

## CM chairs high-level meeting to review Muharram arrangements across J&K



**SRINAGAR, JUNE 15:** Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today chaired a high-level meeting to review the arrangements being put in place for the smooth observance of Muharram-2026 across Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Kumar Choudhary; Ministers Sakina Itoo, Javed Rana, Javid Ahmad Dar and Satish Sharma; Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani; Members of Legislative Assembly Tanvir Sadiq (Zadibal), Ali Mohammad Dar (Chadoora), Aga Muntazir Mehdi (Budgam), Dr Shafi Ahmad Wani (Beerwah), Javed Reyaz Bedar (Pattan), Hilal Akbar Lone (Sonawari), Shamima Firdous (Habba Kadal) and Salman Sagar (Hazratbal).

President of All J&K Shia Association Imran Raza Ansari, representatives of various Shia organizations, clerics, civil society members and community leaders also participated in the meeting.

Additional Chief Secretary to the Chief Minister Dheeraj Gupta, Additional Chief Secretary, Power Development Department, Ashwini Kumar, Additional Chief Secretary Tourism, Ashish Chandra Verma, administrative secretaries, both the Divisional Commissioners, all Deputy Commissioners, heads of departments and other senior officers were also present. Officers from outside Srinagar attended the meeting through virtual mode.

Addressing the meeting, the Chief Minister emphasized that preparations for Muharram had been underway for considerable time and that today's meeting was aimed at reviewing the progress made so far and identifying any remaining gaps.

"The preparations for Muharram have not

started today. Extensive groundwork has already been undertaken at the district, divisional and departmental levels. This meeting provides an opportunity to collectively review the arrangements, assess what has been accomplished and ensure that whatever remains is completed well in time," he said.

The Chief Minister noted that Deputy Commissioners, community representatives, elected representatives and departmental officers had already held extensive consultations at the grassroots level. He said the Government was committed to ensuring that all arrangements are put in place in a coordinated and efficient manner.

"Like every year, the Government will make every possible effort to ensure that there are no shortcomings and that all necessary facilities are provided to the people during Muharram," he added.

During the meeting, special focus was laid on uninterrupted power supply. Referring to concerns raised by public representatives and community leaders, the Chief Minister directed the Power Development Department to ensure regular electricity supply at all major congregation venues and procession routes.

He stressed the need for adequate backup arrangements, including generators, battery-inverter systems. He also directed that generators be deployed at major congregation points to prevent any disruption in power supply. CM called on concerned departments to explore the possibility of roof-top solarization of all major Imam Baras in J&K.

Reviewing drinking water arrangements, the Chief Minister directed the Jal Shakti Department to ensure uninterrupted sup-

ply of potable water in all affected areas. He emphasized that water tankers deployed during Muharram must provide clean drinking water and that static water distribution points should be established wherever movement of tankers may be difficult or where large gatherings are expected.

The Chief Minister also reviewed sanitation and cleanliness measures and directed Urban Local Bodies to intensify cleaning operations, particularly around Imambaras, procession routes and major congregation venues.

He instructed the concerned authorities to deploy additional manpower wherever required and ensure continuous sanitation services throughout the Muharram period. Referring to earlier directions, he called for close coordination between municipal authorities and the Fire & Emergency Services Department to facilitate effective road washing and cleaning through the use of high-pressure water hose fire tenders, wherever required.

On health preparedness, the Chief Minister directed the Health and Medical Education Department to ensure the deployment of adequate medical personnel, ambulances, critical care ambulances, emergency response teams and medical camps at strategic locations.

He stressed that all arrangements should remain fully operational throughout the Muharram period to provide timely medical assistance wherever required.

The Chief Minister also reviewed traffic management plans and instructed the Traffic Police and Civil Administration to ensure smooth movement of processions while minimizing inconvenience to commuters, tourists and the general public. He called for coordinated planning

and effective deployment of traffic personnel at critical junctions and congregation points.

Reviewing road infrastructure, the Chief Minister directed the Roads & Buildings Department to undertake necessary repairs and filling of potholes along procession routes and areas expected to witness large gatherings.

Acknowledging challenges faced in academization works due to prevailing circumstances of disruption in supply chain, he nevertheless stressed that roads should be levelled and made safe wherever full academization is not immediately feasible.

The Chief Minister further emphasized the importance of accountability and responsiveness among nodal officers designated for Muharram arrangements. He directed that all nodal officers to remain accessible to the public and available round-the-clock for prompt grievance redressal.

To strengthen monitoring and coordination, the Chief Minister announced that a Chief Minister's Secretariat shall also oversee Muharram arrangements. He said designated officers would continuously monitor the implementation of departmental responsibilities and review complaints received from the public.

During the meeting, the Chief Minister assured participants that the Government would consider a dedicated allocation in the next year's Budget to strengthen Muharram-related arrangements and infrastructure. He said such a provision would enable departments to undertake preparatory works well in advance and facilitate the smooth and efficient conduct of Muharram across Jammu and Kashmir.

