

JAMMU & KASHMIR

Commissioner STD reviews strategy for new Financial Year

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, APR 16

Commissioner State Taxes Department (STD), P.K. Bhat chaired a meeting here today to review the department's strategy for the newly commenced financial year.

The meeting was attended by Additional Commissioner (Administration & Enforcement), Namrita Dogra and all tax officers of State Taxes Department.

During the meeting, detailed deliberations were held on strengthening compliance mechanisms and enhancing deterrence against tax evasion at the circle level. The meeting laid emphasis on outcome-based actions aimed at augmenting GST revenue



across the Union Territory. Addressing the participants in the meeting, the Commissioner stressed the need for initiating actionable measures from the very first month of the financial year to effectively curb the menace of fake Input Tax Credit (ITC).

He underlined the importance of proactive monitoring and analytical scrutiny to identify defaulters at an early stage. He expressed

confidence that with focused efforts, the new financial year will prove more productive for the UT of J&K.

Highlighting the role of technology, the Commissioner urged officers to leverage digital tools and data analytics for efficient tracking of cases, timely interventions, and improved enforcement outcomes. He emphasized that technology-driven governance

would be key to ensuring transparency, accountability, and higher revenue realization.

Additional Commissioner Namrita Dogra called upon State Tax Officers, Inspectors, and field functionaries to work in close coordination and as a cohesive team within their respective circles. She stressed that collective effort, discipline, and accountability are essential for enhancing departmental productivity and achieving revenue targets.

The department also appealed to all taxpayers to adhere to GST norms, ensure timely filing of returns, and maintain transparency in their transactions, emphasizing that voluntary compliance is crucial for fostering a fair and robust tax ecosystem.

313 new district cadre employees selected for matriculation & 10+2 level through LAHD-SSRB

LEH, APRIL 16: The Lieutenant Governor of the Union Territory of Ladakh, Shri Vinai Kumar Saxena, today handed over appointment letters to 313 newly recruited district cadre government employees at Rozgar Mela organised in Leh. This is the second Rozgar Mela to be organised within three days, as the Lieutenant Governor had handed over appointment letters to around 200 recruits at Kargil on 14th April.

LAHD-SSRB Leh had conducted exams for the recruitment of district cadre posts for matriculation and 10+2 level in November last year, which saw an overwhelming response from government job aspirants. A total of 387 candidates were selected, out of which 313 candidates were given appointment letters today. A majority of these recruitments have been made in Health, Revenue, PHE, Forest and Animal Husbandry departments that will strengthen the governance and service delivery system in Ladakh.

Congratulating the newly appointed employees, the Lieutenant Governor described the occasion as a



proud and historic moment for the youth of Ladakh and their families.

He highlighted that the recruitment process reflects transparency and merit-based selection, ensuring equal opportunities without any bias or malpractice.

Emphasising that government service is not merely a source of livelihood but a responsibility towards society and the nation, he urged the recruits to work with dedication, integrity, and a strong sense of public service.

He reiterated the Administration's commitment to

filling all vacant posts in a time-bound manner and moving away from ad-hoc arrangements towards regular and transparent recruitment.

During his address, the Lieutenant Governor highlighted three key principles for the newly inducted employees: to become responsible and not just act as employees; to be compassionate towards citizens, especially the underprivileged; and to always place the nation first in their duties. He encouraged them to adopt a citizen-centric approach and

make use of innovation and technology to improve service delivery. Aligning their role with the vision of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi for a developed India by 2047, he called upon the youth to actively contribute to nation-building and uphold the values of honesty, accountability, and commitment.

The Lieutenant Governor expressed confidence that the newly recruited employees, with their energy and fresh ideas, would play a vital role in strengthening governance and enhancing public service delivery in Ladakh.

DC Reasi reviews preparedness for Rainy Season

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, APR 16

Deputy Commissioner Reasi Kumar Abhishek today chaired a meeting to review preparedness of stakeholder departments for the rainy season. He directed the concerned officers to identify vulnerable locations and ensure permanent installation and availability of machinery to effectively tackle any eventuality arising due to heavy rains.

Emphasizing prompt and efficient response during disasters, the Deputy Commissioner instructed GRIF, PWD and PMGSY to take concrete steps at individual level. The departments were asked to maintain close coordination with



Sub-Divisional Magistrates for timely action. He also called for detailed reports on bridges and culverts requiring desilting and repair, while directing the PHE Department to take preemptive measures to ensure adequate supply of safe drinking water during the

season. SDRF teams were instructed to remain fully prepared for emergency situations.

Later, the Deputy Commissioner reviewed the physical and financial progress under various sectors and schemes being implemented in the district,

along with preparations for the current year development plan. He assessed the progress of the District Capex Budget 2025-26 under the UT component and reviewed ongoing works of Jal Shakti, PWD and the Aspirational Development Programme.

He directed officers to finalize land before floating tenders and stressed that all development works should be executed on state land with strict monitoring for timely completion. The DC also emphasized participatory planning, directing officers to prepare the draft development plan for 2026-27 in consultation with Gram Sabhas, while ensuring completion of all pending works within the stipulated timeframe.

