

Census 2027: 3-Day training for field functionaries concludes at Kishtwar

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, APR 30:

The District Administration (Principal Census Office) under the supervision of the Deputy Commissioner (Principal Census Officer) Pankaj Kumar Sharma and in collaboration with the Directorate of Census Operations (DCO) J&K, on Thursday successfully concluded the comprehensive three-day Phase-I training programme for field functionaries of the district.

The last training session was presided over by the ADC Pawan Kotwal.

The training programme conducted from April 28 to April 30, 2026, aimed to equip field functionaries with the necessary skills and knowledge for the effective execution of duties related to Census 2027.

A total of 12 field trainers participated in the programme and underwent intensive training during the three-day schedule.

The sessions were imparted to the participants by Balbir Singh, Assistant



Director from the Directorate of Census Operations, J&K, along with Ramesh Kumar, Lecturer/Master Trainer and other resource persons.

The participants were 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 first phase of the Census, focusing on the House Listing and Housing Census (HLO), is scheduled from 01.06.2026 to

30.06.2026, would involve door-to-door data collection on housing conditions and socio-economic indicators across all households.

The second phase, Population Enumeration, is scheduled to be conducted in September 2026 in snow-bound areas of J&K UT, while in non-snow-bound areas it will be conducted in February 2027.

Speaking on the occasion, ADC Pawan Kotwal emphasized the critical role of field functionaries in the forthcoming Census 2027. He urged the trainees to carry out their

duties with utmost dedication, sincerity and a sense of responsibility. He further stressed the importance of adopting modern digital tools and maintaining transparency and precision during the enumeration process. The training programme concluded with an interactive session, where participants actively engaged with the trainers and sought clarifications on various operational aspects.

DSEO Kishtwar Suresh Sharma (ADCO) besides, Field Trainers besides other concerned were present on the occasion.

NCORD meeting held at Kishtwar

DC Calls for intensive crackdown on perpetrators of drug abuse

KISHTWAR, APRIL 30: The District-Level NCORD (Narco Coordination Centre) meeting was convened today under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar, Pankaj Kumar Sharma to comprehensively review the district's response to drug abuse and to further reinforce ongoing anti-narcotics initiatives.

The discussions primarily centered on strengthening the institutional framework for drug de-addiction and evaluating the progress achieved under the Information, Education & Communication (IEC) campaign being implemented as part of the Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan and 100 Day Nasha Mukht JK Abhiyan.

At the outset, District Social Welfare Officer Tariq Parveez Qazi presented a detailed Action Taken Report (ATR), highlighting the implementation status of decisions taken at the previous NCORD meeting.

The Deputy Commissioner



undertook an in-depth assessment of the prevailing drug abuse scenario across the district. He sought comprehensive inputs on vulnerable pockets, affected demographic groups and identified hotspots requiring urgent and targeted interventions. He also reviewed the spectrum of preventive, rehabilitative and enforcement measures being executed by various departments.

The Deputy Commissioner directed the Heads of Departments (HoDs) of line departments to ensure the active participation of

designated resource persons and officials in the IEC campaign under the Nasha Mukht Bharat/JK Abhiyan. He cautioned that any instance of negligence or non-compliance would invite strict action.

The DC directed the School Education Department to ensure that all remaining institutions are declared Tobacco-Free Zones in strict adherence to TOFEI guidelines.

To bolster grassroots-level interventions, the Deputy Commissioner directed all Sub-Divisional Magistrates and Tehsildars

to expedite the declaration of Panchayats as "Nasha Mukht" in accordance with prescribed Standard Operating Procedures (SoPs), ensuring due verification and active community participation.

The DC HoDs of line departments were asked to organize activities as per the notified schedule under the 100 Days Nasha Mukht Jammu Kashmir Abhiyan "Also ensure timely submission of photographs of activities conducted by each offices and educational institutions.

The DC also directed all HoDs of line departments to submit Drug-Free Office certificates, after proper verification and checking, regarding the declaration of drug-free offices.

The ACD was directed to organize counseling sessions for youth clubs and meetings with newly formed Mahila Nigrani Samitis on drug awareness.

