

FUNCTIONING OF J&K STATE ADVISORY BOARD FOR DEVELOPMENT OF KISANS

The farming community in J&K State is an unorganised sector and there is no common platform or forum where the genuine grievances or difficulties are put forth before the authorities for proper redressal. This situation was effecting the growth and development of the Agriculture Sector and the farmers in particular. Seeing this situation, an initiative with proper thinking was taken by the State Government with its wisdom wherein it was decided to constitute a Board which will look after the difficulties and problems of its farmers, and will work for their welfare and upliftment. Accordingly this Board under the title "State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans" was constituted during the year 2010 vide Govt. Order No. 99-GAD of 2010 dated 19-01-2010.

The Government in its right wisdom identified the vice Chairmen who were well conversant with the problems of the farmers besides belonging to the farming community. The Board was also assisted by the State Board members who were also nominated with focus of their understanding with the problems of the farmers. In fact they were drawn from the farming community at gross root level.

Since its inception the Board has been making efforts to identify the problems of Agriculture Sector and find out means and methods for its redressal. Thus the main policy matters which were modified and agreed on the intervention of the Board from time to time includes:-

1. Introduction of organizing of Annual Pre- Budget meeting with finance Department wherein Board members were the participants. These Annual meetings were helpful in creating an Atmosphere with the authorities of the finance Department to gradually aim at a "Tax free' Budget for Agricultural Community.
2. VAT Exemption were given by Finance Department for important Commodities in Agriculture Sector like fertilizers, Seeds, Pesticides, Weedicides , fishery nets, Agricultural Machinery , Apiculture equipments etc. The farmers were happy and got encouraged to work more efficiently for Agricultural programmes
3. As a policy decision it was agreed to undertake seed production of popular self-pollinated cereals, Pulses, and other crops through seed village programmes. This initiative resulted with having larger size demonstration field crops and the seeds thus produced after proper Certification at a bonus prize.
4. The MSP is a practice adopted in declaring in Advance the minimum Support price of the Agricultural Cropsof the sowing season. The farmers were benefitted in the country to sell the produce not less than the MSP, but unfortunately the benefit of MSP did not reach to the farmers of J&K due to lack of suitable infrastructure for procurement of the produce. In our State the benefit of MSP can be enjoyed by the farmers for paddy and Maize crops only. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans having realized the importance of the matter intervened and perused the authorities

mainly FCI, CA&PD and Agriculture Department to take up the procurement work for paddy and Maize. The Board succeeded and the concerned agencies started paddy procurement since 2012-13. Prior to the 2012-13, there was no such arrangement and farmers were selling the produce of paddy at distress sale which was a regular feature. However the same got checked with the installation of procurement centers. So far Maize procurement has not been initiated in the State and the farmers are selling their produce at a price less than the MSP. This requires our attention on priority and the Board has already proposed a workable modal for this crop also.

5. Motivational efforts have been made by the Board to persuade the farmers to take up the adoption of Modern Techniques. The thrust of the Board is in the Sectors of Agriculture, Horticulture, Floriculture, Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, Sheep Husbandry and Sericulture.
6. To ensure doubling the income of the farmers the concept of integrated farming system is being popularized at ground level by involving SKUAST-J/K, KVK'S and the other line Departments. The farmers are being deputed from time to time to the Agricultural Universities and the other institutions.

Thus the Board acts as a platform where the farmers get an open space in discussing their problems freely get knowledge about the schemes of the Government and about the initiatives taken by the Government for their overall welfare. The creation of an atmosphere conducive to the growth,

Development and the welfare of the Kisans was created since its inception and it is now yielding dividends also. Although there are various Boards (detailed as under) who work for the upliftment of weaker sections of the society in the state of Jammu and Kashmir.

1. State Advisory Board for Pahari Speaking People.
2. State Advisory Board for welfare of scheduled casts and Scheduled tribes.
3. State Advisory Board for the welfare of Gujjar and Bakarwals.
4. State Advisory Board for the welfare of other Backward classes (OBCs).
5. State Social Welfare Board
6. State Women Commission.
7. State Khadi and Village Board.

