

DC Pulwama reviews Charge wise Progress of Census-2027 House Listing Operations

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, JUNE 24

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Pulwama (Principal Census Officer), Dr. Basharat Qayoom, today conducted an extensive review of the ongoing House Listing and Housing Census (HLO) operations under Census-2027 across various charges of the district.

The DC reviewed the Census Charges of Pulwama (Rural), Pulwama (Urban) and visited Census Charges of Shahoora-Litter and Kakapora, where he assessed the progress achieved under the House Listing and Housing Census phase and reviewed the preparedness of field functionaries in view of the approaching completion of the HLO phase of Census-2027.

During the review meetings, the respective Charge Officers briefed the Principal Census Officer on the status and progress of field operations, completion levels, issues encountered on the ground and the measures being taken to ensure timely completion of the exercise.

The DC also interacted



with Supervisors and Enumerators and sought detailed feedback regarding the coverage of assigned House Listing Blocks (HLBs), pendency status and challenges being faced during field-level data collection.

Emphasising the importance of the Census as a critical national exercise, the DC directed all Supervisors and Enumerators to undertake thorough verification of completed HLBs before marking them as completed on the portal so

as to ensure that no household, structure or habitation is left out.

He stressed that accuracy, authenticity and completeness of census data must be maintained at every stage of the enumeration process and directed the field staff to exercise utmost diligence while recording information. He further instructed Enumerators with pending HLBs to expedite field operations and ensure completion of all assigned tasks within the prescribed timelines.

The DC highlighted the need for strict adherence to the provisions of the Census Act and reiterated that all information collected during the Census exercise is confidential in nature. He directed the field functionaries not to share census-related data with any unauthorised person or agency and to maintain the highest standards of confidentiality and professional conduct.

He further advised the Charge Officers to closely monitor the progress of field operations and ensure prompt resolution of issues arising during data collection. He also stressed the importance of proper coordination among Charge Officers, Supervisors and Enumerators for seamless completion of the exercise.

During the interactions, Supervisors and Enumerators raised certain operational queries, which were addressed by the Deputy Commissioner and the senior officers present on the occasion.

The meetings were attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner, Pulwama, District Census Coordinator, concerned Charge Officers, Supervisors and Enumerators.

Mandeep chairs WRRC meet on Jal Hi AMRIT as J&K gets Rs 10.5 cr for wastewater reuse

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With a focus on sustainable water management and promoting water circularity, the Water Resource Recovery Cell (WRRC) under the Jal Hi AMRIT (JHA) initiative of AMRUT 2.0 met today under the chairpersonship of Commissioner Secretary, Housing and Urban Development, Mandeep Kaur.

The meeting discussed strategies to encourage reuse of treated wastewater, especially for non-potable purposes.

The officials informed that the Housing and Urban Development Department is implementing AMRUT 2.0 through various water supply, sewerage and water body rejuvenation projects. Under its Jal Hi AMRIT sub-component, launched to upgrade Sewage Treatment Plants through incentive-based funding, J&K has secured Rs 10.50 crore in incentives, so far. The ongoing



interventions included installation of SCADA systems and tertiary treatment facilities to improve wastewater quality for reuse.

Pertinently, the J&K government has constituted a Water Resource Recovery Cell for inter-departmental coordination to ensure effective use of treated water. Its members included representatives from Agriculture, Horticulture, Industries and Commerce, Urban Local Bodies, Jal Shakti, I&FC, J&K Pollution Control Committee, Forest and Chambers of In-

dustries and Commerce.

During the meeting, the members shared suggestions on the objectives and framework of the Jal Hi AMRIT initiative launched by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

Mandeep Kaur stressed that treated water, meeting prescribed quality standards, should be utilized for the irrigating parks and gardens, industrial processes, construction, automobile cleaning, kitchen gardens and reducing non-revenue water. She said the initiative supports

water conservation and circular economy principles by transforming wastewater into a valuable resource and underscored the need for robust quality testing before reuse.

The Commissioner Secretary asked the Jal Shakti Department and UUED to explore the projects for an exclusive network to supply treated wastewater to parks and gardens in Srinagar City. A working group will also be formed for Jammu to assess a feasible holistic project for gainful use of treated wastewater, she told the meeting.

The meeting was attended by the Chairman JKPC, Commissioners of JMC and SMC, Special Secretary and MD AMRUT, Directors of ULB Jammu and Kashmir, Directors of Agriculture, Horticulture and Industries, Chief Engineers of UUED, Jal Shakti and I&FC, Chief Conservators of Forests and Presidents of Chambers of Industries and Commerce Jammu and Kashmir.

