

DC Bandipora inaugurates Wullar Bird Watch Conclave 2026

5-Day Eco-Tourism event begins with Enthusiastic Public Participation

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, FEB 09

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Indu Kanwal Chib, today inaugurated the Wullar Bird Watch Conclave 2026 at S.K. Payeen, marking the beginning of the five-day eco-tourism and conservation event.

On the first day, a large number of visitors, youth volunteers, and members of local communities participated in the conclave.

Addressing the gathering, the Deputy Commissioner highlighted the importance of protecting migratory bird habitats, promoting nature-based tourism, and creating diversified livelihood opportunities linked with Wullar Lake.

Various stalls showcasing traditional foods, local products, and self-help group initiatives were set up at the venue.

The Deputy Commissioner inspected exhibition counters displaying local cuisine, handicrafts, and eco-tourism products, and appreciated the efforts of women entrepreneurs and community groups in pro-



moting sustainable livelihoods. On the occasion, bird-watching activities, awareness interactions, and community engagement programmes were also conducted, with participants assembling along identified routes for on-ground field experiences. The event witnessed active involvement of youth

groups, eco-guides, and visitors who attended the inaugural session in large numbers.

The conclave will continue till February 13, featuring exhibitions, painting competitions, documentary screenings, and conservation awareness programmes aimed at promoting environmental

stewardship and sustainable tourism.

Additional Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Zafar Husson Shawl; Coordinator WUCMA; and officers from Forest, Tourism, Fisheries, Education, WUCMA, and other concerned departments were present on the occasion.

DC Baramulla conducts Sector-wise Review of Physical & Financial Progress under Capex Budget 2025-26

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Deputy Commissioner Baramulla, Minga Sherpa today chaired a sector-wise review meeting to assess the physical and financial progress of ongoing projects and new works under the District Capex Budget 2025-26.

During the meeting, detailed discussions were held on the performance of key sectors including Public Works, Jal Shakti, Rural Development, Health, Education, Power, Urban Development, Agriculture and allied sectors.

The DC reviewed project-wise status, expenditure trends, and implementation timelines to ensure efficient utilization of allocated funds.

Emphasizing timely completion and quality execution of works, the DC directed all departments to expedite slow-moving pro-



jects and strictly adhere to prescribed timelines. Special focus was laid on resolving bottlenecks affecting execution at the ground level.

The DC also reviewed sector-wise proposals for new projects under Capex 2025-26 and stressed that projects must be need-based, outcome-oriented,

and aligned with district development priorities. Departments were instructed to complete all requisite formalities in advance to avoid delays.

Stressing the importance of inter-departmental coordination and regular monitoring, the DC directed officers to submit periodic progress reports and en-

sure transparency and accountability in implementation.

Chief Planning Officer Baramulla, Nisar Ahmad besides Senior district officers and District heads of concerned departments attended the meeting and briefed the chair on sector-wise achievements and challenges.

DC Bandipora inaugurates women SHG-Managed Cafeteria at Mini Secretariat

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Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Indu Kanwal Chib, today inaugurated the "Umeed Ka Zaika Cafeteria" at Block-C, 3rd Floor of the Mini Secretariat, Bandipora.

The initiative aims to promote local entrepreneurship while providing quality and hygienic refreshment facilities within the Mini Secretariat premises.

The cafeteria is being managed by women Self-Help Groups under the National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM), highlighting the district administration's commitment to women empowerment, financial inclusion, and sustainable livelihood generation. The initiative serves as a platform for rural women to showcase their skills, enhance income opportunities, and move towards self-reliance.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner appreciated the role



of NRLM and women SHGs in successfully running the cafeteria. She emphasized that such women-led initiatives are instrumental in strengthening grassroots entrepreneurship, fostering confidence among rural women, and contributing to inclusive economic development in the district.

Officials and staff members welcomed the initiative and expressed hope that "Umeed Ka Zaika" will emerge as a vibrant and sustainable model of women-driven enterprise under NRLM, while also enhancing facilities for employees and visitors at the Mini Secretariat.

Additional Deputy Com-

missioner Bandipora, Zafar Husson Shawl; Assistant Commissioner Revenue Bandipora, Shabir Ahmad Wani; Assistant Commissioner Development Bandipora; Assistant Commissioner Panchayat, along with other district officers, were present during the inauguration ceremony.

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To encourage and honour the hard work of specially abled students of Abhinandan Home Solina who successfully passed the JK Board of School Education (JKBOSE) Class 10th and 12th examinations for the academic year 2025, the District Administration Srinagar today organized a felicitation ceremony here at the Meeting Hall of the DC Office Complex.

The event was presided over by Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo along with Noted Neurosurgeon, Dr Sushil Razdan as the Guest of Honour and was marked by an atmosphere of pride and encouragement as students were applauded for overcoming challenges and excelling in academics.

