

Lieutenant Governor chairs J&K Higher Education Council meeting



HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, APR 24

Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha today chaired a high-level meeting of Jammu Kashmir Higher Education Council, at Lok Bhavan.

The meeting was attended by Prof. Dinesh Singh, Vice Chairman, J&K Higher Education Council; Shri Shailendra Kumar, Additional Chief Secretary, Finance Department; Dr Mandep K. Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor; Shri Kumar Rajeev Ranjan, Administrative Secretary, Skill Development; Shri Ram Niwas Sharma, Commissioner; Higher Education Department; Prof. Umesh Rai, Vice Chancellor, University of Jammu; Prof. Nilofer Khan, VC Kashmir University; Prof. Shakil Ahmad Romshoo,

VC, IUST; Shri Pragati Kumar, VC SMVDU; Prof BN Tripathi, VC SKUAST Jammu; Prof. A. Ravinder Nath, VC Central University of Kashmir; Prof. Sanjeev Jain, VC Central University of Jammu; Prof. Jawaid Iqbal, VC BGSBU; Prof. Mohammad Mobin, VC Cluster University Srinagar; Prof Manoj Singh Gaur, Director IIT Jammu; Prof Kavi Arya from IIT Bombay; Ms Shobha Bagai, Director, Cluster Innovation Centre Delhi University and other members.

The Council, under the leadership of the Lieutenant Governor, deliberated on comprehensive strategies aimed at driving the holistic transformation of the education sector across the Union Territory.

The key agendas included implementation of the 'Design Your Degree' (DYD) program and the adoption of its official manual across

Prof. Dinesh Singh, Vice Chairman, JKHEC emphasized that the core mission must remain the realization of human potential, ensuring that higher education directly fosters societal service and enhances student productivity.

The Council also deliberated on setting up a regular mechanism to ensure cooperation and collaboration between various institutions of Jammu & Kashmir for engendering of Joint Degree Programmes and a common technology-based platform for sharing of practices, ideas and programmes of various institutions; increasing the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER), special initiatives such as 'The Riverine College' and the AI Competition, JKHEC budget utilization for 2025-26 and budget allocations for 2026-27.

Vice Chancellors and members of the Council shared their insights on the way forward for the DYD program and further interventions in higher education with the implementation of NEP 2020.

Prof Sheikh Ajaz Bashir, Director of Colleges, J&K; Dr Seema Naz, Nodal Principal, Government College of Education; Dr Ravinder Kumar Tickoo, Principal, GCW Parade Jammu also attended the meeting.

Living Celebration of Compassion, Love and Co-existence: Manav Ekta Diwas

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, APR 24

When the divine consciousness of compassion, love and oneness awakens within the heart, humanity rises above narrow self-interests and becomes a powerful medium for the welfare of all creation. Illuminated by sublime values such as selfless service, kindness and benevolence, this sacred occasion became a symbol of that divine realization where the message "Let humanity love humanity and become a support to one another" was not confined to words alone, but came alive in hearts. In the holy presence of Satguru Mata Sudiksha Ji Maharaj and Nirankari Rajpita Ji, Manav Ekta Diwas was observed today in the loving memory of Baba Gurbachan Singh Ji, at Ground No. 8, Delhi. Simultaneously, the occasion was celebrated with devotion and dedication at thousands of Satsang Bhawans across the country. Today Blood Donation Camps was held at nearly 200 locations across India, through which approxi-



mately 40,000 units of blood were collected.

In Jammu, the camp was held at Sant Nirankari Satsang Bhawan Shastri Nagar, The Camp was inaugurated by Sh. Sher Singh JKAS ADC Jammu. While speaking on the occasion, he said that he has attended many blood donation camps organized by Sant Nirankari Mission and has always seen the Mission actively engaged in the service of humanity. He remarked that blood donation is not only a great donation, but also a gift of life, as it helps save

the lives of needy patients in hospitals. He highly appreciated Sant Nirankari Mission for its dedicated and selfless humanitarian service. In this camp 210 Units of Blood donated by the devotees.

