

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Attends Chintan Shivir on Sports

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, APR 25



The Lieutenant Governor, Shri Manoj Sinha today addressed national 'Chintan Shivir' on Sports at Srinagar. The three-day event organised by Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports focuses on key policy challenges in sports, strengthening Centre-States/UTs coordination and charting a comprehensive roadmap to transform India into a global sporting superpower. The event is being attended by Sports Ministers from various states, sports administrators, Principal Secretaries from states and representatives from National Sports Federations.

Speaking on the occasion, the Lieutenant Governor emphasized the importance of nurturing a sports culture at the grassroots, beginning in villages and local communities.

"True champions rarely emerge solely from elite academies; they are discovered in small towns, neighbourhoods, and local clubs, where academies later refine their raw talent," the Lieutenant Governor said.

He also stated that sports must become woven into everyday life, extending beyond stadiums and competitions to thrive in neighbourhoods, streets, and open fields, becoming part

of daily routines.

The Lieutenant Governor also urged Sports Ministers and Sports Administrators, participating in the event to provide physical teachers in schools all the resources they require to support and nurture talents.

"Physical education teachers in schools are often undervalued compared to their counterparts in science or mathematics. This mindset must change. Every Physical Education teacher plays a vital role in India's journey toward becoming a sporting superpower. They deserve respect, recognition, and resources to identify and nurture young talent," the Lieutenant Governor said.

He said that beyond medals, sports must be harnessed as a force for social transformation

"Infrastructure alone is not enough; it must be aligned with purposeful

initiatives. Schools, communities, local administrations, and families must collaborate to create ecosystems where every young athlete finds a platform, whether on a running track, football field, basketball court or swimming pool to discover their potential," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor said that our strength lies in harmonizing national vision with local execution, ensuring central schemes reach villages brimming with talent. He also observed that best practices from one state must be freely shared and replicated across others.

"We must establish systems that identify and propel rural youth talent, supported by scientific, accessible, and unbiased mechanisms. Sports infrastructure must be fully and efficiently utilized," the

Lieutenant Governor said.

He also called upon the corporate sector to support in building a sustainable and inclusive sports ecosystem, which the government alone cannot achieve. He said Corporates, with their resources and social responsibility, must step forward not merely as sponsors but as co-architects of this national mission.

"I urge sports councils, federations, administrators, experts, industry leaders, and officials from across the country to craft a strategic development plan aligned with international events. India is rich with gifted athletes. Our responsibility is to bridge the gap between gifted talent and opportunity. Strengthening grassroots sports ecosystems is not merely an aspiration but a duty," the Lieutenant Governor said.

DC Anantnag chairs NCORD Meeting; Reviews measures against Drug Abuse

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Deputy Commissioner (DC) Anantnag, Dr. Bilal Mohiuddin Bhat today chaired a meeting of the District Level Committee under the Narco Coordination Centre (NCORD) to review the measures and overall response undertaken by various departments against drug abuse and trafficking in the district.

The meeting was attended by SSP, Amod Ashok Nagpure, ADM, Dr. Muzamil Maqbool Beig, SP, Sunny Gupta, SDM Doorur, SE PWD, CPO, CEO, CMO, DSWO, Tehsildars, ETO, Assistant Drug Controller, CEO MCA, representatives of GMC Anantnag and GDCs, EOs of MCs besides other committee members and concerned officers.

During the meeting, the DC sought detailed Action Taken Report from all departments on important agenda points and directions issued during previous meetings. Enforcement, seizure and legal actions targeting drug supply, CCTV surveillance in hotspots, IEC and Nasha Mukh Bharat/JK Abhiyan activities in educational institutions, Panchayats and urban areas, rehabilitation of victims, suspension/cancellation of licences of medical estab-

lishments and vehicles found violating rules and functioning of DDAC and ATF, status on proposal of DDAC by Social Welfare Department, among others, were reviewed threadbare.

