

Sakeena visits Check-e-Samad, held public outreach camp

Lays foundation stone for road project at CS Rather

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 29

Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo, today visited Check-e-Samad in Kulgam district, where she held an extensive public outreach camp and laid foundation stone for a road project.

The Minister interacted with the local residents to listen to their grievances and developmental concerns. The people from Check-e-Samad and adjoining villages projected several developmental demands and highlighted issues requiring immediate attention.

The Minister gave a patient hearing to the concerns raised by the public and assured them that all genuine demands would be addressed in a phased and time-bound manner.

Addressing the gathering, Sakeena Itoo said that public welfare remains the top priority of the Government, adding that the present dispensation is committed to



ensure inclusive and equitable development across all regions of J&K.

The Minister emphasised that public outreach programmes and direct interaction with people are central to the Government's approach towards ensuring responsive, transparent and accountable governance. She urged the concerned departments to work in

close coordination and ensure the timely completion of developmental projects.

During the visit, the Minister laid the foundation stone for 1.2 KM Check-e-Samad road project, to be constructed at an estimated cost of Rs 86.27 lakh.

On the occasion, Sakeena Itoo also announced several new de-

velopmental projects for Check-e-Samad and neighbouring villages.

The Minister was accompanied by Superintending Engineer, Fayaz Ahmad Kar; Chief Education Officer CEO Kulgam, Fayaz Ahmad Mir, District Social Welfare Officer DSWO, Rameez Ahmad Ganai and other concerned officers and officials.

Div Com reviews preparations for 1st International Film Festival of J&K

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Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Anshul Garg on Saturday chaired a high-level review meeting at the Sher-i-Kashmir International Convention Centre (SKICC) to review preparations for the upcoming 1st International Film Festival of Jammu & Kashmir (IFFJ&K).

During the meeting, the Divisional Commissioner directed all concerned departments to ensure befitting, comprehensive and meticulous arrangements for the successful conduct of the festival and to execute their assigned responsibilities with utmost efficiency.

He instructed designated Nodal Officers to remain stationed at their respective venues and maintain close coordination with all stakeholders.

He observed that the presence of officers on-site would facilitate prompt resolution of issues and help streamline arrangements.

Emphasising that there should be no gaps in preparations, the Divisional Commissioner stressed the importance of comprehensive venue management, proper sequencing of events and detailed crowd-management plans at SKICC and INOX.

He also reviewed arrangements for night screenings, floating cinema, the gala dinner and other proposed activities and issued necessary directions for their smooth and successful conduct.

The Tourism Department was directed to finalise brochures and audio-visual content showcasing the tourism potential of Jammu & Kashmir for promotion during the festival.

The Handicrafts & Handloom Department was asked to prepare and share brochures containing relevant information for guests and participants regarding stalls, craft and artisans.

The Higher Education Department was directed to establish dedicated registration desks for students participating in the festival, while the RTO Kashmir was asked to sensitise hired



drivers regarding the festival schedule, sightseeing packages for guests, tour packages and timely participation in scheduled programmes.

The meeting was informed that films from 40 countries will be screened during the festival, underlining its international character and significance.

The Divisional Commissioner directed all departments to extend full support to the event management team and emphasised the need for effective micro-traffic management and robust security arrangements while ensuring minimum inconvenience to guests, participants, filmmakers and the general public.

He further directed the concerned agencies to ensure comprehensive arrangements at the airport and establish attractive selfie points at the SKICC back lawns and INOX premises.

For effective inter-departmental coordination, the Director Information

was directed to ensure close coordination among all concerned departments. The Joint Director Information Kashmir was asked to remain stationed at SKICC as the single-point Nodal Officer for coordination and communication.

The Divisional Commis-

sioner also stressed the need for conducting a comprehensive dry run ahead of the festival to identify and address any gaps in arrangements. He called for a seamless and horizontal flow of communication among all stakeholders for the smooth execution of the festival.

