

DC reviews anti-drug measures, seeks focus on counselling, youth engagement initiatives

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KATHUA: Deputy Commissioner Kathua, Rajesh Sharma on Tuesday chaired a meeting of the District level Narco Coordination Centre (NCORD) Committee to review the progress of ongoing initiatives and devise a comprehensive strategy to curb drug abuse in the district.

The meeting was attended by ADC Vishavjeet Singh; ASP Rahul Charak; CMO Dr Vijay Raina; ACD Akhil Sadotra; ACP Ajeet Kumar; Assistant Commandant 107 BSF Battalion, CAO, DIO, CEO, DSWO, Assistant Controller Drugs and other concerned officers.

The meeting was informed that paramedical staff and teachers are being trained as Counsellors through structured training being imparted to them in a phased manner. Nearly 200 individuals have already been trained at GMC Kathua to strengthen grassroots-level intervention, the meeting was



told.

The Deputy Commissioner emphasized the need to ensure availability of at least 2-3 trained counsellors at each block, besides one trained teacher at every High and Higher Secondary School to guide and sensitize students against drug abuse.

Chief Education Officer Kewal

Krishan informed that all 13 private coaching centres in the district have been equipped with CCTV surveillance, while government schools are being covered in a phased manner.

Stressing stringent enforcement, the Deputy Commissioner directed the Drug Control Department to intensify drives,

conduct surprise inspections, maintain strict vigil on over-the-counter sale of drugs and ensure effective functioning of de-addiction OPD clinics.

The meeting also underscored the importance of sustained IEC activities under the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan along with enhanced youth engagement in sports to promote a healthy and drug-free lifestyle.

Threadbare discussions were held on key issues including consolidation of data of offenders for punitive actions such as cancellation of licenses, regular monitoring of contraband cultivation, identification and surveillance of hotspots and surprise inspections of vulnerable areas.

The Deputy Commissioner further stressed robust coordination among Police, BSF, Health, Drug Control and School Education Departments to ensure a sustained and effective crackdown on drug abuse across the district.

Indian Army Awareness Caravan visits GDC Samba

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SAMBA: Indian Army Awareness Caravan from Delhi visited Government Degree College (GDC) Samba Tuesday with the objective of motivating students to join the Indian Army through various entry schemes available for both boys and girls.

The event aimed to create awareness among youth about career opportunities as Agniveer in the Indian Army, eligibility criteria, selection process, and career benefits.

The program was conducted in the presence of officials from Army Recruiting Office (ARO) Jammu, 4 JK Battalion NCC Jammu (PI Staff) and NCC cadets from GDC Samba (Army and Naval wings), ITI Samba, and Bhargava Degree College (Total 170 to 180 students).

The event was graced by Principal of the host



college, Prof. Dr. Nirlape Kour, ANO of the armed wing Dr. Mamta Devi and other faculty members.

During the session, Army officials shared valuable information regarding various entry schemes into the Indian Army, eligibility criteria, selection process, and career benefits.

Motivational videos highlighting the life, discipline, and achievements of Indian Army personnel were also shown to the students, which greatly inspired and encouraged them.

The event concluded with interactive activities and fun games organized for the students. Winners were awarded Indian Army T-shirts and caps as tokens of appreciation, which added enthusiasm and excitement among participants. Overall, the awareness program proved to be highly informative and motivating. It successfully encouraged students to consider a career in the Indian Army and inspired them to contribute towards serving the nation with pride and dedication.

GGM Science College felicitates NCC Cadet for International Representation

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JAMMU: Government Gandhi Memorial (GGM) Science College, Jammu, felicitated its distinguished NCC cadet, Senior Under Officer (SUO) Rajveer Singh, for his remarkable achievement of representing India at the international level through the prestigious Youth Exchange Programme (YEP) Nepal, bringing immense pride and recognition to the institution.

Hailing from a small village in R.S. Pura, Rajveer Singh's journey reflects

perseverance, dedication, and an unwavering commitment to national service.

A true son of the soil, his inspiring rise from rural roots to international representation stands as a motivating example for young aspirants across the region.

After completing his Class XII, Rajveer aspired to join the armed forces and appeared for the National Defence Academy (NDA) examination. Although he successfully cleared the written test, he was conference-out during the Services Selection Board (SSB) interview.

Rather than allowing the setback to discourage him, he chose to transform adversity into opportunity by enrolling at GGM Science College and joining the National Cadet Corps (NCC), viewing it as another pathway to serve the nation and develop leadership qualities.

Through consistent hard work, discipline, and determination, he soon distinguished himself among his peers.

He represented the Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh (JK&L) Directorate at prestigious national-level camps,

including the Thal Sainik Camp (TSC) and the Republic Day Camp (RDC) both considered among the highest platforms for NCC cadets in the country.

