

Samba admin hosts recreational trip for senior citizens to Jambu Zoo

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, SEP 09

To promote the welfare, inclusion and well-being of the elderly population, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Samba Ayushi Sudan today flagged off a special excursion of senior citizens for a recreational trip to Jambu Zoo in Jammu.

This trip was organized under the auspices of the Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana (AVYAY), a comprehensive initiative by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India, aimed at ensuring a dignified life for senior citizens.

The trip was meticulously coordinated by the Office of the District Social Welfare Office under the direct guidance of the Deputy Commissioner. A

pproximately 100 visitors, comprising senior citizens and accompanying departmental support staff, participated in the day-long outing.

Prioritizing the health and safety of the elderly participants throughout the journey, a dedicated team of doctors and paramedical staff was provided by Chief Medical Officer Dr Vidhi



Kohli to accompany the group.

To further ensure a comfortable and accessible experience, the District Social Welfare Office worked closely with the Additional Director/Warden of Jambu Zoo to secure prior arrangements.

This included coordinating entry ticketing and the provision of Battery Car facilities within the zoo premises, allowing the senior citizens to explore the park with ease.

This initiative highlights the Samba district administration's ongoing commitment to the holistic well-being of senior residents.

By organizing such community outings, the administration aims to provide the elderly with valuable opportunities for leisure, social engagement and mental rejuvenation outside of their daily routines.

3-day annual Kailash Yatra begins in Bhaderwah amid religious fervour

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The three-day annual Kailash Yatra began in Bhaderwah today, with devotees embarking on the pilgrimage to seek the blessings of Lord Vasuki Naag.

Amid chants in praise of Lord Vasuki Naag, the yatra passed through Bhaderwah town, where local Member Legislative Assembly Daleep Singh Parihar, ADC Sunil Kumar Bhutyal, CEO, BDA, Sanjeev Sharma, ASP Vinod Sharma, DFO Davinder Kumar, Tehsildar, Kamal Preet Singh, SDPO Naveed Shokat Qazi, EO Municipality Ravi Sahni, President of Sanatan Dharma Sabha, Satish Kotwal, Army, Police, CRPF personnel, other tehsil officers and a large number of locals accorded a warm send-off to the pilgrims.

As per the schedule, after a night halt at Hayan (Nalhi), the Yatra would proceed to the Holy destination on Sept 9, 2026, where devotees will take a dip in the sacred water of Kailash Dal. After performing religious rituals, the Yatra will begin its return journey to Bhaderwah on September 10, 2026.



The pilgrimage sees participation from pilgrims hailing from Dudu, Basantgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu, Kathua, Udhampur Chenani and Ramnagar, each carrying a Charri Mubarak through different routes to Holy Kailash Kund.

The district administration

Doda has made elaborate arrangements along the yatra route to ensure the smooth conduct of the pilgrimage. Several officers and medical teams equipped with sufficient medicines and oxygen cylinders have been stationed to provide assistance to pilgrims.

Arrangements for drinking water, genera-

tor-based electricity, firewood and tents, security have been put in place to ensure the safety and convenience of devotees throughout the yatra.

The commencement of the pilgrimage reflects the deep religious faith of the people of Bhaderwah and the region's rich spiritual traditions.

DC inaugurates SHG-run Cafe near DC Office at Rajouri

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JAMMU, SEP 09

In a significant step towards promoting women-led entrepreneurship and livelihood generation, the Deputy Commissioner Rajouri Abhishek Sharma today inaugurated a Cafe named by "Umeed ka zaika" run by a Women Self Help Group (SHG) here near the DC Office premises.

The Cafe will provide hygienic and affordable refreshments to officers, officials and visitors, while offering the SHG members a sustainable source of livelihood and income.

The initiative reflects the district administration's continued efforts to empower women associated with SHGs by facilitating income-generating activities and creating avenues for self-employment.

Such ventures provide SHG members with practical opportunities to utilise their skills,



strengthen their financial independence and contribute meaningfully to the local economy.

The Deputy Commissioner appreciated the ini-

tiative and emphasized the importance of strengthening SHGs by providing them opportunities for enterprise development and economic

empowerment.

The inauguration was attended by officials of the district administration and members of the concerned SHG.

Wheat Seed dispatch for Rabi commences; Dir Agriculture flags off consignments

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, SEP 09

Director Agriculture Jammu Anil Gupta today flagged off the consignments of wheat seed to different districts of Jammu Division for the Rabi 2026-27 season.

