

DDC Krishan Lal reviews developmental priorities for Annual District plan 2026-27

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DODA: District Development Commissioner (DDC) Doda Krishan Lal Tuesday chaired a comprehensive review meeting in the Conference Hall DC Office Complex to assess the implementation of key decisions and streamline developmental planning for the financial year 2026-27.

The meeting was attended by Chief Planning Officer Manesh Kumar; Assistant Commissioner Development Din Mohd Afaq; District Social Welfare Officer Zubair Ahmed and officers from the line departments.

The meeting held detailed deliberations on the formulation and finalization of the District Capex Budget plan for 2026-27. Emphasis was laid on aligning departmental priorities with the overall developmental goals of the district, ensuring need-based planning and avoiding duplication of works.

The DDC stressed the importance of timely preparation of plans, prioritization of high-impact projects and optimal utilization of available resources to achieve inclusive and balanced development across all blocks and sectors of the district.

Additionally, the DDC reviewed



the ongoing works with a clear direction to ensure their completion within stipulated timelines while maintaining prescribed quality standards.

The progress and allocation of funds under the Constituency Development Fund (CDF) were also reviewed. The DDC instructed concerned departments to expedite the execution of approved works and ensure transparency and accountability in fund utilization.

The meeting also reviewed

achievements under key financial inclusion schemes-Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY), Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), Atal Pension Yojana (APY) and Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY). Emphasis was laid on mass awareness through regular outreach activities to ensure maximum coverage of eligible beneficiaries, particularly in rural and underserved areas.

Further, the implementation

of social security and welfare schemes such as Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan (PM-SYMY), Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maandhan Yojana (PM-KMY), National Pension Scheme for traders and self-employed persons and the pension schemes for old age, widows and persons with disabilities was also reviewed. Officers were directed to ensure timely disbursement of benefits and maintain updated beneficiary records.

The progress on the computerization of Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) was also assessed. Directions were issued for accelerating the digitization process to enhance transparency, efficiency and service delivery in the cooperative sector.

In addition, the DDC held plan consultations in light of inputs received from the MLAs, reiterating the importance of incorporating public representatives' suggestions into the planning framework.

Sector-wise review of ongoing and proposed works of key departments including Public Works Department (PWD), Health, School Education (Elementary and Secondary), Youth Services & Sports (YSS) and Municipal Council Doda, MC Bhaderwah and MC Thathri was also undertaken.

Vedic teachings illuminate path of action and true liberation: Swami Ram Swarup

Swami calls for righteous living, highlights relevance of Vedic wisdom

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KATHUA: The serene premises of Ved Mandir, Yol, resonated with spiritual fervour and profound wisdom as the 24th day of the ongoing 78-day-long Yajna dedicated to all four Vedas witnessed an enlightening discourse by Yogacharya Swami Ram Swarup.

Addressing a gathering of devotees and seekers, he delivered a deeply reflective sermon on the significance of actions, the purpose of human life, and the path to ultimate liberation as described in the Vedic scriptures.

Drawing from Rigveda Mantra 1/26/5, Swami Ram Swarup explained that human birth is uniquely positioned as both a realm where one experiences the results of past deeds and a realm where one is empowered to perform actions.

He stressed that while every individual enjoys complete freedom in choosing actions—whether good or bad—there is no freedom when it comes to the consequences. Referring to Yajurveda Mantra 7/48,



he clarified that the results of actions are dispensed solely by the omnipresent, just, and all-knowing God, who governs the universe with perfect balance and fairness.

These same preach has also been delivered by Yogeshwar Shri Krishna Maharaj to warrior Arjun in Bhagwad Geeta shlok 2/47 that Oh Arjun! You are totally free to do any pious or sinful deeds but the result thereof is not under your command/control.

In his discourse, he emphasized that righteous deeds lead to happiness,

peace, and spiritual upliftment, whereas wrongful actions inevitably result in suffering and downfall.

