

Heavy Rainfall: DC Anantnag visits high risk areas, takes stock of situation

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, JULY 23

Amid continuous inclement weather and heavy rainfall, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Anantnag, Dr. Bilal Mohiuddin Bhat, today conducted an extensive tour of various high-risk locations, vulnerable river-side areas, and major streams (Nallahs) across the district to assess the situation on the ground.

The DC toured critical sites including Mehndi Kadal, Danter Bridge, Ashajipora Bye Pass, Deva Colony, Rooh, and Aang to observe the ground situation. He was accompanied by ADC, Dr. Muzamil Maqbool Beig; SE Hydraulics, Sareer Ahmad Wani; SE PWD, Syed Ishfaq Ahmad; ACR, Tariq Ahmad Malik; Tehsildar Anantnag, ExEn Flood Control, CEO and Secretary MCA and officials from other essential services.

During the visit, the DC reviewed the water levels of key water bodies, including the Aripat, Bringi, and Linder Nallahs, and evaluated the safety and mitigation measures implemented by the Flood Control, Public Works Department (R&B), Revenue, Police, SDRF, and other concerned agencies. He inspected the de-watering station at Mehndi Kadal and asked the concerned officers to closely monitor the water levels and act immediately when required, to avoid water logging in main town.

The DC was informed that dewatering pumps have been actively deployed at crucial choke



points and waterlogging has been cleared at major spots, including KP Road, Janglat Mandi, Ganjiwara, General Bus Stand, town interiors and other roadside areas. He was further informed that a number of nomadic, labor, and vulnerable families have been safely relocated to fully operational evacuation centers at Brakpora, Hiller, Aang, Bijbehara, and other high risk places. Further, strengthening of river embankments by Sand and EC Bags has been carried out at various breach prone places including Batengu, Mehndi Kadal, Deva Colony, GMC Anantnag,

Pushwara and Sagam. Taking stock of the situation, the DC directed that all departments must remain in a high state of alert and readiness to prevent any untoward incident related to life of residents and to minimise property damage. He called for seamless pre-positioning of joint response teams comprising officials of Revenue, Police, SDRF, CRPF, and civil administration at safer and strategic locations to ensure swift rescue operations, if required. He instructed for the prompt evacuation of nomadic groups, and labour communities residing near wa-

ter bodies to nearby emergency shelters equipped with essential facilities.

Interacting with local residents during his visit, the DC urged citizens to remain calm, avoid venturing near rivers and streams, restrict unnecessary travel until the weather improves, and strictly adhere to official advisories.

While the overall situation in Anantnag district remains under control, the District Administration is continuously monitoring weather patterns as well as water levels and is prepared to handle both emergency mitigation and post-rainfall recovery.

DLSA Ganderbal held meeting of Monitoring to review functioning of LADCs

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In pursuance of Regulation 11 of the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) (Free & Competent Legal Aid) Regulations, 2010, the Monitoring and Mentoring Committee of the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Ganderbal convened a meeting today at the Conference Hall, District Court Complex, Ganderbal to review the functioning and performance of the Legal Aid Defence Counsels (LADCs) and Panel Lawyers engaged in providing free legal services.

The meeting was chaired by Abdul Nasir, Chairman, DLSA (Principal District & Sessions Judge), Ganderbal, in the presence of Sheikh Babar Hussain, Secretary, DLSA Ganderbal, and Adv. Sajad Hyder Salathi, Member, Monitoring and Mentoring Committee.

During the meeting, the Committee undertook a comprehensive review of legal aid cases and expressed satisfaction with the overall functioning of the Legal Aid Defence Counsels. However, it observed that in certain matters, particularly before the Juvenile Justice Board (JJB), some Panel Lawyers are not appearing personally and instead deputed junior advocates. The Com-



mittee directed all Panel Lawyers to ensure their personal appearance in assigned matters henceforth and to discharge their professional responsibilities with sincerity, diligence and commitment.

The Committee further reiterated that legal aid cases shall continue to be assigned by the Secretary, DLSA in a fair, transparent and equitable manner among Panel Lawyers, while maintaining proper records of all assignments. However, Deputy Chief LADC was also directed to ensure equitable distribution of cases among LADCs under strict control of Secretary DLSA Ganderbal. Emphasizing account-

ability, all LADCs were directed to maintain a daily work diary and submit consolidated monthly reports to the DLSA through the Deputy LADC. The Committee also stressed punctuality, professional conduct and adherence to the standards prescribed under the Modified Legal Aid Defence Counsel Scheme, 2022. The Committee expressed concern over the non-updation of case proceedings on the NALSA Portal despite previous directions. All LADCs and Panel Lawyers were directed to update the proceedings of all assigned legal aid cases on the NALSA Portal regularly and ensure that all pending updates

are completed by 31st July, 2026. It was further resolved that failure to comply with these directions within the stipulated time may invite appropriate action under the applicable rules and guidelines, including withholding of honorarium wherever warranted. The Committee also discussed the importance of regular capacity building and legal awareness activities. It has observed that participation in training programmes and legal awareness initiatives is an integral part of the responsibilities of Panel Lawyers and LADCs. In this regard, all concerned were informed that a Two-Day Training-cum-Orientation Programme has already been scheduled for 29 and 30 July, 2026, and all LADCs and Panel Lawyers were directed to attend the programme without fail.

The Committee further directed all Panel Lawyers and LADCs to ensure timely submission of case updates, reports and other information to the DLSA Office to facilitate effective monitoring of legal aid services. The meeting concluded with a reaffirmation of the Committee's commitment to strengthening the legal aid delivery system and ensuring that free and competent legal services are provided efficiently, professionally and in accordance with the objectives of NALSA.

