

CS reviews progress on solarization of houses & govt buildings in J&K

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, OCT 07

Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today reviewed the progress on implementation of the solarization programme in Jammu and Kashmir, taking detailed stock of rooftop solar installations among residential consumers and solarization of Government buildings through CAPEX and RESCO modes under PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana here.

The meeting besides ACS, Power was attended by Commissioner Secretary, S&T; MD, JPDCL/KPDCL; Chief Engineers; CEO, JAKEDA and other concerned officers. Deputy Commissioners attended the meeting through video conferencing.

The Chief Secretary while taking appraisal of the progress directed the Power Development Department (PDD) and implementing agencies to address the bottlenecks affecting the pace of installations, with particular focus on bank financing, availability and distribution of vendors, metering and expeditious execution of PPAs.

Taking note of the high rejection rate of bank loans, the Chief Secretary directed the Discoms to take up all rejected loan cases with the concerned banks, ascertain the reasons for rejection and resolve the issues instantly so that eligible consumers are not denied the benefits of the rooftop solar programme due to avoidable financing bottlenecks.

The Chief Secretary also directed the Discoms to proportionately distribute vendors across districts to ensure adequate availability of service providers and accelerate the pace of rooftop solar installations.

He also took a detailed appraisal from the concerned Deputy Commissioners regarding district-wise progress, seeking details of the impediments hampering achievement of assigned tar-



gets and calling for their resolution through coordinated intervention of the concerned agencies.

The meeting was informed by the ACS, PDD, Ashwani Kumar that J&K has achieved 55.24 per cent of its target under PM Surya Ghar, with 46,133 residential rooftops installed against the UT target of 83,500 installations by March 31, 2027. The achievement is higher than the national progress of 50.80 per cent.

While explaining the MD, KPDCL, Mehmood Ahmad Shah highlighted that of the total installations, 17,809 have been completed in JPDCL areas with a capacity of 62.69 MW, while 28,324 installations have been completed in KPDCL areas with a capacity of 102.55 MW, taking the cumulative installed rooftop solar capacity in J&K to 165.24 MW.

The meeting was informed that ₹344.14 crore of Central subsidy and ₹13 crore of UT subsidy have so far been credited to beneficiaries. Against the 83,500 target, 89,680 applications have been received, with 82,591 applicants who had selected vendors, 69,460 consumer agreements uploaded and 42,686 rooftop systems commissioned.

It was further divulged that around 75 per cent of rooftop solar installations in KPDCL areas are dependent on bank financing. Of the 61,566 loan applications submitted, 17,416 cases have been rejected, including 14,232 in KPDCL areas. Meanwhile, 38,773 cases

have been sanctioned and disbursed, while another 5,367 cases are under process.

Reviewing the solarization of Government buildings, the meeting was informed by Commissioner Secretary, S&T, Babila Rakwal that against a total CAPEX target of 12,994 Government buildings, 8,850 buildings have already been solarized, with a combined capacity of 95.64 MW.

This includes 4,793 buildings covered under PM Surya Ghar and hybrid projects with a capacity of 41.50 MW, besides 4,057 buildings solarized under the on-going programme with a capacity of 54.14 MW, she added. The remaining projects are also at various stages of implementation, with materials supplied to 1,300 buildings, 943 sites under active implementation and surveys underway for another 1,901 buildings.

Under the RESCO mode, the CEO, JAKEDA, PN Dhar detailed out that it has proposed solarization of 8,000 Government buildings with a cumulative capacity of 152 MW, with work orders already placed for 5,185 buildings. Moreover it was given out that NHPC has proposed solarization of 1,500 Government buildings with a capacity of 23 MW under this arrangement.

It was also highlighted that a Power Purchase Agreement for 8 MW has already been signed for the Health and Medical Education Department in Jammu, while the solarization survey of School Education Depart-

ment buildings in Jammu is underway.

The Chief Secretary directed JAKEDA to take up installation of meters with the respective Discoms simultaneously, so that metering does not become a bottleneck after installation of rooftop solar systems on Government buildings.

He, in turn, directed the PDD to ensure installation of smart meters forthwith, facilitating early commissioning and functioning of the solar rooftop systems already installed on Government buildings. The Chief Secretary also called upon the concerned departments to complete the requisite PPAs expeditiously, stressing that administrative and procedural formalities should move in tandem with physical implementation to ensure that completed solar assets become operational without delay.

He further advised JAKEDA to accord greater focus to the RESCO mode of solarization, observing that the progress under this component is slow and needs to be accelerated through closer monitoring and timely resolution of implementation issues.

The Chief Secretary called for time-bound action and close inter-agency coordination to sustain the momentum of solarization, stressing that bottlenecks related to financing, vendor availability, metering, PPAs and project execution should be resolved promptly to translate the growing pipeline of rooftop solar projects into commissioned assets.

