

# Rana reviews development projects, emphasizes efficient fund utilisation

## Javed Rana stressed upon timely work completion

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**JAMMU:** Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana, on Monday virtually reviewed the progress on development projects besides assessing implementation of government schemes in Baramulla district.

During the meeting, the Minister conducted a detailed review of the progress achieved under several flagship schemes and development initiatives. These included Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), Irrigation and Flood Control projects, CAMPA, Tribal Affairs schemes, Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS), NABARD, District Capex and various Centrally Sponsored Schemes.

The meeting was attended by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Chairman of the Pollution Control Committee, Director Tribal Affairs Department, Director Finance Tribal Affairs Department and other senior officers.

Legislators from various constituencies of the district, District Development Commissioner Baramulla and all district officers participated in the meeting through video conferencing.

The Minister emphasised that holistic and balanced development of every region remains the top priority of the current dispensation. He reaffirmed that the government under the leadership of Chief Minister Omar Abdullah is committed to accelerate infrastructure



development and welfare initiatives to ensure timely and efficient delivery of services to the people.

Rana stressed the need for greater accountability and coordination among the government officers to ensure effective implementation of developmental programmes, improved monitoring of public services and prompt resolution of issues affecting different constituencies of the district.

Highlighting the importance of optimal utilisation of resources, the Minister directed the concerned departments to ensure that allocated funds are utilised effectively and do not lapse, so that developmental works directly benefit the public. He also expressed concern over the apprehensions raised by MLAs regarding the possible lapse of funds and directed the Deputy Commissioner to work closely with the Legislators and concerned departments to ensure timely utilisation of allocated resources.

Addressing administrative challenges faced by

the public in Baramulla, the Minister asked the Deputy Commissioner to conduct a comprehensive exercise and submit a proposal for easing administrative hurdles arising from jurisdictional issues, so that appropriate corrective measures can be taken.

While expressing satisfaction over the overall progress achieved on various developmental works, the Minister noted that certain projects are still pending and require expedited execution. He urged the officers to adopt a proactive and result-oriented work culture to ensure timely completion of development projects.

During the meeting, Legislators from different constituencies raised several issues concerning infrastructure development and public services.

MLA Baramulla, Javed Hassan Beigh, raised key issues including decongestion of Old Town Baramulla, establishment of a multi-level car parking facility, implementation of the water supply scheme under AMRUT 2.0 for Baramulla

development of a mini parking complex.

MLA Gulmarg, Farooq Ahmad Shah, raised issues including construction of a multi-level car parking facility, water reservoir at Tangmarg, phased completion of the mini-secretariat at Tangmarg, development of an indoor stadium at Wussan, implementation of water supply schemes for Utikoo and Wussan and widening and upgradation of the Goigam-Pinjoora road.

MLA Sopore, Irshad Rasool Kar, demanded upgradation of SDH Sopore to a District Hospital, strengthening of Nahr-Zangeer canal and execution of special water supply schemes for Adipora, Sharkvara Sopore Rural, Check Nowpora and Wular Stage I & II.

MLA Wagoora-Kreeri, Irfan Hafiz Lone, raised issues related to restoration of canals, upgradation of health facilities, filling of vacancies in government departments, and construction and improvement of roads in his constituency.

Responding to the concerns raised, the Minister assured the MLAs that the issues highlighted during the meeting are under consideration of the government and will be addressed in a time-bound manner. He reiterated that all matters concerning the public welfare will receive due priority and necessary action will be taken to resolve them in the larger interest of the people.

# Augmentation of seed storage, irrigation facilities underway at SM Farms

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**JAMMU:** Director Agriculture Jammu, Anil Gupta on Monday chaired a meeting to review the progress of projects undertaken to augment irrigation and storage facilities at the Seed Multiplication Farms, Chinore and Chakroi.

