

CM flags off fleet of water tankers to strengthen drinking water supply in Kashmir

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, JULY 03

Chief Minister, along-with Minister for Jal Shakti Javed Ahmed Rana today flagged off a fleet of 10 water tankers from the Civil Secretariat, Srinagar.

This special initiative has been undertaken to ensure adequate water supply especially during Muharram.

The initiative aims to augment water supply services across Kashmir valley, particularly in water-stressed areas facing temporary disruptions in piped water delivery due to peak summer demand or



ongoing infrastructure development.

The event witnessed the presence of Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani, several MLAs, senior officials from the Jal Shakti Department, representatives

from the Public Health Engineering (PHE) wing, among others.

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah emphasized the government's commitment to ensuring uninterrupted access to safe and

clean drinking water for every household in Jammu & Kashmir.

Minister of Jal Shakti, Javed Ahmed Rana, in his remarks, highlighted that the tankers will be strategically deployed to areas experiencing acute water shortages and will operate in coordination with local administrative units to ensure timely delivery.

The Chief Minister also appreciated the presence of elected representatives on the occasion, stating that such collective participation underscores the government's inclusive and responsive approach to governance.

Seminar on Cooperative Empowerment and Sustainable Agriculture held at Jammu

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JAMMU, JULY 03

A one-day seminar on "Cooperative Empowerment and Sustainable Agriculture" was successfully organised today at the Auditorium, Kissan Kendra, Directorate of Agriculture, Talab Tillo, Jammu. The event was jointly hosted by Bharatiya Beej Sahakari Samiti Limited (BBSSL), setup under the Ministry of Cooperation, Government of India in collaboration with Unnatu Agri Allied and Marketing Multi-State Cooperative Society. The Department of Agriculture, Jammu actively participated in the programme.

The seminar was held as part of the Cooperative Week Celebrations (1st July – 6th July 2025), commemorating the vital role of cooperatives in strengthening India's rural and agricultural economy. The event brought together key stakeholders including cooperative leaders, officials from the Agriculture Department, representatives

of Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), Self Help Groups (SHGs) and other allied government agencies.

The main objective of the programme was to strengthen Agricultural Cooperative Societies/Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) by identifying natural seeds of indigenous plant varieties, including but not limited to food grains, vegetables, fruits and more. The initiative aims to establish a comprehensive system for the preservation, breeding, conservation, production, distribution and promotion of these seeds. BBSSL plans to incentivize farmers cultivating natural seeds through coordinated support from various agencies and to establish seed banks ensuring availability of such seeds to farmers across regions.

Ms. Babila Rakwal, Commissioner Secretary, Department of Cooperatives, was the Chief Guest, while Dr. Arvinder Singh Reen, Director Agriculture Jammu, graced the occa-

sion as the Guest of Honour.

In her address, Ms. Rakwal highlighted the formation and aggregation of 165 cooperative societies in the Union Territory and emphasised their potential in ensuring the supply of quality seeds and generating rural employment. She underscored the importance of identifying and preserving natural seed varieties found in different agro-climatic zones of J&K, pointing out their long-term sustainability compared to hybrid seeds.

Dr. Arvinder Singh Reen, while speaking on the occasion, highlighted the diverse agro-climatic potential of Jammu and Kashmir, which is conducive to seed production of cereals, oilseeds and medicinal and aromatic plants. He emphasized the need for collaborative efforts between the Agriculture and Cooperative Departments to benefit farmers and encouraged exploring allied activities such as beekeeping, mushroom cultivation and exotic

vegetable farming.

Representatives from BBSSL, J.P. Singh and Paresch Desai, delivered a detailed presentation on the role of BBSSL in promoting the production, conservation, and distribution of natural seeds. They also informed about collaborative efforts with National Cooperative Organic Ltd. (NCOL) and National Cooperative Export Ltd. (NCEL) to support farmers in production and market linkage.

Key speakers included Dr. Puneet Choudhary, Head KVK Jammu; Vikrant Dogra, Chairman UNATI and Sh. Jyoti Saroop Sharma, M.D. UNATI, who spoke about the ongoing initiatives and future prospects in sustainable agriculture through cooperative models.

As part of the seminar, a plantation drive titled "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" was carried out by the distinguished guests along with members of FICCI FLO, promoting environmental awareness and sustainability.

Poonch Admin reviews Shri Budha Amarnath Ji Yatra arrangements at Mandi Complex

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, JULY 03

In a significant step towards ensuring smooth conduct of the upcoming Shri Buddha Amarnath Ji Yatra-2025, Deputy Commissioner Poonch, Vikas Kundal, today visited the revered shrine at Mandi and held a comprehensive meeting with the Temple Management Committee, Civil Society Members, Police and various Government Functionaries. The meeting focused on evaluating preparedness and finalizing key arrangements for the annual pilgrimage.

DIG Rajouri-Poonch Range, Tejinder Singh, along with SSP Poonch Shafket Hussain Bhat, ASP, DySP and senior officers from BSF and CRPF, par-



ticipated in the deliberations and assured foolproof security measures throughout the yatra period.

