur

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 08

Deputy Commissioner Udhampur Minga Sherpa today convened a meeting of officers of the line departments to review the arrangements for the Har Ghar Tiranga Campaign-2026 and the commemoration of 150 years of Vande Mataram, scheduled to be observed from August 09 to 17, 2026.

The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner Prem Singh; PO Poshan Subash Dogra; GM DIC Kishore Singh Katoch; Chief Planning Officer Utam Singh; Assistant Commissioner Revenue Dr. Umesh Shan and senior officers from various departments.

While addressing the meeting, the DC informed that a series of activities, events and competitions



would be organised by the district Administration under the Har Ghar Tiranga Campaign and the commemoration of 150 years of Vande Mataram.

The DC directed all departments to complete the necessary preparations well in advance to ensure the smooth and successful conduct of the campaign. He also stressed the need for close coordination among all stakeholders for

the effective implementation of the scheduled activities.

The Education Department and other institutions were directed to organise Tiranga exhibitions, Bike rally, Vande Mataram themed tiranga concert and painting competitions and other patriotic activities to instil a spirit of nationalism and patriotism among students and youth.

The concerned officers

were also directed to organise rallies, awareness programmes and public outreach activities within their respective jurisdictions.

The DC called upon all stakeholders to work with dedication and in close coordination to make the Har Ghar Tiranga Campaign-2026 a grand success and ensure that the spirit of patriotism reaches every household across the district.

Awareness & Sensitization Programme on CGHS held for J&K Pensioners

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JAMMU, AUG 08

The Finance Department, Government of Jammu & Kashmir, through the Additional Treasury Gandhi Nagar, Jammu, organized an Awareness and Sensitization Programme on the Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) for eligible pensioners of the J&K Government who retired from Government service on or after 31st October, 2019.

The programme was aimed at familiarizing pensioners with the healthcare facilities, services and benefits available under CGHS and to address their queries regarding enrollment, treatment facilities, reimbursements and other aspects of the scheme. CGHS is a Government of India healthcare scheme providing cashless treatment to eligible Central Government pensioners and their families through CGHS Wellness Centres and empanelled hospitals. The scheme covers consultation, medicines, diagnostics, hospitalization, emergency and specialized treatment, with eligible family members including spouse, dependent children, par-



ents/parents-in-law and eligible daughters.

The event was graced by distinguished dignitaries, including Rajesh Talwar, Director General, Accountancy Training Institute Jammu and Rajesh Kotwal, Director Accounts & Treasuries, Jammu, who emphasized the importance of ensuring accessible and quality healthcare for retired government employees.

The welcome address was delivered by Anudeep Kour, Treasury Officer Gandhi Nagar Treasury, Jammu. In her address, she highlighted that schemes such as CGHS are not merely about medicines, consultations, or reimbursements, but are fundamentally about providing peace of mind to pensioners. She underscored the need for a healthcare sys-

tem that treats elderly patients with patience, dignity and care and encouraged beneficiaries to make full use of the facilities available under the scheme.

A detailed presentation on CGHS facilities and services was delivered by Amritanjay, spokesperson from the CGHS team, who explained the scheme's provisions and addressed various queries raised by the participants.

There was active participation from pensioners. The vote of thanks was presented by the Additional Treasury Officer, Gandhi Nagar Treasury, who expressed gratitude to the dignitaries, resource persons, Gandhi Nagar Treasury team and participants for making the programme successful.

DODA, AUGUST 08:

District Development Commissioner (Chairman DLTC), Doda Krishan Lal, today chaired a meeting of the District Level Telecom Committee to review the status of telecom infrastructure and network connectivity in the district.

The meeting reviewed the status of installation of mobile network towers at various locations across the district. The DDC stressed the need for expediting the installation of mobile towers in far-flung and uncovered areas, particularly in Jai and Dessa, to improve connectivity for the people living in these areas.

The DDC directed the concerned executing agencies to expedite the ongoing work and strengthen mobile network connectivity in both municipal areas and far-flung parts of the district.

The committee also reviewed the progress of BharatNet installation and discussed issues affecting its timely implementation. The DDC directed the concerned officers to ensure close monitoring and timely completion of the works.

The status of the C-BuD application was also reviewed during the meeting.



Besides telecom-related works, the DDC also reviewed various works pertaining to Municipality, including the status of street light installations and municipal assets. He directed the concerned officials to ensure proper maintenance and timely completion of the ongoing works.

The DDC stressed that improved telecom and dig-

ital connectivity is essential for ensuring better access to communication, online services and other government facilities, particularly in remote and far-flung areas. He directed all concerned departments and executing agencies to work in close coordination and resolve bottlenecks for timely completion of the works.

The meeting was attended by the ADC, SE PWD R&B, SE Hydraulic Circle, ASP, DFO, ACD, CMO, ACP, concerned Executive Engineers, Divisional Engineer BSNL, District Informatics Officer, district representatives of Airtel and Reliance Jio and officers and officials from the concerned departments.

12th National Handloom Day Exhibition concludes

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The two-day exhibition organised by the Department of Handicrafts and Handloom, Jammu, to mark the 12th National Handloom Day concluded today with a vibrant display of the rich traditional crafts and handloom heritage of Jammu Division.

The exhibition held on August 7 and 8, witnessed participation from artisans and weavers from various districts of the Jammu Division. Around 70 stalls were set up at the venue, showcasing a diverse range of traditional handloom and handicraft products, including Basholi art, Pashmina, woollen shawls, Sozni embroidery and other exquisite indigenous crafts.

The exhibition provided a valuable platform to local artisans and weavers to showcase their craftsmanship, connect with visitors and



promote traditional handloom products. The event also highlighted the importance of preserving the region's rich artisanal traditions while creating greater market opportunities for artisans and weavers.

Director, Handicrafts and Hand-

loom, Jammu, Mohammad Nazir Sheikh, graced the concluding ceremony and interacted with artisans and weavers participating in the exhibition. He appreciated their dedication towards preserving the traditional crafts and handloom heritage of the region.

The exhibition also provided a significant boost to the local artisan economy, with weavers and artisans recording sales of approximately Rs 15 lakh during the two-day event.

Besides direct sales, a number of orders were also placed by visitors and buyers, providing artisans and weavers with further market opportunities and encouraging the promotion of traditional handloom and handicraft products.

On the occasion, artisans, weavers and officials associated with the successful conduct of the exhibition were felicitated in recognition of their contribution and participation.

The two-day event concluded with a renewed emphasis on promoting traditional crafts, supporting the artisan community and providing wider avenues for the growth and marketing of locally produced handloom and handicraft products.