

Speaker emphasizes inter-departmental coordination for Urs celebrations at Charar-i-Sharief

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, OCT 03

Speaker, Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly and MLA Charar-i-Sharief, Abdul Rahim Rather, today chaired a meeting to review arrangements for the forthcoming annual Urs of the revered 14th-century patron saint of Kashmir, Hazrat Sheikh-ul-Aalam Sheikh Noor-ud-Din Noorani (RA), scheduled to commence from October 7.

During the meeting, the Speaker reviewed the arrangements being put in place by various departments for smooth, peaceful and hassle-free conduct of the Urs, with particular emphasis on ensuring adequate civic amenities and facilities for devotees.

Reviewing the arrangements for drinking water, the Speaker directed the concerned departments to ensure adequate and uninterrupted water supply in and around the shrine and Charar-i-Sharief town. He called for ensuring round-the-clock availability of water in washrooms for both male and female devotees and deployment of water tankers as an emergency measure, wherever required.

Regarding power supply and illumination, the Speaker directed the concerned authorities to ensure uninterrupted electricity supply throughout the Urs period and proper illumination of the shrine and adjoining areas.

On health and medical facilities, the Speaker called



for deployment of adequate medical teams, availability of ambulances and sufficient stocks of essential medicines to deal with any medical emergency during the celebrations.

The Speaker also directed the concerned authorities to make arrangements for distribution of ration to the residents of Charar-i-Sharief, keeping in view the anticipated increase in the number of visitors and the requirements of the local population during the Urs.

Emphasizing the importance of cleanliness and sanitation, the Speaker directed for adequate deployment of sanitation staff, installation of sufficient toilets and dustbins at strategic locations and regular lifting and scientific disposal of waste to maintain cleanliness in and around the shrine and town.

He further directed the concerned departments to conduct regular inspections of shops and food establishments to ensure compliance with prescribed standards of food hygiene and sanitation. He also called for strict monitoring of prices, weights and measures to safeguard the inter-

ests of devotees and the general public.

Reviewing the transport and traffic management arrangements, the Speaker stressed the need for adequate public transport facilities, designated parking areas and a well-coordinated traffic management plan, including proper diversions and regulation of vehicular movement, to ensure smooth traffic flow during the Urs.

On security arrangements, the Speaker called for adequate deployment of security personnel for effective crowd management and maintenance of law and order. He stressed the need for strict vigil in and around the shrine and other sensitive areas. He also directed for positioning of adequate fire-fighting and emergency response vehicles at strategic locations to deal with any eventuality.

The Speaker stressed upon all concerned departments to work in close coordination and ensure effective inter-departmental convergence for making comprehensive arrangements well in advance. He called for regular monitoring of all arrangements and

prompt resolution of any gaps or bottlenecks so that the Urs celebrations are conducted in a peaceful, safe and seamless manner.

The Speaker directed for establishment of a 24x7 control room during the Urs period to facilitate prompt redressal of issues and grievances of devotees and the general public. He called for deployment of designated officers and officials from all concerned departments at the control room on a rotational basis, so that necessary assistance and coordination are available round the clock and any issue arising during the Urs is addressed promptly.

He reiterated that all necessary arrangements must be put in place well ahead of commencement of the Urs to facilitate devotees and ensure their safety, comfort and convenience.

ADC Budgam, SDM Chadoora, CMO Budgam Executive Engineers (PHE, R&B), AD FCS&CA, Tehsildar Charar-i-Sharief, SDPO Charar-i-sharief, ARTO Budgam, BMO Charar-i-sharief, BDO Charar-i-sharief and representatives from civil society were present in the meeting.

Justice Sanjeev Kumar visits Child Care Institutions ‘Palaash’ and ‘Pareesha’ at Nishat

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Justice Sanjeev Kumar, Judge, High Court of J&K and Ladakh and Executive Chairman, J&K Legal Services Authority today visited “Palaash” (Children Home for Boys) and “Pareesha” (Children Home for Girls) at Nishat, here to take stock of the facilities being provided to the children in these Homes.

On his arrival at Pareesha, Justice Sanjeev Kumar was accorded warm welcome by the District Child Protection officer Srinagar, CWC Srinagar Chairperson, Superintendent, Pareesha and staff of the homes.

Justice Sanjeev Kumar interacted with children staying there and enquired about their studies and other activities of interest. The DCPO, Superintendent Pareesha informed Justice Sanjeev Kumar about the various upgraded facilities provided at Pareesha like improved Computer room, open gym, and facility of evening Tutor.

