

# DLSA Shopian organises awareness programme on 'Mediation for the Nation 2.0' at District Court

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, FEB 10

District Legal Authority (DLSA) Shopian today organized a special awareness programme on "Mediation for the Nation 2.0" at District Court Complex Shopian to promote awareness on mediation as an effective mode of alternative dispute resolution.

The events were organized under the supervision of Mehmood Ahmad Chowdhary, Chairman DLSA (Principal District & Sessions Judge) Shopian and the guidance of Mudassar Farooq, Secretary DLSA Shopian.

Mehmood Ahmad Chowdhary, Chairman DLSA (Principal District & Sessions Judge) Shopian and Secretary DLSA Shopian, Mudassar Farooq laid emphasis on mediation. They addressed the gathering that mediation can play an effective role in disposal of cases which is flexible, expeditious in nature, less expensive and restore social harmony.

All the trained mediators were directed to give their best to make mediation



process an effective way for disposal of cases.

All the judicial officers of District Shopian were directed to identify and refer maximum number of cases for mediation and actively participate and coordinate to make this campaign successful and strengthen in the mediation through process of dialogue.

"The 90-day mediation drive is justice at the doorstep. Mediation not only saves time and resources but also preserves relationships", said the Chairman DLSA.

He also appealed to the lawyers, litigants and general public to come forward and take advantage of this campaign while highlight-

ing how disputes, especially matrimonial matters, MACT, NI Act, Civil Disputes, Criminal Compoundable Cases and recovery suits can be resolved effectively through mediation.

The programme was attended by all the judicial officers, legal aid defense counsels, the Learned Advocates, PLVs and general public.

# DC stresses need for awareness, preventive safeguards

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Safer Internet Day was today observed in Kulgam with a focus on the theme "Smart Tech, Safe Choices – Exploring the Safe and Responsible Use of AI."

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan inaugurated a mega sensitization programme, organised at the Mini-Secretariat Kulgam.

Addressing the gathering, the DC highlighted the growing penetration of digital technology and artificial intelligence across the country and stressed the need for awareness and preventive safeguards. He said that with technology usage at an all-time high, ensuring the safe and responsible use of the internet and AI tools has become essential.

He emphasized that awareness at all levels is necessary and that teachers have a particularly important role in guiding students toward ethical, se-



cure, and productive use of digital platforms. He underlined that preventive measures, digital literacy, and early education are key to safeguarding users from online risks, misinformation, misuse of AI tools, and cyber threats.

The DC added that structured training and awareness programmes on

AI and safe internet practices will be started in schools across the district to equip students and teachers with practical knowledge on responsible AI usage, digital safety and wellbeing.

DIO, NIC Kulgam, Nadeem Yousuf, along with other experts and speakers, also spoke about safe

browsing practices, digital responsibility, responsible use of AI and the importance of community participation in building a secure online environment.

The programme was attended by District/Sectoral Officers, teachers, CSC District Manager along with VLEs and various officials from line departments.

# ADDC Shopian chairs awareness event, emphasizes adopting safer digital practices

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In a bid to strengthen cyber awareness and promote responsible digital practices, National Informatics Centre (NIC), Shopian today organised a comprehensive awareness programme on the occasion of Safer Internet Day at Mini Secretariat, Shopian.

The programme was chaired by Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Shopian, Dr. Nasir Ahmed Lone and was attended by officers/officials of various departments.

Addressing the participants, the ADDC underscored the growing dependence on digital platforms in governance and service delivery and stressed the importance of maintaining robust cyber hygiene. He highlighted that safeguarding sensitive government data, preventing cyber breaches and adopting secure digital practices are essential for ensuring efficiency, transparency and public trust in administration.

On the occasion, experts from NIC, Srinagar, Ishfaq



Ahmed, Network Engineer, NIC, Shopian, Zaffer Ahmed and others delivered detailed presentations on major cyber threats such as phishing, malware, data breaches and identity theft. The sessions also covered best practices related to password management, secure handling of official information, data privacy, safe use of social media and effective mitigation strate-

gies against cyber risks.

Special emphasis was laid on the safe and ethical use of Artificial Intelligence, encouraging officers to adopt AI tools responsibly while ensuring compliance with data protection norms and ethical standards.

The event was organised in line with the nationwide 'Safer Internet Day' campaign, aimed at fostering a

secure, inclusive and trustworthy digital environment.

Officers attending the programme were encouraged to further disseminate the knowledge gained through internal training and awareness sessions within their respective departments and wider audience to ensure wider outreach and long-term impact.

# CBT Member, EPFO met with JKAS Labour Commissioner

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In a significant move to bolster social security and labour welfare in the region, Shri S.P. Tiwari, Hon'ble Member of the Central Board of Trustees (CBT), Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO), Government of India, and General Secretary of the Trade Union Co-ordination Centre (TUCC), conducted a comprehensive visit to Jammu. The visit focused on evaluating the ground-level implementation of welfare schemes and addressing the concerns of the workforce in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir.

During his visit, Shri SP Tiwari along with Sh. Sumeet Singh, Regional P F Commissioner-I held a meeting with Sh. Charandeep Singh, JKAS, Labour Commissioner of J&K to review the progress of the Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana (PMVBRY). The Labour Commissioner informed the Hon'ble CBT Member that a robust administrative framework has been established for the scheme's execution, involving a collaborative effort



between district authorities, the police department, and Assistant Labour Commissioners (ALCs). This multi-agency approach aims to ensure that the benefits of the scheme reach the intended beneficiaries across the UT effectively.