However the J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans is a unique of its kinds having a holistic and synergetic mission concentrated on the welfare and on the development of farmers of the State. Since the Board plays a vital role for the upliftment of the farmers of this State and hence it brings all the Departments who are directly or in directly involved with the welfare of farmers on one platform where the farmers are also called to put forth their problems for on spot redressal. Thus the Board works as a single window system for our farmers. Besides the Board organizes and arranges various Kisan Melas-cum-awareness Camps for the farmers at district, tehsil

and panchayat levels throughout the State wherein concerned District Development Commissioners, Officers of the Agriculture, allied departments and progressive Farmers participate. The Farmers are exposed to the latest techniques of farming, best field practices; the Scientists and extension workers of KVK centres deliver and demonstrate the innovative methods of farming to the audiences which is organized by the J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans under the medium of ICE (Information, Communication and Education) programme. With the interaction between the Kisans, Officers and experts, many issues get resolved on spot through the intervention of the concerned Deputy Commissioners and through the Officers who remain present there. The Board issues the minutes and highlights of these awareness programmes and Melas which is sent to the concerned Hon'ble Ministers and the Administrative Secretaries for appropriate action at their end also. On an average more than fifteen hundred Farmers participate in each of these Kisan Melas-cum-awareness camps and get themselves acquainted with the welfare schemes of the government. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans has formulated a book titled **"Annadatha"** wherein these achievements have been incorporated besides the schemes of the Government available under different sectors for the farmers have been also highlighted. The achievements made by Board are also reproduced here as under:-

- 09.11.2010 Kisan Board Office inaugurated at Jammu by Jenab Omar Abdullah, Hon'ble Chief Minister. The HCM and JenabGhulam Hassan Mir, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, JenabMushtaq Ahmed Bukhari, Hon'ble Vice Chairman Pahari Speaking Advisory Board, JenabRachpal Singh, Hon'ble Vice Chairman Kisan Advisory Board and other dignitaries addressed a mammoth gathering of 600 farmers in the lawns of the Kisan Board Office (Pragati Bhawan) and highlighted the aims and objectives of the establishment of the Kisan Advisory Board.
- 21.02.2011 Pre-budget meeting held at Conference Hall, Kisan Board Jammu under the Chairmanship of Jenab Abdul Rahim Rather, Hon'ble Minister. 120 Progressive Farmers participated in the meeting.
- 15.03.2011 A big Awareness Program of 500 farmers held in the lawns of Pragati Bhawan Jammu. Jenab Abdul Rahim Rather, Hon'ble Minister for Finance, JenabGhulam Hassan Mir, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, Shri Sham Lal Sharma, Hon'ble Minister for Horticulture, JenabJavaid Ahmed Dar Hon'ble Minister of State for Agriculture addressed the gathering.
- 18.05.2011 District Kisan Advisory Board meeting held at DakBanglowRajouri under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Vice Chairman Kisan Advisory Board. Deputy Commissioner Rajouri and the District Officers of the Agriculture and allied departments participated in the meeting. The District Advisory Board Members of Kisan Board Rajouri apprised the problems of farmers to the Officers and most of the grievances got redressed on spot.

- 31.05.2011 District Kisan Advisory Board meeting held at DakBanglow Ramban under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Vice Chairman Kisan Advisory Board. Adl. Deputy Commissioner Ramban and the District Officers of the Agriculture and allied departments participated in the meeting. The District Advisory Board Members of Kisan Board Ramban apprised their problems to the Officers on spot and most of the grievances got redressed.
- 09.06.2011 District Kisan Advisory Board meeting held at DakBanglow Poonch under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Vice Chairman. Deputy Commissioner Poonch and the District Officers of the Agriculture and allied departments participated in the meeting. The District Advisory Board Members of Kisan Board Poonch apprised their problems to the Officers on spot and most of the grievances got redressed
- 14.06.2011 District Kisan Advisory Board meeting held at D.C Office Kathua under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Vice Chairman. Deputy Commissioner Kathua and the District Officers of the Agriculture and allied departments participated in the meeting. The District Advisory Board Members of Kisan Board Kathua apprised their problems to the Officers on spot and most of the grievances got redressed.
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- 15.06.2011 District Kisan Advisory Board meeting held at D.C Office Samba under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Vice Chairman. Deputy Commissioner Samba and the District Officers of the Agriculture and allied departments participated in the meeting. The District Board Advisory Members of Kisan Board Samba apprised their problems to the Officers on spot and most of the grievances got redressed.

