

DC Kathua convenes Public grievances redressal Camp at Bhaddu

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, SEP 02

A Public Grievances redressal Camp was today organised at Bhaddu in Block Billawar. Deputy Commissioner Kathua Rajesh Sharma chaired the camp. A large number of public representatives and residents projected local demands and issues seeking prompt redressal of the same.

ADC Billawar Vishavjeet Singh, PO ICDS Mohammed Syed Khan, CPO Ranjeet Thakur and other district and sectoral officers attended the camp.

Former-Sarpanches from different Panchayats of Block Billawar projected a number of demands related to road connectivity, healthcare, water supply, revenue services, tourism, agriculture and horticulture, Panchayat works and other developmental issues.

The Deputy Commissioner gave a patient hearing to the demands and assured the public that the issues within the domain of district administration would be resolved on priority, while those requiring intervention at higher levels would be appropriately projected to the concerned authorities. “Such demands will be taken into considera-



tion while preparing future plans, as these require intervention and funding at the government level,” he informed.

Highlighting the importance of such camps, the DC said that several issues which can be resolved at the district level often do not reach the administration. “Such camps provide an effective platform for the public to project their demands directly before the administration and seek timely resolution”, he noted.

Responding to the specific demands, the DC directed the Executive Engineer PWD Billawar to explore the possibility of early upgradation of Phinter-Bhaddu road as demanded by the locals. He also informed that roads damaged due to rains are being taken up for repair and renovation in a phased manner.

He further directed the CMO to move a proposal for

re-construction of the old building for local PHC and ensure provision of healthcare services from a makeshift facility till its completion.

On water scarcity, the DC directed the Executive Engineer PHE to identify the affected areas, conduct field visits and submit a detailed report.

He informed that additional funds have been provided to the Mechanical Division for procurement of machinery, which would soon be installed in water-deficient areas to augment water supply.

On the issue of availability of mining material, the DC clarified that contractors are required to arrange construction material as per the terms and conditions of the tender. He also stressed upon contractors and executing agencies to ensure quality of work.

The DC informed that the

Bhaddu Ground would be upgraded for which a proposal would be submitted to the Sports Department.

The Deputy Commissioner also directed the Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Husbandry departments to organise melas to provide farmers and the general public with information regarding departmental schemes, latest farming techniques and livelihood opportunities. Other departments were also asked to organise awareness camps to sensitise the public about their ongoing schemes and programmes.

The DC appealed to the people, particularly the youth, to stay away from drugs and collectively work towards making their villages Nasha Mukta, with the larger objective of making Kathua and ultimately Jammu and Kashmir drug-free.

DC Anantnag for effective use of railway goods services for transport of Horticulture produce

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, SEP 02

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Anantnag, Dr. Bilal Mohiuddin Bhat, today chaired a meeting at DC Office to review the operationalization of railway goods services for transportation of horticulture produce from the district to outside markets.

The meeting was attended by the Addl Deputy Commissioner, Dr. Muzaamil Maqbool, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Tariq Ahmad Malik, SDM Bijbehara, Tanveer Ahmad Tanveer, Tehsildar Bijbehara, Chief Horticulture Officer, SDPO Bijbehara, Area Marketing Manager, Railway Officer from Anantnag Railway Station, President Fruit Association Qazigund, and representatives of the Transport Association, Anantnag.

Addressing the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner stressed the importance of close coordination among the concerned departments,



railway authorities, fruit associations and transporters for the effective operationalization and utilization of railway goods services. He directed all stakeholders to work in a coordinated manner and address logistical issues to facilitate the smooth movement of horticulture produce.

During the meeting, detailed discussions were held on the availability of railway goods services, operational modalities and logistical requirements for ensuring the

smooth and efficient transportation of horticulture produce.

It was informed that horticulture is one of the key sectors of the district economy, with around 32,381 hectares of land under horticulture and an annual fruit production of approximately 3 lakh metric tonnes. In view of the substantial volume of produce, the meeting highlighted the significance of railway services for timely delivery of fruit to the outside markets. The

meeting was further informed that Jablipora, Ashijipora and Batengoo are three major fruit mandis in District Anantnag, serving as important centres for the collection, marketing and distribution of horticulture produce.

The participants discussed the potential of railway goods services as an additional efficient and cost-effective mode of transportation, particularly during the peak harvesting season.

The service is expected to provide growers and traders with an alternative transportation option and improve market connectivity for the horticulture sector.

The meeting concluded with directions to all concerned stakeholders to take necessary measures for the effective utilization of railway goods services, with the objective of facilitating timely transportation, reducing logistical challenges and benefiting fruit growers and traders of the district.

