

1-Day Workshop on 'Safer Internet Day' held in Kishtwar

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, FEB 10

As part of the nationwide observance of Safer Internet Day, a mega sensitisation programme was organised today by the District Informatics Office (NIC), Kishtwar, at the Conference Hall of the Mini Secretariat, New DC Office Complex, Kishtwar.

The programme was held on the theme "Smart Tech, Safe Choices – Exploring the Safe and Responsible Use of AI." The event aimed to promote the safe, secure and responsible use of the internet and emerging digital technologies among citizens, especially students and government functionaries.

Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar, Pankaj Kumar Sharma attended the programme as the Chief Guest.

Addressing the participants, the Deputy Commissioner emphasised the importance of digital awareness, cyber hygiene and responsible use of modern technologies, particularly Artificial Intelligence.

He stated that while the internet has become a boon by enhancing efficiency and connectivity, its misuse poses serious risks, making awareness and caution essential for all sections of society.

He further highlighted that cyber threats such as phishing, malware and online frauds have led to significant financial losses for many citizens due to the sharing of sensitive information.



Stressing the need for continuous sensitisation, he appealed to people not to share OTPs, suspicious links, or personal data with anyone. He also advised that in case of loss or theft of a mobile phone, it should be immediately blocked through authorised platforms to prevent misuse of personal data.

The Deputy Commissioner also laid special emphasis on creating awareness among children regarding the drawbacks of excessive internet use, including digital addiction. He noted that children and senior citizens are the most vulnerable to cyber crimes and must be repeatedly sensitised about safe internet practices. He further advised elderly citizens to remain cautious during digital interactions and online financial

transactions. He also highlighted the importance of the Sanchar Saathi Portal of the Government of India, through which citizens can verify and report unauthorised mobile numbers linked with their Aadhaar, thereby preventing identity misuse and cyber frauds.

On the occasion, District Informatics Officer, Kishtwar, Faizal Khan, delivered a detailed presentation highlighting cyber hygiene practices, common cyber frauds, precautionary measures and safe digital behaviour.

The session also informed participants about the National Cybercrime Helpline 1930 and the cybercrime reporting portal www.cybercrime.gov.in.

The Deputy Commissioner also administered

pledge on "Safe and Responsible Use of AI" to all the participants.

The event was attended by CEO KDA Kishtwar, Kaiser Bhawani; ASP Kishtwar, Pardeep Singh; ACR Kishtwar, Idrees lone; ACD Kishtwar, Manoj Kumar; AD FCS&CA Kishtwar, Shafqat Ali Keen; ALC Kishtwar, Mamta Sudershan; DFO Kishtwar, Mahesh Thakur; BDO Hqrs Kishtwar, Chandan Manhas; CHO Kishtwar, Sajid Mustafa; DNO Ayush Kishtwar, Dr. Vikram Singh Jamwal; ExEn JPDCI Kishtwar, Abdul Hamid; ExEn PMGSY Marwah, Tilak Raj; ExEn PWD R&B Marwah, Farooq Poswal; Principal DIET Kishtwar, Tirath Lal; AC Legal Metrology Kishtwar, Anil Gupta and other Officers and staff of NIC Office Kishtwar.

Kathua Admin observed Safer Internet Day at DC Office

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, FEB 10

Safer Internet Day was today observed at the Conference Hall of the DC Office Complex, Kathua with an awareness programme on the theme "Smart Tech, Safety Choices – Exploring the Safe and Responsible Use of AI".

The event was chaired by Deputy Commissioner Kathua, Rajesh Sharma and was attended by ADC Kathua, General Manager District Industries Centre, Assistant Commissioner Development, Chief Agriculture Officer, Chief Medical Officer, Programme Officer ICDS Kathua, District Informatics Officer, Shubham Singh besides other officers and officials.

The programme aimed to sensitise participants about the advantages and risks associated with internet usage and to promote safe and responsible digital practices. The speakers highlighted the wide-ranging benefits of the internet, including online education, digital payments, online shopping, social media connectivity and access to information.

Through the power point presentation, the DIO Shubham Singh briefed about the disadvantages and challenges of excessive and unsafe internet use with focus on issues such as loss of productivity, internet and social media addiction, social isolation, physical inactivity, cyber frauds, deep-



fake and AI voice scams, digital arrest frauds, hacking of social media accounts and online shopping scams.

Participants were also briefed on the steps to be taken in the event of a cyber scam. It was informed that any financial fraud should be reported immediately, passwords must be changed without delay and cyber crime complaints can be registered through the national helpline number 1930 or on the cybercrime.gov.in portal.

The session also emphasised the importance of maintaining cyber hygiene.

The key points shared included installing applications only from trusted platforms, never sharing OTPs or UPI PINs, checking mobile connections issued in one's name through the Sanchar Saathi portal, using secure networks, avoiding the use of the same password for multiple websites or applications, enabling two-factor authentication, keeping operating systems and browsers updated and not linking primary savings accounts with shopping websites or UPI applications.

Addressing the gathering,

Deputy Commissioner Kathua, Rajesh Sharma, stressed that the internet should be used with utmost care and responsibility. He urged all to follow basic cyber safety precautions to protect themselves from online frauds and emphasised that any cyber scam should be reported immediately through the designated cyber crime reporting platforms.

The programme concluded with an interactive discussion with the resolve of safe, informed and responsible use of digital technologies.

Khah Writers' delegation submits memorandum to Secretary JKAACL

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, FEB 10

A delegation of the Khah language Writers Association, headed by senior member and retired Headmaster Mohd Ramzan Daing today called on the Secretary, Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages (JKAACL), Jammu and presented a detailed account of the history and linguistic heritage of the Khah (Khasha) language.

