

## Budgam Admin strengthens NMBA through Awareness, Pledge and Plantation Drives

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, JULY 09

District Administration Budgam today strengthened its ongoing efforts under the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan (NMBA) by organizing a series of awareness, pledge and plantation programmes across the district, reaffirming its commitment towards building a healthy and drug-free society.

An awareness programme and pledge ceremony under the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan was organized at the District Police Lines, Budgam, where participants pledged to remain committed to the fight against drug abuse and to spread awareness about its harmful consequences. The programme emphasized the importance of collective responsibility in safeguarding society, particularly the youth, from the menace of substance abuse. In another significant initiative, the Forest Range Budgam organized a pledge ceremony-cum-awareness programme at Sheikh-ul-Alam Hall, Budgam under the banner of the Nasha Mukta



Bharat Abhiyan. The programme focused on sensitizing participants about the ill effects of drug addiction, promoting preventive measures and inspiring citizens to actively contribute towards the mission of a drug-free Budgam.

Adding an environmental dimension to the campaign, a plantation drive was conducted today at Government Degree College (GDC), Magam. The initiative highlighted the importance of environ-

mental conservation alongside social well-being while reinforcing the message of adopting a healthy, drug-free lifestyle.

Students, faculty members and officials actively participated in the plantation drive and reiterated their commitment to the objectives of the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan.

The programmes witnessed enthusiastic participation from officials, students and members of the public, reflecting the grow-

ing community support for the nationwide campaign against drug abuse.

The District Administration Budgam reiterated its unwavering commitment to further strengthening the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan through sustained awareness campaigns, community participation and inter-departmental coordination, urging all sections of society to actively join the mission of making Budgam a drug-free district.

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Justice Sanjay Dhar, Chairman of the Building and Infrastructure Committee, along with Justices Rahul Bharti, Moksha Khajuria Kazmi, Member of the Building and Infrastructure Committee and Justice Shahzad Azeem, on Thursday visited the site of the new High Court Complex, Srinagar to review the progress and pace of construction work.

On the occasion, the Executive Engineer, R&B Project Division-I Srinagar, delivered a detailed presentation on the status of the ongoing project. He apprised the Judges of the various phases of con-



struction completed so far and outlined the new works scheduled to be taken up in the future.

During the on-spot inspection, the Judges reviewed all aspects of the construction work. They directed the concerned authorities and executing agencies to expedite the pace of work and ensure timely completion of the project, while underscoring the need to adhere to quality and the highest standards of workmanship.

Registrar Judicial, Srinagar, Joint Registrar Judicial, Srinagar, Registrar Infrastructure and other officers of the R&B Department accompanied the Judges during the visit.

## PM Vishwakarma Capacity Building Programme held at Bandipora

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JAMMU, JULY 09

Branch MSME DFO Srinagar, under the Ministry of MSME, Government of India, in collaboration with the District Administration Bandipora, organised a PM Vishwakarma Capacity Building Programme at the DC Office, Bandipora on Product Packaging, QR Code Generation and Artificial Intelligence (AI).

The programme was attended by the Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC), Zaffar Shawal as chief guest, Joint Director and General Manager, DIC Bandipora, as guests of honour. Joint Director/Ho MSME DFO J&K & Ladakh, AK Tamarisa also graced the occasion.



The ADC highlighted the need to integrate traditional crafts with modern technology to enhance the competitiveness of Kashmir's rich artisan sector.

The Joint Director reviewed the implementation and progress of the PM Vishwakarma Scheme in Jammu & Kashmir and addressed the issues faced by

the Vishwakarma beneficiaries.

The General Manager appreciated the efforts of artisans and assured continued institutional support through schemes implemented by DIC for eligible beneficiaries.

Saheel Alaqband, Assistant Director, Branch MSME DFO Srinagar, highlighted the importance of the PM Vishwakarma Scheme in strengthening the skilled artisan workforce through capacity building.

Experts from the banking sector, IUST and the State Level PMU conducted technical sessions on product packaging, QR code generation and the use of AI for business growth.

