

Jammu & Kashmir Digest

A Review of Developments in J&K



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- Affordable Rent Housing for the Poor
- Woman's Thriving Bee Farm Business
- Shina Culture Centre opened in Gurez

More News and Analyses



The Jammu and Kashmir government inaugurated affordable Rental Housing Complex at Sunjwan, Jammu, on 2 August 2023. — Office of LG J&K

The Jammu and Kashmir (J&K)’s Lieutenant Governor, Mr. Manoj Sinha, inaugurated an affordable rental housing, at Rs. 2,200/-, complex to 192 beneficiaries among the migrant workers and urban poor in Sunjwan, Jammu, on 2 August 2023. The remaining 144 flats will be handed to other beneficiaries by October 2023.

Some of the primary beneficiaries of this scheme range from street vendors, industrial workers, labourers, and migrant workers associated with the hospitality and health sectors, to name a few. LG Sinha explained his administration’s motivations behind this initiative.

He said, “Workers are the main drivers of J-K’s growth, and improving their quality of life is our ultimate aim. Today marks the beginning of a new era for the entire working community of the Union Territory. Such initiatives will create a sustainable housing ecosystem for the underprivileged, bring qualitative change in the lives of a family, prevent the growth of future slums, and address the vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan.”

He added that “labour force and workers are backbone of our trade, business, industries and making valuable contribution in building strong and Aatmanirbhar J-K.” – [Dailyexcelsior.com](https://www.dailyexcelsior.com)

DEVELOPMENT SECTION

AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR MIGRANT WORKERS AND URBAN POOR INAUGURATED

A SWANKY FACELIFT!

SRINAGAR’S CLOCK TOWER RENOVATED



Srinagar’s iconic Clock Tower, more commonly known as Ghanta Ghar at Lal Chowk has undergone a major renovation under the Srinagar Smart City Project.

Locals and the business community in the area are delighted to find their refurbished Ghanta Ghar.

Athar Amir Khan, Commissioner of Srinagar Municipal Corporation, highlighted his vision for this initiative. He said, “A lot of tourists and locals come and stay here till late evening.

Therefore, the idea is to turn the entire Lal Chowk into a tourist hub, like Dal Lake and Nishat.” – [Dailyexcelsior.com](https://www.dailyexcelsior.com)



With the unwavering support of the Jammu and Kashmir Rural Livelihoods Mission (JKRLM), Asiya Jan has transformed from an ordinary villager to a successful beekeeper. — Ziraat Times News Network

Asiya Jan, a 25-year-old resident of Gangoo village (Pulwama), has set up a bee farming business and employed approximately 20 women to empower them and ensure their financial independence.

Despite the fact that this beekeeping was unknown to her community, she was steadfast in her determination to uplift herself and other women from her village.

For this purpose, she requested expert assistance from individuals who are part of the Jammu and Kashmir Rural Livelihood Mission (JKRLM).

She persevered despite various challenges and learned to extract bee wax and organic honey through her business enterprise. Some locals have proudly addressed her achievements in this field.

According to them, “her honey was not just a product; it was a testament to her dedication and a symbol of purity. It successfully passed rigorous tests, validating its organic authenticity. Her success story was not solitary, as she soon became a beacon of inspiration for other women in her village.”

Today, she also works as Cluster Coordinator for JKRLM to train thousands of women in her district to establish their business units, including those focused on mushroom cultivation and bee farming. — *Organiser*

WOMEN'S SECTION

YOUNG WOMAN WITH GOVT HELP SETS UP THRIVING BEE FARMING BUSINESS

FEMALE ENTREPRENEURS



Ridhima Arora, a 30-year-old entrepreneur hailing from Jammu and Kashmir, has used the benefits of Ayurveda to enrich other people's lives. She established Namhya Foods Private Ltd., an Ayurvedic food company, in 2020.

Within less than a year, it was generating at least Rs. 1 crore in annual revenue. She initially began her endeavour with a 22 lakhs investment, and her first product was Heart Tea. It was intended to reduce cholesterol levels and was a resounding success. — *Zee News*



Women dancers performing the traditional Shina folk dance in this file picture. Lieutenant-Governor Manoj Sinha inaugurated the Shinon Meeras centre in Gurez on 28 August in an effort to preserve the Dard-Shin tribal heritage the Shina Cultural centre. — DIPR Ladakh

On 28 August 2023, Jammu and Kashmir's Lieutenant Governor, Mr. Manoj Sinha, inaugurated the Shina Cultural Centre, which has been named the Shinon Meeras in Gurez.

He also pointed out how "Gurez has witnessed transformational changes in the last three years. Our dedicated focus was to strengthen physical infrastructure, ensure adequate skilled manpower, and to provide a conducive atmosphere for new business enterprises to flourish." The efforts to "preserve and promote the glorious heritage of Dard-Shin tribal community and to provide glimpses of its rich culture to the world" were headed by the Indian Army and the district administration.

This joint effort resulted in the creation of a museum depicting the Gurezi language and lifestyle and the journey of Shina culture for travellers and historians to explore. The centre showcases exhibits, digital displays, textiles, interactive boards, artifacts, and Gurez's symbiotic relationship with the Indian Army, among others.

Additionally, the Open-Air Amphitheatre can seat approximately 150 individuals. One of the sections displaying the Sand Art highlights Operation ERAZE, in which Indian armed forces fought for Gurez's liberation in 1948. — *The Kashmir Horizon*

CULTURE SECTION

SHINON MEERAS CULTURE CENTRE OPENS IN GUREZ

TEXTILE SOURCING FAIR ORGANISED

Jammu and Kashmir's Trade Promotion Organization organised a two-day textile sourcing fair.

This was done to promote and uplift the Valley's artisan community and Kashmiri art.

Kashmir is renowned worldwide for its shawls, carpets, wood carving, crewel, and embroidery work, and paper mache.

Therefore, this event and the products displayed were received well by those present.

The event was organised at the University of Kashmir's Convocation Centre where various sellers, artisans, and buyers congregated.

At least 30 international buyers, representing countries such as Japan, Australia, Dubai, Vietnam, were also present at the fair. — *Hindustan Times*