

SKUAST-K joins ICAR-NCVTC Network as Mycoplasma Repository

JAMMU BULLETIN NEWS
SRINAGAR, MAR 13:

In a move that cements Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technologies of Kashmir's status as a premier research institution, varsity's Faculty of Veterinary Sciences & Animal Husbandry Shuhama has been formally inducted into the Indian Council of Agricultural Research's National Centre for Veterinary Type Culture (ICAR-NCVTC) network.

The prestigious national recognition designates the Veterinary Faculty Shuhama as a specialized repository unit for Mycoplasma cultures, positioning SKUAST-K at the forefront of national efforts to combat economically important livestock diseases.

The inclusion was formalised during the XIVth Annual Review Meeting of the ICAR-NCVTC Network Project held



at the NASC Complex, New Delhi.

The meeting was chaired by Dr Raghavendra Bhatta, Deputy Director General, Animal Science, ICAR, and

attended by Dr Divakar Hemadri, ADG Animal Health; Dr TK Bhattacharya, Director, ICAR-NRCE, and Dr RK Vaid, Head of Division, NCVTC. As a designated repository

unit, the Mycoplasma Laboratory at Shuhama will play a vital role in the collection, identification and preservation of veterinary pathogens. The collaboration is set to sig-

nificantly enhance the university's research capacity and its contribution to national biosecurity.

Dr Mohammad Iqbal Yattoo, Associate Professor, Division Veterinary Clinical Medicine, has been designated as the Principal Investigator (PI) for the unit.

Vice Chancellor SKUAST-Kashmir, Prof Nazir Ahmad Ganai, congratulated the veterinary scientists particularly Dr Yattoo, for their dedicated efforts.

"The development is a matter of great pride for SKUAST-Kashmir," Prof Ganai stated. "Our inclusion in the ICAR-NCVTC network is a testament to the growing research excellence and national relevance of our university. It reinforces our commitment to addressing critical challenges in animal health at a national and global level", he added.

Directorate of Agriculture Kashmir organizes Valley-Wide Training Program on Scientific Beekeeping



JAMMU BULLETIN NEWS
SRINAGAR, MAR 13:

In a significant initiative to promote beekeeping as a viable livelihood option and equip beekeepers with the latest scientific practices, the Directorate of Agriculture Kashmir today launched a comprehensive seven-day training program on Scientific Beekeeping across the Kashmir Valley.

The program was inaugurated by Director Agriculture Kashmir, Sartaj Ahmad Shah, at Directorate hall Lalmandi Srinagar. The training at Lalmandi serves the central districts, while parallel sessions are being conducted for North Kashmir at the Faculty of Agriculture, Wadura, and

for South Kashmir at the DAK Bungalow, Anantnag.

The training aims to acquaint existing and aspiring beekeepers with modern, scientific methods of apiculture, including colony management, disease prevention, honey extraction techniques, value addition of hive products, and strategies to enhance pollination services for better crop yields, particularly in oilseed and horticultural crops.

Sartaj Ahmad Shah, while inaugurating the program at Lalmandi, emphasized the importance of scientific beekeeping in boosting rural economies, generating employment opportunities, and supporting sustainable

agriculture in the region. He highlighted that beekeeping not only provides additional income to farmers but also plays a crucial role in enhancing biodiversity and agricultural productivity through improved pollination.

The seven-day program features expert-led sessions, practical demonstrations, and interactive discussions covering all aspects of modern beekeeping practices tailored to the agro-climatic conditions of Kashmir. Participants include progressive farmers, youth entrepreneurs, and established beekeepers from various districts of the Valley.

This initiative aligns with the broader goals of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir to diversify agricultural activities, promote allied sectors, and empower rural communities under various developmental schemes.

The Directorate of Agriculture Kashmir invites interested beekeepers and stakeholders to actively participate and benefit from this capacity-building effort.

76 Bn. CRPF convenes Free Medical camp at Channi Rama

JAMMU BULLETIN NEWS
JAMMU, MAR 13:

A free Medical Camp under Civic Action Programme- 2025-26 was organized today by 76 Bn. CRPF at Shri Guru Ravidas Community Hall, Channi Rama. The main objective of the medical camp was to provide free health care to the needy people of the area and make them aware about healthy lifestyle. Kamal Singh Jamwal (former Corporator Channi Rama) inaugurated the Medical Camp in presence of Vezoto Tinyi, Commandant- 76 Bn. CRPF. The Commandant appealed to people of the area to do physical exercises regularly to remain fit. Dr. Monica Paul, CMO (SG) of 76 Bn. CRPF conducted free medical check-ups of around 270 civilians and provided free medicines. The initiative drew positive response and was received well by the locals with the urge that CRPF to organize such camps in the future also.

