

CS reviews progress of BISAG-N-supported IT-enabled governance projects across deptts

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, JULY 24

Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today chaired a high-level review meeting to assess the progress of various Information Technology (IT) and e-Governance projects being implemented across multiple departments of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir taken-up in collaboration with the Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications and Geo-informatics (BISAG-N).

The meeting besides the Commissioner Secretary, IT, Saurabh Bhagat; and Special Director General, BISAG-N, Vinay Thakur; was attended by the concerned Administrative Secretaries, Heads of Departments, senior police officers, representatives from the National Informatics Centre, and other stakeholder agencies.

A comprehensive department-wise review was undertaken to evaluate the implementation status of ongoing digital governance projects, identify bottlenecks, review timelines and accelerate completion of technology-enabled initiatives aimed at improving governance, enhancing transparency and making public services more accessible, efficient and citizen-friendly. During the meeting, the Chief Secretary underscored that digital transformation is a key pillar of governance reforms and directed departments to ensure close coordination with BISAG-N for timely completion of all pending modules. He emphasized that every digital intervention must ultimately translate into improved public service delivery, simplified procedures, enhanced accountability and greater convenience for citizens.

He further emphasized that all technology-enabled projects should remain focused on improving ease of living for citizens by ensuring transparent, efficient and time-bound delivery of public services.

He took the occasion to impress upon the departments to adhere strictly to project timelines and ensure



seamless integration of departmental databases for effective implementation of digital governance initiatives. He stressed the need for continuous monitoring, timely resolution of technical issues and adoption of emerging technologies, including Artificial Intelligence, wherever feasible to improve governance outcomes.

Reviewing the progress of the Finance Department's AI-based GST Analytics and Fraud Detection Portal, the meeting was informed that the platform has significantly strengthened tax compliance through advanced analytics and fraud detection mechanisms. More than 4,300 notices have been issued based on analytics generated by the portal, resulting in substantial revenue recovery. The system has also been strengthened through enhanced reporting modules, Action Taken Report monitoring and improved processing capabilities.

While reviewing the End-to-End Energy Tracking and Management System (EETMS) of the Power Development Department, the meeting was informed that the project has entered the operational deployment phase with live dashboards, role-based access and Management Information System (MIS) reports across power sector corporations. API-based data integration and automated alerts are being operationalized, while future phases will incorporate Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning for demand forecasting, predictive maintenance and advanced decision support.

The meeting also reviewed the implementation of the Integrated Mining Surveillance System (IMSS)

developed for the Mining Department. The project uses satellite imagery and geo-spatial technologies for detection of illegal mining activities and GPS-enabled monitoring of mineral transportation vehicles. Thousands of mineral transport vehicles have already been integrated with the surveillance platform, enabling automated alerts and improved enforcement.

Reviewing initiatives in the School Education Department, the meeting was informed that the JK e-Pathshala Educational Television Channel is broadcasting curriculum-based educational content round the clock and has considerably expanded access to quality learning resources, particularly for students in remote areas.

The Tourism Department presented the progress achieved in development of the redesigned JK Tourism Web Portal and Mobile Application, equipped with an AI-powered chatbot, integrated tourist information, itinerary planning, hotel and transport onboarding and digital payment facilities. The platform is expected to significantly improve the overall visitor experience while promoting tourism destinations across the Union Territory.

The meeting also reviewed progress on several important digital initiatives of the Agriculture Production Department, including Kisan Khidmat Ghar, Kisan Sathi, Daksh Kisan and the JKICP Portal, which are aimed at strengthening digital agriculture services, improving scheme implementation, enhancing monitoring mechanisms and providing technology-enabled support to farmers.

han grievance redressal platform, the Chief Secretary was informed that substantial progress has been achieved in addressing system improvements and implementation of new functionalities. He directed the concerned agencies to ensure expeditious completion of all remaining action points to further strengthen public grievance redressal.

The Revenue Department presented the status of modernization of land records, digitization of Jamabandis, workflow automation and mutation management systems designed to improve transparency, efficiency and accessibility of revenue services.

