

JAMMU & KASHMIR

CM Omar lays foundation stones for 2 major sewerage infrastructure projects

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, JUNE 16



Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today laid the foundation stones for two major sewerage infrastructure projects in Srinagar aimed at strengthening wastewater treatment facilities and improving urban sanitation in the city.

The projects include the augmentation and upgradation of the 17.08 MLD capacity Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) at Brarinambal, Srinagar at a cost of ₹12 crore, and the construction of a 2.5 MLD capacity STP along with laying of 3.95 kilometres of sewer lines at Chattabal, Srinagar at an estimated cost of ₹14.54 crore.

These projects are being executed under the Capex Programme by the Urban Environmental Engineering Department (UEED), Kashmir, under the Housing & Urban Development Department.

The Chief Minister said that strengthening urban infrastructure, particularly

sewerage and wastewater treatment systems, remains a key priority of the government to ensure sustainable development and improved quality of life for citizens. He emphasized that the projects would significantly enhance sewage treatment capacity, improve environmental conditions and contribute towards the conservation of water bodies in and around Srinagar.

The Brarinambal project will upgrade the existing sewage treatment infrastructure to improve effi-

ciency and cater to the growing wastewater management requirements of the city.

The Chattabal project, comprising a new STP and an extensive sewer network, is expected to provide improved sanitation facilities to the area and help prevent the discharge of untreated wastewater into water channels.

The foundation stone laying ceremonies were attended by Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani, MLA Habbakadal

Shamim Firdous, MLA Khanyar Ali Mohammad Sagar, MLA Zadibal Tanvir Sadiq, MLA Hazratbal Salman Ali Sagar and Commissioner Secretary, Housing & Urban Development Department, Mandeep Kaur, besides senior officers of the department and local residents.

The projects are expected to play a significant role in enhancing Srinagar's urban infrastructure and promoting environmentally sustainable wastewater management practices.

Public outreach remains integral part of transparent, accountable governance: Itoo

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Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo today met several public delegations and individuals at Civil Secretariat here and listened to a wide range of public issues and developmental concerns raised by them.

The delegations, representing different areas and sections of society, apprised the Minister of matters pertaining to healthcare services, education, social welfare initiatives, civic amenities and local infrastructure. Individual citizens also projected issues requiring timely administrative intervention and sought appropriate redressal.

Giving a patient hearing to all the representations,

the Minister assured the visiting delegations and individuals that their genuine concerns would be examined on priority and taken up with the concerned departments for necessary action. "Public outreach remains an integral part of transparent and accountable governance as sustained engagement with citizens helps in identifying

and addressing grassroots issues effectively", Sakeena Itoo stated.

The Minister reiterated the Government's commitment to ensuring equitable development, efficient public service delivery and welfare-oriented governance across Jammu and Kashmir. She stressed that coordinated efforts among departments are being en-

couraged to resolve public grievances in a prompt and effective manner.

The Minister also urged the officers concerned to maintain close coordination with stakeholders and ensure that developmental initiatives and welfare schemes reach the intended beneficiaries in a timely and transparent manner.

Govt committed to preservation of Kashmir's houseboat heritage: Javed Rana

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, JUNE 16

Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana, today said that the government led by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah is committed towards protecting and preserving the treasured houseboat heritage of Kashmir.

He made these remarks during a meeting with the All Kashmir Houseboat Owners Association (AKHBOA) held at Civil Secretariat Srinagar.

The meeting was also at-

tended by MLA Zadibal constituency, Tanveer Sadiq.

Rana said that the houseboat remains a symbol of the Valley's cultural identity and a vital pillar of its tourism economy and every effort will be made for welfare of the communities dependent on it.

The delegation, led by Chairman AKHBOA, Manzoor Ahmad Pakhtoon, apprised the Minister of various issues concerning the houseboat sector, particularly the requirement of timber for repair, renovation and maintenance of these heritage structures.