Addressing the meeting, the DC said it is encouraging that scheduled awareness and enforcement activities are being held during the ongoing 100 day intensive campaign of Nasha Mukh J&K Abhiyan across the district. He appreciated the action of identification and legal action against drug peddlers adding the same is vital to reduce supply of the contraband substances. He called for proper monitoring in educational institutions and medical establishments, robust surveillance CCTV mechanism in hotspots along with

intensified awareness campaigns especially for vulnerable groups.

The DC said the interdepartmental coordination and sustained efforts are necessary to eradicate drug abuse in the district. Timely treatment and rehabilitation of the victims and empowering them through various self-employment Govt Schemes shall be the top priority, he remarked.

Dr. Bilal directed the departments to intensify awareness and enforcement activities and called for joint destruction drives of poppy and bhang especially in hot spots while taking necessary legal course. He asked the DSWO to conduct sustained awareness activities in hotspots and other critical areas so the vulnerable individuals and groups are identified

and counselled thoroughly. He was further instructed to undertake proper follow up of the DDAC proposal with the concerned authorities.

On the occasion, the SSP briefed about the enforcement and preventive initiatives like registration of cases, arrests, seizures, and attachment of properties made in the district under NDPS Act and other rules. He said the fight against the drugs is in everybody's interest and we are equal stakeholders to realise the goal of a drug free district.

The SSP stressed while the law enforcing agencies are targeting the supply side, the other stakeholders should make collective efforts in their official and personal capacities to lower the demand of drugs. The commitment against drug abuse should not last the 100 day campaign only but must be sustained through continued sensitisation and awareness of target groups, he emphasized.

The meeting was informed that 128 NDPS cases have been registered; out of which 26 have been challaned besides 5 houses and 1 vehicle have been attached, during the current year so far. 20 vehicles found involved in drug trafficking were seized and 5 driving licenses of drug peddlers/convicts have been suspended since last meeting.

Mega Yoga Event held at Kulgam under 100-day NMBA Abhiyan, Witnesses massive turnout

KULGAM, APRIL 25: Under the 100-day Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyan, a mega yoga event was organized at Mini Secretariat, Kulgam, with the objective of promoting a healthy lifestyle and raising awareness about the ill effects of drug abuse, particularly among the youth.

The programme witnessed massive participation, with hundreds of participants including Deputy Commissioner Kulgam, Shahzad Alam, senior officers, officials from various departments, students, and local residents.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commis-



sioner highlighted the importance of yoga in maintaining physical and mental well-being and urged people to continue their support in the fight against

drug abuse. Emphasizing the significance of fitness and mindfulness, the yoga session served as a powerful demonstration of how

meditation and outdoor activities can act as effective tools in combating substance abuse and promoting a disciplined way of life.

During the session, participants actively engaged in various yoga asanas and awareness activities, with commitment to the message: "Say No to Drugs, Yes to Life."

As part of the ongoing campaign, similar yoga sessions were also organized at various locations across the district, including educational institutions, to further strengthen awareness and community participation in building a healthy, drug-free society.

CM Omar pitches J&K as premier filming destination during Bengaluru outreach

BENGALURU, APRIL 25: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today interacted with filmmakers in Bengaluru, showcasing Jammu & Kashmir's scenic beauty and rich cultural heritage as an ideal destination for cinema.

A delegation of leading film producers and representatives of major production houses met the Chief Minister to explore opportunities for film production and collaboration.

The Chief Minister assured full support and a friendly, enabling environment for artists, reiterating the Government's commitment to making filmmaking in Jammu & Kashmir



easier and more accessible. The interaction formed part of the Jammu & Kashmir Government's focused outreach in South India, aimed at building stronger connections with key stakeholders in the region's tourism and film industries. Recognising South India as a major hub of cinema, creativity, and out-

bound tourism, the initiative seeks to position J&K as a preferred destination for both filmmakers and travellers.

