

CBC J&K organises awareness programmes to mobilise public participation in 9-day mega exhibition at Katra

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, OCT 09

Ahead of Navratra at Katra, the Central Bureau of Communication (CBC), J&K and Ladakh organised awareness programmes at Greenfield Public School, Katra, Government Girls High School, Katra and Govt. High School, Numai to generate public awareness about the upcoming nine-day Mega Exhibition to be held alongside the festival.

As per the CBC officials, the nine-day mega exhibition will showcase government initiatives and developmental achievements through photo displays, multimedia presentations and other public awareness activities, providing visitors an opportunity to learn about different programmes and initiatives during the festive period.

Addressing the gatherings, Sh. Rajesh Sharma and Sh. Gurnam Singh of Central Bureau of Communication, emphasised the



role of communication and information dissemination in creating public awareness about government policies, programmes and developmental achievements. They encouraged the public to visit the upcoming Mega Exhibition at Katra and participate in the event.

The pre-event programmes featured student seminars on the achievements of the Union Government and the Nasha Mukta Bharat Mission. A

large number of students, community members and educationists participated in the events. Resource persons from the Education Department highlighted the objectives of the Nasha Mukta Bharat Mission and apprised participants of development initiatives and projects being implemented in Reasi district. The sessions also emphasised the importance of awareness, community engagement and public participation in government

programmes.

Resource persons from Education departments delivered informative lectures on the Nasha Mukta Bharat Mission and highlighted development initiatives and projects being implemented in Reasi district. The sessions aimed to sensitise students and the community about social issues, government programmes and the importance of public participation in development initiatives.

DC Bandipora Tours Tulail, Inspects Developmental Projects

BANDIPORA, OCTOBER 09: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Indu Kanwal Chib, today toured Tulail Valley and inspected various ongoing and recently completed developmental projects before holding a Public Darbar at Dak Bungalow, Budugam, to take first-hand appraisal of public grievances and address issues concerning infrastructure and essential services.

During her visit to Neeru, Tulail, the DC was apprised of the long-pending construction of Neeru Bridge. Taking note of the issue, she sought on-the-spot details from the concerned Executive Engineer and directed him to coordinate with the Superintending Engineer for a site visit along with the concerned team. She stressed the need for prioritised examination of the matter and directed the officers to take necessary



steps to ensure further progress on the project.

At Budugam, Tulail, the DC inspected the recently constructed double-storey Revenue Department Complex and reviewed the facilities available there. She also inspected the under-construction residential complex for the Tehsildar Tulail within the same premises. The DC directed the concerned authorities

and executing agencies to ensure timely completion of the building and instructed them to fence the entire premises to safeguard government property.

The Deputy Commissioner also visited the site of the Barnai-Jawdara Road project along with the Executive Engineer, PMGSY, and reviewed its implementation status.

The Executive Engineer informed her that the project envisages a road length of approximately 19 kilometres. The DC directed the concerned officers to identify and remove all bottlenecks hindering execution and ensure that the work progresses in a coordinated and time-bound manner to improve road connectivity in the area.

Subsequently, the Deputy Commissioner held a Public Darbar at Dak Bungalow, Budugam, Tulail, wherein local residents raised several issues pertaining to road connectivity, essential services and public infrastructure. These included macadamisation of Wazirthal road along with a proper drainage system, pending construction of Neeru Bridge, LPG gas connections, snow clearance arrangements and chopper services.

40-Hours Role Play Training Programme on Mediation Concludes at J&K Judicial Academy

SRINAGAR/JAMMU, OCTOBER 09: The 40-Hours Role Play Training Programme for Advocates/Experts, concluded today at the Srinagar and Jammu campuses of the J&K Judicial Academy. The practical training sessions were held on 05th, 06th, 08th and 09th October, 2026, under the aegis of the Mediation and Conciliation Project Committee, Supreme Court of India organized by the Mediation and Conciliation Committee, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, in collaboration with the J&K Judicial Academy.

The second day of the Srinagar session was graced by Dr. Justice Pushendra Singh Bhati, Chief Justice, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, who highlighted the significance of mediation in strengthening the justice delivery system. Emphasizing its transformative potential, Chief Justice observed that mediation is not merely a professional skill but also a means of becoming a better human being and a more effective advocate, public prosecutor or judge. He underscored that practical exercises and role-play sessions foster empathy, understanding and sensitivity in resolving disputes.

Drawing upon examples from Indian epics, religious traditions and the history of Kashmir, Chief Justice highlighted the deep-rooted cultural and historical



significance of mediation as a means of peaceful dispute resolution. Referring to Surah An-Nisa of the Holy Quran, Chief Justice observed that it envisages a process remarkably close to modern mediation, contemplating the appointment of representatives from both sides of a dispute with the express objective of restoring harmony.

Chief Justice emphasized that such examples across religious and cultural traditions demonstrate the enduring relevance of reconciliation and amicable settlement in resolving disputes.

Justice Rajnesh Oswal, Chairman, Mediation and Conciliation Committee, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, was also present on the occasion. He continued guidance and support have been instrumental in advancing mediation initia-

tives in the Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.

Rajeev Gupta, I/C Director, J&K Judicial Academy, in his introductory address, welcomed the dignitaries, resource persons and participants, and highlighted the importance of practical training in developing effective mediation skills.

He emphasized that the interactive and role-play sessions provide participants with valuable hands-on experience in understanding the mediation process and facilitating amicable dispute resolution. He also underscored the importance of strengthening mediation as an effective means of resolving disputes and promoting a culture of mutual understanding and reconciliation.