NDMA conducts Table Top Exercise for SANJY-2026 at Pahalgam

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Ahead of the forthcoming Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra 2026, the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) under the chairmanship of Major General Sudhir Bahl (Retd.) and in collaboration with District Administration Anantnag, conducted a Table Top Exercise today at the JKTDCC Club, Pahalgam.

The exercise was part of the ongoing preparedness measures for the upcoming Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra 2026 aimed at ensuring seamless coordination among all key stakeholders involved in the management of the annual pilgrimage.

The exercise witnessed the participation of senior officers from the NDMA, Department of Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation & Reconstruction, district administration, ADC Defence Forces, Security Forces, Fire & Emergency Services, SDRF, Camp Directors and Additional Camp Directors and other concerned officials.



The objective was to assess operational readiness, enhance inter-agency coordination, and identify potential gaps in contingency planning related to route management, medical emergencies, weather-induced challenges, and crowd control.

Addressing the participants, Major General Sudhir Bahl (Retd.) emphasized the importance of integrated planning and real-time coordination. He reviewed the disaster management plans in place a description of which was shared by district administration.

The exercise simulated multiple disaster scenarios to test the preparedness and response capabilities of all agencies involved. Detailed deliberations were held on communication strategies, evacuation procedures, and the deployment of critical resources.

"The Sacred Journey to Shri Amarnath: A Multi-Dimensional Perspective" commences at Anantnag

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First of its kind, a two-day International Conference on the theme "The Sacred Journey to Shri Amarnath Ji: A Multi-Dimensional Perspective" commenced today at Government College for Women (GCW), Anantnag.

The conference, being organised by District Administration in collaboration with the host college, has brought together administrators, faculty from reputed institutions and organisations, eminent academicians, researchers, scholars, students, officials and civil society members.

The inaugural session was attended by Deputy Commissioner (DC), Dr. Bilal Mohiuddin Bhat (Patron of the Conference), Principal GCW, Prof Khalida Hassan (Co-patron of the Conference), Prof Monowar Alam Khalid (Professor Environmental Science and Dean Students Welfare, Integral University Lucknow), Prof Himanshu Roy (Professor Centre for Political Studies, JNU), Prof Kapil Kumar (Former Chair Professor, Centre for Freedom Struggle and Diaspora Studies), Prof Farooq Ahmad Malik, GDCW (Organising Secretary), faculty of various Govt Degree Colleges, academicians, researchers, scholars, students and civil society members.

Three sessions were held on first day during which the speakers deliberated upon various aspects of the revered Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra (SANJY). They highlighted the historical, cultural and spiritual significance of the Annual Himalayan Pilgrimage besides elaborating its administrative, socioeconomic and ecological dimensions.

In her welcome address, Principal of the College highlighted the importance of academic discussions on



heritage, traditions and the overall significance of the annual SANJY. She said the platform will serve as a great opportunity to engage on multicultural aspects of the sacred Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra.

Addressing the gathering, the Deputy Commissioner underlined the importance of preserving the cultural and spiritual legacy associated with Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra.

He said that syncretic uniqueness of this annual pilgrimage is reflected from the fact that the service providers historically associated with the Yatra are often from different faith than that of visiting devotees. "The local community has always been at forefront and extended warm hospitality to the pilgrims making their sacred journey to the Holy Cave easy, comfortable and enriching", he remarked.

Dr. Bilal talked about the immense contribution the annual pilgrimage has in keeping alive the multifarious and pluralistic traditions of Kashmir adding the same perfectly reflect the plural and inclusive ethos of our great nation.

"The place, aptly called 'Peer Waer', has long stood as a 'melting pot' of different faiths and a cradle of

cultural evolution where Shaivism, Sufism and other beliefs have evolved and thrived", he noted. He informed the audience that this year several key measures have been taken for sustainable and greener Yatra and the district administration is committed to ensure it is conducted in a safe, seamless and pilgrim friendly manner.

Professor Kapil Verma while speaking on the occasion said that people of Kashmir have old age ethical and social connection with the Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra, emphasising the cultural pluralism and syncretic values of the place. He said that hospitality of Kashmir is well known to the world.

He termed the local people as "part and parcel" of the sacred pilgrimage who always provide the necessary service and cooperation during the entire Yatra. He further highlighted the economic impact of the pilgrimage tourism besides the diversity of the nation.