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Jammu is set to get 75 new 7-metre, air-conditioned Smart Electric Buses, giving a further boost to the city's public transport system and expanding the Jammu Smart City Limited (JSCL) electric bus fleet.

The bidding process for the new buses has been completed under the PM-eBus Sewa programme, with M/s PMI Electro Mobility Solutions Private Limited emerging as the lowest bidder (L-1) for the Jammu and Kashmir lot.

Convergence Energy Services Limited (CESL) has conveyed the bidding outcome to the Jammu and Kashmir administration. The formal award of the contract is likely to follow soon. The new buses will be

7-metre, standard-floor and fully air-conditioned, offering commuters another option for comfortable and cleaner public transport in the city.

Jammu already has 100 Smart Electric Buses operating through JSCL. The existing fleet includes 25 buses of 12 metres and 75 buses of 9 metres. The electric bus fleet is set to grow further, as 25 more 12-metre Smart Electric Buses are also being added. The contract for these buses was signed in August 2026 and the buses are currently being manufactured.

This means Jammu is now moving towards a much larger electric bus network, with 7-metre, 9-metre and 12-metre buses. The different sizes will give the city greater flexibility to run buses according to the needs of different routes. The new 7-metre buses

are also expected to be useful on routes where smaller buses can move more easily through busy city areas. Being air-conditioned, they will provide a more comfortable journey for passengers, especially during Jammu's hot weather.

Under the arrangement, the selected operator will provide and maintain the buses and run them on the city's public transport routes. The CEO Jammu Smart City Limited, Dr Devansh Yadav said the expansion of the electric bus fleet would further improve public transport in Jammu. "Jammu is moving towards a cleaner, smarter and more passenger-friendly public transport system.

The addition of 75 new 7-metre AC Smart Electric Buses will further strengthen the JSCL fleet and provide people with

cleaner, reliable and comfortable mobility," Dr Yadav said.

The 75 buses are part of Lot-16 under the PM-eBus Sewa Tender-3 and have been specifically allocated for Jammu. With the bidding process now complete, the administration will complete the remaining formalities, including issuing the Letter of Award and signing the agreement with the selected operator. The buses will be deployed after these formalities are completed.

For Jammu, the expansion means more electric buses on the city's roads and greater public transport capacity. With 100 buses already in operation, 25 more under production and another 75 moving towards deployment, the city's electric bus network is entering a major phase of expansion.

DDC Reasi reviews VB-G RAM G implementation Stresses effective monitoring

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JAMMU, OCT 07

A day-long training-cum-workshop on the Viksit Gram Panchayat Plan under VB-G RAM G was organised today by the Rural Development Department here in the Conference Hall of the DC Office Complex, Reasi, to sensitise field functionaries about the implementation framework and operational requirements of the scheme.

Addressing the workshop, the District Development Commissioner Kumar Abhishek called upon Gram Panchayat Secretaries and GRs to ensure effective implementation at the grassroots level. He also urged the technical staff to make full use of the training and seek necessary clarifications on different aspects of the VB-G RAM G portal, particularly with regard to works and related procedural requirements.

The DDC stressed strict adherence to the permissible categories of works under VB-G RAM G and cautioned against any unauthorised change or deviation from approved Panchayat works. He said that such deviations could invite action and may also result



in rejection of proposals on the portal.

He further directed the concerned officials to ensure that Gram Sabha and Ward meetings are conducted properly and the Perspective Plans and Annual Action Plans are prepared and duly approved before being uploaded on the portal, along with the required resolutions and supporting documents.

Emphasising the importance of accurate and timely data entry, the DDC called upon field functionaries to

develop a clear understanding of the portal and the implementation framework. He said that coordinated efforts at the Panchayat level were essential for effective implementation of the Mission and for the creation of durable and quality assets in rural areas.

Resource persons gave detailed demonstrations of different features of the portal and explained the procedures for making entries and uploading the requisite documents. Participants also raised queries

and discussed practical issues being encountered during field-level implementation.

Additional District Development Commissioner Krishan Lal; Additional Deputy Commissioner Rakesh Kumar; Chief Planning Officer Narinder Kumar; Assistant Commissioner Development Mukesh Sharma; Assistant Commissioner Panchayat, Block Development Officers and other concerned officers and officials were present on the occasion.

J&K Prosecution Department secures conviction in NDPS case, Bail Refusals in 3 other cases

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The Prosecution Department of Jammu and Kashmir today highlighted three significant judicial outcomes of 5 and 6 October 2026, achieved through the dedication, thorough preparation and persuasive advocacy of its prosecutors.