- 17.06.2011 Provincial Kisan Advisory Board meeting held at Conference Hall, Kisan Board Office Jammu under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Vice Chairman. Divisional Commissioner Jammu and the Provincial Officers of the Agriculture and allied departments participated in the meeting. The Provincial Advisory Members of Kisan Board Jammu Province apprised their problems to the Officers on spot and most of the grievances got redressed.
- 21.06.2011 District Kisan Advisory Board meeting held at Conference Hall, Kisan Board Office Jammu under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Vice Chairman. Deputy Commissioner Jammu and the District Officers of the Agriculture and allied departments participated in the meeting. The District Advisory Board Members of Kisan Board Jammu Province apprised their problems to the Officers on spot and most of the grievances got redressed.
- 22.06.2011 District Kisan Advisory Board meeting held at D.C Office Reasi under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Vice Chairman. Deputy Commissioner Reasi and the District Officers of the Agriculture and allied departments participated in the meeting. The District Advisory Members of Kisan Board Reasi apprised their problems to the Officers on spot and most of the grievances got redressed.
- 24.06.2011 District Kisan Advisory Board meeting held at D.C. Office Udhampur under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Vice Chairman. Deputy Commissioner Udhampur and the District Officers of the Agriculture and allied departments participated in the meeting. The District Advisory Members of Kisan Board Udhampur apprised their problems to the Officers on spot and most of the grievances got redressed.
- 26.06.2011 Meeting and interaction with Officers of Agriculture and allied departments alongwith the progressive

farmers held at the office of Kisan Board, ZumZum Complex, Rambagh, Srinagar under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Vice Chairman. Three Florists/horticulturists were honored by giving them cheques of Rs. 10,000.00 each by the Hon'ble V.C of the Board.

- 07.07.2011 Meeting with Officers of Agriculture and allied departments and State Advisory Board members of Kashmir Province were held at Banquet Hall, Moulana Azad Road, Srinagar under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Vice Chairman.
- 18.10.2011 Pre-State Advisory Board meeting held at MLA's Hostel, Srinagar under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Vice Chairman.
- 20.10.2011 State Advisory Board Meeting held under the Chairmanship of Jenab Omar Abdullah, Hon'ble Chief Minister at SKICC, Srinagar.
- 23.11.2011 Awareness Camp held at Rajouri under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Vice Chairman where 200 farmers participated.
- 23.12.2011. Awareness Camp held at Kisan Board Office, Pragati Bhawan, Rail Head Complex Jammu under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Vice Chairman in which 200 farmers participated.
- 24.01.2012 Awareness Camp held at Kisan Board Office, Pragati Bhawan, Rail Head Complex Jammu under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Vice Chairman in which 200 farmers participated.
- 29.01.2012 Pre-budget meeting held at Conference Hall, Kisan Board Office Pragati Bhawan, Jammu under the Chairmanship of Jenab Abdul Rahim Rather,

Hon'ble Minister for Finance. 130 Progressive Farmers participated in the meeting and stressed for presenting the farmer friendly budget to the State Legislature.

07.04.2012 Arranged a meeting in connection with offering thanks to Hon'ble Minister of Finance for presenting farmer friendly budget held at Conference Hall Kisan Board Office Jammu.

08.04.2012 A group of 30 women farmers were sent to Raibareli (U.P), hosted by Rajiv Gandhi MahilaVikasPariyojana, and they were flagged off by the Hon'ble Vice Chairman, J&K State Kisan Advisory Board for their exposure cum orientation training programme to Raibareli (U.P) from 08.04.2012 to 15.04.2012.

11.04.2012 Pre-board meeting held at Board Office (PIB Building) Srinagar to review the progress of centrally sponsored schemes.

Major Achievements made onwards April, 2012 till May, 2015

1. The Board so far organized various Kisan Melas-cum-awareness Camps at district, tehsil and panchayat levels throughout the State wherein concerned District Development Commissioners, Officers of the Agriculture and allied departments and progressive Kisans participated. The Kisans were apprised about the latest technics of farming and the Scientists and extension workers of KVK centers delivered and demonstrated the innovative methods of farming to the audiences which was organized by the Kisan Board through the medium of ICE (Information, Communication and Education) programmes. With the interaction between the Kisans and Officers, many issues got resolved

on spot by the intervention of the concerned Deputy Commissioners and Agriculture Officers. The minutes of the meetings held from time to time have been sent to the concerned Hon'ble Ministers and Administrative Secretaries for appropriate action at their end. More than five hundred Kisans participated in each of these Kisan Melas-cum-awareness camps and got themselves acquainted with the welfare schemes of the government.