During the inaugural session, Prof Monowar Alam Khalid delivered a special address on "Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra: Ecological Challenges and Suggested Solutions." He called for complimenting the ecological wisdom with suitable tech-

nological interventions so the goal of a sustainable Yatra on the fragile Himalayan region is realised.

Prof Khalid further said that management decisions should be guided by ecological thresholds and scientific assessment of maximum carrying capacity keeping in view pilgrim numbers, camp strength, waste handling capacity, resource availability and emergency response mechanisms. He advocated for zero waste techniques, green energy transition, protection of resources and biodiversity, nature based solutions, involvement of local community, linking of Yatra with Sustainable Development Goals so that the sacred pilgrimage becomes a global model of sustainable religious tourism.

In his keynote address on "Multiculturalism in India: A Historical Trajectory", Prof. Himanshu Roy said that multiple cultures have existed in India for centuries. He shared his valuable insights on the historical context of SANJY, enlightening the participants about the evolution of the spiritual journey.

Organising Secretary, Prof. Farooq Ahmad Malik gave an overview of the conference and emphasised the role of research and scholarly dialogue in understanding the pilgrimage from diverse perspectives.

The event aims to provide a platform for meaningful academic exchange and a comprehensive understanding of the sacred pilgrimage through multidisciplinary perspectives.

DC Rajouri reviews anti-drug measures, calls for coordinated action to make district drug-free

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Deputy Commissioner Rajouri Abhishek Sharma today chaired a meeting of the Narco Coordination Centre (NCORD) to review the progress of drug control initiatives and assess the anti-drug campaign in the district.

The Deputy Commissioner directed all stakeholder departments to coordinate closely and adopt a proactive approach to curb narcotics, with focus on strengthening preventive strategies, intensifying enforcement and ensuring effective rehabilitation mechanisms.

The Deputy Commissioner directed officers concerned to ensure proper identification of persons affected by drug abuse and facilitate their timely treatment through available healthcare facilities. He reviewed functioning of the Drug De-addiction Centre



and Addiction Treatment Facility and stressed optimum utilisation of resources along with medical care, counselling and rehabilitation support for those undergoing treatment.

The Deputy Commissioner made it clear that strict action shall be initiated against any government employee found involved in drug trafficking or related illegal activity, with such misconduct inviting action under rele-

vant laws and service rules, reflecting the administration's zero-tolerance policy.

Taking stock of enforcement measures, the Deputy Commissioner reviewed FIRs registered under the NDPS Act, action against drug peddlers and demolition drives carried out against properties associated with narcotics trafficking and directed enforcement agencies to strengthen surveillance, enhance coordination and

continue sustained action against those involved in the illegal drug trade.

The Deputy Commissioner said elimination of the drug menace requires active participation of law enforcement agencies, health institutions, educational institutions, community organisations and the general public and called for intensified awareness campaigns and greater community involvement to achieve a drug-free Rajouri.

Among those present were SSP Rajouri Gaurav Sikarwar, ADC Rajouri Ravi Kumar Sihag, ACD Auqil Nuvaid, Chief Medical Officer Dr Manohar Lal Rana and DSWO Abdul Raheem. ADC Nowshera Pritam Lal Thapa, ADC Kalakote Mohd Tanvir, ADC Sunderbani Ramkesh Sharma, ADC Koteranka Dil Mir, SDM Thanamandi Abid Hussain Shah and ARTO Ashiq Rafiq Malik attended virtually.

ARTO Bandipora conducts Enforcement Drive; Rs 70,500 Fine realized from Traffic Violations

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In compliance with the directions of the Transport Commissioner, J&K, the Motor Vehicles Department, Bandipora, conducted a comprehensive enforcement drive across various routes of the district to ensure adherence to

the provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act and Rules.

The enforcement team, comprising Motor Vehicles Inspectors, Motor Vehicles Traffic Assistant and other departmental staff, carried out the drive under the supervision of Assistant Regional Transport Officer (ARTO), Bandipora, Mukhtar Ahmad Sofi.

During the drive, a total

of 216 vehicles were inspected for compliance with traffic regulations and safety norms. Of these, 44 vehicles were found violating various provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act and were penalized accordingly.

An amount of Rs 70,500 was realized in fines from the violators during the enforcement operation.

The drive was aimed at promoting road safety, ensuring strict compliance with traffic laws and safeguarding the interests of the travelling public. The Motor Vehicles Department reiterated its commitment to enforcing road safety measures and urged vehicle owners and drivers to adhere to all traffic regulations for safer roads.