The Home for Boys “Palash” situated adjoining to Pareesha was also inspected where boys of different age groups were pre-



sent. Similar facilities were available in the said Home. During an interaction with the children both at “Palaash” and “Pareesha”, Justice Sanjeev Kumar was informed that they are being provided with nutritious and satisfactory meals, educational and health facilities. They further informed that they are being provided with books as well as sports equipment. Justice Sanjeev Kumar gave some onspot directions to the DCPO, Superintendent of these Home to provide all required facilities to the children in Home and to involve IMHANS for mental health psycho social camps and for referrals in case of any severity. Thereafter, Justice Sanjeev Kumar visited Observation Home

Harwan, Srinagar and inspected the facilities being provided to the inmates. While interacting with inmates of the Home, Justice Sanjeev Kumar issued necessary directions to the management for ensuring that the facilities are maintained and the needs of the inmates are duly attended to. Justice Sanjeev Kumar appreciated the efforts of the Social Welfare Department in ensuring satisfactory services and care for children, while maintaining cleanliness and the required standards of living in the child-care institutions. He directed the authorities to organize district and UT-level programmes on the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, with the active involvement

of District Legal Services Authorities (DLSAs), District Social Welfare Offices, Department of Education and relevant stakeholders.

Justice Sanjeev Kumar further emphasized leveraging the technical expertise and long-standing collaboration of UNICEF with the J&K Legal Services Authority (JKLSA) to strengthen awareness, prevention, child-friendly responses, and effective implementation of the POCSO framework across the Union Territory.

This visit underscored the commitment of the J&K Legal Services Authority to the welfare of children in institutional care, ensuring they receive the necessary support and opportunities for their development.

ADDC Shopian Flags Off Exposure Visit for Children with Special Needs

SHOPIAN, OCTOBER

3: An educational exposure visit for Children with Special Needs (CWSN) was flagged off from the Mini Secretariat, Shopian, by Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC), Shopian, Dr. Nasir Ahmed Lone, here today.

The exposure visit to Dar-ul-Shikwa Park, Bijbehara, was organised by the Chief Education Officer (CEO), Shopian, through the Inclusive Education (IED) Wing of Samagra Shiksha (J&K), with the objective of promoting inclusivity and experiential learning among Children with Special Needs.

Present on the occasion were ADC Shopian, Dr. Zakir Hussain Faaz; ACR Shopian, Shakoor Ahmed Dar; CEO Shopian, Bashir



Ahmed Shah; Cultural Coordinator, Sajad Ahmed Bhat; along with Central Zone Officers, coordinators and other officials from the Education Department.

Speaking on the occasion, the ADDC highlighted the importance of such ini-

tiatives under Samagra Shiksha in fostering an inclusive educational environment. He emphasised that experiential activities provide children with special needs opportunities to explore, learn and grow beyond the boundaries of a

conventional classroom.

He appreciated the Education Department for organising the exposure visit and stressed the importance of providing equal opportunities to every child to participate, learn and develop with confidence.

ADDC Anantnag reviews Road Safety Measures Directs Agencies to take remedial action at Accident-Prone Spots

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, OCT 03

Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Anantnag, Vikas Ahlawat, today chaired a meeting of the District Road Safety Committee to review the status of road safety measures being implemented across the district and assess the progress made by various concerned agencies towards reducing road accidents.

The meeting also reviewed the status of compensation and relief being provided to road accident victims and their families, besides deliberating upon preventive and engineering measures required to enhance road safety.

The meeting was attended by the SE R&B (Member Secretary), Chief Medical Officer (CMO), ARTO, representatives of NHAI, NHIDCL, Beacon, DySP Traffic, Chief Executive Officer Municipal Council Anantnag and other officers and representatives of departments and agencies associated with road safety planning and implementation.

At the outset, SE R&B, Syed Ishfaq Ahmad gave a detailed presentation on the decisions taken during the previous meeting of the District Road Safety Committee and the progress achieved on various directions.

The Committee was informed about the preventive measures undertaken by the concerned agencies, including identification of accident-prone black spots, implementation of remedial measures, regular maintenance and strengthening of vulnerable road stretches, improvement and standardisation of road signage and installation of reflectors.

The meeting was also apprised of the technical inspection of vehicles being undertaken to ensure road-



worthiness and compliance with prescribed safety standards.

The Committee held detailed discussions on the black spots identified through the Integrated Road Accident Database (iRAD) platform. The concerned agencies briefed the chair about the remedial measures already undertaken as well as those proposed at the identified black spots.

The ADDC directed the constituted teams to conduct physical inspections of all identified hotspots, black spots and vulnerable locations, to minimise the risk of accidents and improve the safety of road users.

