

# RD&PR Department organises one-day workshop on Geotagging, Geofencing

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, JULY 25

To ensure greater transparency and accountability in the execution of MGN-REGA works, the Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Jammu & Kashmir, organized a one-day Training of Trainers (ToT) workshop on Geo-MGNREGA and Geofencing.

Separate sessions were conducted in Kashmir and Jammu divisions, targeting Master Trainers and members of the District Resource Teams, including District GIS Coordinators, Technical Assistants and other field-level officials.

The workshop focused on the updated Geo-MGN-REGA Mobile App (v3.5), which now features advanced tools such as point, line, and polygon mapping, real-time GIS tracking, and photo capture from system-defined locations. These enhancements aim to ensure greater trans-



parency and accountability in the execution of MGN-REGA works.

The training covered geotagging of assets using the upgraded mobile app, which now allows data capture across all stages of asset development – before, during, and after. Participants were trained to walk across the linear or area-based features to create accurate geospatial data and buffer zones for photographic evidence.

Three resource persons from each district participated in the workshop.

During the sessions, they explained the step-by-step use of the mobile app-from device registration and asset synchronization to

map-based navigation, GPS tracking, and photo uploads.

The sessions also included hands-on practice for participants on geofencing, which enables the identification and restriction of similar work types within the same financial year and area. Trainers emphasized the importance of meeting the 80% overlap threshold in “during” and “after” stages for validation of geotagged work.

Additional Secretary RD&PR, Waseem Raja, presided over the sessions and emphasized the critical role that technology-driven governance plays in ensuring accountability

and real-time monitoring of rural development works.

He said that the integration of Geo-MGNREGA and Geofencing is a transformative move towards evidence-based implementation of MGNREGA. “It not only minimizes the chances of duplication and ghost works but also enhances transparency and citizen trust in public works,” he said.

He urged all district and block-level officers to ensure that this knowledge is cascaded effectively to Panchayat Secretaries, GRs, and Technical Assistants, ensuring 100% adoption of the new system.

# DC Poonch hands over 39 loan sanction letters to aspiring Entrepreneurs

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Deputy Commissioner Poonch Vikas Kundal today handed over 39 loan sanction letters to beneficiaries under Mission YUVA at a simple function held in the Conference Hall, DC Office.

Additional District Development Commissioner Pankaj Magotra; Deputy Director Employment Abdul Majid Tantray; Lead District Manager Ravi Kumar and other members of the SBDU were also present.



Addressing the gathering, the Deputy Commissioner encouraged the beneficiaries to make the best

use of the financial support provided under the scheme and contribute positively to local economic growth.

The initiative, aimed at promoting youth entrepreneurship and self-employment, reflects the administration commitment to socio-economic upliftment and sustainable development in the district.

The officials present also reiterated their support in guiding and mentoring the beneficiaries throughout the implementation of their projects, ensuring successful execution and long-term impact of Mission YUVA in Poonch.

# DC Doda chairs BOCA Meeting; Approves 21 Building Permission cases

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A meeting of the Building Operation Controlling Authority (BOCA) was held today at DC office Complex Doda. Deputy Commissioner Harvinder Singh, who is also the chairman of the Authority, presided over the meeting.

A total of 57 cases of building permissions, both residential and commercial, were discussed. After detailed deliberations and scrutiny, 21 cases were approved and the rest were rejected and deferred with directions to the concerned officers to make good the deficiencies and submit the requisite No Objection Certificate at the earliest.



The meeting was attended by the Chief Executive Officer Bhaderwah Development Authority, Chief Town Planner (attended virtually), Divisional Forest Officer

Bhaderwah, Tehsildars Bhalla and Bhaderwah, Executive Engineers (XENs), and other concerned officers.

The Deputy Commissioner stressed the importance of regulated urban expansion, eco-sensitive construction and promotion of sustainable tourism infrastructure in line with the district's unique ecological and cultural character. He directed the officials to maintain transparency in BOCA functioning and ensure timely disposal of pending cases while adhering strictly to development norms.

# Authorities cancel license of medical establishment

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
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The Retail Sale Drug License of M/s Global Healthcare, Barmeen have been cancelled with immediate effect for indulging in unethical trade practices and for serious contraventions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Rules thereunder.

