

District Administration Baramulla bids Farewell to outgoing SDM Uri

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, FEB 13

District Administration Baramulla today accorded a warm farewell to the outgoing Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Uri, Shubhankar Pratyush Pathak on the successful completion of his tenure as SDM Uri.

On the occasion, Deputy Commissioner, Minga Sherpa, congratulated the outgoing SDM and commended his commitment, professionalism, and people-centric approach while discharging his duties.

He, extended his best wishes to the outgoing officer for the future assignments and commended him for his contribution towards the overall development and efficient administration of Sub-Division Uri. Speaking on the occasion, Shubhankar Pratyush expressed gratitude to the District Administration, officers, and staff for their co-operation and support during his tenure.



The outgoing SDM stated that serving in Uri was a deeply enriching experience and thanked the people of the sub-division for their trust which he said

was instrumental in achieving developmental milestones and ensuring smooth governance.

Assistant Commissioner Revenue (ACR) Baramulla, Arshad Ahmad Khan; Chief

Planning Officer, Nisar Ahmad and other officers presented tokens of appreciation to the outgoing SDM and acknowledged his valuable contribution to the district administration.

DLSA Budgam celebrates National Girl Child Day

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District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Budgam, under the aegis of the Jammu & Kashmir Legal Services Authority (JKLSA), organized an Awareness Programme in collaboration with an NGO, Bal Raksha Bharat (Save Children), Srinagar, celebrated National Girl Child Day on the theme "Challenges and Opportunities for Girls."

The workshop brought together government officials, members of the judiciary, educators, health professionals, media representatives, and civil society members, who actively interacted with students from government-run schools.

Speaking on the occasion Tabassum Qadir Paray, Secretary, DLSA Budgam emphasized that there are no shortcuts in life and that success requires dedication, perseverance, and goal-oriented focus. Sharing her personal experiences, she encouraged students to work hard and remain committed to their aspirations.

Dr. Naila Neelofar, Assistant Director, BOSE, advised students to balance digital engagement with real-world experiences. She encouraged them to explore opportunities beyond conventional academic subjects and focus on skill-based education.

Asma Dhar, Manager,



Bal Raksha Bharat (BRB), J&K and Ladakh, highlighted the importance of sustained collaboration between government agencies, civil society, and the private sector in advancing the rights and development of the girl child. She stated that meaningful partnerships have enabled BRB to reach children effectively and demonstrate the power of collective efforts.

Shazia Manzoor, Head of Department of Social Work, spoke about the crucial role of parental support in shaping the progress and success of girls.

She stressed the impor-

ance of focus, determination, and working consistently towards one's goals. She appreciated the efforts of Bal Raksha Bharat in grooming students as future leaders.

Dr. Samiya Khan, Consultant Pediatrician, JLN Hospital, emphasized that girls possess the power to transform society. She encouraged students to face challenges courageously and work towards economic independence to achieve success in life.

The primary objective of the programme was to empower girls, promote gender equality, and ensure

their rights to education, health, and safety. The initiative aimed to change societal attitudes, create a secure and supportive environment, and enhance opportunities for girls to lead, thrive, and live free from discrimination.

The workshop concluded with a collective commitment to further strengthen inter-departmental coordination. Participants acknowledged and appreciated the significant contribution of Bal Raksha Bharat, in working towards the welfare and empowerment of children in the Union Territory.

3rd meeting of District Level Advisory Committee on Safe Food & Healthy Diets held in Doda

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District Magistrate and Deputy Commissioner Doda Harvinder Singh chaired the third quarterly meeting of the District Level Advisory Committee (DLAC) on Safe Food and Healthy Diets for the year 2025-26 today.

The committee held comprehensive deliberations on strengthening food safety mechanisms and ensuring the effective implementation of the Food Safety and Standards Act 2006, along with its Rules and Regulations 2011, as prescribed by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).

Members reviewed enforcement activities across the district, including inspections, food sampling, prosecution and adjudication related to food safety. They also focused on monitoring grievances related to food businesses and consumer complaints to ensure timely redressal.

The DLAC underscored the importance of promoting a culture of self-compliance among food business operators through systematic training and capacity-



building initiatives under the Food Safety and Certification System.

Citizens' engagement emerged as a key priority. Discussions centered on initiatives such as the Eat Right Movement, Safe and Nutritious Food (SNF) programmes in schools and workplaces, BHOG and the development of clean street food hubs.

The committee discussed the promotion of fortified foods under welfare schemes including Integrated Child Development

Services (ICDS) and Mid-Day Meal (MDM). It also reviewed efforts to enhance food safety and nutritional literacy through convergence with national missions such as Ayushman Bharat, Poshan Abhiyaan and Swachh Bharat Mission.

Additionally, the meeting assessed the status of food-borne diseases in the district and discussed formulating a prompt response mechanism to address such occurrences.

Additional Deputy Com-

missioner Anil Kumar Thakur, Additional Superintendent of Police Mohammad Aslam, Project Officer ICDS Akhter Qazi, the Chief Medical Officer, the Chief Agriculture Officer, the Assistant Labour Commissioner and officers from the FCS&CA, District Industries and Education departments attended the meeting. Representatives from consumer organisations, food business associations and food safety professionals also participated.

Doda celebrates Elders Day with recreational activities and community interaction

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The Tehsil Social Welfare Office Doda, in collaboration with the Tehsil Legal Services Committee (TLSC) Doda, organised a special programme today to honour senior citizens on the occasion of Elders Day.

