

DC Pulwama reviews progress of Census 2027

Pulwama to launch Enumeration Block Area Campaign

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, OCT 19

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Pulwama, Kuldeep Krishan Sidha, today chaired a review meeting on the progress of the District Census Handbook (DCHB) and preparations for Population Enumeration (Phase-II) of Census 2027 at the Circuit House, Pulwama.

A detailed presentation was made by Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Pulwama, Shiekh Mohammad Ashraf, covering the progress of the District Census Handbook, digital enumeration, manpower requirements, snowbound areas and the roadmap for Phase-II operations.

It was informed that District Pulwama has secured the first rank in Self-Enumeration across the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir during Phase-I. As per the presentation, 6,684 Self-Enumeration IDs were initiated, out of which 6,501 were completed, achieving a completion rate of 97.26 percent. The achievement was attributed to effective planning, coordinated efforts and active public participation in the digital census initiative.

The meeting also reviewed arrangements for snowbound areas, with 32 snowbound villages identified across Rajpora, Tral and Aripal. The presenta-



tion highlighted the deployment requirements of Enumerators and Supervisors in these areas and stressed the need for timely completion of enumeration-related activities before snowfall.

The DC directed the concerned officers to prepare and issue a Sub-Division-wise training calendar for all personnel associated with the Census exercise, including Census Charge Officers, Census Clerks, Technical Staff, Supervisors, Enumerators, Master Trainers and Field Trainers.

Keeping in view the weather forecast and the possibility of snowfall, the DC suggested that training of Charge Officers and other key personnel be conducted during the last week of October. He further suggested that Master Trainer training be conducted around October 25, fol-

lowed by training of Field Trainers, Technical Staff and other field-level functionaries.

The DC also directed that training of approximately 1,190 Supervisors be organised during the third week of December, ensuring that the field functionaries are adequately trained before their deployment.

Reviewing the District Census Handbook, the meeting was informed about the progress of field-level data collection and verification. The DC directed that the data incorporated in the DCHB be thoroughly scrutinised to ensure completeness and authenticity of village-level information.

The DC further emphasised strengthening the Enumeration Block Awareness Campaign (EBAC) along with mass awareness activities to ensure effective

outreach at the grassroots level.

He directed the concerned officers and field functionaries to make every effort to cover every household, leaving no eligible household or person out of the enumeration process.

Emphasising the importance of reliable Census data, the DC directed all concerned to ensure 100 percent accurate enumeration with minimum scope for errors, stressing that credible population and household data are vital for effective planning, policy formulation and delivery of public services.

The DC called for close coordination among all stakeholders and directed the concerned officers to maintain regular monitoring of field activities and ensure timely completion of all assigned tasks as per the Census 2027 schedule.

The meeting was attended by Census Charge Officers of Pulwama, Tral, Aripal, Pampora, Awantipora, Kakapora, Sha-hoora Litter and Rajpora; Chief Executive Officer, Municipal Council Pulwama; Executive Officers of the concerned Municipal Committees; Master Trainer Census Pulwama, Dr. Javid Ahmad; and all Field Trainers engaged for Census 2027 in District Pulwama, besides other concerned officials and functionaries.

SMC Commissioner chairs Meeting on Winter Preparedness

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, OCT 19

Commissioner, Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC), Dr. Basharat Qayoom, today chaired a review meeting at the SMC Central Office, Karan Nagar, to assess the Corporation's preparedness for snow clearance and dewatering operations ahead of the winter season.

The meeting was attended by Joint Commissioner, R&E, Joint Commissioner, Works), Joint Commissioner, Superintending Engineer, City Drainage Circle, and other officers of the Corporation.

The Commissioner reviewed a comprehensive deployment plan for manpower and machinery across all municipal wards to ensure timely and efficient snow clearance. He directed the concerned officers to prioritise key public routes, particularly those connecting hospitals, ration depots, shrines, and government institutions, to ensure uninterrupted accessibility



during snowfall.

Highlighting SMC's operational capabilities, the Commissioner reviewed the availability of snow clearance machinery, advanced dewatering systems, and mobility support to facilitate a swift and effective response to winter-related challenges.

