

Yasha Mudgal reviews functioning of Registrar Cooperative Societies

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Commissioner Secretary, Cooperative Department, Yasha Mudgal, on Saturday chaired a review meeting at the Civil Secretariat to evaluate the overall functioning and performance of Registrar Cooperative Societies.

She assessed progress on various key initiatives of the Cooperative Department being implemented across the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir.

Registrar Cooperative Societies, presented a detailed overview followed by three-hour discussion on implementation and outcome of multiple schemes and programmes aimed at strengthening and modernizing the cooperative sector.

It was informed that a total of 1,921 Cooperative Societies are registered under the J&K Cooperative Societies Act, 1989 while 4,305 Cooperatives fall under the J&K Self-Reliant Act, 1989. Over 80 percent of these institutions are currently functional, underscoring the department's ongoing efforts to improve the operational efficiency and sustainability.

The Commissioner Secretary was briefed on transforming Primary Agricultural Credit Societies



Commissioner Secretary, Cooperative Department, Yasha Mudgal chairing a meeting.

(PACS) into multipurpose entities to broaden their service offerings and bolster grassroots cooperatives. This includes adoption of uniform Common Bye-Laws and Centrally Sponsored computerisation of PACS for enhanced transparency and service delivery. In the first phase, 537 PACS have been computerized with 171 additional PACS slated for the second phase.

She was apprised of the integration of Primary Agriculture Cooperative Societies (PACS) with flagship national schemes such as Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samridhhi Kendra (PMKSK), Pradhan Mantri Jan Aushadhi Kendra (PMJAK) and Common Service Centres (CSC).

Yasha Mudgal emphasized that these initiatives must deliver tangible benefits to the

grassroots level and the general public through cooperative institutions.

She assessed progress achieved under the Cooperative Infrastructure Development Fund (CIDF) and Cash Credit Limit (CCL) schemes with directions to the officers to ensure wide publicity of these programmes. She specifically called for targeted outreach to unemployed youth to raise awareness on available opportunities, encouraging their participation.

In the micro food processing domain, it was informed that 35 units were established and made functional during the financial year 2024-25, contributing to local value addition and employment generation. An additional 45 units have been proposed for the current financial year to further promote rural entrepreneurship and agro-based

activities.

Yasha Mudgal underscored the critical need for regular monitoring of the financial health of cooperative societies and timely audits to uphold transparency, accountability and fiscal discipline. She directed the Deputy Registrars to compile comprehensive data on all registered cooperatives including financial performance, profit margins and annual turnover to support evidence-based policy-making and effective oversight.

Highlighting emerging opportunities, she instructed the Deputy Registrars to develop district-wise roadmaps for promoting fisheries related cooperative activities to enhance livelihoods and rural economies. She also emphasized expanding honey production across the districts, given its strong eco-

nomie potential for cooperative enterprises.

The officers were tasked with identifying suitable land parcels in each district for establishing cold storage facilities under World's Largest Grains Project to improve post-harvest management, minimize wastage and strengthen agricultural value chains.

The Commissioner Secretary stressed the importance of identifying dormant or inactive societies and initiating a systematic review for their winding up and liquidation/de registration as per prescribed norms, ensuring that only active and viable cooperatives remain operational.

The meeting was attended by Mohammad Shafiq Chak, Registrar Cooperative Societies, J&K; Ulfat Jabeen, Special Secretary, Cooperative Department; Director Finance, Cooperative Department; Additional Registrar Cooperative Societies (Jammu) and other senior officers of the department.

DAJ celebrates International Women's Day



Director Agriculture Jammu Anil Gupta felicitating staff member.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Department of Agriculture Production and Farmers Welfare Jammu on Saturday organized a mega function to celebrate International Women's Day at the Conference Hall, Directorate of Agriculture, Jammu (DAJ).

The programme was inaugurated by Director Agriculture Jammu Anil Gupta in the presence of senior officers and staff of the department.

Speaking on the occasion, the Director said that the main aim of observing International Women's Day was to celebrate and acknowledge the crucial role played by women in ensuring the sustainability and growth of the agriculture sector.

He highlighted that women Self Help Groups and pro-

gressive women farmers are making remarkable contributions in agricultural activities, agri-entrepreneurship and allied sectors, thereby strengthening rural livelihoods and improving farm productivity.

The Director further appreciated the dedication and hard work of women employees of the Agriculture Department, stating that their commitment and professionalism significantly contribute to the efficient functioning of the department and the successful implementation of various developmental programmes for farmers.

During the programme, Vriti Uppal, Accounts Officer, along with other female officers of the Directorate, highlighted the significance of International

Women's Day and expressed gratitude to the Director Agriculture Jammu for recognizing and appreciating the achievements and contributions of women employees in the department.

On the occasion, women officers and staff members of the department were also felicitated and awarded in recognition of their achievements, dedication and outstanding service in the agriculture sector.

Among others, Ashwani Sharma, Joint Director Agriculture (Inputs), Aman Jyoti Sharma, Joint Director Agriculture (Farms/SLUB), Sanjeev Rai Gupta, Deputy Director (Central)/Agriculture Chemist Jammu, sectoral heads, senior officers and women officers and staff of the department attended the function.