2. The Board held several meetings with the Bankers working in the State and impressed upon them to ease their lending process by way of giving liberal loans to the educated unemployed youth who want to opt the profession of farming. In these meetings the officials of Entrepreneurship Development Institution (EDI) dealing with "Sher-e-Kashmir Employment & Welfare Programme for Youth" (SKEWPY) were involved.
3. The Board constituted different Committees on Floriculture, Sericulture, Fisheries, apiculture, Irrigation and Horticulture and the report with recommendations were sent to the respective Administrative departments for time bound action on their part. While framing the report the members of these committees kept close liaison with the genuine stakeholders so that their genuine problems are redressed by involving the concerned officials/officers of the departments, with the result the beneficiaries were taken out of their difficulties.
4. The Board from its inception arranged pre-budget meetings between the Kisans and successive Hon'ble Finance Minister with the result many incentives were announced in the State budgets for the

upliftment and welfare of the common Kisans of the State. The VAT exemptions have been granted for purchase of seed, fertilizers, pesticides, fungicides, Agriculture implement, bee keeping equipments etc. etc and our slogan is to make agriculture a tax free sector.

5. A delegation of progressive farmers along with some Board Members were sent on exposure tour in the neighboring states so that they could get themselves acquainted with the latest technologies in the agriculture sector for enhancing their agricultural produce in their respective areas. The farmers among other things were introduced to the new and innovative technologies meant for boosting the agricultural produce in the State.
6. The Board gave prizes to the tune of Rs. 50,000/- to some progressive Kisans especially educated youth who have opted for farming profession and have excelled in producing flowers, apples, stone fruit and honey.
7. At one point of time the Board deputed 30 women farmers to Raibareli in Utter Pradesh to acquaint themselves with the concept of self-help groups there which is being run by Rajiv Gandhi MahilaVikasPariyoujanaand interact with the organizers and the beneficiaries of the self-help groups to know the type of programmes being implemented by the members of these SHGs. After visiting Raibareli, the group played a pivotal role in motivating the women folk to join self-help groups for traditional and other activities in their areas.
8. The Board played an important role in establishing paddy procurement centers by Food Corporation of India in coordination with the

Departments of Agriculture and Food supplies in Jammu Province where the common farmers used to have been exploited by the Private millers with the result they would sell their agricultural produce in distress sale.

9. The Vice Chairman during the last one and half years has met all the Agriculture Ministers of the neighboring States including the Central Agriculture Minister and other officials and discussed with them the ways and means for declaring the state of J&K as Organic state.

Major Achievements made by Board from June, 2015 till date

1. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans organized a One day Workshop on Production & Promotion of Export Quality of Basmati Rice on 02.06.2015 at R.S Pura, Jammu.
2. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans arranged a Study tour of 30 Farmers to the State of Punjab, Haryana and Delhi from 22nd June 2015 to 26th June 2015.
3. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans arranged a meeting of Shri Daljit Singh Chib Hon'ble Vice Chairman, of the Board with the Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Govt of India on 26th June 2015.
4. On spot field visit was organized by the J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans. The Hon'ble Vice Chairman alongwith Director Agriculture Department, Jammu and other officers of Agriculture Department visited the paddy fields at

PouniChak, Seri Rakwala, Gowmanasa, NaiBasti, KothiPurn, Dei Chak, Suhagni, Domi, Upper, Garota, Ahote, Panjor and Chinor, Jammu on 31/07/2015.

5. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans arranged a visit of Sh. Daljit Singh Chib, Hon'ble Vice Chairman J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans to CSK Agricultural University Palampur, Himachal Pradesh on 04/08/2015 to 07/08/2015.
6. A Review meeting was held on 28/08/2015 with the officers of Agriculture Production Department and Allied Sectors in the Conference Hall of the Board office at Pragati Bhawan Jammu.
7. J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans, arranged a field visit of Board Members along with officers of Agriculture Department to the standing Maize Crops at Kana Chak Jammu.
8. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans arranged a Visit of Hon'ble Vice Chairman and some farmers of Ladakh region to Defence Institute of High Altitude Research (DIHAR) unit of DRDO at Leh.
9. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans Organized an Inauguration function, of Paddy Procurement Centers at Billawar Kathua on 20th November 2015.
10. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans arranged a visit of Hon'ble Vice Chairman to command areas in Akhnoor, Khour and Paragwal.

11. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans organized a review meeting under the chairmanship of JenabGhulamNabiloneHanjura, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture Production on 28th Nov. 2015 at Conference Hall,Board officeJammu.
12. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans participated in the Soil Health Day function held by SKUAST on 05th December, 2015.
13. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans arranged a Pre- Budget Meeting held on 4thJanuary, 2016 with Hon'ble Finance Minister J&K State.
14. [The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans participated in the North Regional Natural Farming Conference held at Pingalwara Amritsar on 15th March, 2016 till 17th March 2016.](#)
15. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans organized the Kisan Mela in Collaboration with SKUAST-Jammu on 18th March & 19th March 2016.
16. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans organized Awareness –cum –Kisan Mela at Khour, Akhnoor on 11th April 2016.
17. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans arranged a field visit of Board Members to the Paddy Sowing fields at District Ganderbal on 18th June 2016.

18. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans arranged an Exposure tour for 42 Farmers to the State of Punjab on 21st Aug, 2016.
19. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans arranged a Visit of Hon'ble Vice Chairman J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans to Indo-Israel Project, Haryana.
20. One Day Awareness –cum –Kisan Mela was organized by J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans in collaboration with Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council Ladakh on 29th August, 2016 at Leh.
21. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans organized also a similar type of Awareness –cum –Kisan Mela at Kargil on 31st August, 2016.
22. Awareness Camp –cum- Kisan Mela among women farmers was organized at Poonch on 22th Sept, 2016, where in Shri Jahangir Hussain Mir Hon'ble Deputy Chairman Legislative Council also attended.
23. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans participated in the One day conference organized by NABARD at Luck now on 6th October, 2016.
24. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans arranged its 3rd Board meeting on 15th November, 2016 at Banquet Hall Wazarat Road, Jammu.

25. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans organized an inauguration function of Maize Procurement Centre at SIOT, LAM and DANGRI, Rajouri, on 20th November, 2016.
26. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans organized a Field visit of farmers on 9th December 2016 to HariyaChak Kathua, where they were demonstrated about cultivation of Turmeric.
27. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans organized a Mega Kisan –Cum –Awareness Mela atSangare (Mandli) Billawar, Kathua on 13th December, 2016, where about 7000 farmers attended.
28. The Board arrangement a Visit of Shri Daljit Singh Chib, Hon'ble Vice Chairman J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans to CSK Agriculture University, Palampur Himachal Pradesh on 15th December, 2016.
29. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans organized a pre-budget meeting on 30th December, 2016 with Hon'ble Finance Minister J&K State.
30. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans organized a One Day Awareness -Camp -cum Kisan Mela under the ICE program at Jourian District Jammu on 31st January, 2017.

31. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans arranged a tour of 10 Progressive Farmers to Horti-India, 2017 held at Institute of Horticulture Technology, Greater Noida (UP).
32. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans participated the Awareness -Cum- Kisan Samelan on PradhanMantri Fasal BimaYojna on 04th March, 2017 at Baramulla, wherethe Hon'ble Union Minister for Agriculture ,Farmers Welfare and Panchayati Raj, Govt. of India also attended.
33. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans Organized a Kisan Mela in collaboration with SKUAST, Jammu on 17th and 18th March, 2017.
34. The Board Organized a meeting at the Conference Hall of J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisan at Jammu with Hon'ble Minister for Irrigation PHE and Flood Control on 24th March, 2017 to address the irrigation issues of farmers.
35. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans organized a One Day Awareness Camp-cum -Kisan Mela atPouni, Reasi on 25th March, 2017.
36. The Board Arranged the field visit of Shri Daljit Singh Chib Hon'ble Vice Chairman J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans to Nasik, Maharashtra, where he was given demonstration on cultivation of onion.

37. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans arranged an Interaction Meeting of Sh. Daljit Singh Chib, Hon'ble Vice Chairman J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans with Sh. Sanjeev Kumar Balyan, the Hon'ble Minister of State for Agriculture and Food Processing Govt.of India, at Krishi Bhawan New Delhi.
38. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans arranged the visit of Board Members, Experts and Hon'ble Vice Chairman to District Ramban to assess the damage of crops due to cloud burst.
39. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans arranged the visit of Hon'ble Vice Chairman J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans to Chennai, Udhampur to assess the damage of Garlic Crop due to Hail storm.
40. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans arranged an Interaction meeting with Poultry Entrepreneurs of the Kashmir Province at Meeting hall of Board office at PIB Building Lal Chowk Srinagar.
41. J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans arranged a Paddy Procurement Meeting under the Chairmanship of Dr. Nirmal Singh, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister J&K State, in his office chamber at Civil Secretariat, Jammu.

42. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans arranged the Inauguration of Paddy Procurement Centre at Dungara, Billawar, and Kathua at 6th November, 2016.
43. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans arranged a Wheat Procurement meeting on 11th April 2017 at Board office at Pragati Bhawan Rail Head Complex, Jammu.
44. J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans arranged a Meeting in its office at the PIB Building Lal Chowk, Srinagar on 8th May, 2017 to address the issue of inundation/submergence of 400 kanals of Paddy land in Awantipora Pulwama.
45. J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans arranged a meeting of Hon'ble Vice Chairman J&K State Advisory Board for development of Kisans with Shri Parshottam Rupala, Minister of State for Agriculture, Farmers' welfare and Panchayati Raj, Government of India on 19/5/2017 at New Delhi.
46. J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans Organized a one day exposure tour of 70 Farmers of Kashmir province to Central Institute of Temperate Horticulture (CITH) Government of India Rangreth, Srinagar on 24th May, 2017.
47. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans organized a One Day awareness -cum -Kisan Mela on 25th May, 2017 in collobration with Krishi Vigyan Kendra , Baramullah at Rohamma Block of District Baramulla.

48. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans arranged a Review Meeting on 5th of June, 2017 at Board office, Srinagar.
49. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans arranged a Field visit of Hon'ble Vice chairman and Board Members to district Ramban on 13th June, 2017.
50. J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans arranged a meeting of Hon'ble Vice Chairman with the Scientists of Indian Council of Agriculture and Research (ICAR)Pusa. New Delhi, in the Conference Hall at J&K House ChankiyaPuri New Delhi on 27th July, 2017.
51. Jammu and Kashmir State Advisory Board for development of Kisans arranged a meeting at Board office at Jammu on 29th August, 2017 to review the implementation of various schemes and see the preparedness of concerned departments and FCI for procurement of Paddy.
52. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans arranged a Field visit to Floriculture Nurseries on 22nd September, 2017, developed by Progressive Entrepreneurs in the down town area of District Srinagar.
53. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans Organized a review meeting on 27th September, 2017 at Sheikh-ul-Alam Hall District Development Commissioner's office, Budgam.

54. J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans arranged a 07days Training Module on "Post-Harvest Processing of Fresh Fruits and Vegetables" for 09 women farmers of Jammu and Kashmir State between 23rd October,2017 till 29th October, 2017 at Indian Council of Agriculture and Research Institute under ICAR, Pusa New Delhi.
55. The Board arranged a meeting of, Hon'ble Vice Chairman Jammu and Kashmir State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans with Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Minister of State for Agriculture, Farmers welfare and Panchayat Raj Government of India on 14th November, 2017 at New Delhi.
56. The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans organized a Meeting on 20thNovember, 2017 at Pragati Bhawan Jammu to see the progress of Board Members and to work out the field programme for Jammu province and Kashmir Province respectively.
- 57.The J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans arranged a Review meeting on 27th of December, 2017 at Jammu to discuss the problems of fishermen of Jammu Division.
- 58.Review meeting was taken by Ms. Mehbooba Mufti Hon'ble Chief Minister of J&K State on 28.12.2017.
- 59.The Board arranged the visit of Vice Chairman to the State of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Kerala from 05-01.2018 till 12.01.2018 to

see the modalities for exploring the market for Basmati Rice, Wall nuts ,Saffron and Apple produced here in Kashmir.

60. The Board arranged and organized an awareness camp for the farmers living in Boarder areas of Pargwal,Garkhal, Bhalwal ,Partha ,Narsing Pora, Najwal, Chani, Takwal ,ChakChabba,Sajwal of block Khore and Akhnoor.

61.The Board arranged a Kisan Darbar cum Kisan Samalan at Reasi on 23.12.2017 till 24.12.2017.

62. The Board organized a Kisan Samalan at Jourian on 31.01.2018.

63.The Board arranged a meeting of 13 Board Members which included some progressive farmers headed by Vice Chairman with the Hon'ble President of India on 24.03.2018 at Rashtrapati Bhawan New Delhi.

64.The Board arranged a meeting of Vice Chairman and Board Members with Hon'ble Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare Govt.of India on 25.03.2018 to discuss the issues of our farmers.

65. The Board arranged a meeting of Vice Chairman and Board Members with Hon'ble Union Home Minister Govt.of India on 26.03.2018 to apprise him the problems faced by the farmers of this State whose land is falling under International Border and remains disturbed and also uncultivated.

66. The Board organized a mega Kisan Mela cum Awareness camp on 09.04.2018 at Khour Jammu, where about 5000 farmers participated.

67. The Board organized a Kisan Mela on the eve of Baisakhi festival, to inaugurate the harvesting of Rabi Crops on 13.04.2018.