The administration conducted the programme under the guidance of Deputy Commissioner Doda Harvinder Singh and the supervision of District Social Welfare Officer Zubair Ahmed.

Tehsil Social Welfare Officer (TSWO) Touseef Ahmed Zargar, LADC Advocate Tahir Hussain Dar and Abhi Kumar attended the event. Para Legal Volunteers (PLVs) were also present and helped coordinate the programme.

The celebration featured engaging activities for senior citizens, including in-



teractive sessions, light recreation and community bonding exercises. The initiative aimed to promote social inclusion, emotional well-being and the active participation of elders in

community life. During the programme, speakers emphasised the importance of respecting senior citizens, upholding their dignity and safeguarding their rights. They

created awareness about various welfare schemes and legal provisions available for the protection of elderly persons, encouraging them to avail the benefits meant for their well-being.

DLSA Srinagar holds meeting-cum-training programme under "Mediation for the Nation 2.0" initiative

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A meeting-cum-training programme under the initiative "Mediation for the Nation 2.0" was today organized by the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Srinagar for the newly empanelled mediators at the Conference Hall, District Court Srinagar.

The programme was aimed at equipping the mediators with practical insights and procedural guidance to ensure the successful implementation of the nationwide mediation campaign.

The meeting was presided over by Haq

Nawaz Zargar, Chairman, District Legal Services Authority Srinagar who is also Coordinator District Mediation Centre (PD&SJ) Srinagar, emphasized the pivotal role of mediation in reducing pendency of cases and promoting amicable settlement of disputes. In his address, he highlighted that mediation serves as an effective, cost-efficient, and people-friendly mechanism for dispute resolution, particularly in matters relating to motor accident claims, cheque bounce cases, bank recovery disputes, and matrimonial issues. He urged the newly appointed mediators to discharge their responsibilities with dedication, im-

partiality, and a spirit of service.

The training was convened by Tabassum Qadir, Secretary, District Legal Services Authority Srinagar, upon the directions of Coordinator District Mediation Centre (PD&SJ) Srinagar who briefed them about the objectives, scope, and structured framework of "Mediation for the Nation 2.0." She stressed the importance of confidentiality, neutrality, and effective communication skills in mediation proceedings and encouraged mediators to adopt a facilitative approach to ensure meaningful dialogue between disputing parties.

During the interactive

training session, the newly appointed mediators were sensitized about the procedural aspects of conducting mediation, documentation requirements, ethical standards, and best practices to achieve successful settlements. The mediators actively participated in discussions and expressed their commitment to contributing effectively to the mission of strengthening alternative dispute resolution mechanisms in the district. The programme concluded with a collective resolve to make "Mediation for the Nation 2.0" a success by fostering a culture of amicable dispute resolution and enhancing access to justice for the people.

District Admin Pulwama intensifies Market Checking Drives

PULWAMA, FEBRUARY 13: Ahead of the upcoming holy month of Ramadan and acting on the directions of Deputy Commissioner Pulwama, Dr. Basharat Qayoom, joint teams of Revenue, Food Safety, Legal Metrology and Consumer Affairs & Public Distribution (CAPD) today conducted extensive market checking across various areas of the district to ensure strict adherence to quality standards and safeguard consumer interests.

During the drive, several establishments dealing in food items and essential commodities were inspected for compliance with the Food Safety and Standards Act (FSS Act). During the inspection drive at Pulwama, several cases were recommended for compounding under Section 69 of the FSS Act for violations detected during



the inspections. The teams stressed the importance of maintaining hygiene, proper labeling, quality standards and fair pricing

practices. Meanwhile, the teams also carried out intensive market checking in Kakapora and adjoining areas.

Establishments dealing in essential commodities and grocery items were inspected to ensure protection of consumer rights and compliance with Legal Metrology provisions. During the drive, three offenders were booked for violations under relevant provisions of the Act.

Furthermore, the Legal Metrology Department has been conducting routine inspections as part of its mandated enforcement responsibilities. During the current financial year, penalties amounting to Rs 11.70 lakh have been realized from erring traders.

Besides, action was also initiated against various Food Business Operators (FBOs), particularly butchers who had failed to install mandatory glass enclosures and were displaying meat outside their shops in violation of prescribed hygiene norms.

DC Bandipora chairs meeting on Preparations for Census 2027

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Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Indu Kanwal Chib, who is also the Principal Census Officer, chaired a meeting to review preparations for Census 2027, one of the largest and most sensitive administrative exercises.

Deliberations were held on the constitution of Cen-

sus Cells at District and Tehsil levels, including provision of necessary infrastructure and deployment of computer-proficient operators. The meeting also discussed the process for procurement and outsourcing of manpower, including engagement of Technical Assistants, with priority to timely hiring of technical staff.

During the meeting, the nomination of Master Trainers at the district level and Supervisors/Enumerators by the concerned Charge Officers, including Tehsildars and Executive Officers of Municipal Committees, was also discussed. Groundwork for field-level training and capacity building of enumerators was emphasized.

Highlighting the sensitive nature of the Census, the Deputy Commissioner underscored the importance of meticulous planning and coordination among departments.

The Deputy Commissioner urged all departments to extend full cooperation to ensure smooth and effective conduct of Census 2027 in the district