An official inspection revealed that the firm was selling different brands of Pregabalin namely Pregacrest- NTM, B, Pegabanyl-NTM, B. No., Lyragone cap, Pregacrest-NTM, etc — without maintaining mandatory sales records, in violation of regulatory norms. The failure of M/s Global Healthcare to maintain such records raises serious concerns about possible misuse and diversion of the drug.

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The cancellation order was issued by Licensing Authority( Retail) , Udhampur Sanjeev Gupta after following due process and in accordance with applicable legal provisions. This step is part of a broader effort to curb the misuse of controlled substances and ensure public health safety.

State Drugs Controller,

J&K Lotika Khajuria has once again urged the retail chemists and druggists to strictly adhere to licensing conditions and record-keeping norms, especially when handling scheduled or psychotropic drugs. Non-compliance will attract strict regulatory action, including suspension or cancellation of licenses and legal proceedings as per the law.

# Director Panchayati Raj stresses timely execution of PGs, PAI 2.0 data entry, PLC progress

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, JULY 25

Director Panchayati Raj Jammu and Kashmir Sham Lal on Friday pressed Assistant Commissioners Panchayat (ACPs) to accelerate the pace of development under the Revamped Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA).

He was chairing a meeting to review progress of construction of Panchayat Ghars (PGs), co-location of Common Service Centres (CSCs) and the implementation of the Panchayat Advancement Index (PAI) 2.0. The Director outlined several key areas for immediate action, emphasizing the need for a time-bound approach.

A major focus was placed on resolving land availability issues for the construction of Panchayat Ghars. “The land availability aspects should be cleared,” he stated, urging a reduction in the gap between allotted work and actual progress.

During the meeting, the Director highlighted major achievements under RGSA, mentioning that for the financial year 2023–24, out of a target of 502 Panchayat Ghars, land had been identified for 488, with adminis-



trative approval (AA) given for 476.

Sham Lal also stressed the urgent need for accurate and timely data entry under the Panchayat Advancement Index (PAI) 2.0.

Noting slow progress in data entry, he called for immediate district-wise action, proactive monitoring, and accountability at all levels to ensure data digitization keeps pace with the physical progress of Panchayat infrastructure.

He issued clear directions to ensure the timely execution and visible transformation of the Model Women Friendly Gram Panchayats selected across all districts of Jammu & Kashmir.

“There must be visible changes on the ground. These Model Women Friendly Panchayats should not remain on paper; they must be centers of safety, accessibility, participation, and empowerment for rural women,” he said.

The review also covered the construction of additional rooms in existing Panchayat Ghars for the co-location of CSCs, which are essential for providing digital services at the village level. Additionally, four nominations for Panchayat Learning Centres (PLCs) have been made per district as part of ongoing capacity-building efforts.

He informed that 40 PLCs have been approved under the Annual Action Plan of RGSA for FY 2025–26. Only Panchayats with existing Panchayat Ghars are to be considered.

He also instructed officers to accelerate geo-tagging of all Panchayat Ghars using the 'Meri Panchayat' mobile app, stressing that the process must be completed within a stipulated timeframe to ensure transparency and real-time monitoring.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Secretary Tahir Ahmad Magray, all Assistant Commissioners Panchayat (ACPs) and others.

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Deputy Commissioner Rajouri Abhishek Sharma today conducted an extensive inspection of the arrangements being put in place here at Yatri Ground for the Budha Amarnath Yatra pilgrims. He also chaired a review meeting at the venue to ensure seamless coordination among departments and timely completion of all preparations.

The Deputy Commissioner took stock of key facilities including water supply, uninterrupted power supply, sanitation and the installation of bio-toilets. He directed for separate signages for male and female facilities to ensure convenience and orderliness for the yatri.

Special emphasis was laid on the fire safety audit of the venue. The concerned officers were instructed to ensure all precautionary measures are taken and necessary equipment is placed at strategic locations.

The Deputy Commissioner also reviewed pruning of trees in and around the venue area to avoid any safety hazards. The availability of ambulances, deployment of medical teams, preparation of duty rosters, and deployment of AYUSH instructors were also reviewed to ensure robust health and wellness support to the pilgrims. The BRO has been assigned the re-



sponsibility to maintain roads and ensure the Nowshera tunnel remains operational during the daytime, which is vital for smooth transportation.

To maintain traffic flow, the Traffic Police will regulate vehicular movement and oversee parking arrangements. The SDRF teams will be deployed at designated locations to respond swiftly in case of any emergency situations.

