

DC Budgam visits Beerwah, Narbal areas to assess flood situation

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, JULY 21

Deputy Commissioner Budgam, Athar Aamir Khan, today visited various flood-prone areas of Beerwah and Narbal areas to assess the situation following incessant rainfall and the rise in water levels in Nallah Sukhnag and its tributaries.

During the visit, the Deputy Commissioner reviewed the ground situation at Main Town Beerwah, Hanjigund, Makhama,Chewdara, Kanihama, Malpur, Sanoor, Narbal, Mazhama and inspected vulnerable locations, and took stock of the preparedness and response measures put in place by the district administration.

He directed high alert and immediate activation of all rescue and emergency response teams including Police, SDRF, Civil Defence, Fire & Emergency Services and other line departments, to ensure prompt response to any eventuality. He instructed officers to maintain round-the-clock monitoring of nallahs, drains and other



vulnerable locations and remain fully prepared for emergency response.

The Deputy Commissioner said that Station House Officers (SHOs), field officers and rescue teams are on the ground, continuously monitoring the situation and advising residents in vulnerable areas to evacuate wherever necessary as a precautionary measure.

Appealing to the public to extend full cooperation to the administration, the Deputy Commissioner urged people to stay indoors unless absolutely necessary and strictly avoid

venturing near nallahs, embankments, breached spots and other flood-prone areas.

He also advised people not to gather near water bodies out of curiosity, as such actions could endanger lives. He further urged residents living close to nallahs or other vulnerable locations to immediately comply with evacuation advisories issued by the police or local administration and shift to safer places until the situation improves.

The Deputy Commissioner reiterated that the district administration is maintaining constant vigil,

with all departments working in close coordination to safeguard lives and property.

He assured the public that every possible measure is being taken to effectively deal with the situation and appealed to citizens to remain calm, vigilant and follow official advisories.

ADDC Budgam, Vivek Agarwal, ADC Budgam, Taufeeq Ahmad Gazi, SEs. XENs of various Engineering Departments, Concerned Tehsildar and other concerned officers also accompanied the Deputy Commissioner.

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Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Information Technology, Youth Services & Sports and Science & Technology, Satish Sharma, today undertook an extensive visit to the flood-affected areas of Rajouri district to assess the damage caused by the recent flash floods, review the ongoing rescue, relief and rehabilitation measures, and take stock of the restoration of essential public services.

Reaffirming the Government's commitment to ensuring timely relief and rehabilitation of every affected family, the Minister said that the administration has been directed to leave no stone unturned in extending immediate assistance and restoring normalcy in the affected areas.

The Minister began his visit by inspecting the flood-ravaged Baila Bus Stand, one of the worst-affected locations in Rajouri town. He took stock of the extensive damage caused to the bus stand infrastructure and inspected several vehicles that were severely damaged after being caught in the flash floods. He directed the concerned officers to conduct a detailed assessment of the losses and expedite restoration measures to ensure the early resumption of public transport services.

Interacting with local residents and transporters, Satish Sharma expressed deep concern over the hardships faced by them due to the natural calamity. He assured them that the Government is closely monitoring the situation and all genuine cases of



damage and loss would be addressed in accordance with the established norms.

Subsequently, the Minister visited the Relief and Rehabilitation Centre established by the District Administration at Government Boys Higher Secondary School (BHSS), Rajouri, where families displaced by the floods have been provided temporary shelter.

The Minister spent considerable time interacting with the affected families, listening to their concerns and enquiring about their immediate requirements. He assured them that the Government stands shoulder to shoulder with them during this difficult period and that every possible measure would be taken to ensure their safety, welfare and dignified rehabilitation.

During the visit, Deputy Commissioner Rajouri Abhishek Sharma briefed the Minister on the rescue operations conducted immediately after the flash floods, the ongoing relief measures and the rehabilitation plan being implemented by the district administration. He informed that the administration has made comprehensive arrangements at the relief centre, including safe accommodation, nutritious

food, clean drinking water, uninterrupted electricity, sanitation facilities, healthcare services, medicines, counselling support and other essential amenities to ensure the well-being of the displaced families.