Agriculture Department Kishtwar organizes live streaming of PM-KISAN installment release

JAMMU BULLETIN NEWS
KISHTWAR, MAR 13:

The Department of Agriculture Kishtwar organized today organised live streaming of the release of 22nd installment of the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) scheme by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, at the national event held in Assam. The event, held at the office of Chief Agriculture Officer, witnessed active participation from the farming community and officials of the Agriculture Department.

The programme was graced by the Deputy Commissioner Pankaj Kumar Sharma, who attended as the chief guest.

While addressing the gathering, the Deputy Commissioner highlighted the importance of government initiatives aimed at strengthening the financial stability of farmers and encouraged farmers to take full advantage of schemes launched for their welfare. The CAO Kushal Chandel informed that around 25,000 farmers of District Kishtwar have benefitted under the PM-KISAN scheme and an amount of approximately 75 crore has been disbursed directly into the bank accounts of farmers through the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode under the 22nd installment. More than 100 farmers from different parts of the district participated in the event and watched the live telecast of the Prime Minister's address. The farmers appreciated the continued support being provided under the PM-KISAN scheme. Officials from the Agriculture Department also interacted with the farmers and provided information regarding various ongoing agricultural schemes and initiatives aimed at improving productivity and sustainability in the sector.

Mission YUVA: Potential Entrepreneurship Mela organized at Pahalgam

JAMMU BULLETIN NEWS
ANANTNAG, MAR 13:

Department of Employment, Anantnag in collaboration with Sub-Divisional Administration Pahalgam, today organised a Potential Entrepreneurship Mela under Mission YUVA at Town Hall Pahalgam. The event was attended by SDM Pahalgam, Qaiser Mehmood as Chief Guest and was also attended by District Employment Officer (DEO), officers from various line departments, representatives from banks, members of Team Mission YUVA and aspiring entrepreneurs. Addressing the gathering, the DEO briefed about the objectives and opportunities being provided under Mission YUVA, emphasizing the importance of youth entrepreneurship and self-employment initiatives launched by the Government. During the programme, representatives from various banks assured youth of timely processing and disbursement of financial assistance under Mission YUVA. The highlight of the program was the successful entrepreneurs sharing their inspiring stories and motivating youth to take up entrepreneurship as career option. Speaking on the occasion, SDM Pahalgam urged the youth to actively avail the benefits of Mission YUVA and encouraged them to explore self-employment opportunities under different government schemes. He asked the bank representatives to ensure disbursement in respect of all pending eligible cases so that the youth are provided meaningful employment in a time bound manner. He further advised the successful entrepreneurs to serve as ambassadors for motivating others and become catalysts for effective implementation of the flagship initiative. Earlier, the SDM inspected the stalls installed by the concerned departments and financial institutions associated with implementation of Mission YUVA and other self-employment schemes. The event served as an important platform to connect youth with financial institutions and concerned government agencies.

Mega Awareness Programme on Intergenerational Bonding held at CCI Palaash Reban

JAMMU BULLETIN NEWS
BARAMULLA, MAR 13:

A one-day Mega Awareness Programme on Intergenerational Bonding was successfully organized by the Department of Social Welfare Baramulla at CCI Palaash, Reban Rafiabad on March 12, 2026. The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from a large number of senior citizens and members of the local community. Various activities were organized during the event to encourage interaction, understanding, and bonding between different generations. As part of the programme, a plantation drive was conducted within the premises to promote environmental awareness and responsibility among participants. Several indoor recreational games including chess, carrom, and table tennis were also organized, which provided an opportunity for friendly interaction and engagement among participants of different age groups.

DC Doda reviews arrangements for Eid-ul-Fitr, Navratra celebrations



JAMMU BULLETIN NEWS
DODA, MAR 13:

Deputy Commissioner Doda, Krishan Lal, accompanied by SSP Sandeep Kumar Mehta, today convened a comprehensive meeting with officers of line departments and representatives from civil society to review preparedness for the celebration of Eid-ul-Fitr and the holy festival of Navratra.

The meeting discussed key arrangements required to ensure smooth and peaceful observance of the festivals across the district. Detailed deliberations were held on drinking water supply, power availability, security arrangements, traffic regulation, cleanliness, stray animal management, availability of essential commodities and market monitoring.