During the engagement, the Chief Minister highlighted J&K's unparalleled natural beauty, diverse landscapes, and rich cultural heritage, ranging from serene valleys and

snow-clad mountains to vibrant traditions and local craftsmanship.

He also underlined recent policy measures introduced to facilitate film production in J&K, including streamlined permission processes, logistical support, and incentives for production houses.

Assuring full cooperation, the Chief Minister said that the Government is committed to providing a safe, supportive and enabling environment for artists and filmmakers. He added that continuous engagement with the film fraternity will help address their requirements and strengthen collaboration.

Satish Sharma calls for Strengthened Sports Ecosystem, Youth Engagement at Chintan Shivir

SRINAGAR, APRIL 25: Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, IT, Transport, Youth Services & Sports, Science & Technology Satish Sharma today addressed a gathering of dignitaries, officials and stakeholders at the ongoing Chintan Shivir, emphasizing the need for a robust and inclusive sports ecosystem in Jammu and Kashmir.

While speaking on the occasion, the Minister highlighted the pivotal role of sports in channelizing the energy of youth towards constructive and nation-building activities. He underscored that sports not only promote physical fitness but also instill discipline, teamwork and a spirit of excellence among young people.

Satish Sharma stressed the importance of developing modern sports infrastructure, strengthening grassroots-level participation and ensuring accessibility of facilities in remote and rural areas. He called for a coordinated approach between departments and stakeholders to identify



talent at an early stage and provide them with adequate training and exposure.

Satish Sharma stressed the importance of developing modern sports infrastructure. He also laid special emphasis on promoting sports in border areas, stating that focused attention must be given to youth residing in these regions to provide them equal opportunities and exposure. The Minister also reiterated the government's commitment towards nurturing sporting

talent and creating opportunities for youth to excel at national and international levels. He emphasized the integration of technology in sports administration, talent scouting and performance monitoring to bring efficiency and transparency.

Highlighting the significance of such deliberative platforms, Sharma said that the Chintan Shivir provides an opportunity to exchange ideas, share best practices and formulate actionable strategies for the holistic development of

sports in the region.

He further urged all stakeholders to work collectively towards making Jammu and Kashmir a hub of sporting excellence, ensuring that the youth are empowered and motivated to achieve their full potential.

The event witnessed participation from senior officials, experts and representatives from various sectors, who engaged in meaningful discussions on strengthening the sports framework and promoting youth engagement.

State Election Commissioner visits Ganderbal, reviews Panchayat Electoral Roll Revision

GANDERBAL, APRIL 25: The State Election Commissioner Jammu and Kashmir, Shantamanu, today visited District Ganderbal as part of his field inspection of the ongoing Annual Revision of Panchayat Electoral Roll (PER) 2026, with April 1, 2026 as the qualifying date.

During the visit, the Commissioner inspected several polling locations across the district where Special Camps are being organized every Saturday and Sunday to facilitate the revision exercise.

Shantamanu interacted with general public, urging eligible citizens to make use of the ongoing process by enrolling themselves in the electoral roll. He also encouraged existing voters to verify their details and get any errors or discrepancies corrected at the earliest.

The Commissioner held a focused interaction with young people present at the camps and stressed the importance of youth participation in the democratic process. He called upon first-time voters to come forward and register themselves, emphasizing that



electoral participation begins with enrollment.

On his arrival, the Commissioner was received by the Additional Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Dr. Sheikh Salahuddin; Deputy District Election Officer Ganderbal, Abdul Rahman Bhat, along with other members of the district election team.

Shantamanu also held a detailed review meeting with senior district officials, during which he was apprised of the progress of the revision exercise. District Ganderbal has en-

rolled 5,888 new electors so far, achieving 3.05 percent of its target. The draft Panchayat Electoral Roll of the district currently stands at 1,93,017 electors.

The State Election Commissioner expressed satisfaction over the functioning of the ground-level election machinery and appreciated the dedication and efforts of the field staff engaged in ensuring the smooth and effective conduct of the revision exercise.