Ajit Singh Zonal Incharge Jammu said that In memory of Yugpravartak Baba Gurbachan Singh Ji, this day also marks the beginning of a year-long stream of service activities, under which blood donation camps will be organized at nearly 705 locations nationwide, further strengthening

the spirit of compassion and unity. It is noteworthy that this sacred tradition of blood donation has continued uninterrupted for the past four decades. So far, through 9,174 blood donation camps, nearly 1,500,230 units of blood have been collected, serving as a living testimony to the unwavering commitment of the Nirankari Mission towards humanitarian service.

The camp was held in collaboration with Government Medical College Jammu and JKASCS.

Relief Commissioner reviews implementation of Special Relief Ration Scheme at Jagti

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, APR 24

Relief & Rehabilitation Commissioner (M) J&K Dr Arvind Karwani today led a team of officers from Relief Organization and Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs Department to take a detailed review of the implementation of the ration distribution in terms of the Special Relief Ration Scheme for Kashmiri/Jammu Migrants here at Mini Township Jagti.

Mini Township Jagti is the largest migrant camp in the outskirts of Jammu and houses 5252 migrant families. Dr Karwani conducted a grievance redressal camp and interacted with a large number of migrants. Most of the grievances related to supply of ration under the new Scheme. The public was assured that ration distribution from all designated 32 ration depots in District Jammu shall be ensured in a hassle free manner and migrant can avail ration from any nearest ration depot.

It was also conveyed that all relief ration card hold-



ers (irrespective of categorization into PHH, NPHH or Special category) shall continue to receive 11 Kg free ration per person per month and 1Kg sugar as per the extant scale of ration distribution. Besides, those registered with the Relief Organisation under the non relief category (Pensioners etc) and categorized into NPHH category will also receive ration on government approved rates as per their entitlement under NFSA.

Pertinently, the Government of Jammu and Kash-

mir, in terms of S.O 392 and S.O. 393 of 2024, both dated 13.08.2024, has made necessary amendments in the Jammu & Kashmir Food Security Rules, 2021 and the Targeted Public Distribution (Control) Order 2023 for integration of the Migrant Ration Cards into National Food Security Act(NFSA) database, to enable migrants to avail the benefits of various Government Schemes.

Further, the Government of Jammu and Kash-

mir, in terms of S.O 392 and S.O. 393 of 2024, both dated 13.08.2024, has made necessary amendments in the Jammu & Kashmir Food Security Rules, 2021 and the Targeted Public Distribution (Control) Order 2023 for integration of the Migrant Ration Cards into National Food Security Act(NFSA) database, to enable migrants to avail the benefits of various Government Schemes.

of 2025 dated 16.05.2025, has clarified that the existing scale of ration distribution to the migrants registered under the relief category and norms/procedures for inclusion, deletion, bifurcation, conversion and corrections etc shall continue as per the norms of Relief Organisation.

This has also been clarified through a number of public notices and jingles issued through the Department of Information & Public Relations J&K. About 400 families have so far availed the benefit of various social sector schemes.

On spot directions were issued for smooth distribution of ration to migrants. The concerned officials were directed to ensure full facilitation for completion of e-KYC formalities of all pending Relief Ration Card holders.

Interacting with the officials of the Social Welfare Department, Dr Karwani appreciated the efforts being put in for organizing special camps for facilitation of eligible migrants at various locations across Jammu.

DHSJ releases multilingual manual on Mental Health

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, APR 24

Director Health Services Jammu Dr. Abdul Hamid Zargar on Friday released a Comprehensive book on Mental Health here at the chamber of the Directorate. The launch event was held in the presence of Deputy Director Dentistry Dr. Sanjay Sharma; Chief Accounts Officer/Financial Advisor Rajni Gupta; State Tuberculosis Officer Jammu Dr. Jyoti Jolly; Assistant Director Dr. Simmi; Assistant Director Dr. Ila Gupta (Schemes) along with other officers and officials of the Directorate.

The book "Brief Manual (Sign & Symptoms) of Common Mental Disorders for Self Help Groups" is written by Dr. Ila Gupta (AD Schemes/ Nodal officer NMHP, DHSJ) and Dr. Akhil Menia (Psychiatrist and Divisional Nodal offi-



cer) to encourage Mental Health Awareness in the community settings.