Power shutdown

JAMMU, AUGUST 29: Chief Engineer (Distribution) JPDCL Jammu has informed that the power supply to Sector 1, 2 & 3 of Trikuta Nagar and Extension 1, 2, 3 & 4 of adjoining areas will remain affected on August 30 from 6:30 am to 10:30 am.

Similarly, the power supply to Bakshi Nagar, Rehari, Sarwal, Bone & Joint Hospital, Cancer Hospital and adjoining areas will remain affected on August 30 from 8 am to 1 pm. (During the shutdown period Power supply to Medical R/Stn shall be fed from R/Stn New Sectt for ensuring on-interrupted power supply to GMC Jammu. Further Super Speciality Hospital should be fed from New Sectt Station through S-5 11 KV feeder.

Likewise, areas fed from Grid Stations-Sidhra, Janipur, Jhajjar Kotli, Akhnoor, Kalakote and Gladni (on rotational basis) depending upon time load conditions will remain affected on August 31 and September 01 from 9 am to 5 pm.

Meanwhile, Superintending Engineer, O&M Circle JPDCL Kishtwar has informed that the power supply to Chiralla and its adjoining areas will remain affected on August 30 and 31 from 8 am to 3 pm.

LG Inaugurated 3rd CII J&K Health Conclave

Sinha highlighted the vision of “Health Services Anytime, Anywhere”

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 29: The Lieutenant Governor, Shri Manoj Sinha inaugurated the 3rd edition of the CII Jammu & Kashmir Health Conclave today. The Lieutenant Governor emphasised the transformative vision of “Health Services Anytime, Anywhere” and highlighted the role of innovation, resilience and inclusive growth in shaping the future of healthcare.

Extending best wishes to Ujala Cygnus for its new initiative, the “Peace and Wellbeing Foundation,” the Lieutenant Governor noted that the conclave is a platform for discussion and a collective opportunity to redefine healthcare delivery in Jammu Kashmir and other states.

Citing the example of an ASHA worker using teleconsultation to connect patients in remote villages with district hospitals, the Lieutenant Governor said that telemedicine is a revolutionary step that eliminates geographical barriers. He stressed that technology must serve humanity, ensuring that even the most remote communities have access to timely medical care.

The Lieutenant Governor said that modern tools should inspire solutions for easy accessibility of best possible healthcare to all the citizens. He urged stakeholders to make Jammu Kashmir a laboratory for low-cost, high-impact innovations such as drone-based delivery of medical supplies and solar-powered cold chains for high-altitude health centres.

The Lieutenant Governor outlined three pressing challenges confronting global health systems including rising healthcare expenditure. He called for a shift towards prevention,



early intervention and regular screening to reduce dependence on costly treatments.

“We need to move beyond a system that treats illness to one that protects and promotes health. We must prioritise regular screening, easy access to primary healthcare services and timely treatment,” the Lieutenant Governor said.

He also emphasized expanding training capacity, supporting wellbeing of medical staff and leveraging telemedicine to extend reach.

“We need to expand training capacity in medical and nursing education and ensure access to health services in rural and remote areas through telemedicine. Most importantly, we must also take care of the wellbeing of our health workers. Better staffing, reduced administrative burden and mental health support are fundamental requirements of a strong health system,” he said.

The Lieutenant Governor said under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi accessibility, affordability and universal insurance coverage has been ensured and health inequality has been eliminated.

“Under the leadership of the Hon'ble Prime Minister, efforts are being made to link health records

across the country through a secure digital system. This will enable any authorised doctor, wherever they may be, to access a patient's health history within moments. At the same time, patients retain control over who can view their information and how much information they can access,” he said.

The Lieutenant Governor noted significant progress in Jammu Kashmir's healthcare infrastructure including 2 new AIIMS institutions, 10 new medical colleges, 2 State Cancer Institutes, specialized hospitals including Bone & Joint and Paediatric facilities, 52 nursing colleges, 23 paramedical colleges and 5 pharmacy colleges, which are historic steps towards social justice and equitable healthcare.

