

CMO conducts regulatory inspection of Clinical Establishments in Doda, Bhaderwah

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Under the directions of Deputy Commissioner, Chief Medical Officer Dr. Vinod Sharma on Wednesday inspected various clinical establishments across Doda including ultrasound and dental clinics, to assess their functioning and check compliance with the prescribed rules, regulations and guidelines.

The CMO checked the compliance with the prescribed parameters and the available records and documents.

During the course of the inspection, certain gaps were identified in documentation and compliance requirements. Taking serious note of the observations, the CMO directed the Clinics to address the identified deficiencies and ensure strict adherence to the prescribed norms.

Later, the Chief Medical Officer visited Sub-District Hospital Bhaderwah to review the functioning and healthcare services being provided to the people.

The CMO inspected different



sections of the hospital, including the Emergency Ward, Laboratory, X-ray Unit and other major departments. He interacted with the on-duty staff, reviewed staff attendance and assessed the availability and functioning of essential healthcare services.

Block Medical Officer Bhaderwah, Dr. Versha Sharma briefed the CMO on the overall functioning of the hospital, the healthcare services being provided and the status of the ongoing construction works.

Additionally, Dr. Vinod Sharma inspected the ongoing construction work at the hospital and reviewed the progress of the works being executed at the facility.

LG Sinha congratulates GMC Srinagar on Advancing Internal Medicine Conference

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The Lieutenant Governor, Shri Manoj Sinha today congratulated Government Medical College, Srinagar for organising a conference on “Advancing Internal Medicine: From Evidence to Excellence in Clinical Practice”. In his message, the Lieutenant Governor underscored the critical role of internal medicine in delivering holistic and patient-centric healthcare.

The Lieutenant Governor said that physicians often face the challenging task of identifying complex underlying health conditions from seemingly simple symptoms. He noted that the strength of internal medicine lies in its ability to view the human body as an interconnected system and to understand the complete medical story of a patient through clinical knowledge, experience and careful observation.

The Lieutenant Governor also stated that observation, reason, human understanding and courage remain the defining qualities of a physician. He highlighted that physicians frequently serve as the first point of medical

contact for families and, in many cases, build enduring relationships across generations, rooted in trust, compassion and scientific evidence.

The Lieutenant Governor in his message lauded Government Medical College, Srinagar for its significant contribution to medical education and healthcare, noting that generations of doctors trained by the institution continue to serve across Jammu Kashmir and the country.

The Lieutenant Governor also highlighted the emerging healthcare challenges.

“While infectious diseases remain a concern, lifestyle-related disorders such as diabetes, hypertension, obesity, fatty liver disease and cardiovascular ailments are assuming epidemic proportions. We need to ensure that advances in diagnostics, therapeutics and medical technologies reach physicians and patients in rural and remote areas as effectively as they do in urban centres,” he said.

The Lieutenant Governor also called upon the medical fraternity to strengthen indigenous research and generate evidence relevant to India’s diverse population. He said that the country’s

demographic diversity, combined with the expertise and commitment of doctors, presents immense opportunities for scientific discovery and innovation.

“Medical science is making historic advances, and new drugs and diagnostic tools have opened up new possibilities for treatment. The greatest need today is to ensure that these innovations are not available only to physicians in large cities, but also reach doctors in villages. We must ensure that there is not even the slightest gap between urban and rural areas in access to facilities and available tools. This should be the first objective of this conference,” he said.

The Lieutenant Governor also outlined a five-year roadmap and proposed six key commitments for the medical community including expanding access to advanced medical knowledge through digital health platforms and telemedicine, prioritising preventive healthcare and early detection of diseases, using technology and artificial intelligence as supportive tools while preserving clinical judgement, continuously strengthening research capacity, ensuring the wellbeing of doctors and

addressing professional burnout and preserving human compassion at the centre of healthcare delivery.

The Lieutenant Governor also urged the young doctors to remain curious, embrace innovation and learn from experienced mentors. He also called upon senior physicians to generously share their clinical wisdom and guide the next generation of healthcare professionals.

