

Secretary DLSA inspects Prison Legal Aid Clinic at District Jail Udhampur

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 21

Sub-Judge/Secretary District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Udhampur Sumati Sharma today conducted the monthly inspection of the Prison Legal Aid Clinic and a comprehensive jail visit at the District Jail, Udhampur.

During the visit, the Secretary held direct discussions with inmates across different barracks to assess their access to legal assistance, medical care and other necessities. She examined case files and clinic records to verify that eligible prisoners are being identified and provided free legal aid, legal awareness sessions and timely representation as guaranteed under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.

The Secretary gave special attention to women prisoners and met female inmates separately to hear grievances relating to legal aid, delays in pending cases, lack of representation or welfare concerns.



She also sought feedback from inmates on the quality and frequency of legal awareness outreach and the responsiveness of the prison's legal aid arrangements.

The inspection included a thorough review of the jail's living conditions and essential services. She evaluated cleanliness and sanitation standards in the barracks, the hygiene of kitchen and food preparation areas, the adequacy

and nutritional quality of meals and the general maintenance of facilities. She reviewed the availability and delivery of health-care services, including access to medical staff, procedures for emergency care and provision of medicines. She also observed infrastructure such as the condition of cells, bedding, ventilation, water supply and sanitary facilities.

The visit reinforced the DLSA's continued com-

mitment to protecting the constitutional and legal rights and dignity of persons in custody. By monitoring the functioning of the Prison Legal Aid Clinic and the overall custodial environment, the District Legal Services Authority, Udhampur aims to ensure effective, timely and humane legal aid services in correctional institutions and to remedy shortcomings that impede inmates' access to justice.

SWD organises awareness camp for senior citizens at Bhaderwah

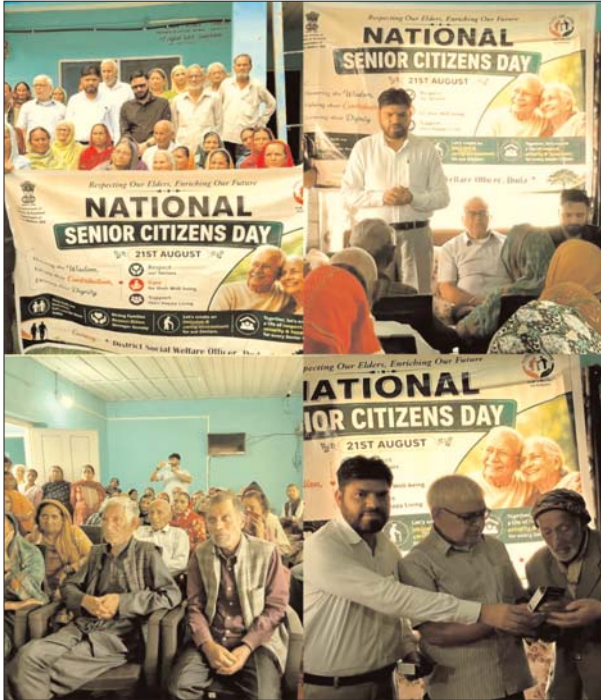
HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 21

The Social Welfare Department, in collaboration with the Health Department, organised an awareness camp for senior citizens on the eve of Senior Citizens Day at Panchayat Ghar, Drudhu, Bhaderwah. The programme aimed to sensitise the elderly about their rights, welfare entitlements, health, dignity and overall well-being.

A large number of senior citizens participated, along with officials and representatives of the Social Welfare and Health Departments. Ex-Sarpanch Ashok Kumar Sharma was the chief guest.

Welcoming the chief guest, senior citizens and other participants, Tehsil Social Welfare Officer Bhaderwah Shah Nawaz Ahmad highlighted various welfare schemes and benefits available to senior citizens through the Social Welfare Department. He also elaborated on the key provisions of the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007, with particular emphasis on the rights, dignity, protection, maintenance and welfare of senior citizens, and the mechanisms available for addressing their concerns.

The chief guest appreciated the initiative of the So-



cial Welfare Department and expressed gratitude for taking welfare and awareness activities to the grassroots level. He lauded the efforts of the TSWO for reaching out to senior citizens, listening patiently to their concerns and providing them an opportunity to interact directly with the de-

partment concerned. Resource Person from the Health Department Dr Sandeep delivered an informative session on healthy ageing and sensitised participants about the importance of maintaining an active and healthy lifestyle in old age. He explained various measures relating to physical fitness, healthy habits, preventive health-care and protection against common and age-related health problems.

The programme also provided an interactive platform for senior citizens to raise queries and concerns regarding pensions, welfare schemes, entitlements and other issues. The TSWO responded to the queries patiently and apprised participants of the relevant provisions, procedures and avenues available for availing various welfare benefits.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks to the chief guest, senior citizens, Health Department officials and all participants for their valuable presence and active participation.

Swachhata Sankalp programme held at Batote

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 21

The Directorate of Urban Local Bodies Jammu, in collaboration with the District Administration Ramban, today organised a "Swachhata Sankalp" programme at Batote to promote cleanliness, hygiene, responsible waste management and environmental awareness among the public.

Among those present were Tehsildar Vijay Kumar Sharma, Executive Officer Municipal Council Sudershan Singh Jamwal and Principal Model Higher Secondary School Rakesh, besides other officials, students and locals.

