

JAMMU & KASHMIR

CM Omar inaugurates 368 residential units for govt employees at Sempora, Pampore

Govt to focus on employee welfare and infrastructure upgradation: CM

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, MAY 01

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today inaugurated 368 newly constructed residential quarters for government employees at Sempora in Pampore, developed across 23 blocks at an estimated cost of ₹90.65 crore.

Constructed by the Estates Department, the project marks the completion of a major residential infrastructure initiative aimed at strengthening government housing facilities in the Kashmir Valley. It forms part of the government's push to enhance employee welfare by providing modern, well-equipped residential spaces.

Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani, MLA Pampore Justice (Retd.) Hasnain Masoodi, Additional Chief Secretary Estates Shaleen Kabra, Deputy Commissioner Pulwama Dr Basharat Qayoom, Director Estates Ashwini Khajuria, along with senior officers, engineers and other concerned officials, were present on the occasion.

The Chief Minister inaugurated the Estates Quarters and inspected the newly constructed residential flats, including 2BHK and 3BHK units. He also visited the canteen and mess facilities and was briefed by senior officers of the Estates Department on upcoming and proposed housing projects.



With its completion, the quarters are expected to significantly enhance the availability of accommodation for government employees and help ease long-standing shortage.

The project assumes added significance in view of the restoration of the annual Darbar Move by the present government, which has revived the need for adequate residential facilities for employees relocating between Jammu and Srinagar.

The residential quarters will particularly benefit a large section of Darbar Move employees, many of whom have faced persistent challenges in securing suit-

able accommodation for their families over the years. The availability of these units is expected to reduce dependence on private housing and improve overall working conditions by ensuring stability and convenience.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Minister reiterated his government's commitment to providing suitable family accommodation to employees. He said that strengthening employee welfare remains a key governance priority, and that efforts are underway to further augment residential infrastructure in a phased manner across Jammu and Kashmir.

He emphasized that residential accommodation plays a crucial role in enhancing productivity and morale among government employees, adding that the government will continue to invest in infrastructure that directly impacts their well-being.

Highlighting the importance of efficient project management, the Chief Minister stressed the need for timely execution of public infrastructure works. He directed the concerned departments to ensure optimal utilization and proper maintenance of the newly created facilities so that they continue to serve employees effectively in years to come.

Apni Party elects office bearers in Ganderbal

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, MAY 01

With the organisational elections ongoing, Apni Party today elected zonal and block-level office bearers in Ganderbal.

According to a press release issued here, the meeting was headed by the party's Returning Officer, Chief Coordinator and District President Kulgam, Abdul Majeed Padder, who supervised the election process, in which several block-level office bearers were elected through a smooth and transparent process.

The prominent party leaders who were present on the occasion, included District President Ganderbal Javid Ahmad Mir, District Vice President Ganderbal Abdul Rashid Ganie, Constituency In-charge Kangan Aata Mohammad, Constituency In-charge Ganderbal Ayaaz Ahmad,



and others. Those who were elected included: Shahmeem Ahmad Guroo elected as Block President Ganderbal, Mohammad Amin Dar Block President Lar, Miyan Abdul Lateef Block President Kangan, and others.

Director Sericulture calls for Youth Participation in Sericulture for Sustainable Livelihood

SRINAGAR, MAY 01:

Director Sericulture, Ajaz Ahmad Bhat, today facilitated the distribution of silkworm seed to various districts of the Kashmir Valley, marking the commencement of the silkworm rearing season.

The event was organized by the Sericulture Development Department, J&K at the Main Grainage, Srinagar.

On the occasion, Bhat underscored the importance of ensuring the timely distribution of silkworm seed to each and every silkworm rearer. He exhorted all field functionaries to extend necessary technical guidance and advisory support to rearers so that they do not



face any difficulties during the rearing.

The Director further stated that the department has embarked upon a mission to achieve self-sufficiency in silkworm seed production adding that significant progress has already been made in this di-

rection though much remains to be accomplished. He emphasized that the Department of Sericulture is working relentlessly not only to achieve indigenous production of silkworm seed at the local level but also to explore avenues for its export to other States

and Union Territories across the country. Highlighting the socio-economic potential of the sector, the Director called upon the local youth to actively participate in sericulture activities to secure an honourable livelihood and support their families. He also stressed the need to attract more people towards the sericulture sector noting that it contributes to the preservation of nature, ecology and the environment while simultaneously helping steer youth away from the menace of drug abuse.

The Director was accompanied by senior officers of the department, field functionaries and silkworm rearers.

