

DC Budgam holds interdepartmental follow up, coordination meeting on Ring Road, NH444

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, APR 22

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Athar Aamir Khan, today chaired a meeting to review the progress of the Ring Road Development Project in the district, following his field inspection of the project alignment yesterday.

The meeting focused on construction of Ring Road Phase-I, Airport and Railway Station connectivity, connectivity with district roads, Synchronization with NH444 corridor, Railway underpasses, junctions etc.

The DC was attended by ACR Budgam, Executive Engineer R&B Circle Srinagar, representatives of NHAI, and other concerned officers.

During the meeting, the DC took a segment-wise review of the progress achieved across various stretches of the Ring Road corridor from NH-44 Galandar to Narbal, including



Khanda, Wathoora, Gadsathu, Ichkoot, Razwan and Dharmuna.

He reviewed the status of works, land acquisition, utility shifting and alignment, drainage and irrigation water channelisation.

The DC directed executing agencies to ensure speedy progress across all stretches and directed for close coordination among departments to resolve bottlenecks. He also instructed adherence to timelines and quality standards.

SVEEP awareness programme conducted to promote electoral participation in Shopian

SHOPIAN, APRIL 22: In continuation of the ongoing Panchayat Electoral Roll Revision 2026 and the SVEEP (Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation) initiative, a series of awareness programmes were conducted today at Government High School Shadab Karewa and Government High School Chanchmarg, Shadab Karewa, by the District Election Office Shopian in collaboration with Chief education officer shopian.

The programmes aimed at sensitizing students, staff about the importance of electoral participation and the ongoing revision of the Panchayat Electoral Roll.

During the sessions, awareness was imparted regarding the right to vote, procedures for enrolment, and the significance of ensuring accurate electoral registration.

JKEDI conducts Training Programmes under PMFME Scheme in Shopian, Ganderbal

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Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI) today inaugurated three-day/ 24 hours Training Programmes under the Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) Scheme at Shopian and Ganderbal District Centres.

The programmes saw the participation from candidates, officers from the Department of Horticulture and officials of JKEDI.

At Shopian, the PMFME programme was inaugurated at District Employment and Counselling Centre, Shopian where Zia U Din, Technical Officer, Department of Horticulture gave a detailed outlook of the scheme.

At Ganderbal, the programme was inaugurated at the Vikalp Centre, Government Degree College, Gan-



derbal. A total of 51 candidates have enrolled for the programmes.

These training programmes aim to enhance the entrepreneurial capabilities of aspiring and existing entrepreneurs in the micro food processing sector. Over the course of three days, participants will receive comprehensive training on key aspects of capacity building, including

business planning, financial management, market linkages, and awareness about the various schemes of the Government and access to credit facilities.

The initiative is designed to equip participants with the essential skills and knowledge required to establish and sustain micro food processing enterprises. By fostering entrepreneurship and strength-

ening local enterprise ecosystems, the programme seeks to promote self-employment opportunities and contribute to local economic development.

JKEDI continues to play a pivotal role in nurturing entrepreneurship across Jammu and Kashmir through targeted training and capacity-building initiatives under various government schemes.

LADC team conducts inspection of Central Jail Srinagar to facilitate early release of eligible inmates

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, APR 22

In a coordinated initiative aimed at strengthening access to justice and ensuring timely relief to deserving inmates, the Legal Aid Defence Counsels (LADC) of Shopian and Pulwama carried out a joint inspection of Central Jail Srinagar today.

The inspection was undertaken to identify cases eligible for early release in accordance with the categories defined under the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the forthcoming Under Trial Review Committee (UTRC) meeting.

The joint team was led by Secretary DLSA Shopian/Pulwama, Mudasar Farooq, and comprised Chief LADC Shopian, Rafie Ahmad Ganie, Chief LADC Pulwama, Mehrajudin Wani, and Junior Assistant DLSA Pulwama, Shakir Ahmad.

The team was facilitated by Senior Superintendent of Jail, Saba Shawl, who provided detailed insights



into the inmate population and administrative framework of the jail.

During the visit, the LADC teams conducted a thorough and systematic review of individual inmate cases.

The assessment focused on identifying prisoners eligible for release under various SOP categories, including undertrials who

have completed half of the maximum prescribed sentence, first-time offenders involved in minor offences, elderly or infirm inmates, and those granted bail but unable to furnish surety, among others as specified under UTRC guidelines.

The team also interacted with inmates across different barracks to verify legal records, assess the status of

cases, and ensure that no eligible individual is deprived of legal aid or relief due to lack of awareness or assistance.

Following the inspection, a consolidated list of eligible cases has been prepared and will be placed before the upcoming UTRC meeting for appropriate consideration and necessary orders.

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
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In continuation of the ongoing Nasha Mukht Jammu & Kashmir Abhiyan, awareness and wall painting activities were extensively conducted across various schools in District Shopian.