68. The Board arranged a 08 days interstate training cum exposure tour in Organic Farming for 06 progressive farmers of Jammu Division to the State of Sikkim from 01/05/2018 to 08/05/2018.
69. The Board arranged an in house meeting of Board Members of Kashmir Division on 23.05.2018 to fix the works programme for Kashmir province and also see the achievements and targets of Board.
70. The Board arranged 06 days interstate training cum exposure tour for 16 progressive farmers of District Leh and Tehsil Gurez, District Bandipora on "organic farming" and on "How to Double the Income of Farmer's"? at CSK Himachal Pradesh Agriculture University ,Palampur ,HP from 27.08.2018 to 01.09.2018.
- 71.** The Board organized a meeting on 09.10.2018 to see the preparedness of Food Corporation of India and State CA&PD Department regarding installation of procurement centers at Jammu Division for smooth procurement programme of Khariefcrops (Paddy and Maize) to help farmers to sell their produce at competitive rates not below the MSP so the culture of middlemen is avoided and defeated.
- 72.** The Board has deputed Shri Dhunda Singh who is a progressive farmer in District Kathua, who is annually cultivating turmeric on 10 Acres of land, producing more than 800 quintals of turmeric on yearly basis, to ICAR Ludhiana for 3 days Entrepreneurship Development Programme from 26-28 November , 2018

73. The Board arranged a one day visit cum training and exposure tour in "Best Field Practices" for 100 progressive farmers of District Jammu through SKUAST, Jammu and these farmers were properly flagged off by Mr. Manzoor Ahmad Lone, IAS Secretary to Govt. Agriculture Production Department to SKUST Jammu on 15th December, 2018 in presence of about 200 farmers and all the Heads of the Departments who are directly linked with our farmers.

74. The Board has arranged and organized a mega Kisan Samellan (Interactive Session) on 23rd January, 2019 at Conference Hall SKUAST, Chatta Jammu under the Chairmanship of Sh. K. Vijay Kumar Advisor to Hon'ble Governor Jammu and Kashmir State. Mr. Manzoor Ahmad Lone, IAS Secretary to Govt. Agriculture Production Department presided over the meeting. All the Heads of Departments of Agriculture and allied sectors, Bankers, Insurance agencies, Fertilizer companies, Manufacturers of farm implements, were also called. Sh. K. Vijay Kumar Advisor to Hon'ble Governor Jammu and Kashmir State after through discussions sorted out on spot some issues of farmers and he assured the Members for all possible help to the farming community of our state. The complete highlights of this interactive session are summarized as under:-

The theme of the meeting was to have a direct interaction with the erstwhile nominated members of the Board so to ascertain the ground positions of Agriculture scenario of the State directly from them for better policy making. At the outset, Sh. Manzoor Ahmad Lone, IAS Secretary to Government Agriculture Production Department had a warm well come to Advisor to Hon'ble Governor. He apprised the Advisor to Hon'ble Governor

about the importance of J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisan and informed him, that the Board has been constituted by the State Govt. to work as a link between its farmers and the Government of Jammu and Kashmir, where the farmers can address their problems and their day to day drudgeries for persuasion by the Board at the Government level. Mr. Abdul Hamid Wani, Secretary J&K State Advisory Board for Development of Kisan presented a power point presentation to the Hon'ble Advisor (K), wherein he highlighted the functions of the Board, its scope, objectives and its achievements for the last 8years of its existence. He then presented a memorandum to the Hon'ble Advisor (K) on behalf of Board Members and Kisans of J&K State. Every Board member after giving his introduction to the Hon'ble Advisor (K), briefed about the problems of the farmers of their respective districts and blocks.

Sh. K. Vijay Kumar Advisor to Hon'ble Governor Jammu and Kashmir State had a patient hearing of these problems of farmers highlighted by these Board Members. He assured every possible help through the Government and gave directions to the Secretary to Government Agriculture Production Department for giving him the complete details of these problems, so that a comprehensive plan is chalked out in Agriculture Department for a sustainable agriculture growth and for the overall growth of our farmers. The Advisor to Hon'ble Governor appreciated the work of

Sh. Dunda Singh Board Member and a progressive farmer of District Kathua, who has brought his 8heatares of land under turmeric cultivation and is getting very handsome returns annually. He also appreciated the integrated model on Agriculture proposed by Sh. D.P Khajouria, State Board Member. The Advisor to Hon'ble Governor expressed that the Center of Excellence for benefiting the farmers of this State has been already taken up with the Government of Holland. He expressed that the KCC Loans for farmers and green house concept shall be strengthened. The Advisor to Hon'ble Governor also assured that the middlemen culture and black marketing in the sale of basmati rice shall never be allowed. He said that orders have been already passed on to stop the encroachments of the Cooperative Stores at Jammu and vacate them from the violators immediately. He however advised the Board to also pursue and make a follow up of the implementation of these orders passed on in this regard.

