

DC Kishtwar finalises arrangements for Shri Krishna Janamashtami

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, AUG 08

Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar Pankaj Kumar Sharma chaired a meeting today in the DC Office Complex to finalise arrangements for the upcoming Shri Krishna Janamashtami and Shoba Yatra.

The meeting was attended by SSP Kishtwar Naresh Singh, district officers, and representatives from Sanatan Dharma Sabha Kishtwar.

The Deputy Commissioner directed departments to ensure adequate arrangements for security, sanitation, medical facilities, drinking water and other essential amenities.

SSP Kishtwar apprised the meeting of the elaborate security measures, including the deployment of additional security personnel along the Shoba Yatra route.

The Deputy Commissioner also emphasised the need for a traffic management plan with alternate routes for diversions to ensure a smooth passage for the procession. Authorities were instructed to repair streetlights and hotspots in the town to prevent inconvenience to the public.

PHE and PDD authorities were directed to provide uninterrupted water and electricity supply during the festival, with water tankers arranged at identified locations. Tehsildar Kishtwar, SHO Kishtwar and EO of



the Municipal Council Kishtwar were tasked with conducting market checks with enforcement teams to monitor overcharging and food quality.

The concerned authorities were also directed to clear and repair roads along the procession route. Fire and Emergency authorities were asked to remain prepared to handle any eventuality.

CMO Kishtwar was instructed to deploy an ambulance and medical staff with first aid facilities during the processions.

Representatives of religious organisations and trusts submitted details of areas requiring assistance from the district administration and police and offered suggestions for a smooth celebration of the festival.

The event began with students planting saplings on the school campus, each taking responsibility for nurturing and watering their plants.

Following the drive, Dr. Kirti, Programme Officer, delivered a session on Mission LiFE objectives and sustainable living practices. Mr. Anil, Range Officer, JKDEERS, spoke on the ecological importance of trees and their role in combating climate change.

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To generate awareness about the Har Ghar Tiranga campaign under the aegis of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, Shaheed Inspector Kamal Singh Government Model Higher Secondary School Boys Udhampur today organised a Tiranga rally with the participation of students and staff.

Additional Deputy Commissioner Prem Singh flagged off the rally from the school, in the presence of Additional SP Sandeep Bhat and other officers.



Hundreds of students and staff carried the National Flag through Bus Stand, Slathia Chowk, Ramnagar Chowk and Gole Market, before concluding at the DC Office Udhampur. Speaking on the occasion, the ADC said the rally aimed to sensitise the public

about the campaign. He urged participants to take part actively and appealed to residents to hoist the National Flag at their homes.

Plantation drive, Mission LiFE awareness programme held at KC International School

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, AUG 08

The Department of Ecology, Environment & Remote Sensing (DEERS) EIACP Hub Jammu & Kashmir today organised a plantation drive under the national initiative "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" along with a Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) awareness programme at KC International School, Jammu.

The event began with students planting saplings on the school campus, each taking responsibility for nurturing and watering their plants.

Following the drive, Dr. Kirti, Programme Officer, delivered a session on Mission LiFE objectives and sustainable living practices. Mr. Anil, Range Officer, JKDEERS, spoke on the ecological importance of trees and their role in combating climate change.



Over 150 students, teachers, and DEERS-EIACP staff participated. The event concluded with the Mission LiFE pledge, reaffirming commitment to environmentally responsible lifestyles.

The programme formed part of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change's EIACP framework to promote climate resilience and environmental conservation.

Satish inspects FCI Godowns, Fair Price Shops, food establishments, street vendors, hotels in Srinagar

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 8:

In continuation of government's intensified campaign to ensure food safety and quality standards across Jammu and Kashmir, Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Satish Sharma, today led a comprehensive inspection drive in various parts of Srinagar. The inspection covered Food Corporation of India (FCI) godowns, fair price shops, hotels, restaurants and street food vendors.

The Minister was accompanied by Director, FCS&CA, Dr. Owais Ahmad, senior officers from the Food Corporation of India, Food Safety Department and Legal Metrology Department.

Satish Sharma began his visit at the FCI godowns, where he reviewed the storage infrastructure, stock handling procedures and sanitation standards. He stressed that every stage of grain handling—from unloading to storage to distribution—must strictly adhere to prescribed quality control norms. There is absolutely no room for negligence. The safety and quality of these supplies is non-negotiable," he said.

He directed the officials to conduct regular internal audits, ensure pest control and proper ventilation and maintain accurate stock records to prevent wastage and pilferage.



The Minister then visited multiple fair price shops, where he interacted with shopkeepers and beneficiaries under the Public Distribution System (PDS). He checked stock registers, verified availability of ration and inspected the quality of grains and other commodities. He emphasised the need for complete transparency in distribution and warned that any irregularities in quantity, quality, or pricing will invite immediate suspension of licenses and legal action.

