

DC Ramban reviews preparedness for Digital Crop Survey

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 29

Deputy Commissioner Ramban, Mohammad Alyas Khan today reviewed the preparedness for the Digital Crop Survey (DCS) for Kharif 2026, stressing the need for the conduct of time-bound and error-free survey across the district.

The Deputy Commissioner also addressed participants during a capacity-building programme on DCS for Kharif 2026 held at Ramban. The programme was organised to sensitise and train officials and field functionaries including surveyors and supervisors, who will be involved in the upcoming survey.

ACR Ramban, Shokat Hayat Mattoo, Tehsildar Batote Vijay Sharma and Master Trainer Naib Tehsildar Sanasar Aakash Mahajan were present on the occasion.

The session focused on key aspects of DCS includ-



ing deployment and mapping of surveyors, supervisors and verifiers, operation of the DCS application, plot capturing, submission, approval and verification, besides handling map- and GPS-related issues and troubleshooting. The guidelines envisage completion of all pre-survey arrangements before commencement of the field survey. The DC directed the concerned officers to en-

sure 100 per cent participation in the training and timely completion of all preparatory activities. He stressed close coordination among all stakeholders for the smooth and error-free conduct of the survey.

The Deputy Commissioner also directed ACR Ramban to establish a Control Room-cum-Helpdesk to provide prompt technical and operational support to field staff and ensure im-

mediate escalation and resolution of issues.

The DC emphasized that all arrangements must be completed on priority to ensure efficient implementation of the Digital Crop Survey across the district. The survey is scheduled to be conducted from September 1 to 12, 2026, with daily monitoring of progress to ensure completion within the prescribed timeline.

Phase-II of UG Admissions 2026-27 Notified for Biannual Passouts; Registration opens Sept 1st on jkadmissions.in

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 29

The Higher Education Department, J&K, has notified the commencement of Phase-II of Undergraduate admissions for the Academic Session 2026-27 in Government Degree Colleges of J&K.

The admissions are open to candidates who have qualified the Biannual / Supplementary / Private Examination of Class 12th, Session 2026, the results of which have been declared by the Jammu & Kashmir Board of School Education and other recognised Boards. The admission process will be conducted through the Department's in-house Centralised Admission Portal, <https://jkadmissions.in>.

Vacant seats shall be filled through two parallel modes - through In-Person Counselling and through Walk-in Admission. Detailed timelines for registration, choice-filling, in-person counselling, walk-in admissions, etc are given on the admission notice available on the Centralised Admission Portal.

Besides fresh passouts of the biannual examination, candidates who had registered during Phase-I but could not secure admission, candidates who were allotted seats earlier but did not complete admission formalities, and candidates whose applications were rejected during verification may also participate, subject to fulfilment of eligibility conditions. However, candidates who have already

confirmed their admission in Phase-I, and candidates who cancelled a confirmed admission, shall not be eligible.

Fresh applicants shall submit their application online on <https://jkadmissions.in> and pay the prescribed non-refundable application fee of ₹200. All candidates are advised to carefully verify their mobile number and email address on the Portal to ensure timely receipt of admission-related communications.

Aspirants have been advised to view the vacancy positions available on the Centralised Admission portal and submit a sufficient number of well-considered programme choices, and to explore the various available course offerings. Counselling and Facilitation

Centres established at all Degree Colleges shall remain available for assistance in registration and submission of choices.

Director Colleges J&K, Dr. Sheikh Ajaz Bashir, appealed to all eligible aspirants who have qualified the biannual examination to avail this opportunity and complete all admission formalities strictly within the notified timelines. He further advised candidates to regularly check the JK Admissions Portal and follow the official WhatsApp Channel for Admissions 2026-27, linked on the Portal, for updates, notices, schedules and other information.

Phase-II shall stand concluded on 10-09-2026, and no admission shall be effected thereafter.

CS visits Zehanpora Archaeological Site, marks commencement of Phase-II excavation

BARAMULLA, AUGUST 29: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today visited the ongoing archaeological excavation site at Zehanpora in Baramulla to review the progress of excavation works, the historical and archaeological significance of the site and mark commencement of Phase-II of the excavation.

The visit was attended by the Vice Chancellor, University of Kashmir; Principal Secretary, Culture Department; Deputy Commissioner, Baramulla; Director, Archives, Archaeology & Museums; SSP Baramulla; SDM Uri; faculty members of University of Kashmir Government and Degree College Baramulla besides other concerned officers and officials.