During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner directed the Public Health Engineering (PHE) Department to ensure an adequate and uninterrupted supply of potable drinking water during the festive period.

The Power Development Department (PDD) was instructed to maintain uninterrupted power supply, particularly during peak hours.

The Police Department was asked to put in place robust security arrangements and maintain necessary vigilance at important locations, while the ARTO was directed to ensure proper traffic regulation and smooth vehicular movement in busy market areas.

The Municipal Council Doda was tasked with maintaining cleanliness and sanita-

tion in and around the towns, markets and religious places. The CA&FCS Department was directed to ensure adequate availability of food grains and other essential commodities in the markets and to strictly enforce sale at government-approved rates.

The Deputy Commissioner Doda also emphasized the need for effective monitoring and directed the formation of supervisory squads and monitoring committees to check overpricing, maintain hygiene standards and ensure compliance with regulations during the festive period.

The meeting was attended by district officers, representatives of various line departments, President of Sanatan Dharma Sabha Doda, members of the Serat Committee Doda, representatives of the Butcher Association and other stakeholders.

Discussions also covered security arrangements, drinking water and power supply, traffic management, cleanliness of markets and slaughterhouses, fire and emergency services preparedness, availability of essential commodities and deployment of deputy magistrates to ensure smooth conduct of the upcoming festivals.

District Admin Bandipora Celebrates Jal Arpan Diwas under Jal Mahotsav Pakhwada

JAMMU BULLETIN NEWS
BANDIPORA, MAR 13:

As part of the ongoing Jal Mahotsav Pakhwada, the District Administration Bandipora celebrated Jal Arpan Diwas at two Water Supply Schemes (WSS) in the district today.

The programmes were organised at WSS Konan Babagund in Block Arin and WSS Pehlipora Chandergar, where the completed water supply schemes were formally handed over to the local communities for operation and maintenance.

Officials from the Jal Shakti Department, (Hydraulic) Division Bandipora, along with representatives of Panchayati Raj Institutions and local residents, participated in the events.

During the programmes, speakers highlighted the



objectives of the Jal Jeevan Mission and emphasised the importance of community participation in the operation and maintenance of water supply schemes to ensure sustainable and reliable drinking water services under the Har

Ghar Jal initiative. Awareness sessions and demonstrations on water quality testing were also conducted to sensitise the public about the importance of safe drinking water and regular monitoring of water quality.

DC Kishtwar reviews progress under UT Capex 2025-26

JAMMU BULLETIN NEWS
KISHTWAR, MAR 13:

Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar, Pankaj Kumar Sharma today chaired a comprehensive review meeting through virtual mode to assess the progress of the developmental works being executed under the UT Capex Plan 2025-26 across the district.

The Deputy Commissioner took a detailed review of the ongoing infrastructure projects aimed at strengthening administrative functioning and improving public service delivery across the district.

The projects discussed included the construction

of Tehsil Office Machail, Tehsil Office Mughal Maidan, SDM Office Marwah, Tehsil Office Drabshalla and Naibat Offices at Palmar, Dool, Dedpeth and Saroor along with several other important developmental initiatives.

He directed the Sub-Divisional Magistrates and Tehsildars to closely monitor the performance of executing agencies and ensure that the pace of work on ongoing projects is accelerated. He expressed disingenuity over slow pace of work on some projects and directed to take stringent action against executing agencies responsible for the delay. The Deputy

Commissioner also directed all concerned officers to remain stationed at Sub Division Marwah. "Every officer and official must stay at their respective offices, especially in the far-flung areas of Sub-Division Marwah and Sub-Division Paddar, failing which strict action will be taken against them," he cautioned. Further, the Deputy Commissioner directed all the concerned executing agencies to complete all works by March 31, 2026.

The meeting was attended by all concerned SDMs, Tehsildars, Executive Engineers, Accounts Officer DC Office Kishtwar and other officers.

Gender Targeting & Inclusion Sensitisation workshop under JKCIP held at Kathua

DC Rajesh Sharma stresses greater participation of women in agriculture, allied sectors

JAMMU BULLETIN NEWS
KATHUA, MAR 13:

A Gender Targeting and Inclusion Sensitization Workshop under the Jammu and Kashmir Climate Innovation Programme (JKCIP) was today organised at the Office Complex of the Chief Agriculture Officer, Kathua, to strengthen gender-inclusive approaches and promote enhanced participation of women in agriculture and allied sectors.