## DC Bandipora reviews development works at SK Sports Stadium

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, JULY 09

Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Indu Kanwal Chib, today visited S.K. Sports Stadium, Bandipora, to inspect the stadium and review the progress of ongoing developmental works aimed at improving sports infrastructure in the district.

During the visit, the Deputy Commissioner inspected various ongoing works and reviewed their physical progress with the concerned officers, engineers, contractors and representatives of sports associations.

Reviewing the development of the playfield, the Deputy Commissioner directed the concerned executing agency to complete the filling and levelling work within one month to make the ground ready for sporting activities at the earliest.

Inspecting the indoor sports hall, the Deputy Commissioner directed the concerned engineers to complete the remaining work within two weeks and ensure that the facility



is made operational without any further delay. The Deputy Commissioner also reviewed the progress of the construction of the pavilion and directed the executing agency to expedite the pace of work and complete the project at the earliest.

During the review, the Deputy Commissioner directed the Executive Engineer, R&B Bandipora to hold detailed discussions with the Engineering Wing of the J&K Sports Council and representatives of

sports associations to ensure effective coordination and timely resolution of project-related issues.

The Deputy Commissioner interacted with the contractors executing the works and urged them to mobilise adequate resources and complete all ongoing works within the shortest possible time while maintaining the prescribed quality standards.

The Deputy Commissioner urged all concerned departments and execut-

ing agencies to work in close coordination and complete the projects within the prescribed timelines so that the facilities are made available to the sports persons at the earliest.

Among others, the visit was attended by Executive Engineer R&B Bandipora, Executive Engineer PDD Bandipora, AE and JE J&K Sports Council along with the concerned contractors, Tehsildar Bandipora, and representatives of sports associations.

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, JULY 09

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Athar Aamir Khan today chaired a meeting to review the progress of the ongoing demarcation of Hokersar Wetland, a designated Ramsar Site.

The meeting was attended by Assistant Commissioner Revenue (ACR) Budgam, Afroza Bano; SDM (West) Srinagar, Irfan Bahadur; Divisional Forest Officer, DFO Wildlife, Mohd Altaf, Photo Interpretation Division J&K, Divisional Forest Officer, Settlement & Demarcation Srinagar, Range Officer Hokersar, Tehsildar Budgam, Naib Tehsildar, Regional Director, Survey & Land Records Srinagar,



Settlement Assistant, Regional Director Survey & Land Records Srinagar, besides other concerned officers.

During the meeting, the DC took detailed review of the progress achieved in the demarcation process.

He assessed the status of field verification, boundary

assessment, geo-referenced mapping, and the availability of relevant revenue and survey records required for the exercise.

The DC said that scientific and accurate demarcation is imperative for its long-term conservation and protection. He stressed that the exercise should be

carried out with precision and in accordance with the prescribed norms.

The DC underscored the importance of close coordination among the Revenue, Forest and Survey & Land Records departments to ensure smooth execution of the demarcation process.

The DC Stresses on time bound completion of the demarcation process, submit regular progress reports, and ensure completion of the demarcation exercise within the stipulated timeframe.

The DC said that clear identification of the wetland boundaries is essential to prevent encroachments and strengthen conservation measures aimed at preserving the ecological integrity and biodiversity of the Ramsar Site.

## CS sets monthly targets for PM Surya Ghar Yojana, Solarization Mission in J&K

**SRINAGAR, JULY 9:** Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today chaired a comprehensive review meeting to assess the progress achieved under the PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana and the ongoing Solarization of Government Buildings Programme across the Union Territory.

The meeting was attended by Additional Chief Secretary, Power Development Department; Additional Chief Secretary, Finance; Divisional Commissioner, Jammu/Kashmir; Managing Director, JPDCL/KPDCL; CEO, JAKEDA besides representatives of several other concerned departments.

While taking this review the Chief Secretary emphasized the need to achieve the targets assigned to both the Power Distribution Companies (DISCOMs) within the stipulated timelines. He directed the concerned agencies to ensure installation of all the rooftop solar (RTS) systems pertaining to nearly 57,000 beneficiaries where vendor agreements have already been executed, so that these consumers receive the benefits of the scheme without any delay.

