

## NCST Member Reviews Tribal Welfare Schemes in Kargil, Emphasises SHG Empowerment and Women's Inclusion

Kargil, June 26, 2025 – Dr Asha Lakra, Hon'ble Member of the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST), chaired a key meeting today at the Conference Hall, Baroo, to review the implementation of welfare programmes and centrally sponsored schemes for Scheduled Tribes in the Kargil district. The meeting was attended by Deputy Commissioner and CEO, LAHDC Kargil, Rakesh Kumar (IAS); Senior Superintendent of Police, Shri Ram R.; Additional Deputy Commissioner Imteez Kacho; Joint Director Planning/Chief Planning Officer; SEs of I&FC, R&B, and Hydraulics; and sectoral heads and district officers from various departments. Opening the meeting, Dr Lakra extended greetings to the people of Kargil on the occasion of Vijay Diwas. The Deputy Commissioner welcomed the dignitaries and provided a brief overview of Kargil's demography, geography, and the facilities extended to its predominantly Scheduled Tribe population.

Sectoral heads delivered presentations on the status and progress of various welfare initiatives, including the Integrated Child Development Scheme, Mission Shakti, One Stop Centre, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, Swachh Bharat Mission, MGNREGA, Self Help Groups (SHGs), and the functioning of departments such as Agriculture, Horticulture, and Cooperatives. Dr Lakra appreciated the efforts made in implementing these schemes and urged all departments to ensure better interdepartmental coordination to enhance delivery and impact. She emphasised the importance of active women participation across institutions such as the Police Women's Cell, One Stop Centre, and Mission Shakti programmes.

Highlighting the role of SHGs in women's empowerment and household economic improvement, Dr Lakra advised the development of a Sabzi Mandi in the district to provide market linkage for SHG produce. She also advised the setting up of a food processing unit to help SHGs add value to their goods and increase income generation. In addition, Dr Lakra urged the district administration to ensure Scheduled Tribe students avail benefits under the Savitribai Phule Scholarship scheme.

To support aspirants of UPSC, SSC, and State Services, the Hon'ble Member directed the district administration to organise special coaching classes, enabling local youth to pursue careers in the civil services. She instructed all departments to submit their concerns and issues in writing, enabling her office to escalate them to the relevant ministries in the Union Government for appropriate action.