The event was attended by Joint Director Agriculture (Inputs) Sanjay Anand; Agriculture Research Engineer Firdous Ahmad Tak; Divisional Seed Certification Officer Nirmal Parkash Sharma; Assistant Agriculture Engineer Bharti Thusoo; ASCO Akhnoor Rajesh Langer; Store Officer S. Ravinder Singh besides officers and staff of the Seed Processing Plant, Jammu.

Earlier, the Director visited the Seed Processing Plant and inspected the ongoing wheat seed processing operations. He took stock of the various activities involved in processing and preparation of



wheat seed for the upcoming Rabi season and interacted with the concerned officers and staff regarding the progress of the work.

The Director emphasized that timely availability of quality seed is crucial for better crop establishment, enhanced productivity and im-

proved returns to farmers. He called upon the field functionaries to maintain close coordination and ensure smooth distribution of seed to farmers across all districts of Jammu Division.

The Department has put in place necessary arrangements for the processing, certification,

packaging and dispatch of wheat seed, with consignments being dispatched to different districts as per their requirements. The initiative reflects the Department's commitment towards ensuring timely agricultural inputs and supporting farmers for a successful Rabi 2026-27 season.

DC Anantnag presides over public outreach prog at Verinag

ANANTNAG, SEPTEMBER 09: A mega public outreach program cum grievance redressal camp was convened today by the District Development Commissioner (DDC), Dr. Bilal Mohiuddin Bhat at Verinag.

The programme provided a platform for local residents, Auqaf and civil society members, tribal community representatives, tourism stakeholders and members of the trade community to interact directly with the district administration and raise issues related to development and public welfare.

During the programme, participants projected several demands, including upgradation of Verinag Garden, improvement of the Verinag PHE water supply line, resolution of Hangi-

pora water supply issues, installation of streetlights, construction of rain shelters at Verinag Garden, development of Zerayat Thamankoot, and improvement of vehicle parking facilities at Verinag.

The participants also sought installation of functional waste-management machines at the Municipal Committee Offices in Dooru and Verinag and highlighted issues concerning tribal communities. Besides, demands were raised for better civic amenities, road connectivity, sanitation, electricity and health-care facilities.

The District Development Commissioner gave a patient hearing to the issues and demands raised during the programme and directed the concerned officers to examine them and

ensure prompt and time-bound redressal of genuine grievances.

He assured the participants that their concerns would be given due consideration and necessary action would be taken as per feasibility and availability of resources. Issues and demands requiring intervention by higher authorities will be taken up with the concerned quarters so they are resolved in a time bound manner, he said.

Dr. Bilal emphasized the importance of regular public outreach programmes, stating that such interactions enable the administration to understand local requirements and improve the delivery of government services and welfare schemes through a citizen centric approach.

He called for coordinated

efforts by all stakeholders to improve basic amenities and tourism infrastructure at Verinag, with emphasis on sustainable development and better facilities for tourists as well as the local population.

He said such programs are being held especially in far flung areas to provide the locals an apt opportunity to participate in governance process at grassroots and curate the local development model as per their aspirations.

Taking immediate note of the pressing issues, the DDC asked the concerned departments to resolve concerns related to basic facilities like water supply, sanitation, road connectivity, parking spaces and waste management on priority with focus on quality redressal and citizen satisfaction.

DC inaugurates Blood Donation Camp at GMC Kathua

KATHUA, SEPTEMBER 09: The District Red Cross Society (DIRCS), Kathua, in collaboration with Punjab Kesari Group and JK Blood Donor & Welfare Society, today organised a Blood Donation Camp here at Government Medical College (GMC), Kathua.

Deputy Commissioner Rajesh Sharma, who is also Chairman District Red Cross Society, inaugurated the camp. Medical Superintendent Dr Neeraj Nagpal, Ex DDC Sandeep Majotra, Senior Journalist Mangat Ram Mahajan, besides other officers were also present on the occasion.

Over 50-unit of blood was collected during the camp, with volunteers from different age groups participating in the noble



cause. Doctors and paramedical staff of GMC facilitated the blood donation process.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner said that voluntary blood donation is a noble and selfless act that can help save precious lives.

He said that the District Red Cross Society is committed to promoting humanitarian causes and encouraging voluntary blood donation to ensure timely availability of blood for patients in need.

The DC emphasised the importance of maintain-

ing adequate blood stocks at GMC Kathua, particularly as the hospital caters to patients from remote and hilly areas of the district, including Bani, Basohli and Billawar, who often require emergency medical care.

The Deputy Commissioner appealed to healthy and eligible citizens to come forward and donate blood regularly, stressing that there is no substitute for human blood and every unit donated can help provide a second chance at life to someone in need. He further said that regular voluntary blood donation helps maintain the availability of different blood groups in the blood bank and strengthens the capacity to meet emergency requirements.