

DC Kishtwar fixes land acquisition rates for Dulhasti Stage-II project

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 22

Deputy Commissioner Pankaj Kumar Sharma today finalised and approved the rates for land being acquired for construction of the Power House Site, Dumping Site and Road in connection with the 260 MW (2x130 MW) Dulhasti Stage-II Hydroelectric Project being executed by NHPC.

A meeting for the fixation and approval of rates for land acquired by NHPC for the project was held in the meeting hall under the chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner in the presence of the Collectors concerned and senior officers.

The meeting considered the fixation of rates for 125 Kanals 1½ Marlas of un-irrigated land situated in villages Kishtwar, Pochhal and Palmar acquired for construction of the Power House Site, Dumping Site and Road for the Dulhasti Stage-II HE Project.

The case was examined with reference to the relevant revenue records, material available on the case file, the average sale rates of land for the preceding three years in the villages concerned and the Stamp Duty rates notified for the year 2026.

The rates proposed by the



Collector Land Acquisition were based on the notified Stamp Duty rates for 2026, after due consideration of the relevant revenue records and other material available on the case file, in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (RFCT-LARR) Act, 2013, particularly the provisions governing determination of market value.

After detailed deliberations, the Collectors present in the meeting concurred with and approved the rates proposed by the Collector Land Acquisition. Accordingly, the approved rates for the un-irrigated land were

fixed as Village Kishtwar: ₹22.73 lakh per Kanal, Village Pochhal: ₹22.30 lakh per Kanal and Village Palmar: ₹3.82 lakh per Kanal.

It was further recorded that the aforesaid rates shall constitute the approved market value/rate for the purpose of preparation and finalisation of the Award, subject to determination and payment of compensation strictly in accordance with the applicable provisions of the RFCT-LARR Act, 2013, the rules made thereunder and other applicable Government instructions and orders.

The statutory components of compensation, including the applicable factor, solatium, additional amount and the value of

structures, trees and other assets, wherever admissible, shall be assessed and dealt with separately in accordance with law.

The meeting also took note of the acquisition proceedings, wherein the Preliminary Notification under Section 11, the Declaration under Section 19 and the Tentative Award under the RFCT-LARR Act, 2013 have been issued.

Among those present were ADC Pawan Kotwal, ACR Idrees Lone, SDM Marwah Dr Mohammad Ashraf, SDM Paddar Dr Amit Kumar, SDM Chatroo Nayeem Ur Rehman and HoP Dulhasti Stage-II HEP ShivNath Kumar, besides other officers and staff concerned.

DC Doda reviews preparations for Eid Milad-un-Nabi celebrations

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Deputy Commissioner Krishan Lal today chaired a preparatory meeting to review the arrangements for the celebration of Eid Milad-un-Nabi in Doda district.

During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner issued necessary directions to all departments concerned to ensure coordinated and comprehensive arrangements for the smooth, peaceful and successful conduct of the celebrations.

He directed the Police Department to put in place adequate security arrangements and ensure effective traffic management, particularly at important locations and along routes witnessing religious gatherings.

He directed the Jal Shakti Department to ensure the adequate availability and uninterrupted supply of drinking water at all designated locations.

The Chief Medical Officer was directed to make necessary medical arrangements, including the deployment of



medical teams and the availability of essential medicines and emergency services during the celebrations. The Executive Officer, Municipality Doda/Bhaderwah was directed to ensure proper sanitation, cleanliness and waste management in the town, particularly around markets, mosques and other congregation points.

The officers concerned were also directed to conduct market checking, ensure the availability of es-

sential commodities at fair prices and take strict action against illegal stocking, overcharging and unfair pricing.

The Food Safety Department was directed to conduct regular inspections of food establishments and ensure that the quality and safety of food items sold to the public are maintained in accordance with prescribed standards.

The Chair stressed upon all departments to maintain close coordination and en-

sure that all arrangements are in place well in advance. The officers were directed to remain vigilant and responsive to public needs throughout the celebrations.

Among those present were the ADC, ASP, CMO, Executive Officer Municipality, the Executive Engineers concerned and other district officers. ADC Bhaderwah, SDMs, Tehsildars and other officers concerned participated in the meeting virtually.

