

Sakeena Ito reviews Health Sector Scenario in Chanapora Constituency

Also e-inaugurates Dialysis Unit at CHC Surankote



HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 26

Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Ito, today reviewed the overall health sector scenario and availability of healthcare facilities in Chanapora constituency, with focus on strengthening public health infrastructure and ensuring accessible, responsive and quality medical services for the people.

The meeting was attended by MLA Chanapora, Mushtaq Guroo; Principal GMC Srinagar and other senior officers of health and medical education department

During the review, the Minister took detailed stock of the functioning of health institutions in the constituency, availability of doctors, paramedical staff and other manpower, essential medicines, diag-

nostic facilities, infrastructure, equipment and other patient-care services.

The Minister directed the concerned officers to undertake a comprehensive assessment of the requirements of healthcare institutions in the constituency and identify areas requiring immediate intervention. She stressed that healthcare delivery should remain centred around the needs of patients, particularly those belonging to economically weaker and vulnerable sections of society.

Sakeena Ito called for ensuring uninterrupted availability of essential medicines and consumables besides strengthening diagnostic and emergency services at health institutions. She also emphasised optimum utilisation and timely maintenance of available medical equipment so that patients do not have to travel outside the constituency

for basic healthcare requirements.

The Minister directed the officers to closely monitor manpower availability and ensure that sanctioned human resources are utilised effectively. She maintained that strengthening primary and secondary healthcare facilities is essential for reducing the burden on tertiary care hospitals and providing timely treatment closer to people's homes.

Sakeena Ito underscored that every healthcare institution must function with a strong sense of public service and accountability. She directed the concerned authorities to prepare a time-bound action plan for addressing the gaps identified during the review and submit regular progress reports.

The Minister reiterated the Government's commitment towards building a robust, accessible and

people-centric healthcare system across Jammu and Kashmir, with special emphasis on strengthening healthcare delivery at the grassroots level.

Later, the Minister also e-inaugurated Dialysis Unit at Government Community Health Centre Surankote, marking an important addition to specialised healthcare facilities available to the people of the area.

MLA, Surankote, Choudhary Mohd Akram and other senior officers of health and medical education department were also present on the occasion.

Speaking on the development, the Minister said that this newly inaugurated facility is expected to provide greater convenience to patients requiring dialysis and reduce the need for frequent travel to distant healthcare institutions for this essential treatment.

She added that the expansion of specialised healthcare facilities at the community level is an important component of the Government's endeavour to make quality healthcare more accessible and equitable.

She maintained that strengthening such facilities would particularly benefit patients suffering from chronic ailments who require regular and uninterrupted treatment.

SEC gives go ahead to Rs 664.54 cr Disaster Recovery interventions

1,227 Works and 8,804 Houses to be Restored across J&K

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 26

The State Executive Committee (SEC) of the Department of Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction (DMRR&R), chaired by Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today accorded approval to a comprehensive set of disaster recovery and reconstruction interventions to be taken up across Jammu and Kashmir under the Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) assistance sanctioned by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) through the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA).

The meeting was attended by Additional Chief Secretary, Finance; Principal Secretary, Home; Commissioner Secretary, Forests; Commissioner Secretary, School Education, besides senior officers of DMRR&R and representatives of other concerned departments.

The third meeting of the SEC reviewed the action plans submitted by various departments for undertaking restoration and reconstruction works aimed at rebuilding damaged public infrastructure, restoring essential services, reviving livelihoods and strengthening the disaster resilience of communities across the UT.

The approved interventions involve an immediate financial outlay of Rs 664.54 Cr, covering 1,227 infrastructure works and restoration of 8,804 fully and severely damaged houses.

Chairing the meeting, the Chief Secretary emphasised that the sanctioned assistance should be utilised strategically as per the original proposals to create a stronger and more disaster-resilient Jammu and Kashmir rather than merely restoring the damaged infrastructure only.

