

NCORD meeting reviews drug control measures in Doda District

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, FEB 28

A meeting of the District Level NCORD Committee was held today to review enforcement measures against drug abuse and trafficking in the District.

District Magistrate (DM), Krishan Lal chaired the meeting in the presence of Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP), Sandeep Mehta in the Conference Hall DC Office Complex.

The meeting focused on a comprehensive evaluation of enforcement strategies, preventive measures and implementation of awareness initiatives across the district to curb drug abuse and trafficking.

The District Magistrate conducted an in-depth review of the prevailing drug abuse scenario, seeking detailed inputs regarding vulnerable areas, affected age groups and identified hotspots. He directed the Executive Officers of Municipalities to identify and destroy wild cannabis within their respective jurisdictions. The BDOs were also instructed to submit weekly progress reports detailing the destruction of narcotic vegetation in their areas. Asking for strict enforcement of No-Tobacco Zone protocols around 100 meter radius of schools, the DM directed the authorities to take strict action



against shopkeepers and vendors selling tobacco-related products in close proximity to educational institutions. "There shall be prompt action against any government officer or official found consuming or possessing tobacco products, cigarettes within school premises," he said.

The District Magistrate emphasized on formulating a specialized training module for local counselors to empower them as community leaders in the fight against drug abuse and substance dependence.

The SSP reaffirmed the police department's zero-tolerance policy towards narcotics-related crimes and assured that strict legal

action is being taken against drug peddlers and habitual offenders.

To ensure transparency and effective monitoring, the SSP directed the concerned officers to submit detailed data on the destruction of wild cannabis and provide geo-tagged photographs as evidence of clearance operations. He also emphasized the need to strengthen inter-departmental coordination to present a unified and effective front against drug trafficking networks.

Principals of Government Degree Colleges (GDCs) and schools were asked to conduct regular workshops and awareness programmes on the haz-

ards of drug addiction. The BDOs were instructed to organize Panchayat-level awareness campaigns, integrating anti-drug messaging with existing government schemes to maximize outreach.

All stakeholders and officers were directed to utilize digital platforms such as Facebook, YouTube and WhatsApp to disseminate educational videos and information related to drug abuse prevention and rehabilitation services.

The DM and SSP also reviewed several technology-driven and public health initiatives, including assessment of the CCTV surveillance network across the district.

44th NCORD meeting held in Budgam

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The 44th District-Level NCORD (Narco Coordination) Committee Meeting was today convened at the DC Office Budgam under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Athar Aamir Khan, along with SSP Budgam, Nikhil Borkar, to review ongoing measures against drug abuse and to formulate fresh strategies for a drug-free Budgam.

The meeting was attended by ADC Budgam, all SDMs, ACP, CMO, DIO, DSWO, Medical Superintendent DH Budgam, Principals of all Government Degree Colleges, EOs of Municipal Committees, and other concerned officers.

At the outset, action taken on previous NCORD decisions was reviewed.

The chair was also apprised that 13 cases have been registered under NDPS, 01 under PIT-NDPS, 19 peddlers were arrested so far in this month in the District.

The DC said that drug abuse is not only a law enforcement challenge but a serious social problem affecting families and communities.

He emphasised that the fight against drugs must remain strict and uncompromising toward peddlers, traffickers, and cultivators, while being supportive and



compassionate toward victims who require treatment and rehabilitation.

He said that a multi-pronged approach involving deterrence, enforcement, treatment, and mass awareness is essential. It was stressed that all line departments need to intensify efforts to curb narcotics cultivation and peddling.

It was further stated that roads, embankments, and panchayat areas must be kept free from cannabis and poppy cultivation through coordinated efforts.

The DC appreciated the progress made so far but said that continuous, proactive, and visible action is required so that the public retains confidence in the administration's resolve.

Regarding drug regulation, the DC underlined the importance of 100% CCTV

coverage and Computerized Billing Systems (CBS) in all chemist shops. He said that frequent inspections must continue and strict action be taken for any violations.

He also said that the Drug Inspector shall ensure footage, CBS to be provided by pharmacies to increase transparency.

The DC said that the Excise Department shall work in close coordination with Agriculture, Revenue and Police authorities for destruction of illicit crops and registration of FIRs.

SDMs were asked to hold meetings with religious scholars and community stakeholders to encourage sermons against substance abuse and promote "Nasha-Mukt Panchayats."

It was also stated that the Rural Development Department shall organise special Gram Sabhas on

drug abuse awareness, while the DSWO shall conduct mega IEC campaigns across villages, towns, and educational institutions.

The DC said that the Addiction Treatment Facility (ATF) at District Hospital Budgam must remain functional round-the-clock. He directed that the Drug De-Addiction Centre to be made fully functional for intake of patients requiring treatment.

The DC also said that all Degree Colleges in Budgam shall ensure installation of CCTV cameras within their campuses to strengthen preventive monitoring.

Reiterating the zero-tolerance stance, the DC said that the administration shall continue to act firmly against drug peddlers, cultivators, and traffickers, while extending full support to victims of addiction. He said that this campaign requires collective participation of government departments, civil society, community elders, teachers, parents, and religious scholars.

On the occasion, the SSP Budgam urged installation of CCTV cameras at identified hotspots in the district, including Nasrallahpora, Chadoora, and Magam. He also emphasised close inter-departmental coordination and focused rehabilitation and counselling of drug addiction victims at the Drug De-Addiction Centre Budgam.