DC flags off 'Swachhata Sankalp' awareness rally at Ramban

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Deputy Commissioner Mohammad Alyas Khan today flagged off an awareness rally at Ramban under the 'Swachhata Sankalp' programme, launched by the Directorate of Urban Local Bodies, Jammu in collaboration with the District Administration Ramban, to promote cleanliness, hygiene, responsible waste management and environmental awareness among the public.

Among those present were CPO Dr Shakeeb Ahmed Rather, CEO Oneel Bhat and Municipal Council Ramban CEO Sudershan Singh Jamwal, besides other officers and officials, students, local residents and participants.

The awareness rally was taken out through Ramban town, with students, officials and local residents par-



ticipating enthusiastically.

The campaign featured a series of activities, including a cleanliness drive, an awareness programme, a cleanliness pledge and an awareness rally, aimed at encouraging greater public participation in cleanliness and environmental protec-

tion initiatives.

Addressing the participants, the dignitaries emphasised that cleanliness should be embraced as a continuous community responsibility rather than being limited to a one-day campaign. They stressed the importance of responsible

waste disposal, protection of public spaces, personal hygiene and active citizen participation in creating a clean, healthy and sustainable environment.

The programme concluded with the message: 'Swachhata Apnao, Swachh Jeevan Pao.'

Power Shutdown by KPDCL

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 22: Chief Engineer, Distribution, KPDCL has informed that the Shutdown of 33 kV Cheshmashahi-Brein Nishat line will be observed due to which power supply to Brein, Tulip Garden, Brein Pahloo, Taj Vivanta, Exchange Colony, Nishat, Handampora, Pathanbagh, Filtration plant, and adjoining areas will be affected from 09 AM to 11 AM on 24 August 2026.

Similarly, shutdown of 33 Kv Chewa Tap Line of Tral-Ist Chewa and Tral Bala will be observed due to

which power supply to Chewa, Tral Bala, Bajwani, Kahlil, Bathnoor, Hayina and adjoining areas will be affected from 09 AM to 02 PM on 24 August 2026.

Likewise, in order to carry out erection of poles under 33 kV line for new tap line to Govt. Press, the power supply from 33 kV Pampore-Badamibagh line to receiving stations including Badamibagh, Sonwar and Panthachowk shall remain affected on August 24, from 8AM to 11AM.

Accordingly, the feeding areas to be

impacted includes Sonwar, Shivpora, Panthachowk, Batwara, WSS Tangnar, Summerbugh, Govt. Press, GB Panth Hospital and adjoining areas.

Similarly, in view of erection of poles under SASCI Scheme and completion of punch points raised by Inspection Division for newly constructed 33 KV Nowbgh Khanda line, power supply from 33 kV Nowbgh Chadoora line to receiving stations including Chadoora, Panzan, Ranger, Wathoora shall remain affected on August 27 from 8AM to 2PM.

JK Judicial Academy organises workshop on Arbitration, Mediation Act

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 22: The Jammu & Kashmir Judicial Academy, under the patronage of Acting Chief Justice, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, and the guidance of Justice Rajnesh Oswal, Judge, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh and Chairman, Governing Committee, the J&K Judicial Academy, today a one day workshop on "Arbitration & Conciliation Act, 1996; Mediation: Role of Judges in referral with special reference to The Mediation Act, 2023" at the J&K Judicial Academy, Mominabad, Srinagar.

The workshop commenced with the inaugural address by Justice Moksha Khajuria Kazmi, Judge, High Court of J&K and Ladakh and Member, Governing Committee, J&K Judicial Academy.

In her address, Justice Kazmi emphasized that while adjudication remains central to the rule of law, arbitration, conciliation and mediation should be viewed as appropriate dispute resolution mechanisms suited to the nature and circumstances of each dispute. She observed that mediation enables parties to participate in shaping a resolution, fostering ownership and commitment to settlement.

She stressed that its success should be measured not merely by disposal but by the ability of settlements to endure and underscored the need for trained mediators, appropriate judicial referrals and institutional support. She emphasized that adjudication, arbitration and mediation are complementary instru-



ments of justice aimed at making the justice delivery system more accessible, humane, responsive and effective.

The first technical session was conducted by Justice Rashid Ali Dar, Former Judge, High Court of J&K and Ladakh, on "Arbitration: Basic Principles, Court's Role and Interface with Judicial Proceedings." He emphasized that arbitration is a legally recognized mechanism distinct from, yet closely connected with the judicial system requiring a balance between party autonomy and minimal judicial intervention.