Initiate strict action against drug peddlers, organised criminals: SSP Jammu to officers



SSP Jammu, Joginder Singh chairing a meeting.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Sr. Superintendent of Police Jammu, Joginder Singh, conducted a casual inspection-cum-meeting with officers of Sub-Division Domana and Akhnoor.

The meeting was attended by SP Rural Jammu, SDPO Domana, SDPO Akhnoor, SHOs of Domana and Akhnoor, In-charge Police Posts, Investigating

Officers, readers and office staff.

During the meeting, the SSP reviewed the security scenario and crime disposal and directed officers to maintain heightened vigilance, intensify patrolling and conduct surprise nakas. He also stressed ensuring proper security of religious places, critical installations and other sensitive locations.

The SSP emphasized time-bound investigation and disposal of cases, strict action against drug peddlers and organised criminals, and effective implementation of new criminal laws, including provisions of Zero FIR and e-FIR.

Special focus was laid on the effective use of NAFIS, Google Sheets, IRAD, ICJS and NATGRID portals for improving policing efficiency and coordination. Officers were also advised to maintain proper turnout, professional body language and courteous behaviour while dealing with the public. He further stressed quality investigation, utilisation of FSL services, progress on CCTNS and citizen-centric policing, reiterating zero tolerance against drugs, corruption, crime burking and indiscipline.

DLSA organises awareness programme at MIET

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Jammu under the aegis of Jammu & Kashmir Legal Services Authority and in collaboration with MIET School of Law Jammu organized a vibrant celebration of International Women's Day at MIET School of Law, Jammu on Saturday.

The programme was graced by the presence of Justice Sanjeev Kumar, Judge of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh and Executive Chairman of Jammu & Kashmir Legal Services Authority, as the Chief Guest.

Justice Sanjeev Kumar inaugurated the Awareness Programme and highlighted the significance of women in shaping the future of the nation.

In his inspiring address, Justice Sanjeev Kumar

emphasized the pivotal role of women in nation-building and the judiciary's commitment to gender justice. He highlighted landmark legal reforms empowering women and urged collective efforts to eradicate gender disparities, stating, "Empowering women is not just a moral imperative but the cornerstone of a progressive society."

Addressing the Law students, he stressed that Law students who are the future of the legal fraternity must follow the basic imperatives of the Constitution including Equality among Men and Women.

R. N. Watal, Chairman District Legal Services Authority (Principal District & Sessions Judge) Jammu extended a warm welcome to chief guest, other dignitaries and participants.

He commended the col-

laborative effort and emphasised the importance of the role played by the Legal Services Institutions in bridging the gap of Gender Equality.

In her keynote address, Shazia Tabassum, Member Secretary, Jammu & Kashmir Legal Services Authority highlighted the Authority's ongoing initiatives to empower women through free legal aid, awareness campaigns on gender justice and support for survivors of domestic violence and discrimination. She stressed that Women are the backbone of our society and ensuring their access to legal rights is not just a duty but a commitment to true democracy.

The programme was attended by Anusya Jamwal, Adl. District Magistrate Jammu, Maleeka Sharma, Secretary District Legal

Services Authority Jammu and Director MIET Jammu Ankur Gupta. Muzamil Hayat Kabli, Under Secretary, J&K LSA, Legal Aid Defence Counsels and Panel Lawyers of DLSA Jammu were also present on the occasion.

The programme featured a rich array of cultural performances, including a cultural show by MIET College students; soulful recital of poem by specially abled student of Residential School of Visually impaired; a musical dance drama on women empowerment by students of Child Care Institutions Palash and Parisha, R.S. Pura; a compelling Nukkad Natak by the cultural wing of the Information Department on women empowerment and a graceful dance performance by Mahira Tandon.

On the occasion, Justice

Sanjeev Kumar distributed the appreciation certificates to the participants and congratulated them for this vibrant effort. His Lordship was also felicitated on the occasion.

Later, Maleeka Sharma, Ld. Secretary DLSA Jammu concluded the proceedings with a vote of thanks. She expressed profound gratitude to the chief guest for his inspiring presence; to the Management of the College; and to all dignitaries, officials, staff and students for their invaluable cooperation.

With active participation from over 200 attendees including students, legal professionals and community members, the programme reinforced DLSA Jammu's ongoing mission to empower women through education and outreach, paving the way for sustained initiatives.

ABAP organizes awareness camp for jail inmates

STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: In view of International Women Day celebration Akhil Bharatiya Adhivakta Parishad (ABAP) in collaboration with District Legal Service Authority (DLSA) organized an awareness program in the premises of District Jail Udhampur today.

According to reports state president Adhivakta Parishad Advocate Vandana Mehta was the chief guests while Advo. Sushma Sharma state vice-president, Advo Pawan Handa, Advo Sunny Mahajan Adv Manoti Gupta were guest of Honor. Speaking on the occasion number of spokespersons said that ever year this day being celebrated with great fervor and gaiety in order to create awareness and empowered women. On 8th



ABAP and DLSA members during an awareness programme.

