

Nidhi Aapke Nikat 2.0 held at Udhampur, VISHWAS Scheme in Focus

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, JULY 27

As part of its continued commitment to strengthening stakeholder outreach and enhancing awareness of social security initiatives, the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO), Regional Office Jammu, conducted Nidhi Aapke Nikat (NAN) 2.0 on 27 July 2026 at the premises of National Institute of Teaching & Learning, Udhampur.

The programme was presided over by Sh. Devinder Singh, Enforcement Officer, along with Sh. Bal Krishan, Enforcement Officer. Addressing the participants, the officers emphasized the importance of proactive engagement with employers and employees to ensure timely access to EPFO services and greater awareness of social security benefits.

The programme served as an interactive platform for engaging with pensioners, employers, employees and other stakeholders to address their grievances and spread awareness about various EPFO services and Government initiatives.

The main focus of the programme was the VISH-



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WAS Scheme, under which participants were sensitized about the benefits and objectives of the scheme. The participants were apprised of the salient features of the scheme, which has been introduced by EPFO as a special initiative for the amicable and time-bound resolution of pending damages cases under Section 14B of the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952, or Section 128 of the Code on Social Security, 2020.

The interactive session also provided an opportunity for participants to raise queries related to EPFO services, pension matters

and online facilities. Officers resolved grievances on the spot and guided stakeholders on the effective use of EPFO's digital services.

The programme also provided an overview of key Government initiatives aimed at strengthening labour welfare and expanding the social security net. Participants were apprised of the implementation of the Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana, generating employment, enhancing employability and promoting formalization of the workforce, Four Labour Codes, which seek to consolidate and modernize labour laws to ensure fair wages, safer workplaces,

universal social security, and improved working conditions for employees.

representatives from National Institute of Teaching & Learning, Udhampur, Principal Mrs. Anamika Gupta, Sh. Ajay Gupta (Sponsor) along with other officials and employees, actively participated in the programme and appreciated the awareness initiatives undertaken by EPFO.

The programme concluded with a reaffirmation of EPFO Jammu's commitment to delivering citizen-centric services, improving accessibility for pensioners, and strengthening awareness of social security initiatives across the region.

DM Bandipora chairs District-Level NCORD Meeting, reviews NDPS cases and Anti-Drug Measures

BANDIPORA, JULY 27: District Magistrate (DM) Bandipora, Indu Kanwal Chib, along with Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Bandipora, Ajaz Ahmad Zargar, on Monday chaired a meeting of the District Level NCORD Committee at the VC Room, Mini Secretariat, Bandipora, to review NDPS/PIT NDPS cases and the implementation of anti-drug measures across the district.

During the meeting, the SSP Bandipora presented a police station-wise status of FIRs registered under the NDPS and PIT NDPS Acts, highlighting the action taken against drug peddlers, recoveries of narcotic substances, attachment of properties and other enforcement measures undertaken. The meeting also reviewed the action taken against drug traffickers and implementation of related enforcement measures.

Reviewing enforcement measures, the DM directed the Assistant Regional Transport Officer (ARTO) to ensure that vehicles whose Registration Certificates (RCs) are cancelled do not ply on roads and that all such cases are processed strictly in accordance with the prescribed procedures.

Deputy Director Prosecution apprised the meeting about the status of acquittals, bail cases and ongoing cases. The DM directed that officers from the Prosecution Department and Police be included in the forthcoming weekly Nun Chai Talks pro-



grammes to educate youth about the legal consequences of drug abuse and trafficking.

The Assistant Drug Controller briefed the meeting on inspections carried out by the department and enforcement measures taken against violations. The DM directed the department to further intensify inspections of courier service providers to prevent their misuse for transportation of narcotic substances.

Additional Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Zaffar Husson Shawl presented the progress achieved under the 100-Day Nasha Mukta J&K Abhiyan including awareness and outreach activities conducted across the district. Major initiatives included Maa Se Guft-a-Gu, Dosti Discussions, Nun Chai Talks, religious outreach programmes and NMBA wall paintings in schools and colleges.

Reviewing the awareness initiatives, the DM directed all schools to submit certificates confirming the completion of NMBA wall

paintings in their institutions. She further directed that Dosti Discussion, Maa Se Guft-a-Gu and IEC campaigns should continue across educational institutions, Panchayats and Urban Local Bodies to sustain public awareness against drug abuse.

The meeting also reviewed the implementation of the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act (COTPA), 2003 and the Juvenile Justice Act (JJA), 2015. The DM directed all concerned departments, particularly the Child Welfare Committee, to submit impact assessment reports on the implementation of COTPA and ensure strict enforcement of the Act.