“Early detection of diabetes, hypertension and liver disease is less costly and can help reduce treatment expenses. I urge all physicians and internists to lead prevention campaigns at the community level, because a doctor’s voice can have an extraordinary influence on society. I have every confidence that people will take your advice seriously when it comes to preventing lifestyle-related diseases.

We must value physicians’ hard work, service and dedication. Along with caring for patients, hospitals and institutions, it should be ensured that doctors are cared for too. Providing them with better workplaces and working conditions should be a priority,” the Lieutenant Governor said.

DC Udhampur convenes Public Grievances redressal camp at Panjar

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
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Deputy Commissioner Udhampur, Ananth Dwivedi, today conducted an extensive tour of Block Mounгри and presided over a Public Grievances redressal camp at Panjar, where he listened to public issues and developmental demands.

The camp was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner Prem Singh; PO Poshan Subash Dogra and other district officers, besides former PRI members and a large number of residents from adjoining panchayats.

During the public outreach programme, local residents and former PRI members highlighted various issues concerning basic amenities and developmental needs of the area.

The major demands included augmentation of drinking water supply, inclusion of the area on the tourism map, renovation of the Kaithgali–Panjar road, posting of adequate staff in government educational institutions and establishment of a health sub-centre at Saddal.

The residents also sought effective implementation and functionalisation of JJM schemes on the ground, provision of small



playgrounds in every school, upgradation of Government School Panjar to the Higher Secondary level, promotion of tourism activities in the area and repair and renovation of the PWD quarter.

Other demands included improvement of mobile network connectivity in Ladda Panchayats A and B and opening of J&K Bank and State Bank of India branches in Mounгри and Ladda.

The DC gave a patient hearing to the grievances and issued on-the-spot directions to the concerned officers for their prompt redressal. He instructed the officers to conduct first-hand assessments of the issues raised and ensure that all genuine grievances are resolved on priority and within a stipulated timeframe.

While addressing the gathering, the DC thanked the public for their active participation and said that the primary objective of organising such outreach camps was to understand the multifaceted issues and developmental needs of people at the grassroots level and facilitate their

KUPWARA, OCTOBER 14: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Abhishek Sharma, today chaired an introductory-cum-overview meeting with district and sectoral officers at the DC Office Complex to review the pace of developmental works, scheme implementation, and administrative functioning.

The meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Kupwara Ghulam Rasool, Additional Deputy Commissioners (ADCs) of Kupwara and Handwara, Chief Planning Officer (CPO), Sub-Divisional Magistrates, and other senior district officers.

Addressing the officers, the DC underscored the need for a cohesive, people-friendly administration. He directed all district officers to designate specific time slots in their offices for public and redress grievances promptly.

Reviewing developmental expenditures under District Capex, UT Capex, and Tribal Affairs schemes, the DC instructed executing agencies to significantly expedite work before the onset of snowfall. He reviewed key infrastructure projects, including GMC Handwara, NH-701, the 50-bedded AYUSH Hospital, and transit accommodations.



Taking serious note of the slow pace of macadamization in the Tangdhar sector, the DC sought an explanation from the concerned Executive Engineer, PWD (R&B), and directed the ADDC to personally monitor progress. The DC further directed ADCs and SDMs to conduct a gap analysis of public infrastructure, particularly identifying government offices operating from rented accommodation.

In the rural sector, the As-

sistant Commissioner Panchayat (ACP) was tasked with expediting the construction and proper upkeep of Panchayat Ghars, especially across the 16 strategic Vibrant Villages, while Line departments were instructed to actively utilize Panchayat Ghars as nodal village centers for public outreach and community initiatives.

Reviewing line departments, the Chief Education Officer (CEO) was in-

structed to complete structural safety audits across all school buildings and furnish Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR) data. For health sector, the DC stressed physician availability in remote belts, optimum mobilization of the ASHA network, and winter readiness of ambulances alongside Fire & Emergency Services. Under the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP), he directed the saturation of e-KYC for registered farmers.