Urging devotees to remain vigilant against negative tendencies, he highlighted the importance of self-discipline, moral responsibility, and conscious decision-making in daily life as described in Vedas.

He further asserted that a true understanding of virtuous conduct can only be attained through the study of the Vedas, which are eternal, divine, and the ultimate source of authentic knowledge.

DLSA Reasi hosts series of awareness events to promote benefits of Lok Adalat

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REASI: Under the visionary leadership of Khalil Choudhary, Chairman District Legal Services Authority Reasi (also Pr. District and Sessions Judge) and the able guidance of Pooja Gupta Secretary, an awareness programme to encourage maximum participation in the upcoming National Lok Adalat was organized today at LAC Chassana.

The PLVs from TLSC Mahore sensitized the participants to the importance, benefits and procedures of National Lok Adalat. The public was informed that Lok Adalat provides an effective platform for amicable settlement of disputes, ensuring speedy justice without incurring heavy litigation costs.

The participants were informed about the types

of cases that can be taken up in Lok Adalat, including matrimonial disputes, motor accident claims, bank recovery cases and other civil matters. Emphasis was laid on the advantages such as finality of awards, no court fees and reduction of case backlog.

Another awareness programme on Labour Rights, Legal Aid and Access to Justice was conducted at Panchayat Karua by the Para Legal Volunteers (PLVs) of TLSC Katra.

The PLVs sensitized the participants about the labour laws, rights of workers, minimum wages and legal remedies available in case of exploitation or denial of rights. Emphasis was also laid on the importance of legal aid services provided by the Legal Services Authorities and how eco-

nomically weaker sections can avail free legal assistance.

A Door-to-door awareness campaign to mobilize public participation for the upcoming Special Lok Adalat was conducted across various areas of the District. The Para Legal Volunteers (PLVs) visited households and interacted directly with the public to spread awareness about the significance and benefits of Lok Adalats. The PLVs informed the residents about the easy, speedy and cost-effective mechanism of dispute resolution available through Lok Adalats, encouraging them to take advantage of this platform for amicable settlement of their cases.

Pamphlets and informational materials were also distributed among the public, highlighting the date and importance of the Special Lok Adalat.

Massive awareness rally taken out in Kathua under 'Nasha Mukh J&K Abhiyan'

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KATHUA: In a major push to the anti-drug campaign, Deputy Commissioner Kathua Rajesh Sharma, Tuesday flagged off a massive awareness rally here from the Zila Sainik Welfare Office organised under the banner of 'Nasha Mukh Jammu & Kashmir Abhiyan'.

The rally witnessed overwhelming participation from officers, ex-servicemen, youth, students, members of civil society and prominent citizens, reflecting a united community resolve against the growing menace of drug abuse. The enthusiastic participants marched through the town carrying placards, banners and awareness messages, while raising powerful slogans advocating a healthy, disciplined and drug-free lifestyle.

Addressing the gathering, the Deputy Commis-



sioner emphasized that the fight against drugs cannot be won by the administration alone and requires active cooperation from every section of society. He

highlighted that awareness at the grassroots level, coupled with strong community participation, is the key to making the campaign truly effective and impact-

ful. Calling upon the youth to stay away from drugs, he urged them to channel their energy towards education, sports, innovation

and nation-building and become ambassadors of positive change in their communities. He also stressed the importance of family support, social vigilance and institutional coordination in ensuring the success of the 'Nasha Mukh Jammu & Kashmir Abhiyan'.

The Deputy Commissioner appreciated the active involvement of ex-servicemen and civil society members, stating that such collective participation sends a strong and inspiring message across the district and strengthens the administration's efforts in creating a safe and healthy social environment.

The rally concluded with all participants taking a solemn pledge to work actively towards the vision of a 'Nasha Mukh Jammu & Kashmir' and to contribute in every possible way towards eliminating the scourge of drug abuse from society.

