

JAMMU & KASHMIR

DC Samba reviews preparedness for Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra-2026

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, JUNE 22

Deputy Commissioner Samba Ayushi Sudan today chaired a high-level review meeting at the DC Office Complex to assess the preparedness for the smooth, safe and successful conduct of the Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra-2026.

The meeting was attended by senior functionaries from key departments and agencies tasked with facilitating the annual pilgrimage through district Samba.

The Deputy Commissioner conducted a detailed department-wise review, covering the full spectrum of logistical and operational arrangements essential for the Yatra. These encompassed security deployment, traffic management, safe drinking water supply, uninterrupted power availability, health-care services, sanitation and waste management, lodgement centres, temporary toilet facilities, langar arrangements and emergency response mechanisms. Each department was called upon to present its state of readiness and outline the measures being put in place to meet the demands of the pilgrimage



season.

Emphasising the paramount importance of meticulous advance planning and effective inter-departmental coordination, the Deputy Commissioner issued specific operational directives to each department. The Jal Shakti Department was directed to ensure an adequate and uninterrupted supply of safe drinking water at all points along the Yatra route. JPDCI was instructed to maintain reliable and continuous power supply throughout the duration of the pilgrimage. The Health Department was directed to deploy well-equipped medical teams and establish robust emergency healthcare services at strategic locations. Municipal authorities were tasked with ensuring rigorous sanitation standards, installation of adequate temporary toilet facilities

and the scientific disposal of waste. The Traffic Police and other security agencies were directed to put in place comprehensive traffic regulation measures and ensure a strong security apparatus along the entire Yatra corridor within the district. The DC further directed NIC to ensure reliable and uninterrupted internet connectivity at RFID Centres being created at Nonath and Chichi Mata so as to facilitate seamless pilgrim registration, biometric verification and the full range of digital services integral to the Yatra management framework. She underscored that any disruption in digital infrastructure could impede the smooth flow of pilgrims and directed that contingency measures be kept in readiness at all times.

Ms. Sudan categorically directed all departments to maintain the highest state

of operational readiness and to respond with urgency and efficiency to any exigency that may arise during the Yatra period. She stressed that close inter-departmental coordination, proactive planning and a zero-tolerance approach to lapses in service delivery would be the hallmarks of the district administration's conduct during the pilgrimage and called upon every officer to discharge their responsibilities with utmost dedication and a sense of public service.

Among others present in the meeting included Senior Superintendent of Police Anuj Kumar; Additional District Development Commissioner Champa Devi Thakur; Programme Officer, ICDS Rajesh Lakhan and other district officers from the concerned departments.

MLA Nagrota Flags Off Farmers' Exposure Visit to Palampur

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In a significant initiative aimed at enhancing farmers' knowledge and promoting modern agricultural practices, MLA Nagrota, Devyani Rana on Monday flagged off an exposure visit of farmers from Sub-Division Dalsal to CSK Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishvaavidyalaya under the ATMA-2026 Programme organised by the Agriculture Department.

The exposure visit has been designed to provide farmers with practical learning opportunities and first-hand exposure to advanced agricultural technologies, scientific farming methods and successful institutional models.

Speaking on the occasion, Devyani Rana emphasized the importance of such visits in broadening farmers' knowledge and encouraging the adoption of modern, sustainable and scientific agricultural practices. She appreciated the efforts of the Agriculture Department, particularly Team Dalsal, for effectively extending support and services to the



farming community.

She said exposure visits enable farmers to directly interact with scientists, agricultural experts and progressive farmers, helping them understand improved cultivation techniques, farm mechanisation, climate-resilient practices and innovative agricultural interventions being successfully implemented in other regions.

The programme was organised under the guidance of Director Agriculture Jammu, Anil Gupta; Chief Agriculture Officer Jammu, Manohar Lal Sharma; District Agriculture Officer Jammu, Vinod Khajuria;

and Sub-Divisional Agriculture Officer Dalsal, Ashwani Gupta.

The flag-off ceremony was attended by SDAO Dalsal Ashwani Gupta, AEO Manwal Anoop Singh, AEO Nagrota Kaushalya, JAEO Headquarters Praveen Singh, besides other officers and field functionaries of the Agriculture Department.

Addressing the farmers, Ashwani Gupta reiterated the department's commitment to promoting sustainable agricultural development and improving farmers' socio-economic well-being through capacity-building programmes and farmer-centric interven-

tions. He said the visit aims to strengthen farmers' knowledge and skills, encourage crop diversification, value addition and adoption of research-based agricultural practices, ultimately improving productivity and farm income. He added that such exposure visits under ATMA serve as an important bridge between agricultural research and field-level implementation through experiential learning.

The visit is expected to equip participating farmers with valuable insights and practical knowledge that will contribute to improved agricultural productivity and sustainability in the region.

137 Bn CRPF organises human resource programme under CAP at Chenani

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A Human Resource Programme under the Civic Action Programme was organised by the 137 Battalion CRPF, Udhampur today at Kendriya Vidyalaya and Government Higher Secondary School Chenani.

The programme witnessed the presence of Commandant Manoj Kumar Sicon, Dy Commandant Raju Lal Meena, Tehsildar Chenani Pankaj Singh staff members, students, CRPF personnel and prominent members of the local community.