Natrang Creates History with 125th Show of ‘Mata Ki Kahani’ at Katra

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, OCT 14

Natrang today scripted another remarkable chapter in the history of Indian theatre by staging the 125th show of its mega musical theatre production, ‘Mata Ki Kahani’, at the auditorium of the Spiritual Growth Centre, Katra. The landmark performance was presented as part of Navratra Festival-2026, organised by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board and J&K Tourism. Mr. A. K. Angurana, former Secretary to the Government of India, was the Chief Guest on the occasion.

Based on the sacred legend of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi, Mata Ki Kahani is an ambitious theatrical production that brings together spirituality, music, storytelling and dramatic visualisation to present the divine journey of the revered Mata. Through its compelling narrative, evocative music and

powerful stage presentation, the production seeks to communicate the spiritual essence of the legend while making it accessible and engaging for audiences from diverse backgrounds. Its achievement of 125 performances stands as a testimony to its artistic merit, cultural significance and enduring appeal among devotees and theatre lovers.

Speaking on the occasion, Padma Shri Balwant Thakur, the writer, designer and director of the production, said that Natrang created this unique mega musical theatre show in 2017 with the vision of presenting the complete legend of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi through an innovative theatrical format. Since its inception, the production has been presented twice daily during the Navratra Festival at Katra every year, except in 2021 and 2025. The completion of 125 shows marks a significant milestone in Natrang’s sustained ef-



orts to combine artistic excellence with the celebration of Jammu and Kashmir’s rich spiritual and cultural heritage.

Balwant Thakur’s contribution to this production is particularly noteworthy. The creation of Mata Ki Kahani was preceded by three years of intensive research, creative exploration and experimentation. His central challenge was to develop a theatrical language capable of presenting the entire legend within a compact duration of one hour without compromising its narrative depth, spiritual essence or dramatic impact. His imaginative direction, innovative stage design and meticulous attention to detail transformed the sacred story into a vibrant theatrical experience. The original soundtrack, featuring voices of leading Bollywood artists and Natrang’s senior performers, further enhances the emotional depth and grandeur of the production.

Natrang, under the visionary leadership of Balwant Thakur, has consistently demonstrated how theatre can serve as a powerful medium for preserving cultural traditions, promoting regional identity and reaching wider audiences. With its commitment to experimentation, professional standards and original productions, the Jammu-based theatre group has earned recognition for taking the performing arts beyond conventional stages and connecting them with people through meaningful cultural experi-

ences.

The 125th performance of Mata Ki Kahani is not merely a numerical achievement; it represents years of dedication, artistic discipline and an unwavering commitment to presenting the spiritual legacy of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi through the language of theatre. This milestone further reinforces Natrang’s position as one of the leading theatre institutions contributing to the cultural and artistic landscape of Jammu and Kashmir.

The production has been mounted by an accomplished team of artists, performers, technicians and designers. Neeraj Kant has contributed to direction, sets by Gaurav Angural, Bhavishya Aggarwal and Rahul Gupta while Rahul Singh, Pawan Verma, Mohd. Yaseen and Mahikshit Singh have handled costumes and properties. Sunny Mijoo has led the choreography, and Shivam Singh is

responsible for light design. The collective efforts of the entire team have brought this ambitious theatrical production to life.

The artists who featured in this mega show included Neeraj Kant, Sunny Mijoo, Kananpreet Kaur, Arya Sharma, Pallvi Sharma, Khushboo Pandita, Vani Thakur, Muskan Gupta, Sakshi Gupta, Shailja Singh, Jhanvi Bitoria, Vanshika Manhas, Anshika Wazir, Damini Thakur, Anya Sharma, Navya Sharma, Ridhima Devi, Sakshi Devi, Ishani Sharma, Shivangi, Kaashvi, Ishita Sharma, Keerti Sharma, Suneha Angural, Aryan Sharma, Sanket Bhagat, Krishna, Arun Dev Verma, Arun Sharma, Amit Rana, Narinder Verma, Sahil Narwalia, Palshin Dutta, Mihir Gujral, Radhika Khajuria, Kushal Bhat, Mitali Sharma, Bhoomi Sharma, Priyal Gupta, Lal Mohd., Arun Sagar, Krishay Bhatia and Aadesh Dhar.