The book is written in three languages (English, Hindi and Urdu) widely spoken across J&K (UT), so that peripheral health care workers working at community level can easily identify signs and symp-

toms of common Mental disorders (including substance use disorders) and help them provide timely intervention and referral for further treatment to the nearby government health facilities. This initiative aims to strengthen grassroots-level healthcare by equipping frontline work-

ers with practical knowledge for early detection. By improving awareness and recognition, the book is expected to facilitate timely intervention and ensure appropriate referral of patients to nearby government health facilities for further evaluation and treatment.

Civil Defence Mock Drill conducted in Reasi

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, APR 24

Demonstrating its commitment to strengthening disaster preparedness and emergency response mechanisms, the District Administration Reasi today conducted a comprehensive Civil Defence Air Raid Mock Drill in the district.

The exercise witnessed coordinated participation of Civil Defence personnel, State Disaster Response Force (SDRF), Jammu & Kashmir Police, Health Department and trained volunteers, reflecting a strong multi-agency response system.

The mock drill included activation of early warning systems through sirens and public address systems,

evacuation procedures, emergency first aid and coordinated deployment of rescue teams and vehicles. Rescue teams, assisted by medical staff, conducted operations, triaged victims by injury severity and ensured safe evacuation using lifting and stretcher teams.

The District Administration reiterated that such mock drills are an essential

part of routine preparedness efforts aimed at strengthening inter-agency coordination, improving response efficiency and enhancing community resilience to effectively deal with emergency situations.

ADC Rakesh Kumar, Dy. SP DAR, CMO, DySP Pouni, Tehsildar Reasi and Pouni and other officers were present.

2 Drug Peddlers arrested, 680 Grams Charas seized

BANDIPORA, APRIL 24: In a significant stride against the menace of drug trafficking, police teams in Bandipora district arrested two individuals on Thursday and recovered a substantial quantity of charas-like substance from their possession during routine Naka checking operations.

During Naka checking near Tengpora Nesbal crossing, a pedestrian identified as Ishfaq Ahmad Bhat S/o Gh. Rasool Bhat of Safapora, Barkati Mohalla, who was proceeding from Naninara towards Sumbal, was stopped for routine checking. Upon search, a charas-like substance weighing approximately 570 grams, concealed in a blue-coloured polythene bag, was recovered from his possession. Accordingly, Case FIR No. 80/2026 U/S 8/20 NDPS Act stands registered at the concerned Police Station.

In a separate simultaneous operation near Gundi Dachina crossing, another pedestrian identified as Manzoor Ahmad Khan S/o Gh. Mohd. Khan of Chattibandy, proceeding from Nadihal towards Gundi Dachina, was similarly apprehended. A solid charas-like substance weighing 110 grams was recovered from his possession, leading to registration of Case FIR No. 24/2026 U/S 8/20 NDPS Act at the concerned Police Station.

The Administration has reiterated its unwavering commitment to eradicating the menace of drugs from the district. These arrests are part of the intensified crackdown being carried out under the 100-Day Mission Mode Campaign of the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan, and citizens should expect this heightened pace of anti-narcotics action to continue and intensify in the days ahead.

WORLD MALARIA DAY - 2026

25th, April

01

PREVENT MOSQUITO BREEDING

- Keep surroundings free of stagnant water
- Cover all water containers & frequently change the water
- Disposal of all useless items holding water such as tins/cans/tyres/bottles etc.

02

PREVENT MOSQUITO BITES

- Use mosquito net while sleeping
- Use protective clothing (covering full body)
- Use mosquito repellents (creams/liquid sprays/mats/coils)

03

PREVENT ENTRY OF MOSQUITOES

- Mosquito screen for doors/windows
- Clear weeds and tall grass around the houses
- Improve basic sanitation

04

FOR FREE TREATMENT AND MORE INFORMATION VISIT

Nearest Government Health Institution

ASHA

in your village

STATE MALARIOLOGIST / STATE PROGRAMME OFFICER, NVBDCP, J&K

DIRECTORATE OF HEALTH SERVICES, JAMMU

DIP/J-1079/26. Dt: 24.04.2026

