

Padyatra Held in Drass Under Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan, Rally spreads message of a healthy, drug-free society

Drass, September 17: In line with the schedule of the UT Administration of Ladakh, a Padyatra was held today in Drass under the Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan from Khandiyal Lungma to Tourist Dak Bungalow with enthusiastic participation from students, teachers and Government employees. The rally was aimed at strengthening public awareness against drug abuse and encourage young people to embrace a healthy, disciplined and drug-free lifestyle.

The event saw participation of Deputy Commissioner, Imteeaz Kacho, Superintendent of Police Ishtyaq Kacho, Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Asif Hussain, Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Vishal Atri, Tehsildar (HQ) Abdul Aziz, Executive Engineer, PHE Division; Block Medical Officer, Principals and Head Masters of Schools, Zonal Education Officer and other officials, besides teachers, faculty members and students from various educational institutions apart from stake holders and members of civil society.

During the Padyatra, participants raised slogans about the harmful consequences of substance abuse and carried forward the message, "Say No to Drugs, Say Yes to Life."

Addressing the gathering, the Deputy Commissioner stressed the need to translate the message of the Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan into meaningful action. He said that building a drug-free society is a collective responsibility requiring the active participation of the administration, educational institutions, parents, students and the wider community.

He urged participants to promptly report any suspected case of drug abuse or drug-related activity to the concerned authorities. He also highlighted the wider social and economic consequences of substance dependence, noting that addiction can cause serious financial difficulties and may also lead individuals towards unlawful activities.

The Deputy Commissioner appreciated the enthusiastic participation of students, teachers and other stakeholders and urged them to become active ambassadors of the campaign against drug abuse. He thanked them for extending cooperation to the District Administration's various initiatives and campaigns against drug abuse.

In his address, the Superintendent of Police highlighted the harmful effects of drug abuse and the importance of community vigilance. He appealed to students and members of the public to inform the concerned

authorities about any suspicious drug-related activity or cases requiring timely intervention.

The Superintendent of Police particularly encouraged students to focus on their studies, participate actively in sports and other constructive activities, take care of their physical and mental well-being, develop positive habits and remain away from harmful influences. He emphasized that meaningful engagement of youth in education, sports and other productive pursuits can play an important role in preventing substance abuse.

The Sub-Divisional Magistrate also addressed the gathering and highlighted the serious impact of drug abuse on individuals, families and society. He administered the oath/pledge against drug abuse with participants pledging to stay away from drugs and contribute towards building a healthy and drug-free society.

The Padyatra concluded at the Tourist Dak Bungalow with a collective resolve to strengthen the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan and work together towards creating a safer, healthier and drug-free Drass.