On 6 October 2026, the Principal District & Sessions Judge, Poonch Susheel Singh, convicted Sherbaz Ahmed, Anzar Ahmed and Rafiq Azam under Section 8/21 (c) of the NDPS Act in the case registered as FIR No. 56/2022 at Police Station Mendhar.

The Court held that a total of four kilograms of heroin, a commercial quantity, was recovered. The Ld. Public

Prosecutor Pankaj Sethi examined 27 PWs out of the 29 cited witnesses, including naka party members, Malkhana and link witnesses and the forensic expert. The Court noted that the Forensic Science Laboratory detected Diacetyl Morphine (heroin) in all samples and that discrepancies on peripheral matters did not damage the core prosecution case. Arguments on sentence are listed for 7 October 2026.

In another matter, On 5 October 2026, the Special Judge (NDPS Cases), Jammu Parvaiz Iqbal, rejected the regular bail plea of accused Mohd Mangal Hussain in FIR No. 35/2026 of Police Station Miran Sahib.

The Ld. Special Public Prosecutor Sunil Kumar

vehemently opposed the application, stressing that commercial quantity was involved, hence bar under Section 37 of the NDPS Act applied and that the accused could re-indulge in drug peddling or tamper with evidence if released. The Court found the plea hit by the rigour of Section 37, noting that charges had already been framed on 17 September 2026 on prima facie evidence of conspiracy with the co-accused, from whom 268.59 grams of heroin was recovered.

In a third matter, On 6 October 2026, the Court of Judicial Magistrate 1st Class (Munsiff), Jammu Rekha Sharma, rejected the bail application of Raman Kumar in FIR No. 260/2026 of Police Station Satwari under Section 318(4) of the

BNS. The Ld. Asst. Public Prosecutor Palak Sharma objected, pointing to alleged prolonged fraud from 2021 to 2023 on the promise of government employment, similar FIRS against the accused, his residence about three kilometres from the complainant and the risk of intimidating witnesses and tampering with electronic evidence. The Court agreed that the accused appeared to be a repeat offender, along with investigation being incomplete and that influencing witnesses was highly probable.

The Department said these results reflect meticulous case preparation, fairness and unwavering commitment by its prosecutors, who protect society from the drug menace and safeguard citizens against fraud.

MMU Doda holds free medical camps at Bari, Bhargran, 121 individuals avail healthcare services

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The Health Department Doda, under Mobile Medical Unit (MMU) initiative, today organized free medical camps at Bari and Bhargran villages of Medical Block Assar.

As many as 121 individuals were examined at the twin camps. They were provided free medical consultation with screening and diagnostic tests, besides essential medicines.

The health team also sensitized the public about pre-



ventive healthcare practices and the importance of

timely medical consultation for early detection of dis-

eases.

In addition, awareness regarding the JK Sehat App was imparted to the beneficiaries. They were provided hands-on assistance and guidance for completing registration, enabling them to access various digital health services with greater ease.

The initiative reflects the department's continued efforts to bring essential healthcare services closer to the community and strengthen the delivery of preventive and primary healthcare at the grassroots level.

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A one-day Capacity Building and Orientation Programme on NITI TARA (Toolkit for Analysis, Review and Action) was held today in the Conference Hall, Mini Secretariat, New DC Office Complex Kishtwar. Deputy Commissioner Pankaj Kumar Sharma chaired the Orientation session.

The programme was organised for district- and block-level officers to enhance their technical understanding and operational knowledge of the NITI TARA platform for the saturation of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), besides planning and monitoring of development works on the basis of data in Aspirational Block Marwah.

The Deputy Commissioner emphasised the need to use technology for planning and monitoring development works. He directed the officers to make best use of the NITI TARA platform for taking decisions based on facts and ensuring better results for the welfare of the public.

Master Trainer Rajkumar



Saklani delivered a detailed session on the purpose, features and use of the NITI TARA platform, including how to access the platform, check and study the available data, track important indicators and identify gaps in development.

The participants were made aware of the importance of using NITI TARA for data-based planning, proper monitoring of

progress, identifying priority areas and taking informed decisions.

The platform was described as a useful tool to improve the implementation of development works and achieve better results at the district and block levels.

The programme also laid emphasis on better coordination among different departments for effective monitoring and timely com-

pletion of developmental works.

The meeting was attended by PO ICDS Rishi Kumar Sharma; CPO Akhil Thakur; ACD Manoj Kumar; ACP Neeraj Sharma; DSWO/DIO Tariq Parveaz Qazi; CMO Dr. Sanjay Bhat; DSHO; DIO NIC Faizal Khan; LDM Praveen Kumar; BMO Dr. Sajjad Hussain; besides other concerned officers and officials.