

DC Anantnag reviews disaster preparedness, directs high state of operational readiness

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, JULY 18

In view of the adverse weather forecast issued by the Meteorological Department for next few days, Deputy Commissioner (Chairman District Disaster Management Authority) Anantnag, Dr. Bilal Mohiuddin Bhat today chaired a high-level emergency review meeting at Dak Bangalow, Khanabal.

The meeting was convened to assess departmental readiness, finalize precautionary measures, and establish a robust multi-sectoral response plan to mitigate risks arising from erratic weather patterns that may affect the district during the coming days.

CEO PDA, SDMs, SP, SEs of Jal Shakti, PDD and PWD; CPO, CMO, CEO, Tehsildar Anantnag, Exens of PWD, Flood Control and PHE; DD F&ES, DySP SDRF, ARTO, DYSSO, CEO MCA, EOs of MCs, Representatives of BSNL, Jio and Airtel and other concerned officials attended the meeting.

At the outset, a detailed presentation of the District Disaster Management Plan was run to apprise the participants about historical occurrences of floods, cloudbursts, flash floods and other disaster like incidents. A thorough discussion on the vulnerable areas and critical locations



was held on the occasion.

With the MeT Department warning of potential flash floods, landslides, and rise in river water levels which may lead to inundation and water logging in vulnerable areas, the Deputy Commissioner directed all line departments to transition into a state of high alert and operational readiness to ensure public safety and minimal disruption to essential services.

The extensive review focused on deploying immediate preventive strategies, mapping and activation of resources like boats, ropes, evacuation centres, dewatering pumps and special vehicles, mobilisation of adequate manpower including volunteers and machinery, securing critical infrastructure, and ensuring minimal communication

lag during the upcoming inclement weather cycle.

The Police and SDRF were directed to pre-position rescue teams and quick-response forces near historically vulnerable zones and low-lying areas prone to sudden water logging.

Sub-Divisional Magistrates (SDMs) were instructed to immediately activate the field teams and establish robust contact networks with field level functionaries especially Patwaris, Police Officials, Numberdars and Chowkidars.

Special emphasis was laid on keeping back up plans ready to cater to any extra ordinary situation like internet and telecom breakdowns. SDMs were further asked to continue

ously monitor the developments in their jurisdictions and manage local evacuations, wherever necessary.

Hydraulic/Jal Shakti and Flood Control Departments were asked to clear drainage choke points, arrange adequate number of sand bags and station heavy machinery including dewatering pumps, in consultation with F&ES Department, at critical locations especially in main town and high risk areas. Directives were passed to the R&B Department to provide sand bags and other necessary material for preventing breaches at vulnerable points.

The DC directed the CMO to put in place a well planned strategy for providing regular and emergency medical care, if needed, in all blocks during these days. He asked the CEO to identify educational institutions located in submergence prone areas and also keep evacuation centres fully functional.

The telecom service providers were directed to ensure proper connectivity and minimise disruptions for effective communication and prompt mitigation efforts in these situations.

Concluding the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner called for proper functioning of District and Subdivision Level Control Rooms for real time coordination and information dissemination.

DDC Bandipora reviews progress of District Capex, Revenue Capex and DAJGUA Works

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District Development Commissioner (DDC) Bandipora, Indu Kanwal Chib, today chaired a review meeting at the Mini Secretariat Bandipora to assess the progress of works under District Capex, Revenue Capex, SASCI and Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA).

The meeting reviewed the status of ongoing and new works, besides taking stock of administrative approvals accorded, pending estimates, tendering, allotment of works, approved outlay, funds released and expenditure incurred across various sectors.

At the outset, Chief Planning Officer Bandipora, Mohammad Maqbool Lone, presented a detailed overview of the ongoing works and projects and briefed the chair on the expenditure performance of the executing agencies.

The meeting reviewed the progress of works in sectors including Minor Irrigation, Roads & Buildings (R&B), Elementary Education, Secondary Education,



Youth Services & Sports, Health, Urban Development, Public Health Engineering (PHE), NFB, Untied Grants, DDC Grants, BDC Grants, PRI Grants, Aspirational Block Development Scheme (ABDS), Aspirational Panchayat Development Scheme (APDS) and Samridh Seema Yojana (SSY). The status of works under Revenue Capex, SASCI and DAJGUA was also reviewed.

During the meeting, the DDC directed all concerned officers to closely monitor and follow up the works be-

ing executed by agencies including R&B, Housing Board and the Rural Development Department (RDD) to ensure timely execution and optimum utilization of funds.

Emphasising accountability, the DDC directed that the intending departments shall be held responsible for any lapse leading to surrender of earmarked funds or low expenditure, and such responsibility should not be shifted solely to the executing agencies.

The DDC appreciated the efforts of the technical

team of the Rural Development Department for expediting the preparation of estimates under PRI Grants and BDC Grants, and urged them to maintain the same pace to facilitate timely execution of works. She further directed all departments to ensure timely submission of bills after completion of the prescribed works so that payments are processed without delay.

