

## Government of Jammu and Kashmir State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Pragati Bhawan, Rail Head, Jammu

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## **Press Release**

J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans arranged one day visit Cum Training and awareness on "Best Field Practices" with a focus on "How to double the income of farmers" in collaboration with Directorate of Extension Education Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agriculture Science and Technology Chatta Jammu, for a group of 100 progressive farmers of District Jammu. These farmers were flagged off today on 15th December, 2018 at 10 AM by Mr. Manzoor Ahmad Lone, IAS Secretary to Government Agriculture Production Department from Board office Pragati Bhawan Rail Head **Jammu** in presence of State Board Members and other progressive farmers. During the inaugural session of this flag off ceremony Mr. Abdul Hamid Wani Secretary J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans highlighted the importance of such exposure programmes. He has informed that the Board always feels that the farmers of this State needs to be introduced with the latest research work and with the best field practices devised by the scientists and technocrats at SKUAST- Jammu. Besides there is a need to acquaint our farmers with the latest and modern agriculture technology so that also increasing their farm income, there will be an overall sustainable agriculture development in the State of Jammu and Kashmir. Sh.D.P.Khujria (Ex Director) who is the Board Member highlighted the importance and work

of J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans. He appreciated the interests and efforts of Government for installation of procurement centres in Jammu Division during the recent Kharief season where the farmers sold their paddy on good prices above the MSP fixed by the Government.

Mr. Manzoor Ahmad Lone, IAS Secretary to Government Agriculture Production Department delivered a key note address to the farmers on this occasion. During his address, he appreciated the initiatives of State Kisan Advisory Board for organising Such Kisan friendly awareness programmes. He said that the Government always aspires to see the farmers of this State prosperous and self-reliant so that they can also live a dignified life. He stated that with the advent of technological growth and new inventions in the country, it has now become possible to achieve the desired results which previously was thought as an impossible thing. He advised farmers to come forward and take advantage of such initiatives of the Government and take full advantage of the schemes available under agriculture, Horticulture, fisheries, Floriculture, Animal Husbandry, Sheep Husbandry and Sericulture. He further advised to the farmers to adopt integrating farming in their fields which will in real sense help them to double their farm income. He expressed that the farmers should take full advantage of this one day visit cum training cum awareness camp at SKUAST Jammu and advised them to take best use of this exposure tour and don't shy away in asking informative knowledge from the Scientists there at SKUAST Jammu. During this address he informed that more than 90% population of our State is directly or indirectly involved with Agriculture and with the growth of population land has got fragmented and now on an average each family has land holdings ranging from 10 to 20 kanals. Hence there is a need to go for a comprehensive and high thinking, as how to achieve maximum returns from this fragmented land

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holdings and thus only solution seems to adopt multi cropping and integrating farming approach. Besides we should explore better marketing for our surplus crops to avoid distress sale. He further expressed that the state is also rich in producing good and high quality handicrafts, but due to lack of marketing and distress sale of these products our weavers also get peanuts. Hence he advised the officers to work in coordination and explore better marketing in outside states for the surplus crops and handicrafts, which only can help our farmers and growers better returns. He gave on spot instructions to MD Agro Industries and Director Horticulture (P&M) to immediately conduct such type of survey while involving the Board Members of Kisan Advisory Board also. The flag off ceremony was also attended by Mr. S.K.Razdan Director Agriculture Jammu, Director Floriculture Jammu, and Mr. Bawani Rakhwal, KAS, Director Fisheries, Director Horticulture (Planning and Marketing), Director Sheep Husbandry, Director Animal Husbandry, Director Sericulture Managing Director Agro Industries Development Corporation besides officials from line departments.

Abdul Hamid Wani

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Secretary

J&K State Advisory Board For Development of Kisans