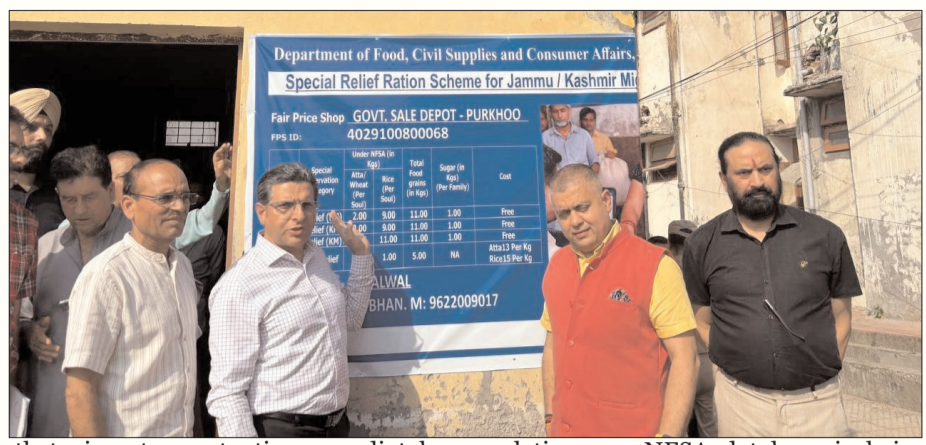
Courier operators and heads of post offices were also invited to the meeting.

Relief & Rehabilitation Commissioner (M) inspects Migrant ration depots

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, APR 30

Relief & Rehabilitation Commissioner (M), J&K Dr Arvind Karwani, accompanied by Deputy Commissioner Relief Vijay Sharma; Deputy Director Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs Jammu Sham Abrol and field officers from Relief Organization and FCS&CA, on Thursday visited Migrant ration depots to take stock of the ration distribution in terms of the Special Relief Ration Scheme for Kashmiri/Jammu Migrants, notified by the J&K Government recently.

While interacting with a large number of migrant beneficiaries at Migrant Camp Purkhoo, the team informed that ration distribution is being carried out by the Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs Department in accordance with the Special Relief Ration Scheme for Kashmiri/Jammu Migrants notified vide Government Order No. 15-JK(FCS&CA) of 2026 dated 05.03.2026, from all 32 designated ration depots in District Jammu and



that migrant can get ration from any nearest ration depot.

"All Relief Ration Card holders, whether PHH, NPHH, or Special Category, will continue to receive 11 kg of free ration per person per month along with 1 kg of sugar, while migrants under the non-relief category, such as pensioners, categorized as NPHH, are entitled to ration at government-approved NFSA rates," they were informed.

It was further clarified that those migrant ration card holders who may not be able to collect the ration during the current month (April) may collect the two-month ration (April and May) next month, after im-

mediately completing e-KYC formalities.

People were asked to be aware of elements who are frustrated with reforms in ration distribution introduced by the integration of migrant ration cards into the NFSA database and are spreading rumours on social media about the discontinuation of migrant status after integration into the NFSA database. "More than 450 migrant families have already availed the benefits of social security and welfare schemes after this integration, in addition to the relief benefits," they were told.

Dr Karwani reiterated that the integration of migrant ration cards into the

NFSA database is being done in compliance with relevant Government Orders and rules.

"Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs and National Informatics Centre is working in tandem with the Relief Organization and the department is committed to fully operationalize the new scheme to all migrants within the shortest time period," he assured. He appealed to all eligible migrants to immediately fill online applications to avail benefits of social sector schemes, which they were not eligible to avail earlier due to migrant cards being non-digitized and not integrated with NFSA database.

CEO conducts extensive one-day tour of Chenani Assembly Constituency under SVEEP initiative

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, APR 30

Chief Electoral Officer, J&K, Sanjeev Verma, today undertook an extensive one-day visit to Assembly Constituency 61-Chenani in connection with the ongoing Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation programme.

The programme was attended by Deputy District Election Officer Babu Pardeep Kumar, Electoral Registration Officers, Assistant Electoral Registration Officers, Booth Level Officers of Chenani Sub-Division, former PRI members and prominent citizens.

During the visit, the CEO actively participated in a series of voter awareness activities aimed at enhancing electoral participation and promoting informed and ethical voting. He emphasized the importance of inclusive, accessible and participative elections, urging



all eligible voters particularly youth, women and marginalized sections to enroll and exercise their franchise.

A range of awareness initiatives, including interactive sessions and voter pledge ceremonies, were organized at key locations across the constituency.

The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from local residents, students, public representatives and field functionaries of the Election Department.

The CEO also reviewed the implementation of SVEEP activities at the grassroots level and inter-

acted with Booth Level Officers, electoral staff, former PRI members and volunteers.

He appreciated the efforts of the district administration and stakeholders for conducting innovative outreach programmes to strengthen democratic participation.

