

## Public welfare remains foremost priority of the Government: Sakeena Itoo

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, JUNE 04

Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo today presided over a Mega Public Outreach Programme at Banquet Hall here during which scores of public delegations, individuals and representatives of civil society organizations projected their grievances and developmental demands.

MLA Eidgah, Mubarak Gul; MLA Hazratbal, Salman Ali Sagar; MLA Lal Chowk, Sheikh Ahsan Pardi; MLA Chanapora, Mushtaq Ahmad Guroo; Director School Education Kashmir, ADCC Srinagar, Director Colleges, other senior officers of district administration and large number of locals and public delegations were also present on the occasion.

Interacting extensively with the participants, Minister Sakeena Itoo patiently listened to their concerns and assured them that the Government remains fully committed to addressing



genuine public issues in a prompt and effective manner. "Public outreach programmes serve vital platforms for strengthening the connection between the administration and the people while ensuring that governance remains accessible and responsive to citizens needs", she stated.

The Minister directed the officers present to maintain a proactive approach in resolving public grievances and stressed the importance of ensuring timely disposal of complaints. She said that every grievance must be treated with seriousness and sensitivity, adding that responsive governance is essential for building public confidence

in Government institutions.

"Public welfare remains the foremost priority of the Government. Officers must ensure that issues brought before them are addressed within stipulated timelines and citizens do not face unnecessary delays in availing government services," she stated.

Sakeena Itoo further underscored the need for enhanced coordination among various departments to facilitate swift resolution of public issues. She instructed the concerned officials to undertake regular field visits, monitor developmental works on the ground and maintain continuous en-

agement with the people to better understand and address their concerns.

During the programme, several delegations sought augmentation of health-care services, upgradation of educational institutions, upgradation of roads, filling of vacant posts in health and education departments, improvement of civic amenities and inclusion of deserving beneficiaries under various welfare schemes.

The Minister issued on-the-spot directions in a number of cases and instructed the concerned departments to submit action taken reports on issues requiring further examination.

## Multi-Deptt Awareness, Outreach Activities conducted across Budgam under NMBA

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, JUNE 04

As part of the ongoing Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan (NMBA), a series of awareness, outreach, environmental and community mobilization activities were conducted across District Budgam by various government departments and educational institutions to promote the vision of a healthy and drug-free society.

The Excise Department organized awareness and outreach programmes in the villages of Kanihama and Mazhama in Tehsil Magam. During the programmes, local residents and farmers were sensitized about the harmful effects of drug abuse.

The School Education Department carried forward the campaign through awareness activities in Zone Zanigam, where students and community members were educated about the adverse consequences of drug addiction and encouraged to play an active role in spreading awareness against substance abuse.

As part of the campaign, Environmental Week activities commenced at Government Degree College Khansahib under the banner of Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan. The initiative seeks to promote environ-



mental responsibility alongside the message of healthy living and drug-free lifestyles among students. The Forest Department also intensified its outreach efforts under NMBA. Doodganga Range of Pir Panjal Forest Division organized an awareness programme at High School Wassamarg, where students were sensitized about the social and health impacts of drug abuse and motivated to contribute towards building a drug-free society. In another significant initiative, a plantation drive was conducted at

Government Primary School Wassamarg under the theme "Ek Ped Nashe Ke Virudh." Organized in collaboration with the school, the programme combined environmental conservation with anti-drug messaging, highlighting the importance of positive community action and youth engagement in nation-building.

The various programmes witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, teachers, officials and members of the public. Through awareness drives, educational activities and

community engagement initiatives, the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan continues to strengthen public awareness and encourage collective efforts towards realizing the goal of a drug-free Budgam.

The District Administration reiterated its commitment to sustaining the momentum of the campaign through coordinated efforts of departments, institutions and community stakeholders, ensuring that the message of a healthy and drug-free society reaches every section of the population.

## MDL demonstrates AI based Forest Fire Detection, Management System to Javed Rana

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, JUNE 04

A delegation of Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL), a Navratna Public Sector Undertaking under the Union Ministry for Defence, today called on Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana and made a detailed presentation on "INFASURE", an Artificial Intelligence-based Forest Fire Detection, Fire-fighting and Forest Management System.

The presentation focused on the use of advanced technologies for strengthening the forest protection, early detection of forest fires, wildlife surveillance, disaster management and environmental conservation. The proposed system integrates the ground-based, aerial and satellite technologies with a centralised monitoring and command mechanism aimed at enhancing the preparedness and response ca-



capabilities.

The MDL team informed the Minister that the proposed "INFASURE" platform is an AI-enabled system designed for early forest fire detection, forest surveillance, disaster management and real-time monitoring through an integrated command-and-control mechanism.

The team highlighted various components of the proposed solution, including forest fire detection and firefighting systems, aerial firefighting platforms, man-animal conflict detection and alarm systems and

satellite-based forest management tools. The delegation informed the Minister that the technology is designed to facilitate early detection of forest fires, improve response time, strengthen forest surveillance and support effective disaster management through real-time monitoring and decision-making.

Javed Rana appreciated the presentation and emphasised the importance of adopting innovative, technology-driven solutions for protection and sustainable management of forest resources. He observed that

advanced monitoring and early warning systems can play a significant role in mitigating forest fire incidents, reducing ecological losses and strengthening environmental conservation efforts.

