

DC Budgam chairs meeting on Doodhpathri Master Plan

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, APR 23

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Athar Aamir Khan, today chaired a meeting at the DC Office Complex Budgam to review and finalize the mechanism for preparation of the Master Plan for Doodhpathri.

The meeting focused on formulation of the Master Plan in accordance with SRO 525, the Jammu and Kashmir Development Act, 1970, and Government Order No. 262-TSM of 2005, with special emphasis on the inclusion and planned development of areas notified under the Doodhpathri Development Authority (DDA).

The meeting was attended by senior officers including the Chief Executive Officer Doodhpathri Development Authority (DDA), Chief Town planner



Kashmir, Assistant Commissioner Revenue Budgam, SE R&B circle Budgam, Sub-Divisional Magistrate Khansahib, ASP Budgam, Divisional Forest Officer Pir Panjal Division Budgam, and Divisional Head of the Ecology and Environment Department.

During the meeting, the DC conducted a comprehensive review of the ongoing

Master Plan preparation for Doodhpathri and stressed the need for adopting modern technological interventions to ensure accuracy, transparency, and long-term sustainability.

The DC directed for completion of the GIS based mapping, ground level demarcation and detailed survey of the notified areas.

He asked the Chief Town Planner Kashmir to involve expert institutions on master preparation for the exercise.

The DC directed the concerned departments to work in close coordination and ensure timely completion of demarcation, digitization, and time bound completion of the Master Plan exercise.

DDC Reasi reviews progress of Mission YUVA; stresses timely processing, monitoring

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District Development Commissioner Reasi Kumar Abhishek today chaired a meeting to review the progress of Mission YUVA in the district.

During the meeting, the DDC took a comprehensive review of the status of applications received under the scheme. He stressed further streamlining of the process to ensure wider outreach and timely benefit to aspiring young entrepreneurs.

The DDC directed the AD Employment to provide Yuva Doot-wise lists for effective output tracking. He instructed the Yuva Doots to clear the pendency in output tracking at the earliest. "All beneficiaries whose cases have been disbursed through banks must complete their mandatory training in a time-bound manner" he further stressed. The DDC asked



the Cluster Head of J&K Bank to furnish branch-wise data of disbursed cases to ensure proper monitoring and review of

the scheme's implementation.

The meeting was attended by ADDC Sukhdev Singh Samayal; Assistant

Director Employment, representatives from the banks, District Industries Centre and other concerned officials.

DDC Anantnag reviews SANJY-2026 Capex

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JAMMU, APR 23

A meeting to review the progress of Capex and Revex works under Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra (SANJY) 2026 was held today under the chairmanship of District Development Commissioner (DDC) Anantnag, Dr. Bilal Mohiuddin Bhat at Dak Bunglalo, Khanabal.

Officers from various departments including CEO PDA, ADC, SE Hydraulics, CPO, SDM Pahalgam, CAHO, CMO, Exens IFC, R&B & KPDCL, ALC, AD Tourism Pahalgam, AD FCS&CA, CEO MCA, EOs of MCs, and other concerned officials attended the meeting and shared current status of their assigned works.

The meeting focused on assessing departmental preparedness, identifying bottlenecks, and ensuring timely completion of works related to infrastructure and essential services for the smooth conduct of the Yatra.

During the meeting, a detailed department-wise review was held by the DDC



wherein officers apprised about the status of Capex and Revex works, targets achieved, and timelines for completion. Key works under road connectivity, water supply, electricity, health services, sanitation, and other necessary facilities were discussed in detail.

DC was informed about the progress of works along the Pahalgam axis, with emphasis on upgrading and strengthening infrastructure, installing public amenities and making necessary arrangements at

various locations along the Yatra route including tracks, halt points and transit camps.

Departments were directed to ensure that all works especially of emergent nature are completed before the commencement of the Yatra, to avoid any last-minute delays. Alloted works pertaining to infrastructure, connectivity and utilities must start immediately so that they are executed in time, the DDC emphasized.

Dr. Bilal further asked the officers from engineer-

ing and other departments to submit details of the contractors and workers on priority so that matter regarding completion of certain formalities can be taken up with the concerned agencies.

Stress was laid on maintaining close coordination among departments, ensuring round-the-clock monitoring of works, and adhering strictly to quality standards. Special focus was given to provision of adequate healthcare facilities, sanitation measures, and uninterrupted essential services for the convenience of pilgrims.

It was informed that all 24 R&B works, 7 Capex and 17 Revex and all 55 PDD works, 33 in Capex and 22 in Revex, have been accorded whereas a total of 36 works in other departments have been accorded so far.

The meeting concluded with directions to the departments to accelerate the pace of works, streamline the execution to avoid overlapping and submit periodic progress reports to ensure seamless and efficient arrangements for SANJY 2026.

Ganderbal successfully conducts Comprehensive Air Raid Mock Drill, Blackout Exercise

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, APR 23

In a significant move to bolster disaster preparedness and emergency response capabilities, the District Administration Ganderbal, under the aegis of the District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA), successfully executed a district-wide Civil Defense Air Raid Mock Drill and Blackout Exercise today.

The initiative was designed to evaluate the operational readiness of various departments and the responsiveness of the general public during simulated emergency scenarios.

The strategic exercise commenced at 02:30 PM at the Government Degree College Ganderbal, which functioned as the primary site for the simulated air raid. This phase of the drill involved seamless coordination between Civil Defense personnel, the Jammu and Kashmir Police, healthcare professionals, and local volunteers.