The statistical data shared during the meeting highlighted a steady upward trajectory for PMVBRY in the Jammu division. Total of 1,854 establishments have been successfully registered, marking a completion rate of 51.53 %. The registration drive has also seen the inclusion of 9,557 first-time workers and 15,485 rejoiners, reflecting strong momentum in worker enrolment. Within the division,

the districts of Jammu, Samba, and Kathua have emerged as the leaders in terms of implementation efficiency and registration numbers.

Furthering his engagement with the local labour ecosystem, Shri S.P. Tiwari met with prominent trade union representatives to discuss the expansion of social security nets. The meeting included Shri M. R. Salalia, President, Unorganised Construction & Other Allied Workers Union and Shri Nar Singh Naranian, President of the Jammu Province, J&K State Centre Labour Union. This interactive session served as a platform to identify the various difficulties being faced by subscribers and to brainstorm

strategies for increasing the overall coverage of EPFO in the region.

The visit concluded with an internal review meeting with the officers and staff of the EPFO Regional Office, Jammu. Shri SP Tiwari took the opportunity to personally interact with the employees and expressed his profound appreciation for their tireless efforts. He noted that despite facing a notable shortage of staff, the Regional Office has continued to provide essential services to the public efficiently. He praised their commitment to the welfare of the working class and assured them that the challenges regarding manpower and resources would be addressed at the appropriate forums.

# Martand Singh reviews preparations for Maha Shivratri at Ranbireshwar Mandir

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Martand Singh, Trustee of the J&K Dharmarth Trust (JKDT), conducted a comprehensive review of the arrangements being put in place for the smooth and peaceful celebration of Maha Shivratri, 2026 at the historic Shri Ranbireshwar Mandir, Jammu to take place on 14th and 15th February.

During the review, Secretary JKDT, Shri Ashok Sharma, briefed the Trustee in detail about the religious ceremony, operational preparedness, including crowd management, security coordination, sanitation, electricity, drinking water facilities, and other essential arrangements. He also apprised him about the finalized routes of the Shobha Yatra, ensuring proper co-ordination with the civil and police administration for the convenience and safety of devotees.



Martand Singh emphasized the importance of maintaining sanctity and respect of the religious tradition and rituals at Sri Ranbireshwar Temple during the festival of Maha Shivratri. He further said that the Dharmarth Trust shall ensure and facilitate a seamless experience for the large number of devotees expected to visit the temple during Maha Shivratri.

Besides reviewing the arrangements in Jammu, Martand Singh also took stock of the preparations for Maha Shivratri celebrations in the Kashmir Division.

The arrangements at prominent shrines including Shri Shankaracharya Mandir, Srinagar; Gauri Shankar Mandir, Pahalgam; and Maharani Mandir, Gulmarg were re-

viewed to ensure uniformity in facilities and adherence to traditional practices across all temples under the Dharmarth Trust.

Additional Secretary JKDT, Shri Varinder Singh Jamwal, Manager, Shri Brij Mohan Sharma, and Administrator, Arjun Singh were also present during the review and participated in the discussions related to festival arrangements.

# DC Budgam presides over Safer Internet Day

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Deputy Commissioner Budgam, Dr. Bilal Mohiud-din Bhat, today presided over a district-level awareness programme to mark Safer Internet Day 2026, organised under the aegis of the Information Security Education and Awareness (ISEA) Project of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), in collaboration with NIC and other stakeholder departments.

The programme was organised as part of the nationwide campaign being observed across the country on the second Tuesday of February, with the theme "Smart Tech, Safe Choices", focusing on promoting safe and responsible use of the internet and Artificial Intelligence (AI).

The event also served as a national-level precursor to the upcoming AI Impact Summit 2026 scheduled to be held in New Delhi from February 15th to 20th.

While addressing the participants, the DC highlighted the growing impor-



tance of digital safety in today's technology-driven world and stressed the need for creating widespread awareness among students, government employees, and the general public regarding cyber threats and safe online practices.

He underscored that with the increasing use of digital platforms and AI-based tools, citizens must be equipped with the right knowledge to protect themselves from cyber frauds, misinformation, and data breaches.

The DC emphasised that responsible and ethical use

of AI is essential for ensuring inclusive and people-centric development. He also stressed the role of AI in key sectors such as healthcare, agriculture, education, and governance, while cautioning against its misuse for scams, deepfakes, and misinformation.

During the programme, detailed presentations were made on key aspects including safe internet usage, cyber hygiene practices, common cyber threats such as phishing, OTP and UPI frauds, fake customer care scams, malware, deepfake and AI voice scams, online shop-

ping frauds, and digital arrest scams. Participants were sensitised on mechanisms for reporting cyber-crimes through the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal and the helpline number 1930.

The participants were also educated on best practices such as use of strong passwords, enabling two-factor authentication, avoiding suspicious links, securing UPI and card transactions, and protecting personal identifiable information. Awareness resources including [www.staysafeonline.in](http://www.staysafeonline.in) and [www.infosecawareness.in](http://www.infosecawareness.in) were also highlighted.

An online pledge for safe and responsible use of AI was administered, and participants were encouraged to enrol in ISEA e-learning courses and download the ISEA Cyber Hygiene mobile application to further strengthen their understanding of cyber safety.

Besides, DIO Informatics, the programme witnessed active participation from officials, students, teachers, Representatives from Revenue, RDD and other stakeholders.