The meeting was attended by Joint Director Agriculture (Farms/SLUB) Aman Jyoti Sharma; Deputy Director Agriculture (Central) / Agriculture Chemist Sanjeev Rai Gupta; Regional Level SMS Krishan Kant; Deputy Director Planning Mudassar Yaqoob Zargar; Accounts Officer Vriti Uppal; Farm Manager Chinore Verinder Dogra; Farm Manager Chakroi Parshotam Kumar along with other senior officers and staff of the department.

At the outset, the Joint Director Agriculture (Farms/SLUB) briefed the Director about the ongoing and the projects proposed for the augmentation of irrigation infrastructure and storage facilities at the twin farms.

Detailed discussions



were held regarding the availability of irrigation sources, status of functional and non-functional tubewells, land levelling works, installation of micro-irrigation systems, repair of irrigation channels and progress of NABARD-funded projects, including proposals under Phase-II projects for further strengthening the infrastructure.

The Director Agriculture stressed the early completion of fencing and irrigation infrastructure development works. He further instructed for formulation of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for Phase-II and submission of the same to Directorate within 15 days for necessary processing.

The meeting also reviewed proposals aimed at enhancing seed storage capacity by developing new storage facilities. Detailed

deliberations were held regarding the installation of Automatic Weighing Machine under CAPEX and other infrastructure required for efficient farm operations.

"The seed processing unit available at the farms shall be made operational at the earliest so that seed produced at the farms can be processed locally in a systematic manner," the Director Agriculture instructed. He further directed to expedite the repair of non-functional borewells to ensure adequate irrigation facilities for farm activities.

The meeting concluded with an emphasis on strengthening irrigation infrastructure, expanding storage capacity and improving seed processing facilities at the Seed Multiplication Farms to enhance quality seed production in the region.

# Kissan Goshti on commercial floriculture held under ATMA

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**UDHAMPUR:** A one-day Kissan Goshti on Commercial Floriculture was organized today by the Department of Floriculture, Parks & Gardens here at Panchayat Karrian Tannas, Block Chenani under the centrally sponsored Scheme ATMA.

The event was attended by Scientist, KVK Reasi Dr. Sanjay Kaushal and Assistant Floriculture Officer Pawan Kumar along with other technical officers. A large number of enthusiastic farmers participated in the Event, reflecting increasing public interest in exploring the sustainable income opportunities in floriculture. The

event was conducted under the overall guidance of Director Floriculture, Vivek Modi and supervision of Joint Director Floriculture, Parks & Gardens Jammu Vikrant Kumar Sharma. Addressing the gathering, the Joint Director assured the farmers of every possible support from the department, including both technical and financial assistance under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes. He encouraged farmers to adopt high-yielding flower varieties, modern techniques like drip irrigation, mulching, raised-bed farming and integrated pest management (IPM), which can enhance productivity and profitability in hilly terrains.

# DLSA Reasi organises series of legal awareness events

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**REASI:** Under the leadership of the Chairman, District Legal Services Authority, Reasi (also Pr. District and Sessions Judge) Khalil Choudhary and the guidance of Secretary Pooja Gupta, an awareness programme on "Prohibition of Child Marriage" was held at Legal Aid Clinic Channa Neosi, Tehsil Mahore by the Para Legal Volunteers (PLVs) of TLSC Mahore.

The participants were sensitized to the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006. The PLVs highlighted that child marriage is a social evil that adversely affects the health, education and overall development of children, particularly girls.

The PLVs also made the public aware about the role of the Legal Services Authorities in providing free legal aid and

assistance to the needy and marginalized sections of society. The participants were encouraged to report instances of child marriage and seek legal assistance through the Legal Services Institutions.

Another awareness programme was organised on NALSA Schemes at Mahore. The participants were informed about the role and functions of the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) and the free legal aid services available for the weaker and marginalized sections of society.

