

SASCI reforms aims at capital growth and fiscal efficiency: Chief Secy



HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, APR 17

Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo convened a high-level meeting of the Finance Department, attended by the Administrative Secretaries, to review the progress of departmental work plans and the status of reforms under the Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI). During the meeting, the Chief Secretary assessed expenditure trends and underscored the importance of timely and efficient utilization of allocated resources. He emphasized the need to prioritize capital expenditure (Capex) from the very beginning of the financial year, cautioning against the tendency of last-minute spending rushes that often compromise efficiency and outcomes. Highlighting the importance of proactive planning, the Chief Secretary directed departments to ensure prompt uploading of works on the BEAMS portal to facilitate timely tendering and execution. He further stressed the

need for equitable distribution of projects across districts, aligned with on-ground requirements to ensure balanced development across all regions. Reiterating the strategic importance of SASCI reforms, the Chief Secretary urged Administrative Secretaries to accord them top priority, noting their potential to bring substantial economic benefits to the Union Territory through incentive-based funding amounting to hundreds of crores. He called for their strict implementation in both letter and spirit to ensure tangible outcomes. Additional Chief Secretary, Finance, Shaileendra Kumar, emphasized accountability and adherence to timelines, urging all departments to finalize and upload their action plans on the BEAMS portal by April 21, 2026. He noted that while 100 percent budget allocation has been made, further financial releases including the second installment of Capex funds will be contingent upon fulfillment of key reform conditions and demonstrable progress. The meeting also highlighted key reforms man-

dated under SASCI guidelines, including the adoption of end-to-end digital tendering and contract management systems under Component II. Departments such as Power Development Department (PDD), Jal Shakti, Housing & Urban Development Department (H&UDD), and Youth Services & Sports (YSS) were directed to onboard the PWD-OMAS platform at the earliest to enhance transparency, monitoring, and accountability. Progress in critical sectoral reforms was also reviewed, including mining sector reforms, operationalization of the Right of Way (RoW) Rules 2024, rollout of AgriStack in the Agriculture Department, and livestock sector reforms. It was emphasized that significant advancements in these areas are crucial for unlocking subsequent funding tranches. To streamline financial management, all departments were directed to establish separate Single Nodal Agency (SNA) accounts for efficient release and monitoring of SASCI funds. A detailed presentation

outlined the proposed financial outlay under SASCI for the financial year 2026-27, totaling ₹4023.5 Cr. This includes ₹1406 Cr under Part I and Part II untied components, along with a substantial ₹2617.5 Cr available under incentive-based components linked to capital expenditure performance and reform milestones across sectors such as public finance IT infrastructure, mining, AgriStack, livestock, financial management efficiency, and compressed biogas initiatives. The meeting also reviewed allocations under the Public Health Infrastructure component, with ₹330 Cr earmarked to improve key health indicators, including reduction in Infant Mortality Rate (IMR), Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR), attainment of NQAS certification, and reduction in TB mortality. Reviewing past financial performance, it was noted that ₹946 Cr had been expended during the April-September period of the previous financial year. The Chief Secretary emphasized that expenditure must reach at least ₹1040 Cr in the current year to qualify for incentive-based funding under Part III of the scheme, which focuses on capital expenditure growth. Reaffirming the government's commitment to fiscal discipline and reform-driven growth, the Chief Secretary called upon all departments to maintain momentum, ensure transparency, and deliver measurable outcomes aligned with the objectives of the SASCI framework.

Mission YUVA: SBDU, BHD Members imparted Capacity Building Training at IIM Jammu

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To strengthen the implementation of Mission YUVA, a two-day capacity building training programme for members of the Small Business Development Units (SBDUs) and Business Help Desks (BHDs) was organized at Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu. The programme aimed at equipping the newly recruited field functionaries with the knowledge and tools required for effective facilitation, handholding and credit linkage of aspiring entrepreneurs under Mission YUVA. The sessions focused on key aspects of the Mission including entrepreneurial mindset development, credit guidelines and user journey, preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs), handling credit-related issues and strengthening rural livelihoods through Self Help Groups (SHGs) and supporting through accessible network of SBDUs and BHDs. Training on functioning of MSME Health Clinics was also held by the Industries department. Session focused on monitoring the performance of MSMEs and extending handholding in case of distress. Experts from NABARD, J&K Bank, JKEDI, BISAG,

Nirmit Bharat, Industries and other departments shared insights on financing mechanisms and institutional support for entrepreneurs. Participants were also trained on capacity building strategies, analysis of sanctioned and rejected credit cases, promotion of Neo-innovative enterprises and onboarding of entrepreneurs on digital seller platforms under Mission YUVA. Sessions were conducted by domain experts and partners associated with Mission YUVA including DIC, Nirmit Bharat, etc enabling participants to better guide and support youth aspiring to start their own enterprises. Secretary Labour & Employment Department, Rajeev Ranjan expressed satisfaction over the team's performance under Mission YUVA across all deliverables. He emphasized the need for coordinated efforts by all stakeholders to achieve the scheme's objectives and to foster a robust entrepreneurial ecosystem in the Union Territory. Director Employment cum MD Mission YUVA J&K, Harvinder Singh addressed the trainees and interacted with the newly hired staff. During the session, he highlighted the vision and objectives of Mission YUVA and elaborated on the positive impact the initiative is creating on the ground by promoting entrepreneurship and self-employment among youth. He shared the future course of

action under Mission YUVA and emphasized the importance of proactive outreach, effective guidance and continuous handholding of aspiring entrepreneurs. He further guided and motivated the members of the SBDUs and BHDs, encouraging them to work with dedication and coordination to ensure the successful implementation of the mission across the districts. Director, Indian Institute of Management Jammu Prof. B. S. Sahay also addressed the team and emphasized the importance of developing detailed job profiles for all members with clearly defined roles and responsibilities to ensure greater clarity, accountability and effective functioning of the team.