March it was declared as a global event dedicated to celebrating women's achievements and fostering discussions around gender equality. While stressing on the celebration of Women's Day, she informed the gathering that one of the key aims of International Women's Day is to highlight the social, economic, cultural, and political accomplishments of women.

Education and awareness are central to addressing

these inequalities. She further informed that on the eve of International Women's Day, schools often hold workshops and seminars where students learn about both historical and contemporary female role models. However, Adhivakta Parishad has chosen this august day to interact with the female inmates of District Jail, Udhampur to listen to their grievances so as to project the same before

appropriate fora. She further added that International Women's Day serves as a rallying point for activists and community leaders to advocate for policy changes ranging from laws against workplace harassment to reforms that support women's health and education. Social media campaigns also play a vital role, allowing individuals worldwide to join conversations about equality and female empowerment.

She further stated that progress in women's rights is not solely a women's issue, but a collective responsibility. She further stated that while dedicating a day to celebrate the significant contributions of women and to educate society about the challenges they face, International Women's Day stands as a powerful symbol of hope and resilience.

It reminds us that ensuring women have the same rights and opportunities as men benefits not only women themselves but also families, communities, and economies at large. In essence, this day propels the global community toward a more inclusive and equitable future, where every individual regardless of gender can thrive and succeed.

Others who were present on the occasion include Adv Shallu Khajuria, Adv Arushi Mahajan, Adv Akanksha, Adv Sejal, Adv Mehreen and Shravi Verma and many more.

DHJ reviews physical, financial achievements under various schemes



Director Horticulture Jammu Gul Syed chairing a meeting.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Director Horticulture Jammu Gul Syed on Saturday chaired a meeting to review the physical and financial achievements under CAPEX, HADP, CSS, JKICP and NABARD schemes for the financial year 2025-26.

During the meeting, the participants presented district-wise progress reports and discussed strategies for further strengthening horticulture development in the Jammu Division with special focus on maximizing the

impact of flagship schemes. The progress achieved under various developmental schemes being implemented by the Department of Horticulture was also reviewed in detail.

The Director took a comprehensive review of both physical and financial achievements and directed the officers to ensure timely completion of all ongoing works and effective implementation of schemes on the ground for the benefit of farmers.

The Director emphasized

maintaining close coordination with field functionaries and stressed the importance of achieving the set targets within the stipulated time frame. He also instructed the officers to intensify field visits and ensure that the benefits of government schemes reach the farming community in a transparent and efficient manner. The meeting was attended by CHOs along with other senior officers from the Planning, Accounts and Technical Sections of the department.

Two specialized courses concludes at SKPA



Deputy Director SKPA Udhampur, SSP Benam Tosh presenting certificate to participant.

STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: Two specialized courses on investigation of UAPA cases and cyber-crimecases concluded here today with a grand valedictory ceremony presided over by SSP Benam Tosh Deputy Director S.K Police Academy Udhampur.

The course on investigation of cases registered under Unlawful Activities

(Prevention) Act was sponsored by Police Headquarters (PHQ) J&K, whereas course on Investigation of Cyber Crime cases was sponsored by Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre, MHA, New Delhi.

A total of 42 police officers including two officers of the rank of ASP & Inspector belonging to Manipur Police

and Telangana police respectively participated in the said courses. The objective of designing the speciality courses was to enhance professional investigating skills of police officers, to apprehend and get convicted terrorists & cyber criminals as also to bring to justice supporters, sympathisers, aiders & abettors of terrorists.

Addressing the officers on

the occasion, Deputy Director stressed the need for maintaining credibility and objectivity during investigations of UAPA&cyber-crime cases and for conducting in-depth investigations with utmost sincerity so that no anti-national element or cyber-criminal involved directly or indirectly in the commission of crime goes scotfree. He congratulated the officers for undergoing these specialized courses.

The course certificates were presented to the participants by Deputy Director in the presence of Course Directors Vivek Kalsotra and Mohd.Ashraf, where SSP Benam Tosh advised the participants to maintain credibility during investigations so as to secure convictions and win public confidence.

NATF organises Tiranga Rally in Nowshera, Rajouri



NATF Chairman Vishal Chopra leading Tiranga Rally.

STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: The National Anti-Terrorism Front (NATF) organised Tiranga rallies in Sunderbani, Nowshera and Rajouri during a visit led by its National

Chairman Vishal Chopra on Saturday.

The NATF team received a warm welcome from local residents during their visit to the region. Senior members accompanying the chairman

included Virander Mahajan, Anshuman Chopra, Abhishek Kapoor, Bimal Sabharwal, Harish Raina, Dr. Sonia Verma, Baldeep Kour, Avleen Kour, Simarjot Singh, Er Arshad Nawaz Khan,

maintaining close coordination with field functionaries and stressed the importance of achieving the set targets within the stipulated time frame. He also instructed the officers to intensify field visits and ensure that the benefits of government schemes reach the farming community in a transparent and efficient manner. The meeting was attended by CHOs along with other senior officers from the Planning, Accounts and Technical Sections of the department.

The visit highlighted NATF's commitment to promoting national integration, countering terrorism and mobilising citizens in support of peace, unity and security across the country.