The PLVs sensitized the local residents about their legal rights and the importance of approaching Legal Services Institutions for free legal assistance. Information regarding the welfare schemes, legal aid clinics and the availability of legal help through Legal Services Authorities was also disseminated among

the participants. Another awareness Programme on "Mediation and Role of Legal Aid" was held at Panchayat Ghar Garn, Katra by the Para Legal Volunteers (PLVs) of TLSC. Advocate Rachni Sharma - the Resource Person and sensitized the participants about the importance of mediation as an effective and amicable method of dispute resolution. She also elaborated on the role of Legal Services Authorities in providing free legal aid and assistance to the eligible sections of society, ensuring access to justice for all.

The participants were made aware about the benefits of mediation in resolving disputes peacefully and the availability of free legal services provided by the Legal Services Authorities under the Legal Services Authorities Act.

# Admin hosts grand Intl Women's Day celebration

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**KATHUA:** A grand programme to celebrate International Women's Day was held at Sports Stadium Kathua on Monday, drawing enthusiastic participation from people from across the district.

The programme was organised by the Social Welfare Department in collaboration with the District Administration Kathua as part of the week-long celebration activities held across the district to mark International Women's Day.

Member Legislative Assembly (MLA) Kathua Dr Bharat Bhushan and Member Legislative Assembly (MLA) Jasrota Rajiv Jastrofia graced the occasion and lauded the achievements of women across various fields.

Speaking on the occasion, MLA Dr Bharat Bhushan described the day as a celebration of women achievers who are excelling in diverse sectors and contributing significantly to society.

He said it is the collective duty of every citizen to support and encourage girl child, mothers, sisters and women in every sphere of life so that they can realise their



full potential.

Deputy Commissioner Rajesh Sharma highlighted that the district administration organised a series of activities throughout the week to mark International Women's Day.

"These included awareness drives, health and nutrition camps, sports events, awareness drives and legal and safety sessions aimed at celebrating the strength and

achievements of women," he added. He emphasised that empowering women is essential for building a progressive and inclusive society.

Earlier, a thought-provoking panel discussion featuring women achievers from multiple fields was held. The panelists included SSP Mohita Sharma (IPS), Kangna Gupta (Judiciary), Dr Sulakshna Mengi (Retired Pediatrician), Pooja Devi

and Reva Rani (Entrepreneurs). They shared insights from their journeys, highlighting challenges they overcame and delivered inspiring messages for fellow women to pursue their aspirations with confidence and determination.

The cultural segment of the programme enthralled the audience as budding talent Gayatri Kandley, winner of Voice of Punjab-6, renowned singer Sonali Dogra and daughter of the soil Vibha Bharti, winner of Awaaz Punjab DI, mesmerised the jam-packed Sports Stadium with their captivating performances.

The panelists were felicitated for their achievements and contributions. Young sports achievers including Tania Sharma (Cricket), Anu Sharma (Shooting), Nysa Singh (Kabaddi) and Kamiya Rajput (Karate) were also honoured for bringing laurels to the district.

Among others present were Director Social Welfare Jammu Ranjit Singh; ADC Vishavjeet Singh; CPO Ranjeet Thakur; District Social Welfare Officer Varun Chaudhary, besides other district and sectoral officers and a large number of people.

# Training prog on 'Intelligence Generation' inaugurated

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**JAMMU:** A two-day training programme on "Intelligence Generation" commenced on Monday at the Zonal Police Headquarters (ZPHQ), Jammu. The training aims at strengthening the analytical and intelligence-gathering capabilities of police personnel.

The programme has been organised by ZPHQ Jammu for officers and officials from different districts of the Zone. The programme was inaugurated by the Staff Officer to IGP Jammu, Shamsheer Hussain, who highlighted the importance of

strengthening intelligence capabilities at the field level to effectively deal with emerging security challenges.

During the 2-day training programme, the experts from different security and intelligence organisations shall deliver 8 sessions covering the fundamentals of intelligence in policing, sources of information and basic intelligence tradecraft. The resource persons would include officers from the IB, MI, RAW, BSF (G Branch) and CID. The sessions are designed to familiarise trainees with the role of intelligence in supporting investigation, prevention of crime and operational decision-making.

