

Div Com Jammu reviews progress of National Clean Air Program

Committee approves ITLS at identified locations of Jammu

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, SEP 15

Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Ramesh Kumar, today chaired a meeting to review the progress in implementation of the approved Action Plan for improvement of air quality in Jammu District under the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP).

The Divisional Commissioner is also the Chairperson of the District Level Monitoring Committee for monitoring the approved action Plan under NCAP.

Commissioner Jammu Municipal Corporation, Devansh Yadav, Member Secretary of the Committee; Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Rakesh Minhas- the Member; Joint Commissioner JMC Abdul Sattar - the Nodal Officer; a representative from the J&K Pollution Control Committee, besides other concerned officers were present in the meeting. The Member Secretary briefed the Committee about the NCAP Action Plan 2026-



27, including the financial allocation, expenditure, completed and ongoing works and proposed interventions aimed at improving air quality in Jammu city. He also listed other physical and financial achievements.

The Committee reviewed various measures under the Action Plan, including road and footpath improvement, development of green spaces and vertical gardens, park improvement, pothole repair, traffic management, solid waste and construction & demolition waste management, besides the awareness activities.

After detailed deliberations, the Committee approved the Integrated Traffic Light System

(ITLS) at identified locations in Jammu to strengthen traffic management through an integrated and coordinated system.

The Committee also approved the supplementary plan and plantation proposal for Kot Bhalwal and Bhagwati Nagar, aimed at strengthening green cover and improving the urban environment.

The Committee further decided to re-examine the projects proposed to be taken up under the NCAP Action Plan 2026-27, with a focus on prioritising interventions having greater impact on air quality and ensuring effective utilisation of available resources.

The Divisional Commissioner directed the concerned officers to ensure timely completion of ongoing works and put in place a sustainable mechanism for proper maintenance of assets created under NCAP. He stressed that new green spaces, parks and other interventions be developed at suitable locations where their regular upkeep can be ensured.

He further directed the officers to expedite implementation of the approved measures, with emphasis on dust control, road improvement, traffic management, greenery and effective solid waste management for achieving the objectives of the National Clean Air Programme.

Sethi, Former Senior Manager, NHPC Ltd. & Former Director, JP Group of Industries was honoured with IET Award for his lifetime services rendered to the engineering profession and to the Institution of Engineers (India), Jammu Local Centre.

IEI, Jammu also presented R. L. Sharma Memorial Gold Medal to Er. Joy Ganjoo for presenting the Best Technical Paper, Rudra Bhagwati Silver Medal to Er. B L Rawal for presenting 2nd Best Technical Paper and IET Bronze Medal to Er. Gopal Krishan Sharma for presenting 3rd Best Technical Paper during the year 2025-26.

Additionally, the first issue of 24th Volume of the quarterly Newsletter of Jammu Centre called IET Jammu News was also released by the Chief Guest and Guest of Honour in presence of the Editorial Board comprising Er. Anil Verma, Chairman cum Editorial Director, Dr. Sanjay Khar, Er. P. K. Nanda, Er. Sumil Goyal, Er. Amit Sethi and Er. Avneet Gupta, Hony. Secretary being its Members.

IEI also honoured Er. P. K. Nanda, Er. B. L. Rawal, Er. Gopal Krishan Sharma, Er. Ranjeev Sawhney, Er. Joy Ganjoo and Er. Anil Kumar with mementoes for presenting two or more technical papers during the year 2025-26.

Later, Er. Virinder Singh, Assistant Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Department, highlighted his qualities of austerity, integrity, competence and discipline.

Er. Virinder

Engineers' Day celebrated at IEI Jammu, call for engineering excellence

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, SEP 15

The 59th Engineers' Day was celebrated with enthusiasm by the Institution of Engineers (India), Jammu Local Centre at its Institutional Complex here, commemorating the 165th birth anniversary of Bharat Ratna Sir M. Visvesvaraya.

Divisional Commissioner Jammu Ramesh Kumar, IAS, was the Chief Guest, while Rahul Yadav, IAS, Managing Director, J&K State Power Development Corporation Ltd., was the Guest of Honour. The programme was attended by Chairman IEI Jammu Local Centre Er. Anil Verma, FIE, Honorary Secretary Er. Avneet Gupta, FIE, and engineers from various departments and organisations.

In his welcome address on the theme "Engineering Excellence for a Sustainable and Technologically Sovereign India," Er. Anil Verma highlighted major engineering achievements contributing to India's technological progress, while stressing the need for better supervision, coordination and accountability in infrastructure projects.

Paying tribute to Sir M. Visvesvaraya, Er. Mohinder Singh, Assistant Executive



Engineer, Jal Shakti Department, highlighted his qualities of austerity, integrity, competence and discipline.

Er. Virinder Sethi, former Senior Manager, NHPC Ltd. and former Director, JP Group of Industries, was honoured with the IET Award for his lifetime contribution to the engineering profession and the Jammu Local Centre.

