

Awareness schemes on Self-Employment organized at Panchayat Ghar Saranoo Bridge

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, FEB 19

An awareness programme on self-employment schemes of the Jammu & Kashmir Khadi and Village Industries Board (KVIB) was organized today at Saranoo Bridge, Rajouri. The programme aimed to educate unemployed youth, aspiring entrepreneurs, women beneficiaries and members of Self Help Groups about the benefits and procedures of different schemes being implemented by KVIB.

During the programme, detailed information was provided about the Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) and Jammu Kashmir Rural Employment Generation Programme (JKREGP), including project cost, subsidy pattern, eligibility criteria and online application process.

Participants were also sensitized about opportunities in manufacturing and service sectors, margin money assistance and the scope for expansion under



the 2nd loan facility.

The programme was attended by representatives from the Banking sector, Lead District Manager (JKB), Area Manager JKGB, District Industries Centre (DIC) Rajouri and the Rural Self Employment Training Institute (RSETI) who shared valuable insights regarding credit linkage, training facilities, project preparation and

handholding support for prospective entrepreneurs. The Bankers' representative highlighted the importance of proper documentation and timely submission of proposals for smooth sanctioning of cases.

District Officer KVIB Rajouri, Sameer Ahmed highlighted the importance of self-employment for economic upliftment and encouraged the youth to come

forward and avail benefits under government-sponsored schemes. Queries raised by participants were addressed on the spot and guidance was provided regarding documentation and bank procedures.

The Board reiterated its commitment to promote village industries and generate sustainable employment opportunities in district Rajouri.

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Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Shishir Gupta today chaired a meeting of the District Level-Telecom Committee to review the status of telecom services and ensure seamless network connectivity across the district.

During the meeting, a detailed presentation was delivered on telecommunication services in the district. The presentation highlighted the role and functioning of the Licence service Area (LSA), including measures being taken to strengthen connectivity, improve network coverage and address public grievances.

Key insights regarding telecom infrastructure development and future expansion plans aimed at enhancing digital connectivity across the district was shared with the committee.

During the meeting, a detailed discussion was held on strengthening mobile and internet services, particularly in far-flung and mountainous areas witnessing increased public



footfall.

The DC stressed upon all telecom service providers to enhance network speed and improve overall service quality to facilitate smooth communication and uninterrupted activities.

The representatives of BSNL, Airtel, Jio and other service providers were directed to ensure saturation of network coverage in uncovered or weak signal areas.

The DC instructed the concerned officers to immediately take up issues re-

lated to call drops, slow internet speed and poor connectivity, if any and resolve them in a time-bound manner.

Emphasizing the importance of reliable communication infrastructure, the DC called for joint field visits by telecom companies to assess ground-level challenges and take corrective measures.

The installation of additional towers, wherever required, was also discussed to ensure smooth and stable connectivity.

The DC further directed the concerned agencies to conduct surveys in uncovered pockets including remote villages and tourist locations to identify gaps and strengthen telecom services for the convenience of residents and visitors alike.

ADC, Dr. Zakir Hussain Faaz; ACR, Shakoor Ahmed Dar, other officers of district administration and representatives from telecommunication department and other concerned were present.

District Admin Bandipora conducts IEC Awareness Programmes on Nasha Mukht Abhiyan in ULB

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Continuing its intensified campaign under the Nasha Mukht JK Abhiyan, the District Administration Bandipora today organized a series of IEC (Information, Education and Communication) awareness programmes across various Urban Local Body (ULB) areas of the district.

The programmes were conducted at Bata Mohalla Sumbal, Ward No. 4 Partly Plan Bandipora, and 5-Khos/Syed Mohalla Hajin.

A multi-departmental team comprising officials from Health, Police, Education, Social Welfare (DDAC), Youth Services & Sports, JKNRLM, and Ex-



cise & Taxation departments participated in the programmes.

During the sessions, medical officers elabo-

rated on the adverse physical and psychological impacts of drug abuse and stressed the importance of early intervention and

treatment.

Police officials sensitized participants about the legal implications of drug-related offences and urged community members to remain vigilant. Representatives from Education and Social Welfare departments highlighted the role of families, teachers, and community institutions in identifying vulnerable individuals and providing timely counselling and support.

The programmes witnessed enthusiastic participation from local residents, youth, and members of civil society, who actively engaged in discussions and reaffirmed their commitment to supporting the vision of a drug-free Bandipora.

CIPMC organizes Two-Day HRD Programme on Integrated Pest Management

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, FEB 19

A two-day Human Resource Development (HRD) Programme on Integrated Pest Management was inaugurated today at the Centre of Excellence, Zawoora, Srinagar.

The programme was organized by the Central Integrated Pest Management Centre (CIPMC), Srinagar, in collaboration with the State Horticulture Department, Kashmir.

Abdul Hamid Bhat, Joint Director, Horticulture Kashmir, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. He was accompanied by Iqbal Ahmed Wafai, Farm Manager, ACHD Rajbagh.

In his inaugural address, the Joint Director emphasized the importance of capacity building of field



functionaries and farmers in promoting sustainable horticultural practices. He highlighted the need to adopt eco-friendly pest management strategies to ensure safe food produc-

tion and environmental protection. Dr. Mithilesh Kumar Arya, Deputy Director (PP), delivered a detailed presentation on Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and the safe and ju-

dicious use of pesticides. He elaborated on the principles of IPM, focusing on need-based pesticide application, biological control measures, and resistance management to minimize environmental and health hazards.

