

Udhampur admin facilitates maiden Inter-Country Adoption under Mission Vatsalya

UDHAMPUR, APRIL 16: In a landmark achievement under Mission Vatsalya, the District administration Udhampur has facilitated the first inter-country adoption under the guidance of Deputy Commissioner, Minga Sherpa.

A female infant (special child) was found abandoned in Swaraj Express near Katra Railway Station and produced before the District Child Welfare Committee.

The child was immediately provided care, protection, and rehabilitation through coordinated intervention of District Social Welfare department, SARA and Phulwari Specialized Adoption Agency (SAA).

After completion of all legal formalities and due procedures under CARA adop-



tion guidelines, the child was declared legally free for adoption.

With sustained care, counselling and rehabilitation support by Phulwari SAA, the case was successfully processed for inter-country adoption.

On April 15, 2026, the child was formally adopted

by Prospective Adoptive Parents (PAPs) from the United States through the inter-country adoption process.

Additional Deputy Commissioner Prem Singh along with District Social Welfare Officer Kanika Gupta formally handed over the child to the adop-

tive parents.

The successful adoption marks a significant milestone in ensuring the child's right to family-based care and a secure future, while reflecting the dedicated efforts of DSWO and Phulwari SAA towards child protection and rehabilitation.

Comm Secretary I&C visits Pulwama, attends mega event under NMBA

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, APR 16

Commissioner Secretary, Industries and Commerce (I&C) Department, Vikramjit Singh, who is the District Mentor for overseeing the implementation of Nasha Mukta Jammu & Kashmir Abhiyan in Pulwama, today visited the district and presided over a mega event at Government Degree College (Boys), Pulwama.

The event was organised under the ongoing 100-day intensive campaign of the Nasha Mukta Jammu & Kashmir Abhiyan and witnessed participation from a large number of stakeholders.

The programme featured cultural performances, awareness skits, speeches and interactive sessions aimed at highlighting the ill effects of drug abuse and promoting a drug-free society.

Addressing the gathering, Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA) Rajpora, Ghulam Mohi-ud-din Mir, highlighted the menace of drug abuse and stressed the need for collective efforts to eliminate it from society. He appreciated the initiative of the 100-day intensive campaign and urged people from all walks of life to actively participate in the campaign for a better and healthier future.

Member of Legislative Assembly Pulwama, Waheed-ur-Rehman Para, emphasised the importance of engaging youth in constructive activities and linking them with government-sponsored schemes to safeguard them from drug abuse. He also emphasized the role of society and local communities in preventing substance abuse and supporting affected individuals.

Highlighting the role of youth, he said that the administration is taking sustained measures for the rehabilitation of victims of drug abuse and their reintegration into society by linking them with various



government schemes. He added that youth clubs across wards and Panchayat halqas are being revitalised and strengthened to act as platforms for positive engagement.

Addressing the gathering, Vikramjit Singh who attended the programme as Chief Guest, said that drug menace has adversely impacted society and highlighted various factors that lead youth towards substance abuse. He advised young people to introspect and understand the devastating impact of drugs on individuals, families and the socio-economic fabric of society.

Speaking on the occasion, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Pulwama said that the 100-day campaign has been launched with the objective of eliminating drug abuse through coordinated efforts of all stakeholders. He added that the campaign is being implemented through a three-pronged strategy focusing on Information, Education and Communication (IEC), treatment, rehabilitation and prevention, and enforcement across the district. "A whole-of-govern-

ment and whole-of-society approach remains central to the successful implementation of the campaign," said the DC, while appreciating the enthusiastic participation of various sections of society in the event and the campaign at large.

He called for coordinated efforts among the administration, police, civil society and community stakeholders to ensure effective implementation of the Nasha Mukta Abhiyan and to make it a mass movement.

On the occasion, Commissioner Secretary led the participants in taking the Nasha Mukta pledge and also took part in a signature campaign along with attendees to mark their support towards the successful implementation of the campaign. The event was attended by MLA Rajpora Ghulam Mohi-ud-din Mir; MLA Pulwama Waheed-ur-Rehman Para; former DDC member Dadsara Avtar Singh; political representatives; members of Trade Federation Pulwama; Auqaf Committee members; civil society members; social activists; religious leaders; students; and officers from paramilitary

forces, district administration and police including Senior Superintendent of Police Pulwama, Tanushree, and Commandant CRPF 182/183 Battalion, among others.

Later in the day, the Commissioner Secretary held a review meeting with Deputy Commissioner Pulwama, Senior Superintendent of Police Pulwama and other district and sectoral officers to assess the implementation of the ongoing 100-day intensive campaign under the Nasha Mukta Jammu & Kashmir Abhiyan.

Meanwhile, as part of the campaign, a series of awareness programmes and activities were conducted across municipal wards and Panchayat halqas in areas including Gulistan Aripal, Amirabad Dadsara and Prichoo Pulwama, involving local communities and focusing on themes related to a drug-free society.

Besides, as part of the campaign, special poster-making competitions on the theme "Say No to Drugs and Yes to Life" were organised across educational institutions of the district.

District Administration Kupwara Organizes Pad Yatras across District

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, APR 16

In a significant step towards strengthening the ongoing Nasha Mukta JK Abhiyan, the District Administration Kupwara today organized mega Pad Yatras across the district to create mass awareness against drug abuse and promote a healthy, drug-free society.