Union Joint Secretary, MoFPI concludes 5 day visit to Kishtwar

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, APR 30

Preet Pal Singh, Union Joint Secretary, Ministry for Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) and Central Nodal Officer for the Pradhan Mantri Dhan Yojana (PMDDKY), today concluded his five day visit to Kishtwar district, aimed at conducting a comprehensive review of the scheme and finalising targets for the upcoming financial year.

During his visit, on the last day, the Joint Secretary chaired a detailed review meeting with the officers of the Agriculture and allied departments at the new DC Office Kishtwar.

The discussions focused on assessing the progress on PMDDKY in the district, strengthening its implementation, addressing field-level challenges and setting realistic and achievable targets for the next financial year.

As part of his field engagements, Singh visited



the Padder area, where he inspected the apple orchards rejuvenated under the initiatives of the Horticulture Department. He interacted with the local farmers to understand their experiences, gather feedback on government interventions and encouraged them to adopt improved horticultural practices for better productivity and income.

The senior officers from Agriculture and allied departments accompanied the Joint Secretary during the review meetings and field visits.

The visit highlights the government's sustained focus on enhancing the agri-

cultural productivity, boosting farmers' income and strengthening the food processing ecosystem in the region.

The meeting was attended by ADDC Vinod Kumar Behnal, ACD Manoj Kumar, CAO Kushal Chand, DSHO Dr. Jamil Nasir, CHO Sajid Mustafa, LDM besides other officers from the concerned departments.

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MVD Rajouri cracks down on NDPS-linked vehicles

RAJOURI, APRIL 30:

As part of the ongoing 100-day campaign under the Nasha Mukht Jammu and Kashmir Abhiyan, the Motor Vehicles Department Rajouri has taken stringent action against violators, particularly those involved in NDPS-related offences.

Assistant Regional Transport Officer (ARTO) Rajesh Gupta has disqualified 05 Driving Licences (DLs) and suspended 05 Registration Certificates (RCs) of vehicles found involved in NDPS cases. The action was taken on the recommendation of Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Gaurav Sikarwar.

Five individuals whose driving licenses were suspended are Mohammad Danish R/o Chowkian Darhal, Mohammad Manir R/o Budhal, Razak Ahmed R/o Ward No. 2, DC Colony Rajouri, Mohammad Razak R/o Draj Budhal and Aqib Khan R/o Sagrawat Darhal.

Similarly, Registration Certificates (RCs) of vehicles owned by Nazir Hussain R/o Manjakote; Ala Ud Din Dar R/o Kheora; Mohammad Budhal; Rahilla Manhas R/o Darhal and Aqib Khan R/o Darhal.

In addition, acting on the recommendations of the Traffic Police, the depart-

ment has suspended 2232 Registration Certificates of non-transport vehicles and 15 Registration Certificates of transport vehicles for violations of traffic norms.

The initiative reflects a coordinated effort between the Motor Vehicles Department and the District Police to curb drug abuse and enforce strict compliance with traffic regulations. The stakeholder departments have reiterated their commitment to continue such strict measures to ensure road safety and support the broader objective of a drug-free society.

Deputy Commissioner Abhishek Sharma said that the district administration

is adopting a zero-tolerance approach towards drug abuse and associated illegal activities. He emphasized that strict enforcement measures will continue to be implemented across the district and any individual found involved in such offences will face firm legal action.

He further urged the public to cooperate with the administration and contribute towards making Rajouri a drug-free district. The general public has been urged to adhere to traffic rules and stay away from drug-related activities, warning that strict legal action will be taken against violators.

DIC Reasi organises PM Vishwakarma Loan Mela

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, APR 30

A Special Credit Awareness Session - "PM Vishwakarma Loan Mela" was organized today at District Industries Centre (DIC)-Reasi under the supervision of General Manager Navdeep Wazir.

The programme wit-

nessed active participation from key stakeholders, including Representative Cluster Head, J&K Bank Mukhtair Ahmed; Branch Heads of J&K Bank Bhaga and Jyotipuram, besides representatives from Common Service Centres (CSCs). Their presence facilitated meaningful inter-

action and coordination among implementing agencies. The session was conducted by Industrial Promotion Officer Adeish Singh and Statistical Assistant Harpreet Arora. The participants were sensitized to the benefits and financial assistance

available under the PM Vishwakarma Scheme, particularly the provision of collateral-free loans up to ₹1.00 lakh. Emphasis was laid on ensuring seamless credit flow to eligible beneficiaries through close coordination between DIC, J&K Bank and CSC operators.