The DDC also directed the District Treasury Officer, to furnish department-wise details of bills submitted to the Treasury for payment to facilitate close monitoring of expenditure under various schemes.

Among others, the meeting was attended by Programme Officer ICDS, Superintending Engineer PHE Hydraulic Circle, Assistant Commissioner Development, Assistant Commissioner Panchayat, Chief Education Officer, Chief Medical Officer, District Sheep Husbandry Officer, Block Development Officers, Executive Engineers, District Treasury Officer, District Youth Services & Sports Officer, besides other concerned officers.

J&K Judicial Academy holds Day-33 Training for Civil Judges, Judicial Officers in Srinagar

SRINAGAR, JULY 18:

Under the patronage of Acting Chief Justice of High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh and Patron-in-Chief, Governing Committee, J&K Judicial Academy, Sanjeev Kumar and guidance of Justice Rajnesh Oswal, Judge, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh and Chairman, Governing Committee, J&K Judicial Academy, the Jammu & Kashmir Judicial Academy today conducted Day-33 of academic sessions of the Pre-Appointment Induction Training Programme for Trainee Civil Judges (Junior Division), Batch-2026, along with a Continuing Judicial Education Programme for the Judicial Officers of Batch-2020 at the J&K Judicial Academy, Mominabad, Srinagar.

The morning sessions were conducted by Justice Rajesh Bindal, Former Judge, Supreme Court of

India, on "Technology in the Administration of Justice" and "Artificial Intelligence for Judges."

Addressing the participants, Justice Rajesh Bindal highlighted the indispensable role of technology in strengthening an efficient, transparent and accessible justice delivery system. He underscored the judiciary's progressive transition towards digital and paperless courts through practical demonstrations of technological platforms such as the National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG), Electronic Supreme Court Reports (eSCR) and the Bhashini application.

Justice Rajesh Bindal familiarized the participants with their utility in judicial functioning, legal research and access to justice.

During the session on Artificial Intelligence, he explained the concept of Artificial Intelligence and demonstrated its applica-

tions in legal research, judgment support, drafting, summarization and transcription. He emphasised that AI is only an enabling tool and can never substitute the independent application of judicial mind.

Justice Rajesh Bindal urged the judicial officers to embrace technology responsibly and ethically while ensuring that the ultimate responsibility for judicial decision-making always rests with the Judge.

The afternoon sessions were conducted by Justice Rahul Bharti, Judge, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh and Member, Governing Committee, J&K Judicial Academy.

Addressing both the Judicial Officers of Batch-2020 and the Trainee Civil Judges (Junior Division), Batch-2026, Justice Rahul Bharti emphasized that the essence of the judicial profession lies in continuous learning, intellectual disci-

pline and unwavering seriousness towards one's judicial responsibilities.

Drawing from his own journey at the Bar and the invaluable lessons learnt under his senior, Justice Rahul Bharti observed that every judicial officer must cultivate the habit of constant study of law, legal history, jurisprudence and evolving judicial precedents.

He stressed that every matter brought before a court deserves careful and conscious application of mind, observing that no judicial proceeding is truly "uncontested" if examined with the vigilance, sensitivity and responsibility expected of a Judge.

Referring to judgment writing as one of the most significant responsibilities of a Judge, Justice Rahul Bharti encouraged the participants to develop clarity of thought, analytical reasoning and precision in judicial writing.

DC Ganderbal reviews implementation of HADP, JKICIP

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Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Jatin Kishore today chaired a meeting of the District Level Committee (DLC) to review the implementation and progress of the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP) and the Jammu & Kashmir Competitiveness Improvement of Agriculture & Allied Sectors Project (JK-CIP) in the district.

During the meeting, the DC conducted a comprehensive department-wise review of progress under HADP and JKICIP schemes. He reviewed the performance of all Agriculture and Allied Departments and directed the concerned departments to expedite the establishment of units against the allotted targets for the year 2026-27.

He further instructed the departments to ensure that all completed units are promptly updated and marked as established on the JKICIP Portal.

The meeting also reviewed the department-wise progress of Output Tracking of established units under JKICIP. Stressing the importance of timely monitoring and evaluation, the DC directed



the Departments of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Fisheries and Horticulture Planning & Marketing (HP&M) to complete the tracking of all remaining units on priority.

Reviewing the progress under the Daksh Kisan Portal, the DC directed all departments to intensify farmer registration, ensure timely enrolment of eligible beneficiaries and facilitate the completion of online training courses by registered farmers to strengthen capacity building and improve outreach under the programme.

The DC further took stock of the progress achieved under Kisan Khidmat Ghar (KKG) registrations, including L2 and L3 targets, and instructed all departments to accelerate registrations and im-

prove overall performance to achieve the assigned targets within the stipulated timeframe.

He also reviewed the status of credit application cases under HADP and JKICIP and directed all concerned banks to expedite the disposal of pending cases on priority so that the benefits reach eligible applicants without delay. Similarly, the progress under the Kisan Credit Card (KCC) scheme was reviewed, and banks were instructed to clear all pending KCC applications at the earliest.

During the meeting, the District Level Committee (DLC) approved 162 cases under HADP and JKICIP.

