

Javed Rana visits landslide-hit areas in Poonch, assures all support to affected families

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 06

Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs Javed Ahmed Rana, today visited the landslide and flash flood-affected areas of Sarhoti Jabran in Poonch district to assess the situation on the ground and express solidarity with the affected families.

The Minister was accompanied by Sud Divisional Magistrate (SDM), Mendhar, Superintending Engineer, Hydraulic, Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Mendhar, Executive Engineer PMGSY Mendhar, DFO soil conservation, Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) and other officers.

The Minister inspected the extensive damage caused by the recent incessant rains, landslides and flash floods, which have impacted the residential houses, schools, roads, public infrastructure and agricultural land. He interacted with the affected families, listened to their grievances and assured them that the government would extend all possible assistance for relief, rehabilitation and restoration.

Addressing the affected residents, Javed Rana described the disaster as deeply unfortunate and painful, saying that the government stands firmly with every affected family during this difficult time. He assured them that no effort



fort would be spared to ensure timely relief and speedy restoration of essential services and damaged infrastructure affected by the unprecedented natural calamity.

Minister said that the administration has been directed to ensure that all necessary relief measures reach the affected people without delay. He emphasized that safeguarding the lives and providing immediate assistance to those in distress remain the government's highest priority.

Expressing his appreciation for the dedicated efforts of the district administration, disaster response agencies, Police, SDRF, Forest Department personnel, health workers, engineers, volunteers and local residents, the Minister said that their commitment and courage in responding to the crisis is highly commendable. "Our first responders and local volun-

teers have displayed exemplary dedication by working tirelessly under extremely challenging conditions to save lives and assist the affected families," he said.

Javed Rana observed that while extreme weather events have become more frequent and intense, the government continues to strengthen its preparedness and response mechanisms to minimise loss of life and property. He said coordinated efforts of all departments have enabled swift relief operations despite difficult terrain and adverse weather conditions.

The Minister said that the immediate focus is on providing relief, restoring connectivity, ensuring uninterrupted supply of drinking water, electricity and other essential services besides facilitating rehabilitation of displaced families. He assured that the government will continue

working in close coordination with the district administration and local communities to expedite restoration and long-term recovery efforts.

The officers accompanying the Minister briefed him on the overall situation arising from the heavy rainfall. They informed that continuous downpours had triggered landslides and flash floods in several parts of the district, causing widespread damage to roads, bridges, water supply infrastructure and other public assets.

They informed that relief measures have been initiated on a war footing and temporary shelters, wherever required, have been established. Essential commodities, including food, drinking water, medicines and other relief material, are being provided to the affected families while restoration of damaged infrastructure is being taken up on priority.

Mandeep leads plantation drive; reviews progress on modern Abattoir at Allochi Bagh

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 06

Commissioner Secretary, Housing and Urban Development Department, Mandeep Kaur, today reviewed the progress on the under-construction Modern Abattoir at Allochi Bagh during an inspection aimed at assessing the pace and quality of the ongoing works and ensuring the project's timely completion.

The Commissioner Secretary was accompanied by Commissioner Secretary, Social Welfare, Sarmad Hafeez; Commissioner, Srinagar Municipal Corporation, Faz Lul Haseeb; Chief Town Planner, Kashmir; Chief Engineer, Urban Environmental Engineering Department (UEED); Joint Commissioner (Works), Srinagar Municipal Corporation besides other senior officers from the concerned line departments.

During the visit, the Commissioner Secretary was briefed by the Commissioner SMC on the salient features of the project, the progress achieved so far and the timelines fixed for its completion. She inspected various components of the project and stressed the need to maintain the highest standards of quality, hygiene and environmental sustainability. She directed the executing agencies to expedite the pace of work while ensuring strict adherence to the



approved specifications and timelines so that the facility is completed and commissioned at the earliest.

Later, Mandeep Kaur led a plantation drive in and around the Septage Treatment Plant (STP) at Allochi Bagh as part of the government's sustained efforts to promote environmental conservation and sustainable urban development. A large number of saplings were planted to enhance the green cover, improve the local ecosystem and

contribute towards a cleaner, greener, and healthier urban environment.

Speaking on the occasion, the Commissioner Secretary emphasized the importance of integrating environmental sustainability with infrastructure development. She said that plantation drives not only improve the aesthetic appeal of urban spaces but also play a vital role in mitigating pollution, combatting the adverse effects of climate change and creating a healthier environment for future generations.