The Lieutenant Governor urged the conclave to deliberate on key priorities of developing modern primary health centres in every village linked to district networks, harnessing AI for early detection of diseases while supporting doctors' decisions, strengthening disease surveillance, genomic capacity, and local manufacturing of diagnostic kits and building a robust health workforce through nursing and paramedical institutions, continuous skill development and strong collaboration between government and private

sector. “Private hospitals and industries associated with the health sector must also join this effort, recognising it as an important task of nation-building. I believe that the strongest health systems are those in which the government and the private sector work together for public welfare, combining their capabilities, speed and innovation,” the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor reiterated that the true measure of success lies in improved lives. He envisioned a future where families in Kupwara need not travel hours for routine care, workers in Rajouri are free from financial fear and medical graduates can build their careers within the Union Territory of Jammu Kashmir.

“Advanced treatment and modern health facilities must be accessible to all so that we may establish the principles of social justice and equality. The health of an individual or a family affects opportunities, productivity and overall well-being of the society,” he said.

Shri Iqram Ali Shafiee, Chairman, CII J&K UT Council; Dr. Shuchin Bajaj, Founder Director, Ujala Cygnus Hospitals; Shri Siddhant Choudhary, Vice Chairman, CII J&K; Dr. Pervez Ahmad Sofi and Shri Arafat Ahmad Bhat, Members, Board of Directors, Peace and Wellbeing Foundation; Shri Sajad Hussain Lone, members of Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and healthcare professionals attended the inaugural ceremony.

Dr. GV Sundeep Chakravarthy, SSP Srinagar; Shri Akshay Labroo, Deputy Commissioner, Srinagar and senior officials were also present.

Project Director Samagra Shiksha reviews centrally sponsored schemes in Doda

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 29

Project Director, Samagra Shiksha, J&K, Bhawani Rakwal today reviewed the implementation and progress of various Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) of the School Education Department in District Doda during a comprehensive review meeting held at the Meeting Hall of the Chief Education Office, Doda.

Chief Education Officer, Doda, Bhushan Kumar Pathak welcomed the Project Director and apprised him of the progress achieved by the district under various components of School Education.

The meeting focused on the status of civil works, infrastructure development, digital initiatives and student-centric programmes being implemented across the district. Reviewing the ongoing developmental works, the Project Director directed the concerned officers and Heads of Institutions to accelerate the pace of execution and ensure timely completion of projects while maintaining prescribed quality standards and transparency in the utilization of government funds.

The implementation of key digital and educational initiatives, including the Prashast App, Digital Chatbots under VSK initiatives, Aadhaar-related activities, Mandatory Biometric Update (MBU), PM POSHAN and ULLAS was also reviewed in detail.

Emphasizing the importance of effective use of



technology, the Project Director stressed that digital platforms and technology-driven interventions should be meaningfully utilized at the school level for academic support, real-time monitoring, timely data updation and improved learning outcomes, rather than being treated merely as compliance-related exercises.

Stressing the importance of accountability, coordination and regular monitoring, he directed all concerned officers and field functionaries to ensure effective implementation of the schemes and timely compliance with the directions issued during the re-

view. Later, the Project Director held a review meeting with the Heads of Institutions of Educational Zone Baderwah at Dak Bungalow, Baderwah. He also conducted a field visit and interacted with students and zonal-level officers to assess the availability of basic facilities and review the implementation of various educational initiatives at the grassroots level. The meetings were attended by the District Education Planning Officer (DEPO), Principals of Government Higher Secondary Schools, Zonal Education Officers (ZEOs) of District Doda, besides other concerned officers and officials

of the School Education Department.

Concluding the review, Bhawani Rakwal called upon all officers and field functionaries to discharge their responsibilities with dedication, commitment and a result-oriented approach, ensuring transparency, quality and accountability in the implementation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes. He stressed that every government intervention should translate into tangible and meaningful benefits for students and contribute towards strengthening the overall quality of school education in District Doda.