Reviewing the Rehbar initiative, the DM directed the concerned district officers to actively mentor the recovered youth assigned to them and facilitate their rehabilitation through continuous guidance and institutional support.

The Chief Medical Officer and Medical Officer, Addiction Treatment Facility (ATF), apprised the meet-

ing about the functioning of the ATF and the progress of rehabilitation services. The DM directed the Health Department to ensure that In-Patient Department (IPD) services at the ATF remain fully functional to strengthen treatment and rehabilitation facilities for substance abuse patients.

Emphasising the importance of sustained and coordinated action, the DM called for continuous monitoring, effective inter-departmental coordination and sustained awareness and rehabilitation efforts to effectively curb drug abuse and illicit trafficking in the district.

It was informed that key systemic initiatives launched under the 100-Day Nasha Mukta J&K Abhiyan in Bandipora district would continue beyond the campaign period to sustain anti-drug awareness, prevention and rehabilitation efforts across the district.

The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Bandipora, Zaffar Husson Shawl; Superintending Engineer R&B Circle Bandipora; Dy DEO Bandipora; Deputy Director Prosecution; Chief Medical Officer; Chief Education Officer; Medical Superintendent, District Hospital Bandipora; Deputy Superintendent of Police (DAR); Chairperson, Child Welfare Committee; District Information Officer; District Youth Services and Sports Officer; Assistant Controller Drugs; besides other concerned officers.

PM SHRI GBHSS Humhama organizes Drug De-Addiction Awareness Programme

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PM SHRI Government Boys Higher Secondary School (GBHSS) Humhama, Budgam organized a Drug De-Addiction Awareness Programme under the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan to create awareness among students about the harmful effects of substance abuse and to promote a healthy, drug-free lifestyle.

The programme was

graced by Bashir Ahmed Ganie, Chief Education Officer, Budgam, as the Chief Guest. In his address, the Chief Guest emphasized the vital role of educational institutions in protecting the younger generation from the menace of drug addiction. He urged students to stay away from drugs, remain focused on their studies, and become responsible citizens who contribute positively to society.

A special highlight of the

programme was an insightful lecture by senior lecturer and Nodal Officer, 100 Days Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan, Dr. Samreen Qureshi, who delivered an impressive and thought-provoking session on the objectives and significance of the campaign. She sensitized students about the harmful physical, psychological, and social consequences of substance abuse and inspired them to adopt a healthy, disciplined, and drug-free

lifestyle.

The programme also featured awareness speeches and student presentations conveying the powerful message, "Say No to Drugs, Say Yes to Life."

The programme concluded with the administration of the Nasha Mukta Bharat Pledge, reaffirming the commitment of all participants to contribute towards building a drug-free society and strengthening the vision of a Nasha Mukta Bharat.

Sat Sharma meets Nitin Gadkari, seeks major road infrastructure push for J&K

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BJP J&K President and Rajya Sabha MP Sat Sharma CA called upon Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari in New Delhi and raised several important issues concerning J&K's road network with the objective of securing faster infrastructure development and addressing critical connectivity challenges faced by the people.

During the meeting, Sat Sharma apprised the Union Minister of the need to further strengthen road infrastructure across Jammu & Kashmir in view of its strategic importance, difficult terrain, growing tourism potential, and the aspirations of the people. He stressed that improved connectivity is the backbone of economic growth, tourism, trade, healthcare, education, and national security, and urged the Ministry to continue prioritizing infrastructure development in the Union Territory.



While thanking the Minister for the major road infrastructure push in J&K, ensuring 12-month all-weather connectivity between the major regions of Jammu & Kashmir and with the Union Territory of Ladakh, Sharma particularly emphasized the need to take additional measures to address the landslides issues in the rainy season.

Highlighting the disruption of highways due to landslides and adverse weather especially in rainy season, Sat Sharma requested the Union Minister to encourage the use of advanced engineering solutions and modern technologies to make roads

more resilient. He stressed the need for scientific slope stabilization, modern monitoring systems, and other innovative interventions to minimize road closures and ensure safer travel.

Sharma said uninterrupted road access would greatly benefit people living in remote and border areas while facilitating smoother movement of goods, tourists, and essential services throughout the year. The BJP leader also sought the time-bound completion of ongoing National Highway projects, tunnels, elevated road corridors, and flyovers at crucial locations to improve traffic flow, reduce travel time,

and enhance commuter safety. He said timely completion of these projects would further accelerate economic activity and open new avenues for investment, employment, and tourism across Jammu & Kashmir.