As part of the programme, an awareness rally was taken out through Batote town, in which students, locals and officials participated enthusiastically. The rally aimed to sensitise the public



about the importance of maintaining cleanliness in public places and adopting hygienic practices in daily life.

A Swachhata pledge was also administered to all participants, who pledged to keep their surroundings clean and to spread awareness about cleanliness and environmental protection. The programme also

featured a cleanliness drive and awareness sessions, focussing on the importance of proper waste disposal, maintaining clean public spaces and collective responsibility in building a cleaner, healthier and greener environment.

Addressing the participants, the dignitaries highlighted that cleanliness

is a shared responsibility and stressed the need for active participation of citizens, particularly students and youth, in promoting sustainable sanitation practices and responsible waste management.

The event concluded with the message: "Swachhata Apnao, Swachh Jeevan Pao."

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 21

District Administration Udhampur, in collaboration with the Department of Social Welfare, today organised a programme to commemorate World Senior Citizens Day at Conference Hall, DC Office Complex, Udhampur.

The programme was held under the theme "Older Persons Driving Local and Global Action: Our Aspirations, Our Well-being, Our Rights", highlighting the valuable contribution of senior citizens to society and the need to uphold their dignity, rights and well-being.

Deputy Commissioner Udhampur Minga Sherpa interacted with senior citizens and appreciated their valuable contribution to society.

As part of the programme, the Deputy Commissioner distributed prosthetic aids such as wheelchairs and hearing aids among senior citizens to support their mobility,



independence and overall quality of life.

The DC emphasised that senior citizens are an integral part of society and deserve care, respect, dignity and access to essential welfare services. He called upon all stakeholders to work collectively towards

creating an inclusive and supportive environment for the elderly.

Among those present were District Social Welfare Officer Kanika Gupta and Tehsil Social Welfare Officer Babu Ram, along with senior citizens and other officials.

NQAS monitoring and surveillance team visits health facilities in district Doda

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 21

On the directions of Mission Director NHM J&K Akriti Sagar and Director Health Services Jammu Dr Poonam Sethi, a team comprising Deputy Director (Dentistry) DHS Jammu (External Assessor) Dr Sanjay Sharma and AM&EO SHS NHM J&K (Internal Assessor) Virender Vikram Singh today conducted a monitoring and surveillance visit of health facilities in district Doda under the National Quality Assurance Standards (NQAS).

During the visit, the team inspected AAM Sub Centre Ramgarh, AAM Sub Centre Paryote and AAM Sub Centre Khellani of Medical Block Assar. The team reviewed the progress and preparedness of the health facilities nominated for NQAS assessment, including documentation, records, quality protocols and other essential aspects related to NQAS compliance.

The team conducted a detailed inspection of various sections of the facilities and interacted with the staff concerned to assess their preparedness and understand the challenges being faced in meeting the prescribed



NQAS standards.

During the visit, the team identified a few minor gaps and issued necessary directions to the staff concerned to address and rectify them within the

stipulated timeline, well before the scheduled National NQAS Assessment.

The team was accompanied by Internal Assessor Umar Anayat and Internal Assessor Faizan A Tram-

boo, besides Shashi Kumar (BAM NHM Assar), who facilitated the assessment and provided necessary guidance to the facility teams on NQAS preparedness and compliance.

GDC Katra organises awareness lecture

REASI, AUGUST 21: Government Degree College Katra organised an awareness lecture on drug abuse and de-addiction under the Nasha Mukti Bharat Abhiyaan, in collaboration with the college's NCORD Committee.

Representatives of the Brahma Kumaris visited the college and delivered an insightful, inspirational lecture to sensitise students about the harmful consequences of drug abuse and the importance of leading a healthy, disciplined and spiritually enriched life.

The programme was conducted under the guidance of Principal Dr Rajni Bhagat.

The lecture focussed on the physical, psychological, social and spiritual consequences of substance abuse. The Brahma Kumaris representatives emphasised that addiction not only damages an individual's health and future but also adversely affects families and society. They encouraged students to develop positive thinking, self-discipline, strong determination and inner strength to resist peer pressure and stay away from drugs.

DC Ramban inspects Dalwas-Sowani Road, directs PMGSY to expedite restoration

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 21

Deputy Commissioner Ramban Mohammad Alyas Khan today inspected the damaged stretches of Dalwas-Sowani Road affected by mudslides triggered by recent heavy rainfall.

During the inspection, the Deputy Commissioner directed the Executive Engineer PMGSY Ramban and NHAI engineers present at the site to immediately initiate restoration works and ensure that road connectivity is restored at the earliest.

The Deputy Commissioner directed NHAI to take up construction of a crate wall along the National Highway to protect the Dalwas-Sowani Road at the take-off point. He also instructed the Executive Engineer PMGSY to expedite restoration works at other affected locations.

The engineers concerned apprised the Deputy Commissioner of the extent of damage and



the measures being undertaken for early restoration of the affected stretches. The Dalwas-Sowani Road provides vital connectivity to Dalwas, Karma and Sowani villages, and its restoration is essential for the smooth

movement of residents and timely access to essential supplies and services.

The DC directed the executing agencies to deploy adequate manpower and machinery and expedite the restoration work, particularly at the stretches

affected by heavy rainfall and mudslides. He stressed that all necessary measures be taken on priority to restore connectivity while ensuring the quality and durability of the works.