

Mandeep launches Swachhata Internship Programme for schools across Kashmir

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, SEP 14

Commissioner, Housing & Urban Development Department, Mandeep Kaur, today launched the Swachhata Internship Programme for schools across Kashmir Division, aimed at involving the students directly in cleanliness, waste segregation and scientific waste management.

The programme was launched at Amar Singh College, Srinagar, in presence of Ram Niwas Sharma, Commissioner Secretary Education who attended as the guest of honour and Dr. Devansh Yadav, Mission Director, Swachh Bharat Mission–Urban 2.0, J&K.

The initiative has been launched by the Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) in collaboration with the Directorate of School Education Kashmir, with support from Swaaha Resource Management Private Limited.

The programme will engage the students in practical activities related to source segregation, recycling, composting, resource recovery, sanitation and community participation. The students will also be encouraged to undertake awareness activities in their schools and neighbourhoods and promote responsible waste-management practices among their families and communities.

Speaking on the occasion, Mandeep Kaur said that cleanliness could not be left to municipal agencies alone and that people, particularly young students, have to be made active partners in the effort.



“Cleanliness cannot remain the responsibility of municipal agencies alone. It has to become a shared civic responsibility and schools have an important role in shaping that culture among the next generation,” she said.

She emphasised the need to go beyond awareness programmes and focus on bringing about sustained behavioural change in the way people handle waste and maintain cleanliness in their surroundings.

The programme will also provide students with opportunities to develop their communication, leadership and public-speaking skills while undertaking the activities related to waste management and cleanliness.

The students will serve as Swachhata Ambassadors, carrying the message from their schools to their homes and local communities.

Faz lul Haseeb Commissioner, Srinagar Municipal Corporation; senior officers of SMC, Heads of Institutions; teachers; students from participating schools and other stakeholders attended the launch programme.

A Waste-to-Art Exhibition was also organised on the occasion, showcasing sculptures and other artworks made from discarded materials by participants from different parts of the Valley. The exhibition highlighted the possibilities of reusing waste materials and transforming discarded

items into useful and creative products. It also promoted the message of reuse, recycling and resource recovery among students and visitors.

The initiative is part of the ongoing efforts under Swachh Bharat Mission–Urban 2.0 to increase citizen participation in scientific solid waste management and make Swachhata a regular part of everyday life.

By involving the students directly, the programme aims to encourage them to practise cleanliness themselves and inspire others to do the same, thereby taking the message of Swachhata from schools to homes and communities across Kashmir.

Tea stakeholders meet held for promotion of Kashmiri Kehwa

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 14: Director Agriculture Kashmir, Sartaj Ahmad Shah today inaugurated one day workshop, organised for the promotion of Kashmiri Kehwa, jointly organised by Tea Board of India and department of Agriculture Kashmir, at Directorate of Agriculture Lalmandi.

The Workshop cum Tea stakeholders meet was attended by Joint Director Extension Kashmir, Mujtaba Yehya, members of APEDA, Tea stakeholders and repre-



sentatives of Tea Board of India.

The main focus of the meet was to popularise Kashmiri Kehwa on na-

tional and international platform through joint efforts by Tea Board of India and Agriculture production and farmers welfare Depart-

ment Kashmir.

The Director thanked Tea Board of India for giving an opportunity to the local entrepreneurs for promotion of this unexplored product on national level, and hoped that joint efforts will benefit of producers, traders and other stakeholders involved in this trade.

Due to immense health benefits associated with Kashmiri Kehwa, there is huge scope of familiarising this product at global levels.

DC Srinagar reviews infrastructure upgradation Plan for Bakshi Stadium

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
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Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo, on Monday chaired a meeting of concerned Officers at the Conference Hall of the DC Office Complex to review the proposed plan and measures for comprehensive infrastructure upgradation of Bakshi Stadium.

