

# JAMMU & KASHMIR

## Justice Sanjeev lays foundation stone for Court complex at Mahanpur, inaugurates Basholi Court complex

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, JULY 11

Chief Justice (Acting), High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, Sanjeev Kumar, today laid the foundation stone for new Court Complex at Mahanpur, marking another significant milestone towards strengthening of judicial infrastructure in Kathua district.

The foundation stone laying ceremony at Mahanpur was held in presence of Deputy Commissioner, Kathua Rajesh Sharma; Senior Superintendent of Police, Kathua Mohita Sharma; judicial officers, officers of the civil administration, members of the Bar and other dignitaries.

Later, the acting Chief Justice inaugurated the newly constructed Court Complex at Basohli in presence of Justice Rajnesh Oswal, Judge High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh and Administrative Judge for District Kathua; Additional Deputy Commissioner, Basholi Pankaj Bagotra; President Bar association Kathua and Hiranagar, judicial officers, members of the Bar and officers of the civil administration.

The inaugural ceremony commenced with the unveiling of the commemorative plaque by Justice Sanjeev Kumar, followed by an inspection and visit of the newly constructed Court Complex and its various facilities and amenities.

Thereafter, the formal function commenced with the traditional lighting of the ceremonial lamp by the



dignitaries on the dais.

Delivering the keynote address, Justice Sanjeev Kumar, reiterated the commitment of the High Court towards strengthening the judicial institutions through creation of adequate and modern infrastructure. He observed that, being a son of the soil, he had made earnest efforts to ensure judicial development in his home district by providing the judiciary with the requisite basic infrastructure for efficient functioning and effective justice delivery.

Justice Sanjeev Kumar further observed that these endeavours attained fruition owing to the collective efforts and cooperation extended by the people and civil administration of Basholi and District Kathua. He also placed on record his appreciation for the invaluable support and cooperation extended by the Registrar General, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, in facilitating and overseeing the execution of various infrastructural projects undertaken in

the district.

Justice Rajnesh Oswal, Administrative Judge for District Kathua, in his special address, appreciated the vision and commitment of the Acting Chief Justice towards judicial infrastructural development in District Kathua.

He observed that during the last two years the district had witnessed remarkable growth in judicial infrastructure, including the inauguration of Court Complexes at Kathua, Hiranagar and Basholi, laying of the foundation stone for the Court Complex at Mahanpur, besides inauguration of Lawyers' Chambers at Kathua and Judicial Quarters in the district.

Justice Rajnesh Oswal remarked that while the Chief Justice (Acting) had sown the seeds of this infrastructural transformation, he had merely been fortunate to reap the fruits of the initiatives already undertaken by His Lordship for the district.

Principal District and Sessions Judge, Kathua

Jatinder Singh Jamwal expressed gratitude to the Chief Justice (Acting) and Administrative Judge for their continued guidance and support in augmenting the judicial infrastructure in Kathua. He observed that the district had witnessed the inauguration of Court Complexes at Kathua, Hiranagar and now Basholi, thereby substantially strengthening the justice delivery system and facilitating greater access to justice for the litigant public.

President, Bar Association Basholi Shub Kumar, also addressed the gathering and expressed gratitude to the High Court for providing modern judicial infrastructure in the region for the benefit of litigants, members of the Bar and the general public.

The vote of thanks was presented by Bhanu Bhasin. The proceedings of the programme were conducted by Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, Kathua, Urvasi Raina, who acted as the Master of Ceremonies for the occasion.

## CEO SSCL conducts extensive inspection of historic Water Channels across Srinagar

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, JULY 11

In a significant initiative aimed at undertaking a comprehensive assessment of Srinagar's historic water network, the Chief Executive Officer, Srinagar Smart City Limited (SSCL), Faz Lul Haseeb, today conducted an extensive inspection of several historic water channels and rivulets across the city, including Kutte Kul, Sonar Kul, Rainawari Kul, and other interconnected waterways.

The inspection was undertaken to obtain a first-hand assessment of the present condition of these water channels, examine their hydraulic connectivity, and evaluate various factors influencing their overall status.