Road Safety Awareness Programme held at Ukhral; students designated as Brand Ambassadors

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, MAY 01

The Motor Vehicles Department, Ramban, in collaboration with the Tehsil Legal Services Committee, Ukhral, and the Sub-Divisional Administration, Ramsoo, organised a road safety awareness programme at Government Model Higher Secondary School, Ukhral, with active participation from students, local citizens and members of the transport fraternity.

The programme aimed to create awareness about traffic rules and regulations and encourage responsible road usage among all sections of society.

During the programme, participants were sensitised about the importance of adhering to road safety norms, including safe driving practices and compliance with provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act.

They were also made



aware of the PM RAHAT Scheme, a game-changing initiative for road accident victims, which ensures cashless treatment for up to seven days with financial coverage up to Rs 1.5 lakh at empanelled hospitals across the country. Officials highlighted that the scheme

would help ensure that no accident victim is deprived of timely medical treatment due to financial constraints.

Students were designated as Road Safety Brand Ambassadors and encouraged to spread awareness about motor vehicle rules and regulations among their fami-

lies, peers and the wider community, thereby helping to promote a culture of road safety across society.

The programme concluded with a strong message on collective responsibility and the need for sustained public awareness to make roads safer for all.

IRP 16th Battalion Organises Anti-Drug Rally at Banihal under Nasha Mukti Abhiyan

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, MAY 01

As part of the ongoing Nasha Mukti Jammu and Kashmir Abhiyan, a rally under the theme "Nasha Mukti Abhiyan – Drug-Free Society Campaign" was successfully organized by the 16th IRP Battalion at Banihal in Ramban district under the direct supervision of Director General of Police, J&K, Nalin Prabhat, and Additional Director General of Police (Armed), J&K, Anand Jain.

The main function was held at Helipad Ground, Gund Banihal, witnessing enthusiastic participation from school children, local residents and battalion personnel, reflecting a strong collective resolve against the menace of drug abuse.

The programme commenced with an address by DySP Kirpal Singh, who highlighted the growing need for awareness against drug addiction and stressed that combating the menace requires a united effort from all sections of society. He particularly emphasized the responsibility of safeguarding the younger generation by spreading awareness about the harmful



effects of substance abuse.

A large number of students actively participated in the event, adding energy and enthusiasm to the campaign while spreading the message of adopting a healthy and drug-free lifestyle. Their participation underscored the importance of involving youth in social awareness initiatives aimed at building a stronger and safer society.

The programme con-

cluded with an oath-taking ceremony administered by SSP/Commandant Sukhdev Raj, wherein participants pledged their commitment to work collectively towards eradicating drug abuse and promoting a drug-free society. Following the formal proceedings, a massive anti-drug rally was flagged off through Banihal town, culminating at Chareel. Participants raised anti-drug slogans and carried placards

bearing messages such as "Say No to Drugs" and "Choose Life, Not Drugs," creating widespread public awareness along the route.

The event reflected strong community participation and reaffirmed the shared commitment of the District Administration, Police, and Civil Society towards making Jammu and Kashmir a drug-free society under the ongoing Nasha Mukti Abhiyan.

International Labour Day celebrated at Banihal with Awareness Programme, Health Camp

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, MAY 01

The Office of the Assistant Labour Commissioner, Ramban under the guidance of Deputy Commissioner Ramban Mohammed Alyas Khan, today organized an awareness programme at Banihal to mark International Labour Day, highlighting the importance of labour welfare, workers' rights and social security schemes.

The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from contractors, shopkeepers, members of the Vyapar Mandal, construction workers and local youth, reflecting strong community engagement towards labour welfare initiatives.

A key highlight of the event was a free medical health check-up camp organized in collaboration with the Health Department for labourers and workers. Free medicines were also distributed among the beneficia-



ries, providing immediate healthcare assistance to the working community.

Speaking on the occasion, Assistant Labour Commissioner Ramban, Amit Kumar, highlighted the significance of International Labour Day and underscored the need to safeguard the rights, dignity and welfare of workers. He also sensitized participants about various social security and welfare schemes, in-

cluding Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan (PMSYM), E-Shram Portal, Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) and schemes being implemented by the Jammu and Kashmir Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board (JK-BOCWBB).

On-the-spot facilitation for labour registration and

renewal was also carried out during the programme. Tanveer-ul-Gana'i, DEO, processed registrations and renewals, resulting in the renewal of 12 labour cards and issuance of 4 new labour cards to construction workers, which were handed over on the spot.

Participants were also educated about the new Labour Codes and the benefits available under the reformed legal framework. Informational pamphlets were distributed, while posters highlighting key labour provisions were displayed at the venue and other prominent locations across Banihal town.

A grievance redressal session was held towards the conclusion of the programme, during which several issues raised by workers and stakeholders were addressed on the spot.

In his vote of thanks, official Sushant Sharma appreciated the active participation and cooperation of all stakeholders in making the programme a success.