

## DC reviews progress of NRLM, directs enhanced coverage of households, SHGs across district

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**JAMMU:** Deputy Commissioner Doda Krishan Lal Saturday chaired a review meeting to assess the progress of the National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) and the functioning of Self Help Groups (SHGs) across the district. The meeting, held in the Mini Conference Hall of the DC Office Complex, Doda, focussed on financial inclusion, household mobilisation, SHG formation, livelihood promotion and implementation of NRLM initiatives.

During the meeting, officials reviewed job card holders' status, household census records, target versus achievement of household coverage, formation of Self Help Groups and village-wise progress under NRLM.

The Deputy Commissioner examined block-wise performance including the percentage of household coverage, village saturation and achievements against prescribed targets.



The Deputy Commissioner urged officials to enhance NRLM outreach, particularly in Doda Town and Thathri, where greater registration and mobilisation efforts are required and directed that all villages and panchayats be brought under the ambit of NRLM to ensure that no eligible beneficiary is left out. The meeting also reviewed the performance of Self Help Groups in income-generating activities, entrepreneurship development, community mobilisation and women empowerment, along with financial assistance extended to SHGs, bank linkage, credit flow and the status of bank loans across various blocks. The progress of the Lakhpati Didi initiative was reviewed as well, with emphasis on creating sustainable livelihood opportunities and enhancing household incomes through skill development

and enterprise promotion.

The Deputy Commissioner instructed the departments concerned to furnish updated lists of Self Help Groups, monitor their performance regularly and identify successful SHGs for recognition and replication of best practices. He emphasised healthy, viable and sustainable functioning of SHGs by strengthening capacity-building, promoting financial literacy and facilitating timely access to institutional credit and directed officials to conduct regular field monitoring, improve coordination with banking institutions and intensify awareness campaigns to maximise community participation under NRLM.

Among those present were Chief Planning Officer Doda Manesh Kumar Manhas, Assistant Director Planning Kishore Kumar, officials of banking institutions and other stakeholders associated with the implementation of NRLM in the district.

## ARTO, police hold joint enforcement-cum-awareness drive on NH-44 in Udhampur

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**UDHAMPUR:** The Motor Vehicles Department, Udhampur in coordination with J&K Police conducted a joint enforcement-cum-awareness drive to ensure compliance with transport regulations and promote passenger safety.

ARTO Udhampur Muddasir Iqbal and SHO Chenani Nishant Gupta headed the joint team. The team carried out enforcement checks along the NH-44 stretch from Udhampur to Chenani, focusing on violations related to overloading, overcharging and other provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act.

During the drive, the team inspected transport vehicles operating on the highway and advised operators to adhere strictly to traffic and transport regulations. The officers



said overloading of vehicles not only violates the law but also threatens the safety of passengers and other road users.

The team subsequently visited the Chenani area including Bus Stand/Mini Bus Stand Chenani, where they interacted with commuters, local residents and transport operators and heard public griev-

ances regarding transportation services. The officers assured that genuine concerns would be addressed promptly.

The team also conducted an awareness campaign among drivers and vehicle operators, sensitising them against overcharging and carrying passengers beyond permitted capacity and urged trans-

porters to display responsible conduct and provide safe, fair and efficient services to the public.

ARTO Udhampur reiterated the department's commitment to a safe and commuter-friendly transport system, adding that strict action would continue against violators alongside awareness and public outreach.

## On the Eve of Int'l Yoga Day, Balwant Thakur shares global success story

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**JAMMU:** In celebration of the International Day of Yoga, Natrang organized a special interactive talk show at its studio theatre featuring eminent theatre personality and cultural ambassador Balwant Thakur, who shared inspiring experiences from his global journey of promoting yoga and highlighted its extraordinary impact across continents.

Addressing a gathering of yoga enthusiasts, students, artists, and cultural practitioners, Balwant Thakur reflected upon the historic moment when the United Nations, in 2014, unanimously adopted India's proposal to declare 21st June as the International Day of Yoga.

At that time, Thakur was serving with the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), Ministry of External Affairs—the premier organization entrusted with taking India's rich cultural heritage, including yoga, to the world.

During his tenure as a Cultural Diplomat of India earlier in South Africa and later in Mauritius, Thakur played a pivotal role in expanding the reach of yoga among diverse communities.