Stressing the importance of timely implementation, the Chief Secretary instructed the concerned departments to prepare a well-defined timeline for achieving the targets considerably before the sunset date of the PM Surya

Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana, thereby ensuring that Jammu & Kashmir fully utilizes the opportunity provided under the flagship programme of the Government of India.

Reviewing the progress of the Solarization of Government Buildings, the Chief Secretary called upon the Science & Technology Department and JAKEDA to expedite execution and ensure that all identified government buildings are brought under rooftop solar coverage in a mission mode. He directed that over 1,400 more government buildings under the CAPEX mode and around 1,300 buildings under the RESCO mode be targeted for completion by the end of July 2026. He also stressed the simultaneous completion of smart metering in all commissioned buildings to ensure effective net metering, accurate energy accounting and optimum utilization of the installed solar assets.

Speaking during the meeting, Additional Chief Secretary, Power Development Department, Ashwani Kumar, outlined the roadmap for bridging the existing implementation gaps and highlighted the measures being taken to further streamline execution.

He elaborated upon the strategy to strengthen inter-agency coordination, simplify operational processes and ac-



celerate the pace of implementation so that the targets under both the PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana and the Solarization of Government Buildings Programme are achieved within the prescribed timelines.

Additional Chief Secretary, Finance, Shailendra Kumar, while appreciating the progress made under the scheme, suggested that districts demonstrating outstanding performance should be suitably recognized to encourage healthy competition among the implementing agencies.

He particularly commended the exemplary work carried out in the Kupwara and Shopian districts in the implementation of this Yojana, and recommended that the officers and field functionaries responsible for

these achievements be appropriately appreciated to motivate similar performance across the Union Territory.

The meeting was informed by the MD, KPDCL, Mehmood Ahmad Shah that under PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana, the Government of India has fixed a national target of one crore residential rooftop solar installations by 31st March 2027. In line with this, Jammu & Kashmir has set a target of 83,500 residential consumers for itself, comprising 39,500 consumers under JPDCL and 44,000 consumers under KPDCL.

Reviewing the implementation status, the Chief Secretary was further informed that as on 07 July 2026, rooftop solar systems had been installed for 37,138 residential con-

sumers across Jammu & Kashmir with a cumulative installed capacity of 133.40 MW. These installations have enabled beneficiaries to receive Central Financial Assistance amounting to Rs 291.38 crore, while the Union Territory has additionally extended Rs 10.50 crore as UT subsidy, thereby significantly reducing the financial burden on consumers and encouraging wider adoption of rooftop solar systems.

The Chief Secretary also reviewed the progress achieved under the ambitious programme for Solarization of Government Buildings, being implemented through JAKEDA under both CAPEX and RESCO modes.

The meeting was informed by CEO, JAKEDA, PN Dhar that Jammu & Kashmir has emerged as one of the leading performers in the country in this sector. The Union Territory presently ranks 3rd among all States and Union Territories in the number of government buildings solarized, with 8,131 government buildings already equipped with rooftop solar power systems, representing 36.14 per cent of the 22,494 identified government buildings across the UT.

Additionally under the CAPEX mode, against an allocated capacity of 65 MW covering 5,500 government buildings, rooftop solar systems have

already been installed on 3,338 buildings with a cumulative installed capacity of 46.30 MW. Besides these completed works, material has already been supplied for 1,462 additional buildings, while material for another 800 buildings is currently under transit, indicating substantial progress towards completion of the remaining works.

The meeting was further informed that under the RESCO model, the Government has envisaged development of 175 MW rooftop solar capacity covering approximately 8,000 government buildings. Work orders have already been issued for 1,360 buildings, with competitively discovered tariffs ranging between Rs 4.19 and Rs 5.27 per unit, ensuring economical and sustainable power generation for public institutions.

The Chief Secretary instructed all implementing agencies to maintain close inter-departmental coordination, ensure strict adherence to project timelines and continuously monitor district-wise performance. He further directed that progress under both the residential rooftop solar programme and government building solarization initiative be reviewed regularly so that Jammu & Kashmir achieves its mission of solarization within the stipulated timeframe.