At the Srinagar Campus, the resource persons, Monika Jalota and Swarn

Sandhir, experienced advocates and certified mediators, conducted interactive sessions and role-play exercises aimed at strengthening the participants' understanding of mediation techniques and their practical application.

The sessions were moderated by Faizan-ul-Haq Iqbal, Coordinator, Main Mediation Centre, who coordinated the proceedings and facilitated the conduct of the programme at the Srinagar Campus.

At Jammu Campus, the programme commenced with a welcome and introductory address by Sunil Kumar, Secretary, J&K Legal Services Committee, who welcomed the resource persons and participants and emphasized the importance of practical training in developing effective and competent mediators.

The Role Play Training Sessions at the Jammu Campus were conducted by Yashpal Singh Dahiya and Balbir Kaur Gandhi, Resource Persons, Mediation and Conciliation Project Committee (MCPC), Supreme Court of India.

During the concluding session at the Srinagar Campus, Justice Rajnesh Oswal, Chairman, Mediation and Conciliation Committee, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, emphasised that mediation should be the preferred choice for dispute resolution rather than a last resort.

SDH Baderwah promotes Eye Health, Vision Care to mark World Sight Day

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, OCT 09

Sub-District Hospital (SDH) Baderwah organized an awareness programme to mark World Sight Day 2026. The event centered on this year's theme, "Love Your Eyes—" to raise public awareness about the importance of eye health, regular eye examinations and timely treatment of vision-related problems.

The patients and attendants were informed about common eye diseases, preventive measures and the importance of maintaining good eye health. The participants were encouraged to seek timely medical advice and undergo regular eye check-ups to prevent avoidable vision impairment.

Additionally, hospital health staff, including Senior Ophthalmic Technicians Sanjay Kumar and Raju Kumar, con-



ducted Eye screening of several patients and visitors to facilitate early detection of vision-related problems. Spectacles were also distributed

among eligible beneficiaries as part of the programme.

The health staff emphasised that regular eye examinations, early de-

tection and appropriate treatment play a vital role in protecting eyesight and reducing the risk of avoidable visual impairment.

ADC Udhampur reviews arrangements for upcoming festivals

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, OCT 09

Additional Deputy Commissioner Udhampur Prem Singh today chaired a meeting with officers of line departments and civil society members to review arrangements for the smooth and peaceful celebration of Navratra, Dussehra and Maha Navami festivals.

Detailed discussions were held on different arrangements, including security, safe drinking water, uninterrupted power supply, first-aid facilities, sanitation, price regulation, availability of fire tenders, deployment of police personnel and traffic management in the town.

The ADC issued necessary directions to the heads of concerned departments to ensure comprehensive arrangements within their respective jurisdictions. Special emphasis was



laid on strengthening security measures to prevent any untoward incident during the festive season.

Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Department was directed to take effective measures for adequate supply of safe drinking water, while Executive Engineer PDD was instructed to maintain uninterrupted power supply throughout the festive period. The

Chief Executive Officer Municipal Council was directed to ensure proper sanitation and cleanliness across the town.

The ADC also urged civil society members to extend their cooperation in maintaining a clean and hygienic environment. The general public was advised to avoid roadside parking to maintain smooth traffic movement and prevent

congestion.

Shopkeepers were urged to prominently display price lists of essential commodities to facilitate public awareness and prevent overcharging.

The Traffic Department was directed to deploy adequate personnel at key locations to regulate traffic and ensure the smooth movement of vehicles during the festivities.

Javed Rana inaugurates Wildlife Eco-Tourism Hut at Mughal Road in Surankote

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, OCT 09

Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana, today inaugurated a Wildlife Eco-Tourism Hut along the Mughal Road in Surankote area of Poonch district, developed by the Department of Wildlife Protection at an estimated cost of ₹1.87 crore under the UT Capex Budget.

Emphasising the importance of eco-tourism infrastructure in Jammu and Kashmir, the Minister said that such facilities are essential for harnessing the tourism potential of ecologically rich areas while ensuring that development remains aligned with environmental conservation.

"The Mughal Road is endowed with immense natural beauty and ecological significance. Developing eco-tourism facilities in this area will provide visitors with an opportunity to experience nature more closely while promoting awareness about our rich biodiversity and the importance of wildlife conservation," Rana said.

He observed that the eco-tourism hut would add to



the visitor infrastructure along the Mughal Road and help promote nature-based tourism in the region. Such facilities, he said, can encourage visitors to explore the area's natural attractions while fostering a greater appreciation of forests, wildlife and fragile mountain ecosystems.

"Our objective is to promote tourism that respects nature and contributes to the conservation of our natural heritage. Eco-tourism must go hand in hand with environmental protection, ensuring that the ecological character of these areas is preserved even as tourism-related activities expand,"

Forest Minister said.

Highlighting the potential socio-economic benefits of the initiative, Rana said that the development of eco-tourism infrastructure could generate opportunities for local communities through tourism-related services and associated economic activities. Greater tourist interest, he added, could support local livelihoods while encouraging communities to participate in protecting the region's natural resources.

The Minister stressed that the long-term success of such facilities would depend on their proper main-

tenance, effective management and responsible use. He called for sustained efforts to ensure that eco-tourism initiatives contribute meaningfully to conservation objectives and provide lasting benefits to the local population.

"We must ensure that the benefits of tourism reach local communities without compromising our environmental priorities. Responsible eco-tourism can help create livelihood opportunities, strengthen conservation awareness and establish a sustainable relationship between people and nature," Rana added.