Emphasising the importance of seamless inter-departmental coordination, the Commissioner directed the Snow Monitoring Committee and the 24x7 Control Room to remain fully operational and

responsive. He stressed that public grievances must be addressed promptly and that immediate action should be taken on reports concerning snow accumulation, blocked roads, and other winter-related disruptions. Reviewing dewatering preparedness, the Commissioner directed that all permanent dewatering stations be maintained in optimal working condition. He further stressed the need for the timely deployment of high-capacity mobile

pumps in vulnerable and low-lying areas to mitigate waterlogging during rainfall, snowmelt, and adverse weather conditions.

The Commissioner also underscored the importance of advance planning, field-level monitoring, accountability, and effective coordination among all concerned wings to ensure the uninterrupted delivery of essential civic services throughout the winter season. Dr. Basharat underscored the Corporation's focus on operational readiness, rapid-response capability, and uninterrupted civic service delivery, directing all concerned officers to ensure end-to-end preparedness, real-time field coordination, and swift mobilisation of resources.

He emphasised that every municipal ward must be equipped to respond effectively to snow-related disruptions and waterlogging, ensuring safer mobility, accessible essential services, and minimal public inconvenience throughout the winter season.

Secretary Tourism visits Surinsar, Mansar; reviews ongoing development works

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, OCT 19

Secretary Tourism, Avny Lavasa, today conducted an extensive tour of the twin lake destinations of Surinsar and Mansar to review ongoing development works.

She was accompanied by Chief Executive Officer, Surinsar Mansar Development Authority (SMDA), Vevaik Puri, Additional Secretary, Tourism, Vikas Bhagati and officers from PWD and Wildlife Department.

At Surinsar, she inspected the key projects including "Upgradation and Renovation of Dak Bungalow" costing Rs 194 lakh and "Restructuring of Fun Park and allied infrastruc-



ture" estimated at Rs 79.23 lakh, aimed at improving the visitor experience.

The Secretary interacted with the local residents and stakeholders over the sinking zone of Surinsar Lake, listened to their grievances and issued on-the-spot directions to the concerned departments for

time-bound redressal. Senior officers of Wildlife and PWD Departments also participated to ensure inter-departmental coordination for sustainable tourism growth.

At Mansar, the Secretary was apprised of infrastructure upgrades including new buildings, shoreline

beautification and upkeep of boat jetties to promote eco-tourism.

Later, she inspected the JKTDC Dak Bungalow, reviewed its operational status and maintenance issues. She directed the officials to expedite repairs and maintain high standards of hospitality and cleanliness.

Earlier, Chief Executive Officer, Surinsar Mansar Development Authority briefed the Secretary on major Capex 2026-27 works including "Development of Mansar Lakefront Tourist Reception Centre and Water/Nature Park" costing Rs 403 lakh and "Construction of new Wooden Jetty in place of damaged jetty at Mansar Boating Point" with a revised cost of Rs 111.94 lakh.

Basohli Utsav 2026 gets underway with a blend of culture, traditions

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, OCT 19

The three-day Basohli Utsav 2026 commenced today with a variety of cultural, artistic and sporting activities aimed at showcasing the rich heritage and traditions of the region. The festival, being held from October 19 to 21, witnessed participation of public representatives, senior officers, artists, students and a large number of people.

As part of the celebrations, a bike rally flagged off from Jammu by Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Vikas Kundal, was accorded a warm welcome at Kalibari. MLA Kathua Dr. Bharat Bhushan, CEO Kathua Kewal Krishan and representatives from Private School Associations welcomed the participants before the rally proceeded towards Basohli.

A ceremonial lamp-lighting was held at the park behind Basohli Fort, followed by a seminar on Geet Govind highlighting its literary and artistic significance. A documentary on Basohli Utsav was also screened at Basohli Fort, showcasing the cultural heritage and traditions of the region.

The event was attended by MLA Basohli Darshan Singh; MLA Bani Dr. Rameshwar Singh; Secretary J&K Academy of Art Culture and Languages Harvinder Kour; Director IGNCA Shruti Awasthi; Director ACB Shakti Pathak;



ADC Basohli Pankaj Bhagotra and Additional Secretary, Culture Department Lal Chand.