The R. L. Sharma Memorial Gold Medal was presented to Er. Joy Ganjoo for the Best Technical Paper, the Rudra Bhagwati Silver Medal to Er. B. L. Rawal for the second-best paper and the IET Bronze Medal to Er. Gopal Krishan Sharma for the third-best paper during

2025-26. Several engineers were also honoured with mementoes for presenting two or more technical papers.

The first issue of the 24th volume of the quarterly newsletter IEI Jammu News was also released on the occasion.

Rahul Yadav stressed that engineers should remain closely involved with projects from conception to completion and focus more on design and engineering rather than being confined to managerial roles.

Ramesh Kumar said engineers shape the future of a nation and have a major role in achieving Atmanirbhar Bharat and Viksit Bharat 2047. He urged engineers to

strengthen planning, adopt AI responsibly and ensure that technological advancement remains aligned with ethical and sustainable development.

The inaugural session was followed by a technical session chaired by Er. Hamesh Manchanda, former Chief Engineer, Jal Shakti Department, during which Er. B. L. Rawal presented a technical paper on the theme. A presentation by Surya Shakti Solar Solutions, Jammu, also sensitised participants about rooftop solar solutions under the PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana.

Er. Avneet Gupta conducted the proceedings and proposed the vote of thanks.

Div Com pays rich tributes to Sir M Visvesvaraya

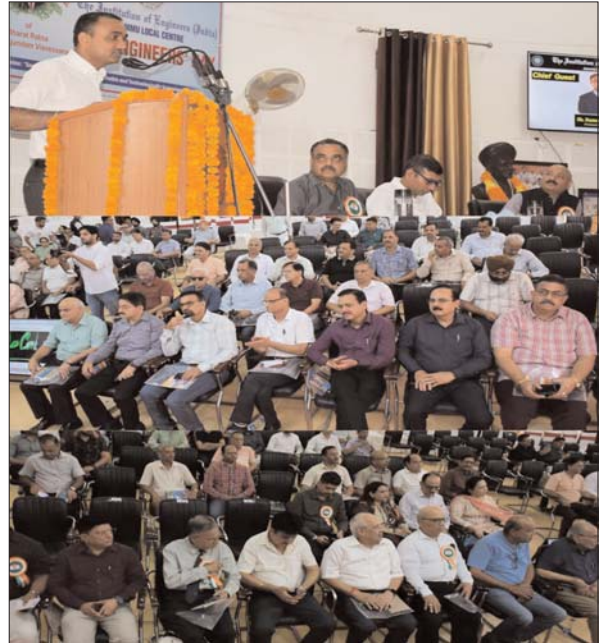
HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, SEP 15

The 59th Engineers' Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm by the Institution of Engineers (India), Jammu Local Centre at its Institutional Complex. The day coincided with the commemoration of the 165th birth anniversary of India's greatest Engineer -Bharat Ratna Sir M. Visvesvaraya.

Divisional Commissioner Jammu Ramesh Kumar was the Chief Guest and Managing Director J&K State Power Development Corporation Ltd. Rahul Yadav was the Guest of Honour. FIE Chairman Er. Anil Verma; FIE Honorary Secretary Er. Avneet Gupta and a large number of engineers from different departments and organizations attended the function.

In his address, the Divisional Commissioner paid rich tributes to Bharat Ratna Sir M. Visvesvaraya and honoured his legacy. He said that Engineers decide and shape the future of a nation. "They not only build infrastructure but also play a role in every industrial and commercial activity," he added.

He exhorted the engineers to lay focus on the planning aspect of engineering, make use of AI for the betterment of mankind and sustainable future keeping in view the moral and ethical draw-



backs of the same. "A lot has changed since independence and engineers have to play a bigger role in Atmanirbhar Bharat and Viksit Bharat 2047," he stressed.

Rahul Yadav highlighted the contribution of Sir. M. Visvesvaraya. He said that our engineers are becoming more of administrators than engineers. He further advised that Engineers should handhold the projects right from conception to completion. He also asked them to focus more on the design and engineering part rather than managerial roles.

Earlier, Er. Anil Verma presented the welcome address on the theme "Engineering Excellence for a Sustainable and Techno-

logically Sovereign India." He cited many initiatives of engineers in the country which have resulted in the creation of technological marvels. "Start of hydrogen fuel cell powered train in July, 2026 in Jind - Sonapat section of Northern Railway and launch of first Interlinking of rivers project in Dec, 2024 for linking Ken and Betwa rivers to serve water starved Bundelkhand region inter alia many others exemplary feats of engineers personify India's technological sovereignty," he noted.

The Engineers paid rich Tributes to Sir M. Visvesvaraya and highlighted his sterling qualities like Austerity, Integrity, Competence and Discipline.

Later, Er. Virinder

Sethi, Former Senior Manager, NHPC Ltd. & Former Director, JP Group of Industries was honoured with IET Award for his lifetime services rendered to the engineering profession and to the Institution of Engineers (India), Jammu Local Centre.