CHO B'pora inaugurates mega Plantation Drive under JKCIP at Zone Sumbal

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, FEB 28

Chief Horticulture Officer (CHO), Bandipora Pawan Kumar Thakur today inaugurated a mega plantation drive under JKCIP scheme at Zone Sumbal.

The inaugural ceremony took place at Sumbal Sonawari, where the CHO, accompanied by Horticulture Development Officer, Sumbal, field functionaries and local farmers, planted high quality fruit plants to kick off the season's drive.

Speaking on the occasion, the CHO emphasized the importance of the High-Density Plantation in modernizing traditional farming practices. He urged farmers to adopt the latest technical interventions provided by the department to maximize productivity and transition toward high-density



plantation. He said, the initiative aims to introduce high-

quality, climate-resilient varieties in the district, ensuring better yields and

economic upliftment for the local farming community.

Div Com Kashmir conducts City Tour; Inspects E-Bus Charging Stations

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Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Anshul Garg on Saturday undertook an extensive tour of Srinagar city to review the progress of ongoing developmental works at various locations.

He was accompanied by Commissioner SMC/CEO SSCL, General Manager SRTC, Deputy Director Planning (DDP), and other senior revenue officers.

During the visit, the Divisional Commissioner inspected the e-bus charging station at Zoonimar, Soura, and assessed the status of the ongoing works. He was informed that the facility is expected to be commissioned by March 15.

He directed the concerned officers to evaluate the operational impact of the charging station, particularly in terms of service efficiency, traffic decongestion, circulation management, and public convenience.

The Divisional Commissioner also reviewed the



construction of residential houses being developed for eight families from Habakadal at a nearby site and stressed timely completion of the project.

While visiting the proposed site for an additional e-bus charging station at Hazratbal, he instructed the CEO, Srinagar Smart

City, to prepare detailed site drawings and examine the feasibility of the project in consultation with the Vice Chairman, LCMA.

Taking note of the deteriorating condition of the Habakadal Foot bridge, the Divisional Commissioner directed the CEO SSCL to consult local rep-

resentatives and expedite necessary renovation measures.

He further inspected the proposed riverfront development project at Habakadal near the ghat, which aims to enhance the aesthetic appeal of the area and facilitate water transport infrastructure.

SWD Shopian organises awareness programme for senior citizens under AVAY at Keller

SHOPIAN, FEBRUARY 28:

Social Welfare Department (SWD) Shopian today organised sensitization and awareness programme for senior citizens under Atal Vayo abhyudaya yojna (AVAY) at Tehsil office, Keller.

Tehsil Social Welfare Officer Shopian, Naib Tehsildar Keller, Administrator, OSC, Shopian and Case Worker OSC, Shopian addressed the gathering and provided comprehensive awareness regarding the schemes and assistance extended by the Department of Social Welfare including all pension schemes for eligible beneficiaries.

Awareness session was conducted on the functioning of One Stop Centre (OSC) Shopian to disseminate information about OSC support services for women. Pamphlets of OSC



were distributed among women participants for general awareness.

The programme concluded with an interactive session encouraging participants to avail themselves of the welfare measures im-

plemented for the protection and empowerment of vulnerable sections of society including elderly.

MC Kunzer strengthens field preparedness with Integrated ODF

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In a robust effort to bolster sanitation standards and field preparedness for the upcoming Swachh Survekshan 2025-26, the Municipal Committee (MC) Kunzer today executed a dual-track campaign focusing on sustained hygiene behaviours and the circular economy.

These activities, conducted under the umbrella of Swachh Bharat Mission Urban 2.0, were held under the direct supervision of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and the concerned Sanitary Inspector, reflecting a committed approach to closing service-level benchmarks across the town.

The first phase of the

day's activities involved a targeted community awareness campaign concerning "No Open Defecation" and "No Open Urination."

In a strategic move to ensure the town's ODF status remains sustainable, the Municipal Committee partnered with the IEC Team of Baramulla to engage directly with local shopkeepers. By bringing the message to the town's primary commercial hubs, the campaign successfully sensitized business owners and visitors alike about the health hazards associated with poor sanitation practices. The outreach served as a significant push for public participation (Jan Andolan), encouraging every resident to take personal responsibility for the cleanliness of their immediate surroundings and commercial spaces.

Parallel to this, the Municipal Committee organized a high-impact donation drive at the town's permanent RRR (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) Centre.

With the Sanitary Inspector present on-ground to coordinate the collection, citizens were motivated to donate usable items such as clothing, books, and household goods to support the needy members of the local community. This initiative is a vital component of the town's strategy to move toward a circular economy, effectively diverting functional waste from landfills and repurposing it for social good. By transforming the RRR Centre into a vibrant hub for community welfare, the Municipal Committee Kunzer is fostering

a deeper sense of social responsibility among residents.

Through these integrated interventions, the Municipal Committee Kunzer is not only meeting the goals set out in the month of February Action Plan but is also setting a benchmark for community-led sanitation.

The active collaboration between the administration, the IEC team, and the citizens demonstrates that sustainable urban management is built upon the twin pillars of infrastructure maintenance and shared civic values. As Kunzer prepares for the national assessment, these concerted efforts are paving the way for a cleaner, healthier, and more dignified environment for the people of Baramulla.