Given recent reports and seizures of adulterated and unsafe meat in Kashmir, Satish Sharma carried out surprise inspections of hotels, restaurants and street vendors. These checks focused on meat sourcing, storage conditions, hygiene practices in kitchens and the freshness of raw materials being used.

Concerned by the threat such practices pose to public health, the Minister issued a strong warning. "Those involved in the storage, usage, or trade of adulterated meat are putting lives at risk. This is not a minor violation—it is a criminal act. I want to make it absolutely clear: the government will take strict and immediate punitive action against all offenders, including sealing of premises, cancellation of licenses and prosecution under relevant food safety and public health laws."

He also condemned the practice by some violators of dumping spoiled meat in abandoned places to evade penalties, calling it an unacceptable and dangerous tactic that will not shield them from legal consequences.

Satish Sharma directed the enforcement squads to maintain heightened vigilance, especially in sensitive areas, and to carry out round-the-clock surprise inspections of high-risk establishments.

Jammu Municipal Corporation intensifies street light repair drive

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, AUG 08

Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) has launched a special city-wide drive to expedite street light repairs and maintenance, aiming to ensure all public areas are well-lit for improved safety and convenience. Dedicated camps have been set up in every ward to register complaints about faulty street lights. Citizens can also lodge complaints through the JMC online portal.

Dr. Devansh Yadav, Commissioner, Municipal Corporation Jammu, inspected the Gandhinagar ward camp, accompanied by former councillors. He interacted with staff and residents and directed officials to resolve all complaints within 15 days.



Dr. Yadav urged citizens to participate actively by reporting faulty lights either at camps or online. He said timely repairs are vital for both public convenience and security. The initiative combines on-site and digital complaint systems to ensure efficient grievance redressal and maintain the city's lighting network.

Aakansha Haat culminates successfully in Ramban, promoting products and entrepreneurship

RAMBAN, AUGUST 8:

The 7-day Aakansha Haat programme concluded successfully today in Ramban. Deputy Commissioner Mohammad Alyas Khan graced the valedictory ceremony as the Chief Guest, where he felicitated all the participating entrepreneurs, Self Help Groups (SHGs) and departments for their contribution in making the event a grand success.

Chief Planning Officer Dr Shakeeb Ahmed Rather, Assistant Commissioner Panchayat Mohammad Ashfaq, GM DIC Ravinder Anand, BDO Ramban Shalini Chandel and other district officers and prominent citizens were present.

The event showcased the vibrant entrepreneurial spirit and cultural richness of the region. A variety of stalls featured locally made products such as handicrafts, handloom items, organic food products, agro-products, traditional spices, woollens, honey, pickles and floor and decoration tiles.



Each exhibit reflected the dedication and skill of local farmers, SHGs and artisans working under different departments, who sold their products at their stalls. A special focus was placed on women and youth entrepreneurs from aspirational blocks who impressed buyers with their innovation and confidence, highlighting the success of convergence under the Aspirational Blocks Programme of NITI Aayog.

The Aakansha Haat not only boosted local enterprise but also strengthened community engagement, making it a memorable platform for empowerment, collaboration and cultural pride in Ramban.

The Deputy Commissioner conducted a thorough review of all arrangements, including venue decoration and seating, to ensure the smooth conduct of the main event. The main Independence Day function is scheduled to be held at DPL Ramban, where the Chief Guest will unfurl the National Flag and take the salute at the ceremonial march-past by various contingents.

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, AUG 08

Deputy Commissioner Ramban Mohammad Alyas Khan today chaired a comprehensive meeting to finalise arrangements for the upcoming Independence Day 2025 celebrations and the ongoing Har Ghar Tiranga campaign across the district.

The meeting was attended by Senior Superintendent of Police Arun Gupta, SSP Traffic NHW Raja Adil Hamid Ganaie, ADC Varunjeet Singh Charak and other key officers from the district administration, police and allied departments. The purpose was to ensure a well-coordinated, timely and dignified celebration of the national event.

Reviewing the progress of the Har Ghar Tiranga campaign, the Deputy Commissioner called for maximum public participation and directed the concerned officers to ensure the successful execution of all scheduled mega events.



Special emphasis was laid on flawless parade and cultural programme rehearsals, attractive decoration and maintaining cleanliness at the venue to ensure the smooth conduct of the main event. The main Independence Day function is scheduled to be held at DPL Ramban, where the Chief Guest will unfurl the National Flag and take the salute at the ceremonial march-past by various contingents.

Reviewing the progress of the Har Ghar Tiranga campaign, the Deputy Commissioner called for maximum public participation and directed the concerned officers to ensure the successful execution of all scheduled mega events.

The SSP briefed the meeting regarding arrangements made by the Police Department at the venue, besides suggesting various measures to ensure safe, smooth and peaceful Independence Day celebrations across the district. The SSP Traffic also briefed the meeting on the traffic plan for the event.