

Transport Commissioner reviews road safety measures in Doda District

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
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Transport Commissioner J&K Vishesh Paul Mahajan today reviewed road safety measures in District Doda here at a meeting held in the Conference Hall, DC Office Complex.

The meeting was convened under the aegis of the District Road Safety Committee (DRSC) and was attended by officers from Police, ARTOs of Doda, Udhampur and Ramban, representatives from PWD (R&B), PMGSY, NHIDCL, BRO, Health, Education, Revenue, Forest, SDRF, Municipal Committees and other concerned departments.

At the outset, Deputy Commissioner Doda Krishan Lal gave a detailed overview of the road safety scenario in the district. He apprised the Transport Commissioner about accident-prone and vulnerable road stretches, identified black spots, road safety interventions undertaken by the stakeholder departments and measures being taken to strengthen road safety infrastructure. He also informed about the crash barriers installed along sensitive road stretches and other measures being taken to prevent road accidents.

The Transport Commissioner stressed the need for close coordination among the concerned departments for effective and timely implementation of road safety measures. "Road safety is a shared responsibility involving engineering agencies, Traffic Police, Transport Department, local bodies, health institutions, educational institutions



and the general public," he noted.

He directed the concerned agencies to identify black spots and undertake necessary corrective measures on priority. He also called for regular safety audits of roads and bridges, proper road markings, marking of warnings and regulatory signage, protective parapets and installation of crash barriers, particularly along vulnerable stretches in the hilly terrain of the district.

The Transport Commissioner directed the ARTOs to coordinate with BRO and other concerned agencies in the process of improving road safety at identified accident-prone stretches.

The NHIDCL and PMGSY authorities were directed to create adequate road safety infrastructure along roads under their respective jurisdictions, with special emphasis on installation and maintenance of crash barriers, signage and other essential safety equipment.

The PWD (R&B) was directed to ensure proper maintenance of roads across the district with immediate corrective measures, particularly in view of the ongoing rainy season. The concerned agencies were also asked to keep adequate machinery and equipment available at sensitive locations for immediate response to road blockade, landslides and other emergencies. The issue of encroachments and improper parking along roads was also discussed. The Transport Commissioner directed the Police, Traffic Police and Transport Department to work in close coordination to address these issues. He stressed that vehicles parked improperly on roads and at locations causing obstruction to traffic should be removed promptly.

Regarding emergency response and accident management, the Transport Commissioner directed NHIDCL to ensure adequate availability of ambulance services at suitable lo-

cations along the highway for quick response during emergencies. He also stressed the need for strengthening coordination among emergency response agencies and ensuring timely medical assistance to accident victims.

He further called for strict enforcement of traffic safety norms, regular checking of overloaded and improperly parked vehicles, use of helmets and seat belts and increased awareness among road users, particularly students and young drivers.

The Transport Commissioner emphasized that all road safety measures should be implemented in a time-bound manner and reviewed regularly to reduce accidents and save precious lives. The meeting concluded with directions to all concerned departments to work in close coordination and adopt a proactive approach towards improving road safety and ensuring safer roads for the people of Doda.

Committee on Government Assurances reviews functioning of PWD, HUDD

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
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The Committee on Government Assurances of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly today convened a meeting at the Assembly Complex here to review the functioning of the Public Works Department (PWD) and Housing & Urban Development Department (HUDD).

The meeting was chaired by Chairman of the Committee, Ali Mohammad Sagar and attended by members including MLA Ghulam Mohi Ud Din Mir, MLA Iftkar Ahmad, MLA Waheed ur Rehman Para and MLA Shabir Ahmad Kullay.

Commissioner Secretary, HUDD, Mandeep Kaur; Commissioner SMC, Fazlul Haseeb; Commissioner JMC, Devansh Yadav; VC LCMA, VCs of JDA and SDA besides Secretary, JKLA, Manoj Kumar Pandita and officers of the Assembly Secretariat were also present in the meeting.



During the meeting, the Committee held detailed deliberations on the constituency-wise allocation of funds under the Roads Sector for 2026-27. The Committee also reviewed the status of UT Capex Budget, NABARD works and PMGSY projects across J&K.

Speaking during the meeting, the Chairman Ali Mohammad Sagar emphasized that development must reach every corner of J&K without any bias and directed the departments to ensure equitable distribution of resources.

