

Omar chairs review meeting at Pulwama
Lays foundation stone of a shopping mall at Pampore

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, OCT 13

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today chaired a review meeting of District Pulwama to assess the status of development works and implementation of various government schemes in the district.

During the maiden district review meeting, the Chief Minister called upon officers to accelerate the pace of project execution and enhance expenditure levels under both District Capex and Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS). He expressed concern over the low percentage of expenditure against the approved outlay and urged the departments to step up efforts for timely utilization of funds.

"First of all, I would like to thank the DDC Chairman and MLAs for their valuable suggestions and ideas. I have already given several on-spot directions during the review, but I have one overarching request — please pay more attention towards execution. There is lot of need for overall improvement," the Chief Minister said, while addressing the officers.

"We are now in mid-October, and if we fail to utilize the first instalment under the new SASCI scheme by December, further funds will be withheld — which would be a huge loss for us," he cautioned.

Omar Abdullah directed the Deputy Commissioner to closely monitor progress of approved projects and ensure that any lapses are immediately corrected.



"Please keep reviewing the projects regularly. Wherever there are delays, address them promptly. We have restarted the Constituency Development Fund (CDF) for Hon'ble MLAs, but a lot more needs to be done in terms of expenditure," he said.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Kumar Choudhary, Ministers Sakina Itoo, Javed Rana, Javid Dar, Satish Sharma, Chairman District Development Council Pulwama Abdul Bari Andrabi, MLAs Justice (Retd.) Hasnain Masoodi (Pampore), Ghulam Mohiuddin Mir (Rajpora), Waheed-ur Rehman Para (Pulwama), and Rafiq Ahmad Naik (Tral), besides Additional Chief Secretary to CM Dheeraj Gupta, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Anshul Garg, Deputy Commissioner Pulwama Dr. Basharat Qayoom, heads of departments, and district officers.

Earlier, Deputy Commissioner Pulwama Dr. Basharat Qayoom presented a detailed overview of the District Capex Budget 2024-25, CSS 2024-25, and physical and financial

achievements under Capex 2025-26, CDF, and MPLADS. He gave details of approved capital outlay of the district for 2025-26 and the details of works for which administrative approval has been accorded so far. The DC also gave department-wise, scheme-wise, and sector-wise performance reports covering Public Works (R&B), PMGSY, PMAY(G), Urban Development, School Education, Jal Shakti, Irrigation & Flood Control, Agriculture and allied sectors, Power, Cooperatives, Social Welfare, Employment, Youth Services & Sports, SDRF, Tribal Affairs, Revenue and Food & Civil Supplies.

The DDC Chairman and MLAs raised several public issues concerning their respective constituencies, including irrigation and flood mitigation measures, drinking water scarcity, beautification of Pulwama, Pampore and Tral towns, road connectivity, crop insurance, desilting of rivulets, revenue settlement, illegal mining, completion of the Degree College building at Rajpora, and upgradation of health centres.

The Chief Minister and Ministers gave on-spot directions to the concerned officers for immediate redressal of the highlighted issues.

Taking serious note of illegal mining, Omar Abdullah directed the Deputy Commissioner and concerned departments to initiate strict measures to curb such activities. "If complaints are being received, action must be taken immediately. Whatever has to be done to stop illegal mining, should be done," he asserted.

Expressing concern over the absence of toilets in certain schools, particularly for girls, the Chief Minister directed MLAs to allocate funds from their CDF to such institutions, stressing that lack of basic facilities contributes to higher dropout rates among girl students.

He urged all departments to expedite ongoing works and ensure completion within the stipulated timelines.

On the occasion, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah also laid foundation stone of a new Shopping Complex at Pampore in virtual mode.

LG addresses 45th Foundation Day of J&K Samaj Kalyan Kendra's School for hearing impaired

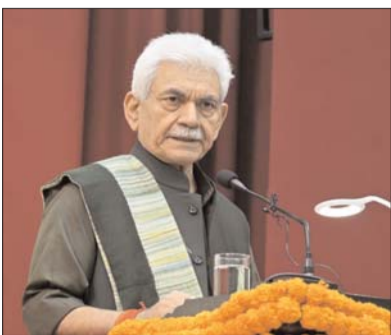
HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, OCT 13

"Inclusion is the key for prosperity," the Lieutenant Governor, Shri Manoj Sinha said on Monday. He said in the past few years, the government's efforts were focused on ensuring all members of society participate fully in J&K's developmental journey and people with special abilities are able to unlock their potential and contribute to greater prosperity and social stability. The Lieutenant Governor was speaking at the 45th Foundation Day of School for the hearing impaired run by J&K Samaj Kalyan Kendra.