He described yoga as one of the most powerful instruments of India's soft power, transcending geographical, linguistic, religious, and cultural



boundaries to unite humanity through the universal message of health, harmony, and inner peace.

Sharing vivid memories from the COVID-19 pandemic, Thakur emphasized that yoga emerged as a beacon of hope during one of the most challenging periods in modern history. As fear, uncertainty, and isolation gripped societies worldwide, millions turned to yoga for physical fitness, emotional resilience, mental well-being, and spiritual strength.

Indian Cultural Centres across the globe conducted extensive virtual yoga sessions, workshops, and wellness campaigns, connecting with people in every corner of the world.

These initiatives witnessed unprecedented participation and significantly enhanced global awareness about the therapeutic and preventive benefits of yoga.

Thakur also narrated fascinating anecdotes about organizing massive International Day of Yoga celebrations at iconic venues such as the Wanderers Stadium in Johannesburg, South Africa, and the historic Apravasi Ghat in Port Louis, Mauritius.

These landmark events attracted thousands of participants and demonstrated yoga's remarkable ability to bring people together in a spirit of collective well-being and cultural appreciation.

## Krishan Lal reviews pending revenue court cases, stresses timely legal action



**DODA:** Deputy Commissioner Doda Krishan Lal convened a meeting to review the status of pending revenue court cases.

Among those present were District Litigation Officer Doda Mohd Shaban Attu and Standing Counsels representing Doda, Bhaderwah and Gandoh/Thathri.

The meeting focused on assessing the progress of ongoing litigation and devising measures for effective handling of revenue-related cases.

The Deputy Commissioner reviewed pending cases before various courts and called for timely filing of replies, objections, affidavits and other legal pleadings.

He observed that delays in responding to court proceedings could result in adverse judgments against the Government and affect the interests of the Revenue Department and directed that complete and updated case records be maintained for effective representation

before the courts.

The Deputy Commissioner directed all officers and Standing Counsels concerned to strengthen coordination and ensure prompt sharing of case-related documents and revenue records and instructed revenue officers to extend full support to legal representatives by providing necessary inputs and factual reports within stipulated timelines. Every case should be pursued diligently, with proper legal scrutiny and regular follow-up, to ensure favourable outcomes in matters concerning government land and revenue administration.

The Deputy Commissioner called for regular monitoring of all pending revenue cases and periodic review of their progress. He reiterated the administration's commitment to safeguarding government interests and directed all stakeholders to adopt a proactive approach in addressing legal challenges.

## Pre-celebration of Yoga Day observed at GGHS Pul Doda

**DODA:** As part of the pre-celebration activities of the 12th International Yoga Day 2026, Government Girls High School (GGHS), Pul Doda, organised a Yoga Awareness and Practice Session on its campus with participation from students, teachers, staff members and community representatives.

The programme was conducted under the guidance of Incharge Headmaster Indu Bhushan, with Yog Guru Anil Thakur attending as the special guest and resource person.

The event commenced with an introductory session on International Yoga Day and the role of yoga in promoting a healthy lifestyle, mental well-being, emotional balance and fitness. Yog Guru Anil Thakur spoke on the role of yoga in reducing

stress, improving concentration and fostering harmony between mind and body and demonstrated various yoga asanas, pranayama techniques and meditation practices. Students, teachers and community members participated in the session under his guidance, gaining an understanding of the benefits of regular yoga practice for physical fitness and mental peace.

Incharge Headmaster Indu Bhushan appreciated the organising team and thanked Yog Guru Anil Thakur for conducting the session. He encouraged students to make yoga part of their daily routine to lead healthy and disciplined lives.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks to the special guest, staff members and participants.



## Over 300 vacancies offered at job fair organised by District Employment & Counselling Centre, Samba



**SAMBA:** A job fair was organised by the District Employment & Counselling Centre, Samba to provide employment opportunities to jobseekers of Samba district.

A total of 15 companies participated in the job fair and collectively offered more than 300 vacancies across various sectors. The participating companies included Cadila Pharmaceutical Ltd, Zeiss Pharma Ltd, ITC Ltd, Jai Beverages Pvt Ltd, BD Security, RAXA Security, Jammu Motors Pvt Ltd and other recruiters, offering job opportunities in sectors such as industry, pharmaceutical, agriculture, security and sales.

The job fair saw participation from more than 400 job seekers, who attended to explore employment opportunities and interact with company representatives.

