

JAMMU & KASHMIR

Satish visits Kathua; outlines roadmap for development, youth empowerment



HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, APR 18

Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Transport, Information Technology, Youth Services & Sports, Satish Sharma, today visited Kathua and convened an exclusive interactive session with the public at Brahman Sabha, Kathua.

While addressing on the occasion, the Minister spoke on a wide range of public issues and shared the government's vision and roadmap for holistic development of Jammu & Kashmir, with special focus on youth empowerment, infrastructure development and improved public services.

The Minister emphasized that sustained efforts are being made to strengthen the governance and accelerate development across all sectors in the region. Highlighting key initiatives, he announced that new bus services will be started connecting various religious places to facilitate the pilgrims and promote tourism. He further informed that 10 new buses will be added in every district to augment the public transport and improve connectivity.

ment generation, the Minister stated that avenues are being created to provide employment opportunities to around 50,000 youth. He also highlighted that the present administration is working in a mission mode to make Jammu and Kashmir a hub of sports excellence he added that two modern stadiums will be developed with facilities meeting the standards required for hosting IPL matches.

The Minister stressed that the government has adopted a zero-tolerance policy against drug abuse and is waging a sustained war the dreaded menace. He called upon the youth and society at large to actively support the ongoing anti-drug campaign.

Speaking on education reforms, the Minister informed that the process related to CUET for college students of Jammu and Kashmir has been eased to ensure greater convenience and accessibility for the aspiring students.

Reaffirming his commitment to public welfare, the Minister said that he welcomes the public feedback and will continue to work on addressing the people's concerns in a responsive and time-bound manner.

MLA Hiranagar Vijay Kumar was also present on the occasion.

SEC reviews Revision of Panchayat Electoral Rolls in Udhampur, Jammu

Inspects special camps, interacts with BLOs, PEBOs, local residents

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State Election Commissioner, Jammu & Kashmir, Shantmanu today conducted an extensive tour of Udhampur and Jammu districts to review the ongoing progress of the Revision of Panchayat Electoral Rolls-2026.

During the visit, the State Election Commissioner inspected special camps at Panchayat Ghar Tikri, Mand East and West and Panchayat Ghar Garnai in Udhampur district besides Panchayat Ghar Jhajhar Kotli, BDO offices Dansal and Nagrota in Jammu district.

The State Election Commissioner inspected the ongoing special camps and interacted with the Booth Level Officers, (BLOs), Panchayat Election Booth Officers (PEBOs) and members of the panchayats. He reviewed the status and progress of the revision exercise and sought feedback regarding the enrolment of newly eligible voters.



Shantmanu also assessed the submission of forms related to inclusion, deletion, correction and transposition in the Panchayat electoral rolls. He directed the concerned officials to further intensify the outreach during the revision period to identify all the eligible voters, facilitate registrations and ensure that no deserving voter is left out.

Emphasizing the importance of the exercise, the State Election Commissioner stressed the need to ensure 100 percent inclusion of all eligible voters in the Panchayat electoral rolls, thereby strengthening transparency, accuracy and inclusiveness in the electoral process. During the tour, the State Election Commissioner also visited and inspected the Special Migrant Camps at Zonal Office Relief (Migrant), Udhampur and Jagti Township Nagrota. He had feedback from the concerned authorities on the ongoing progress.

The residents of Jagti Township also interacted with the State Election Commissioner and briefed him regarding the electoral roll process. The State Election Commissioner was accompanied by Secretary, State Election Commission, Susheel Kumar; ADC Jammu, Vidhu Shekhar; ADC Udhampur, Prem Singh; concerned BDOs and other senior officers and officials, besides former PRI members and local residents of the respective areas.

Rana visits GDC Mendhar, reviews infrastructure, facilities

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, APR 18

Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana, today visited Chhote Shah Government Degree College Mendhar, where he conducted a detailed review of the institution's infrastructure and facilities being extended to the students and the staff.

He interacted with the faculty to assess the status of the academic and administrative needs and services.

During the inspection, the Minister took stock of critical gaps in the existing facilities and directed for identifying the upgradation requirements so the same can be addressed at the earliest. He counted the government initiatives being implemented to strengthen



the academic institutions in remote and border areas. The focus of the administration is on enhancing the infrastructure, expanding the resources and fostering a more enabling environment for the students, he added. During his visit, the Minister also met with the delegation

of academic arrangement faculty who submitted a memorandum outlining their concerns related to salary structure, designation and overall service conditions. The Minister assured the delegation that their legitimate issues would be taken

up with the concerned authorities for timely and appropriate action. The Minister said the progress of institutions like GDC Mendhar remains central to the government's broader vision of equitable access to quality education across the region.

Multi-Specialty Medical Camp organized at MH Bhalra Bhaaderwah

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A Multi Specialty Medical Camp was organized by the Health Department in collaboration with the Indian Army at Military Hospital (MH) Bhalra, Bhaaderwah. The camp was conducted under the supervision of BMO Bhaaderwah Dr. Versha Sharma and overall guidance of Chief Medical Officer Doda Dr. Tanveer Ahmed Rather.