Activity Plan for Red Cross Day discussed at Bhadarwah

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BHADERWAH: Additional Deputy Commissioner Bhadarwah Sunil Kumar Bhutyal Tuesday chaired a meeting to finalize the Activity plan for World Red Cross Day. The meeting aimed at finalizing the planning, arrangements and overall strategy for the observance of the event on May 8, 2026 across the district.

The meeting was attended by Chief Executive Officer BDA Sanjeev Sharma; SDPO Naveen Qazi; Tehsildar Kamal Preet Singh; Tehsildar Bhalla Mohammad Tahir; AO BDA Manmit Ganjoo; BMO Dr.Varsha Sharma; CDPO Farhat Shamim Khan, Principal Boys and Girls Higher secondary Schools, BDO, Bhalla and other officers, representatives from the Indian Army

and CRPF. After detailed discussions, the meeting finalized the activity plan envisaging awareness programmes, health camps, blood donation drives, first-aid demos etc.

The ADC emphasized mobilizing maximum number of volunteers for blood donation being held in the Sub district. He also reviewed the functioning of blood banks and stressed the need to further strengthen these facilities.

The ADC directed the departments to work in close coordination for the successful organization of the event and maximum public participation. He instructed the Education department to organize Red Cross Day activities and painting competition in all schools to promote awareness.

Arrangements for Mougri mela discussed at Udhampur

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UDHAMPUR: The 3-Day historic Annual Shiv- Parvati Shrine mela at Mougri is commencing from May 15, 2026.

In this regard, a meeting of District Officers of the line departments, besides representatives of the management committee of Lord Shiv Parvati cave shrine Mougri was held today. Deputy Commissioner Udhampur Minga Sherpa chaired the meeting which was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner Prem Singh; Assistant Commissioner Revenue Dr Umesh Shan; Additional SP Sandeep Bhat and other officers.

Threadbare discussions were held on the arrangements related to smooth conduct of the mela, like maintenance of road, deployment of security personnel, besides provisions for sanitation, Health care, Transport, drinking water and power supply. The meeting decided to constitute teams to keep a check on overpricing and quality of edibles, oversee ration supply and prepare a calendar of Cultural activities and sports etc.

The DC directed the concerned officers to ensure all arrangements pertaining to their respective departments are made well in advance, leav-



ing no scope of any complaint from any quarter. Xen PDD was directed to provide uninterrupted power supply till the culmination of the mela.

Executive Engineers PMGSY and PWD were directed to ensure timely filing of the potholes and completion of repair work on the road leading to the Mela Site.

It was decided that District Police would deploy adequate security personnel during mela days while ARTO would deploy a sufficient number of

buses from different locations.

For first aid facilities, the DC directed the Chief Medical Officer to deploy a team of doctors and an ambulance to meet any emergency. The Youth Services & Sports department was asked to organize cultural programmes and sports events at the venue in coordination with the Education department.

The government departments were directed to put up their departmental stalls to sensitize the public regarding flagship government schemes.

Drug awareness camp, rally organised at Bhella under Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyan

THATHRI: In continuation to the ongoing Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyan, two impactful drug awareness programmes, including a mega rally, were organized today at Bhella, sensitizing youth and the general public about the harmful effects of substance abuse.

An IEC (Information, Education and Communication) Drug Awareness session was conducted at Government Higher Secondary School Bhella, where students were educated about the adverse effects of drug addiction on health, education and social well-being.

The speakers emphasized the importance of informed decision-making, healthy lifestyle choices and encouraged students to act as ambassadors of awareness within their communities.

Subsequently, a mega anti drug rally was organized by the students of Moon Light Academy Bhella. The rally commenced from the school premises and passed through the main Bhella market, drawing significant public attention before culminating near the Tehsil Office Bhella.