While addressing the gathering, the CRPF officers highlighted the force's commitment to youth welfare and community development through its civic action programmes.



They emphasized that such initiatives aim to strengthen community engagement, empower young people and foster trust and cooperation between the security forces and the public.

The participants appreciated the efforts of the 137 Battalion, CRPF, in organising the programme and lauded its contribution towards social welfare and youth empowerment.

The locals expressed gratitude to the CRPF and urged that similar civic action programmes be conducted regularly in the future for the benefit of the community.

RBI Jammu sets up financial awareness stall at Kheer Bhawani mela

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
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The Reserve Bank of India participated in the annual Kheer Bhawani Mela by setting up a financial awareness stall at the revered shrine of Mata Kheer Bhawani at Tulmulla, Ganderbal.

The initiative was aimed at enhancing financial literacy and promoting safe banking practices among the devotees and visitors attending the mela.

The stall also highlighted the key initiatives of the Reserve Bank of India in the areas of financial inclusion, customer protection and digital payment security. The visitors were sensitized about the common cyber frauds and were advised to follow the "Be Aware, Be Se-



curity" approach while undertaking the digital financial transactions.

The FIDD officials interacted with the public in local dialect and disseminated information on various as-

pects of financial literacy, including safe digital banking practices, protection against financial frauds, grievance redress mechanisms, deposit insurance and the importance of re-

sponsible financial behaviour.

Besides, information brochures and awareness material was distributed among the visitors during the mela.

DC Samba chairs NCORD Meeting, pitches for multi-pronged measures to combat drug menace

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Deputy Commissioner Samba Ayushi Sudan today chaired a meeting of the District Level Narco Coordination Centre (NCORD) Committee to review the implementation of anti-drug initiatives to curb the menace of narcotics and substance abuse in the district.

During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner reviewed the action taken by the stakeholder departments and stressed the need for a coordinated, intelligence-driven and community-oriented approach to eliminate drug abuse and trafficking from the district.

The Deputy Commissioner directed the concerned departments to undertake detailed mapping of the district to identify drug hotspots and other areas susceptible to illegal narcotic activities. She instructed enforcement agencies to intensify surveillance and strengthen enforcement measures in all such vulnerable pockets.

To reinforce preventive efforts in educational institutions, the Deputy Commis-



sioner directed the Education Department to ensure installation of CCTV cameras in coaching centres and educational institutions wherever required. She also called for regular counselling sessions to facilitate early identification of vulnerable students and promote awareness about the harmful effects of substance abuse.

Highlighting the need for constructive youth engagement, the Deputy Commissioner instructed the concerned departments to organise regular sports activities and ensure adequate availability of sports equipment to encourage healthy lifestyles and channelise the energy of youth towards positive pursuits.

The DC further directed all departments to

strengthen Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities, particularly in rural areas, by ensuring close coordination among all stakeholders to maximise awareness at the grassroots level.

Reviewing road safety and enforcement measures, she instructed the concerned authorities to conduct mandatory medical examinations of drivers involved in rash driving and take stringent action, including cancellation of driving licences, in cases of drunk driving.

The Deputy Commissioner also directed the Drug Control authorities to intensify inspections of pharmaceutical outlets and ensure 100 percent CCTV surveillance and Computerised Billing System (CBS) coverage in medical establish-

ments to prevent misuse of prescription drugs.

Reiterating the District Administration's commitment towards building a drug-free Samba, the Deputy Commissioner called upon all departments, enforcement agencies, educational institutions and community stakeholders to work in close coordination and adopt a proactive approach to effectively combat the drug menace.

The meeting was attended by Senior Superintendent of Police, Anuj Kumar; Assistant Commissioner Development; Sub-Divisional Magistrates; Chief Medical Officer; the heads of Government Degree Colleges; representatives from enforcement agencies and other senior district and sectoral officers.

Bhaderwah gears up for Pulse Polio drive

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In preparation for the forthcoming Pulse Polio Immunization Programme scheduled to be held on June 28-2026, the Block Medical Officer Bhaderwah Dr. Versha Sharma today convened a training session cum meeting for the staff of health institutions of the Medical Block, here today.

District Mass Education and Information Officer (DMEIO) from Dy CMO Office Mubashir Bin Muzamil was the Master Trainer for the training session.

During the meeting, detailed discussions were held regarding the arrangements and preparedness for the effective implementation of the Pulse Polio Programme. The meeting reviewed the operational aspects, including deployment of vaccination teams, Booth management, supervision-cum-monitoring and awareness generation activities to ensure comprehensive coverage of all eligible children.

Dr. Versha Sharma stressed the importance of



meticulous planning and coordinated efforts to ensure that no eligible child is left out during the immunization drive. She urged the health functionaries to work with dedication and commitment for the successful conduct of the programme.

Mubashir Bin Muzamil sensitized the participants to various technical and operational aspects of Pulse Polio activities. He elaborated on vaccination protocols, reporting mechanisms, supervisory

responsibilities, and strategies to maximise community participation and coverage. He also addressed queries raised by the participants and emphasized adherence to the guidelines issued for the campaign.