

Dr. Piyush Singla chairs Study Group's meet on Establishment of IT Park in J&K

29XNEWS
JAMMU, OCT 10

Secretary, Information Technology (IT) Department, Dr Piyush Singla chaired the meeting of Study Group constituted for establishment of IT Park in Jammu and Kashmir at Civil Secretariat here today.

The meeting was held to review and deliberate upon the preliminary report prepared for setting up a world-class IT Park in the UT.

During the meeting, members held detailed deliberations on the proposed framework and implementation strategy.

The group decided that the preliminary report shall be revisited in light of the observations and directions issued during the deliberations, and updated accordingly by the Study Group to incorporate all relevant suggestions and refinements.

The meeting further decided that the proposed IT Park shall be developed under the aegis of IIT Jammu, with the report to



be structured in two phases; Phase I: Development under the Higher Educational Institution (HEI) Model, and Phase II: Expansion through Public-Private Partnership (PPP) / Private Investment Model.

The group also decided that the incentive framework for the IT Park shall be aligned with the notified Industrial Policy of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir to ensure uniformity and ease of implementation.

It was also decided that the final report, incorporating all suggestions and

recommendations, shall be submitted to the Government for consideration which will

include an overview tracing the evolution of the IT/ITeS ecosystem in J&K, details of incubatee funds available with various Administrative departments, and recommendations for creation of a Unified Portal to consolidate incubatee funding opportunities across States and Union Territories, drawing upon national models like the DoT's Telecom Incubation Fund. During the meeting, Dr. Singla directed that the Planning department shall provide authentic, validated, and up-to-date data from credible sources like YUVA Report, incorporating both

quantitative and qualitative indicators to support evidence-based planning. He emphasized that data validation points must be clearly defined and cross-verified across all departments to maintain accuracy and consistency.

The Secretary also directed the IT department to initiate Skill Outreach Programmes aimed at enhancing employability and preparing the youth for opportunities in the IT/ITeS sector in collaboration with higher educational institutions and Skill Development department.

CEO, JaKeGA, Mahima Madan; Director General (E&S), Ather Hussain Qadri; Director General, Planning; Showkat Mahmood Malik, Special Secretary, Information Technology Department; Prof. M.T. Arvind and Prof. Anurag Misra from IIT Jammu; Professor from IIM Jammu and Senior Consultant, SeMT, besides other officers and members of the Study Group also attended the meeting.

BJP never offered alliance with NC, Omar Abdullah approached our leaders: Sunil Sharma

'Business Rules file lying with CM office not with LG'
29XNEWS
JAMMU, OCT 10

Leader of Opposition Sunil Sharma on Friday dismissed the National Conference's (NC) claims that the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) was interested in forming an alliance with it, saying it was NC's Chief Minister Omar Abdullah who approached BJP leaders in New Delhi expressing willingness to join hands.

Talking to a news reporter in Jammu, according to news agency Kashmir Indepth News Service (KINS), Sharma said, "We never approached the NC for any alliance. Instead, some NC leaders, including Omar Abdullah, visited BJP leaders in New Delhi and showed interest in forming an alliance.

Tell NC leaders if any BJP leader approached them. It was Omar Abdullah and others who knocked on BJP leaders' doors, offered shawls, and even shared meals." Sharma's remarks came in response to NC's statement that the BJP was willing to form an alliance and would have granted statehood to Jammu and Kashmir if the two parties had joined hands. The BJP leader also clarified that his party was not defending the office of the Lieutenant Governor (LG), as alleged by NC leaders, but was instead

highlighting public issues. "The LG office has approved 97 files passed in 16 cabinet meetings. The business rules file is not with the LG office—it is lying with the Chief Minister's office. The NC leaders are misleading people by saying the file is pending with the LG," Sharma claimed.

He also accused the Omar Abdullah-led government of misusing administrative powers. "The NC government has made over 500 transfers of JKAS officers. They have all the powers, but they are failing to fulfill the promises made to the people. Instead, they keep repeating that statehood has not been restored," Sharma said.

Taking a dig at Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Chowdhary, the BJP leader said he would refrain from making personal remarks. "We don't want to make any inappropriate comments against him since he holds one of the highest positions in the administration. I won't comment on his deeds," he added.