The representatives un-

derscored that houseboats constitute a unique heritage asset of Jammu and Kashmir and play a significant role in sustaining tourism and providing livelihood to hundreds of families. They requested for enhancement of the existing timber quota to meet maintenance requirements while seeking easier process of timber procurement.

Responding to the issues raised by the delegation, the Minister assured that the concerns raised would be examined sympathetically for appropriate consideration.

He said the government remains committed to safe-

guard the region's heritage assets while ensuring the welfare of communities dependent on them.

The delegation expressed gratitude to the Minister for his positive response to their long-pending demands.

Legislators Ranbir Singh Pathania and Mir Saifullah also called on the Minister and apprised him of various development and public welfare issues pertaining to their respective constituencies.

The Minister assured them that their concerns would be looked into and addressed in a time bound manner.

DC reviews arrangements for Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra-2026 in Udhampur

UDHAMPUR, JUNE 16: Deputy Commissioner Udhampur Minga Sherpa today chaired a meeting of officers from various line departments to review preparedness for Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra-2026.

The review covered arrangements along the Yatra route from Tikri to Chenani, including security, safe drinking water, power supply, healthcare, sanitation, lodgement centres, temporary toilets, langar arrangements and traffic



management. The DC directed all departmental heads to ensure fool-

proof arrangements well in advance and stressed close inter-departmental coordi-

nation for timely execution.

Department-wise, JPDCL was directed to ensure uninterrupted power supply, Jal Shakti Department to deploy round-the-clock water tankers, the Traffic Department to regulate vehicular movement, CEO Municipal Council to install dustbins and deploy vehicles for scientific waste disposal and the CMO to ensure round-the-clock medical facilities, healthcare personnel and emergency response services.

Div Com reviews arrangements for annual Mela Kheer Bhawani Yatra



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JAMMU, JUNE 16

Divisional Commissioner Jammu Ramesh Kumar chaired a meeting to review the arrangements for the conduct of the annual Kheer Bhawani Mela Yatra, to be flagged off from Nagrota, Jammu on June 20.

The Divisional Commissioner held a threadbare discussion on the arrange-

ments to be ensured by the departments concerned. JKRTC was directed to provide an adequate number of buses and to coordinate the journey. The Divisional Commissioner directed all departments to ensure robust arrangements for the security of devotees, uninterrupted electricity and water supply, sanitation, traffic management, medical facili-

ties, tents and transportation. He emphasised that all departments must work in close coordination to ensure a hassle-free experience for devotees. Deputy Commissioner Ramban was directed to ensure arrangements at the langar facility where the convoy of pilgrims will halt en route to Kheer Bhawani temple in Tulmulla, Ganderbal.

A number of religious and community representatives expressed their views during the meeting and conveyed satisfaction and gratitude for the robust arrangements made every year. It was informed that around 7,000 devotees have registered for the annual Kheer Bhawani Mela Yatra and will participate in the mela to be organised on June 22.

Among those present were Managing Director JPDCL, Deputy Commissioners of Jammu, Ramban and Udhampur, Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner (Migrants) J&K, SSP Jammu, SSP Security, SSP Traffic, Heads of Departments, senior officials of JKRTC, Tourism and Health, Joint Director Information, representatives of religious organisations, community leaders and other officers concerned.

DC Doda reviews preparedness for IPPI-2026

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Deputy Commissioner Doda Krishan Lal today chaired a meeting of the District Task Force to finalise arrangements and review preparedness for the upcoming Intensified Pulse Polio Immunisation (IPPI)-2026 programme.

The Deputy Commissioner reviewed the micro-plan and directed all de-

partments to ensure 100 per cent coverage across the district through coordinated efforts.

The campaign aims to administer polio drops to an estimated 57,524 children in the age group of zero to five years across District Doda on June 28, 2026. A door-to-door follow-up activity will be conducted on June 29 and 30, 2026, to ensure no eligible child is left out.

To facilitate smooth im-

plementation, 507 vaccination booths have been established across the district, supported by 1,014 vaccination teams and 101 supervisory officers. In addition, 13 transit teams have been constituted to cover nomadic, migratory and other floating populations.

