

CM Omar meets delegations, individuals to discuss public, tourism and trade issues

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 17

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today met several delegations and individuals at Raabita here and discussed a range of issues concerning public welfare, tourism, sports, labour, trade and industry in Jammu and Kashmir.

The Chief Minister met MLA Beerwah Dr Shafi Ahmad Wani, who apprised him of various matters concerning his constituency. A delegation from the constituency, also accompanied the Legislator during the meeting.

The Chief Minister also met emerging professional MMA fighter from Pul-



wama, Owais Yaqoob, and congratulated him on his achievements in the field of mixed martial arts. He felicitated Yaqoob with a cash award of 21 lakh in recognition of his impressive performances on the international stage. Yaqoob recently secured a first-round TKO victory over Bulgaria's Delian Georgiev.

A delegation of the Travel Agents Association of Kash-

mir (TAAK), led by its Secretary General Sajad Ahmad Kralyari, also called on the Chief Minister and discussed various issues concerning the tourism sector.

The Chief Minister further met a delegation of the Kashmir Labour Union's Federation, led by its President Mohammad Ashraf Ganai. The delegation apprised him of its concerns and suggestions regarding

the Draft Code on Social Security (Jammu and Kashmir) Rules, 2026.

Senior Vice President of the Bari Brahmana Industrial Association, Tarun Singla, also called on the Chief Minister and discussed various issues related to trade and industry in Jammu and Kashmir.

On the occasion, Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Kumar Choudhary and Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani were also present.

The Chief Minister gave a patient hearing to the delegations and individuals and assured them that their genuine concerns would be examined and addressed on priority.

LG visits Shri Ramakrishna Mahasammelan Ashram Anantnag; Lays Foundation

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The Lieutenant Governor, Shri Manoj Sinha today visited the Shri Ramakrishna Mahasammelan Ashram in Anantnag on the auspicious occasion of Samadhi Pratishtha Divas, Nag Panchami Mahotsav, and the Purnahuti of the Yajna. He also laid the foundation stone for initiatives dedicated to heritage and cultural preservation.

In his address, the Lieutenant Governor expressed deep reverence for the Ashram, which has preserved the wisdom of sages. Paying homage to Swami Ashokanand Ji Maharaj, the Lieutenant Governor recalled his visionary resolve in 1937, which transformed the Ashram into a vibrant spiritual centre. He noted that Swami Ashokanand Ji Maharaj envisioned not merely a place of worship but a living institution that carried forward the eternal message of Sanatana Dharma while serving the real needs of society.

Highlighting new initiatives at the Ashram, including the construction of a Yatri Niwas, renovation works, a dining complex, and the expansion of the Yajna-shala, the Lieutenant Governor expressed confidence that these projects would embody faith transformed into action. He stressed that spirituality in Indian culture means responsibility towards the world, performed with selfless service.

Drawing from the Bhagavad Gita, the Lieutenant Governor reiterated Lord Krishna's teaching and underlined that when action becomes service and service becomes dedication, even ordinary work becomes sadhana.

The Lieutenant Governor praised the Ashram's affiliation with the Swami Vivekananda Kendra,



mate challenges, the Lieutenant Governor urged the youth to embrace their responsibility towards rivers, forests, animals, and all living beings, ensuring that development remains sustainable and in harmony with nature.

The message of Sarva Dharma Samabhava (equal respect for all religions), he said, has been India's gift to the world.

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Kanyakumari, which serves on the principle of "Atmano Mokshartham Jagad Hitaya Cha" - for one's own liberation and for the welfare of the world. The Lieutenant Governor urged the youth to draw inspiration from Swami Vivekananda's message of self-confidence, fearlessness, and selfless service, reminding them that true strength lies within and that every individual is the maker of their own destiny.

Reaffirming India's timeless philosophy of unity in diversity, the Lieutenant Governor said that India's strength lies in respecting diversity while moving forward together.

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and true happiness, saying that the person who is truly rich is one who serves without expecting any reward and acts with a selfless spirit. Therefore, through the Satsang of the ashram's volunteers, devotees, and office-bearers, there is a need to inspire society towards selfless action," the Lieutenant Governor said.

Padma Shri Brij Lal Bhat, Chairman, Administrative Committee, Shri Ramakrishna Mahasammelan Ashram, Vivekananda Kendra, Nagdandi; Shri Brij Mohan Sharma, Principal Secretary, Culture Department; Shri Anshul Garg, Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir; Shri Javid Iqbal Mattoo, DIG South Kashmir; Shri Amod Ashok Nagpure, SSP Anantnag; Dr. Bilal Mohiuddin Bhat, Deputy Commissioner Anantnag; Shri Shivanand Rohit Raina; members of Shri Ramakrishna Mahasammelan Ashram and Vivekananda Rock Memorial and Vivekananda Kendra, Kanyakumari; senior officials, prominent citizens and devotees in large number were present.

Doda administration organises Grand Tiranga Rally

Thousands join procession with 200-Metre-Long Tricolour

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JAMMU, AUG 17

The District Administration Doda today organised a grand Tiranga Rally from Ganpat Morh to Ganpat Bridge Doda, as part of the ongoing Har Ghar Tiranga and 150 years of Vande Mataram celebrations.