Deputy Commissioner Rajesh Sharma was the chief guest. Addressing the participants, the DC underscored the huge potential for empowerment of women in agriculture and allied sectors. He observed that women play a vital role in sustaining rural livelihoods and enhancing agricultural productivity, adding that sensitization initiatives of this nature would help create equitable opportunities and encourage greater participation of women in development processes.

The workshop was attended by Chief Horticulture Officer, Chief Animal Husbandry Officer, Scientist and Head Krishna Vigyan Kendra, District Social Welfare Officer, District Development Manager NABARD, Lead District Manager, District Sericulture Officer, District Employment Officer and Cluster Head JK



Bank. Chief Agriculture Officer Jatinder Kumar Khajuria delivered the welcome address and highlighted the objective of the workshop. He emphasised the significant role played by women in the agriculture sector in Kathua district, noting that women contribute extensively to farming activities, agri-based enterprises and value addition. He stressed the need for institutional support, capacity building and access to resources to further strengthen their role.

During the technical sessions, Head Krishna Vigyan Kendra Dr Vishal Mahajan, along with scientists Dr Narinder Pal and Dr Anamika Jamwal, besides the District Sericulture Officer, delivered lectures on gender mainstreaming, inclusive agricultural practices and opportunities for women entrepreneurs in agriculture and allied sec-

tors. The workshop witnessed participation from officers of the line departments, departmental staff and other stakeholders.

Women entrepreneurs and members of Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) also participated in the event and put up stalls showcasing their activities. They shared their experiences and perspective on strengthening women-led agricultural initiatives.

Prominent women entrepreneurs and women officials were felicitated by the Deputy Commissioner in recognition of their contributions.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks presented by Assistant Soil Conservation Officer Kathua, Murari Lal Digna, who expressed gratitude to the chief guest, resource persons and participants for their support in making the workshop successful.

DDC Anantnag reviews progress of RDD Sector

JAMMU BULLETIN NEWS
ANANTNAG, MAR 13:

To assess the physical and financial progress of Capex and Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) implemented by RDD in the district, District Development Commissioner (DDC) Anantnag, Dr. Bilal Mohiud Din Bhat on Thursday chaired a review meeting at Dak Bungalow, Khanabal.

During the meeting, the DDC conducted a comprehensive review of key rural development programmes, including MGNREGA Scheme, PMAY(G), RGSA, Panchayat Ghars, Common Service Centres (CSCs) and other works being executed under District Capex, UT Capex and MPLADS.

Reviewing implementation of MGNREGA, the DDC assessed both physical and financial progress, including workforce participation and key performance indicators under the scheme. It was informed that out of 9412 works taken up during 2025-26, 7686 have been completed and 31.44 lakh PDs were generated.

The DDC laid emphasis on maintaining transparency in execution of works besides timely completion of approved projects. On PMAY-G, the meeting was informed that 324 landless beneficiaries in the district were identified under the AWAASPlus PWL Survey; land was allotted for 31 of those by revenue authorities and houses have been sanctioned in their favor. Further, 276 cases were rejected after verification, and 17 cases are



presently under consideration. The DDC directed concerned officers to expedite the resolution of pending cases and ensure that eligible beneficiaries receive housing assistance without delay.

In connection with RGSA, the meeting discussed initiatives aimed at strengthening Panchayati Raj Institutions through capacity building, improved governance practices and institutional strengthening at the grassroots level. The DDC stressed the effective utilization of RGSA funds for enhancing the functional capacity of Panchayats.

The progress of Panchayat Ghars and Common Service Centres (CSCs) for the financial year 2025-26 was also reviewed. Officials briefed the chair that against a target of 58 Panchayat Ghar Works, 54 have been allotted, 47 taken up and 30 stand completed/hand-

ed over indicating a progress of 64 against taken up works. Similarly, 30 CSCs have been completed/handed over out of total 48 taken up against a target of 59 CSCs.

On Initiative of Panchayat Learning Centres (PLCs), one is partly operational and 4 more have been nominated in FY 2025-26. Advances made on Panchayat Advancement Index (PAI), which aimed at evaluating governance performance of Panchayats across various development indicators, were also discussed. Taking stock of works under District Capex, UT Capex and MPLADS, the DDC stressed strict adherence to timelines, quality standards and effective monitoring of projects. He directed officers to remove bottlenecks and ensure developmental benefits reach rural communities in effective manner.