The meeting also reviewed the implementation status of several other important digital governance initiatives, including the Single Window System for Recruitment Rules, Unified Cooperative Dashboard, PMAY-Urban 2.0 Household Survey Application, Mission YUVA Mobile Application, JK SeHAT Mobile Application, District Good Governance Dashboard, Digital Digest of Statistics, Village Planning Portal, Family ID Project, Industrial Mapping Application, Forest e-Behak System, Anganwadi GIS Tracking Platform, PWD Digital Project Monitoring System, Youth Engagement Portal and other GIS-enabled platforms being developed for various departments.

The meeting concluded with detailed directions for early completion of pending deliverables, enhanced inter-departmental coordination and periodic review of all ongoing digital governance projects to ensure their timely operationalization across the Union Territory.

Shri Machail Mata Yatra deferred till July 27 due to inclement weather; online Registration and RFID mandatory for all pilgrims: DC Kishtwar

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Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar Pankaj Kumar Sharma today informed that Shri Machail Mata Yatra 2026 is officially scheduled from July 25 to September 8. However, inclement weather has stopped the Yatra for three days and it stands deferred till July 27. The district administration will review the weather situation thereafter and the Yatra will commence only after conditions turn favourable.

The Deputy Commissioner said the Holy Kapaat of the sacred shrine of Shri Machail Mata Ji will reopen on the 25th as per the rituals, with the priests and locals at Machail performing the traditional rituals. Thereafter, keeping in view the prevailing weather, the pilgrimage for devotees will start from July 28, subject to an assessment of favourable weather conditions.

The new SOPs introduced this year are aimed primarily at the safety and convenience of pilgrims. Registration has been made 100 per cent online and mandatory and an RFID system has been introduced.

Under the RFID system, the movement of every pilgrim will be tracked. The necessary infrastructure has already been installed to monitor pilgrim movement and ensure that vulnerable areas, including steep gorges and landslide-prone stretches, do not wit-



ness overcrowding.

The DC informed that the Yatra starts from Jammu. The total distance from Jammu to Machail Bhawan is 304.7 km, of which only 1.7 km has to be covered on foot, while the remaining stretch is motorable. At the last motorable point, Darshini Deodi, drinking water, power, sanitation, toilets and parking have been arranged. A small bus stand with a holding capacity of 50-70 vehicles has been established at Darshini Deodi, Machail, which will carry pilgrims from Gulabgarh. Pilgrims will be allowed to travel only between 5:00 AM and 5:00 PM. A daily cap of 8,000 pilgrims has also been fixed and once the limit is reached, the remaining registered pilgrims will be allowed to proceed the following day.

The Deputy Commissioner urged all pilgrims to complete their registration before commencing the Yatra. Online registration can be completed through the official portal <http://www.srimachal-matayatra.com>, which carries step-by-step guidelines. Pilgrims are required to register their mobile number, verify it through OTP and add the details of accompanying family members.

Two RFID Yatra Registration Counters have been established at the Base Camp, Gauri Shankar Temple, Sarkoot, Kishtwar and six to seven counters set up at Gulabgarh according to the expected influx of pilgrims. The DC clarified that no pilgrim will be allowed to proceed beyond the first security check at Deondi Morh without an RFID

card. RFID has been made mandatory for all pilgrims, including children, as it will enable authorities to monitor crowd movement, identify gatherings at vulnerable locations and ensure timely guidance and assistance. Police personnel have been deployed at vulnerable locations to generate awareness among pilgrims against halting there.

SSP Kishtwar Naresh Singh said Police, NDRF, SDRF, Army and Special Police pickets have been deployed along the Yatra route to ensure the safety and security of pilgrims.

The SSP appealed to devotees to read and strictly follow the SOPs, observe the prescribed travel timings and cooperate with the administration. ADC Kishtwar Pawan Kotwal was also present on the occasion.

JKBOSE postpones exams scheduled for July 25

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The Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education

has postponed the Annual (Private)/Bi-Annual 2026 examinations of Class 11 (HSP-I) scheduled for July 25. Fresh dates for the post-

poned examinations will be notified separately.