Sat Sharma said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Jammu & Kashmir has witnessed unprecedented progress in road connectivity, with several long-pending highway, bridge, and tunnel projects being executed at a record pace. He added that this transformative vision has its roots in the developmental approach of former Prime Minister Bharat Ratna Atal Bihari Vajpayee, which is now being carried forward with renewed commitment.

The Union Minister gave a patient hearing to the issues raised by Sat Sharma and assured him that the Ministry would continue to extend all possible support for strengthening road infrastructure and connectivity in Jammu & Kashmir.

BJP Minority Morcha pays rich tributes to Dr APJ Abdul Kalam on his death anniversary

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BJP Minority Morcha Jammu & Kashmir organized a tribute programme to commemorate the death anniversary of Bharat Ratna Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, former President of India and one of the country's most distinguished scientists.

The programme was held under the leadership of BJP Minority Morcha J&K President Sardar Ranjodh Singh Nalwa at party headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

The programme was attended by Nisar Shah, National Executive Member, Adv. Jasmeet Kour Pandey, General Secretary, Pawanjeet Singh, Secretary, Joginder Singh, TSO Rajinder Singh, Sartaj Singh, Gurdeep Singh, District President South, Harvinder Singh Vickie, District President Jammu, Harpal Singh Bali, Prabhari District South, Didar Singh, Hardev Singh, Jasmeet Singh, Office Secretary, along with other senior leaders, office bearers, and party workers.

The leaders offered floral tributes to Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, fondly remembered as the "People's President"



and the "Missile Man of India." They paid homage to his unparalleled contributions to India's scientific advancement, strategic defence capabilities, education, and nation-building. The speakers recalled his lifelong commitment to transforming India into a developed, self-reliant, and technologically advanced nation, while inspiring the youth to pursue excellence through hard work, innovation, discipline, and patriotism.

Sardar Ranjodh Singh Nalwa, while paying tributes, said that Dr. A.P.J.

Abdul Kalam was a true nationalist whose life reflected simplicity, dedication, and an unwavering commitment to the progress of the country. He said that Dr. Kalam's remarkable journey from humble beginnings to becoming the President of India continues to motivate generations of Indians to dream big and dedicate themselves to the service of the nation. He added that BJP Minority Morcha remains committed to promoting the ideals cherished by Dr. Kalam, including national unity, social har-

mony, education, scientific temper, and inclusive development. He urged party workers to spread Dr. Kalam's inspiring message among the younger generation and encourage them to contribute positively towards building a strong, prosperous, and developed India. Minority Morcha leaders said that Dr. Kalam firmly believed that the youth are the greatest strength of the nation, and it is the collective responsibility of society to encourage them towards education, scientific thinking, innovation.

BJP flags off delegation to Varanasi under Samrasata Sankalp Abhiyan

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BJP J&K General Secretary (Organization) Ashok Koul, along with BJP General Secretary Baldev Singh Billawaria, flagged off a delegation of party leaders to Varanasi, the holy birthplace of Saint Shriromani Guru Ravidas Ji Maharaj, under the ongoing 'Samrasata Sankalp Abhiyan' being organized to commemorate the 650th birth anniversary of the revered saint.

MLA Ramnagar Dr. Sunil Bhardwaj, BJP J&K SC Morcha President Dharminder Kumar, Jeet Angral, and other senior party leaders were present on the occasion at party headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

BJP J&K Vice-President Bharat Bhushan is leading the 16-member delegation that will visit the sacred birthplace of Guru Ravidas Ji in Varanasi.

The delegation will bring back the holy soil in a sa-



cred Kalash from Guru Ravidas Ji's birthplace. The holy soil will later be placed in temples across Jammu & Kashmir during the upcoming programmes being organized under the Samrasata Sankalp Abhiyan. The initiative aims to spread the timeless message of equality, social harmony, fraternity, and human dignity propagated by Saint Guru Ravidas Ji.

Ashok Koul, speaking on the occasion, said that Saint Guru Ravidas Ji dedi-

cated his life to eliminating discrimination and awakening society towards equality and universal brotherhood. He said that the BJP has always worked to uphold the ideals of social justice and inclusive development envisioned by great saints and reformers. He added that the Samrasata Sankalp Abhiyan is not merely a commemorative programme but a social movement to strengthen unity and mutual respect in society.

Bringing the sacred soil from Guru Ji's birthplace, he said, symbolizes the commitment to carry his teachings to every corner of Jammu & Kashmir and inspire future generations to build a harmonious and united society.

Baldev Singh Billawaria said that the campaign reflects the BJP's commitment to preserving India's rich spiritual and social heritage while connecting people with the teachings of great saints.