Pertinently, Zehanpora is an important archaeological site in the Baramulla region and holds considerable potential for providing valuable insights into the settlement patterns, material culture, technology and way of life of communities that inhabited the region during earlier periods. Archaeological excavation at such sites enables researchers to understand the past through material remains, including structural remains, pottery, tools, metal objects, skeletal remains and other archaeological deposits, thereby helping in reconstructing the history and cultural development of the region. The first phase of excavation at Zehanpora yielded several significant findings, providing impor-



tant clues about the nature of the site and the activities of the people associated with it. Among the notable discoveries was a pebble wall constructed using naturally available stones and pebbles. The remains provide evidence of construction activity at the site and may help archaeologists understand the layout and building practices of the settlement. A number of iron nails were also recovered, indicating the use of iron objects and providing insights into the technological practices and material culture of the period. Several pottery fragments were recovered from the archaeological deposits, which are important indicators for understanding the chronology, cultural practices and everyday life of the communities that occupied the site.

One of the most significant discoveries during Phase-I was a human skeleton recovered from the excavated area. The finding is

of considerable archaeological importance, as skeletal remains can provide valuable information regarding burial practices, health, lifestyle and the biological characteristics of past populations. Further scientific examination of the remains is expected to provide additional information about the individual and the context in which the skeleton was found.

Building on the findings of Phase-I, Phase-II of the excavation has now commenced with the objective of undertaking a more detailed investigation of the archaeological deposits and gaining a deeper understanding of the site's historical significance. The excavation will involve systematic exploration, scientific documentation and analysis of archaeological remains and cultural layers. The continuation of the excavation is expected to provide further evidence regarding the nature and extent of the settlement

and help researchers establish a clearer understanding of its chronology, architecture, material culture and patterns of human occupation.

Addressing the gathering, the Chief Secretary underscored the importance of archaeological research in understanding the rich cultural heritage of Kashmir and highlighted the role of universities in promoting field-based research and providing students and scholars with practical exposure to archaeological work. He also stressed the importance of bringing the region's historical and cultural heritage to wider public attention through sustained research, conservation and awareness initiatives.

The Director, Centre for Archaeological Studies (CAS), emphasized the need for systematic and scientific excavation of the site, proper documentation of the findings and adoption of appropriate measures for the preservation and protection of the archaeological remains.

The Director, SPS Museum, also stressed the importance of proper documentation, preservation and conservation of archaeological discoveries to ensure that the recovered material is scientifically studied and safeguarded for future generations.

The district administration, assured all necessary cooperation and support for the smooth conduct of the excavation and protection of the archaeological site.

HDFC Bank Presents '20 Ka Dum, 20 Kadam – Nasha Mukht Bharat Ki Aur' at Jodhamal Public School

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 29

As part of the 20th Anniversary celebrations of 95 FM Tadka, HDFC Bank presented '20 Ka Dum, 20 Kadam – Nasha Mukht Bharat Ki Aur', a Drug Addiction Awareness and Talent Hunt initiative aimed at sensitising youth about the harmful effects of drug addiction.

As part of the initiative, an awareness programme was organised at Jodhamal Public School, Jammu, where students participated in a pledge against drugs and committed themselves to staying away from substance abuse. The activity aimed to encourage young minds to make healthy choices and understand the serious physical, mental and social consequences of drug addiction.

During the programme, Manpreet Kour Sodhi, Counselling Psychologist, interacted with the students and conducted an awareness session on drug addic-



tion. She highlighted the harmful effects of substance abuse and encouraged students to stay away from drugs and adopt positive and healthy choices in life. Dr. Deep Khare, Director, Jodhamal Public School, was also present on the occasion. He interacted with the students and spoke about the dangers of drug abuse. He appreciated the initiative undertaken by 95 FM Tadka to create awareness among the younger generation and lauded the

efforts towards promoting a healthy and drug-free society.

The programme was presented by HDFC Bank and powered by Wheelocity Motors – Škoda Jammu, with Team Ideation as the Event Partner, Bharati Lok Sangeet Kala Sanasthan as the Cultural Partner, and The Himalayan Mail as the Print Partner.

The event was attended by members of the HDFC Bank team, while from 95 FM Tadka, Jammu Head

Sandeep Koul, RJ Nitish Sharma and Kailash Kerni coordinated and hosted the programme.

The initiative received an enthusiastic response from the students, who actively participated in the awareness session and pledge. The programme reinforced the message of choosing a healthy, positive and drug-free future, while encouraging students to become responsible ambassadors of the Nasha Mukht Bharat movement.