The training will also broadly focus on development and handling of information sources, intelligence collection methods and an overview of technical and digital aspects of modern policing. The trainees would further be introduced to basic analytical techniques used in intelligence assessment, threat evaluation and inter-agency coordination, particularly in the context of security and counter-terrorism related challenges.

The programme forms part of the capacity-building initiatives of Jammu Police, aimed at enhancing the professional skills of its personnel in intelligence collection and analysis.

# Security scenario reviewed at critical establishments

**DODA:** Additional Deputy Commissioner Sunil Kumar Bhutyal convened a meeting today to review the security arrangements at critical infrastructure and important establishments in the Sub Division Bhadrawah.

The meeting reviewed safety measures at Sub District Hospital, Radio Station Bhadrawah, Fire and Emergency Service station, BSNL Exchange, Repeater Station Thuba, besides Fuel stations and Gas Agencies. The ADC directed the concerned authorities and management of the establishments to strengthen security measures by installing additional CCTV cameras, strengthening barricades, increasing deployments and developing fencing around the premises to safeguard these important facilities.

# CRPF organises Blood Donation Camp

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

**RAMBAN:** In the run-up to the 87th Anniversary of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), the 84 Battalion CRPF in collaboration with District Hospital Ramban organized a Blood Donation Camp at the Tactical Headquarters Boom, Chanderkote.

More than 25 personnel of the 84 Battalion CRPF voluntarily donated blood, demonstrating their commitment to humanitarian service.

The camp was inaugurated by First Lady N. Gayabati Devi in the presence of Commandant 84 Battalion CRPF N. Ranbir Singh, Second-in-Command Vikram Singh, Assistant Commandants Roop Ram Meena and Shree Ram Meena along with other personnel of the battalion.

Medical Officer Dr. Parvez Ahmed Katoch and other officials from District Hospital Ramban, along with Medical Officer Dr. Biranmol Singh and the paramedical staff of the 84 Battalion CRPF,



successfully conducted the camp. Entrusted with the responsibility of maintaining internal security across the vast and diverse nation of India, the CRPF has been serving the country with dedication and commitment. The Force was presented with its Colour by the then Home Minister Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel on March 19, 1950. The camp was organized under the theme "Give Blood, Give Hope - Together We Save Lives."

Speaking on the occasion, Commandant

Ranbir Singh appealed to people to voluntarily donate blood regularly, emphasizing that it helps save the lives of accident victims, cancer patients and patients undergoing surgeries, while also ensuring a steady and safe supply of blood for those in need.

He also assured the officials of District Hospital Ramban that whenever required in the future, the 84 Battalion CRPF would readily come forward to donate blood for needy patients.

# Floriculture Deptt organises training programme

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**DODA:** The Department of Floriculture, Parks and Gardens on Monday organised one-day training for farmers in commercial floriculture cultivation. The programme was held at Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Bhadrawah under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) and Agricultural Technology

Management Agency (ATMA).

A group of 45 farmers including women farmers from different parts of District Doda participated in the programme and received practical as well as technical guidance in commercial floriculture. The training aimed to promote scientific cultivation of flower crops and encourage farmers to adopt floriculture as a viable source of income.

Scientists Dr Neeraj Kotwal and Dr Arvind Raina delivered detailed lectures on the modern practices in the cultivation of different flower crops. They shared field experiences with the farmers to enable them to enhance productivity and improve the quality of flowers.

Assistant Floriculture Officer, Arjun Singh Parihar also addressed the farmers and informed them about

the government schemes being implemented by the department for the promotion and development of commercial floriculture in the district.

Later, the participating farmers were taken on a field visit to the Aromatic Plants Nursery at Seeri, where they were provided practical exposure to different techniques related to nursery establishment and management.