Officers, officials, police personnel and the general public participated in the rally flagged off by the Deputy Commissioner Krishan Lal, in presence of SSP.

The major highlight of the rally was the 200-metre-long Tricolour, which was carried by enthusiastic participants throughout the route. The sight of the massive National Flag gliding along the route created an atmosphere of pride and patriotism, with participants raising patriotic slogans and expressing their commitment to the values represented by the Tricolour.

Civil administration officials, police personnel, de-



partmental staff, students and members of the public participated with great enthusiasm.

The DC appreciated the enthusiastic participation from all sections of society and emphasised the impor-

portance of such initiatives in strengthening the spirit of national unity, patriotism and civic responsibility.

The participation of the public and government functionaries in large numbers reflected the strong

sense of national pride prevailing across the district. The rally also provided an opportunity for citizens to collectively celebrate the National Flag and reinforce the message of unity in diversity.

Entrepreneurship awareness programme held at Apna Van Mandal Jammu

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JAMMU, AUG 17

MSME-Development & Facilitation Office (MSME-DFO), Jammu, Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises, Government of India, organised an Entrepreneurship Awareness Programme today at Community Centre, Apna Van Mandal.

The programme, held under the guidance of the Joint Director, MSME-DFO Jammu AK Tamaria, was attended by around 150 individuals, with women constituting the majority, reflecting the growing interest among women in entrepreneurship, self-employment and enterprise development. The event aimed to sensitise participants to various Government schemes, financial assistance, credit facilities and institutional support available for promoting entrepreneurship and the development of MSMEs.

Aabid Hussain, the programme coordinator delivered the welcome address and briefed the participants about the objectives of the programme and the importance of availing the government initiatives for enterprise development.

Functional Manager DIC Jammu Poonam Rani delivered a presentation



on different schemes of the UT Government and apprised the participants about the support mechanisms available for entrepreneurs.

District Nodal Officer JKEDI Rajesh Kumar made a presentation on JKEDI schemes and highlighted initiatives aimed at promoting entrepreneurship and self employment.

Branch Head Chatha Sandeep Singh Dutta and Branch Head Phallian, J&K Grameen Bank Rajan Khajuria sensitised the participants to various banking schemes, credit facilities and financial assistance available for setting up and expanding enterprises.

Assistant Director IEDS MSME-DFO Jammu D.K. Tyagi made a detailed presentation on the schemes of the Ministry of MSME, Government of India and apprised participants about the support available for the growth, development and sustainability of MSMEs.

Block Programme Manager JKRLM Neha Dubey shared information regarding relevant livelihood and entrepreneurship initiatives and opportunities available to the participants.

A key highlight of the programme was the facilitation of 10 Udyam Registrations on the spot, enabling prospective entrepreneurs to formally

register their enterprises and access various benefits and support available under the MSME framework.

The programme provided participants with an opportunity to interact with officials and resource persons and gain first-hand information regarding government schemes, institutional support, financial assistance and formal credit facilities.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by Neha Dubey, who expressed gratitude to the resource persons, officials and participants for their valuable contribution and active participation in making the programme a grand success.

Awareness Vehicle launched in district Kishtwar to promote Census-2027 Phase II activities

KISHTWAR, AUGUST 17: An awareness vehicle was today flagged off by Additional District Development Commissioner Vinod Kumar Behnal here, marking an important initiative to strengthen public awareness and encourage active participation in Census-2027 Phase II.

The awareness campaign aims to educate and sensitise the general public to the ongoing Self-Enumeration process in difficult areas and the subsequent house-to-house population enumeration.

Self-Enumeration commenced on 17th August and shall continue till 31st August 2026, providing citizens with an opportunity to furnish their related information through the designated Census platform.

The Self-Enumeration exercise shall be followed by the main population enumeration activity from 1st September to



30th September 2026, during which trained Enumerators and Supervisors would visit households across the district for door-to-door population enumeration.

The ADDC highlighted that reliable and accurate

Census data is crucial for effective developmental planning and informed policy formulation, thereby contributing to the overall socio-economic development of the district and the nation.

The awareness vehicle

will disseminate information across different areas of the district, particularly reaching remote and far-flung habitations, with the objective of ensuring that no household and no individual is left out of the Census exercise.

Passenger Lift inaugurated at DC Office Doda

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Deputy Commissioner (DC) Krishan Lal today inaugurated a newly installed passenger lift at DC Office Complex Doda, aimed at enhancing accessibility and providing greater convenience to officers, officials and visitors.

The inauguration was held in the presence of ACR Ashraf Parvez, Chief Planning Officer Manesh Kumar and other officers and offi-



cials.

The passenger lift is expected to facilitate easy and convenient movement within the office complex, particularly for senior citi-

zens, persons with disabilities and visitors requiring assistance.

During the inspection, the Deputy Commissioner took stock of the functioning of

the lift and interacted with the concerned officials regarding its operation, maintenance and safety aspects. He stressed the importance of ensuring proper upkeep and smooth functioning of the facility for the convenience of the public.

The DC appreciated the efforts of the concerned agency for completing the installation of the facility and emphasized the importance of providing accessible and citizen-friendly facilities in government offices.