Taking serious note of water logging in Srinagar,

he observed that citizens face immense difficulties during rains. He directed the HUDD to furnish detailed ATRs and submit a time-bound action plan to resolve drainage issues before the onset of the next season.

Ali Sagar, while addressing the officers, said that the Committee values the experience and institutional knowledge of officers. He said that J&K has some of the most seasoned engineers and administrators who understand the local terrain, weather challenges and public needs better than anyone else. He stressed that this vast experience must be utilized to ensure quality, durability and transparency in execution of all developmental projects.

The Chairman stressed that all members of the Committee have been assigned the responsibility to ensure that development reaches the grassroots and all projects are executed in a transparent and time-bound manner in line with the Viksit Bharat @2047 vision of the Prime Minister. He added that coordination between Legislature and Executive is the key to responsive governance and timely delivery of public services.

Har Ghar Tiranga Campaign gains in Doda

Mega Rally taken out in Doda amid display of 1600 metre long Tricolour

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
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The district administration Doda organised a Mega Tiranga Rally as part of Har Ghar Tiranga Campaign-2026 and the commemoration of 150 glorious years of the National Song "Vande Mataram" (Phase-III).

The Mega Tricolour Rally was flagged off by the Deputy Commissioner Krishan Lal here from the Government Degree College.

A large number of school and college students, civil and police officials, besides civil society members participated enthusiastically in the rally, reflecting the active involvement of the diverse section of society in the national campaign.

The students were carrying the National Flag, patriotic banners, posters and placards, conveying messages of patriotism, national unity, peace, harmony and responsible citizenship. Their energetic participation added vibrancy and youthful enthusiasm to the event.

The main attraction of the rally was a huge 1600 metres-long Tricolour, carried by a large group of enthusiastic students, creat-



ing a spectacular display of national pride and unity.

The rally passed through the main market areas and culminated at Sports Stadium, with participants raising patriotic slogans and displaying the National Flag with pride and enthusiasm. The sight of students marching together with the giant National Flag, accompanied by hundreds of smaller Tricolours, banners and patriotic placards, created an inspiring atmosphere.

The participants raised slogans including "Bharat

Mata Ki Jai" and "Vande Mataram," adding patriotic fervour to the event. The colourful display of the Tricolour, banners and posters, along with the participation of students from different educational institutions, reflected the spirit of "Unity in Diversity" and "Nation First."

The Deputy Commissioner highlighted the significance of the Har Ghar Tiranga Campaign, stating that the initiative provides every citizen with an opportunity to express pride and respect for the Na-

tional Flag and strengthen the spirit of patriotism and national unity.

The DC also emphasised the importance of commemorating 150 glorious years of "Vande Mataram", describing the National Song as an enduring symbol of India's freedom struggle, courage, sacrifice and patriotic consciousness. He urged the younger generation to learn about the historical significance of Vande Mataram and carry forward its message of devotion to the motherland.

25 Udhampur farmers leave for exposure visit to KVK Pathankot under ATMA scheme

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A group of 25 farmers drawn from different parts of Udhampur district today left for a training-cum-exposure visit to Krishi Vigyan Kendra-Pathankot, Punjab.

The tour has been organized by the District Apiculture Development scheme under ATMA scheme.

The visit was flagged off by Deputy Commissioner Minga Sherpa in presence of Chief Agriculture Officer



Vikas Padha, Apiculture Development Officer and other district officers.

During their visit to KVK Pathankot, the farmers would interact with agricultural scientists and pro-

gressive farmers to gain valuable knowledge about modern beekeeping techniques, honey processing, value addition, packaging and marketing.

The Deputy Commis-

sioner interacted with the farmers and highlighted the importance of exposure visits for the farmers. "Such training-cum-exposure visits provide farmers with an opportunity to learn and adopt scientific and innovative practices, thereby enhancing productivity, income and livelihood opportunities," he noted.

The Chief Agriculture Officer and Apiculture Development Officer also highlighted the importance of such capacity-building programmes in promoting apiculture and other allied agricultural activities.

Sakeena reviews functioning of key departments across Jammu division

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 10

Minister for Health & Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo today called for more resilient construction practices and cost-effective approach to infrastructure development across Jammu and Kashmir in view of increasing frequency of floods.