On the occasion, the DC felicitated the meritorious students of Class 12th and 10th including distinction holders, with awards and certificates in recognition of their academic excellence and for their outstanding academic performance. The students with challenges of hearing and speaking demonstrated exceptional determination, resilience and excellence by securing distinctions and



first divisions in the recent JKBOSE examinations.

Congratulating the students on their success, the DC commended their hard work and dedication. He also lauded the unwavering support of their teachers and families, stating that their exceptional performance is a testament to their academic ability and perseverance. He described the achievement as a proud moment not only for the students but also for the District Administration Srinagar and the community at large. Addressing the gathering, the DC said the achievements of these children stand as a powerful example of overcoming challenges when combined

with dedication, proper guidance and institutional support. He appreciated the efforts of the Department of Social Welfare, teachers, caretakers and parents for their continuous commitment to the holistic development of children with special needs.

The DC also assured continued support from the District Administration towards the education, empowerment and inclusion of specially-abled children, particularly the students of Government's Abhinandan Home. While interacting with the students, he assured them of all possible assistance in academics and sports and announced the provision of a school

van for the convenience of the students. The DC also encouraged the students to prepare for competitive examinations such as UPSC and JKAS, assuring them of full support from the District Administration.

Noted neurosurgeon Dr. Sushil Razdan also spoke on the occasion and shared his views, inspiring the students with his words of wisdom. Among those present on the occasion were, Assistant Conservator Forests, Atharva Tiwari; District Social Welfare Officer, Dr Mukhtar Ahmad; Coordinator Abhinandan Home, Neelofar Sultan, and Principal along with teachers, caretakers, and students.

DM Baramulla reviews Anti-Drug Measures at 25th NCORD Meeting

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District Magistrate Baramulla, Minga Sherpa, chaired the 25th meeting of the District Level Committee under the Narco Coordination Centre (NCORD) today at the Meeting Hall of the DC's office Baramulla.

During the meeting, the District Social Welfare Officer, Sajad Ahmad Bhat gave a detailed presentation, highlighting ongoing awareness, preventive and rehabilitation initiatives being implemented under various anti-drug programmes in the district.

The District Magistrate reviewed the overall anti-drug strategy in the district and issued several key directions to strengthen enforcement.

The DM directed the concerned authorities to cancel the arms licences of any person found involved in drug trafficking and cancel driving licences in cases



where drugs are recovered from a vehicle.

Further, the DM instructed the Sub-Divisional Magistrates (SDMs) to ensure strict enforcement of the NDPS Act with regard to the attachment of properties belonging to drug peddlers.

Meanwhile, Minga Sherpa directed the concerned authorities to maintain close surveillance over the sale of prescription-based and controlled substances at drug stores, to prevent their misuse or diversion for illicit purposes. SSP Baramulla,

Gurinderpal Singh, SSP Sopore, Iftakhar Talib, ADC Sopore, S.A Raina, ADC Baramulla, Syed Altaf Hussain; District Social Welfare Officer, Sajad Ahmad Bhat along with other concerned district and sectoral officers, were present during the meeting.

DC Kulgam inaugurates classes of Joy Initiative Phase-II

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The Classes of Joy Initiative (Phase-II) was today formally inaugurated by Deputy Commissioner (DC), Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan today here at conference hall, Mini Secretariat Kulgam.

The initiative taken by District Administration in collaboration with Pratham Foundation towards creating joyful, inclusive, and engaging classrooms.

The event was attended by Joint Director Planning, Malik Suhail, district officers, education department officials, and representatives of the Pratham Education Foundation.

Addressing on the occasion, the DC said that the programme aims to strengthen foundational literacy and numeracy in schools through joyful, activity-based, and child-centric teaching practices.

On the occasion, the MME personnel of Pratham presented a com-



prehensive Report of Previous Class of joy intervention which was conducted from July- November 2025 in 463 Govt. Schools of District Kulgam in which 9,722 children were reached. The report provided detailed account of program implementation and impact of learning levels of children. As reported, during the baseline assessment only 31% of children could read Grade 2nd text which increased to 57% after the

program was implemented and Endline was conducted. Similarly in maths, only 35% of children were able to solve simple division. But after the program intervention the number reached to 68% when Endline was conducted.

Also, zone-wise performance analysis, program Impact highlighting students' learning levels, key strengths, and existing gaps were also discussed during the report.

In July 2025, 2100 teachers underwent the Teaching at the Right Level training for conducting class of joy and implementation of the intervention in the actual classrooms.

The presentation provided teachers with valuable first-hand insights to support better academic planning and targeted classroom interventions using the Teaching at the Right Level (TaRL) approach.