

Rana reviews water supply, irrigation, forest, tribal issues of Khanyar, Hazratbal constituencies

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 11

In a move aimed at addressing the constituency-specific issues and strengthening coordination among the key departments, Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana, today convened a meeting to take up issues related to water supply, irrigation, environment, forests and tribal affairs in Khanyar and Hazratbal Assembly constituencies.

Besides MLA Khanyar, Ali Muhammad Sagar, MLA Hazratbal Salman Ali Sagar, the meeting was attended by Chief Conservator of Forests, Kashmir; Director Tribal Affairs, J&K; Chief Engineers of Jal Shakti/Irrigation & Flood Control, Kashmir; Superintendent Engineer, Hydraulic, Srinagar, Wildlife Warden, Central Srinagar; Divisional Forest Officer, SMC/Social Forestry, Srinagar; Executive Engineers, Ground Water/Master Plan/Jal Shakti, Srinagar/Ganderbal and Executive Engineers, Irrigation & Flood Control, Srinagar/Ganderbal.

The meeting took stock of water supply, irrigation, source augmentation, distribution networks and groundwater management, with focus on resolving bottlenecks affecting the ongoing and proposed projects in the two constituencies.

During the meeting, the Minister announced an allocation of Rs 1 crore for upgrading the existing wa-



ter supply infrastructure through construction of an additional water reservoir at Sulaiman Teng, Dalgate, aimed at augmenting the water supply network and meeting the requirements of the adjoining areas.

Emphasising the need to strengthen water infrastructure in densely populated areas, Rana directed the Jal Shakti Department to work out the necessary modalities and take up the project on priority.

Reviewing the Tulpathri Water Supply Scheme, the Minister called for early resolution of pending issues with the Forest Department to facilitate further progress. He also took up matters concerning the Sindh Extension (SE) and Mawas Canals, directing necessary measures for its restoration and improvement to ensure uninterrupted water and irrigation supply. Rana stressed the need for comprehensive dredging and desilting of canals facing heavy siltation and reduced carrying capacity, to improve water flow and irrigation potential. He called for timely

availability of irrigation water for paddy fields in Hazratbal, with vulnerable areas to be identified in advance to pre-empt shortages during the cultivation season.

The meeting also took up Master Plan-related bottlenecks, CAPEX planning, and expansion of the water distribution network in underserved areas besides formulation of new water supply, drainage and irrigation projects for deficient pockets, particularly Phaaq.

The Minister sought a review of water allocation from the Alusteng and Ringal 5 MGD Water Treatment Plants, seeking clarity on existing allocation and scope for enhancing the share for Hazratbal.

Other issues discussed included a dedicated water supply line along 90 Feet Road, water and irrigation supply at Syedpora Hamchi, the proposed Tailbal OHT and distribution line, and interventions by the Ground Water Wing.

The Minister also reviewed the proposal for augmenting the Rapid

Sand Filtration Plant (RSFP) Hadoora source through two new production wells besides taking up irrigation-related proposals and identifying priority areas for upcoming plans.

Underlining the importance of close coordination between the public representatives and the administration, Rana said that the welfare of the people can be best ensured through collective responsibility and concerted action. "Public representatives play a vital role in bringing ground-level concerns to the fore and it is our collective responsibility to ensure that these concerns are addressed effectively. When public representatives and departments work in close coordination, the response becomes more focused, responsive and time-bound, ultimately delivering better results for the people," Javed Rana said. The residents from the twin constituencies also raised various developmental issues and demands before the Minister and sought his intervention for their early resolution.

Over 15,000 people participate in mega Tiranga Rally at Kishtwar

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 11

In a powerful display of unity, patriotism and national pride, thousands of individuals today participated in Tiranga Rallies organized across district Kishtwar under the nationwide 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign and the third phase of Vande Mataram centenary celebrations. The event was also marked as a prelude to the celebrations of the 80th Independence Day-2026.

Member Legislative Assembly Shagun Parihar and Deputy Commissioner Pankaj Kumar Sharma led the Mega Tiranga Rally at the District Headquarters amid enthusiastic and massive participation from the general public, civil society, students and officials from different government departments.

Around 15,000 people took part in the Mega Tiranga Rally taken out at the District Headquarters. The rally commenced from Dak Bungalow Chowk and after passing through Kuleed Chowk, culminated on sprawling Chowgan Grounds.

Officers and officials from the civil and police administrations, citizens from all walks of life, students, teachers, government employees and local residents marched together, proudly carrying the National Flag and raising patriotic slogans such as "Har Ghar Tiranga," "Bharat Mata Ki Jai," "Hindustan Zindabad," and "Vande Mataram."

Addressing the enthusi-



astic gathering at Chowgan Ground, the Deputy Commissioner underlined the significance of such public engagements in fostering the spirit of national unity, patriotism and social harmony, particularly among the youth.

He paid rich tributes to the freedom fighters and martyrs who made supreme sacrifices for the independence of the country. He emphasized the responsibility of every citizen to uphold the ideals of freedom, democracy, unity and integrity of the nation.

A special highlight of the event was the human formation of the map of India by the children. The formation was captured through drone imagery, symbolizing the unity, integrity and collective spirit of the nation.

The participation of people from all age groups, including children, women, youth and senior citizens added to the patriotic fervor of the occasion and reflected the strong spirit of national pride across the district.

Similar Tiranga Rallies

were also simultaneously at the sub-divisional and tehsil headquarters across the District.

The event was attended by SSP Naresh Singh, ADC Pawan Kotwal, PO ICDS Rishi Kumar Sharma, ACR Idrees Lone, ASP (Ops.) N. A. Khoja, DSWO Tariq Parveaz Qazi, EO Municipal Council Mirza Mumtaz Iqbal, DIO, Dr. Kuldeep Kumar, DYSSO Jaffer Haider Sheikh, DNO Ayush, CEO Sanjay Dogra besides other officers and officials of the district administration.