Earlier, several legislators, representatives of Shia organizations, clerics, civil society members and community leaders highlighted issues relating to electricity supply, drinking water, road connectivity, sanitation, healthcare facilities and other public services. During the meeting, the Divisional Commissioners of Kashmir and Jammu gave detailed presentations on the arrangements being made in their respective divisions.

## Durga Bn, Degwar school organise yoga session ahead of Int'l Yoga Day

**HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, JUNE 15**

Durga Battalion, in collaboration with PM SHRI Girls High School Degwar M, Poonch, organized a special Yoga Awareness and Practice Session in the school premises as part of the celebrations leading up to the International Day of Yoga, which is observed every year on 21st June.

The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, parents, teaching faculty, and local villagers, highlighting the growing awareness about the importance of yoga in maintaining physical and mental well-being. The event was conducted under the leadership of Ms. Nazneen Akhter, Headmaster of PM SHRI Girls High School Degwar M.

The yoga session was led by Yoga Experts Mr. Ajay Kumar and Mr. Darshan Kumar, who demonstrated various yoga asanas, breathing exercises, and relaxation techniques. The participants actively followed the demonstrations and learned practical methods for improving physical fitness, concentration, flexibility, and stress management. The experts explained the numerous benefits of yoga and em-



phasized that regular practice can help individuals achieve a healthy, balanced, and disciplined lifestyle.

Representing the Durga Battalion, Subedar Raj Kumar addressed the gathering and highlighted the Indian Army's unwavering commitment towards the welfare and development of the local population. He assured the students, parents, and members of the public that the Indian Army remains ever ready to extend all possible support to the community in the fields of education, youth empowerment, health awareness, and social welfare. He encouraged the students to adopt discipline, patriotism, and healthy living as guiding principles in their lives and

to contribute positively towards nation-building.

Speaking on the occasion, Headmaster Ms. Nazneen Akhter expressed her sincere gratitude to the Durga Battalion for organizing the meaningful programme and for their continued support towards educational and community development initiatives in the region. She appreciated the efforts of the yoga experts for imparting valuable knowledge and practical skills to the participants. She further stressed the importance of incorporating yoga into daily life to promote holistic development and overall well-being. During the programme, participants were also sensitized about the significance of International Yoga Day and the

role of yoga in fostering harmony between mind and body. The speakers described yoga as India's invaluable gift to the world and encouraged everyone to make it an integral part of their daily routine.

The programme concluded with an interactive session and a collective pledge by all participants to practice yoga regularly and spread awareness about its benefits among their families and the wider community. The event was highly appreciated by students, parents, staff members, and villagers, who lauded the joint efforts of the Durga Battalion and PM SHRI Girls High School Degwar M in promoting the message of health, fitness, and social responsibility.

## Chief Secy Administers Oath of Office to Chairperson, J&K Water Resources Regulatory Authority

**SRINAGAR, JUNE 15:** Chief Secretary, Atal Duloo, today administered the Oath of Office to Suresh Kumar Gupta, who has been appointed as the Chairperson of the Jammu and Kashmir Water Resources Regulatory Authority (JKWRA).

The oath ceremony was held at the Civil Secretariat and was attended by senior officers of the Government and officials associated with the water resources sector.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Secretary extended his congratulations to Shri Gupta and expressed confidence that his rich administrative experience and deep understanding of natural resource management would further strengthen the Authority's efforts towards ensuring sustainable, equitable and efficient management of water resources across the



Union Territory. The Jammu and Kashmir Water Resources Regulatory Authority is a statutory body mandated to regulate and oversee the development, management and conservation of water resources in the Union Territory. The Authority plays a crucial role in promoting integrated water resource management, safeguarding water security and advising the Government on policies and strategies for sustainable utilization of this vital resource.

Gupta was appointed as Chairperson of the JKWRA by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir vide Notification S.O. 164 dated June 9, 2026, issued under Section 139 of the Jammu and Kashmir Water Resources (Regulation and Management) Act, 2010. His appointment came into effect upon assumption of charge.

A distinguished officer of the 1991 batch of the Indian Forest Service (IFS), Suresh Kumar Gupta brings with him more than

three decades of experience in public administration, environmental governance, forest management and natural resource conservation. During his illustrious career, he served in several key positions in Jammu and Kashmir, including Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF) and Head of Forest Force (HoFF), the highest professional position in the Forest Department.

He has also held important assignments as Principal Secretary, Culture, Tribal Affairs and School Education Departments besides serving as Chairman J&K Biodiversity Council, Chief Wildlife Warden; Director, Social Forestry, Director Forest Protection Force, Director J&K Forest Research Institute and Managing Director, Jammu and Kashmir Forest Development Corporation (JKFDC).

## LG Saxena inaugurates rejuvenated T-Trench Water Body at Gompa village in Leh

**LEH, JUNE 15:** In a significant step towards sustainable water management and strengthening drinking water security in Ladakh, Lieutenant Governor, Shri Vinai Kumar Saxena, today inaugurated the rejuvenated unique T-Trench Water Body at Spang-Jung in Gompa village, Leh.