During the visit, the CEO extensively inspected different stretches of the waterways, assessing issues such as silt accumulation, vegetation growth, obstructions, encroachments, discharge points, and other location-specific conditions requiring detailed technical evaluation.

Interacting with officers and engineers on-site, Haseeb underscored the historical, ecological, and urban significance of Srinagar's traditional water channels, observing that these waterways form an integral part of the city's unique landscape. He directed the concerned officers to under-



take detailed documentation and technical assessments of the inspected stretches, along with comprehensive field observations, to establish an accurate baseline of their existing condition.

The CEO emphasized that the conservation and restoration of Srinagar's traditional water channels are essential for mitigating waterlogging, enhancing environmental sustainability, and preserving the city's

centuries-old water heritage.

He further stressed the need for close coordination among all stakeholder departments to ensure the long-term conservation and rejuvenation of these vital water bodies. He emphasized that scientific assessments, coordinated planning, and institutional collaboration are essential for safeguarding these important urban assets.

Interacting with local res-

idents during the inspection, Haseeb emphasized the importance of public participation in protecting the traditional waterways and appealed to citizens to refrain from dumping waste into the channels and to cooperate with the administration in maintaining their cleanliness and ecological health. The CEO was accompanied by senior officers and engineers of Srinagar Smart City Limited (SSCL) during the inspec-

## Javed reviews PHE, I&FC functioning in Jammu Division; stresses uninterrupted water supply

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, JULY 11

Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology, Environment and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana today chaired a comprehensive review meeting at the Civil Secretariat here to assess the functioning of the Public Health Engineering (PHE) and Irrigation & Flood Control (I&FC) departments across Jammu Division.

The meeting was attended by the Chief Engineer PHE Jammu, Chief Engineer I&FC Jammu, besides Superintending Engineers and Executive Engineers of Flood Control Divisions.

During the meeting, Javed Rana enquired about the physical and financial progress of schemes under PMKSY-HKPP, UT CAPEX, NABARD, SASCI, DA-JGUA and other programmes. He emphasised the need for proactive planning to ensure uninterrupted water supply and robust flood management across the division. He directed that all schemes be completed within the stipulated timeframe so that they can be put to public use at the earliest.

Maintaining that ensuring adequate water supply is a prerogative of the government, the Minister directed the officers to ensure all water supply schemes remain functional at full capacity, with preventive maintenance completed at regular intervals. He made it clear that no lapse in drinking water availability would be tolerated and responsibility would be fixed for any lapses.

He also directed the officers for expediting work on JJM schemes nearing completion to ensure timely commissioning so that benefits reach people without delay while also emphasising the inspections of critical water supply infrastructure.



Regarding the functioning of water tankers in Jammu city and other parts of the division, Rana directed for their efficient deployment at appropriate locations, with filling stations identified for efficient loading. He further directed for daily monitoring of water source discharge rates and groundwater levels across all districts, along with weekly review and coordination meetings to maintain operational oversight and address emerging challenges proactively.

During the meeting, the Chief Engineer, Jal Shakti (I&FC), Jammu, gave a presentation on works completed so far, future plans and the department's contingency arrangements.

The Minister was informed that dewatering pumps have been deployed across districts as per past practice to meet any eventuality. He directed that standby pumps and generators be positioned at strategic locations, with adequate stocks of spare parts.

On flood preparedness, Javed Rana reviewed mitigation measures across vulnerable areas and directed the officers to adopt both structural and non-structural measures, with effective coordination for timely response. He underscored the importance of technology-driven early warning systems and robust inter-agency coordination in view

of the heightened vulnerability to floods and other weather-related calamities.

He also directed the officers to expedite projects under the SASCI Disaster Programme in mission mode, particularly at locations previously affected by floods, to strengthen flood protection and irrigation infrastructure. He called for close monitoring to ensure the programme's benefits are realised on the ground without delay. The Chief Engineer was directed to submit details of all completed and ongoing projects in the flood and irrigation sectors.

The Minister directed the officers to ensure that Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for all new schemes are prepared comprehensively, covering all the technical, financial and operational aspects in detail so that projects are implemented smoothly without the need for subsequent revisions or cost escalations.