The programmes witnessed enthusiastic participation from various departments. Medical Officer Dr. Sadeeq Wani; (Tehsildar Gulshan Kumar; Naib Tehsildar Zakir Hussain and In-charge Police Post Anil Kumar along with other officials attended the events. The events concluded with a collective pledge and renewed commitment towards building a drug-free society and ensuring the success of the Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyan.

Shiv Sena's Hanuman Chalisa recitation marks anti-drug pledge

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir unit of Shiv Sena (Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray) organized a collective recitation of the Shri Hanuman Chalisa with devotion and reverence at a Shiva temple in Muthi Block.

A large number of local devotees participated in the event, offering prayers to Lord Hanuman and creating a spiritually uplifting atmosphere.

A key highlight of the program was an anti-drug awareness campaign, during which youths, party workers, and citizens collectively pledged to stay away from drugs and work towards building a drug-free society.

Speakers emphasized that drug abuse not only harms an individual but also destroys families and society, making collective efforts for its eradication the need of the hour.

The event also witnessed growing public support for Shiv Sena (UBT). Influenced by the party's policies and public service initiatives, dozens of local residents, especially youths, joined the party. On this occasion, State President Manish Sahni welcomed the new members with the Shiv Bandhan and party symbols.

He stated, "Shiv Sena is not just a political party, but an ideology dedicated to public service and welfare. The growing trust of the people of Muthi Block reflects that they see Shiv Sena (UBT) as a strong alternative for addressing regional issues."

DC reviews functioning of Kisan Khidmat Centers; Stresses strengthening outreach in remote areas

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KATHUA: Deputy Commissioner Kathua Rajesh Sharma Tuesday chaired a meeting to review the delivery of mandated services by Kisan Khidmat Ghars (KKG) and their role in facilitating farmer-centric initiatives in the district.

The Deputy Commissioner took a comprehensive review of the functioning of the Kisan Khidmat Centres and stressed the need for expanding outreach to benefit the farmers in remote and peripheral areas. He directed the concerned officers and

KKG representatives to actively spread awareness in their respective peripheral areas regarding government welfare schemes, agricultural support services, crop advisory, soil testing, seed and fertilizer availability, crop insurance, PM-KISAN benefits and other farmer welfare programmes.

"The KKGs must function as accessible and reliable support centres for the farmers and ensure prompt redressal of grievances besides guiding them on modern agricultural practices and government interventions aimed at enhancing farm

productivity and income," Rajesh Sharma emphasized.

He further asked KKG operators to maintain close coordination with the Agriculture, Horticulture and allied departments to ensure seamless service delivery and effective implementation of various agricultural development programmes in the district.

The meeting was attended by CPO Ranjeet Thakur; CAO Jatinder Khajuria; SDAOs, representatives from Kisan Khidmat Centres and other officials from Agriculture and allied departments.

DC reviews progress under HADP and functioning of KKGs in Kishtwar

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KISHTWAR: The implementation of Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP), besides the working of Kisan Khidmat Ghard (KKGs) was reviewed today by Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar Pankaj Kumar Sharma at a meeting held here Tuesday.

The Deputy Commissioner conducted a detailed review of the progress achieved in the implementation of flagship interventions under HADP across Agriculture and allied sectors.

The Deputy Commissioner laid emphasis on

timely completion and monitoring of units established under HADP. He directed the field staff and District Officers to ensure that all 6,351 proposed units are established within a period of 10 days. He further warned that any failure to meet the set deadline would invite strict action including seeking explanations from the concerned officials and withholding salaries.

The Nodal Officer KKG was directed to immediately resolve technical glitches in the KKG application to ensure smooth functioning. Additionally, the field staff was directed to closely

monitor KKG activities and ensure submission of daily progress reports without fail.

The LDM was directed to expedite the clearance of all pending credit applications. He was also asked to ensure timely sanctioning of new applications, as this component carries a significant 15% weightage in the overall district ranking under the programme.

The Deputy Commissioner reiterated the importance of coordinated efforts among departments and stressed accountability at all levels to achieve the desired outcomes under HADP and KKG.