MLA Surjit Singh Salathia encouraged youth and job seekers present at the event to participate actively in the job fair and take advantage of the employment opportunities offered. He said such initiatives provide a platform for unemployed youth to interact directly with recruiters, showcase their skills and secure employment.

Assistant Director Employment Samba, Naresh Kumar advised youth to register on the Mission YUVA ([www.missionyuva.jk.gov.in](http://www.missionyuva.jk.gov.in)) portal to avail government schemes for the welfare of unemployed youth. He said registered candidates become eligible to apply for subsidised financial assistance schemes including Nano, MSME in Sunrise & Focus sectors and the Existing Enterprises scheme and can also apply for jobs online through the portal.

## GHSS Latti hosts awareness programme under NMBA

**UDHAMPUR:** A programme on mental health, stress management, anxiety and personal hygiene under the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan was organised Saturday at Govt Higher Secondary School Latti. Sub Divisional Magistrate Duda Dr Manmeet Kumar was special guest at the event. The programme was organised under the guidance of Principal Diwan Kundal, in which Dr Hardeep Kumar, MD, DM (Neurology) and Dr Sandeepa, MBBS, PG (Community Medicine) were the resource persons.

The SDM addressed the students on career counselling and the importance of sports. Dr Hardeep Kumar spoke on stress management, anxiety and mental health, mindful mobile phone usage and importance of reading physical books. He also spoke on physical exercise, good nutrition and proper sleep. Dr Sandeepa spoke on the importance of hygiene and conducted a separate lecture for girls and female staff on personal health and hygiene, addressing their queries. In his vote of thanks, Principal Diwan Kundal requested the resource persons to visit for such programmes in future as well and thanked SDM Duda Dr Manmeet Kumar for addressing the students.

## Farmers join PM-KISAN Instalment Live Broadcast at SKUAST-Jammu

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**JAMMU:** Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Jammu, today organized a live screening programme of the release of the 23rd instalment of the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Jammu under the leadership of Prof. B.N. Tripathi, Vice Chancellor.

The chief guest, Dr. Gharu Ram Bhagat, MLA, Suchetgarh, appreciated the efforts of KVK Jammu and SKUAST-Jammu in reaching out to farmers with scientific knowledge and practical solutions.

He emphasized the transformative role of PM-KISAN and other farmer welfare schemes in strengthening rural livelihoods and ensuring agricultural prosperity.

Welcoming the participants, Dr. Amrish Vaid, Director Extension, SKUAST-Jammu, emphasized the significance of PM-KISAN in providing direct income support to farmers and strengthening the agricultural economy.

He highlighted SKUAST-Jammu's commitment to technology dissemination, capacity building, and farmer empowerment through its network of Krishi Vigyan Kendras.

In his address, Dr. S.K. Gupta, Director Research, SKUAST-Jammu, elaborated upon the university's research achievements and farmer-centric innovations aimed at enhancing productivity, climate resilience, and income generation. Gul Sayed, Director Horticulture, emphasized the immense potential of the horticulture sector in the Union Territory and encouraged farmers to diversify into high-value fruit and vegetable cultivation for better economic returns.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Anil Koul, Joint Director, Sheep Husbandry Department, underscored the role of integrated farming systems involving crop-livestock enterprises in enhancing farm income and sustainability.

Dr. Aman Jyoti, Joint Director, SLUB, Department of Agriculture, highlighted various initiatives



being implemented for sustainable land use and natural resource management in Jammu and Kashmir.

Arun Jaral, Sub-Divisional Agriculture Officer, encouraged farmers to adopt improved agricultural technologies and recommended integrated nutrient management practices for enhancing productivity and profitability.

Addressing the gathering, Vinod Khajuria, Dis-

trict Agriculture Officer (Extension), stressed the need for greater awareness regarding government welfare schemes and urged farmers to avail themselves of the benefits offered under various agricultural development programmes.

The participants subsequently viewed the live webcast of the Hon'ble Prime Minister's address and the release of the 23rd instalment of PM-KISAN,

through which financial assistance was transferred directly to eligible farmers across the country.

The programme concluded with a formal vote of thanks presented by Dr. Punit Choudhary, Chief Scientist & Head, KVK Jammu, who expressed gratitude to the dignitaries, scientists, officials, and participating farmers for making the event successful.