Swami Vishwatmanand Saraswati Ji, head of the Temple Management Committee, projected several essential requirements including: Strengthened se-

curity setup, improvement of Poonch-Mandi road, provision of safe drinking water, enhanced sanitation and lighting, adequate medical aid and efficient traffic management.

While addressing the meeting, DC Poonch Vikas Kundal assured timely re-

dressal of all projected issues and urged all departments to ensure seamless coordination. He laid stress on fulfilling the responsibilities assigned to each stakeholder to guarantee a hassle-free and spiritually fulfilling experience for the devotees.

He directed departments to expedite necessary preparations and avoid any inconvenience to the pilgrims.

The meeting was attended by ADDC, ADC, PO ICDS, ACR, ACP, DFO, CMO, Executive Engineers from PWD, PMGSY, JPDCL, Jal Shakti, Tehsildar Mandi, DySP Traffic, ARTO, AD FCS & CA, officers from all line departments, members of the Shri Budha Amarnath Ji Mandir Committee and civil society members.

Additional Registrar reviews cooperative activities; inaugurates Jan Aushadhi Kendra & Curd Processing Unit

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, JULY 03

Additional Registrar Cooperative Societies, Jammu, Bal Krishan today conducted an extensive visit to district Ramban to review the functioning of the Cooperative Department and promote grassroots-level initiatives under the cooperative movement.

During the visit, the Additional Registrar inaugurated the Pradhan Mantri Jan Aushadhi Kendra established by Thopal MPACS at CHC Batote. The Kendra aims to provide quality generic medicines at affordable prices to the local population, ensuring improved access to essen-

tial healthcare. He also inaugurated a Curd Making Unit set up by Chenab Dairy FPO Cooperative Ltd. with an estimated cost of ₹9 lakh, supported by a 50% subsidy from the Cooperative Department. The unit is equipped with modern dairy-processing machinery including Electric Heat Tank, Homogeniser, Plate Heat Exchanger, Culture Tank, Curd Incubator and Storage Tanks, ensuring hygienic and value-added dairy production for local farmers.

The Additional Registrar, accompanied by Deputy Registrar Cooperative Societies Ramban Priyanka Sharma, BMO Batote Dr. S. Opinder

Singh and other officers also inspected the recently inaugurated Cooperative Mini Super Bazar run by MPACS Maitra. He appreciated the efforts made to provide goods at affordable prices with a special focus on organic and locally produced items.

As part of the day's engagements, he participated in a plantation drive under the "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" initiative, symbolizing commitment to sustainable and cooperative-driven development in line with the International Year of Cooperatives.

He later interacted with members of various cooperative societies, encouraging them to diversify their ventures and tap into

emerging opportunities in the cooperative sector. On the occasion, registration certificates were distributed to newly established MPACS units, marking a new milestone in the district's cooperative growth.

The Additional Registrar also visited the construction site of the upcoming Cooperative Super Bazar Ramban, reviewed the quality and pace of work, and issued directions for its timely completion. Lastly, he inspected the Fair Price Cooperative Medical Shop at the District Hospital Complex, Ramban and instructed the management to enhance discounts on medicines and equipment to benefit the public.

Kathua Glows with Light, Sound & Devotion in grand Laser Show at Scenic Riverfront

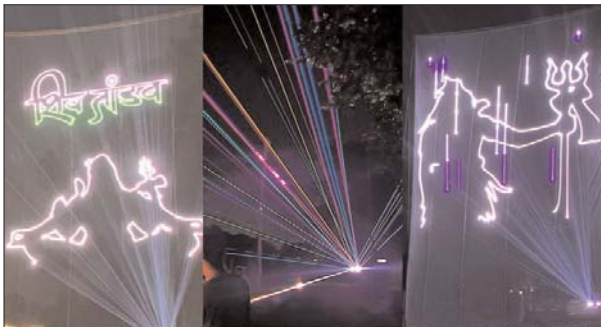
HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, JULY 03

In a unique blend of devotion, patriotism and public engagement, the District Information Centre Kathua organised a grand Multi-Themed Laser Show at the iconic Kathua Riverfront to mark the on-going Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra 2025.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from citizens of all age groups who gathered in large numbers to enjoy the visual spectacle. The multi-themed show featured a captivating blend of Shiva Tandav, Ganga Aarti, Patriotic Narratives and synchronised Light & Sound Laser displays, drawing repeated rounds of applause from the audience.

Visitors at the Kathua Waterfront restaurants also enjoyed the breathtaking show from the riverside, creating a festive and vibrant ambiance throughout the evening.

Speaking on the occa-



sion, the Deputy Commissioner Dr Rakesh Minhas, said that the event aimed to engage citizens positively and promote collective responsibility towards making Kathua cleaner and culturally vibrant. "This is just the beginning. More such cultural and public engagement events will be held in the future to strengthen the bond between people and admin-

istration" he said. The DC also reiterated the Administration's commitment to developing Kathua as a model district, highlighting the Garbage-Free Kathua slogan as a collective mission.

