

Deputy CM reviews Mission YUVA; emphasizes expanded collaboration



HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, JUNE 23

A high level review meeting of Mission YUVA, the flagship youth entrepreneurship initiative of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir, was held today under the chairmanship of Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary at Civil Secretariat, Srinagar.

Advisor to Chief Minister, Nasir Aslam Wani; Administrative Secretary, Skill Development Department, Rajeev Ranjan; Secretary, Information Technology Department, Piyush Singla; Director, Skill Development Department and Mission Director, Mission YUVA, Shahzad Alam; Director, J&K Entrepreneurship De-

velopment Institute, Khalid Jahangir; Director Finance, Labour & Employment, Imtiyaz Ahmad Wani; Additional Secretary, Labour & Employment, Shahid Mehmood besides senior officials of the concerned department were present during the meeting.

The Mission Director presented a comprehensive progress report, highlighting the outreach efforts, institutional tie-ups and the financial disbursement status across all the districts. He apprised that the Mission YUVA has been designed on four pillars including Culture, Capital, Capacity Building and Connectivity. It envisaged creating more than 1.37 lakh new enterprises and 4.25 lakh em-

ployment opportunities across J&K, he added.

The Deputy Chief Minister, while appreciating the achievements recorded, so far, issued key directions to further strengthen the implementation framework of the Mission. He directed the concerned to involve all major nationalized banks, in addition to J&K Bank, to enhance the credit access and widen financial outreach for the aspiring entrepreneurs. He also suggested enhancing the incentives and financial support being provided under Mission YUVA schemes to make entrepreneurship a more viable and attractive option.

He also asked to involve J&K Entrepreneurship Development Institute

(JKEDI) in preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) to ensure quality and viability of projects. He further asked to ensure provisions for land allocation to landless youth seeking to set up enterprises, especially under government schemes.

Emphasizing on creating startup ecosystems and neo initiative enterprises, the Deputy Chief Minister called for setting up a cross sectoral business support ecosystem for growth of entrepreneurship at all levels with generation of mass employment opportunities through enterprise creation.

The Deputy Chief Minister underscored the importance of timely hand holding, grassroots awareness campaigns and convergence with skilling and digital platforms to unlock the full potential of youth-led development in J&K.

Advisor to Chief Minister, Nasir Aslam Wani, while speaking on the occasion, stressed on greater coordination among the departments and institutions to translate the Mission's vision into tangible opportunities on the ground.

32,336 PMAY (G) houses, 95 Panchyat Ghars completed in Ramban

DC reviews on ground impact of RDD sector schemes

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, JUNE 23

Deputy Commissioner Mohammad Alyas Khan today conducted a comprehensive review of the progress achieved under various schemes and projects of the Rural Development Department.

The meeting was attended by Chief Planning Officer Dr. Shakeeb Ahmed Rather; Assistant Commissioner Development Shrinath Suman; Assistant Commissioner Panchayats Ashfaq Ahmed; Chief Medical Officer, Chief Education Officer, Block Development Officers and representatives from the banks.

The Deputy Commissioner took a block-wise review of the progress from the concerned BDOs and stressed on the need to accelerate the pace of development and timely completion of the ongoing projects.

To strengthen the monitoring mechanism, the Deputy Commissioner instructed BDOs to submit daily progress reports to his office. He further directed officials to identify bottlenecks in implementation



and take immediate corrective measures to overcome the same.

Focusing on financial facilitation and beneficiary support, the DC directed bankers to establish help desks at their respective branches to ease payments and services to MGNREGA Job Card holders and the beneficiaries of the welfare schemes. The CPO was tasked with compiling relevant data to clear existing pendency in coordination with BDOs and banks.

Earlier, the ACD presented a detailed Power Point briefing on the physical and financial achievements across the 11 blocks of the district. He informed that a total of 32,336 houses have been completed under PMAY-G and 52,352 Job Card holders are currently registered in the district. The Deputy Commissioner also reviewed the progress under the Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA). The ACP informed that 1,418 Indi-

vidual Household Latrines (IHHLs) have been completed under SBM-G in the district. He further briefed that the district has a total of 143 Panchayats of which Panchayat Ghars have been completed in 95 Panchayats, while work on 23 is in progress.

The Deputy Commissioner directed the concerned officers to accelerate the pace of all ongoing works and ensure achievement of targets within stipulated time frame.

Mock Exercise on Fire, Earthquake preparedness held at Vijaypur

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, JUNE 23

A Mock Exercise simulating a fire and earthquake rescue operation was conducted today at Government Higher Secondary School, Vijaypur. The exercise was organized collaboratively by the 13th Battalion of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) and the District Administration Samba.

The mock drill was conducted in the presence of Deputy Commissioner Rajesh Sharma, SDM Vijaypur, representatives from NDRF and SDRF, locals, school faculty and students.

The scenario involved a simulated incident where a



fire broke out in the two-storey school building, with smoke spreading rapidly. In the exercise, three students were reported trapped on the rooftop due to the blaze. Fire and emergency services responded promptly to douse the fire. Subsequently, NDRF and SDRF

teams jointly carried out a high-rise rescue operation using rope techniques.

Among the rescued, one student was simulated to have suffered burn injuries while two others were found unconscious due to smoke inhalation. All were provided first aid and handed

over to the medical team for further treatment at the Civil Hospital.

The exercise was conducted from 0945 hrs to 1125 hrs, under the supervision of Team Commander Inspector/GD Bachan Singh of 13 NDRF. A total of 193 individuals, including response teams, students and staff were involved in the exercise.

A debriefing session was held post-exercise led by DC Rajesh Sharma, emphasizing the importance of preparedness, coordination and swift action in times of disaster. He appreciated the participating agencies and encouraged schools and institutions to regularly conduct such preparedness drills to build a culture of safety and resilience.

