

In Social

@JmuKmrPolice

The first payment isn't your profit. It's the beginning of the scam. Task scams often start by asking you to like products, rate websites or complete simple online tasks. To gain your trust, fraudsters may even allow you to withdraw a small amount initially.

In History

@DrJitendraSingh

Humble tribute to Late Dr APJ Abdul Kalam on his Birth anniversary. It was a privilege to have been associated with Dr Kalam, personally and professionally.

In Numbers

19589 hect

FOREST AREA:

In the entire Samba district of Jammu Division, 19589 hectare is the total forest area. The forest area accounts for a significant share of Samba district's natural landscape, playing a vital role in maintaining ecological balance and supporting local biodiversity.

Traffic Signs

COMPULSORY SOUND HORN:

There are some conditions when blowing horn becomes compulsory. While maneuvering a blind turns especially in hilly roads blowing horn before turn is one of the safety measure. So whenever you see this sign blow horn to let oncoming traffic knows your presence on road.

Artisan conferred award for carpet weaving

SRINAGAR: A Kashmiri master artisan has been conferred the National Award 2025 in the Hand-Knotted Carpet category by the Union Ministry of Textiles, an official spokesperson said.

Rafiq Ahmed Sofi, a resident of Eidgah locality here, is the sole awardee from the Union territory, winning the award for a carpet that features intricate floral motifs, traditional architectural patterns and calligraphic elements. "This honour recognises his exceptional craftsmanship and contribution to the traditional art of hand-knotted carpet weaving," the spokesperson of Kashmir's Directorate of Handicrafts and Handloom said. The spokesperson added that the award will give further traction to the Valley's carpet industry.

CS led SLSC approves Rs 13.76 cr farm mechanisation plan

JAMMU: In a significant push towards agricultural modernisation and enhanced farm productivity, Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, on Thursday approved a revised Annual Action Plan (AAP) worth Rs 13.76 crore for 2026-27 under the Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM) component of the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PM-RKVY).

The meeting was attended by the Additional Chief Secretary, Agriculture Production Department; Secretary, Rural Development Department; Secretary, Planning; Secretary in APD; Heads of Departments of the Agriculture Production Department; and other concerned officers.

Emphasising the critical role of irrigation in improving agricultural productivity across Jammu and Kashmir, the Chief Secretary stressed the need to accord focused attention to irrigation schemes to strengthen the farming sector and enable farmers to realise its full potential.

He advised the Agriculture Production Department to take forward key interventions under the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY), Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP), drip irrigation and the Command Area Development component. He underscored the significance of these interventions in improving water-use efficiency, expanding irrigation coverage and ensuring optimal utilisation of agricultural land.

IGP reviews security

KISHTWAR: Inspector General of Police (IGP), Jammu Zone, Tejinder Singh, visited Kishtwar district on Thursday to review the prevailing security situation and assess the operational preparedness of the police and other security agencies, officials said.

The IGP was accompanied by Deputy Inspector General of Police, Doda-Kishtwar-Ramban Range, Sargun Shukla.

During the visit, Singh chaired a security review meeting attended by senior police officers and field-level officials. Kishtwar Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Sunny Gupta briefed the IGP on the district's security situation and the measures being undertaken to maintain law and order. The meeting reviewed several important issues, including counter-terrorism preparedness, coordination among different police ranges, crime prevention, anti-narcotics operations and security arrangements for vital installations across the district. Singh emphasised the importance of proactive policing, heightened vigilance and effective coordination among all security agencies to address emerging security challenges.

2 trains cancelled due to track maintenance work

JAMMU: The Railway authorities have announced the cancellation of two train services operating in the Kashmir Valley from October 17 to October 31 as part of pre-winter maintenance work.

According to the information issued by the Railway, pre-winter destressing work will be undertaken in the Kashmir Valley to ensure safe and smooth train operations during the upcoming winter season. The maintenance work is aimed at preparing railway infrastructure for winter conditions and maintaining operational safety.

Due to the scheduled block, the following train services will remain cancelled during the specified period: Train No. 74615: Banihal-Baramulla; Train No. 74620: Baramulla-Banihal. Both services will remain suspended from October 17 to October 31, railway authorities said.

CPCO Amit, Planning Secy Owais co-chair conference on Population Enumeration Phase-II of Census 2027

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: One-day UT-Level Conference on conducting Population Enumeration (Phase-II) of Census 2027 excluding snow-bound areas, was successfully co-chaired by CPCO & DCO J&K and Ladakh Amit Sharma, IAS, along with Secretary Planning J&K Mohd Owais Ahmed, IAS, today in the Meeting Hall, 5th Floor, Civil Secretariat, Srinagar, in hybrid mode (online and offline). This important one-day Conference was organised by the Planning, Development and Monitoring Department, J&K, in collaboration with the Directorate of Census Operations, J&K and Ladakh.