His outstanding performance, exemplary conduct, and leadership skills displayed during the Republic Day Camp earned him selection for the coveted Youth Exchange Programme, through which he represented India internationally in Nepal.

The achievement not only highlights his individual excellence but also showcases the strong training culture and values

promoted by NCC and GGM Science College.

The college administration headed by Principal, Dr. Romesh Kumar Gupta expressed immense pride in his accomplishment, stating that his journey demonstrates how perseverance and dedication can turn challenges into milestones of success.

His story serves as an inspiration for students to pursue their goals with determination despite setbacks. On the occasion, SUO Rajveer Singh was felicitated,

in recognition of his outstanding contribution and achievements in NCC.

The felicitation ceremony was attended by ANO Lt. Dr. Devinder Kumar Sharma, who lauded the cadet for bringing laurels to the institution and for upholding the proud legacy of NCC at the college.

The college reaffirmed its commitment to nurturing leadership, discipline, and national values among students through NCC and other co-curricular platforms, encouraging youth to strive for excellence at national and international levels.

Panchayat Electoral Roll revision gains momentum in Kishtwar

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KISHTWAR: The ongoing process of Annual Revision of Draft Panchayat Electoral Rolls, 2026, with April 1, 2026 as the qualifying date is progressing well in the Kishtwar District.

The Electoral Registration Officer (ERO) for Blocks Bunjwah, Drabshalla and Thakrie today convened a virtual review meeting with the Assistant Electoral Registration Officers (AEROs) and Panchayat Electoral Booth Officers (PEBOs).

The ERO reviewed the progress achieved so far and stressed the need for exercising due diligence while carrying out deletion, correction and transposition of entries in the Rolls. He called for strictly adhering to the prescribed norms and standing instructions of the State Election Commission.

The procedure of filing of prescribed forms, processing of claims and objections and other modalities involved in the Annual Revision of Draft Panchayat Electoral Roll, 2026 were discussed in detail.

AAM Sub Centre prepares for NQAS National Assessment

DODA: Chief Medical Officer Doda Dr. Tanveer Ahmed Rather Tuesday reviewed the preparedness of AAM Sub Centre Shaya (Medical Block Assar) for National Assessment under NQAS.

The CMO conducted a thorough round of all sections of the health centre and reviewed the records, registers and overall preparations made for the upcoming National Assessment. He assessed the service delivery areas, infrastructure, cleanliness, patient-care services and documentation required under National Quality Assurance Standards.

Dr. Tanveer Ahmed Rather emphasized adherence to NQAS protocols. He interacted with the staff and appreciated their efforts in strengthening healthcare services and preparing for the National Assessment.

Umar Anayat, Epidemiologist also accompanied the CMO during the visit. The visit aimed to ensure readiness of the health facility and further strengthen the healthcare services in Medical Block Assar.

ADDC Doda accorded warm farewell on superannuation

DODA: The District Administration Doda today accorded a warm and heartfelt farewell to the Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Roshan Lal on his superannuation, marking the culmination of his distinguished service spanning more than 25 years.

Army organized Ex-Servicemen drone Mela at Akhnoor, Jammu



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AKHNOOR: Indian Army organized an Ex - Servicemen Drone Mela at Akhnoor to enhance awareness and preparedness against emerging drone threats.

The event was marked by the active participation of ex-servicemen, who were sensitized to the evolving role of drones in modern operational environments,

including their capabilities, limitations and key identification features.

The sessions also provided comprehensive training on the reporting procedures for spotting suspicious UAV activity. A hands-on display of various drone platforms further enhanced practical understanding.

This initiative highlighted the critical

role of veterans as force multipliers in maintaining security and vigilance within their areas of influence. The event concluded with a "Chai pe Charcha" session, where ex-servicemen discussed various issues they face.

The gathering emphasized the importance of continuous engagement and support for veterans in securing the nation.

GDC Neeli Nallah organizes multifarious activities to mark 150 yrs of Vande Matram

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JAMMU: Government Degree College Neeli Nallah organized multifarious activities viz individual renditions, selfie Campaign, symposium, singing of Vande Matram and screening of short films, regarding the celebration of 150 years of Vande Mataram with great enthusiasm and patriotic fervour.

The events were conducted under the able guidance of Principal of the college, Prof. (Dr.) Seema Arora.

The celebrations began with a mass singing of Vande Mataram, followed by selfie campaign, where students, faculty, and staff participated wholeheartedly, creating an atmosphere filled with unity, pride, and national spirit.

The collective rendition



of the iconic song reflected deep respect for the nation and its rich cultural heritage.

Following this, a debate competition and screening of short films were conducted as part of the commemorative activities. Students actively participated and expressed their views on topics related to patriotism, national identity, and contemporary societal issues.

The participants

displayed commendable confidence, critical thinking, and eloquence, making the event intellectually enriching.

