

CM Omar chairs high-level meeting to review Ramadan arrangements

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, FEB 17

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today chaired a high-level meeting to review arrangements for the holy month of Ramadan across Jammu and Kashmir.

Emphasizing the importance of ensuring smooth public services during the sacred month, the Chief Minister directed all concerned departments to take proactive measures for the convenience and welfare of the people.

The Chief Minister stressed the need for intensified sanitation drives across J&K, particularly around major places of worship, shrines, mosques and other congregation points. He instructed authorities to increase the frequency of garbage collection and ensure cleanliness throughout Ramadan.

He directed all departments to ensure seamless public service delivery, effective grievance redressal, and necessary arrangements at major places of worship to ensure a peaceful and comfortable Ramadan for the people.

The Chief Minister directed the concerned departments to ensure power and water supply, availability of essential commodities, market regulation, healthcare preparedness and security measures across J&K.

The meeting was attended by Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani; Additional Chief Secretary Jal Shakti Shaleen Kabra; ACS to the Chief Minister Dheeraj Gupta; ACS Public Works (R&B) Anil Kumar Singh; Commissioner Secretary Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs; Commiss-

NIT Srinagar promotes Innovation, Entrepreneurship at MSME Design Scheme Workshop

SRINAGAR, FEB 17: The Department of Mechanical Engineering, National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar, in collaboration with Greenovator Incubation Foundation (GIF)-NIT Srinagar, organized a One-Day Workshop on the MSME Design Scheme at the Common Hall of the institute.

The workshop was sponsored by the Ministry of MSME, Government of India, and witnessed active participation from entrepreneurs, startups, faculty members, and students.

The programme commenced with the inauguration of the MSME Project Stall at Indus Park, marking the beginning of a day-long engagement focused on strengthening the MSME and startup ecosystem in the region.

The event was presided over by Registrar NIT Srinagar, Prof Atikur Rehman, Assistant Director, MSME-DFO Srinagar, Mr Saheel Allaiband was the Guest of Honor on the occasion.

Dean, Alumni and International Affairs, Prof MA Shah, Prof. Nazir Ahmed Sheikh, among other faculty members, also attended the event. Dr Dinesh Kumar Rajendran is the Nodal Officer & Convener of the event.

In his address, Prof. Binod Kumar Kanaujia, Director, NIT Srinagar, underscored the institute's commitment to promoting innovation, entrepreneurship, and nation-building.

He remarked that empowering MSMEs through structured support mechanisms like the Design Scheme aligns with the broader vision of self-reliance and economic re-

silience.

Addressing the gathering, Mr. Saheel Allaiband, Assistant Director, MSME-DFO Srinagar, elaborated on various flagship schemes of the Ministry of MSME and encouraged entrepreneurs to avail themselves of financial and technical assistance available under the Design Scheme.

He highlighted the importance of formal registration, digital compliance, quality certification, and participation in government procurement platforms to ensure long-term growth and sustainability.

Dr. M. Hanif, Head of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, reaffirmed the department's commitment to supporting MSMEs through technical expertise, laboratory facilities, prototyping support, and consultancy services.

He stated that academic institutions must play a proactive role in addressing real-world industrial challenges and promoting innovation at the grassroots level.

Prof. Atikur Rehman, Principal Investigator of Greenovator Incubation Foundation, highlighted the pivotal role of MSMEs in employment generation and economic development.

He appreciated the initiative and stated that continuous engagement be-



must actively leverage institutional mentorship, research facilities, and government-backed schemes to scale sustainably and compete in broader markets. He also underlined the need for stronger industry-academia collaboration to foster innovation-driven entrepreneurship in Jammu and Kashmir.

The inaugural session concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. H. S. Pali, Coordinator of the MSME Workshop. The technical sessions that followed covered funding opportunities in MSMEs, facilitation support through MSME PPDC, the MSME/startup ecosystem, application procedures for the MSME Design Scheme, and the GeM purchase process for MSMEs.

The workshop concluded with a valedictory session and certificate distribution ceremony.

Following the inaugural session, a series of focused technical deliberations were held to provide participants with comprehensive insights into the MSME framework.

The first session on Funding Opportunities in MSME was delivered by Mr. Saheel Allaiband, Assistant Director, MSME-DFO Srinagar, who elaborated on various financial assistance schemes and support mechanisms available under the Ministry of MSME.

This was followed by a session on Facilitation in MSME PPDC by Ajaz Hussain, who explained the role of Process and Product Development Centres in offering technical support, testing facilities, and technology upgradation services to MSMEs.

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