The officers reiterated their commitment to strengthen urban infrastructure while safeguarding the environment through coordinated inter-departmental efforts. They emphasized that the timely completion of key infrastructure projects, coupled with sustained green initiatives, will significantly contribute towards building a cleaner, greener, and more resilient Srinagar.

CM inspects progress of Sungal Tunnel, reviews progress of work

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 06

On his way back from Rajouri to Jammu, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today inspected the ongoing works on the strategically important Sungal Tunnel and reviewed the progress of the project.

During the inspection, the Chief Minister was briefed by officials on the current status of construction and the remaining works.

He was informed that the tunnel is in its final stages of completion and is expected to be opened to all traffic shortly. Officials also informed him that essential services, including ambulances, are presently being allowed passage through the tunnel to facilitate emergency movement.



itate emergency movement.

The Chief Minister reviewed the pace of execution and stressed the importance of completing the remaining works expeditiously while ensuring adherence to the highest standards of quality and safety.

It may be recalled that the Chief Minister had earlier inspected the Sungal Tunnel project on April 20 this year, when he reviewed the progress of excavation, structural works and associated road development.

During today's inspection, the Project Sampark

of the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) informed the Chief Minister that the 2.79 kilometre long tunnel, being constructed across the Kalidhar Range, will significantly improve connectivity by reducing travel time by approximately 40 to 45 minutes.

DC Anantnag visits injured Amarnath Yatris at GMC Anantnag

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 06

Deputy Commissioner Anantnag (Yatra Officer Pahalgam Axis), Dr. Bilal Mohiuddin Bhat, today visited the Associated Hospital, Government Medical College (GMC), Anantnag, to inquire about the health and well-being of the injured Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra (SANJY-2026) pilgrims who were injured in a road accident at Bijbehara earlier in the day.

According to officials, four pilgrims sustained injuries in the unfortunate incident that occurred earlier in the day.

The DC was accompanied by Tehsildar Anantnag, Medical Superintendent of the hospital, GMC Anantnag's Nodal Officer for SANJY-2026, and other concerned officials.

During the visit, the



Deputy Commissioner interacted with the injured pilgrims, inquiring about their health, recovery status, and the quality of healthcare services being provided. He directed the medical staff to ensure the best possible facilities and dedicated medical attention for their swift recovery.

Expressing sympathy with the affected families, the DC prayed for the

speedy recovery and well-being of the injured pilgrims. He advised them to remain in contact with the authorities and assured them of full support from the district administration during their treatment.

Additionally, Dr. Bilal took stock of the day-to-day patient care at the hospital and instructed the staff to provide seamless service, ensuring that no patients including the in-

jured Yatris face any undue inconvenience.

He also emphasized maintaining high standards of cleanliness and aesthetics, befitting the status of the healthcare institution. On the occasion, the DC inspected the registration counters and other facilities, directing the authorities to streamline the process for convenience of both patients and their attendants.

DC Shopian reviews I-Day preparations; directs elaborate, coordinated arrangements

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 06

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Shishir Gupta, today chaired a high-level meeting here at Mini-Secretariat to review the preparations for the forthcoming Independence Day-2026 celebrations.

The DC took a comprehensive review of venue preparedness, security, traffic regulation, sanitation, uninterrupted power and water supply, healthcare facilities, transportation, parking, seating, public address system and other essential logistics required for the smooth conduct of the national event and directed all the departments to ensure meticulous planning and timely completion of all arrangements.

Stressing the importance of coordinated efforts, the



Deputy Commissioner instructed all departments to discharge their assigned responsibilities with utmost dedication and ensure that every arrangement is completed well in advance and called for close inter-departmental coordination to ensure the successful and dignified celebration of Independence Day.

The officers were further directed to remain available on the ground, closely monitor the preparations, promptly address any shortcomings and ensure hassle-free arrangements for participants and the general public.

The meeting was attended by SSP, Shopian, Mushtaq Ahmed Choud-

hary; ADDC, Dr. Nasir Ahmed Lone; ADC, Dr. Zakir Hussain Faaz; SDM, Zainapora, Bilal Ahmed; District and Sectoral officers who briefed the chair on the preparedness of their respective departments while assuring full cooperation for the smooth and successful conduct of the event.