He directed all concerned departments to ensure optimum and timely utilisation of the available funds, stressing that the entire assistance package should contribute towards strengthening disaster preparedness, building resilient infrastructure, restoring livelihoods and enhancing the Union Territory's capacity to respond effectively to future disasters.

The Chief Secretary called for close coordination and adherence to prescribed timelines and quality standards so that the benefits of the recovery programme reach the affected population at the earliest.

During the meeting, Principal Secretary, DMRR&R, Chandraker Bharti, presented a comprehensive reconstruction and development roadmap before the SEC.

The proposed interventions form part of the wider Rs 1,416 Cr Departmental Plan for 2026-27, mapped against the overall approved assistance ceiling of Rs 1,534.58 Cr sanctioned under the PDNA framework.

The recovery programme has been structured across social, infrastructure, productive and cross-cutting sectors, with a clear focus on restoring essential public services and community assets while simultaneously improving resilience against future disasters.

Giving priority to affected families, Rs 188.35 crore has been earmarked for housing recovery. The funds will be placed at the disposal of the Deputy Commissioners for reconstruction of 8,804 fully and severely damaged houses through a struc-



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Annual Kousar Nag Yatra-2026 concludes with participation of over 800 devotees

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 26

The annual Kousar Nag Yatra-2026, one of the significant religious pilgrimages of District Reasi, culminated in a safe, orderly and well-coordinated manner, with more than 800 devotees from different parts of the district participating in the pilgrimage. The successful conduct of the Yatra was facilitated through close coordination among the District Administration, Police, security agencies, NDRF, MRT, Health Department and other concerned departments and agencies. The Yatra commenced from Reasi on August 21, 2026, in the morning and proceeded through Arnas, Dharmari, Mahore, Sungri, Chassana and Sarsote, before reaching the sacred Kousar Nag Sarovar on August 23, 2026, around noon. Upon reaching the holy lake, the devotees performed Pooja and other religious rituals as per tradition.

The pilgrimage involved an approximately three-day trek through the



mountainous foot track from Sarsote to Kousar Nag Sarovar, passing through Sari, Gorwan and Kousar Gali. In view of the challenging terrain and the remote nature of the route, the district administration put in place comprehensive arrangements to ensure the safety, security and convenience of the pilgrims throughout the Yatra. A dedicated deployment comprising personnel from various security and response agencies was maintained along the Yatra route. A large number of personnel from the National Disaster Response Force and Mountain Rescue Team were deployed to facilitate

emergency response and ensure the safety of pilgrims, particularly along the difficult trekking stretches.

The arrangements for the Yatra were closely monitored under the overall supervision of the Deputy Commissioner Reasi Kumar Abhishek, while the Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Mahore, was designated as the overall in-charge of the Yatra arrangements. Duty Magistrates were also deployed at strategic locations along the route to ensure effective coordination, regulation of the pilgrimage and prompt response to any exigency.

To safeguard the health

and well-being of the pilgrims, medical teams were deployed at various locations enroute, along with ambulances, essential medicines and other necessary medical support. Special attention was accorded to the remote stretches of the pilgrimage route to ensure timely access to medical assistance and emergency services.

The District Administration also made necessary arrangements for food, shelter, drinking water, electricity and other essential facilities at Sari, which is located approximately eight hours away from the nearest motorable road by foot. These arrangements ensured the availability of essential amenities for pilgrims undertaking the arduous trek and during their stay enroute.

The district administration appreciated the cooperation extended by the devotees, local stakeholders and all departments and agencies involved in the arrangements for ensuring the smooth conduct of the Annual Kousar Nag Yatra-2026.

DC Poonch reviews performance of banks, Implementation of Govt schemes in DLRC meeting

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 26

Deputy Commissioner Poonch Ashok Kumar Sharma today reviewed the performance of banks for the quarter ended June 2026 of FY 2026-27 here at a meeting of District Level Review Committee (DLRC) held in the conference hall of the DC office.