A day earlier, Deputy CM Surinder Chowdhary had criticized Sunil Sharma, saying the NC was not the only party concerned about the restoration of statehood. "Everyone in J&K wants statehood. Sunil Sharma should first explain what BJP has done in the last eleven years," Chowdhary had said.

DC Reasi inspects Fisheries and Sericulture Units

Emphasizes use of modern techniques, livelihood promotion

29XNEWS
REASI, OCT 10

Deputy Commissioner Reasi Nidhi Malik today conducted an extensive visit to the District Fish Farms at Sulla and Thanpal to review the ongoing operations, infrastructure and achievements of the fisheries sector in the district. During the visit, the Deputy Commissioner took a comprehensive assessment of the breeding processes of Common Carp and Mahaseer, besides reviewing the various stages involved in the breeding cycle. She also inspected the hatchery units and interacted with officials to understand the methodologies adopted for quality seed production and its distribution to local fish farmers. At the Thanpal Fish Farm, the DC inspected the bio-plant setup and reviewed the maintenance of breeding ponds and other infrastructure facilities. She emphasized the importance of adopting modern fish farming techniques and sustainable practices to enhance productivity and support the livelihoods of rural fish farmers. She also visited the Fisheries Department Guest House, which is currently under renovation. She directed the officers to ensure that renovation works are completed within the stipulated timeline with due

focus on functionality and aesthetics.

The Deputy Commissioner directed officers to focus on improving seed quality, farm management, and capacity-building initiatives for local youth interested in fish culture.

Later, Deputy Commissioner Nidhi Malik visited the Mulberry Farm at Gran Morh to review the ongoing activities of the Sericulture Department and assess the progress in mulberry cultivation and cocoon production in the district.

The DC was informed that the Gran Morh Mulberry Farm spans over 50 kanals of land, out of which 30 kanals serve as a pre-nursery area where 31,500 cuttings have been planted. It was further apprised that around 15,000 A-class mulberry plants will soon be uprooted and distributed among farmers to promote cocoon rearing and boost sericulture-based livelihood generation.

In addition, the DC inspected the attached mulberry block, where 8,500 mature mulberry plants are currently growing. These plants serve as a source of cuttings, while the remaining plants are provided to farmers for cocoon production.

Among others present during the visit were AD Fisheries Masood Anwar and District Sericulture Officer Rajiv Gupta.

JKTPO organises 4th Export Awareness cum E-Commerce On-boarding Drive in District Udhampur

29XNEWS
UDHAMPUR, OCT 10

Continuing its 2025 series of Export Awareness Workshops, the Jammu and Kashmir Trade Promotion Organization (JKTPO), under the aegis of the Industries & Commerce Department, organized the 4th Export Awareness cum E-Commerce Onboarding Drive in District Udhampur on 10th October 2025.

The workshop was held with the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), District Administration Udhampur, Federation of Indian Export Organizations (FIEO), Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), HDFC Bank and the Government e-Marketplace (GeM). The event aimed to sensitize and support



MSMEs, artisans, entrepreneurs, and farmers about export potential, government incentives, and e-commerce integration. Experts conducted interactive sessions on export benefits, IEC registration, India Business and Trade Portals, credit and risk insurance, logistics, and digital market access for local products.

Prem Singh, Additional DC, Udhampur inaugurated the workshop and emphasized the district's export potential

under the ODOP-DEH far seen strong initiative, highlighting participation -110 in products like Pickle, Samba, 100 in Jammu and Tourism and Garlic. She underlined the importance of capacity building, local producers in exploring export opportunities and digital commerce integration.

The workshop witnessed enthusiastic participation from around 130 participants, including local artisans, MSME representatives, EPCG, MEIS, SEIS and entrepreneurs and farmers. Advance Authorization, With this, the series has so along with IEC value chains.

registration. APEDA spoke on export standards, product registration and branding support, while FIEO promoted the India Business Portal for global visibility, credit support and trade updates. ECGC explained credit risk insurance protecting exporters from defaults and political risks and HDFC Bank outlined export finance, working capital solutions and digital banking tools. GeM demonstrated vendor onboarding, encouraging entrepreneurs to leverage the platform for nationwide exposure, transparent procurement and timely payments.

This workshop is part of JKTPo's ongoing efforts under the District as Export Hub (DEH) and One District One Product (ODOP) initiatives to boost district-level exports, strengthen market linkages and integrate local producers into global value chains.

