

‘Swachhata Sankalp Campaign’ organised by ULB Directorate concludes

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The Directorate of Urban Local Bodies Jammu, under the leadership of Director Kapil Sharma, has successfully conducted the “Swachhata Sankalp” Campaign across the Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) of Jammu Division.

With active coordination of the concerned Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) and Executive Officers (EOs), the campaign covered Municipal Councils/Committee Billawar, Kathua, Samba, Vijaypur, Bari Brahmana, R.S. Pura, Katra, Reasi, Akhnoor, Sunderbani, Nowshera, Surankote, Udhampur, Batote, Ramban, Doda and Bhaderwah.

The campaign witnessed participation of more than 5,000 individuals, including students, government officials, prominent citizens, concerned MLAs, NGO representatives and local residents, taking part in cleanliness drives, awareness programmes, Swachhata pledges and rallies.

A special focus of the campaign was placed on the core messages of Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban-keeping surroundings clean, proper management of wet and dry waste, responsible disposal of waste and encouraging citizens to take collective responsibility for cleanliness.

One of the major components of the campaign was the Green Initiative, through which citizens, shopkeepers, students and



local residents were sensitised to the harmful effects of polythene and single-use plastic.

Over 2,000 reusable jute bags were distributed among local residents and participants to encourage the adoption of environmentally friendly alternatives and reduce dependence on single-use plastic.

The campaign also promoted awareness regarding wet and dry waste segregation, cleanliness of public spaces and responsible citizen behaviour.

Schools across the participating ULBs responded positively to the initiative. A large number of school-children participated in the awareness activities, rallies, cleanliness drives and Swachhata pledges. The campaign provided students an opportunity to understand the importance of cleanliness, waste segregation, environmental protection and their role as responsible citizens.

The active participation of district administration, local administration, government officials, NGOs,

prominent citizens, market representatives and local residents further strengthened the campaign and ensured wider community outreach.

To supplement the field-level activities, the Directorate also undertook a Radio Awareness Campaign through FM Radio Channels, carrying messages on Swachh Bharat Mission, cleanliness, sanitation, waste segregation, prevention of single-use plastic and responsible citizen participation.

The radio campaign helped extend the reach of the Swachhata Sankalp message beyond the physical campaign locations and enabled awareness messages to reach the wider population across the concerned ULBs.

Speaking on the successful culmination of the campaign, Kapil Sharma emphasised that cleanliness cannot be achieved by municipal bodies alone as it requires continuous participation and collective responsibility of citizens, schools, local institutions,

NGOs and the administration.

He appreciated the efforts of all the CEOs/EOs and field teams for successfully implementing the campaign across all 17 ULBs and for bringing together students, government officials, NGOs, prominent citizens and local communities on a common platform for cleanliness and environmental awareness.

The Director stressed that the Swachhata Sankalp Campaign is not merely a one-day cleanliness activity but an effort to develop sustained behavioural change among citizens, particularly with regard to waste segregation, prevention of littering, elimination of single-use plastic and proper use of public sanitation facilities.

The successful implementation of the campaign across ULBs has further strengthened the Directorate's commitment towards Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban) 2.0, Swachh Survekshan, environmental protection and sustainable urban sanitation across Jammu Division.

Kishtwar Admin finalises arrangements for Krishna Janmashtami, Shobha Yatra

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Additional Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar Pawan Kotwal today finalised the arrangements for Shri Krishna Janmashtami and Shobha Yatra here at a meeting convened in the Conference Hall of DC Office Complex.

The Additional Deputy Commissioner directed the concerned departments to make adequate arrangements for security, sanitation, medical facilities, drinking water, transportation and other basic amenities to ensure the smooth and successful culmination of the festival.

The ADC directed the Police Department to deploy adequate security personnel at all temples across Kishtwar Township and its suburbs.

He emphasized the need for formulating a foolproof traffic management plan and directed the authorities to identify alternate routes for traffic diversion to provide smooth passage to the Shobha Yatra.

The JPDC and Municipal authorities were asked to complete repair and re-



placement of streetlights wherever required. He stressed illumination of dark spots to avoid public inconvenience during the festival night.

Furthermore, the PHE and PDD departments were directed to keep the staff on alert for uninterrupted water and electricity supply in the town and its suburbs during the festival, with water tanker supply arranged at identified locations.

The enforcement departments including FCS&CA, Revenue, Legal Metrology, Municipal authorities, food safety and Police were tasked with conducting market inspections to keep a check on overcharging

and food quality.

The Municipal authorities were directed to launch a massive drive to clean lanes and drains and lime-lining across the town and its suburbs, besides ensuring the removal of garbage around the temples, if any.

The ADC also directed the Fire and Emergency Department to remain prepared to handle any fire-related incident or eventuality.

The Health Department was directed to keep medical facilities and paramedical staff ready at all PHCs and hospitals across the district, besides deploying an ambulance and medical staff equipped with first-aid facilities during the pro-

cession from Shri Gauri Shankar Mandir, Sarkoot, to Shri Ram Mandir, Semna Colony, Kishtwar.