Dr. Haroon Rashid Hakla, Assistant Plant Protection Officer (PP), provided insights into the National Pest Surveillance System. He explained its role in real-time pest monitoring, early warning systems, and informed decision-making to mitigate crop losses.

The programme witnessed active participation from field officials and farmers, aiming to strengthen pest surveillance, promote responsible pesticide use, and enhance sustainable horticultural productivity in the region.

DC Doda hands over computers to GMS Saras Kastigarh

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, FEB 19

Deputy Commissioner Doda, Harvinder Singh today handed over computer systems to Government Middle School Saras Kastigarh (Zone Bhagwah) aiming to promote digital literacy, enhance ICT-based learning and bridge the digital divide in rural schools of the district.

The initiative is part of the district administration's continued efforts to strengthen digital infrastructure in government schools and provide stu-



dents with better access to modern educational tools. By integrating technology into classroom teaching, the administration seeks to improve learning outcomes, encourage innovation and equip students with essential

digital skills.

The Deputy Commissioner emphasized the importance of digital education in today's fast-evolving world and reiterated the commitment of the district administration to ensure equitable access to quality education, especially in remote and rural areas.

The school staff and students expressed gratitude to the district administration for the timely support, terming it a significant step towards creating a more inclusive and technology-enabled learning environment in Doda district.

DIC Ramban organises awareness camp at Batote

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JAMMU, FEB 19

In line with the directives of Deputy Commissioner, Ramban Mohammad Aliyaz Khan and under the guidance of Director Industries and Commerce Jammu, Arun Manhas, the District Industries Centre Ramban today organized an awareness camp at Batote.

The programme held under the overall supervision of General Manager, District Industries Centre Ramban, Ravinder Kumar, was started with the welcome address by the Project Manager, District Industries Centre Ramban, Kuldeep Singh.

The students/aspirants were sensitised regarding Udyam Registrations under RAMP, PMEGP Scheme, PM Vishwakarma and various other schemes being implemented by Industries & Commerce Department/District Industries Centre, Ramban.

The Project Manager DIC highlighted the schemes being implemented by the District Industries Centre and formally registered the applications on the portal of PMEGP to encourage the



youth to become an entrepreneur by taking the advantage of loan facility provided by the Government.

The educated unemployed youth were sensitized about various benefits/subsidies they can get to start their own ventures under PMEGP Scheme in manufacturing and service sectors and other schemes such as NCSS, a central sponsored scheme and State Packages provided by the UT Government under

J&K Industrial Policy-2021-30.

Awareness regarding PM Vishwakarma, a holistic and technically upgraded skill scheme was also created during the programme. Besides, the entrepreneurs were also motivated by the officials regarding the benefits of the MSME Health Clinic registration and urged to register their ventures in MSME Health Clinic Portal ([https://jkmsmehealth-](https://jkmsmehealth-clinic.jk.gov.in)

[clinic.jk.gov.in](https://jkmsmehealth-clinic.jk.gov.in)).

The aspiring unemployed youths were motivated by the schemes and expressed their willingness to avail benefit under the Prime Minister Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) and PM Vishwakarma implemented by the District Industries Centre and more than 150 aspiring youths and artisans were motivated by different schemes.

Horticulture Department organises Farmers' training programmes under JKCIP

JAMMU, FEBRUARY 19:

The Department of Horticulture Jammu organized a Farmers' Training Programme under the Jammu & Kashmir Competitiveness Improvement Project (JKCIP) at Udhewala, here today.

The programme was graced by the Director Horticulture, Jammu, Jenab Gul Syed as the chief guest.

Among the distinguished dignitaries present were Prof. Vikas Tandon, Dean, Faculty of Horticulture and Forestry, Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Jammu (SKUAST-J); Chief Horticulture Officer, Jammu, R.K. Kotwal; Professor Dr. Amit Jasrotia; Associate Professor Dr. Monika Reshi; DLSMS Jammu, Rakesh Kumar Bhagat; HDO Akhnoor, Sandeep Sharma; HDO Bhalwal, Ravinder Kumar; along with field staff of the respective zones.



While addressing the farmers, the Director delivered a comprehensive lecture emphasizing the importance of adopting modern horticulture practices, high-density plantation systems, integrated pest management and scientific orchard management to enhance productivity and increase farmers' income. He urged the farm-

ing community to avail advantage of the benefits being provided under JKCIP for strengthening horticulture infrastructure and improving market linkages.

Chief Horticulture Officer, Jammu, R.K. Kotwal also delivered a detailed lecture highlighting various departmental schemes, orchard rejuvenation practices and the

significance of quality planting material. He encouraged farmers to maintain close coordination with field functionaries for better technical guidance and timely support.

Prof. Vikas Tandon, Dr. Amit Jasrotia and Dr. Monika Reshi elaborated on improved cultivation techniques, disease management practices and the importance of certified planting material.

The experts also interacted with the farmers and addressed their queries in detail. The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from a large number of farmers of the area, who appreciated the initiative of the Department in organizing such awareness and capacity-building programmes at the grassroots level.

Meanwhile, another Farmers' Training Programme under JKCIP was organised at Krishi Vigyan Kendra R.S. Pura.