The meeting assessed the achievement of banks under the Annual Credit Plan (ACP) and the credit disbursement under the Government-sponsored schemes during the quarter.

At the outset, Lead District Manager (LDM) Sanjeev Rasotra informed the meeting that the banks operating in district Poonch achieved a total business of Rs. 7295.38 crore.

The deposits in district Poonch increased from Rs.4197.38 crore as on 30 June 2025 to Rs.4750.79 crore as on 30 June 2026, registering a YoY growth of 13.18%. Advances increased from Rs.2249.53 crore as on 30 June 2025 to Rs.2534.57 crore as on 30 June 2026, registering a YoY growth of 12.67%. The CD Ratio of the district stood at 53.24% as on 30.06.2026.



The Deputy Commissioner stressed upon the banks and concerned departments to make concerted efforts towards improving the CD Ratio and Priority Sector Lending in the district. He emphasized the need to ensure that adequate credit reaches eligible beneficiaries and that Government-sponsored schemes translate into tangible economic opportunities, particularly for unemployed youth.

The DC stressed the effective implementation of schemes such as Mission YUVA, PMEGP, REGP, so that unemployed youth can achieve self-sufficiency through various

self-employment and livelihood programmes of the Central and UT Governments. He also directed the concerned sponsoring agencies and lending institutions to improve credit performance under the Priority Sector and ensure timely disposal of eligible cases.

The meeting also reviewed PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana, with directions to increase lending and outreach under the scheme so that its objectives of promoting rooftop solar power generation and access to free electricity can be effectively achieved.

The Deputy Commissioner further empha-

sized the need for vigorous implementation of Social Security Schemes, including PMJJBY, PMSBY and APY, to ensure maximum coverage of eligible beneficiaries across District Poonch.

The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner Poonch Tahir Mustafa Malik, GM DIC Poonch; Naheem Un Nissa Bhatti, Deputy Director Employment; Abdul Majid, Chief Agriculture Officer Poonch; Jog Raj Slathia, Lead District Officer, RBI Jammu; Saurabh Gupta, DDM NABARD; Chander, Cluster Head, J&K Bank Poonch; Ashutosh Gupta, Regional Manager, Grameen Bank; Faculty, RSETI J&K Bank Poonch; Amarjeet Singh, Chief Animal Husbandry Officer Poonch; Abdul Majeed Tantray, District Sheep Husbandry Officer Poonch, Executive Engineer, JPDCL Poonch; Aftab Ahmed, Employment Officer Poonch; Project Officer DUDA Poonch; Fisheries Development Officer Poonch; DPM NRLM Poonch; District Officer KVIB Poonch; District Officer Handicrafts & Handloom Department Poonch, District Coordinators of all banks and other District Officers of Government Departments.

DC Reasi gives away engagement orders at Training Programme

REASI, AUGUST 26: A Capacity Building Training Programme was conducted at Reasi with the objective of strengthening the knowledge, functional capacity and digital skills of field functionaries for the effective implementation of the Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PM-MVY) and POSHAN initiatives.

Anganwadi Workers and Supervisors participated in the training programme and were sensitized to various aspects of PMMVY and POSHAN, including scheme provi-



sions, beneficiary registration, verification procedures, digital processes, portal-related activities, documentation and effective implementation at the grassroots level.

The interactive sessions

provided an opportunity to the field functionaries to clarify their queries and gain practical knowledge regarding the implementation of the schemes. Special emphasis was laid on improving the quality

and efficiency of services being delivered to beneficiaries through the Anganwadi system.

During the programme, Deputy Commissioner Reasi, Kumar Abhishek, interacted with the trainers and participants and took feedback regarding the training. He also distributed engagement orders to four SANGINIs and 16 SAHAYIKAs. Speaking on the occasion, he emphasized the important role of Anganwadi Workers and Supervisors in ensuring effective delivery of welfare services to women and children.