The rejuvenated T-Trench, a historic spring-fed water source, is expected to directly benefit nearly 2,000 residents by ensuring enhanced water availability and improved groundwater recharge. The project will significantly improve the discharge capacity of the source from 3 lakh Litres per Day before rejuvenation to 5 lakh Litres per day after restoration, thereby substantially augmenting the drinking water supply potential of the area.

Built in the 1980's, this spring-fed T-Trench was once the only source of drinking water supply for the entire Leh city. However, rapid urbanisation and unplanned development around it took a toll



on this water source, and it was left redundant over the years. But after taking over as LG on March 13, Shri Saxena directed the officials to take up the rejuvenation of this T-Trench in a mission mode.

As part of the rejuvenation initiative, several conservation measures have been undertaken, including the protection of traditional water sources through environmentally friendly gabion stone masonry structures, which allow the seepage of water through their pores, thereby allowing groundwater recharge. Further, heavily accumulated silt and debris were removed from it to restore natural water flow, apart from the

installation of modern filtration systems to ensure a safe and clean drinking water supply. The site has also been developed into an aesthetically designed public space.

Speaking on the occasion, L-G Shri Saxena said that the rejuvenation of the T-Trench represents a reaffirmation of the region's age-old ethos of respecting and conserving water. He observed that Ladakh is increasingly facing the adverse impacts of climate change, including declining snowfall, receding glaciers, rising temperatures and depleting groundwater levels.

"Addressing the water crisis requires adoption of sustainable water manage-

ment practices, preservation of traditional water systems and development of new mechanisms for water harvesting and conservation.

The project aligns with the vision of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi regarding water conservation and the Jal Jeevan Mission, under which water conservation and augmentation have been identified as one of the greatest legacies for future generations," Shri Saxena said.

The T-Trench Water Source Conservation Project aims to safeguard, restore and revitalise drinking water sources, improve groundwater recharge and water quality, and transform the site into an attractive recreational and educational space.

The Lieutenant Governor also appealed to the people of Ladakh to actively participate in protecting and maintaining the rejuvenated water body, emphasising that water conservation efforts can succeed only when they evolve into a people's movement.

## Grand Launch of New Generation Tata Tiago

**HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, JUNE 15**

AM TATA Narwal proudly unveiled the much-awaited New Generation Tata Tiago at a grand launch event, introducing customers in the region to a perfect combination of style, performance, technology, comfort, and safety. The launch marked another milestone in AM Group's commitment towards bringing the latest automotive innovations closer to customers.

The event was graced by Chief Guest Mr. Rajesh Gandhi, Chief Manager, SBI, along with TATA Motors TSM Mr. Danish Afzal. The grand launch was conducted in the esteemed presence of Chairman Mr. Jatinder Gupta, Managing Director Mr. Sanjay Mahajan, and Directors Mr. Ankur Mahajan, Mr. Tarun Malhotra, Mr. Akshay Mahajan, Mr. Aryan Mahajan, and Ms. Sahira Mahajan. The occasion was also attended by valued customers, automobile enthusiasts, and members of the AM TATA family.

The New Generation Tata Tiago continues Tata



Motors' legacy of delivering vehicles that are practical, stylish, and feature-rich. The new Tiago comes with a refreshed and premium design, featuring a bold front profile, stylish exterior elements, modern lighting, and an attractive road presence that makes it stand apart in its segment.

The hatchback is designed to offer a comfortable and enjoyable driving experience with its refined performance, smooth handling, and efficient engine options. The Tiago continues to be appreciated for its balance of power, fuel efficiency, and everyday practicality, making it an ideal choice for both city drives and long journeys.

Inside the cabin, the New

Generation Tata Tiago offers a premium and comfortable experience with a spacious interior, enhanced convenience features, and advanced technology. The vehicle is equipped with a modern infotainment system, smartphone connectivity, premium audio experience, steering-mounted controls, and smart features designed to make every journey convenient and enjoyable.

Safety remains one of the strongest highlights of the Tata Tiago, built on Tata Motors' commitment to customer protection. The car comes with advanced safety features including a strong body structure, airbags, ABS with EBD,

rear parking assistance, and other safety technologies that provide confidence to drivers and passengers.

Speaking on the occasion, the management of AM Group expressed their delight in launching the New Generation Tata Tiago and highlighted that the vehicle reflects Tata Motors' philosophy of delivering innovation, reliability, and value to Indian customers. They further added that AM TATA remains dedicated to providing the best sales and service experience to customers across the region.

The launch event also included a detailed product presentation, where guests were introduced to the outstanding features, design, and technology of the New Generation Tata Tiago. Customers experienced the vehicle firsthand and appreciated its modern styling, comfort, and feature-packed offering.

With the launch of the New Generation Tata Tiago, AM TATA Narwal continues its journey of excellence by bringing world-class mobility solutions and customer-centric experiences to Jammu.