The Lieutenant Governor also observed that several forces based abroad and also in India are trying to stop the progress of the country. He said this conspiracy has been hatched by certain elements but no power can stop our march towards developed India.

"India will emerge more powerful defeating the challenges and hurdles created by certain elements. No one can stop our rise," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor, in his address, called for implementing inclu-



sive rehabilitation measures for people with special abilities and ensuring equal opportunities for them in education and employment.

The Lieutenant Governor highlighted the four important aspects for empowerment of people with special abilities. First, identifying their strengths and promoting them, secondly, to create an inclusive environment that helps them in independent thinking and taking independent decisions, thirdly, to provide full support to their decision-making abilities and fourthly, to create a conducive environment for self-learning and self-improvement.

The Lieutenant Governor also paid homage to Dr. R.R. Khajuria, founder

of J&K Samaj Kalyan Kendra and commended all the members of the organisation for their selfless service to the society.

He assured every possible support and assistance to J&K Samaj Kalyan Kendra for the smooth functioning of the school. He called upon the corporate houses, business community, and citizens to come forward and contribute to this noble endeavour.

The Lieutenant Governor appreciated the children with special abilities for presenting enthralling performances to mark the occasion.

Shri K.B. Jandial, President, J&K Samaj Kalyan Kendra; Dr. Rakesh Khajuria, Vice President; Shri J.K. Vaidya, General Secretary, and other members of J&K Samaj Kalyan Kendra, special educators and students were present.

Dr Ashok Bhan, Ms Gunjan Rana and Shri Suresh Kumar Sharma - Members of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board; Shri Ramesh Kumar, Divisional Commissioner Jammu; Shri BR Sharma, Chairman, Indian Institute of Public Administration, J&K and senior officers also attended the foundation day ceremony.

CEO visits Budgam; reviews preparedness for Bye-Election to AC-27 Budgam

BUDGAM, OCTOBER 13: Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), Sanjeev Verma, today visited Budgam district to oversee preparations for the Upcoming bye-Assembly Elections 2025 to 27-AC Budgam.

The CEO chaired a meeting with all stakeholders and reviewed polling station wise arrangements and preparations for the smooth conduct of Bye-election in 27-AC Budgam in the district.

District Election Officer (DEO) Budgam, Dr.Bilal Mohi-ud-Din Bhat presented the overall scenario of bye-election preparations in the district via presentation.

Joint Chief Electoral Officer, Anil Salgotra; ADC Budgam, ASP Budgam, ACR/RO to 27-AC Budgam, Deputy DEO Budgam, CPO Budgam, CEO Budgam, CMO, all other district nodal officers related to bye- Election to 27-AC Budgam were present in the meeting.

During the detailed review meeting, DEO apprised the CEO about the district's comprehensive preparedness for the upcoming bye-elections.

Addressing the officers, the CEO stressed on the importance of strict adherence



to guidelines, timelines for the Model Code of Conduct and media monitoring. He urged all stakeholders to maximize voter turnout through door-to-door campaigns under the SVEEP initiative.

The CEO also directed the district administration to formulate booth-level committees and emphasized on expenditure monitoring. He also laid emphasis on popularization of all election related apps of ECI among the general public.

The CEO further directed the district administration that activities under SVEEP be taken up including plantation, sanitation and distribution of voter slips among the electors for massive involvement of public in the festival of democracy.

The CEO, during the meeting, also took assessment of AMF, transport, material distribution, de-

ployment, training of staff, webcasting, home voting facility and other related preparations in the district. While presenting overall view of preparedness, the DEO informed that, as per the finalized arrangements, a total of 173 polling stations have been established across 111 polling locations in the 27-Budgam Assembly Constituency.

He added that these arrangements have been made after meticulous assessment of ground requirements, ensuring that every polling location is fully equipped with all Assured Minimum Facilities (AMFs) like electricity, drinking water, toilets, ramps, and proper signage for voter convenience. The DEO further apprised that all key election preparedness parameters were thoroughly examined and cross-verified with con-

cerned departments. He also informed about other aspects of election process like readiness of polling staff, EVM and VVPAT functionality, material storage and dispatch logistics, accessibility features for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs), and functioning of the Control Room and Help Desk established at the DC Office Complex Budgam.

The DEO apprised the CEO that all arrangements have been made in strict conformity with the guidelines of the Election Commission of India (ECI) and reiterated that District Administration Budgam is fully geared to ensure a smooth, transparent, and inclusive electoral process. He also informed that adequate deployment of security and polling personnel has been planned, and continuous coordination with law enforcement agencies is being maintained to ensure peaceful conduct of elections.