The Minister also conducted a comprehensive review of the availability and restoration of essential public services in the affected areas. He assessed the status of ration supply, drinking water, electricity, road connectivity, transport services, healthcare facilities and other civic amenities. He directed the officers of the concerned departments to work in close coordination to restore all damaged infrastructure and public utilities on a priority basis while ensuring uninterrupted delivery of essential services to the affected population.

Emphasising the importance of coordinated disaster response, Satish Sharma instructed all departments to maintain close coordination, remain on alert and ensure prompt redressal of public grievances. He stressed that relief efforts should continue until every affected family is adequately rehabilitated and normal life is fully restored.

The Minister appreciated

the dedicated efforts of the District Administration, Police, SDRF, Civil Defence, volunteers and all line departments for their swift response in carrying out rescue and relief operations despite challenging conditions. He observed that their timely intervention helped minimise the impact of the disaster and ensured the safety of many residents.

"The Government is fully committed to providing every possible assistance to the flood-affected families. All departments have been directed to work with urgency and compassion so that relief reaches every deserving person without delay. Restoration of essential services and rehabilitation of affected families remain our highest priority," the Minister said.

MLA Rajouri Iftikhar Ahmed and MLA Thanamandi Muzaffar Ahmad Khan accompanied the Minister during the visit and interacted with the affected families and local residents.

Senior district and sectoral officers were also present and briefed the Minister on the prevailing situation, the progress of relief operations and the measures being taken to restore normalcy across the affected areas.

DC Ganderbal visits Shrine of Hazrat Qamar-Ud-Din Bukhari (RA), interacts with devotees and locals

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Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Jatin Kishore today visited the shrine of Hazrat Qamar-Ud-Din Bukhari (RA) and reviewed the arrangements put in place for the Urs Mubarak.

During the visit, the Deputy Commissioner interacted with representatives of the Shrine Management Committee and local residents to obtain firsthand feedback regarding the arrangements made for the Urs Mubarak.

The DC interacted with the officers of the line departments and was apprised of the arrangements being made to ensure the smooth conduct of the Urs, including sanitation, uninterrupted drinking water and power supply, security, approach roads and other essential facilities. He instructed all concerned officers to work in close coordination and ensure all arrangements for the convenience of the devotees.



venience of the devotees.

The Deputy Commissioner directed the Executive Engineer R&B to ensure that all approach roads leading to the shrine are maintained in good condition and any pending works are completed well in time. Similarly, the Executive Engineer PHE was instructed to ensure uninterrupted supply of safe drinking water, while the Executive Engineer KPDCL was directed to provide un-

interrupted power supply with adequate backup arrangements during the Urs days.

The CEO, Municipal Council Ganderbal, was directed to maintain proper sanitation, cleanliness, scientific waste management and installation of adequate public convenience facilities in and around the shrine premises and adjoining areas.

The DC stressed the importance of coordinated ef-

forts by all departments to ensure seamless arrangements for the convenience, safety and comfort of the devotees expected to participate in the Urs Mubarak.

The DC was accompanied by Additional Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Executive Engineers of R&B, PHE and KPDCL, Chief Executive Officer, Municipal Council Ganderbal and other concerned officers.

Div Com Kashmir reviews Flood Preparedness in Kulgam, directs for High-Level Readiness

KULGAM, JULY 21: In view of the prevailing inclement weather conditions, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Anshul Garg, today chaired a comprehensive review meeting in Kulgam to assess the district's preparedness for potential weather-related emergencies and evaluate the readiness of the District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA).

At the outset, Deputy Commissioner Kulgam, Shahzad Alam, presented a detailed overview of the district's preparedness, highlighting department-wise mitigation strategies and the operational readiness of relief, rescue, and rehabilitation mechanisms.

Reviewing the flood protection and mitigation measures undertaken by various departments and agencies, the Divisional Commissioner directed all concerned officers to maintain a high level of pre-



paredness and ensure the immediate deployment of field teams to effectively respond to any emergency.