The DC directed officers to maintain vaccine quality and cold chain integrity, prioritise remote and mountainous areas, deploy

special teams for nomadic families in higher reaches and direct Block Medical Officers to intensify awareness activities to mobilise parents and guardians.

Among those present were Chief Planning Officer Manesh Kumar, Programme Officer (POSHAN) Akhtar Qazi, Chief Medical Officer Dr Vinod Sharma, Deputy CMO Dr SL Manhas, Block Medical Officers and other officers concerned.

CS finalises arrangements for grand celebration of International Day of Yoga across J&K

SRINAGAR, JUNE 16: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today reviewed the preparations being undertaken across Jammu and Kashmir for the celebration of the International Day of Yoga (IDY)-2026, scheduled to be observed on June 21, 2026, under the theme "Yoga for Healthy Ageing".

The meeting besides Commissioner Secretary, H&ME; Commissioner Secretary, YS&S; Commissioner Secretary, Social Welfare; Commissioner Secretary, School Education Department; Divisional Commissioner, Jammu/Kashmir was attended by Secretary, Transport; Secretary, RDD; MD, NHM; Director, Colleges; Director, Ayush and other con-

cerned officers. Deputy Commissioners and District SSPs attended the meeting through video conferencing.

Reviewing the preparedness for the event, the Chief Secretary took a detailed appraisal of the arrangements being put in place by the Divisional Commissioners of Jammu as well as Kashmir and all the Deputy Commissioners regarding identification of venues, logistical arrangements and mobilization of participants. He emphasized the need for meticulous planning to ensure smooth conduct of the celebrations across the Union Territory.

Stressing on showcasing Jammu and Kash-

mir's natural beauty and tourism potential alongside the message of wellness, the Chief Secretary directed the concerned authorities to organize yoga sessions at prominent iconic tourist destinations across the UT, thereby promoting the spirit of yoga amid the region's scenic landscapes and encouraging wider public participation.

Earlier the Commissioner Secretary, H&ME, M.Raju threw light on the extensive prelude activities being conducted across Jammu and Kashmir to create awareness and encourage public participation. These activities, he continued, included yoga sessions, yoga at iconic locations, Samyoga programmes



integrating yoga with other healthcare systems, youth-centric initiatives in educational institutions, Harit Yoga programmes promoting environmental consciousness, and community outreach campaigns.

He further gave out that 1,952 yoga-related events have been organized so far across the Union Territory, witnessing participation of over 1.31 lakh people, reflecting the growing enthusiasm among citizens to-

wards yoga and healthy living.

The Chief Secretary was apprised that as per the past practice Directorate of Ayush, J&K has been designated as the nodal agency for IDY-2026 celebrations. The department is coordinating with all line departments and stakeholders to ensure successful organization of yoga programmes at the Union Territory, district and grassroots levels.

It was divulged that trained yoga instructors from the Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga (MDNIY), New Delhi, are being deployed to facilitate mass yoga demonstrations during the countdown and main events.

The meeting was in-

formed that the flagship event, "Yoga Sangam", will be held on June 21, 2026, simultaneously across the country based on the Common Yoga Protocol.

Moreover it was given out that in Jammu and Kashmir, all 642 Ayush health facilities are being registered on the Yoga Sangam Portal launched by the Ministry of Ayush, Government of India, to facilitate large-scale participation.

A mega Union Territory-level event will be organized at the Sher-i-Kashmir International Conference Centre (SKICC), Srinagar, where around 4,000 to 5,000 participants are expected to participate in the mass yoga demonstration.

The Chief Secretary

was informed that mass yoga events will be organized at district headquarters, educational institutions, tourist destinations, healthcare facilities, Anganwadi centres and village-level locations to ensure maximum public participation.

Emphasizing the importance of the International Day of Yoga, the Chief Secretary directed all departments to work in close coordination and adopt a whole-of-government approach to ensure the successful conduct of the event. He stressed upon maximizing public participation and making the celebrations a mass movement promoting health, wellness and healthy lifestyles across Jammu and Kashmir.