The proposed upgradation is aimed at improving the stadium's infrastructure and facilities, enhancing seating capacity and providing roofing for public stands, besides improving accessibility and the drainage system to host sporting events and other major activities throughout the year in Srinagar.

At the outset, the Deputy Commissioner took a detailed review of the proposed infrastructure interventions at Bakshi Stadium, with particular focus on enhancement of the seating capacity of the Central Pavilion, expansion and improvement of the North and South Pavilions, roofing of public stands and upgradation of the entrance to the main ground.



cussed various allied works required to strengthen the overall infrastructure of the stadium and improve facilities for players, spectators and officials.

On the occasion, the DC directed the concerned Officers to work out the requirements in detail and prepare a comprehensive Detailed Project Report (DPR) incorporating all allied interventions required for the overall improvement

and modernization of the Stadium.

The DC emphasized that the proposed upgradation should be planned with a long-term perspective, keeping in view the growing requirements for hosting major sporting events, tournaments and other public activities. He called for a thorough assessment of the existing infrastructure, identification of gaps and incorporation of durable, functional and sustainable solutions in the proposed

DPR.

He further directed the concerned Departments to ensure that all proposed interventions are technically sound, properly assessed and planned in a coordinated manner, while keeping in view the need to minimize disruption to ongoing sporting activities at the stadium.

The DC further directed that augmentation and improvement of the existing drainage network be accorded due priority in the DPR to effectively address the issue of waterlogging, particularly during periods of heavy rainfall. He stressed that the drainage interventions should be planned comprehensively to ensure proper waste disposal and better usability of the stadium premises throughout the year.

The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner, Aadil Fareed, Chief Planning Officer Fayaz Ahmad Dar, Superintending Engineer, R&B South, Tatheer Manzoor, SDM West, Irfan Bahadur, Executive Engineer, R&B, Khalid Mehmood, Executive Engineer, J&K Sports Council and other concerned Officers.

DC Srinagar visits Ganpatyar Temple; participates in Ganesh Chaturthi

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Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo, today visited Ganpatyar Temple in the Habbakadal area of the City and participated in the Ganesh Chaturthi celebrations, which were marked by deep devotion, spiritual fervour and enthusiasm.

During his visit, the Deputy Commissioner reviewed the arrangements put in place for devotees and the smooth conduct of the celebrations. He interacted with the devotees and extended his warm greetings and best wishes to them on the auspicious occasion of Ganesh Chaturthi.

The DC paid obeisance at



the revered temple and extended his warm greetings

to devotees on the religious occasion. He interacted

with members of the temple Management Committee, devotees and Officers and reviewed the arrangements made for the smooth conduct of the celebrations.

The event was organized in a peaceful and harmonious atmosphere with the active participation of devotees, volunteers and members of the Kashmiri Pandit community.

The DC appreciated the coordinated efforts of all Departments, Police and organisers for ensuring the successful conduct of the celebrations. The members of organising committee also expressed its sincere appreciation to the District Administration Srinagar for making comprehensive arrangements for the occasion.

ITI Shopian organizes NAPS Mela at GDC Shopian

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
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The Industrial Training Institute (ITI) Shopian, in collaboration with the District Administration Shopian organized a District Level National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) Mela at Government Degree College (GDC), Shopian today.

Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Shopian, Dr. Nasir Ahmed Lone was the Chief Guest on the occasion.

While speaking on the occasion, the ADDC stressed upon maximum awareness about NAPS and called for maximum registrations of youth and establishments under the NAPS portal within stipulated time to bridge the gap between Industry and Education. He urged local industrial units and commercial establishments to actively enroll maximum local youth under NAPS, aiming to build a self-



reliant and skilled workforce in Shopian.

An awareness session was conducted by Assistant Advisor Apprenticeship, ITI Shopian, Suhail Ahmed who through a detailed presentation, explained the salient features, objectives, financial benefits and registration process of NAPS. He highlighted how the scheme provides stipend support, prac-

tical training and enhanced employability to youth.