Members of Sanatan Dharma Sabh led by President Mahant Ram Saran Dass raised several issues and grievances. The ADC gave them a patient hearing, issued necessary directions on the spot and assured every possible support from the District Administration Kishtwar.

The meeting was attended by PO ICDS Rishi Kumar Sharma; CEO KDA Kaiser Bhawani; ASP Pardeep Singh; ACR Idrees Lone, besides other officers and representatives from various departments, CRPF and others.

CS led UTHPSC clears urban transformation projects worth Rs 2,692.58 Cr

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In a major step towards accelerating sustainable and investment-driven urban transformation in J&K, the Union Territory Level High Powered Steering Committee (UTHPSC), chaired by Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, has approved three major urban development projects with a cumulative base cost of ₹2,692.58 crore under the Government of India's Urban Challenge Fund (UCF).

The meeting was attended by the senior officers in the administration including the ACS, Tourism; ACS, Finance; Principal Secretary, Culture; Commissioner Secretary, H&UDD; Divisional Commissioner, Jammu/Kashmir; Commissioner, JMC/SMC and other concerned officers.

The projects identified by the Housing & Urban Development Department (H&UDD) includes TARANG (Tawi Area Regeneration and Green Growth) in Jammu, Walled City & Nigeen Lakefront Revitalization in Srinagar, and KRIPA (Katra Revitalisation Through Integrated Pilgrimage Amenities) in Reasi are designed to combine public investment with market-linked financing and private participation to create modern, sustainable and economically vibrant urban spaces.

The approvals mark a significant advancement in J&K's efforts to leverage the UCF framework for trans-



formative urban infrastructure, while unlocking additional institutional, municipal and private capital for large-scale development.

With an estimated cost of ₹1,567.91 crore, TARANG envisages comprehensive regeneration of the Tawi riverfront and surrounding urban areas through a combination of public infrastructure and PPP-led commercial development. The project has a funding structure comprising ₹307.05 crore each from the Government of India and UT Government, while ₹953.81 crore is proposed to be mobilised through market and PPP financing.

The PPP component will facilitate development of a high-end residential group housing project, an upscale hotel, a modern retail mall and associated Left Bank road infrastructure. The Central Island will also be activated through development of a luxury resort asset.

The project further provides for extensive structural and river-protection works, including a diaphragm wall, embankment filling, retaining wall

with anchor slabs and interceptor drainage infrastructure.

The Walled City & Nigeen Lakefront Revitalization project, with an estimated cost of ₹1,010.77 crore, seeks to rejuvenate Srinagar's historic urban core and unlock the economic potential of its lakefront arc in the interiors of the historical city.

Around ₹300.77 crore will be deployed towards core public infrastructure and revitalisation of the historic city, while the PPP component will support development of a Hospitality Centre, Pokribal Lakefront and a premium five-star boutique hotel.

The Katra Revitalisation Through Integrated Pilgrimage Amenities (KRIPA) project in Reasi, estimated at ₹113.90 crore, will focus on improving pilgrim amenities, mobility management and institutional infrastructure in Katra.

A major component is the Katra Gateway Centre, envisaged as a 5+2 floor mixed-use facility over a 10.17-kanal site, with approximately 1.39 lakh sq ft

of built-up area. It will include pilgrim dormitories with 480 beds across 36 dormitories, 35 guest rooms, retail outlets, a community dining hall and dedicated prayer spaces.

To address parking and traffic congestion, the project also provides for a Multi-Level Car Parking facility with capacity for 365 Equivalent Car Spaces, EV charging infrastructure and dedicated bus bays near the Yatra Parchi Counter.

The project additionally provides ₹15.25 crore for institutional remodelling, including modern commercial office spaces, retail kiosks and upgraded administrative facilities for the Municipal Committee, Katra.

The three projects reflect the UCF's emphasis on developing bankable, investment-ready urban projects by combining government support with market-based financing. The approach is aimed not only at creating modern urban infrastructure but also at ensuring that such assets generate sustainable economic activity and long-term revenue streams.

‘New road connectivity proposed for villages affected by HEPP Pakal Dool’

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Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar Pankaj Kumar Sharma today chaired a meeting to discuss and review the proposal for the construction of a road along the right bank of River Marusudar to provide road connectivity to the villages of Khraipakhnoo, Tunder and Prangus of Tehsil Dachan.

The villages fall in the vicinity of the Pakal Dul Hydroelectric Power Project (HEPP) and the existing connectivity to these habitations is expected to be cut off upon completion of the dam reservoir.

The new road connectivity project to Tunder and Prangus villages is being taken up under the PMGSY-phase IV.

Detailed discussion was held regarding the proposed road alignment, its technical feasibility and other issues related to the implementation of the project. The status of existing road connectivity and the requirements of the affected villages were also reviewed.