A Mega Pad Yatra was held in Kupwara which was attended by MLA Kupwara, Mir Mohammad Fayaz, Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Shrikant Suse, SSP Kupwara, Syed Al Tahir Gilani and witnessed overwhelming participation from officers, government employees, members of civil society, youth, and a large number of students. Demonstrating strong public support, the rally drew an estimated participation of around 10,000 participants.

The Yatra commenced from Boys Higher Secondary School (BHSS) Kupwara and passed through key streets and markets of Kupwara town, drawing attention from the general public and spreading the message of drug de-addiction. On the occasion, Nasha Mukta pledge was also taken by the participants for fighting against the drug menace. The rally culminated at Regipora Sumo Stand, where participants reiterated their com-



mitment to combating the menace of drug abuse.

Participants carried placards and raised slogans highlighting the harmful effects of drug addiction and the importance of collective action to eliminate the threat from society. The initiative aimed not only to sensitize the public, particularly the youth, but also to encourage community in-

volvement in prevention and rehabilitation efforts.

Similar Pad Yatras were simultaneously organized across all tehsils and blocks of the district including border areas of Karnah, Machill and Keran under the Nasha Mukta JK Abhiyan. These events saw active participation from local administrations, educational institutions,

and community groups, further amplifying the message at the grassroots level.

The District Administration reiterated its commitment to continue such awareness drives and appealed to all stakeholders, including parents, educators, and community leaders, to play an active role in safeguarding society from the dangers of drug abuse.

Mega Shikara Rally held on Dal Lake to Promote Drug-Free Society

DIPR, Tourism Department join hands under Nasha Mukta J&K campaign

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, APR 16

In a unique initiative, the Department of Information and Public Relations (DIPR), in collaboration with the Tourism Department, organized a mega anti-drug Shikara rally on the iconic Dal Lake under the ongoing Nasha Mukta Jammu and Kashmir Abhiyan.

The initiative was a part of the ongoing 100-Day 'Nasha Mukta Jammu and Kashmir' campaign launched by the Lieutenant Governor J&K, and in line with the calendar of activities of District Administra-

tion Srinagar.

The rally aimed to spread awareness about the ill effects of drug abuse among a wide spectrum of stakeholders, including tourists, shikara owners, and communities residing in and around water bodies.

The initiative sought to ensure that the message of a drug-free society reaches even the most remote and water-bound habitations.

Dozens of vibrantly decorated shikaras glided across the waters of Dal Lake, carrying banners, placards, and messages advocating a drug-free lifestyle.

On the occasion, Joint Director Information Kashmir, Syed Shah Nawaz

Bukhari, and Joint Director Tourism Kashmir, Waseem Raja, actively participated in the rally along with students, shikara owners, and officials from both departments.

The officers interacted with tourists and local stakeholders, sensitizing them about the physical, psychological, and social consequences of drug abuse. They highlighted that such innovative outreach programmes are essential to connect with diverse sections of society and ensure that no segment remains untouched by the awareness drive.

Shikara owners, who play a vital role in the

tourism ecosystem of Kashmir, also expressed their support for the initiative and pledged to contribute towards spreading awareness among visitors and local communities.

The rally not only reinforced the government's commitment to eradicating drug abuse but also showcased how traditional elements of Kashmir's heritage can be effectively leveraged to promote social causes.

During the rally, Shikaras carried a powerful message that the fight against drugs is a shared responsibility, and together, a healthier and drug-free Jammu and Kashmir can be achieved.

DC Pulwama presides over Media Workshop under NMBA

PULWAMA, APRIL 16: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Pulwama, Dr. Basharat Qayoom, today presided over a media workshop on the 100-day intensive campaign under the Nasha Mukta Jammu & Kashmir Abhiyan (NMBA) at Circuit House Pulwama.

The workshop was organised by District Administration in collaboration with the Department of Information and Public Relations Pulwama to sensitize media professionals about their role and responsibilities in the effective implementation of the campaign and to strengthen collaboration between the administration and the media for combating drug abuse.

During the workshop, District Information Officer Pulwama delivered a detailed presentation highlighting the aims and objectives of the campaign, achievements under earlier phases of NMBA, and the comprehensive district action plan devised for the ongoing 100-day campaign.

The presentation further outlined phase-wise activities of the campaign, including padyatras, aware-



ness drives, youth engagement programmes, community outreach initiatives and enforcement measures.

The role of print, electronic and social media in promoting awareness, strengthening outreach and ensuring successful implementation of the campaign was also highlighted.

Addressing the gathering, the DC said that the workshop has been organised with the aim of strengthening collaboration with the media for effective implementation of

the campaign in a mission mode.

He said that the district action plan has already been rolled out with a three-pronged strategy focusing on Information, Education and Communication (IEC), treatment, rehabilitation and prevention, and enforcement, and is being implemented through a coordinated, multi-sectoral and community-driven approach.

Highlighting the pivotal role of media, he urged media persons to act as resource persons for the campaign by contributing

towards awareness generation, guiding public discourse and strengthening community engagement. He encouraged them to actively participate in campaign activities being organised across different parts of the district.

The DC also emphasised that while strict enforcement action has been initiated against drug peddlers and will be further intensified, equal focus is being laid on treatment, rehabilitation and reintegration of victims with compassion and dignity.

He called upon the media to play a constructive role in promoting responsible and stigma-free narratives and in disseminating accurate and verified information.

On the occasion, media persons also shared their views and suggestions for the effective implementation of the campaign and assured full cooperation in making the initiative a success.

The workshop was attended by media persons from print and electronic media, as well as social media content creators from across the district.

Kupwara Admin organizes Pad Yatras across district

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