Furthermore, the Department of Tourism was directed to install informative and welcome hoardings at prominent locations.

The Deputy Commissioner stressed upon all departments to work in close coordination and complete all as-

signed tasks well before the scheduled date of the Yatra to ensure a safe, comfortable and spiritually fulfilling experience for the pilgrims.

Among others present during the inspection and review meeting were ADC Chander Prakash; ACR Mohammad Jahangir Khan; ACD Auqil Naveed; Executive Engineer PWD Aftab Anwar; Dy. SP Satish Sharma; Deputy SP Traffic Shiv Kumar; ARTO Rajesh Gupta; CMO Dr Manohar Lal Rana; AD FCS&CA Rohit Kumar and Executive Officer Municipality Yusuf ul Umar, along with other district and sectoral officers. Besides these, prominent citizens and representatives from civil society were also present at the venue.

# AHD Udhampur hosts Veterinary Outreach Camp at remote Kulwanta Village

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
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The Animal Husbandry Department Udhampur successfully conducted a special outreach veterinary camp in Kulwanta, one of the district's remotest villages. This initiative, part of a program to cater to neglected pockets, was carried out under the guidance of Chief Animal Husbandry Officer Dr. Sanjay Gupta.

The camp, supervised by Superintendent of District Veterinary Hospital Udhampur, Dr. Anwar Hussain was held in collaboration with the Mobile Veterinary Unit Udhampur. It witnessed significant participation from local farmers who brought their animals for treatment, sought advisory services, and received consultations on various aspects of animal husbandry, including treatment, best



practices, and employment generation.

Dr. Hussain emphasized the importance of transitioning towards value addition and cooperative farming to leverage better prospects and government assistance. He highlighted new government initiatives like Assisted Breed Improvement Program- Sex Sorted Semen (ABIP-SS) as crucial for Animal Husbandry advancement.

More than 240 farmers

attended the camp and approximately 47 animals received on-the-spot treatment.

“Our department is committed to provide veterinary services directly to farmers' doorsteps, and these camps are a testament to that commitment,” Dr. Hussain stated on the sidelines of the event.

Farmers expressed their gratitude to the department. Tireth Ram, a dairy

farmer, said “We have seen such an initiative for the first time.” Naresh Singh, a poultry farmer, praised the department for supporting poultry entrepreneurship. Rashid Ahmad of Ladana village personally thanked the department and requested more such camps. Bimla Devi shared her appreciation, expressing hope that the department's efforts would lead to a boom in milk and poultry production, creating employment opportunities for the youth in the area.

Also present at the camp were Dr. Ishfaq Jamal, VAS Jopher; Dr. Karun Gupta, VAS MVU Udhampur and Kripal Choudhary, Incharge Block Chanunta.

Chief Animal Husbandry Officer, later confirmed that free medicines are made available to needy farmers under the Mobile Veterinary Unit scheme, especially for inhabitants of difficult terrains.

# Bhaskar Degree College students complete 10-Day summer internship at JKEDI Udhampur

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, JULY 25

A batch of 20 students from Bhaskar Degree College Udhampur successfully completed the 10-day Summer Internship Program at the Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI), District Centre Udhampur on Thursday.

The internship, conducted in line with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, was designed to develop entrepreneurial thinking, research aptitude, and teamwork skills among students. As part of the program, the interns were introduced to the core functions and objectives of JKEDI and were exposed to various verticals of the Institute that promote entrepreneurship as a viable career option in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir.

Spanning 60 hours over 10 days, the program provided hands-on exposure to key concepts in entrepreneurial development, startup culture, and enterprise creation. It featured a combination of interac-



tive lectures, practical assignments, field visits, and expert sessions delivered by JKEDI faculty and guest speakers from the regional startup ecosystem.

The internship culminated with a valedictory ceremony held at the JKEDI District Centre, Udhampur. Mohinder Kumar Sharma, Deputy Director, Employment, Udhampur, attended the session as the Chief Guest. He congratulated the students on the successful completion of the program and urged them to pursue their entrepreneurial goals

with passion, discipline, and confidence.

The internship was conducted by a team of expert faculty members under the overall supervision of the Director JKEDI.

The institute continues to organize such internship programs across the Union Territory as part of its mission to foster entrepreneurship and promote self-employment among youth. These initiatives aim to bridge the gap between academic learning and its practical application in the entrepreneurial landscape.