

Lieutenant Governor Addressed the 2nd Edition of ICC's MSME Conclave 2026



HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 19

Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha on Thursday attended the second edition of the ICC MSME Conclave 2026 in Jammu and highlighted the transformative role of MSMEs, Nano Global Capability Centres (GCCs) and technology-led growth in shaping India's economic future.

Addressing the conclave on the theme “Shaping the Future of MSMEs, Nano

GCCs & Technology-led Growth”, the Lieutenant Governor said MSMEs are the heartbeat of India's economy, contributing 31.3 per cent to the GDP and nearly half of the country's exports, besides being the second-largest provider of employment after agriculture.

He said Nano GCCs and emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, automation and digital infrastructure are democratising access to world-class capabilities

and opening new opportunities for enterprises in cities like Jammu and Srinagar.

Highlighting Jammu and Kashmir's economic transformation, Shri Sinha said investments worth Rs 5,824 crore were recorded in FY 2025-26, while the number of start-ups increased from 69 in 2020 to 1,305. Udyam registrations have also risen from 24,000 in 2021 to 6.16 lakh this year.

The Lieutenant Governor called for affordable

credit, technology upgradation, better market access, green technologies, stronger export competitiveness and administrative reforms to support MSMEs. He also urged industry leaders to contribute towards building a terror-free, corruption-free, merit-based and prosperous society.

Several senior officials, industry leaders, investors and representatives of trade and business organisations attended the conclave.

Chief Principal Census Officer reviews preparations for Census-2027 phase-II in snow bound areas of Ramban

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
RAMBAN, AUG 19

Director Census Operations and Chief Principal Census Officer, J&K and Ladakh, Amit Sharma, reviewed preparations for Population Enumeration Phase-II of Census-2027 in the snow-bound areas of Ramban district.

The meeting, attended by ADC Ramban and District Nodal Officer Census Varunjeet Singh Charak, Deputy Director Census, DSEO and other officers, focused on training of census functionaries, Self-Enumeration, geo-tagging and demarcation of Enumeration Blocks, besides public awareness measures.

Sharma stressed coordinated efforts for complete and timely enumeration and directed extensive publicity regarding Self-Enumeration



tion, particularly in snow-bound areas. He was informed that training of District and Charge Census Officers and field trainers has been completed, while training of Supervisors and Enumerators will be held from August 20 to 29.

Self-Enumeration in

snow-bound areas is underway from August 17 to 31. The CPCO directed dissemination of information through print, electronic and social media in Hindi, English and local languages, besides awareness programmes at panchayat and ward levels.

He also asked officers to

closely monitor preparations and address gaps in advance.

Earlier, the District Nodal Officer Census gave a presentation on the district profile, House Listing Operations, training progress, Self-Enumeration and geo-tagging of Enumeration Blocks.

SKUAST-K transfers Exotic Mushroom Technology to Agri Deptt for scaling up High-Value Circular Bioeconomy

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 19

In a significant step towards taking Jammu & Kashmir agriculture into the realm of high-value, knowledge-driven and circular bioeconomy, Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir today transferred its patented exotic mushroom production technology to the Department of Agriculture for wider dissemination among farmers and agri-entrepreneurs across the Union Territory.

The technology, developed by the University's Mushroom Research and Training Centre (MRTC), includes production technologies for three high-value exotic mushrooms, Shiitake, King Oyster and Enoki, along with the associated strains. The technology transfer, organised by the Directorate of Research, SKUAST-K, marks an important milestone in taking University research from laboratories and research stations to farmers, entrepreneurs and markets.

The initiative is particularly significant as the exotic mushrooms can be



cultivated using locally available woody agricultural and horticultural biomass, including apple-pruning waste, which is otherwise often burnt or discarded. The technology thus converts an environmental liability into an economic resource, creating a waste-to-wealth model while reducing biomass burning and promoting sustainable agriculture.

Speaking on the occasion, Vice-Chancellor, SKUAST-Kashmir, Prof. Nazir Ahmad Ganai, said exotic mushroom cultivation represents the transition from conventional agriculture to high-value, resource-efficient and knowledge-intensive agriculture. He said these mushrooms command prices several times

higher than conventional button mushrooms, opening significant opportunities for small-scale enterprises, rural youth, women and educated agricultural graduates.