The DC emphasized close coordination among all stakeholder departments and financial institutions for effective implementa-

tion of HADP and JKICIP. He stressed the need for continuous monitoring, timely execution of targets and prompt disposal of pending cases to ensure that the benefits of these flagship programmes reach eligible farmers and allied sector beneficiaries in a transparent and time-bound manner.

The meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Chief Agriculture Officer, Chief Animal Husbandry Officer, Chief Horticulture Officer, Assistant Director Fisheries, Cluster Head J&K Bank, Lead District Manager, Nodal Officer HADP/ JKICIP, representatives of the concerned banks and officers of various Agriculture and Allied Departments.

SCERT strengthens Mathematics Education through Capacity Building Programme on Experiential Learning

SRINAGAR, JULY 18:

Reinforcing its commitment to competency-based and learner-centric education, the State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT), J&K, Divisional Office Kashmir, today successfully concluded a three-day Capacity Building Programme (CBP) on Experiential Learning in Mathematics.

The programme was organized by the Department of Education in Science and Mathematics, SCERT Divisional Office Kashmir, under the leadership of Syed Shabir Ahmad, Joint Director, SCERT, Divisional Office Kashmir.

The programme was designed in the cascading mode of professional development, wherein Master Resource Persons (MRPs) from various District Institutes of Education and Training (DIETs) and Schools of Kashmir Division were trained to further conduct similar capacity-building programmes for Mathematics teachers in their respective districts. This multiplier approach is expected to ensure wider dissemination of innovative pedagogical practices and strengthen classroom teaching across the Union Territory in

line with the vision of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and the National Curriculum Framework (NCF).

Speaking on the occasion, Joint Director, SCERT Divisional Office Kashmir, appreciated the efforts of the Department of Education in Science and Mathematics for organizing the programme and reaffirmed SCERT's commitment to continuous professional development of teachers. He expressed confidence that the cascading approach would significantly enhance the reach and impact of experiential pedagogy, ultimately contributing to improved learning outcomes in Mathematics across schools of Jammu & Kashmir.

The training programme was coordinated by Gulzar Ahmad Dar, Senior Academic Officer, SCERT J&K, who emphasized that experiential learning is central to developing conceptual understanding, critical thinking, creativity and problem-solving abilities among learners. He highlighted that the cascading model adopted by SCERT would enable the knowledge, skills and innovative teaching practices acquired during the programme to



reach thousands of Mathematics teachers through district-level training initiatives.

The first technical session focused on Experiential Learning in Mathematics, introducing participants to the principles of activity-based, inquiry-driven and competency-oriented teaching. The session highlighted practical classroom strategies for connecting mathematical concepts with real-life situations, thereby making learning engaging, meaningful and learner-centred.

The second session was con-

ducted by Dr. Khalid, Lecturer in Mathematics, who demonstrated the pedagogical applications of Origami in Mathematics. Through interactive paper-folding activities, participants explored innovative approaches to teaching geometry, symmetry, fractions, measurement and spatial reasoning using simple, low-cost teaching-learning materials.

On the second day, Sheikh Bashir conducted an intensive hands-on session, providing participants with practical exposure to experiential classroom

strategies. Through collaborative activities and classroom simulations, the participants learned to design engaging Mathematics lessons that promote exploration, logical reasoning and conceptual understanding.

Abdul Rashid Malla, demonstrated a wide range of innovative Mathematics activities and low-cost teaching-learning materials. Participants actively developed and practiced classroom-ready activities that can be effectively replicated in schools to foster joyful and meaningful

learning experiences.

The third day commenced with an engaging session by Sheikh Mohammad Iqbal on Brain Teasing Mathematics, where participants explored mathematical puzzles, games and logical challenges aimed at enhancing analytical thinking, creativity and higher-order problem-solving skills among students.

The valedictory technical session was conducted by Tariq Ahmad Deca, who showcased a variety of innovative Mathematics activities and demonstrated practical classroom techniques for simplifying abstract mathematical concepts through experiential and participatory approaches.

The session further reinforced the importance of using locally available resources to make Mathematics interactive, inclusive and enjoyable.

Throughout the three-day programme, participants actively engaged in discussions, peer learning, reflective exercises, group work and practical demonstrations. The emphasis remained on equipping the Master Resource Persons with the knowledge and confidence re-

quired to effectively implement and subsequently replicate the training in their respective districts under the cascading model.

During the valedictory session, Javaid Ahmad Bandy, Assistant Professor SCERT-JK, Central underscored the importance of embracing experiential learning across all disciplines, with particular emphasis on Mathematics, in consonance with the transformative vision of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. He stressed that experiential pedagogy fosters conceptual understanding, critical thinking, creativity and problem-solving skills, and urged the participants to serve as catalysts in implementing these learner-centric approaches in their classrooms through the cascading mode of teacher training.

The programme concluded with a collective commitment by the participants to carry forward the objectives of the training by conducting district-level programmes and promoting experiential, competency-based and activity-oriented Mathematics education in classrooms throughout the Kashmir Division.