

CM Omar Abdullah meets several individuals, deputations at Raabita

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 31

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today met several individuals and deputations at Raabita, Srinagar, and discussed issues related to sustainable mountain development, tourism promotion and sports.

A delegation from the Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI), comprising its President Dr. Ramesh Negi, LEAD Strategist Dr. Rajan Kumar Kotru and Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-K, Prof. Nazir Ahmad Ganai, called on the Chief Minister and discussed strategies for promoting sustainable mountain development in Jammu and Kashmir.

Amitash Ojha, Associate Professor of Cognitive Science at IIT Jammu, also met the Chief Minister



and briefed him about a proposed nudge-based initiative for tourism development in Jammu and Kashmir. The initiative seeks to leverage behavioural insights to encour-

age sustainable tourism practices, enhance visitor experience and support local tourism stakeholders.

The Chief Minister also met J&K fencer Vishal

Thapar, who has been selected to represent India at the 20th Asian Games in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan, scheduled to be held from September 19 to October 4, 2026.

Kishtwar gears up for Digital Crop Survey-Kharif 2026

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 31

The final training session of Surveyors, Verifiers and Supervisors on the Digital Crop Survey (DCS)-Kharif 2026 was held today at the Conference Hall, Mini Secretariat, New DC Office Complex Kishtwar under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Pankaj Kumar Sharma.

The training session was aimed at sensitising field functionaries and equipping them with the requisite knowledge and skills for the smooth, accurate and timely conduct of the Digital Crop Survey in the district.

Addressing the participants, the Deputy Commissioner emphasised the importance of proactive participation, accurate field-level reporting and effective utilisation of the digital application for successful implementation of the Digital Crop Survey. "All officials and field functionaries have been provided access to the requisite software application. They need to ensure its proper utilisation during field visits," he emphasized. He explained that the digital system has been designed to capture the actual ground position, thereby enhancing accuracy and transparency in



crop inspection and land records.

Highlighting the need to address shortcomings associated with the conventional physical Girdawari process, the DC observed that records may, in some instances, be carried forward from previous years without adequately reflecting the actual status of crops on the ground. Such practices, he noted, can lead to ambiguity regarding the crop actually being cultivated, land ownership and other related particulars.

He further explained that under the digital system, the geographical coordinates of the field are matched through the application, enabling the field functionary to capture and record the actual

crop and field status on the spot. This, he said, would significantly enhance the reliability and authenticity of crop and land-related data.

The Deputy Commissioner informed that the maps pertaining to 50 villages have already been authenticated and uploaded. He directed the field functionaries to carefully verify the mapped plots and immediately identify and report any discrepancy relating to the number of plots, allocation of plots to individuals or assignment of plots to the concerned officials.

Emphasising the need for a proactive and result-oriented approach, the DC urged all participants and field functionaries to work with dedication, consis-

tency and a sense of responsibility. He expressed confidence that sustained efforts during the coming week would lead to substantial progress and facilitate timely completion of the survey.

The final training session was delivered by Master Trainer and Naib Tehsildar, Pakalan Thakrie, Subhash Kumar, who provided detailed demonstrations and practical guidance on various components and procedures involved in the survey.

The participants were apprised of the methodology to be followed for recording crop details, capturing field-level information, correctly identifying land parcels and addressing technical issues that may arise during the course of the survey.

The Master Trainer also provided hands-on guidance on the use of the Digital Crop Survey application and newly introduced AI enabled Features to the participants.

The participants actively engaged in the session and raised queries seeking clarifications on various technical and procedural aspects of the survey.

ACR Idrees Lone, District Manager CSC Suman Kapoor besides other officers and concerned staff were present on the occasion.

JMC takes new initiative to promote Dogri language across Jammu City

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 31

In a significant initiative aimed at preserving and promoting the rich linguistic and cultural heritage of Jammu, the Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) has undertaken the installation of signboards in the Dogri language at prominent intersections, chowks and other important locations across Jammu city.

The initiative has been taken up under the guidance of the Commissioner Jammu Municipal Corporation Dr. Devansh Yadav, following a request from the Siyana Nagrik Muddad Seva Sanstha. The organization has also contributed by providing a number of Dogri signboards, which are now being installed by the Jammu Municipal Corporation at suitable loca-



tions throughout the city.

Dogri, being the mother tongue of the Jammu region and a proud symbol of its cultural identity, holds a special place in the hearts of the people. Through this initiative, JMC aims to give greater visibility and recognition to the language and incorporate it more prominently into the everyday public life of the city.

The installation of Dogri signboards at major public locations will not only enhance the cultural character of Jammu but will also help create awareness among residents, particularly the younger generation, about the importance of preserving, respecting and promoting their linguistic heritage.

The Jammu Municipal Corporation has already

taken significant steps towards promoting Dogra culture and the Dogri language through its various developmental initiatives. At the Waste to Wonder Park at Bhagwati Nagar, developed by JMC, detailed information regarding each monument and structure displayed in the park has also been provided in the Dogri language.

This unique initiative reflects JMC's commitment towards connecting development and public spaces with the rich cultural heritage of the Jammu region.

The inclusion of Dogri at the Waste to Wonder Park and now on sign boards across prominent locations in Jammu city marks an important effort towards giving the language a stronger and more visible presence in public life.

