

CS assesses 'Data Management Strategy' for J&K

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, JULY 18

In a significant step towards advancing digital governance and ensuring hassle-free delivery of public services, Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, chaired a high-level meeting to review the proposed 'Data Management Strategy and Action Plan' aimed at creating a secure, interoperable and citizen-centric data ecosystem across Government departments in Jammu and Kashmir.

The proposed initiative seeks to establish an integrated framework for secure sharing and harmonization of government data, enabling departments to access authenticated information through authorized digital platforms instead of repeatedly seeking the same documents from citizens. The initiative is expected to substantially improve inter-departmental coordination, eliminate duplication of records, enhance transparency and ensure faster, more efficient delivery of welfare benefits and public services.

The meeting was attended by the concerned Administrative Secretaries including Commissioner Secretary, PD&MD; MD, J&K Bank; DG, E&S; SIO, NIC; Director, Planning and HoDs from other concerned Departments.

Reviewing the proposed framework, the Chief Secretary underscored that effective governance in the digital era rests on the availability of authentic, standardized and secure data.

He observed that while Government departments generate large volumes of valuable data, its true potential can only be realised when such information is managed under a common governance framework and shared securely across de-



partments for improving public service delivery.

The Chief Secretary further stressed that the Government's endeavour is to ensure that citizens are not required to submit the same information repeatedly for availing benefits under different schemes.

He reiterated that the objective is to build an integrated digital governance ecosystem where authenticated data, once available with the Government, can be securely utilised by authorized departments for delivery of eligible services, while fully safeguarding privacy, confidentiality and data security, he added.

The Chief Secretary directed all Administrative Departments to extend full cooperation in implementation of the strategy and ensure standardization of departmental datasets in accordance with the prescribed data governance framework.

Atal Dulloo also called for adoption of uniform metadata standards, robust quality assurance mechanisms and secure interoperability protocols to facilitate seamless exchange of information across departments.

During the meeting, a detailed presentation was made by the Planning Department on the five strategic pillars of the proposed Data Management Strategy comprising Data Governance & Standards, Base Registries & Unique Iden-

tifiers, Interoperability & Harmonization, Data Security & Privacy and Institutional Capacity & Coordination.

The strategy aims to establish a "Single Source of Truth" by preserving original departmental datasets while enabling secure, API-based exchange of information among authorized users, thereby supporting evidence-based governance, efficient planning and better monitoring of developmental programmes.

The Chief Secretary also reviewed the proposed initiative involving integration of the Civil Registration System (CRS) with J&K Bank for automatic initiation of insurance claims under PMJJBY and PMSBY immediately after issuance of a death certificate. Once operational, the mechanism will enable eligible claim settlements without requiring bereaved families to submit separate applications, thereby reducing procedural delays and ensuring timely financial assistance.

The meeting also discussed integration of the Civil Registration System with the Health, Social Welfare and School Education Departments to enable automatic activation of welfare interventions from birth onwards.

Under this mechanism, registration of every birth would trigger enrolment for nutrition support, im-

munization and other eligible welfare schemes, while subsequent integration with APAAR ID would facilitate seamless linkage with school admissions, scholarships and other educational entitlements.

The Chief Secretary further reviewed the proposal for creation of an integrated institutional database of schools, hospitals, Anganwadi centres and other public institutions through adoption of common geographical identifiers to facilitate better planning, infrastructure mapping and resource allocation. The Chief Secretary directed the concerned departments to prepare a time-bound implementation roadmap with clearly defined milestones for phased rollout of the strategy and emphasized strict adherence to data privacy, cyber security and governance standards at every stage.

He expressed confidence that the proposed initiative would mark a significant step towards building a modern, integrated and citizen-centric governance ecosystem in Jammu and Kashmir. He said the initiative would strengthen evidence-based planning, improve inter-departmental coordination and ensure seamless delivery of Government services and welfare benefits by enabling secure and efficient sharing of authenticated data across departments.

DC Budgam for comprehensive preservation Manuscript heritage in District

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, JULY 18

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Athar Aamir Khan today called for comprehensive preservation of manuscript heritage in Budgam district.

The Deputy Commissioner said this while chairing a meeting to assess the implementation of Mission Gyan Bharatam, aimed at preserving, documenting, and digitising available manuscript and other heritage sites.