DC Ganderbal Felicitates Officers, Officials for Successful Conduct of SANJY-2026

GANDERBAL, SEPTEMBER 02:

In recognition of the dedicated efforts and exemplary services rendered during the Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra 2026, the District Administration Ganderbal today organised a felicitation ceremony wherein officers and officials associated with the Yatra arrangements were felicitated for their valuable contributions.

On the occasion, Deputy Commis-

sioner Ganderbal, Jatin Kishore, presented appreciation certificates to officers and officials from various departments and agencies, including Police, Army, Beacon, Public Health Engineering (PHE), Roads & Buildings (R&B), Power Development Department (PDD), Rural Development Department (RDD), Information Department and other concerned line departments, in recognition of their

dedicated services and contribution towards the smooth and successful conduct of the Yatra.

Addressing the gathering, the Deputy Commissioner lauded the coordinated efforts of all stakeholders and said that the smooth and successful conduct of the Yatra was a reflection of effective planning, close coordination and dedicated execution by all the departments.

DC Bandipora convenes Public Outreach Programme

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, SEP 02

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Indu Kanwal Chib, today chaired a Public Outreach Programme at Town Hall, Bandipora, to take stock of essential amenities, developmental works and issues concerning residents of the town area.

Among others, the Programme Officer ICDS, CMO, CHO, CEO MC Bandipora, Tehsildar, Executive Engineers, other district officers were present in the event, while a large gathering of the public ensured their enthusiastic participation in the program. The programme was attended by officers of various departments, representatives of the Municipal Council, civil society, traders and members of the public.

During the programme, local residents raised several issues concerning drainage, repair and main-



tenance of drains, waste management, roadside parking, street lighting, public washrooms, footpaths, cleanliness of Gadar Kul and other civic amenities.

Addressing the occasion, DC stressed the importance of home composting for managing household wet waste and reducing pressure on municipal waste management systems. She urged residents to adopt the practice and informed that punitive action against violations of waste management norms had come into

effect from September 1, 2026.

Regarding desilting, the DC directed necessary action and asked the Irrigation Department to submit estimates. Issues concerning drains in Kaloosa, beautification of Dudh Kul and extension of Kaloosa Bridge were also reviewed.

The PDD was directed to publicize the approved power curtailment schedule and submit a proposal for a uniform curtailment schedule for shops in the town. The Jal Shakti Department was directed to improve

drinking water supply in affected areas.

The PWD was asked to submit a proposal for omission of the proposed Clock Tower at Gulshan Chowk under the Town Beautification Project, while the CEO Municipal Council and Traders Federation were directed to submit proposals. The ARTO was directed to meet auto-rickshaw representatives regarding roadside parking, while the CEO Municipal Council was asked to report on unlicensed vendors and traffic congestion.

Emphasizing awareness regarding the Waqar Knowledge Centre, disaster management and mandatory AgriStack registration, the DC directed concerned officers to conduct awareness programmes and camps.

She also directed CMO Bandipora to conduct awareness programmes regarding declining fertility rates and encourage people to seek professional guidance.

DC reviews implementation of PCPNDT Act, NTEP in Samba district

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, SEP 02

The implementation of Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (PCPNDT) Act and National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme (NTEP) was reviewed today at a meeting of the District Advisory Committee.

The Deputy Commissioner Samba Ayushi Sudan chaired the meeting.

The deliberations also focused on assessment of healthcare services in the light of National Quality Assurance Standards (NQAS).

At the outset, Chief Medical Officer Dr Vidhi Bhatial welcomed the Chairperson,



members of District Advisory Committee and other officers.

The meeting reviewed the monitoring and enforcement mechanism in place to check the violation of the Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (PCPNDT) Act, besides screening and treatment facilities available under the National Tuberculosis Elimination Pro-

gramme (NTEP) in the district.

The DC directed the concerned officers to enforce strict compliance with the provisions of the PCPNDT Act, strengthen quality standards in healthcare facilities under NQAS and ensure timely identification, diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis cases under NTEP.

She stressed upon the of-

ficers to work with dedication and adopt a proactive approach for improving healthcare delivery and ensuring better health outcomes for the people of District Samba.

The meeting was attended by senior health officials and other concerned officers, who briefed the chair on the progress and achievements under their respective programmes.

CS reviews nearly Rs 40,000 Cr Highway & Tunnel projects across J&K

SRINAGAR, SEPTEMBER 02:

Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today reviewed the progress of the Jammu & Kashmir Infrastructure and Connectivity Development Programme, encompassing a massive portfolio of National Highways, tunnels, flyovers, viaducts, bridges, ring roads and other strategic connectivity projects being executed across the Union Territory through BRO, NHAI, NHIDCL and the Public Works (R&B) Department.