Sp'l Secretary APD reviews progress of major Horticulture Schemes in Jammu Division

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 31

A comprehensive review meeting was held today in the conference Hall of the Directorate of Horticulture Jammu to review the physical and financial progress of the horticulture schemes being implemented in the region.

Special Secretary Agriculture Production Department (APD) Dr. Ravi Shankar Sharma chaired the meeting attended by Additional Secretary Agriculture Production Department Safeeq Ahmed; Director Horticulture Jammu Gul Syed; Joint Director Horticulture Jammu Salil Gupta; Deputy Director Horticulture Jammu (Central) Mukesh Sharma; all Chief Horticulture Officer of Jammu Province, Chief Canning & Processing Instructor Sanjeev Kumar Karlupia; Nursery Registration Officer Satish Kumar; Accounts Officer Rajesh Kumar; I/c District Horticulture Officer Mega Fruit Plant Nursery, Chakroi, S. Parminder Singh, Soil Analyst Ashwani Sharma, Horticulture Development Officer, Information, Dr. Vijay Kumar; along with senior officers and officials from the Technical and Planning Sections of the Horticulture Department.

The meeting reviewed the progress of UT CAPEX (Regular), NABARD, Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP), Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS), Jammu & Kashmir Competitiveness Improvement Project (JKCIP), Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) and other depart-



mental Schemes.

The concerned functionaries gave detailed briefing on scheme-wise and district-wise physical achievements, financial expenditure, fund utilisation, approved targets, ongoing works and implementation status.

The officers briefed the chair about progress under different components, including High-Density Plantation, normal-spacing rejuvenation, development and strengthening of departmental nurseries, quality planting material, horticulture mechanisation, protected cultivation, irrigation facilities, post-harvest management, processing and value addition, grading and packaging, infrastruc-

ture development and other farmer-oriented interventions.

Special emphasis was laid on the timely implementation of approved projects, optimum utilisation of funds, achievement of physical targets and ensuring that the benefits of the government schemes reach eligible farmers and fruit growers in a transparent and time-bound manner.

The meeting also reviewed the implementation of HADP and JKCIPI interventions, besides other centrally sponsored and UT-funded programmes aimed at modernising the horticulture sector, improving productivity, strengthening the value chain and enhancing the income of farmers.

The Special Secretary directed the officers to maintain close field-level monitoring, ensure timely completion of works, expedite utilisation of funds and remove implementation bottlenecks. Officers were also directed to ensure proper documentation, regular progress reporting and effective coordination among different sections and field formations.

The meeting concluded with directions to accelerate ongoing developmental activities and strengthen the monitoring mechanism so as to ensure efficient implementation of all horticulture schemes during 2026-27 and maximum benefit to the farming community of Jammu Division.

HDFC Bank, 95 FM Tadka Organise Drug Awareness and Talent Hunt at Trikuta College

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 31

As part of the 20th Anniversary celebrations of 95 FM Tadka, HDFC Bank presented "20 Ka Dum, 20 Kadam - Nasha Mukh Bharat Ki Aur", a Drug Addiction Awareness and Talent Hunt initiative aimed at sensitising youth about the harmful effects of substance abuse.

As part of the campaign, an awareness programme was organised at Trikuta College of Education, Nardani, Bantalab, Jammu, where students participated in a pledge against drugs and committed themselves to staying away from substance abuse. The activity focused on encouraging youngsters to make healthy choices and understand the serious physical, mental and social consequences of drug addiction.

Dr. Arushi Prashar, Assistant Professor, Trikuta College of Education, was



present on the occasion and interacted with the students. She highlighted the dangers associated with drug abuse and appreciated the initiative of 95 FM Tadka for creating awareness among the younger generation and promoting the message of a healthy and drug-free society.

Adding a creative dimension to the campaign, students participated in poetry, singing and debate activities, using their talents to convey the mes-

sage of a drug-free society.

The programme was presented by HDFC Bank and powered by Wheelocity Motors - Skoda 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 Rohit Gupta, Branch Manager, HDFC Bank, along with members of the bank team. From 95 FM Tadka, Jammu Head

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

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

NCORD meeting: DM Reasi calls for intensive surveillance, awareness against drugs

REASI, AUGUST 31: District Magistrate Reasi Kumar Abhishek today chaired a meeting of the District Level Committee under the National Coordination Committee for Control of Drugs (NCORD) to review the measures being taken to prevent drug abuse and trafficking in the district.

The meeting was attended by SSP Mukund Tibrewal, ADDC Krishal Lal, ADC Rakesh Kumar, GM DIC Navdeep Wazir, ACD, DFO Reasi and

other concerned officers. The meeting discussed monitoring of medical shops, drug trafficking, identified hotspots, de-addiction and rehabilitation efforts, besides awareness activities.

The DM directed the Drug Inspector to continue inspection of medical shops on regular intervals and ensure compliance with the prescribed norms. He also directed the ACD to ensure installation of CCTV cameras

at identified hotspot locations to strengthen surveillance. He said that counselling of students in educational institutions should continue and awareness activities should be intensified.

He further directed SDMs and Tehsildars to hold regular meetings with members of Mahila Nigrani Samitis and continue awareness programmes under the Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyan.