

# Union MoS visits Jammu; Reviews working of J&K Forest Department

## About 16.94 lakh tree saplings worth Rs 29.61 cr planted on 4775 ha of identified landscape

**JAMMU, FEBRUARY 12** : Union Minister of State for Environment, Forest and Climate Change and Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Ashwani Kumar Choubey, who is on a two day tour to the Union Territory, today reviewed the working of J&K Forest Department in a high level meeting held here.

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Roshan Jaggi and other senior officers participated in the meeting.

Union Minister emphasized to promote the concept of Nagar Vans in Jammu and Kashmir aimed to enhance the tree cover outside forests besides extension of biodiversity and ecological benefits to urban and pre-urban areas. He appreciated the involvement of PRI representatives, local people, NGOs, school children, NCC and NSS cadets, Paryavaran/Van Mitras, eco guides, paramilitary forces and other stakeholders around all the Gram Panchayats and villages besides Urban Local Bodies in afforestation and other activities.

During the meeting, different issues concerning the projects supported by Central Ministry (MoEFCC) were brought to the notice of the Union Minister by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests. These included release of funds under Nagar van scheme, Green India

Mission and Forest fire Protection and Management scheme.

The PCCF (HoFF) also apprised the Union MoS of the progress, made so far, to achieve the targets under different deliverables assigned by the government especially under the flagship programs like Green J&K Drive, Har

Mission (GIM), which is one of the eight Missions outlined under the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) with an aim of protecting, restoring and enhancing India's diminishing forest cover and responding to climate change by a combination of adaptation and mitigation measures.

Corporations, out of these, 43 ULBs have been covered under the NRVY scheme and the work on remaining 37 is under progress. During the current financial year, Rs 98.3 lakh have also been released to combat forest fires under 'Forest Fire Prevention and Management' scheme.



Gaon Hariyali, Ped Lagayen Beti Ke Naam, One Village One Beat Guard Program, Van Se Jal, Jal Se Jeevan, Demarcation and Strengthening of Forest Boundaries in J&K.

It was informed that, presently, a number of Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSSs) are operational in J&K with 100 per cent support from Centre government like Green India

Besides, a total of 4775 hectare of identified landscape has been covered and planted with 16.94 lakh tree saplings at a cost of Rs 29.61 crore, so far. It was further informed that, J&K Forest Department has decided to develop at least one Nagar Van/Nagar Vatika in each ULB of the UT under the Nagar Van Yojna J&K. Besides, there are 80 ULBs which include 02 Municipal

Later, the Union MoS also inspected one of the Nagar Vans in Roop Nagar area of Jammu City and planted a sapling there.

Pertinently, the Forest department has been given the ever highest target of planting 175 lakh plants during 2023-24 both on forest and non-forest land with the active involvement of local people and PRI representatives.

# Members of OBC Samaj call on Lt Governor

**JAMMU, FEBRUARY 12** : Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha met the delegation of Other Backward Classes (OBC) Samaj at Raj Bhawan, today.

The delegation comprised of political leaders and prominent citizens expressed gratitude to the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and J&K Administration for reservations in Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) and Panchayats in the UT.

It is for the first time OBCs will have reservations for grassroot democratic rep-



resentation. Sh Sunil Prajapati, J&K President BJP OBC Morcha; Sh Rash Pal Verma, National Secretary BJP OBC Morcha;

Sh Raj Kumar Tarkhan, General Secretary OBC Morcha; Sh Sajad Kumar, General Secretary OBC Morcha from Kulgam; Retd

Brig Vijay Sagar Dhiman; Sh Ramesh Kumar, ex-Sarpanch and other members of the community were present during the interaction.

# Pr Secy Culture assesses functioning of Archives, Archaeology and Museums Deptt

**JAMMU, FEBRUARY 12** : Principal Secretary Culture, Suresh Kumar Gupta, chaired a meeting to review the operations of the Archives, Archaeology, and Museums (AAM) Department in Jammu.

Director AAM, J&K, Raj Kumar Katoch; Director Finance in Culture Department, S. Satnam Singh; Special Secretary Culture, Trishala Kumari; Assistant Director, AAM Jammu, Dr. Sangeeta Sharma; Assistant Director AAM Kashmir, Mushtaq Ahmad Beigh and other concerned attended the meeting in person and via online mode.

During the meeting, Director AAM, RK Katoch delivered a comprehensive presentation, outlining the department's activities and various operational facets, including archives repository, archival records, reference libraries, and museums.

A significant focus of the meeting was dedicated to the status of protected monuments across Jammu and Kashmir, emphasizing their numbers and the ongoing conservation efforts.

Principal Secretary highlighted that out of the 495 heritage monuments listed by

mental structures were discussed, with specific attention to the Scheme for

it was noted that Additional District Development Commissioners (ADDCs) in



the Government of India, 56 have been undertaken for preservation by the Archaeological Survey of India through Central Act notification.

Additionally, 54 monuments have been identified under JK Act notification, with a total of 110 monuments currently undergoing preservation work.

Specialized schemes aimed at the conservation and preservation of monu-

Revival, Restoration, Preservation, and Maintenance and Heritage Jammu and Kashmir.

Principal Secretary Gupta emphasized the importance of public awareness regarding the rich heritage and cultural legacy of Jammu and Kashmir. He directed officers to disseminate information about JK heritage monuments to the public to foster greater appreciation and understanding. Furthermore,

all districts have been appointed as nodal officers, tasked with expediting restoration efforts within their respective jurisdictions.

Also, Suresh Kumar conducted an on-site inspection of various sections of the AAM office at Old Secretariat Mubarak Mandi, including the Archives Reference Section, Historic Documents Section, and State Archives Repository Jammu.

# GMS Ghou Manhasan organises exposure visit to food Craft Institute Jammu

**JAMMU, FEBRUARY 12** : To provide exposure to basic vocational skills of Hospitality and Protocol under NEP-2020, Government Middle School Ghou Manhasan organized a field visit for students of upper primary classes to

Food Craft institute Nagrota Jammu. Principal GHSS Ghou Manhasan (Cluster Head), Renuka Nagpal, flagged off the trip in presence of staff members. The faculty members of FCI Jammu aware students about various vocational and skill

based courses run by the institute and provide career counselling regarding Hospitality and Protocol. The students toured the institute and visited various departments of the institute. The trip was organized under the Vocational Education inter-

vention of the Directorate of Samagra Shiksha JK UT. The Incharge Middle school Ghou Manhasan on behalf of school Education Department JK UT thanks Principal of institute, Jyoti Bhati for making the visit successful.

# Will bring back era of development, peace in J&K : Azad Promises free electricity, ration for poor

**Rajouri Feb 12** : Chairman DPAP, Ghulam Nabi Azad, today addressed a mammoth crowd at the public meeting in Kalakote, Rajouri. He fervently appealed for peace and unity while committing to fostering job opportunities and development, drawing parallels to his impactful tenure as Chief Minister. Azad highlighted his significant contributions to the development of Rajouri, including the establishment of a medical college and the sanctioning of crucial infrastructure projects such as roads, hospitals, districts, and schools.

He said, "If you believe my government was the best in last 75 yrs, then lend me your support. Together, we can achieve even greater milestones, including the creation of more jobs, roads, hospitals, bridges, and provisions such as free electricity for the needy." Azad expressed his commitment to addressing poverty and ensuring access to essential services. He emphasized, "Despite my efforts, poverty still persists, and many struggle to afford electricity bills.

Therefore, if entrusted with power, we will provide free electricity to those in need." Azad reaffirmed his commitment to reinstating the Roshni scheme, citing its significant benefits for the underprivileged. He said, "While acknowledging any misuse of the scheme, the

person would be adversely affected. Our priority is to safeguard the rights and welfare of poor and needy." Azad emphasized the importance of Hindu-Muslim unity and urged public to support leaders who prioritize humanity and development for all, regardless of religion or

others who were present in the meeting were Vice chairman Mr. GM Saroori, General secretary RS Chib, Gen Sec Anita Thakur, Chief spokesperson Salman Nizami, state secretary Sunita Arora, Zonal President Gharu Ram, Provincial Vice president Adv. Ashok Sharma,



government should have taken appropriate action. However, the scheme has undeniably uplifted many impoverished families." Azad also highlighted his party's stance on land eviction orders, stating, "We vehemently protested against such orders to ensure that no poor

caste. Azad remarked, "In a hospital, we do not inquire about the religion or caste of the blood we need. Similarly, why should we divide people based on such distinctions during elections? I vow to never discriminate and work tirelessly for the progress and upliftment of all." Among

Women wing president Prabha Salathia, Masood Choudhary state secretary, Sr DPAP leader Arun Sharma, Lovely Gupta state secretary, Zonal president Zahid Malik, Distt President Sushil Sharma, Anirudh Raina, Gourav chopra, Khurshid Janam & others.

# Tirupati Balaji Temple Superintendent R.C.Subramaniam and temple office in-charge Ramesh Babu visited the famous Shri Raghunath temple

**Jammu, February 12** : On Monday, Tirupati Balaji Temple Superintendent R.C. Subramaniam and temple office in-charge Ramesh Babu visited the famous Shri Raghunath temple of Jammu and saw Lord Shri Ram ji and saw every part of the temple complex.

After taking blessings of Lord Shri Ram Ji, Superintendent R.C. Subramaniam and Ramesh Babu toured the entire temple complex and sang praises of the temple after seeing its

beauty. He said that Jammu is a city of temples and he had the good fortune to have the darshan of Lord Ram in this temple, which left him heartily satisfied. He said that Raghunath temple has been constructed very beautifully. On this occasion, as per the instructions of Brigadier RS ??Langh Dharma Trust Head, Ashok Kumar Sharma Secretary, Superintendent R.C. Who honored Subramaniam and Ramesh Babu by giving them a picture and chunni of Lord



Shri Ram? During this time, social worker and others were present with him.

# Preeti Saproo Bollywood Actress and Director visited Shri Bawe wali Mata

**Jammu, February 12** : Preeti Saproo Bollywood Actress and Director visited Shri Bawe wali mata and paid obissance and performed hawan at Bawe wali mata She was accompanied by Ch Sushpaul Singh Prabhari Bharat Tibet Samvad Manch Rss JK UT, Ladakh and Himachal Pradesh , Dr Sumeet Gupta Chairman Jai Durgaamba Charitable Trust, Dr Mukti, Geeta Devi, Vandana kalsotra Suresh shastri, Ashok ,etc



# Secretary Revenue chairs Public Darbar at Shopian Advocates collaborative efforts for overall growth, development

**SHOPIAN, FEBRUARY 12** : Secretary, Revenue, Prassana Ramaswamy G, today chaired a mega public darbar here to assess the public grievances and demands besides reviewing development works being executed in the district.

The participants apprised the Administrative Secretary of their development issues, seeking timely intervention for redressal of the same.

Prominent issues and concerns raised during the event included, protection wall for fruit Mandi Aglar Shopian, upgradation of Animal Husbandry, Zainapora, marriage hall and parking space in the town, providing of maternity and children hospital for Shopian, playfield for Kaprin, improvement in condition of roads, water facility in Chitragam and adjacent villages, power supply challenges, augmentation of public health infrastructure, road Connectivity, construction of incomplete roads, dilapidated condition of roads, repair of irrigation canals, upgraded facilities in SDH, availability

of veterinary facilities and dispensaries for the local population. Secretary, responding to issues raised during the programme, assured the public that all their grievances and demands

adherence to guidelines while extending benefits of government services to the common masses. He gave specific instructions to the concerned officers to come up with the expectations of



would be addressed in a timely manner. DDC, Chairperson, Bilqees Jan, SSP, Shopian, Tanushree, Additional District Development Commissioner, Dr. Nasir Ahmed Lone, Deputy Commissioner, Dr. Zakir Hussain Faaz, SDM Zainapora, DDC, members, besides other senior officers were present on the occasion. Secretary exhorted upon the officers to ensure strict

the general public for redressing their genuine issues on priority. Reaffirming administration's commitment towards addressing every grievance promptly, Secretary said, " it has always been out endeavour to assess and address the public grievances and demands in priority to provide a good governance to the public. Secretary commended the awareness of locals on the welfare and

development issues besides responsiveness of officers in redressing public issues. He reassured that genuine matters would be addressed through the concerned departments, reiterating the government's steadfast commitment towards development of the district. He also emphasized collaborate efforts of all stakeholders for good of the community and development of the district and the UT as well. DDC, member, Raja Waheed highlighted some issues of public importance including the inclusion of deserving ration card holders and other issues.

Secretary sought feedback about the dug de-addiction and was apprised that health functionaries are on it's toes and also close vigil is being kept on it to eradicate this menace from the society.

Earlier, ADDC, Shopian, Dr. Nasir Ahmed Lone gave brief description of the developmental and other issues.

Besides, Traders Federation, Fruit Growers Association, youth and people in large number participated in the public darbar.