The comprehensive review also covered a substantial pipeline of projects at DPR and in-principle stages, being prepared for sanction and inclusion in the upcoming work plans of the respective executing agencies under various Government of India programmes.

The meeting was attended by ACS, PWD; Commissioner Secretary, Forests; Divisional Commissioner, Jammu/ Kashmir; Deputy Commissioners; Chief Engineer, Project Beacon/SAMPARK; Chief Engineers of PWD; Regional Officers of NHAI and NHIDCL; and senior officers and representatives of concerned departments and executing agencies.

Taking detailed stock of the progress of individual highway and tunnel pro-



jects, the Chief Secretary sought updates on their physical progress and probable dates of completion. He emphasized the transformative significance of these mega connectivity projects for Jammu & Kashmir and directed the Divisional and District Administrations to remain in close coordination with the executing agencies for swift resolution of bottlenecks and ensuring satisfactory pace of work.

He stressed that field-level issues affecting project execution should be identified and resolved proactively so that the approved timelines are adhered to and the benefits of these major investments reach the people at the earliest.

The Chief Secretary also laid particular emphasis on maintaining the existing road surfaces on highways under construction, directing the concerned agencies to ensure that stretches presently being used by commuters remain motorable and safe. He called for immediate attention to

damaged road surfaces and other deficiencies contributing to traffic snarls and inconvenience to the public.

He further observed that the massive investment in connectivity is going to translate into faster, safer and more reliable movement of people and goods, while strengthening access to tourism and economically important areas adding to their sustainable development and economic upliftment of people here.

At the outset, ACS, PWD, Anil Kumar Singh, gave an overview of the major connectivity projects being executed through BRO, NHAI, NHIDCL and PWD across Jammu & Kashmir.

He stated that, besides the projects presently under execution, the agencies have identified a number of additional roads, tunnels and flyovers which have the potential to become game changers in easing travel across the regions and making connectivity more reliable, particularly keeping in view the challenging topog-

raphy of the Union Territory.

It was highlighted that the overall portfolio comprises 87 works with an estimated value of ₹1,19,736 crore. Of these, 44 works worth ₹39,711 crore are presently under execution, while 11 sanctioned projects involving ₹9,187 crore are awaiting commencement. Another 32 projects worth ₹70,839 crore are at DPR/in-principle stage, providing a substantial pipeline for the next phase of connectivity expansion.

The meeting reviewed the progress of major NHAI projects, including the Delhi-Amritsar-Katra Expressway (NE-5), Ramban-Banihal tunnel packages, Jammu Ring Road, Chenani-Patnitop connectivity and Srinagar Ring Road projects being executed by NHAI here.

The five packages of the Delhi-Amritsar-Katra Expressway reviewed during the meeting cover around 142 km at a total project cost of ₹11,546 crore. Several packages have achieved substantial physical progress, with the Raya Morh-Samba-Kunjwani/Jammu Airport package recording over 96 per cent progress, while the Hiranagar package has crossed 91 per cent.

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, SEP 02

Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Jatin Kishore, today convened a meeting to review the preparedness and arrangements for conducting the Digital Crop Survey for Kharif 2026 across all villages of the district.

During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner reviewed the progress and preparedness for the survey. He directed all concerned to ensure completion of the exercise within the stipulated timeframe in a systematic, accurate and time-bound manner.

The Deputy Commissioner stressed upon the concerned functionaries to ensure comprehensive coverage of all villages and agricultural land parcels and directed that crop details be captured accurately through the prescribed digital process after proper



field-level verification.

He called for close coordination and regular monitoring of the exercise and directed the concerned officers to undertake daily reviews of the progress and ensure timely resolution of any issues or gaps encountered during field-level implementation.

The Deputy Commissioner emphasised that the data generated through the survey must be accurate, complete and reflective of the actual ground position, as reliable crop data is es-

sential for effective agricultural planning, assessment and delivery of various government schemes and services.

He further directed the concerned officers to ensure that all field functionaries are properly sensitised regarding the prescribed methodology and that necessary checks are undertaken to avoid errors, omissions and duplication in the survey.

The Deputy Commissioner impressed upon all concerned to accord top pri-

ority to the exercise and ensure that the Digital Crop Survey is completed across the district within the prescribed timeline, with proper monitoring and verification at every level.

The meeting was attended by the Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Assistant Commissioner Panchayats, Chief Agriculture Officer, Chief Horticulture Officer, Chief Animal Husbandry Officer, Tehsildars, Block Development Officers and other concerned officers.