He emphasized the need for continuous monitoring of water levels, vulnerability mapping of flood-prone villages, strategic deployment of manpower and machinery, and ensuring the full operational readiness of

the disaster response system and the district control room.

The Divisional Commissioner also reviewed the status of essential public services, including telecommunications, healthcare, drinking water supply, electricity, and the availability of essential commodities across the

district. He instructed the concerned departments to ensure uninterrupted services during any adverse weather situation.

Highlighting the importance of timely communication, he stressed the need for issuing public advisories and strengthening awareness initiatives among vulnerable communities to minimize the impact of any potential flood situation.

The meeting was attended by the Additional Deputy Commissioner, Additional Commissioner Revenue, Additional Superintendent of Police, Assistant Commissioner Development, and other district and sectoral officers.

Earlier, the Divisional Commissioner visited Mata Kulwagishori Temple at Bungal and Mata Katyani Temple at Kakran to review the arrangements for the smooth and successful conduct of the upcoming Annual Maha Yagya.

Govt constitutes Committee to examine career progression of Panchayat Accounts Assistants

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In a significant step towards addressing the long-pending service concerns of Panchayat Accounts Assistants (PAAs), the Jammu and Kashmir government has constituted a high-level committee to examine and finalize a comprehensive proposal on the Assured Career Progression (ACP) of the cadre.

The move is expected to provide a major impetus to resolve the long-pending service matters of nearly 1,700 Panchayat Accounts Assistants, who have been awaiting a structured career progression framework, including service rules and promotional avenues, since their recruitment through the Jammu and Kashmir Services Selection Board (JKSSB).

According to Government Order No. 109-JK (RD&PR) of 2026, issued by the Secretary, Rural Development and Panchayati



Raj Department, Mohammad Aijaz Asad, the five-member committee has been entrusted with examining all aspects of the matter and preparing a comprehensive proposal for the career progression of Panchayat Accounts Assistants serving in the department.

The committee will be headed by the Director, Rural Development, Kashmir, as Chairperson. Its members included the Director Finance, RDD&PR;

the Additional Secretary (Works), RDD&PR; the Deputy Legal Remembrance (P), RDD&PR and the Under Secretary (R), RDD&PR, who will function as the Member Secretary.

The committee has been directed to submit its recommendations, along with the relevant records, to the Administrative Department within a stipulated timeframe to facilitate consideration of the proposal

by the Government.

Secretary, RDD&PR, Mohammad Aijaz Asad, said the committee has been constituted to undertake a comprehensive examination of the issue and submit its recommendations in a time-bound manner so that the matter can be placed before the Government for an appropriate decision.

He said the initiative reflects the department's commitment to address the genuine service concerns of Panchayat Accounts Assistants through a structured, transparent, and consultative process.

Highlighting the important role played by PAAs, the Secretary said they are responsible for managing financial operations at Block Development Offices and facilitating the implementation of flagship rural development programmes, including VB-G RAM G, Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen), PMAY-G and other centrally sponsored schemes.

ADDC Budgam chairs review meeting on Mission Yuva

BUDGAM, JULY 21: A review meeting was held under the chairmanship of the Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC), Budgam, Vivek Agarwal to assess the pendency of cases in banks under Mission Yuva.

During the meeting, the ADC reviewed the branch-wise status of pending cases and emphasized the need for timely disposal to ensure eligible beneficiaries receive financial assistance without unnecessary delay.



The bank Branch Managers were instructed to expedite the processing of pending applications and maintain close coordina-

tion with the concerned departments.

The ADC instructed clearance of targets and directed all Branch Managers

to achieve the assigned targets within the stipulated timeframe. He stressed that delays in processing applications adversely affect employment generation and urged the banks to adopt a proactive approach in sanctioning eligible cases.

The meeting concluded with a commitment from all participating Branch Managers to work towards the timely clearance of pending cases and improve the overall performance of their respective branches.