The mela witnessed overwhelming participation of more than 1000 students, ITI trainees and representatives of over 50 reputed Industrial Establishments.

A major highlight of the mela was on-spot registration of 1000 candidates, 50 establishments and issuance of 15 new contracts on the

NAPS portal.

The Mela was attended by Principal, GDC, Tariq Ahmed, GM, DIC, Shurjil Naik, CEO, Bashir Ahmed Shah, Superintendent ITI Shopian, Fida Hussain, Principal, Government Polytechnic College Shopian, Manzoor Ahmed, LDM, Farooq Ahmed, CHO, Muneer Ahmed and other concerned.

VC JKLCMA inspects Ashai Bagh area, directs strengthening of Lake Cleaning Measures

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Vice Chairman (VC), J&K Lakes Conservation and Management Authority (JKLCMA), Khurshid Ahmad Shah, today visited the Ashai Bagh area to review the ongoing cleaning and maintenance works being carried out in and around the lake.

The Vice Chairman was accompanied by the SE, Collector, XEN LD-I, AEEs, JEs and other Revenue and Engineering officials of JKLCMA.

During the inspection, the Vice Chairman reviewed the cleanliness of the area and took stock of the ongoing works related to lake cleaning, conservation and main-



tenance. He appreciated the improvement in the cleanliness and overall appearance of the area following the cleaning activities un-

dertaken by the Authority.

The officers briefed him about the ongoing works and the measures being implemented for effective con-

servation and management of the lake.

He also directed the concerned officers and field staff to continue the ongoing cleaning activities and ensure proper upkeep of the lake and its adjoining areas. He stressed the need for regular field supervision and timely execution of the works.

The Vice Chairman called for sustained efforts to maintain cleanliness and improve the overall condition of the lake and its surroundings. He further emphasized that close monitoring and coordinated efforts by the field staff are essential for strengthening the conservation and management of the lake.

DC Srinagar reviews progress of ongoing, proposed Disaster mitigation projects & measures

SRINAGAR SEPTEMBER 14:- Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo, who is also the Chairman of District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) today chaired a meeting here at Conference Hall of the DC Office Complex to reviews progress of ongoing and proposed disaster mitigation projects and measures aimed at strengthening the district's emergency response mechanism.

The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner, Aadil Fareed, Chief Planning Officer, Fayaz Ahmad Dar, Superintending Engineer R&B, Tatheer Manzoor, SDM West, Irfan Bahadur, Executive Engineer, R&B, Shabir Ahmad, Superintending Engineer PHE Hydraulic, Er. Ambreen Anjum, SDM West, Irfan Ba-



hadur, SDM West, Zuber Ahmad, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Umar Gulzar, Executive Engineer I&FC, Shuja Ahmad, Executive Engineer, LCMA, all Tehsildars and other concerned.

During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner conducted a detailed review of key interventions proposed under the Disaster Mitigation Plan, including installation of Automatic Water Level Recorders (AWLRs) at iden-

tified locations, strengthening of vulnerable stretches along Dachigam Nallah, Tailbal Nallah and River Jhelum, equalization of bunds and slopes along the Jhelum, earthquake assessment of critical infrastructure and responsive mitigation measures for flash floods, landslides and earthquakes in vulnerable higher reaches of Srinagar district.

On the occasion, the DC directed the concerned departments to identify and incor-

porate all measures requiring immediate intervention and strengthen preparedness to effectively tackle any eventuality arising from landslides, cloudbursts and flood-like situations. He emphasized the need for a prompt, coordinated and effective response mechanism across the district involving all concerned Departments.

The DC further stressed the need to reinforce disaster mitigation measures along Dachigam Nallah, Gandbal, Doodganga Nallah and other vulnerable locations across the District. He directed the concerned Departments to undertake priority based assessments of these areas and implement necessary mitigation projects to reduce vulnerability and enhance resilience against natural disasters.