Students actively participated in painting walls and creating impactful visuals carrying strong anti drug messages such as "Say No to Drugs" and "Choose Life, Not Drugs."

The initiative provided a creative platform for students to express their views on the harmful effects of drug abuse while reinforcing awareness through art.

The activities witnessed enthusiastic participation and effectively engaged youth in spreading the message of a drug free society.

Meanwhile, at GDC Shopian, NSS units organized a dedicated wall painting programme under the theme "Drug-Free Messages."

Students and volunteers



showcased their artistic skills through vibrant and meaningful artwork highlighting the dangers of substance abuse and the importance of prevention.

In addition, an aware-

ness camp was organized at MC Shopian where participants were sensitized about the ill effects of drug abuse and the importance of community participation in addressing the is-

sue. The programme focused on spreading awareness among the general public and encouraging collective responsibility towards achieving a drug free Shopian.

Sub Division Zainapora intensifies Anti Drug drive; Awareness Programme, Rally held at GDC Zainapora

SHOPIAN, APRIL 22: Sub Division Zainapora intensified its anti drug efforts under Nasha Mukht J&K Abhiyan Day by organising an awareness programme and mass rally at GDC Zainapora.

Held in collaboration with the Chemists & Drugists Association under the chairmanship of SDM Zainapora, Bilal Ahmad, the initiative focused on the campaign's core pillars Demand Reduction, Supply Control, and Community Participation.

Officers from the Health Department, Drug Control Department, and J&K Police, along with students, civil society members, and trade representatives, participated.

Expert sessions highlighted legal provisions under the NDPS Act, 1985 and Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940, along with the regulation of psychotropic substances and compliance with prescription norms for NRX/Schedule H1 drugs.

Medical experts also elaborated on the serious health and social consequences of drug abuse and emphasized early identification and de addiction



pathways, with special focus on misuse of prescription drugs such as Alprazolam, Tramadol, and Codeine based formulations.

Addressing the gathering, SDM Zainapora highlighted that the anti drug campaign in the subdivision is being pursued through strict enforcement against illegal supply chains and promotion of sustainable livelihood al-

ternatives.

He noted that illegal cultivation of cannabis and poppy has been eradicated, with over 800 kanals converted into high density apple orchards and nurseries, benefiting more than 2000 individuals through agriculture and horticulture based livelihoods supported by improved irrigation and government schemes.

DySP Zainapora, Athar

Samad reiterated the police department's zero tolerance approach against drug peddling and urged citizens to actively share information, warning of strict action against violations of drug sale norms.

Following the session, a large scale rally was flagged off from the college premises, passing through main market and Bus Adda, reinforcing the message of a drug free society.

Census 2027: 3-Day Training for Enumerators and Supervisors commences in Baramulla

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As part of the ongoing preparations for Census 2027, a three-day training programme for the first batch of Enumerators and Supervisors commenced today at the DC Office Meeting Hall, Baramulla.

The training programme was attended by the Additional Deputy Commissioner Baramulla, Syed Altaf Hussain Musvi, Chief Planning Officer, Nisar Ah-

mad, District Coordinating officer for Census, H.C. Chouhan, Nodal Officer for Census 2027, Baramulla, Rohini Pokhrel and all the enumerators and supervisors as part of the first batch of training.

The training programme is aimed at equipping the field functionaries with the necessary skills and knowledge required for the smooth and efficient conduct of the upcoming census exercise.

On the first day, the Master Trainers imparted extensive training to the participants, focusing on key aspects such as enumeration procedures, use of technology, data accuracy, and adherence to prescribed guidelines.

During the sessions, emphasis was laid on ensuring clarity regarding roles and responsibilities of Enumerators and Supervisors, along with practical demonstrations to enhance

their understanding of field operations.

The participants were also sensitized about the importance of accurate data collection, confidentiality, and timely submission of information.

The training is being conducted in a structured manner, with interactive sessions and hands-on exercises to address queries and strengthen the overall preparedness of the field staff.

DDMA Baramulla to Conduct Civil Defence Air Raid/Blackout Mock Drill on April 24

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District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) Baramulla has informed that a Civil Defence Air Raid/Blackout Mock Drill will be conducted on April 24, 2026 (Friday) at Showkat Ali Stadium, Baramulla.

The mock drill will be carried out in two phases, with Phase I scheduled at 12:00 Noon and Phase II at 8:00 PM. The exercise is being organized to assess the



district's preparedness, strengthen emergency response mechanisms, and enhance public awareness about safety protocols during air raid or blackout situations.

DDMA Baramulla has urged the general public not to panic during the drill, emphasizing that it is purely a preparedness exercise.

Citizens have been requested to extend full cooperation to the authorities and strictly follow the instructions issued during the course of the drill.