Dr Sunil Tanoch, IQAC Convenor appreciated the efforts of the organizing committee and encouraged students to actively engage in such co-curricular activities that promote awareness, unity, and a sense of responsibility towards the nation.

The organizers of the

event were Prof. Rekha Sharma, Prof. Shaista Yasmeen and Dr. Akhter Hussain. The program concluded with the felicitation of participants and a message emphasizing the importance of preserving and celebrating the ideals embodied in Vande Mataram.

The event successfully instilled a spirit of patriotism and collective harmony among all attendees.

NCORD meeting: String of decisions taken to reinforce Drug Control measures in Doda

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DODA: District Magistrate (DM) Doda Krishan Lal, in presence of Senior Superintendent of Police Sandeep Kumar, today chaired a meeting of the District Level Committee under the Narco Coordination Centre (NCORD) mechanism here in the Conference Hall DC Office Complex.

The meeting reviewed ongoing anti-narcotic measures and deliberated on fresh initiatives to strengthen on ground efforts to eradicate drug abuse in the district.

The meeting was held in compliance with the directions issued by the Union Home Minister during the Apex NCORD Meeting, calling for formulation of a robust district-level roadmap for effective drug control.

The meeting was convened by the Nodal Officer NCORD Zubair Ahmed and attended by officers from multiple departments and representatives of local NGOs.

The District Magistrate highlighted the importance of MANAS (Madak-Padarth



Nisedh Asuchna Kendra), a 24x7 toll-free helpline (1933), encouraging stakeholders to actively report drug related issues and contribute to the anti-drug campaign. He issued string of directions to stakeholder departments to reinforce control measures.

Assistant Commissioner Development (ACD) was directed to constitute Nasha Mukta Committees in each Panchayat to encourage community participation, strengthen awareness and facilitate counseling in educational institutions.

The Drug Control Department was instructed to conduct regular inspections of medical stores to verify CCTV footage and billing records.

The Sub-Divisional Magistrates were asked to rope in religious scholars and local stakeholders to promote awareness against substance abuse and strengthen the concept of "Nasha-Mukta Panchayats."

The meeting was attended by ACR Ashraf Parvez; CPO Manesh Kumar; PO ICDS Akhter Qazi; Assistant Commissioner Development Din Mohammad Afaqi; Assistant Commissioner Panchayat Mushraf Haff; Principal GDC Doda Dr. Javed Iqbal; DSWO Zubair Ahmed; CEO Bhushan Kumar; EO Municipal Committee, Nodal Officer ATF and officers from various departments and NGOs.

ADC Bharderwah, SDMs, Sub-Divisional Police Officers, Tehsildars, BDOs, Divisional Forest Officers of Doda, Bharderwah and Batote, SHOs and other officials also participated through virtual mode.

Training on Vaccine Preventable Diseases Surveillance concludes at GGN Hospital

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JAMMU: A three-day training program on Vaccine Preventable Diseases (VPD) Surveillance, conducted as part of the Phase-II transition from the World Health Organization (WHO)-supported system to the General Health System, concluded here Tuesday at Government Gandhi - Nagar (GGN) Hospital. The program was organized under the guidance of Mission Director NHM Akriti Sagar.

Over the course of three days, participants from across the districts of Jammu Division were trained on key components of VPD surveillance, including case identification, reporting mechanisms, data management, outbreak response and field-level implementation.

Technical sessions were conducted by experts from the WHO and the Integrated Disease

Surveillance Programme (IDSP), National Centre for Disease Control, New Delhi.

The training marks an important milestone in the transition of VPD surveillance into the General Health System in the Jammu Division, thus ensuring sustainability, improved data integration and timely public health response.

Earlier, the training was inaugurated by Director Family Welfare, Jammu Dr. Poonam Sethi and Director Health Services Jammu Dr. Abdul Hamid Zargar in presence of Dr. Narinder Bhutiyal, Medical Superintendent, Gandhi Nagar Hospital Jammu, Dr. Ramesh Khullar, State Epidemiologist/SSO Jammu Division and Dr. Shahid Hussain, State Immunization Officer, Jammu Division, who emphasized the importance of strengthening integrated disease surveillance systems.

BBBP Awareness-cum-Felicitation Programme Organized at Bharderwah

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BHADERWAH: The Sub-District Administration Bharderwah, in collaboration with the Social Welfare Department, organized an Awareness-cum-Felicitation Programme under the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) initiative here today.

The programme was presided over by Additional Deputy Commissioner Sunil Kumar Bhutyal and attended by BMO Dr. Touseef Malik and staff from the Social Welfare, Health and Information department. On the occasion, mothers of newborn girls were felicitated with baby kits as a token of love, care and encouragement. The gesture was aimed at celebrating the birth of the girl child and promoting a positive mindset towards daughters in society. The event concluded with a renewed commitment by all stakeholders to work collaboratively towards the success of the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao initiative and to ensure the well-being, dignity and empowerment of the girl child.