Touching upon youth development, Dr Minhas informed the audience about the upcoming International Standard Indoor Stadium at Kathua. "This

Three-Day Training for Internal Assessors-cum-Service Providers Commences at Convention Centre, Jammu

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, JULY 03

A three-day training programme for Internal Assessors-cum-Service Providers commenced at the Convention Centre, Jammu. The training is being organized by the State Health Society, National Health Mission (NHM), Jammu & Kashmir) under the insightful guidance of Mission Director, NHM J&K, Baseer ul Haq Choudhary.

The training was formally inaugurated in the gracious presence of Director General (Planning & Statistics), SHS, NHM, J&K, Director Health Services, Jammu, Deputy Director, Dentistry, Jammu, Financial Advisor/Chief Accounts Officer, SHS, NHM, J&K and Chief Medical Officer, Jammu.

DHS, Jammu appreciated the efforts of the districts and NHM in quality implementation in the public health facilities and further emphasized on the importance of quality of the health care services being pro-



vided to the population.

The programme aims to build the capacities of healthcare professionals in conducting internal assessments and improving service delivery standards across health institutions in J&K. Participants include Block Medical Officers (BMOs), Medical Officers (MOs) and other representatives from various districts of the Jammu Division.

A key component of the training will be a post-evaluation test, and participants who successfully qualify will be awarded a Certificate of In-

ternal Assessor. These certified assessors will play a pivotal role in monitoring and enhancing the quality of healthcare services in their respective districts, thereby contributing to the overarching goal of strengthening the public health system and quality certification of the public health facilities, which is the priority area of Govt. of India.

This training reflects the strong commitment of the National Health Mission J&K towards institutionalizing quality assurance practices and ensuring sustained improvements in healthcare delivery across the UT.

DDC Poonch reviews implementation of Vibrant Village Programme-II

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, JULY 03

District Development Commissioner (DDC) Poonch, Vikas Kundal today chaired a comprehensive meeting to review the implementation of the Vibrant Village Programme-II—an ambitious initiative of the Ministry of Home Affairs aimed at transforming the lives of people in border areas.

The review meeting, held at the conference hall

of the DC Office Complex, focused on strategizing measures for achieving full saturation across key thematic areas identified by the Ministry. The DDC underlined the importance of addressing critical gaps in essential sectors such as network connectivity, road accessibility, television connectivity and household electrification in remote and border villages.

Calling for a holistic and inclusive development approach, DDC directed the

concerned departments to carry out detailed gap analyses and prepare Village Action Plans (VAPs) accordingly. He emphasized the need to conduct Gram Sabhas in each village to ensure ground-level assessment and community participation in the planning process.

Speaking on the occasion, the DDC said, "This Vibrant Village Programme will become a major scheme for our border district. The administration is committed to

ensuring inclusive development and significantly improving the quality of life in border and remote villages under the Vibrant Villages Programme."

The meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC), PO ICDS, Chief Planning Officer (CPO), Assistant Commissioner Panchayats (ACP), AD FCS&CA, BDOs, Tehsildars and other concerned officers joined the session virtually.

ADC Bhadarwah convenes a meeting ahead of Kailash Yatra 2025

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, JULY 03

Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Bhadarwah Sunil Kumar Bhutyal convened a meeting at ADC Office Chamber Bhaderwah to address essential arrangements for the upcoming Kailash Yatra-2025.

The meeting was attended by Tehsildar Bhadarwah/Bhalla, SDPO Bhadarwah, BDO Bhadarwah/Bhalla, BMO Bhadarwah, President Sanatan Dharam, Kailash Sewa Sangh Trust, Kumar Langer Ganthak Ramtund, Chobia Langer, Hayan Rishi Dal and among others.

During the meeting, ADC Bhadarwah emphasized the importance of maintaining cleanliness and en-



vironmental sustainability during the yatra. He urged all stakeholders to keep the Langer sites and yatra destinations free from plastic waste. To ensure this, coordination between Forest Department, BDO, EO MC Bhaderwah, Langer committees and Sanatan Dharam Sabha Bhaderwah has been initiated for the collection and proper disposal of plastic waste before, during and after the

conclusion of the yatra. Several directives were issued, including the repair of water supply schemes at Kailash Kund to Hayan, installation of water taps and water camp at camp sites and the tendering process for firewood at various locations, repair and maintenance work for damaged poles, electric wires and DG sets at Kailash Kund by JPDCL.

Repair of infrastructure

including sheds and toilets at Kailash Kund and Hayan by BDA Bhaderwah.

Furthermore, BMO will provide two stationary medical teams with doctors equipped with oxygen cylinders and one mobile medical team to accompany the yatra from the Kellar side.

To ensure the safety and security of the yatra participants, SDPO, Bhaderwah has been tasked with arranging a security force at Kailash Kund and Hayan.

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