Sh. K. Vijay Kumar the Advisor to Hon'ble Governor expressed that the Government is very tough and committed in checking the inflow of spurious pesticides in this State and the quality of these pesticides shall be maintained at any level. He further said that the cultivation of almonds in the State shall be encouraged and ever possible help shall be given to its growers. Dr. Pardeep Kumar Sharma, Vice Chancellor, SKUAST, Jammu also attended the meeting.

75. The Jammu and Kashmir State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans on 28th February, 2019 organized a Mega Kisan Mela in collaboration with the Agriculture Department Jammu and allied Departments at Higher

Secondary School Ramkote, Billawar, District Kathua. The aim of this Mega Kisan Mela was to highlight the advances in the field of Agriculture and allied sectors and uncovering them to the farming community for adoption at gross root level so that they could increase their farm income. More than 50 stalls were placed in position in this Mega Kisan Mela by all the State Departments who are directly and indirectly involved for the welfare of the farmers of this State. The Animal and Sheep Husbandry Departments have also demonstrated the live exhibits in this Mela, which was appreciated by the participants. Through this one day Kisan Mela the special emphasis was given on the initiatives and policies of State Government for its farmers, and on various innovative and advanced practices to promote diversification in Agriculture and allied sectors such as Horticulture, Sericulture, Floriculture, Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, Poultry, Apiculture, Sheep Husbandry.

76. The Jammu and Kashmir State Advisory Board for Development of Kisans arranged a meeting of 16th April, 2019 at Jammu under the chairmanship of Mr. Manzoor Ahmad Lone, IAS Secretary to Govt. Agriculture Production Department J&K State to see the preparedness of Food Corporation Of India, State CA&PD and Department of Agriculture Jammu for procurement of Rabi crop (Wheat) under MSP and establishment /installation of procurement Centers in Jammu

Division. Besides to see the preparedness of State Irrigation & Flood Control Department and Ravi Tawi Irrigation Jammu for de-slitting of Canals and its tributaries and minors so that farmers can be able to cultivate Kharief crops (Paddy and Fodder). Various farmer friendly decisions were taken in this meeting for follow up of the concerned departments.

77.The Board is arranging 11 days interstate training cum exposure and Awareness programme for a group of 16 Progressive farmers of District Kupwara ,Kashmir Division from 30th December, 2019 to 9th January,2020 at the following Research Institutions/stations on the following areas of interest:

- A) **Punjab Agriculture University Ludhiana**; (1.Cultivation of vegetables and flowers under controlled conditions and open conditions, their management and best field practices.2. Awareness on waste decomposer.3.Exposure to modern Agriculture Machinery and farm implements for small farmers, 4.Awareness on Beekeeping for small farmers.5.Awareness on Organic Farming, 6. Post-Harvest processing of fresh fruits and vegetables.
- B) **ICAR New Delhi** (1.Organic farming, 2.Exposure to modern Agriculture machinery, 3. Awareness on judicious use of fertilizers and farm inputs, 4. Awareness on preparation of farm and soil testing techniques, 5. Integrating farming)
- C) **National Dairy Research Institute Karnal** (1.Modern Dairy farming Practices. 2. Innovative Dairy Processing techniques, 3. Farm visit)

D) National Agro Industries Corporation Murthal Haryana. (1. Conduct and organize training in mushrooms and spawn production technology, 2. Awareness on how to test and analyze compost and diseased samples of mushroom, 3. Awareness on spawn, pasteurized compost and casing material, 4. Demonstration on commercial cultivation of mushroom under controlled environment and seasonal conditions, 5. Awareness on latest breeding techniques).

78. The Board arranged and organized a Kisan Samailan cum Review Meeting on 30th December, 2019 where about 300 farmers from Jammu Division were called to have direct interaction with the Officers of Agriculture Department and Allied Sectors and to receive on spot feedback from these farmers about the Centrally and State Sponsored Schemes of the Government for better perspective planning. The Kisan Samailan was Chaired by Sh. Farooq Khan Advisor to Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor and presided over by Sh. Manzoor Ahmad Lone, IAS Secretary to Government Agriculture Production Department (Hon'ble Vice Chairman Advisory Board for Development of Kisans), J&K Govt.

Abdul Hamid Wani

Secretary
J&K Advisory Board
For Welfare & Development of Kisans.