Senior officers and their representatives from various departments participated in the Conference Workshop, including the officers from Financial Commissioner (ACS), Revenue; Financial Commissioner (ACS), Finance; Commissioner



H&UDD; Commissioner/Secretary, School Education and Higher Education; Secretary, RDD and Panchayati Raj offices; Divisional Commissioners of Kashmir and Jammu offices wherein CPCO Amit Sharma Administrative Secretary PD&MD Mohd Owais Ahmed, Director General (Planning) Madan Gopal Sharma who is also Nodal Officer, Census 2027; actively led the deliberations and Principal Census Officers (Deputy Commissioners) of all the districts of J&K and lot

of Charge Officers for Census 2027 participated.

Chief Principal Census Officer Amit Sharma who also happens to be Director, Census Operations, J&K and Ladakh, along with Arun Kumar, Joint Director, delivered a detailed PowerPoint presentation and orientation on the Population Enumeration process, methodology, timelines and roles and responsibilities of various stakeholders for Census 2027 for the information of all participants so that they become aware about various aspects of it.

Secy RDD reviews flagship rural devp schemes, stresses accountability

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Secretary, Rural Development Department (RDD) and Panchayati Raj, Ramesh Kumar, on Tuesday conducted a comprehensive review of schemes and programmes being implemented by the Department across Jammu and Kashmir.

The review was focused on physical progress, financial discipline, timely utilisation of funds and strengthening the service delivery in rural areas.

The meeting was attended by Secretary in RDD Rachna Sharma; Mission Director, NRLM, Shubhra Sharma; COO, Himayat, Rifat Kohli; Director, RDD Jammu, Shahnaz Akhtar; Director Finance, Umar Khan; CEO, IWMP, Rajnish Kumar; Joint Director Planning, Kamal Kumar Sharma; Additional Secretary, RDD, Waseem Raja; Joint Director, RDD, Mantasha Binti Rashid; Deputy Director Rural Sanitation, Kashmir, Shabir Ahmed Hakak and other officers.



The Secretary reviewed the progress under major programmes, including Viksit Bharat-Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) (VB-GRAM-G), Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G), Swachh Bharat Mission-Grameen (SBM-G), Jammu and Kashmir Rural Livelihoods Mission (JKRLM), Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA), Himayat and the Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP).

JMC Commissioner inspects Waste Processing Facilities at Kot Bhalwal

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: Commissioner Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) Ayushi Sudan on Thursday conducted a comprehensive inspection of the Integrated Solid Waste Management Facility at Kot Bhalwal to review the functioning of the waste processing units, assess the operational readiness of installed machinery and strengthen the scientific and sustainable management of solid waste.

The visit focused on evaluating the progress of key waste processing facilities, improving operational efficiency, ensuring optimum utilisation of available infrastructure and promoting resource recovery in accordance with environmental standards.

During the inspection,



The Commissioner reviewed the infrastructure and machinery installed at the Construction and Demolition (C&D) waste processing plant. The equipment includes a 6-CUM primary hopper, primary and secondary jaw crushers, vibrating screen, 3-CUM secondary hopper, four-belt conveyor system, washing plant, backhoe loader, tractor with trolley,

weighbridge, electrical control panels and barbed-wire fencing. After assessing the installation and readiness of the equipment, Ms. Sudan directed the concerned officials to undertake a trial run of the plant to evaluate its operational performance, verify the functioning of the machinery and address any technical issues before regular operations commence.

AIIMS organises region's first Dermatopathology CME prog



EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Jammu, organised the region's first

Dermatopathology Continuing Medical Education (CME) programme and hands-on workshop on 10 October 2026 at the institute's Convention Centre.

The academic event was jointly organised by the Departments of Dermatology and Pathology, AIIMS Jammu, in association with the Indian Association of Dermatologists, Venerologists

and Leprologists (IADVL) Academy, Special Interest Group (SIG) Dermatopathology, and IADVL Jammu & Kashmir.

The programme brought together distinguished dermatopathologists from across India, including internationally trained experts. Prominent among them was Dr. Sasi Kiran Attili from Visakhapatnam, a Germany- and UK-trained dermatopathologist and Coordinator of SIG Dermatopathology, along with Dr. Anuradha Priyadarshini from Chennai and Dr. Sanjana A. S. from Bengaluru.

DC Sherpa reviews Diwali arrangements



EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: Deputy Commissioner Jammu Minga Sherpa today reviewed arrangements for Diwali celebration in the district and directed officers to ensure fool-proof safety measures, crowd management, fire safety audit of markets and public awareness on handling medical emergencies.

The meeting was informed that 10 sites have been identified for cracker stalls by a committee constituted for site identification, fee deposit and approval of designated places. The Jammu Municipal Corporation has been tasked to handle site planning and prepara-

tions. In rural areas, the SDMs and the concerned SPs will grant permissions and regulate sales.