At the outset, the DC stressed the need for coordinated and time bound efforts to identify, document, and preserve historical manuscripts and records. He directed all government departments, Tehsildars, and BDOs to conduct surveys in their jurisdictions, including religious sites, heritage buildings, govern-



ment offices, and private collections, to identify valuable manuscripts for preservation. The Deputy Commissioner emphasised systematic digitisation, scientific conservation, and public awareness to safeguard these heritage assets and make them accessible through a national digital repository.

The General Manager, DIC Budgam, briefed the meeting on the progress of digitisation, public outreach, and other activities under the Mission.

The DC called for strong inter departmental coordination, regular monitoring, and effective field-level implementation to ensure the district's invaluable manu-

script heritage is preserved for future generations.

Among others, the meeting was attended by the General Manager, DIC Budgam (Nodal Officer), Joint Director Planning, ACD, ACP, CMO, CEO, BDOs, Tehsildars, Executive Officers of Municipal Committees, and other district officials.

DC Shopian reviews preparations for I-Day

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
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Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Shishir Gupta today chaired a comprehensive meeting at the Mini-Secretariat to review and finalize arrangements for the smooth and successful celebration of Independence Day-2026 across the district.

The meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner, Dr. Nasir Ahmed Lone; ADC, Dr. Zakir Hussain Faaz; GM, DIC, SDM, Zainapora, senior district officers, heads of departments, security agencies and other stakeholders who discussed the preparations in detail.

Reviewing the arrangements, the DC directed all departments to ensure meticulous planning and seamless coordination for the national event. He stressed that all necessary arrangements, including



venue preparation, security, sanitation, drinking water, electricity, seating, medical facilities, traffic management, parking, fire and emergency services, cultural programmes and uninterrupted public address systems, should be put in place well in advance.

The DC emphasized that Independence Day should be celebrated with patriotic fervour, dignity and enthu-

siasm while ensuring active participation of students, youth, ex-servicemen, freedom fighters families and the general public. He instructed the concerned departments to work in close coordination and complete all assigned responsibilities within the stipulated timeline. The meeting also reviewed the schedule of events, cultural performances, march-past contingents, illumination of

government buildings and arrangements for award presentations to ensure the celebrations are conducted in a befitting manner.

Reiterating the importance of coordinated efforts, the DC urged all departments to discharge their responsibilities with dedication to make the Independence Day celebrations memorable, peaceful and befitting the significance of the occasion.

DC Budgam stresses on adequate, uninterrupted portable water supply to people

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, JULY 18

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Athar Aamir Khan today asserted to ensure adequate portable water supply to the people across the District.

He said this while chairing a comprehensive review meeting to assess the distribution and rationalisation of potable water supply in Budgam.

At the outset, the Deputy Commissioner gave strict instructions for prompt redressal of portable water related issues, reported

anyone in the district. He directed concerned to ensure adequate water supply in both rural and urban areas of the District.

Reviewing the existing water supply network, the Deputy Commissioner emphasized the need for equitable and adequate distribution of drinking water to ensure uninterrupted supply to all habitations, particularly during the ongoing summer season.

Expressing concern over the issue of illegal tapping of water supply lines, the Deputy Commissioner directed the concerned offi-

cers to launch a comprehensive drive to identify and disconnect all unauthorized connections. He underscored that such illegal practices not only lead to significant water losses but also adversely affect the availability of potable water to genuine consumers.

The DC also instructed the officers to take strict measures to curb the misuse of treated drinking water for agricultural and other non-domestic purposes. He emphasized that potable water is a precious public resource and must be utilized judiciously for

its intended purpose.

Officials were directed to strengthen monitoring mechanisms and initiate appropriate action against violators.

Stressing on quality work execution and timely completion, the chair also reviewed the progress of various works being executed under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) and AMRUT 2.0 in the district.

The meeting, among others was also attended by the Joint Director Planning Budgam, SE Hydraulics Circle Budgam, Exen PHE and other concerned officials.

Training Programme on Medicinal Plant Cultivation at KVK Budgam

BUDGAM, JULY 18:

The Regional Cum Facilitation Centre Northern Region-II (RCFC NR-II), National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB), Ministry of AYUSH, SKUAST-K, today organized a Training-cum-Awareness Programme on "Opportunities in Cultivation of Medicinal Plants of Kashmir Valley" at Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Budgam.