The session focused on testing early warning systems, including the deploy-



ment of sirens and public announcement protocols, while on-ground teams demonstrated rapid evacuation techniques, emergency first-aid administration, and the synchronized movement of rescue vehicles.

The afternoon drill was followed by a district-wide Blackout Exercise observed between 08:00 PM and 08:10 PM. During this ten-minute window, residents and commercial establishments across Ganderbal displayed exemplary cooperation by adhering to "Light Discipline" protocols. This involved extinguishing all indoor and out-

door lighting, powering down backup power systems including generators and inverters, and ensuring total light masking by drawing curtains to prevent light leakage.

Officers of the District Administration Ganderbal personally oversaw the proceedings and expressed satisfaction with the high level of coordination achieved.

Officers present on the occasion stated that such exercises are vital investments in collective safety, bridging the gap between theoretical disaster management plans and practical execution. They further commended the citizenry

for their disciplined participation, noting that the synergy between the administration and the public is essential for effective crisis management.

The District Administration informed that these drills are part of routine preparedness initiatives intended to enhance public awareness and streamline response coordination.

It also extended its gratitude to the residents, business owners, and local institutions for their strict adherence to official advisories, which ensured the exercise concluded successfully without any reports of panic or misinformation.

District Admin Budgam scales up activities in 100-Day Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan

BUDGAM, APRIL 23:

The ongoing 100-day intensive Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan (NMBA) continued to gain strong momentum across District Budgam today, with a series of coordinated awareness and outreach programmes conducted by multiple departments, educational institutions, and health functionaries to reinforce the collective resolve towards building a drug-free society.

As part of the campaign, the Doodganga Forest Range of Pir Panjal Forest Division Budgam organized a plantation drive at Hoodibal Fresdub in collaboration with Holy Home School Charari Sharif, promoting environmental responsibility alongside the message of a healthy and addiction-free lifestyle.

A pledge ceremony was also conducted at Moon Hut, Charari Sharif Block by the Doodganga Forest Range in collaboration with Holy Home School Charari Sharif, where participants reaffirmed their commitment to combat substance abuse and spread awareness within their communities.

The Health Department carried out extensive NMBA programmes across all medical blocks of District Budgam. Activities



were organized in three health facilities within each medical block, while all health institutions under Medical Block Khag actively participated in the campaign. Health professionals collectively ensured effective implementation of the initiative, reflecting strong institutional commitment towards achieving a drug-free district.

A variety of awareness activities including screening camps, informative sessions, awareness talks, speeches, and IEC programmes were conducted to educate the public about the harmful effects of substance abuse and to encourage healthier lifestyle choices. The widespread outreach enabled the campaign message to reach a

large section of the population across urban and rural areas of the district.

The Health Department reiterated its commitment to sustaining intensified awareness and intervention strategies under the NMBA.

An NMBA awareness programme was also organized today at GDC Budgam, witnessing active participation of students and faculty members who engaged in discussions highlighting the dangers of drug abuse and the importance of youth leadership in prevention efforts.

Under the NMBA initiative, the Excise Team Budgam, in collaboration with the Education Department, conducted a drug awareness programme at

GHSS Khag, Town Khag. Students and teachers participated enthusiastically, focusing on sensitizing younger generations about the menace of substance abuse and its harmful societal implications. The programme emphasized the crucial role of youth in curbing the spread of illicit narcotic drugs at the grassroots level.

Additionally, the Excise Team carried out an awareness-cum-survey programme in Peer Mohalla of Tehsil Khag, aimed at sensitizing the general public, particularly farmers, regarding preventive measures and legal provisions under the NDPS Act. The team surveyed agricultural fields, farms, and orchards during the exercise.

CEO SSCL inspects Goni Khan Market; Directs swift resolution of Civic Issues

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, APR 23

In a continued effort to strengthen field-level monitoring and ensure efficient civic service delivery, Faz Lul Haseeb, Chief Executive Officer, Srinagar Smart City Limited (SSCL), conducted an on-site inspection of Goni Khan Market, one of the city's prominent and busiest commercial centres.

During the visit, the CEO interacted with traders, shopkeepers, and local stakeholders to assess the condition of civic infrastructure and obtain first-hand feedback on issues affecting the day-to-day functioning of the market. Various concerns relating to sanitation, drainage management, and public utility services were brought to his notice during the interaction.

Taking immediate cognizance of the issues raised, the CEO issued on-the-spot directions to the concerned wings for their prompt redressal. The Drainage Wing was instructed to clear existing bottlenecks and ensure the proper functioning and regular maintenance of the drainage network in and around Goni Khan Market to prevent inconvenience to traders, commuters, and pedestrians.

The inspection also included a review of the proposed connection of a feeder pillar with the main power cabling. It was informed that the work had faced interruptions due to objections raised by the Goni Khan Market



Coordination Committee. Taking note of the matter, the CEO directed the Chief Engineer, SSCL, to engage with the concerned stakeholders and the committee to resolve the issue amicably and ensure that the feeder pillar is connected with the main power cabling at the earliest, facilitating the smooth functioning of the electrical infrastructure.

The visit underscores the administration's continued emphasis on proactive field engagement, coordi-

nated departmental action, and time-bound grievance redressal aimed at strengthening civic amenities and enhancing the overall urban experience in Srinagar.

The CEO was accompanied by the Chief Engineer, SSCL; Chief Sanitation Officer, Srinagar Municipal Corporation; Executive Engineer (MCD Wing); AEE Mechanical (Left Sub-Division); Executive Engineer (CDC); along with other senior officials from SSCL and SMC.