PG College Rajouri hosts workshop on "Mental Health: Issues and Concerns"

29XNEWS
RAJOURI, OCT 10

In observance of World Mental Health Day, the Government Post Graduate College Rajouri today organized a thought-provoking and socially relevant workshop themed "Mental Health: Issues and Concerns."

The event aimed to promote awareness, reduce stigma and encourage open conversations about psychological well-being among the youth.

The Deputy Commissioner graced the occasion as the Chief Guest, while the College Principal Prof. Zamir Ahmed Mirza presided over the event. The programme was organized by the Department of Sociology and the National Service Scheme (NSS) under the academic supervision of Prof. Khaleeq Ahmed.

In his keynote address, Deputy Commissioner Abhishek Sharma underlined the problem of rising incidence of stress, anxiety and depression among students and



young professionals. He emphasized the importance of nurturing psychological resilience, building emotional intelligence and breaking the social stigma attached to mental health.

Interacting with the students, the DC discussed pressing issues such as social isolation, digital dependency and suicidal tendencies, urging the youth to become advocates of mental well-being and community support.

Prof. Khaleeq Ahmed, in his scholarly presentation elaborated on the biological, social and cultural dimensions of mental health. He highlighted the need for early intervention, empathetic communication and institutional support mechanisms to address mental health challenges and promote holistic wellness.

Earlier, the session began with a welcome address by Prof. Murtaza Ahmed, who emphasized the necessity of integrating mental health literacy

into academic curricula and community outreach programmes. His remarks set the intellectual tone for the deliberations that followed.

The event was attended by distinguished faculty members and nearly 300 students, who actively participated in the interactive sessions with enthusiasm and curiosity.

In his presidential address, Prof. Zamir Ahmed Mirza lauded the efforts of the organizing team and reiterated the moral and institutional responsibility of colleges to cultivate environments conducive to emotional wellness and compassionate dialogue. He also extended gratitude to the Deputy Commissioner for his inspiring and insightful address.

The workshop concluded with an engaging interactive session and a formal vote of thanks, leaving participants motivated to carry forward the message of mental health awareness and collective well-being in their communities.

Inter-District Divisional Level Under-14 Boys Kho-Kho Tournament kicks off at Sports Stadium Doda

DODA, OCT 10: The Inter-District Divisional Level Kho-Kho Tournament for Under-14 Boys commenced today at the Sports Stadium Doda. The event marks the third and final phase of the Kho-Kho (All Age Groups) Boys series, preceded by the Under-17 and Under-19 categories earlier this month.

The tournament is being organized under the direction of the Director General Youth Services and Sports J&K Anuradha Gupta and under the guidance of the Joint Director YSS Jammu, Vinakshi Koul with active cooperation from the District Administration Doda and full support from the Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council.

The event is being conducted under the overall supervision of the District Youth Services and Sports Officer (DYSSO) Jaffar Haider Sheikh.

At the inaugural ceremony, the

DYSSO extended a warm welcome to all participating contingents, team managers and officials. He congratulated the young athletes for earning the opportunity to represent their districts and encouraged them to uphold the values of discipline, dedication and determination.

The opening day witnessed a vibrant display of youthful energy as teams took part in the ceremonial march past followed by the official declaration of the commencement of the tournament.

In a thrilling opening match, Team Doda showcased impressive skill and teamwork defeating Team Ramban by one inning and five points setting an inspiring tone for the upcoming fixtures. The tournament promises to be a celebration of sportsmanship, talent and youthful zeal from across the Jammu Division.

NORTHERN RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE

Sr.DEE/G/JAT acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders (www.iireps.gov.in) against below titled Tenders. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only.

Tender No.	Name of Work	App. Cost. (in ₹)	Earnest Money (in ₹)	Completion period	Opening of tender	Website Particulars
251-J-Elect-T-13-2025-26	'Provision of On Grid Solar power plant at RPF/RPSF buildings at MCTM (Udhampur) depot'.	1,83,80,072.52	2,41,900.00	6 Months	04.11.2025 after 15:00 Hrs	www.iireps.gov.in

251-J-Elect/T-Notice No. 13-Elect/2025-26 Dated:- 10.10.2025

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