Advanced Trauma Training held at GMC Anantnag to strengthen emergency care services

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Government Medical College (GMC) Anantnag, in collaboration with the Emergency Medicine Academy, Manchester (UK), on Thursday conducted a full-day Advanced Trauma Training programme at the college to strengthen trauma management and emergency care services.

The programme, accredited with four credit hours by the J&K Medical Council, was organised under the supervision of Principal, GMC Anantnag, Prof. (Dr.) Junaid S. Wani, and coordinated by the Department of Pediatrics.

The training programme was aimed at supporting GMC Anantnag in establishing a full-fledged Emergency Medicine Department and enhancing the capacity of healthcare professionals in advanced trauma management.

Speaking on the occasion, Principal GMC Anantnag, reiterated the institution's commitment to promoting academic excellence and improving patient care through such capacity-building initiatives. He said GMC Anantnag



will continue to support academic programmes that enhance clinical skills and expressed confidence that the college would soon realise its vision of establishing a dedicated Emergency Medicine Department.

Course Director, Dr. Mehdi Hassan and Deputy Course Director Dr. Hamid Zafar of the Emergency Medicine Academy, Manchester, assured continued academic and technical support to GMC Anantnag in strengthening emergency and trauma care services in the region. They said the academy remains committed to assisting the

institution at every level to establish emergency medicine services in line with international standards.

Around 60 participants, including Medical Officers, Consultants, Faculty Members and Resident Doctors from various departments, attended the training programme.

The programme focused on the A-to-E assessment of trauma patients and a structured, hands-on approach to conducting the complete primary survey.

The event also featured special case discussions and practical demonstrations of advanced emer-

gency procedures, including chest drain insertion using the Seldinger technique, intraosseous (IO) cannulation, open surgical chest drain insertion, eFAST scan and resuscitative thoracotomy, where feasible. Hands-on training was also provided using manikins and sheep carcass models to enhance procedural skills in realistic simulation settings.

The organisers said the initiative marks a significant milestone in strengthening trauma management capabilities and advancing emergency medical care at GMC Anantnag.

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Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Shahzad Alam, today chaired a review meeting to assess the functioning and performance of the Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA) Department in the district.

The meeting focused on the implementation of various public distribution schemes, availability of essential commodities, ration distribution, Aadhaar seeding, e-KYC progress, grievance redressal, and overall service delivery under the Public Distribution System (PDS).

The Deputy Commissioner reviewed the status of ration card management, distribution of food grains, and measures taken to ensure transparency and timely delivery of benefits to eligible beneficiaries.

The DC stressed the importance of maintaining adequate stocks of essential commodities and ensuring uninterrupted sup-



plies across all areas of the district. He focussed on prioritising the timely distribution of essentials along with strengthening the grievance redressal mechanism.

Emphasizing accountability and efficiency, the DC directed the concerned

officers to address public grievances promptly, strengthen monitoring mechanisms, and ensure that no eligible beneficiary is deprived of entitlements under government welfare schemes.

The meeting was attended by Additional Dis-

trict Development Commissioner Kulgam, Altaf Ahmad Khan, Additional Deputy Commissioner Kulgam, Vikar Ahmad Giri, Assistant Director, FCS&CA Kulgam, Iftikhar Ahmad Khan and Tehsil Supply Officers along with other concerned officials.

District Admin Bandipora to work with School Ecology Clubs for waste Management

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Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Indu Kanwal Chib, on Thursday chaired a preliminary meeting with Eco Club Incharges of High and Higher Secondary Schools across the district, along with students from NMBHSS and GHSS Bandipora, to discuss the urgent need for effective waste management and environmental conservation.

The Deputy Commissioner highlighted the important role of educational institutions in promoting environmental awareness and called for revitalising Eco Clubs across the district. She stressed the need for regular monitoring of Eco Club activities and urged the Incharges to identify and encourage



committed students and teachers to lead environmental protection initiatives in their respective institutions.

The meeting also discussed the implementation of the Solid Waste Manage-

ment Rules and deliberated on the role of Eco Clubs in promoting waste segregation at source, waste reduction and sustainable waste management practices.

To strengthen practical learning and encourage

greater awareness, the Deputy Commissioner urged the participants to undertake exposure visits to key district initiatives, including the Knowledge Centre, Jal Shakti Kendra, NRLM Women Self-Help Group-run Cafeteria and Project Insaniyat, to gain first-hand experience of sustainable and community-driven initiatives.

On the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner urged the Eco Club Incharges and students to lead by example by adopting zero-waste practices beginning from their own homes. She said that lasting environmental change begins with individual responsibility and collective action, and called upon everyone to contribute towards preserving the natural beauty and ecology of Bandipora.

3 medical shops closed in surprise inspections in Shopian

SHOPIAN, JULY 23:

Acting on the directions issued during the NCORD review meetings, Drugs Control Department, Shopian today conducted surprise inspections of pharmacies in Keegam and Keller to ensure strict compliance with the provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and the Rules framed thereunder.

During the inspection drive, officials verified the functioning of Computerized Billing Systems (CBS) and CCTV cameras be-



sides examining purchase and sale records of scheduled formulations, stock registers, invoices and the availability of qualified persons at licensed

premises. The inspection also assessed adherence to licence conditions and statutory requirements. During the enforcement

drive, several violations of licence conditions were detected, including the absence of qualified persons at licensed establishments. Consequently, three medical shops were ordered to be closed on the spot under the relevant provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and the Rules framed thereunder. The department also initiated further regulatory action against the defaulting establishments in accordance with the provisions of the Act and Rules.