To encourage artistic expression among students, a cartoon workshop was organised at iconic Basohli Fort, featuring seven renowned cartoonists from across the country. Students from various schools participated in the workshop and interacted with the artists, gaining exposure to cartooning and creative expression.

Traditional sports formed an important part

of the day's programme, with boys' and girls' Santholia matches organised on Ram Leela Grounds Basohli. Around 360 students from 30 schools participated in the matches, promoting teamwork, physical fitness and awareness of indigenous sporting traditions.

Deputy Commissioner Kathua Rajesh Sharma, DIG Jammu-Samba Kathua Shridhar Patil and SSP Kathua Mohita Sharma also joined the Shobha Yatra, followed by Aarti on the River Ravi

near the iconic Atal Setu. The religious ceremony formed part of the day's celebrations.

The opening-day activities reflected the focus of Basohli Utsav 2026 on promoting the region's cultural heritage, encouraging youth participation and providing a platform for artistic expression and traditional sports.

The festival will continue till October 21 with a series of activities highlighting the cultural identity, traditions and heritage of Basohli.

Advisor to CM felicitates newly elected members of Kashmir Golf Club Executive Committee

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 19: Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani today felicitated the newly elected members of the Executive Committee of Kashmir Golf Club (KGC), following the conclusion of elections held during the club's 26th Annual General Meeting at the Sher-i-Kashmir International Convention Centre (SKICC), Srinagar.

Chief Minister, president of the Club, had nominated Advisor Nasir Aslam Wani to preside over the Annual General Meeting of the Kashmir Golf Club.

Former Chief Minister Dr Farooq Abdullah, MLA Gulmarg Pirzada Farooq Shah, Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo who is the chairman of the Executive Committee and other club members were present on the occasion.

Congratulating the newly elected members, the Advisor described Kashmir Golf Club as a prestigious institution with a distinguished place in the history of golf in



the country. He noted that the elections, held after a gap of 14 years, marked an important step towards strengthening the club's administration and restoring its facilities.

Nasir Aslam expressed hope that the newly elected executive body would work collectively to address the club's shortcomings and ensure its effective functioning. He said the government remained accessible and committed to supporting the

upgradation of the historic institution.

Emphasising the need to promote golf among younger generations, the Advisor called for establishing a golf academy at the club to provide children with structured training and opportunities to develop their skills.

He observed that golf offered considerable scope for competitive participation and professional growth. The Advisor also an-

nounced that funds amounting to ₹2 crore have been earmarked for rebuilding the clubhouse. He expressed hope that the work would be started immediately, adding that other requirements of the club would also be addressed.

He said efforts would be made to restore and upgrade the club's facilities, including its fairways, greens and restaurant, while improving its overall infrastructure and administration.

DC Reasi reviews stray dog management measures

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, OCT 19

Deputy Commissioner Reasi Kumar Abhishek today chaired a meeting to review the implementation of directions issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India regarding stray dog management and related measures in the district.

The DC reviewed various aspects of stray dog management including the availability of Animal Birth Control facilities, dog sterilisation, anti-rabies vaccination, identification and record-keeping, designated feeding points and measures to prevent stray dogs from entering institutional premises.

The meeting also deliberated on public awareness



initiatives, adoption mechanisms, enforcement measures against unauthorised dog breeding establishments and identification of gaps requiring remedial action.

Emphasising the need for a coordinated and systematic approach, the DC directed the concerned departments to complete the enumeration of stray dogs across the district to facili-

tate accurate assessment and effective planning for their management. He also stressed regular monitoring, maintenance of updated records and coordinated efforts among all stakeholders.

The DC further directed the Executive Officers of Municipal Councils Reasi and Katra to provide the required manpower for capturing stray dogs, while

the Animal Husbandry Department was asked to ensure proper training of personnel involved in the exercise.

Additional Deputy Commissioner Sushil Kesar, Assistant Commissioner Development Mukesh Sharma, Chief Animal Husbandry Officer, Executive Engineer, PWD (R&B) and other concerned officers attended the meeting.