BJP holds 1-day workshop on 'Seva Sankalp Abhiyan'

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 29

Jammu and Kashmir BJP held a one-day workshop at party headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu, to chalk out a comprehensive roadmap for the 'Seva Sankalp Abhiyan', marking Prime Minister Narendra Modi's birthday and 25 years of his uninterrupted public service, while taking the development achievements and welfare initiatives of the Modi Government to the grassroots.

J&K BJP President and Rajya Sabha MP Sat Sharma, former BJP state President and former Minister in the Haryana Government and former National Secretary, BJP, O.P. Dhankar, the main speaker in the workshop, and BJP General Secretary (Organization) Ashok Koul chiefly addressed the workshop.

Former Deputy Chief Minister Dr. Nirmal Singh, Rajya Sabha MP Er. Ghulam Ali Khatana, General Secretaries Sanjita Dogra, Baldev Singh Billawaria and Gopal Mahajan (J&K in-charge of the Abhiyan) also addressed the workshop.

BJP office bearers, Morcha Presidents, District Presidents and members of the Abhiyan teams from across Jammu and Kashmir participated in the workshop.

Sat Sharma, addressing the workshop, said that the Narendra Modi era has rewritten India's development story, transforming the nation from a



country struggling with policy paralysis into a confident, self-reliant and rapidly developing global power.

Sat Sharma said that 2026 marks 25 years since Narendra Modi entered the highest levels of public service as Gujarat Chief Minister in 2001 and subsequently took the responsibility of leading the nation as Prime Minister. "For 25 years, Narendra Modi has devoted himself to the service of the nation and its people. His politics is defined not by power, but by performance, service and the empowerment of the last person in society," he said.

He said that the unprecedented public support and respect enjoyed by Prime Minister Modi is rooted in the transformational work undertaken by his governments. From welfare delivery and infrastructure development to strengthening national security, empowering the

poor, women, farmers and youth, the Modi Government has placed 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayas' at the centre of governance.

Sat Sharma said the Seva Sankalp Abhiyan will be a month-long campaign from September 17 to October 17, through which BJP workers will reach people with the message of development and service.

"This is not merely a celebration of the Prime Minister's birthday; it is an opportunity for every BJP worker to dedicate himself to society and ensure that the benefits of government schemes reach those who need them most," he said.

O.P. Dhankar, through a detailed PowerPoint presentation, elaborated on the campaign's programmes, including Ashirwad Ka Diya, Sapnon Ka Bharat, Namo Seva Gatha, Aangan Utsav, Kahani Badlav Ki,

Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, Seva Jyoti Yatra, Seva Mera Yogdan, Rangoli Rashtra, Seva Setu Abhiyan, Jan Sevak Mahakumbh at Panchayat and Parliament levels, and the Rashtriya Innovation Challenge.

Dhankar said BJP workers would organize cleanliness drives, medical and blood donation camps, plantation programmes and activities in government and private schools, including drawing and speech competitions. Special programmes would also be conducted at Anganwadi centres, while elected representatives would take a collective Sankalp for dedicated service to the nation and society.

Ashok Koul, while presenting the organizational blueprint, said the campaign would be taken to every district, Mandal and booth through a coordinated organizational mechanism.

GBHSS Nadihal Bandipora Celebrates National Sports Day 2026 with Great Enthusiasm

BANDIPORA, AUGUST 29 : Boys Higher Secondary School Nadihal Bandipora today celebrated the National Sports Day 2026 with great enthusiasm, energy and sporting spirit.

The day-long celebration was organized by the Sports Wing of GBHSS Nadihal to commemorate the birth anniversary of the legendary Indian hockey player Major Dhyan Chand and to promote the importance of sports, physical fitness, teamwork and a healthy lifestyle among students.

The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation of Principal GBHSS Nadihal, teaching and non-teaching staff members



and students, who came together to make the celebration a memorable and vibrant sporting occasion.

On the occasion, Principal GBHSS Nadihal, Mohammad Hussain Magrey

appreciated the efforts of the Sports Wing for organizing the event and encouraged students to actively participate in sports and recreational activities. The celebrations contin-

ued throughout the day with a variety of sports and recreational activities. Students and staff members participated with great excitement, displaying remarkable energy, teamwork and sportsmanship.

One of the highlights of the celebration was the felicitation and appreciation of the national-level players of the institution who represented the school at national competitions during the previous year.

The successful celebration concluded with a message to students to remain physically active, participate regularly in sports and carry forward the values of discipline, dedication, teamwork and fair play in every sphere of life.