Div Com Kashmir reviews progress of 60 MLD Noorbagh STP, other Key Projects

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, APR 17

Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Anshul Garg, today conducted a comprehensive review of the progress on the 60 MLD Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) at Noorbagh, along with other major ongoing projects being executed by the Urban Environmental Engineering Department (UEED) in Kashmir.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Akshay Labroo; Chief Engineer, KPDCI; Superintending Engineer, UEED; Executive Engineer, R&B; representatives from NBCC; and other concerned officials.

At the outset, the Superintending Engineer, UEED, delivered a detailed presentation covering key aspects of the projects, including electricity supply, leakage issues, pending household connections, relocation of shops along the 90-foot road, and demolition of unsafe structures at Alamgirbazar.

He also shared details on the preparation of a Detailed Project Report (DPR) for newly developed habitations in Zone-III of Greater Srinagar, incorporating advanced systems such as tertiary treatment and SCADA for the 60 MLD STP.

The meeting also reviewed progress on other proposed STPs, including a 30 MLD facility aimed at mitigating pollution in Dal Lake, a 14 MLD STP at



Alluchibagh, and a 6 MLD STP to address pollution in Doodganga.

During the review, the Divisional Commissioner directed that all issues related to electricity supply and leakages at the Noorbagh STP be resolved by May 31 to ensure the facility becomes fully operational. He further emphasized expediting the connection of all pending households to the STP network.

Regarding the relocation of shops, officials informed that funds have already been released by UEED and the process is expected to be completed

by August this year. It was also noted that UEED is in the process of preparing a fresh in-house DPR for newly developed habitations in Zone-III of Greater Srinagar, incorporating tertiary treatment, SCADA, and Online Continuous Effluent Monitoring Systems (OCEMS). With respect to the proposed 30 MLD STP, the chair was informed that all pending issues have been resolved, and both survey and design work have been completed, while site development is currently under progress.

DC Anantnag inspects Revenue Record Digitisation Section

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, APR 17

Deputy Commissioner Anantnag, Dr. Bilal Mohiud Din Bhat today inspected the Digitisation Section at Dak Bungalow Khanabal and took first hand stock of the status of digitisation of the revenue record.

He was accompanied by ADC, ACR and other concerned officials. On the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner took a detailed assessment of progress on digitisation and enquired from Patwaris and other deputed staff about the pace and quality

of the work being carried out. He physically checked the Jamabandi records and working of the Mutation Module on PM Gati Shakti Portal, including flow of online information through various login IDs viz maker, verifier/checker and approver. He emphasized the need of transparency and consistency in the digitisation process to ensure reliability of land records.

Dr. Bilal noted that all backlog mutations be uploaded and approved within the stipulated timeframe and directed the concerned officials to strictly adhere to the set timelines. He underscored that updation of records

while maintaining quality and accuracy is essential for efficient public service delivery and to avoid inconvenience to the general public. On technical progress, the DC was informed that against a district target of 90686 back log mutations, 15847 have been initiated by makers, 13619 verified by checkers, and 13440 mutations have been approved so far. Responding to the issues raised by the digitisation staff, the DC instructed that high speed internet, logistics and necessary facilities be immediately provided to them so that the tasks are accomplished without any interruptions.

DC Doda launches 'AASHA' Digital Platform to mainstream Out-of-School Children

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, APR 17

In a significant step towards strengthening inclusive education, the District administration Doda on Friday launched a comprehensive digital initiative—AASHA (Action to Assure Schooling and Holistic Access)—aimed at identifying, tracking and mainstreaming Out-of-School Children (OoSC) across the

district. The move has been taken under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme Samagra Shiksha. The web-based platform, accessible at www.aasha.ceododa.in, was formally launched by Deputy Commissioner Krishan Lal at DC Office in the presence of Chief Planning Officer Manesh Kumar Manhas, Chief Education Officer Bhushan Kumar Pathak and other

key officials associated with the initiative. Developed under the aegis of the Chief Education Office, AASHA marks a transition from conventional paper-based surveys to a dynamic, technology-driven system. The platform is designed to generate real-time, household-level educational data, enabling scientific identification of children who are either never

enrolled or have dropped out and facilitating their enrollment and sustained retention in schools. The initiative follows directives from Project Director Samagra Shiksha J&K Bhawani Rakwal and Director School Education Jammu Naseem Javaid Chowdhary, who emphasized the need for updated and accurate OoSC data through field-driven mechanisms.

STOP...!

MOSQUITO BREEDING

PREVENT MALARIA, DENGUE, CHIKUNGUNYA AND STAY HEALTHY

- Do not allow water to stagnate in and around your surroundings.
- Keep water tanks and other water containers tightly covered with lids.
- Get your Blood tested from Govt. Hospital/ Health Worker in case of Fever with chills, rigors and headache.
- Empty water coolers once in a week.

- Discard/destroy Junk items like old tyres etc.
- Empty air coolers, drums, flower pots and birds bath weekly.
- Use Mosquito repellent creams and Bed nets while sleeping.
- Wear full body clothes to prevent mosquito bites.
- Improve basic sanitation.

In case of positive result get free treatment from the nearest Health Institution

STATE MALARIOLOGIST/STATE PROGRAMME OFFICER,
NATIONAL VECTOR BORNE DISEASES CONTROL PROGRAMME [NVBDCP] J&K
DIRECTORATE OF HEALTH SERVICES JAMMU