DC Ramban urges media to promote Nasha Mukta Campaign

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, APR 16

To strengthen the ongoing Nasha Mukta Jammu & Kashmir - Nasha Mukta Ramban campaign, Deputy Commissioner Mohammad Alyas Khan today chaired an interactive meeting with media persons of the district, underscoring its pivotal role in building a drug-free society.

The meeting was attended by SSP Arun Gupta; Additional Deputy Commissioner Varunjeet Singh Charak; ACD Sheraz Ahmed Chouhan; Tehsildar Deep Kumar; officials from the Information Department and representatives from the media fraternity.

Addressing the gathering, the Deputy Commissioner stressed that the success of the anti-drug Abhiyan largely depends on effective public awareness, wherein the media can act as a powerful medium. He urged media professionals to become the voice and driving force of the Nasha Mukta



Ramban initiative by spreading the message across every household and remote corners of the district.

Emphasizing innovation in outreach, the Deputy Commissioner shared several creative and result-oriented ideas to further intensify the media campaign. He encouraged extensive use of digital and social me-

dia platforms to amplify the campaign's reach and meaningful engagement of the youth in the fight against drug abuse.

SSP Arun Gupta reaffirmed the Police Department's commitment to eliminate drug trafficking from the district. He assured full support in enforcement and appealed to the media fraternity to ac-

tively collaborate in disseminating awareness and promoting a collective societal response against substance abuse.

The Media persons assured full cooperation to administration in making Nasha Mukta Ramban Abhiyan a people's movement and ensuring a healthier, safer future for the youth of the district.

DLSA Reasi spreads public awareness about Lok Adalat, legal rights

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, APR 16

Under the visionary leadership of Khalil Choudhary, Chairman District Legal Services Authority Reasi (also Pr. District and Sessions Judge Reasi) and the able guidance of Pooja Gupta, Secretary, an awareness programme was organized today by TLSC Mahore at LAC Dewal-B regarding the Lok Adalat scheduled on April 18, 2026.

The Para Legal Volunteers (PLVs) sensitized the participants to the significance of the Special Lok Adalat, emphasizing its role in providing speedy, cost effective and amicable settlement of disputes without lengthy court procedures.



The participants were informed about the types of cases that can be taken up in the Lok Adalat including pre-litigation matters and pending cases.

A Door-to-door awareness drive was conducted in Village Buttan, Katra to edu-

cate the Gujjar community about legal rights, welfare schemes and free legal aid services available under the Legal Services Authorities Act.

The PLVs interacted directly with members of the Gujjar community, educat-

ing them about their legal entitlements, access to justice through legal aid mechanisms. Special emphasis was laid on schemes related to marginalized and tribal communities, ensuring that the benefits reach the grassroots level.

ADC Bhandarwah reviews progress of Panchayat Electoral Roll revision

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, APR 16

Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Bhandarwah, Sunil Kumar Bhutyal, who is also the Electoral Registration Officer (ERO), convened a virtual meeting with Panchayat Election Booth Officers (PEBOs) to review and strategize the preparation for an error-free electoral roll.

The meeting was held in connection with the Special Summary Revision of the Panchayat Electoral Roll.

Block Development Officers (BDOs) from Bhandarwah, Bhalla, Chiralla and Bhalessa participated in the meeting through virtual mode.



During the session, the ADC highlighted the importance of maintaining accuracy and transparency in the electoral process. He in-

formed that all individuals who have attained the age of 18 years as of April 1, 2026, are eligible to enroll in the Panchayat electoral roll.

He directed the officers to ensure timely addition, deletion and correction of entries within the prescribed time-frame.

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, APR 16

As part of the ongoing 100 Days Nasha Mukta JK Abhiyan, the Department of AYUSH, today organized a yoga camp at Government Higher Secondary School-Keshwan

A key component of the UT-wide mega drug de-addiction campaign, the initiative aimed at promoting a healthy lifestyle and raising awareness about the harmful effects of substance abuse among students.

Additional District Development Commissioner Vinod Kumar Behnal graced the occasion as the Chief Guest.

In his address, he emphasized the importance of yoga in maintaining physical and mental well-being and encouraged students to adopt a disciplined and drug-free lifestyle.

Students of the school ac-



tively participated in the camp and performed various yoga asanas with great enthusiasm.

Meanwhile, the Department of Youth Services & Sports (YSS) organized a district-wide Marathon themed "Choose Sports, Not Drugs."

The marathon witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, youth and

sports lovers across all zones of the District, reflecting a strong commitment towards building a healthy and drug-free society.

Participants carried messages and slogans advocating a drug-free lifestyle. A significant highlight of the programme was the pledge ceremony, where students collectively took an oath to

support the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan and spread awareness among their peers and society.

All ZPEOs ensured smooth conduct of the marathon in their respective zones, mobilizing maximum participation and spreading the message of the campaign effectively at the grassroots level.