During the meeting, the delegation submitted a comprehensive memorandum seeking inclusion, institutional recognition and promotion of the Khah language within the Academy's linguistic and cultural framework. The delegation highlighted the historical, linguistic and cultural significance of Khah, an Indo-Aryan language spoken predominantly in parts of the Chenab Valley.

The delegation urged the Academy to recognise Khah as a distinct language, emphasizing that such recog-



nition is vital for safeguarding its linguistic identity and ensuring sustained literary and academic growth. They also sought financial and institutional support for publication and research in the Khah language including poetry, prose, grammar books, dictionaries, textbooks, translations and scholarly studies.

The delegation requested adequate representation of Khah writers, poets, researchers and scholars in various literary and cultural activities organised by the Academy, such as seminars, conferences, workshops, mushairas, book fairs and literary festivals.

The delegation also underscored the urgent need

for systematic documentation and preservation of Khah oral literature, including folk songs, ballads, folktales, proverbs, riddles and traditional knowledge, which are at risk of fading due to rapid socio-cultural changes.

The members of the delegation included Sarpanch Rehmatullah Naik, Dr. Mohd Muzamil Sohail, Mohd Sharif Malik, Mohd Sharif Sohail, Dr. Shakeel Ahmed Sohail and Mohd Rafiq Naik.

The Secretary, JKAACL, gave a patient hearing to the delegation and appreciated the concerns raised regarding the preservation and promotion of the Khah language. The Secretary as-

sured that the memorandum and the demands put forth would be examined and put up in accordance with the mandate, policies and procedures of the Academy.

The delegation expressed hope that the Academy would take positive and constructive steps towards recognizing and promoting the Khah language, thereby strengthening the linguistic diversity and cultural heritage of Jammu and Kashmir.

Among others, Additional Secretary, JKAACL, Sonali Arun Gupta, Additional Secretary, Lal Chand and other officers of JKAACL were present on the occasion.

Samba District observes 'Safer Internet Day' with comprehensive Cyber Security awareness workshop

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, FEB 10

On the occasion of Safer Internet Day, the National Informatics Centre (NIC), in coordination with the Common Service Centre (CSC), organized a comprehensive workshop at the DC Complex in Samba today. The workshop focused on sensitizing officers and officials about emerging cyber threats, cyber frauds and best practices for ensuring online safety. Resource persons delivered detailed presentations highlighting the critical importance of secure internet usage, protection of personal information and essential precautions to be observed while conducting digital transactions.



Given the exponential growth in digital platform usage across all sectors, it was emphasized that cyber security awareness has become imperative for every section of society.

As part of this larger initiative to promote digital literacy and cyber hygiene, similar awareness workshops are being systemati-

cally organized across schools and colleges throughout the district, targeting students and the general public to foster safe, secure and responsible internet practices.

This district-wide initiative reflects a committed effort toward strengthening digital awareness and cultivating a robust culture of cy-

ber safety, thereby empowering citizens to navigate the digital landscape with confidence while remaining vigilant against cyber threats.

The administration remains dedicated to ensuring that digital advancement goes hand in hand with digital security for all stakeholders.

GDC Ramban observes 'Safer Internet Day'

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, FEB 10

The Department of Computer Applications, Government Degree College Ramban organised an online awareness programme on the occasion of Safer Internet Day 2026 on the theme "Exploring the Safe and Responsible Use of AI" under the patronage of the Principal of the College, Prof. Romesh Kumar Atri. The event aimed to educate participants about cyber safety and protection from online threats.

The Principal, in his address, highlighted the importance of the safe use of the internet in current times when society is increasingly dependent on the internet and Artificial Intelligence for daily needs. He focused on key aspects such as the use of strong passwords, two-factor authentication and the safe use of social



networking platforms. He appreciated the efforts of the Department of Computer Applications for organising the programme and encouraged students to spread awareness among their families and friends.

Head of the Department of Computer Applications,

Prof. Aditya Sharma, who was the resource person for the programme, discussed various cyber threats and human negligence that can make individuals vulnerable to cyber fraud. He emphasized that while the internet has become an essential part of daily life, it

also carries risks such as cyberbullying, financial fraud, misinformation and identity theft. He highlighted safe internet practices, warned about phishing scams and stressed maintaining privacy by avoiding the sharing of OTPs and other personal information.

Sub-Division Level NCORD Committee meeting held at Bhaderwah to curb drug abuse

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, FEB 10

In a significant step towards making the district drug-free, a Sub-Division level NCORD (Narco Coordination Centre) Committee meeting was held at Bhaderwah under the chairmanship of Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Bhaderwah, Sunil Kumar Bhutyal. The meeting was convened as part of the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan initiative, with the prime aim of eliminating drug abuse and promoting a healthy, drug-free society.

During the meeting, emphasis was laid on strengthening inter-departmental



coordination to effectively curb the menace of drugs. The officers were directed to ensure regular monitoring of hotels, tourist spots, gardens and other public places to prevent drug-related activities. Stress was

also laid on identifying and destroying illicit crops, if any and sharing geo-tagged details of such actions with higher authorities.

The committee discussed organizing awareness programmes, conducting regu-

lar health check-ups for students, routine inspections of medical shops and promoting sports and extracurricular activities to positively channelize the energy of youth. Directions were also issued to hold NCORD Committee meetings regularly and share the minutes with the concerned higher authorities for effective follow-up. The meeting was attended by Divisional Forest Officer Bhaderwah, Tehsildar Bhalla, Block Development Officers of Bhaderwah and Bhalla, Tehsil Social Welfare Officer Bhaderwah, Zonal Education Officer Bhalla, Zonal Physical Education Officer Bhaderwah and representatives of various departments.