“The next level of agriculture is not merely about producing more; it is about producing higher value, using resources more efficiently and converting waste into wealth. Exotic mushroom cultivation brings together science, sustainability and entrepreneurship and is an important pathway towards a circular bioeconomy,” Prof. Ganai said.

He highlighted the enormous potential of horticultural biomass in J&K and said University estimates indicate that apple-pruning wood

alone could support nearly 3.4 lakh tonnes of premium mushrooms annually, with an estimated market value of around ₹17,000 crore. He added that SKUAST-K has developed multiple IPRs and patented technologies in mushroom science and is committed to ensuring their translation into commercial enterprises.

The Vice Chancellor also appreciated entrepreneurs, including SKUAST-K students Munnazah Naseer and Kamran Showkat, who have taken up the technology at pilot scale, saying such initiatives exemplify the University's “Degree by Design” approach of linking education, research, innovation and entrepreneurship.

J&K Bank Strengthens Corporate Salary Portfolio with Two New MoUs

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 19

J&K Bank has further strengthened its institutional partnerships by signing two Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) under its Corporate Salary Package with

FIL Industries Private Limited in Srinagar and Brahmishi Bawra Shanti Vidya Peeth Higher Secondary School in Udhampur.

At Srinagar, Zonal Head (Srinagar) Sheikh Mohammad Muzaffar signed the agreement on behalf of J&K Bank, while Managing Director FIL Industries Junaid Altaf Bukhari represented the company. The MoU will bring nearly 600 employees of FIL Industries under the Bank's Corporate Salary Package.

Sheikh Mohammad



Muzaffar said the partnership would strengthen the Bank's longstanding institutional relationship with FIL Industries while providing its employees customised banking benefits, preferential products, enhanced digital services and need-based financial solutions.

Cluster Head Syed Tasaduq Madni highlighted the key features of the package, including specialised salary-account variants, preferential loan facilities, insurance coverage and digital banking services.

In Jammu division, J&K Bank also entered into a similar arrangement with Brahmishi Bawra Shanti Vidya Peeth Higher Secondary School, Udhampur, which has more than 165 employees. Zonal Head (Udhampur) Arjun Singh Rathore signed the MoU on behalf of the Bank, while Chairperson Chinmay Jyoti (Didi Ji) signed on behalf of the school.

Arjun Singh Rathore said the partnership reflected the Bank's commitment to developing meaningful institutional relationships through

customer-centric and technology-driven banking solutions.

The signing ceremonies were attended by senior officials of J&K Bank and representatives of the two institutions.

Through the partnerships, J&K Bank aims to expand access to customised salary accounts, preferential retail-credit facilities, insurance benefits and enhanced digital banking services, while further consolidating its institutional presence across Jammu and Kashmir.



REVENUE DEPARTMENT
GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

JK ZAMEEN SUDHAR PORTAL

JAMABANDI (LAND RECORDS)

CHECK YOUR RECORD AND REGISTER YOUR GRIEVANCE

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The Revenue Department, Government of Jammu & Kashmir, has launched the JK Zameen Sudhar Portal to make land records transparent, accessible and citizen-friendly.

The portal enables easy public access to digitized Jamabandi and related land record services.

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- 1 Visit the portal: jkzameensudhar.jk.gov.in
- 2 Select District, Tehsil and Village
- 3 Search the Jamabandi record
- 4 View and verify land details online

RAISE & TRACK A GRIEVANCE

- 1 Open the grievance section on the portal
- 2 Submit your objection / discrepancy with details
- 3 Receive acknowledgement / reference number
- 4 Track status online for timely resolution

Transparent land records

Easy online access

**KEY BENEFITS**
Search and verification services

Grievance submission and tracking

Citizen-friendly digital interface

ACCESS YOUR LAND RECORDS ANYTIME, ANYWHERE

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YOUR DATA IS SECURE. YOUR RIGHTS ARE PROTECTED.

SAVE TIME | ENSURE ACCURACY | EMPOWER CITIZENS

Be Informed. Be Empowered. Be a Part of Transparent Land Governance.

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WORLD



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20th August, 2026

Kill Mosquitoes Before They Kill Us!

Common breeding sites for Mosquitoes



Rid your community of breeding sites to protect yourself from Mosquito Borne Diseases.

Issued in public interest by:

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DIP/J-8443/26, Dt: 19.08.2026