The PMGSY functionaries apprised the meeting that the project to connect Tunder and Prangus villages is expected to be taken up under the PMGSY-Phase IV.

The DC directed the authorities to prepare a DPR for the additional road stretch leading to Khraipakhnoo village and push the already submitted DPR for Lopara to Tunder-Prangus for the current financial year.

The Deputy Commissioner emphasised the importance of ensuring proper road connectivity to these right-bank villages and called for close coordination among all concerned departments and agencies for the timely finalisation of the proposal and its submission.

The issues concerning land acquisition, forest clearance, road alignment, technical feasibility, funding and other matters were

also discussed in detail.

The concerned officers informed the meeting about the current status of their respective departments and shared their observations regarding the proposed project.

The Deputy Commissioner directed the concerned departments to work in a coordinated and time-bound manner and to submit the requisite details, reports and proposals at the earliest.

J&K tops Self-Enumeration among snow-bound states/UTs; CPCO launches Census 2027 Population Enumeration

UDHAMPUR, SEPTEMBER 01: Chief Principal Census Officer (CPCO) and Director, Directorate of Census Operations, Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, Amit Sharma, today launched Population Enumeration (Phase-II) of Census 2027 for the snow-bound areas of the Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. The field operations were formally launched from the remote, snow-bound areas of Dudu and Basantgarh in Udhampur district.

The September enumeration marks a significant operational milestone for Census 2027, as the Census machinery moves to the actual enumeration of the population, with special arrangements in place to ensure comprehensive coverage of re-

mote, high-altitude and difficult-to-access areas.

Amit Sharma said the commencement of Population Enumeration from Dudu and Basantgarh carries particular significance as it reflects the Directorate's commitment to take the Census to every part of the Union Territories, including areas where terrain, distance and weather pose formidable challenges. He said extensive preparations involving Enumeration Block demarcation, mapping, logistics, training and deployment of field functionaries have been undertaken to ensure that every household and resident is covered.

He highlighted that during the Self-Enumeration phase for Population Enumeration in snow-bound areas, conducted

from August 17 to 31, 2026, the UT of Jammu & Kashmir emerged as the top-performing State/UT among all States and Union Territories covered under the September 2026 schedule, recording the highest number of Self-Enumeration submissions.

The exercise provided residents an opportunity to participate directly in the digital Census process. During this phase, Jammu & Kashmir recorded 9,672 Self-Enumeration submissions. The response was particularly encouraging in several districts, with Pulwama recording 3,204, Kishtwar 2,231, Doda 1,169, Ramban 629, Poonch 569 and Kulgam 554 submissions. In Ladakh, 527 households completed Self-Enumeration, including 301 in Kargil and 226 in Leh. Thus, a combined 10,199

households across the two Union Territories participated through Self-Enumeration ahead of the field phase.

Amit Sharma appreciated the strong public response, stating that it demonstrates growing acceptance of the digital Census process and provides a strong foundation for the successful conduct of Population Enumeration. He urged all the residents to extend similar cooperation to Enumerators and Supervisors and ensure that their households and eligible family members are accurately covered.

Prem Singh, Additional Deputy Commissioner and Darshan Kumar, District Statistics and Evaluation Officer from the Deputy Commissioner Office, Udhampur, besides Manmeet Singh Loomba, Deputy Chief

Principal Census Officer, Balbir Singh and Nimrat Kour, Assistant Chief Principal Census Officers, and Ajit Raj, District Coordinator for Udhampur District from the Directorate of Census Operations, accompanied the CPCO.

Population Enumeration in the snow-bound areas of Jammu & Kashmir covers 16 districts and 95 Charges, with an estimated 4,146 Enumeration Blocks being formed. These included Poonch, Kathua, Doda, Ramban, Kishtwar, Udhampur, Reasi, Kupwara, Budgam, Baramulla, Bandipora, Ganderbal, Pulwama, Shopian, Anantnag and Kulgam. In Ladakh, the entire Union Territory is being enumerated during September through an estimated 637 Enumeration Blocks, making it the

first Union Territory to be completely enumerated during Phase-II of Census 2027.

A significant component of the September exercise will be the enumeration of the houseless population, which will also be covered during this phase. The Directorate has made necessary arrangements to ensure that such population groups are appropriately identified and included. The exercise will also include enumeration of Special Charges, including Defence and Central Armed Police Forces establishments and other restricted-access locations, in coordination with the concerned authorities.

Following completion of field enumeration, a Revision Round will be conducted from October 1 to 5, 2026 to review coverage

and incorporate eligible changes arising within the prescribed period. This will provide an additional layer of field verification and help ensure that Population Enumeration is as complete and accurate as possible.

The second phase was preceded by a structured training cascade covering Master Trainers, Field Trainers and subsequently Enumerators and Supervisors, with emphasis on Census concepts, definitions, field procedures and digital tools.

The Nodal Officers and District Coordinators have also been deployed to coordinate field preparations, Enumeration Block demarcation, distribution of Census kits and availability of manuals and other operational material.