The meeting was further informed that 24 PM RAHAT-designated hospitals are presently available in the district to provide timely medical care and emergency support to road accident victims.

The Committee also reviewed the analysis of accident data available through the iRAD platform, identification of remaining black spots and the measures required for their rectification. Detailed deliberations were also held on ensuring effective implementation of the PM Sadak Suraksha (Setu/Sehat) financial assistance scheme in the district.

Emphasising the need for timely assistance to accident victims and affected families, the ADDC directed the concerned departments to expedite the identification of eligible beneficiaries and ensure prompt processing and disbursement of claims under applicable relief and compensation schemes.

He stressed the need to streamline documentation and verification procedures while maintaining transparency and efficiency.

The ADDC further directed the concerned agencies to undertake a comprehensive analytical review of road accident data to identify recurring causes, vulnerable locations and areas

requiring targeted engineering and enforcement interventions. He called for in-depth examination of each identified black spot and formulation of permanent engineering solutions aimed at preventing serious and fatal accidents.

The Executive Officers of the Municipal Councils were directed to take effective measures for the removal of encroachments along roads and footpaths, ensuring safe and unobstructed movement of pedestrians and commuters. They were also asked to maintain cleanliness and usability of footpaths and take necessary measures to regulate roadside parking, particularly at busy and accident-prone locations.

The ADDC stressed that road safety requires coordinated efforts among all concerned departments and agencies and called for regular monitoring of the measures being implemented, with a focus on timely corrective action and sustained improvement in road safety standards across the district.

GMC's Department of Medicine Srinagar pays Tribute to Prof Mohammad Yousuf Bhat

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The Postgraduate Department of Medicine, Government Medical College (GMC) Srinagar organized a condolence meeting in the Department Seminar Room to pay rich tributes to Prof. (Dr.) Mohammad Yousuf Bhat former Professor and Head of the Department of Medicine Government Medical College Srinagar.

His demise has left a profound sense of loss among colleagues, students and the medical fraternity. Prof Bhat had a long association with GMC Srinagar, he joined GMC Srinagar in 1960 as undergraduate medical student and took retirement as Prof and Head of internal medicine.

The meeting was attended by Prof. (Dr.) Iffat Hassan, Principal/ Dean GMC Srinagar, Prof. (Dr.) Mohammad Ismail, Head of the Department of Medicine, Heads of Departments, senior faculty members, Senior Residents, postgraduate students and other staff of the Department of Medicine.

Prof. (Dr.) Iffat Hassan expressed deep sorrow over the passing of one of the institution's most respected



academicians and clinicians. She said that Prof Bhat's distinguished contributions to Medicine, unwavering commitment to teaching and patient care will remain an enduring part of the intuitional legacy at Government Medical College Srinagar.

Speaking on the occasion, Head of the Department of Medicine, described Prof. Bhat as an astute physician, accomplished academician, dedicated teacher, and compassionate human being. He said that Prof. Bhat possessed a remarkable ability to simplify complex clinical concepts and in-

spire students to develop sound clinical reasoning and ethical medical practice.

His disciplined and rational approach to patient care set a benchmark for generations of medical professionals. He further highlighted Prof. Bhat's invaluable contributions to the Department of Medicine and to medical education, particularly in the fields of Emergency Medicine and Hypertension, which will continue to inspire future generations of doctors.

Heads of Departments and faculty members, including Prof. (Dr.) Iqbal

Saleem, Prof. (Dr.) Rakesh Kumar Koul, Prof. (Dr.) Ishrat Hussain Dar, Prof. (Dr.) Omar Farooq, Prof. (Dr.) Muzaffar Maqbool Rather, Prof. (Dr.) Arshad Hussain, Prof. (Dr.) Asifa Nazir, Prof. (Dr.) Lateef Ahmad Wani, Prof. (Dr.) Mehnaaz Sultan Khuroo, Prof. (Dr.) Salma Bhat, Prof. (Dr.) Arsalan F. Rashid, Prof. (Dr.) Bashir Ahmad Shah, Dr. Irfan Ali, Dr. So-bia Nisar, Dr. Javaid Ahmad Chachoo, Dr. Nazir Ahmad Pala, Dr. Aadil Hassan Sidiquee, and other faculty members fondly recalled Prof. Bhat's exceptional clinical expertise, humility, integrity and unwavering dedication to his students and patients. They observed that his legacy would continue to live on through the countless doctors he mentored and the values he instilled during his distinguished career.

The Department of Medicine expressed its heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family and prayed to Almighty Allah to grant the departed soul the highest place in Jannat-ul-Firdous. The Department also prayed for strength, patience and fortitude for the family to bear this irreparable loss.