Meanwhile, Arun Gupta, President Chamber of Commerce & Industry Jammu along with its Office Bearers namely Rajeev Gupta, Jr. Vice President CCI and Rajesh Gupta, Treasurer CCI extended heartfelt congratulations and warm welcome to Minga Sherpa, on assuming charge as the Deputy Commissioner, Jammu.

The Chamber expressed confidence that under his able leadership, the district would witness further development, improved public services, and a business-friendly environment.

Basohli Utsav-2026

Div Com directs for seamless coordination

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

KATHUA: Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Dr. Vikas Kundal, on Thursday visited Basohli to review preparations for the annual Basohli Utsav-2026, scheduled to be held from October 19 to 21.

The Divisional Commissioner chaired a meeting with officers and stakeholders at Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya (JNV), Basohli, to assess the status of preparations, inter-departmental coordination and arrangements for the smooth and successful conduct of the festival.

During the visit, he inspected key venues, including the Tourist Reception Centre (TRC), Basohli, designated for the Investment Summit; Rani Talaab, where an art exhibition is being organised by the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA), Jammu; the iconic Atal Setu, the venue for Eravati Aarti; Janj Ghar, earmarked for recreational activities; and Government Model



Higher Secondary School, Basohli. The Divisional Commissioner directed the Jammu Power Distribution Corporation Limited (JPDCL), Jal Shakti Department and Municipal Committee to ensure uninterrupted power supply, adequate drinking water and proper cleanliness and sanitation at all festival venues. The General Manager, District Industries Centre (DIC), was directed to make comprehensive arrangements for the Investment Summit, while the Chief Medical Officer was asked to ensure adequate medical

facilities and emergency healthcare services throughout the festival. The Public Works Department (PWD), Forest Department and other concerned agencies were directed to complete all assigned works within the stipulated timelines and ensure venue readiness, public safety, effective crowd management and proper visitor facilitation. He stressed the need for close coordination among departments and regular monitoring to identify and address any gaps well before the commencement of the festival.

Commissioner State Taxes sets Rs 800 Cr revenue target for Oct



EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Commissioner State Taxes, Jammu and Kashmir, P. K. Bhat, on Thursday chaired a meeting to review the revenue performance of the Kashmir Division.

The meeting was organised by the Additional Commissioner State Taxes, Kashmir Division, Parveez Ahmad Raina, which was attended by State Taxes Officers of all circles of the division.

The Additional Commissioner, presented an exhaustive and comprehensive appraisal of the performance parameters of all the Circles functioning under the Kashmir Division. He apprised the Chair of the cumulative revenue realised to date, delineated the multifarious measures and strategic interventions being undertaken to augment revenue mobilisation,

and outlined the prospective course of action envisaged for the ensuing months, with a view to ensuring the unequivocal attainment of the revenue target stipulated for the current financial year. The Commissioner observed that the impact of GST rate rationalisation has largely stabilised, creating favourable prospects for enhanced revenue realisation in the ensuing months. Noting that the national average growth in GST revenue exceeds 15 per cent, he exhorted the officers to intensify revenue mobilisation efforts to ensure that Jammu and Kashmir maintains parity with the national growth trajectory. He emphasised the need to augment cash collections, including through effective IGST settlement commensurate with value addition within the Union Territory, and reiterated the monthly revenue target of Rs 800 crore.

Punjabi Language Morcha appeals to PM to restore Punjabi in CBSE; hails Omar

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: The All J&K Sikh Sangat's Punjabi Morcha on Thursday expressed heartfelt gratitude to the Jammu and Kashmir Government for giving a written assurance regarding the inclusion of Punjabi as an official language of the Union Territory, terming the development a major victory for the Punjabi-speaking community and all those who stood united for the cause.

Addressing a thanksgiving press conference at the Punjabi Morcha site near Maharaja Hari Singh Statue, Tawi Bridge, Jammu, Taranjit Singh Tony, Sewadar, All J&K Sikh Sangat and Chairman, Gurdwara Rani Talab, Digiana, said the achievement was the result of sustained peaceful struggle, community unity and the collective efforts of thousands of supporters who stood firmly behind the demand.

Tony extended his sincere



thanks to Chief Minister Omar Abdullah for the government's assurance and commitment to take the matter forward, and expressed special gratitude to Shammi Oberoi, Rajya Sabha MP and National Conference Treasurer, for his intervention and assurance regarding the introduction of the Punjabi Language Bill in the forthcoming Assembly session. He also thanked Advisor to CM Nasir Aslam Wani for his special

efforts in facilitating dialogue and helping move the matter towards a positive resolution. Tony acknowledged the role of Rajya Sabha MP Gurvinder Singh Oberoi in facilitating the consultation process that enabled the Sikh Sangat delegation to present its concerns before the government. "Punjabi is not merely a language; it is our mother tongue, our heritage and an inseparable part of Jammu and Kashmir's cultural identity.