

# DC Kathua reviews arrangements for Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra at Lakhanpur

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, APR 28

Deputy Commissioner Kathua Rajesh Sharma, accompanied by Senior Superintendent of Police Mohita Sharma and Additional Deputy Commissioner Vishavjeet Singh, visited Lakhanpur today to take stock of arrangements being put in place for the smooth transit of pilgrims undertaking the forthcoming Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra-2026.

The Deputy Commissioner inspected the buildings earmarked for the Lakhanpur Facilitation Centre to ensure seamless registration, assistance and movement of Yatris entering the district.

He reviewed the infrastructure, drinking water supply, power availability, medical support, security arrangements and traffic management measures being planned at the facilitation point.



The DC also visited Guru Teg Bahadur College and Vivekanand College, which have been designated as Yatri Lodgement Centres. He inspected the availability of accommodation facilities, bedding arrangements, sanitation, washrooms, uninterrupted water and electricity supply, cleanliness and other essential amenities for the convenience of

pilgrims. Stressing the importance of coordinated efforts, the Deputy Commissioner directed all concerned departments to ensure timely completion of all arrangements well before the commencement of the Yatra. He asked officers to maintain high standards of cleanliness, ensure proper deployment of staff, establish ad-

equate help desks and provide round-the-clock essential services for the pilgrims. The Deputy Commissioner emphasized that all arrangements must be pilgrim-friendly and executed with utmost efficiency so that devotees experience a safe, comfortable and hassle-free journey through Kathua district.

# IIM Jammu Hosts Capacity Building Programme on MSME Health Clinics

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Indian Institute of Management Jammu, in collaboration with the Industries and Commerce Department Jammu and Kashmir, inaugurated a three-day Capacity Building Programme on MSME Health Clinics at its campus on Tuesday.

The programme, being held from April 28 to 30, aims to equip officials and stakeholders with tools for effective implementation of MSME Health Clinics across Jammu & Kashmir. Around 40 participants



from across the Union Territory are attending the training.

The inaugural session was presided over by Prof.

B. S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu, and Shri Arun Manhas, Director, Industries & Commerce Department, who emphasized

strengthening the MSME ecosystem and promoting entrepreneurship through structured support and capacity building.

# NHPC Provides 2 School Buses to Baba Banda Singh Bahadur Educational Trust

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NHPC Limited provided two school buses under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative to the Baba Banda Singh Bahadur Educational Trust to support students in remote and border areas.

The buses were handed over by Shri Ram Swaroop, Executive Director, NHPC Regional Office, Jammu, to Shri Charanjit Singh Khalsa, Chairman of the Trust, during a ceremony held at the NHPC Regional Office in Narwal on Tuesday.

Speaking on the occasion, Ram Swaroop said that the initiative aims to facilitate access to education for students living in far-flung areas where transportation



remains a major challenge.

He reiterated that NHPC continues to discharge its social responsibilities with commitment and is undertaking several CSR initiatives across the region.

Expressing gratitude,

Charanjit Singh Khalsa said the buses would significantly improve access to education for students in underserved areas, where transport facilities are limited.

Among others present on

the occasion were Shri Guru Dutt, GM (F); Shri Satnam Singh, GM (Civil); Shri R.P. Maurya, GM (HR); Shri Ravinder Singh; Shri Manmeet Singh; and Shri Daljit Singh, along with other dignitaries.

# Census 2027: Kishtwar admin hosts 3-Day Training Program for Field Trainers

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, APR 28

The District Administration Kishtwar (Principal Census Office, Kishtwar), under the chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner (Principal Census Officer) Pankaj Kumar Sharma and in collaboration with the Directorate of Census Operations J&K, today commenced a comprehensive three-day training programme for Field Trainers to further train the Field functionaries for the upcoming Census 2027.

The three-day training programme is being conducted with the objective of preparing field functionaries for effective execution of census duties.

The training is being imparted to the Field Trainers by officials from the Directorate of Census Operations J&K including Assistant Director (Census Operations Office Jammu), Balbir Singh; Master Trainer and others.

A total of 12 field trainers are participating in the programme and undergoing intensive training. The participants are being acquainted with key aspects



of census methodology, data collection techniques, use of digital tools and field-level coordination mechanisms to ensure accurate and efficient enumeration.

The training shall focus on the House Listing and Housing Census (HLO)-the Phase-I of census to equip field functionaries with the necessary skills for accurate and efficient enumeration.

Addressing the participants, the Deputy Commissioner underscored

the significance of the Census as one of the most critical national exercises. Highlighting the unique geographical challenges of Kishtwar including its vast terrain and sparse population, he urged enumerators to ensure complete coverage and accuracy by visiting every household without exception.