As per the notification issued, the examination of the Jammu and Kashmir State

Open School (JKSOS Class 12) will be held on the dates already notified, at the Jammu, Srinagar, Leh and Kargil centres.

DDC Poonch visits flash flood-hit Hari-Marhote villages in Surankote subdivision, reviews relief measures

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
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District Development Commissioner Poonch Ashok Kumar Sharma today visited the flash flood-affected villages of Hari-Marhote in Tehsil Surankote to assess the damage caused by the recent calamity and review the relief, rescue and restoration measures being undertaken by the district administration.

The DDC reached the affected area early in the morning, accompanied by SDM Surankote Mohammed Farooq Khan, Assistant Commissioner (Development) Shakeel Ahmed, Executive Engineers of PWD (R&B), Jal Shakti Department and Irrigation & Flood Control, besides other officers concerned.

He inspected the damage to roads, shops, school buildings, protection bunds along the riverbed, agricultural land, standing crops, horticulture, irrigation channels and other public and private infrastructure. He also interacted with affected families and local residents, heard their grievances and obtained first-hand feedback on the losses suffered and the immediate requirements of the people.

The DDC sought detailed reports from the departments concerned on the extent of damage, the progress of restoration works and the measures being taken to restore normalcy in the affected villages. He directed all departments to work in



close coordination and restore damaged roads, public utilities and other essential infrastructure immediately so that public inconvenience is minimised. He issued on-the-spot directions to the officers concerned to expedite restoration works on priority and instructed SDM Surankote to personally monitor the relief and restoration operations and ensure inter-departmental coordination for the timely completion of all works.

The DDC assured the af-

ected families that the district administration stands firmly with them and that all possible assistance, as per the prescribed norms, will be extended to the affected households. He reiterated that every genuine case of damage would be assessed properly and relief provided without delay.

Meanwhile, the district administration has remained on alert continuously for the past five days, since the flash floods struck the subdivision. Senior officers and field functionaries

have been working round the clock, moving from village to village and house to house to assess the situation, rescue stranded persons wherever required, document losses, provide immediate relief, restore essential services and ensure that no affected family is left unattended. Teams from various departments have maintained a constant field presence despite difficult weather and terrain to facilitate relief, rehabilitation and restoration works at the earliest.

DC Kupwara reviews MY Bharat implementation; Calls for mission-mode registration drive

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
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Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Shrikant Suse, today chaired a review meeting to assess the implementation and progress of the Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat) initiative in the district, with emphasis on accelerating youth registration and strengthening inter-departmental coordination.

At the outset, the District Youth Officer, MY Bharat, gave a detailed presentation on the objectives, registration process and activities being undertaken under the initiative. He informed that nearly 45,000 youth have been registered on the MY Bharat portal against the district target of 1.05 lakh registrations.

The District Youth Officer informed that MY Bharat, established by the Department of Youth Affairs, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, is a technology-driven national platform aimed at empowering youth through volunteerism, experiential learning and active civic engagement. The platform connects young people with government departments, educational institutions, industry, voluntary organisations and communities, enabling them to participate in



leadership development, skill-building, mentorship, community service, national campaigns and other nation-building initiatives. It also provides digital credentials and opportunities for youth to build their professional profiles through meaningful participation in developmental activities.

Reviewing the progress, the Deputy Commissioner stressed the need to adopt a mission-mode approach to achieve the registration targets within the stipulated timeframe.

He directed all stakeholder departments to

strengthen coordination and intensify awareness campaigns to maximise the enrolment of eligible youth. He particularly emphasized mobilising students through schools, colleges and ITIs, besides leveraging outreach activities of the Health Department and other line departments to expand the registration drive.

The Deputy Commissioner observed that greater participation under MY Bharat would not only foster leadership, social responsibility and community service among youth but

also enable them to contribute meaningfully towards inclusive development and the vision of Viksit Bharat @2047.

The meeting was attended by the Assistant Commissioner Development (ACD), Assistant Commissioner Panchayats (ACP), Chief Planning Officer (CPO), Chief Medical Officer (CMO), District Information Officer (DIO), Superintendent ITI Kupwara, Lead District Manager (LDM) and other concerned officers and representatives of stakeholder departments.