Shri Machail Mata Yatra-2025

DC reviews arrangements for pilgrims, pays obeisance at Temple shrine

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, JUNE 23

Deputy Commissioner Pankaj Kumar Sharma visited the revered Shree Chandi Mata Darbar in Machail today, where he paid obeisance and took stock of the arrangements for Shri Machail Mata Yatra 2025, scheduled to commence on July 25, 2025.

The DC evaluated key infrastructure and amenities including sanitation, water supply, electricity and road connectivity, expressing satisfaction with the progress made so far.

He informed the road to Machail is complete upto Chishoti and work on the Chishoti Bridge is in full swing. He acknowledged certain bottlenecks but reaffirmed that the work is progressing at full speed and will be completed in a time-bound manner.

While the official Yatra will start on July 25, a large



number of pilgrims have already begun visiting the Holy Shrine of Machail Mata.

Interacting with local residents and the pilgrims, the DC took direct feedback from them and stated that this year a significant increase in pilgrim turnout is

expected. He urged devotees to maintain cleanliness and adhere to all necessary guidelines to support the smooth conduct of the pilgrimage.

The DC directed the concerned officers to ensure round-the-clock monitoring and address issues

promptly to deliver a safe, comfortable and spiritually enriching experience to the pilgrims.

Additional Deputy Commissioner Pawan Kotwal, SDM Dr Amit Bhagat besides other Senior Officers and concerned Staff accompanied the DC.

RKS approves annual dev plan for Sarwal Hospital

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, JUNE 23

A meeting of the Governing Body of Rogi Kalyan Samiti, Government Hospital Sarwal was held today under the chairmanship of MLA Jammu West Arvind Gupta to review and approve an array of developmental initiatives proposed for the financial year 2025-26.

The proposed initiatives aim to enhance hospital infrastructure and elevate the standard of patient care in a phased and sustainable manner.

The meeting was attended by key members of the Governing Body including Medical Superintendent Dr Sunil Kailu; District AYUSH Officer; Deputy Medical Superintendent; Executive Engineer PWD, Bakshi Nagar Division; Executive Engineer PDD Canal Road; Assistant Executive Engineer PHE, Bakshi Nagar, besides Civil Society representatives Arun



Khanna, Suresh Sahni, Veenu Khanna and Babu Ram Jandiyal and hospital staff.

In his address, the MLA lauded the consistent dedication of medical professionals and stakeholders in advancing healthcare delivery. He emphasized the critical role of collaborative action in ensuring accessible, efficient and compassionate healthcare services for the people of Jammu.

The meeting focused on comprehensive areas of im-

provement, including infrastructure upgrades, procurement of essential medical equipment, strengthening staffing structures and implementing innovative healthcare technologies. Esteemed members actively contributed insights and suggestions, reinforcing their shared commitment to continuous improvement.

Reaffirming the government's full support, Arvind Gupta pledged targeted allocation of resources and

prompt resolution of sector-specific challenges. He urged all stakeholders to prioritize timely execution of approved initiatives and adopt regular monitoring mechanisms for measurable outcomes.

The session concluded with a unified vision for transforming Government Hospital Sarwal into a model institution of excellence, reflecting a collaborative spirit dedicated to community health and well-being.

DC Kathua reviews anti-flood measures

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, JUNE 23

Deputy Commissioner Dr. Rakesh Minhas today chaired a high-level meeting to review and strategize anti-flood measures in view of the imminent monsoon season.

The meeting focused on ensuring robust coordination among the stakeholder departments for effective planning and execution of flood mitigation efforts.

A key decision taken during the meeting was the establishment of a 24x7 Composite Control Room at the DC Office Complex, which will become operational from July 1, 2025.

The control room will facilitate real-time coordination and communication among all concerned departments. The general public can contact the Control Room on 01922-238796 to report any flood-related incidents or issues.

The Deputy Commissioner emphasized the need for synergy among departments, including Revenue, Police, Health and Irrigation & Flood Control. He underscored that coordinated efforts are key to timely response and risk mitigation during potential flood events.

A detailed review of on-



going flood control measures was undertaken, covering desilting of kullas and nallahs, strengthening of embankments and establishment of flood shelters. The Irrigation and Flood Control Department apprised the DC of the status of these initiatives and ongoing efforts to enhance the district's flood defense infrastructure.

The DC directed the concerned departments to expedite the pace of work and ensure completion of flood prevention measures before the onset of monsoon. He further instructed departments to procure es-

sential flood-response equipment, including wireless sets, dewatering pumps, waterproof tents and to ensure proper cleaning and functioning of drainage systems in Kathua town and other vulnerable rural areas.

Block Development Officers (BDOs) were asked to work in close coordination with field functionaries to implement necessary anti-flood measures at vulnerable spots.

It was informed that Early Warning Systems have been installed at Panjirthi and Rajbagh Barrage, which will signifi-

cantly improve alert mechanisms. Additionally, siren systems installed at Jakhole and Ujh Barrage will be activated during extreme weather warnings to alert residents in nearby areas.

The DC also stressed the need to sensitise Chowkidars, Lambardars, and other community stakeholders to raise awareness about evacuation protocols and flood safety measures.

The mechanism for issuing timely alerts to residents living near riverbanks and low-lying nallah areas was discussed in detail.

The DC highlighted the importance of prompt information dissemination, early warning systems and comprehensive community outreach to educate people about flood risks and necessary precautions.

The meeting was attended by ADDC Kathua Surinder Mohan, ASP Rahul Charak, ACD Akhil Sadotra, SE Hydraulic, XENs of Irrigation and Flood Control and representatives from the Army, CRPF, SDRF and Civil Defence. SDM Bani, SDM Hiranagar and other concerned officers joined the meeting virtually.