He stressed that courts should facilitate rather than obstruct arbitration while ensuring fairness, legality and natural justice. The session covered key provisions of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996, including arbitration agreements,

referral to arbitration, appointment and jurisdiction of arbitral tribunals, interim measures and the complementary roles of courts and tribunals.

Thereafter, Mohan Singh Parihar, Former District and Sessions Judge, conducted sessions on "Mediation – Role of Judges in Referral and Facilitation of Settlement" and "Mediated Settlements – Recording, Enforcement, Challenges and Implementation." He provided practical insights into mediation as an important ADR mechanism and emphasised the role of judicial officers in identifying suitable cases for mediation. He stressed that before making a referral, the court should understand the facts and nature of the dispute and assess whether there is an element of settlement that can appropriately be explored through media-

tion.

He also explained the procedural framework governing mediation, including referral to District Mediation Centres, the role of mediators and the procedure to be followed in successful and unsuccessful mediations. He highlighted the importance of considering ADR at the appropriate stage of proceedings and discussed the objectives of Section 89 CPC, including providing effective relief to litigants, reducing pendency and easing the burden on courts. He explained the five ADR mechanisms—arbitration, conciliation, LokAdalat, judicial settlement and mediation—and their appropriate application depending upon the nature of the dispute.

Earlier, Director J&K Judicial Academy, Naseer Ahmad Dar highlighted the growing importance of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) in the present judicial scenario. He emphasized that ADR should not be viewed merely as a means of reducing pendency but as an effective means of providing parties with timely, consensual and meaningful resolution of disputes. He stressed the importance of judicial officers identifying suitable cases for mediation and making appropriate referrals, while exercising judicial discretion in accordance with the nature of the dispute, applicable law and the interests of justice. He also highlighted the significance of the Mediation Act, 2023 and the need for a balanced and practical approach towards adjudication and settlement.

DDC Doda chairs District Steering Committee meeting on Green India Mission

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Deputy Commissioner Krishan Lal chaired a meeting of the District Steering Committee for the Green India Mission (GIM) at the DC Office Complex, Doda to discuss and approve the Annual Plans of Operation (APOs) for the years 2026–27 and 2027–28.

Among those present were the Divisional Forest Officer (DFO), Doda; the Divisional Forest Officer, Bhaderwah; the Assistant Commissioner (Development), Doda; the Assistant Commissioner (Panchayat), Doda; the Chief Agriculture Officer, Doda; the Technical Officer, JKEDA, Doda; officials from the Tribal Welfare Office, Doda and other officials concerned.

The DFO Doda gave a detailed PowerPoint presentation on the proposed activities and targets under the Green India Mission for the years concerned.

For Doda Forest Division, an area of 340 hectares has been targeted for 2026–27, comprising 156 hectares under advance work and 184 hectares under maintenance work. The proposed activities include the establishment of a Computer and Digital Literacy Training Centre, a new nursery, a Walnut Processing Centre



and a Mushroom Cultivation and Training Centre, along with nursery maintenance and the operationalisation of the Walnut Processing Centre.

The division has also proposed works covering 241 hectares, including 85 hectares under advance work and 156 hectares under creation work, along with various livelihood and capacity-building activities.

The Village Forest Committees proposed for 2026–27 under Doda Forest Division include Koti, Wanda, Banshal, Gaadi, Bharat, Ugaad, Gadaan, Wanipora, Bagla, Balwana,

Pochra, Dhara, Kulhand, Bikhriyan and Puniyala.

Similarly, Bhaderwah Forest Division has proposed works covering 130 hectares for 2027–28, comprising 60 hectares under advance work and 70 hectares under creation work. The proposed activities include the establishment of Computer and Digital Literacy and Cutting and Tailoring Training Centres and the operationalisation of the Walnut Processing Centre.

The proposed Village Forest Committees under Bhaderwah Forest Division include Changa Soti, Thalo-

ran, Chanchloo, Phigsoo, Jangalwar and Badanoo Chibban.

The Deputy Commissioner emphasised the importance of effective inter-departmental coordination, community participation and the timely execution of the proposed works.

The Chair directed the officers concerned to ensure that the Annual Plans of Operation are implemented in a planned, transparent and time-bound manner, with due focus on forest restoration, environmental conservation, livelihood generation and sustainable development.