The Minister stated this while chairing a high-level review meeting at Civil Secretariat here to assess the functioning of various departments and take stock of ongoing development and restoration works across Jammu division in view of recent cloudbursts.

The meeting was attended by Managing Director, J&K Medical Supply Corporation; Mission Director, Poshan/ICDS J&K; Director, FCS&CA Jammu; Director School Education Jammu; Director Social Welfare Jammu; Director Colleges J&K; Director Health Services Jammu; Director Ayush J&K; Director Family Welfare J&K; all concerned Chief Engineers of R&B, PDD, I&FC and PHE Jammu, besides Principals of GMC Jammu, Udham-

pur, Kathua, Doda and Rajouri, either in person or through video conferencing

During the meeting, the Minister undertook a comprehensive review of the functioning of the various departments, with particular focus on delivery of essential public services, infrastructure restoration, healthcare preparedness, supply of essential commodities and implementation of welfare and education-related schemes.

Taking detailed feedback on the damage caused to public infrastructure in Rajouri and other areas due to recent floods, Sakeena Itoo sought status report on restoration of roads, macadamization, drinking water supply and other essential services in the affected areas.

Calling for a pragmatic and cost-effective approach to infrastructure development, the Minister said that the increasing frequency of floods requires to move towards more resilient construction practices.

"We have to learn from the recurring floods and build infrastructure that is capable of withstanding such challenges. Lightweight and cost-effective construction technologies should be explored wherever



feasible so that public money is utilized judiciously while ensuring durability and resilience", she observed.

She directed the concerned departments to maintain close coordination during restoration works and ensure that people in affected areas do not face prolonged disruption of essential services.

The Minister also reviewed the healthcare scenario in Jammu and took detailed feedback from the health authorities regarding the preparedness of healthcare institutions on water borne diseases due to monsoon rains.

Sakeena Itoo directed the

Health, Education and PHE departments to work in close coordination and undertake preventive and awareness measures on a sustained basis to contain the spread of water borne diseases.

"Dengue prevention requires a coordinated response. Health, Education and PHE departments must work together at the field level and ensure that preventive measures, sanitation and awareness activities reach every vulnerable area", the Minister said.

Emphasizing the importance of hygiene in healthcare institutions, Sakeena Itoo directed the concerned authorities to ensure

proper cleanliness and sanitation in and around hospitals and other health facilities.

She further called for issuance of a comprehensive public advisory to educate people about preventive measures and symptoms of dengue and advised the health authorities to strengthen public awareness campaigns.

The Minister directed that students be sensitized about preventive measures, including the importance of wearing full-sleeve clothing, particularly in areas vulnerable to mosquito-borne diseases. She also asked the concerned authorities to ensure that testing laboratories re-

main fully equipped and functional so that suspected cases are tested without unnecessary delay.

"Awareness and timely testing are critical in controlling dengue. Our laboratories and health facilities must remain prepared, while schools should actively contribute to creating awareness among children and families", Sakeena Itoo added.

The Minister also reviewed the supply and distribution of ration and other essential commodities across Jammu division.

The Minister directed the department to maintain effective monitoring of the supply chain and ensure timely delivery of essential commodities, particularly in areas affected by adverse weather conditions and natural calamities.

Sakeena Itoo laid stress on the need for strengthening coordination among departments for effective implementation of government schemes and delivery of citizen-centric services.

"Every department has a direct responsibility towards the people. Our focus should be on timely delivery of services, regular monitoring and prompt resolution of issues. There should

be no avoidable delay in matters concerning public welfare", she said.

Minister called for greater accountability at every level and directed senior officers to regularly monitor the progress of works and schemes within their respective jurisdictions.

"Coordination, transparency and accountability must remain the guiding principles of our functioning. Officers should ensure that decisions taken at the government level translate into visible outcomes on the ground", the Minister maintained.

Sakeena Itoo also emphasized on the need for continuous field-level assessment and timely corrective measures, directing the officers to remain responsive to emerging challenges and ensure that public services are not disrupted.

The Minister called upon all concerned departments to work with a shared sense of responsibility and urgency to improve service delivery, strengthen public infrastructure and ensure effective implementation of welfare, health, education and development programmes across Jammu division.