The camp aimed to provide a wide range of healthcare services to the locals at their doorstep.

Various services including general health check-ups, eye screening, ultrasound services, orthopedic consultation, AYUSH services, NCD screening, TB screening, Hb screening and other essential health services were provided during the camp.

During the camp, more than 200 patients were examined and provided with free medical consultation and treatment by a team of dedicated doctors from SDH Bhaaderwah.

The medical team included Dr. Sandeep Kotwal (Physician), Dr. Bishan (Or-



thopedic Specialist), Dr. Priya, Dr. Deep Mala, Dr. Mamta and Dr. Saima Khaateeb (MO AYUSH). The team was assisted by paramedical staff from SDH Bhaaderwah and MMU staff from the CMO Office Doda, ensuring smooth conduct of the camp. Health awareness ses-

sions were also conducted during the camp, wherein participants were sensitized about prevention of lifestyle diseases, importance of regular health check-ups, TB awareness and maintaining healthy lifestyles.

Locals appreciated the initiative and expressed gratitude to the Health De-

partment and Indian Army for organizing such a beneficial medical camp in the area. The Health Department reiterated its commitment to continue organizing such outreach activities to strengthen healthcare services in remote and underserved areas of district Doda.

District Coordination Cell reviews preparations for Census-2027 in Doda

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, APR 18

A meeting of the District Level Coordination Cell was held at the DC Office Complex Doda to review the progress of preparations for the upcoming Census-2027.

The meeting was chaired by ACR Doda Ashraf Pervez and attended by officials of the Census Cell Jammu, District Informatics Officer Doda, representatives from the Information and Public Relations Department, officials of the Revenue Department and other concerned stakeholders. The meeting

focused on key preparatory tasks, timelines and overall coordination required for smooth conduct of the census process.

During the meeting, it was emphasized that all Charge Units must be properly created, verified and made operational on the CMMS portal within the given deadlines. The block formation process should strictly follow population norms to ensure equal workload among enumerators. Officials were also directed to identify slum areas and complete geo-tagging for accurate mapping. Instructions were given for

the formation of supervisory circles in the prescribed ratio, along with clear boundary demarcation.

The meeting also reviewed the progress under the HLO Management Module, preparation of the enumerator database and timely issuance of appointment orders. Stress was laid on completing training-related activities, including selection and training of field trainers, verification of training venues and proper logistical arrangements by the first week of May 2026. Proper handling, storage and distribution of census

materials during training were also highlighted to ensure accountability and efficiency.

It was further informed that awareness activities for the self-enumeration phase (May 17 to May 31, 2026) are being carried out and a list of eminent district personalities is being prepared to support outreach efforts. Officers were asked to ensure close coordination, timely reporting and strict adherence to guidelines issued by the Registrar General of India to ensure smooth and successful implementation of Census-2027.

Dy Commissioner orders district-wide surprise inspections; 172 employees found absent

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In a firm step towards strengthening administrative discipline and accountability, the Deputy Commissioner constituted dedicated teams to conduct surprise inspections across Government offices

in the district. Acting on these directions, the teams carried out surprise visits across the entire district including the District Headquarters. During the inspections, 172 employees were found absent from duty without authorization. Consequently, show cause

notices have been issued to all such employees, directing them to explain their position prior to initiation of disciplinary proceedings.

Further, all Drawing and Disbursing Officers (DDOs) have been directed to withhold the salaries of the absentee

employees until further orders.

The Deputy Commissioner has reiterated the administration's zero-tolerance approach towards absenteeism and emphasized strict adherence to duty, punctuality and accountability in public service delivery.

ADC Kathua reviews LPG supply, stresses proactive home delivery, strict monitoring

KATHUA, APRIL 18:

Additional Deputy Commissioner Kathua Vishavjeet Singh today chaired a meeting with LPG gas distributor agencies to review the availability and distribution mechanism of domestic LPG in the district.

The meeting was attended by ASP Sunil Kesar, Assistant Director FC&CA Dr Mohammed Sagir, Divisional Sales Manager HPCL Brajesh Kumar, TSOs and owners of various gas agencies.

The meeting informed that there is adequate availability of domestic LPG across the district and no shortage has been reported.

The ADC emphasized the need for proactive home delivery of LPG cylinders to ensure a sustained atmosphere



of sufficiency among consumers. He directed the distributors to share details of daily home deliveries and maintain proper tracking of stock position and distribution on a day-to-day basis.

Vishavjeet Singh further instructed all stakeholders to ensure real-time reporting of any instances of black marketing or hoarding and called

for strict vigilance to curb such practices.

The ADC also stressed the need for clear communication with subscribers regarding fixed delivery timelines, stating that urban areas should adhere to a 25-day cycle and rural areas to a 45-day cycle.

He asked the concerned agencies to promptly report any law and order issues arising during distribution operations to the district administration.

Highlighting the importance of digital compliance, the ADC directed distributors to facilitate e-KYC of all LPG subscribers through Common Service Centres (CSCs), making it a routine exercise to avoid inconvenience to consumers in future.