The Minister directed the MDL team to submit a comprehensive proposal tailored to the specific requirements and geographical conditions of Jammu and Kashmir, addressing the Union Territory's unique challenges related to forest fire management, wildlife protection and disaster response.

## Khet Bachao Abhiyan-2026 Awareness Camp Held at Panjgrain

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, JUNE 04

An awareness-cum-farmers' interaction programme under Khet Bachao Abhiyan-2026 was successfully organised at Village Panjgrain in Panchayat Panjgrain of Zone Nagrota by the Sub Division Agriculture Office, Dansal in collaboration with Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) scientists.

During the programme, farmers were sensitised about the importance of soil health management, balanced use of fertilisers, soil testing and adoption of sustainable farming practices. Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Pankaj Bhawani, SMS (SDL), Dansal, highlighted the objectives of the campaign and urged farmers to reduce excessive use of urea and adopt organic and eco-friendly alterna-



tives for better soil productivity and environmental protection. KVK scientists shared valuable insights on integrated nutrient management and sustainable agriculture practices.

Farmers were also informed about various government schemes including Kisan Credit Card (KCC), Pradhan Mantri Kr-

ishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) and Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY). A large number of farmers participated enthusiastically in the awareness programme and interacted with the experts on different agricultural issues. The event was organised with the dedicated efforts of Dr. Koushalya Devi,

AEO, Mr. Lalit Sharma, AEA, and Mr. Jatinder Singh, JAE0.

The Department of Agriculture reiterated its commitment towards improving soil health and promoting sustainable agriculture through continuous awareness activities under Khet Bachao Abhiyan-2026.

## Commissioner Secy Cooperatives reviews preparations for Cooperation Ministry's zonal review workshop in Srinagar

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, JUNE 04

Commissioner Secretary, Cooperatives Department, Yasha Mudgal, today chaired a comprehensive review meeting to assess the preparedness of committees constituted for the upcoming Zonal Review Workshop of the Union Ministry of Cooperation. The workshop is scheduled to be held in Srinagar from June 24 to 26, 2026.

During the meeting, the Commissioner Secretary was apprised of the operational readiness and action plans of the specialized committees constituted for the purpose. The event is expected to witness the participation of senior officers from the Union Ministry for Cooperation besides Administrative Secretaries and Registrars of Cooperative Societies from various States and Union Territories across the country.

Reviewing the protocol and liaison arrangements, the Commissioner Secretary directed all the committees to maintain effective



communication and coordination through the centralized Control and Liaison Committees. She emphasized strict adherence to timelines and instructed the Protocol & Delegate Committee and Transport Committee to work in close coordination to ensure smooth, secure and dignified movement of delegates and dignitaries.

The meeting also reviewed the arrangements related to transportation, accommodation, hospitality and logistics.

Yasha Mudgal underscored the importance of advance planning, route management and inter-committee coordination to ensure a comfortable and

hassle-free experience for all participants. She stressed that the hospitality arrangements should reflect the rich cultural heritage of Jammu and Kashmir while maintaining the highest standards of professionalism.

The Commissioner Secretary further reviewed the conference management and venue preparedness, directing that all technical infrastructure, including IT connectivity, audio-visual equipment and support systems, be fully tested and made operational well before commencement of the workshop.

Highlighting the need for coordinated efforts, she called upon all the con-

cerned departments and agencies to work in close collaboration and maintain continuous monitoring of the arrangements. She also directed the committee heads to put in place appropriate contingency measures to effectively address any unforeseen situations.

The Commissioner Secretary instructed all the officers to expedite pending works and ensure that every aspect of the preparations is completed within the prescribed timeframe.

The meeting was attended by the senior officers of the Cooperative Department and members of the various committees constituted for successful conduct of the workshop.

## Secy RDD reviews sanitation preparedness on Baltal axis for SANJY-2026

BALTAL, JUNE 04: Secretary, Rural Development Department (RDD) and Panchayati Raj, Mohammad Aijaz Asad, today conducted an extensive inspection of the Baltal axis to review the sanitation preparations for the forthcoming Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra (SANJY) 2026.

The Secretary had a detailed on-ground assessment of sanitation facilities from Nilgrath Helipad to Baltal Base Camp and Dmail Camp. He was accompanied by Director General Rural Sanitation Anoo Malhotra, Assistant Commissioner Development Ganderbal Altaf Hussain, Block Development Officer and other district officers.

During the visit, Asad directed the field officers to closely monitor the installation of sanitation assets and accelerate execution to ensure completion within the prescribed timelines. He emphasized



the need for increasing the daily pace of toilet installation and maintaining strict adherence to the approved plans. The Secretary inspected waste collection system including drain cradles and directed the officials to ensure their continuous functionality to prevent blockages. He also stressed the deployment of dedicated sanitation personnel at key road junctions and Yatra route,

with clearly defined areas of responsibility. Reviewing toilets, washrooms, dustbins, greywater drainage systems, waste segregation sites and plastic waste management units, he underscored the need for maintaining high standards of cleanliness, accessibility and uninterrupted utility services. Highlighting the importance of behavioural change initiatives, the Sec-

retary called for intensified IEC activities to encourage proper use of sanitation facilities by pilgrims. He also stressed the use of smart sensors and digital monitoring tools for effective implementation of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2026. He reviewed the arrangements related to polyethylene waste and scientific disposal of biomedical waste.