Emphasizing precision in data collection, he called upon the field staff to meticulously record all 34 prescribed parameters,

reiterating the guiding principle of the exercise: "Every citizen counts."

The first day of the training concluded with an interactive question-and-answer session, wherein participants actively engaged with the trainers and sought clarifications on various operational aspects.

The programme was attended by DSEO Kishtwar Suresh Sharma (ADCO), Field Trainers and other concerned staff associated with the Census.

# Lecture on 'Substance abuse, its link to Cancer' organized at Govt Commerce College

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, APR 28

An awareness lecture on substance abuse and its link to cancer was organized today at Government SPMR College of Commerce by the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan Committee in collaboration with the BBA Department.

The programme aimed to spread awareness and encourage healthy lifestyle among students and participants.

The session was conducted by Dr. Abdul Aziz Choudhary and Dr. Surbhi Kudiyar, along with members of the Diva International Foundation. The speakers elaborated on the causes, types and treatment options for cancer, while emphasizing substance abuse as a significant risk factor. They stressed the importance of early detection, adopting a healthy lifestyle and raising awareness to reduce the growing incidence of cancer.



Principal of the College Prof (Dr.) Sunil Gupta appreciated the initiative and highlighted the need to educate youth about the harmful effects of substance abuse. He noted that the problem of drug abuse is alarming and there is a need for consistent awareness to wipe out this menace.

He emphasized that the institution was fully committed to contribute to the 100 day campaign started by LG Sh. Manoj Sinha to eradicate this problem.

The programme was co-ordinated by Prof. Monika Mahajan, Convener Nasha Mukta Abhiyan Committee

by Dr. Ridhi Sharma. Among others present were Dr. Jasvinder Singh, Prof. Suresh Sadhotra and Prof. Anwar Ul Haq.

The event concluded with an interactive session, where participants actively engaged with the speakers and gained valuable insights into prevention and awareness strategies.

# JMC issues directions to prevent pollution of water bodies, Floating Trash Boom Barriers introduced

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JAMMU, APR 28

Acting on the directions of Dr. Devansh Yadav, Commissioner Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) has initiated concrete measures to curb pollution in the city's water channels and drainage networks through the installation of Floating Trash Boom Barriers.

The JMC Commissioner appealed to residents not to dump garbage, plastic waste, construction material or any other refuse into drains, canals and natural water bodies. "Such practices lead to choking of drainage systems, environmental degradation and increased risk of water logging, particularly during the monsoon season," he noted.

He further directed citi-



zens to adopt responsible waste disposal practices and extend full cooperation to the municipal authorities in maintaining the cleanliness of water bodies. Stressing the importance of environmental stewardship, the Commissioner underlined that keeping these water channels clean is essential for public health, ecological

balance and efficient urban infrastructure.

As part of these measures, JMC has commenced the installation of Floating Trash Boom Barriers at identified locations to intercept floating waste and prevent it from spreading downstream. The initiative is presently in its initial phase and based on its effectiveness,

the same would be expanded to additional locations across the city.

"In subsequent phases, these Floating Trash Boom Barriers will be extended to the Tawi River, also revered as the Suryaputri Tawi, to further strengthen pollution control efforts in major water bodies," the Commissioner said.

# DC inaugurates 3-day Mobile Passport Van Service Camp at Ramban

RAMBAN, APRIL 28: The Regional Passport Office (RPO) Jammu, under the Ministry of External Affairs-Government of India, today launched a three-day Mobile Passport Van Service Camp at the District Administrative Complex Ramban.

Deputy Commissioner Mohammad Alys Khan inaugurated the camp in the presence of Section Officer Sunil Kher and others.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner advised the public to take full advantage of this unique opportunity to apply for passports at their doorstep, especially benefiting those residing in hilly and remote areas. The



camp will conclude on April 30, 2026.

The Deputy Commissioner expressed gratitude to the Regional Passport Office Jammu and the Ministry of External Affairs for organizing the Mobile Passport Van Service Camp in the district for the second time. "District Admin-

istration will extend full cooperation to ensure smooth conduct of the camp and facilitate maximum public participation," he assured. Such initiatives, he said, are making public services more accessible, transparent and citizen-centric, particularly for people living in far-flung

and mountainous regions. The programme is being coordinated by the Section Officer, who also interacted with the media. He stated that similar camps are being held in other districts of the Jammu province and this is the second such camp organized in District Ramban.

He further added that the camp shall particularly benefit physically challenged individuals, elderly citizens and weaker sections of society. "Biometric capture and document verification are being carried out on the site and after due processing and police verification, passports will be delivered to applicants at their doorsteps" he added.