The DEO assured the CEO that every polling station will reflect the ECI's commitment to voter facilitation, accessibility, and transparency, thereby reaffirming the district's readiness to conduct free, fair, and participative bye-elections in Budgam

JKRERA conducts awareness program with Realtors on RERA Act

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, OCT 13

The Jammu & Kashmir Real Estate Regulatory Authority (JKRERA) today organised an Awareness Programme with real estate promoters and developers to spread awareness about the provisions of the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016 (RERA Act) and interact directly with stakeholders to understand their concerns and suggestions.

The programme was aimed at enhancing understanding of the roles, duties, and obligations of promoters and real estate agents under the Act, and encourage greater participation in the registration process of projects and agents.

It was explained that the objective of RERA is not only to regulate but also to promote and strengthen the real estate sector through transparency, accountability, and timely completion of projects.

Promoters were advised to register their projects and



agents with JKRERA as mandated under the Act, and to ensure compliance with all statutory provisions, including financial discipline, escrow account maintenance, and quarterly disclosures on the RERA portal.

More than 20 promoters and developers from Jammu attended the programme. The authority patiently listened to their issues and suggestions like request for developing a single-window system for faster approval and registration of projects, clarifications regarding ongoing

projects and process of regularisation under RERA. Detailed discussions on registration procedures, requisite documents, and compliance obligations, roles, duties and responsibilities of promoters and real estate agents, and measures on how to increase registration and improve transparency in the real estate sector was also held.

A constructive dialogue was held on the way forward for improving coordination between the Authority and the developer community to ensure smooth implementation of

RERA in Jammu & Kashmir.

Speaking at the event, the Deputy Secretary emphasised that JKRERA remains committed to fostering a transparent, fair, and growth-oriented real estate environment in the Union Territory.

The Deputy Secretary said that regular interactions and awareness programmes will continue to ensure that all stakeholders, promoters, agents, and homebuyers benefit from the safeguards and opportunities provided under the RERA framework.

DC Samba chairs NCORD meeting

SAMBA, OCTOBER 13: Deputy Commissioner Samba Ayushi Sudan today chaired the District level NCORD Committee meeting to review progress across departments in the execution of anti-narcotic and drug control measures. Senior officials including Zonal Director NCB Jammu, ASP Samba and departmental heads attended the meeting held at the DC Office.

Highlighting the district's zero-tolerance policy, the DC noted that 48 NDPS cases have been registered this year, signaling firm enforcement action. A dedicated drug helpline has been activated by District Police to encourage public reporting and support.

In a key transparency move, the district has achieved 100% implementation of computerized



billing in chemist shops, with routine inspections underway to curb substance abuse.

Reviewing rehabilitation measures, the meeting was informed that 41 individuals have received professional de-addiction counseling between April and September this year.

The DC directed line listing of students in Schools and Colleges to identify vulnerable groups and mandated screening in the transport sector.

Youth engagement emerged as a strategic focus. The DC reviewed a district-wide IEC calendar and sports schedule, stressing reactivation of youth clubs to offer constructive outlets. Media involvement is being leveraged to amplify anti-drug messaging.

Plans are underway to strengthen Border Checkpoints, expand Addiction Treatment Centres and deploy field counselors. Departments have been tasked with aligning employment

schemes to support at-risk youth and deter drug involvement.

The Deputy Commissioner reaffirmed the administration's commitment to a drug-free Samba, urging civil society, parents, educators and community leaders to collaborate in this critical mission.

The NCORD Committee will continue to monitor and guide multi-pronged interventions, ensuring sustained momentum against the drug threat.

DC Ramban inspects traffic regulation on NH

RAMBAN, OCTOBER 13: Deputy Commissioner Ramban Mohammad Iyas Khan along with Additional Deputy Commissioner Varunjeet Singh Charak today conducted an inspection of the National Highway (NH-44) to review the regulation of vehicular movement in view of the ongoing seasonal migration of nomads and the heavy flow of fruit-laden trucks moving towards various destinations across the country amid the peak fruit season.

The Deputy Commissioner also reviewed the possibility of restoring double carriageway movement on the National Highway to facilitate the smooth flow of traffic in both directions.

During the inspection, the Deputy Commissioner was also accompanied by Addl. SP Majeeb-Ur- Rehman, DySP Om Prakash, Dy. DP



Traffic Sajjad and other officials and officials of the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI).

The Deputy Commissioner took stock of traffic regulation and directed the concerned departments to ensure smooth and uninterrupted vehicular move-

ment, particularly for essential commodities and perishable fruit consignments. He emphasized the need for close coordination among the Traffic Police, NHAI and District Police to prevent congestion and ensure the safety of commuters and livestock during

the ongoing migration.

The DC instructed officers to remain vigilant at critical junctions and bottlenecks, deploy adequate manpower and maintain real-time coordination with control rooms to address any traffic disruptions promptly.