IEI, Jammu also presented R. L. Sharma Memorial Gold Medal to Er. Joy Ganjoo for presenting the Best Technical Paper, Rudra Bhagwati Silver Medal to Er. B L Rawal for presenting 2nd Best Technical Paper and IET Bronze Medal to Er. Gopal Krishan Sharma for presenting 3rd Best Technical Paper during the year 2025-26.

Additionally, the first issue of 24th Volume of the quarterly Newsletter of Jammu Centre called IET Jammu News was also released by the Chief Guest and Guest of Honour in presence of the Editorial Board comprising Er. Anil Verma, Chairman cum Editorial Director, Dr. Sanjay Khar, Er. P. K. Nanda, Er. Sumil Goyal, Er. Amit Sethi and Er. Avneet Gupta, Hony. Secretary being its Members.

IEI also honoured Er. P. K. Nanda, Er. B. L. Rawal, Er. Gopal Krishan Sharma, Er. Ranjeev Sawhney, Er. Joy Ganjoo and Er. Anil Kumar with mementoes for presenting two or more technical papers during the year 2025-26.

Dy CM holds public outreach programme at Chatroo

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, SEP 15

Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary, on the second day of his two-day visit to Kishtwar district, today visited the Tourist Reception Centre at Sub-Division Chatroo and held a public outreach programme to listen to the grievances and demands of the people and ensure their quality and timely disposal.

MLA Inderwal, Pyare Lal Sharma, was also present on the occasion.

During the event, the people raised various demands, including establishment of a Government ITI at Chatroo, upgradation of PHC Nali, provision of proper drainage along the NHIDCL Kishtwar-Sinthan road, establishment of a Government Women College for Block Mughal Maidan, resolution of unscheduled power cuts in Chatroo, upgradation of HS Chingam to HSS, establishment of a school for Special Tribal Community students, setting up of a Gujjar Bakarwal Hostel at Mughal Maidan, resolution of water scarcity issues and other demands concerning the area.



MLA Inderwal, raised the issue of road compensation and urged the Deputy Chief Minister to take up the matter with the higher authorities. He also raised issues related to several road projects, including Bunda to Mundil, Wanipora to Zaidhar, Markhal to Gujnar, Sheikhpura to Buttpora, Horna to Drubeer, Kakad-

wagan to Satarwagan, Moori Bunjwah Road and Sigdi to Hindgam.

Dy CM listened to all the grievances and assured every possible support for redress of the same.

On the occasion, Surinder Choudhary announced that a small Industrial Estate would be established at Chatroo. He directed the concerned de-

partments to identify suitable land and assess the feasibility of the project.

The Deputy Chief Minister urged the unemployed youth to avail benefits of the flagship Mission Yuva Scheme, which provides loan assistance without any mortgage or guarantee, enabling the individuals to start their own ventures.

JKEDI organises Startup Idea Challenge 2.0 at GCW Gandhi Nagar

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, SEP 15

The Jammu & Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI), District Centre Jammu, in collaboration with Government College for Women (GCW), Gandhinagar, Jammu, today organised a Startup Idea Challenge 2.0 programme at the college to promote innovation and foster an entrepreneurial mindset among students.

More than 200 students from the host and other colleges participated in the programme. During the Idea Pitching Session, 30 ideas

were presented before the jury, of which 10 promising ideas were shortlisted for the next level of the Startup Idea Challenge 2.0.

The College Principal Dr. Kulwinder Kaur was the Chief Guest on the occasion. She appreciated the initiative of JKEDI and encouraged students to pursue innovative ideas and develop solutions to real-world challenges.

The jury panel comprised Chief Manager J&K Bank Raju Gupta; Associate Professor, Department of Chemistry Dr. Rabia Javed; Head, Department of Computer Applications Dr. Arjun Kotwal; and Founder, Lawgger Technolo-



gies Pvt. Ltd Abhinav Kohli. The jury evaluated the ideas on parameters including inno-

vation, problem relevance, feasibility, scalability and potential impact, and provided

constructive feedback to the participants.

The participants were also

sensitised to the J&K Startup Policy 2024-27 and the support available to eligible startups through incubation, mentorship, training, seed funding and other interventions under the startup ecosystem.

Founder, Lawgger Technologies Pvt. Ltd. Abhinav Kohli shared his entrepreneurial journey and practical experiences with the students, providing insights into the challenges and opportunities involved in building a startup.

The Startup Idea Challenge, an initiative of JKEDI, seeks to introduce students to innovation and entrepreneurship at an early stage and provide

them with a platform to develop and pitch their ideas. The second edition focuses on identifying and nurturing promising student-led ideas and facilitating their progression towards the next stages of the challenge. The programme was coordinated by Prof. Rashi Gupta, Dr. Asha Devi and Vishal Sharma whose efforts contributed to its successful conduct.

The 10 shortlisted ideas will now progress to the next level, where the participating innovators will have an opportunity to further develop and refine their concepts with appropriate guidance and support.