DC Rajouri reviews arrangements for I-Day celebrations, Shri Baba Budha Amarnath Ji Yatra

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 11

Deputy Commissioner Rajouri Abhishek Sharma today chaired a comprehensive meeting to review and finalise arrangements for the celebration of the 80th Independence Day and the forthcoming Shri Baba Budha Amarnath Ji Yatra.

Detailed discussions were held on preparations for the national event, including the Har Ghar Tiranga campaign, Tiranga Yatra and arrangements for the annual pilgrimage. The Deputy Commissioner directed the concerned departments to work in close coordination and ensure timely completion of all assigned responsibilities.

It was decided that the Tiranga Yatra shall be organised on August 13, 2026, in the border block of Manjakote as part of the Independence Day celebrations. The ACR was asked to identify and finalise the route for the Yatra, while the ARTO was directed to provide necessary transportation facilities.

The meeting also reviewed arrangements for the main Independence Day function, which will be held at the District Police



Lines. The programme shall commence with Shehnai Vadan to be played by the Information Department, followed by the National Flag Hoisting Ceremony, parade and colourful cultural performances. The full dress rehearsal will be conducted on August 13, 2026.

The Deputy Commissioner directed the concerned officers to ensure foolproof security arrangements, sanitation and cleanliness, adequate medicare facilities, proper illumination of government buildings, smooth traffic regulation, sufficient

parking and comfortable seating arrangements at the venue.

While reviewing arrangements for the Shri Baba Budha Amarnath Ji Yatra, the DC reviewed the responsibilities assigned to different departments. He emphasised robust security arrangements, efficient traffic management, adequate medical facilities, uninterrupted drinking water and power supply, sanitation and cleanliness along the Yatra route and at important locations.

The concerned departments were directed to ensure adequate toilet facilities,

dustbins, regular fogging and fumigation, particularly near riverbanks and other vulnerable locations.

The concerned BRO officer was directed to identify and rectify all blind spots along the Yatra route before commencement of the pilgrimage, to strengthen road safety and ensure smooth movement of pilgrims. He further directed for quality testing of water and food samples supplied or served to pilgrims, so as to maintain prescribed standards of hygiene, quality and safety throughout the Yatra.

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 11

District administration Kishtwar, under the leadership of Principal Census Officer/Deputy Commissioner Pankaj Kumar Sharma today launched the training programme for conducting Population Enumeration in the snow-bound areas under the Phase-II of Census 2027.

The training is being imparted to members of the District Coordination Committee, Sub-Divisional Census Officers (SDMs), Charge Officers (Tehsildars/CEO Municipality) and their technical teams. Addressing the participants, the Principal Census Officer (Deputy Commissioner) emphasised that Phase-II is the main and most crucial exercise of Census 2027. He called upon all officers and officials associated with the process to understand their role, responsibilities and field-level duties before entering the field.

He directed the Charge Officers to ensure complete manpower readiness, including verification of the available Enumerators, Supervisors and reserve per-



sonnel to make sure that every Enumeration Block is properly assigned and covered.

He also called for special attention to remote and tribal areas, keeping in view the challenging terrain and accessibility issues of the district.

The importance of technology in the exercise, he directed the teams to ensure that devices, applications, credentials and all other technical requirements are checked and kept fully functional before field deployment.

The officers were further directed to maintain the accuracy, confidentiality and

integrity of Census data in accordance with the prescribed instructions. They were asked to closely monitor the progress on a daily basis and ensure 100 percent coverage within the prescribed timeline, without any compromise on quality.

The Principal Census Officer also highlighted that Kishtwar, with its difficult terrain and far-flung habitations, presents unique logistical challenges. He called for advance planning rather than last-minute arrangements, particularly for difficult areas such as Dachhan, Marwah, Warwan, Paddar and other re-

mote pockets of the district.

He encouraged all officers to work with a sense of responsibility, coordination and commitment so that Kishtwar emerges as a model district in the successful conduct of Census 2027.

The programme was attended by PO ICDS Rishi Kumar Sharma, ACD/ACP Neeraj Sharma, DSEO (ADCO) Suresh Sharma, SDM Dr. Mohd Ashraf, SDM Nayeem ur Rehman, EO MC Mirza Mumtaz Iqbal, Tehsildars, CEO Sanjay Dogra, DIO NIC Faizal Khan besides other officers and concerned officials.

Reasi celebrates legacy of Har Ghar Tiranga, Vande Mataram with mass plantation drive

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 11

As part of the nationwide 'Har Ghar Tiranga-2026' campaign and commemoration of the glorious 150 years of Vande Mataram, the district administration Reasi, in collaboration with the Forest Department, organized a mass plantation drive near the DC Office Complex.

Senior functionaries from

Civil and Police administration participated in the drive initiated by Deputy Commissioner Kumar Abhishek by planting a Gulmohar sapling. Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Mukund Tibrewal and other district officers were also present.

Around 100 saplings of ornamental and shade-bearing trees, including Gulmohar, Tecoma and Bougainvillea,



were planted along the stretch to enhance the green cover and aesthetic appeal of the area.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner emphasized the importance of environmental conservation. "Planting trees is only the first step," he said and stressed that it is the collective responsibility of the administration and the public to protect and nurture the saplings into mature trees.

The Deputy Commissioner also distributed saplings among participants and local residents to encourage plantation at the household and community levels. Around 200 saplings were distributed during the programme.

ADDC Krishan Lal; ADC Rakesh Kumar; Additional SP Iftekhar Ahmed; DFO Reasi and other district officers were present on the occasion.