Regarding flood preparedness, the Minister was informed that district-level anti-flood meetings have already been convened under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioners across vulnerable districts with participation of all stakeholder departments to finalise district-specific flood response plans. He was further apprised that comprehensive Anti-Flood Measure Plans and monsoon response

booklets outlining the roles and responsibilities of various departments during flood situations have been prepared and circulated among all concerned agencies to ensure coordinated and timely response during emergencies.

The Minister was further informed about the proposed Extension, Renovation and Modernisation (ERM) of the Main Rambir Canal and its distribution network under PMKSY-AIBP at an estimated cost of Rs 998.75 crore. The project aims to enhance the carrying capacity and efficiency of the canal system and improve water availability in tail-end areas during peak irrigation periods. It was informed that the DPR for the project has been submitted to the Central Water Commission for appraisal and that the project is proposed to be completed over a period of five years after approval.

Javed Rana also took stock of division-wise details of canals and khuls proposed for desilting under convergence mode with the Rural Development Department.

He called for effective coordination between the two departments for efficient results. Taking strong note of incidents of theft of machinery and other equipment, he directed for strict vigil to prevent any such occurrences.

## Annual Sarvadhara Chhari Yatra flagged off from Ukhral

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, JULY 11

The annual Sarvadhara Chhari Yatra was ceremonially flagged off today from Ukhral by Senior Superintendent of Police Ramban, Arun Gupta and Additional Deputy Commissioner Ramban Varunjeet Singh Charak, marking the commencement of the revered pilgrimage to the holy shrine of Senabhati Sarvadhara.

The annual Sarvadhara Yatra is a sacred pilgrimage dedicated to Mata Chamunda Devi and culminates at the historic Chamunda Mata Temple, situated atop the scenic Sarvadhara Peak in the Pogal-Paristan area of Ramban district. The yatra symbolizes the deep-rooted faith and spiritual devotion of the



people and attracts thousands of devotees from Ramban and various other districts of Jammu & Kashmir every year.

The flag-off ceremony was attended by various officers and prominent citizens and a large number of devotees.

The SSP extended heartfelt greetings and best wishes to the pilgrims for a safe, peaceful, and spiritually fulfilling journey. He stated that elaborate secu-

urity arrangements, including the deployment of adequate police personnel have been put in place to ensure the safety and security of the devotees throughout the pilgrimage.

The Additional Deputy Commissioner said that the district administration, in close coordination with all line departments has made comprehensive arrangements for the smooth and successful conduct of the yatra. He informed that ade-

quate medical facilities, drinking water, sanitation, transportation management and other essential services have been ensured to provide a safe and comfortable pilgrimage experience for all devotees.

The devotees expressed gratitude to the district administration and all concerned departments for the arrangements made for the pilgrimage. They also prayed for peace, prosperity and the well-being of all.

## DC Poonch reviews Change of Land Use Cases, Stresses prompt disposal

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, JULY 11

Deputy Commissioner Poonch Ashok Kumar Sharma today chaired a meeting to review cases related to Change of Land Use (CLU) and assess the progress made in the disposal of pending applications.

During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner reviewed the performance of the concerned depart-

ments in processing CLU applications and examined the status of pending cases. A total of 65 CLU cases were taken up for consideration, out of which 11 cases were approved, 26 were rejected, 10 were reverted and 18 were deferred for further examination.

Emphasising transparency, efficiency and accountability in the disposal of CLU cases, the Deputy Commissioner directed the concerned offi-

cers to ensure the timely issuance of No Objection Certificates (NOCs) after proper scrutiny and verification of all relevant documents. He reiterated that every CLU application must be processed strictly in accordance with the prescribed rules, policies and government guidelines to ensure fairness, uniformity and timely decision-making.

The DC further stressed the need to streamline the existing procedures to fa-

cilitate faster processing of future applications while ensuring compliance with all legal and environmental norms.

The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner Tahir Mustafa Malik, General Manager DIC Naheem-un-Nissa Bhatti, Assistant Commissioner Revenue Mohd Sayeed, Executive Engineers, Tehsildar Haveli Azhar Majid, besides other concerned officers.