The programme aimed to promote the scientific cultivation, conservation and commercialization of high-value medicinal plants of the Kashmir Valley while creating sustainable livelihood opportunities for farmers, youth and other stakeholders.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Bilal Ahmad Lone, Head, KVK Pulwama, highlighted the rich



diversity of medicinal plant resources found in the Kashmir Valley. He stressed the importance of conserving these valuable bioresources and adopting sustainable utilization practices to enhance rural livelihoods and ensure their long-term preservation. Dr. Sofi Imtiyaz Ali, Project Manager, RCFC NR-II, delivered a comprehensive lecture on the agro-techniques, post-harvest

management and market linkages of commercially important medicinal plants of the Kashmir Valley. He emphasized the vast scope for medicinal plant-based enterprises and underlined the initiatives undertaken by RCFC NR-II to promote the conservation, cultivation and commercialization of medicinal plants across Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.

During the programme,

participants were also sensitized about various schemes and financial assistance available under the NMPB, for the cultivation, processing and value addition of medicinal plants.

The programme concluded with an appeal to participants to adopt scientific cultivation practices, explore medicinal plant-based entrepreneurship and make effective use of the technical guidance and institutional support available through RCFC NR-II for developing sustainable livelihood opportunities.

The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from farmers, aspiring entrepreneurs, youth and other stakeholders, besides scientific and technical staff of KVK Budgam and the RCFC NR-II team.

IIM Jammu concludes Management Development Programme on 'Leadership Skills for Managers'

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The Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu concluded the three-day Management Development Programme (MDP) on "Leadership Skills for Managers" for officers of the National Buildings Construction Corporation (NBCC) Limited, held from July 16-18, 2026 under the aegis of the Executive Education & Consultancy Division. The programme was designed to strengthen leadership capabilities, strategic thinking, and managerial effectiveness among participants, enabling them to address the evolving challenges of the infrastructure and public sector ecosystem.

Prof. Rajesh Sikka, Chairperson, Executive Education & Consultancy, IIM Jammu, presented an overview of the Institute's Executive Education initiatives, and appreciated the encouraging reflections shared by the participants and emphasized that the true value of learning lies in its consis-

tent application. He remarked that learning is a two-way process and that IIM Jammu designs its Executive Education programmes to remain relevant to the evolving needs of professionals. Stressing the importance of adaptability, continuous learning, and peer learning in today's dynamic business environment, he encouraged the participants to first lead themselves, as effective leadership begins with self-leadership.

The Valedictory Ceremony commenced with a welcome address and programme overview by the Programme Director, Dr. Shivani Sachdev, who reflected on the objectives of the programme and highlighted the active participation, collaborative learning, and enriching interactions witnessed over the three days. They emphasized that the programme provided participants with contemporary perspectives on leadership, decision-making, organizational effectiveness, and professional excel-



lence. During the reflection session, participants expressed their appreciation for the thoughtfully curated programme, describing it as an enriching

and transformative learning experience. They highlighted that the sessions introduced them to contemporary perspectives on leadership and

management, many of which were directly relevant to their professional responsibilities. Participants appreciated the practical, tailor-made nature of the programme and expressed their commitment to implementing the key learnings in their respective organizations. They also lauded the engaging pedagogy, opportunities for peer learning, and interactions with faculty members, noting that the programme rekindled the spirit of college life while providing a refreshing break from routine professional responsibilities. Commending the serene campus environment and the hospitality extended by IIM Jammu, several participants remarked that the programme had not only enhanced their leadership perspectives but had also "awakened the leader within," expressing their desire to return for future Executive Education programmes.

The programme concluded with the distribution of certificates to the participants, recognizing their successful

completion of the Management Development Programme. The Vote of Thanks was delivered by Dr. Shivani Sachdev, Programme Director, who expressed sincere gratitude to the Institute's leadership, faculty members, resource persons, organizing team, and participants for their enthusiastic engagement and valuable contributions in making the programme a success. The ceremony concluded with the rendition of the National Anthem.

Through such Executive Education initiatives, IIM Jammu continues to strengthen its commitment to developing competent, future-ready, and value-driven leaders by fostering excellence in leadership, innovation, and organizational effectiveness, while contributing meaningfully to the capacity-building efforts of government institutions and public sector enterprises. The training program is being coordinated by IIM Jammu Executive Education and Consultancy.