

JAMMU & KASHMIR

Rana lays foundation for flood protection works worth 2.47 cr at Fattu Kotli

Inspects damaged Tawi embankment at Bhagatpur

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, JUNE 09

Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana, today laid the foundation stone for restoration and construction of flood protection works worth 2.47 crore at Fattu Kotli, Garkhal along the left bank of River Chenab.

The Minister was accompanied by MLA Akhnoor, Mohan Lal Bhagat and senior officers from the department.

Addressing on the occasion, the Minister affirmed that strengthening flood management infrastructure remains a top priority for the government and the intervention at Fattu Kotli will bolster the resilience of vulnerable areas against flood threats. He underlined the importance of building durable and effective protective structures along the vulnerable riverbanks to safeguard the lives, property and agricultural land from the recurring menace of floods.

Javed Rana emphasised



that with the monsoon season approaching, it is imperative to expedite flood protection works across the Union Territory. He directed the concerned departments and executing agencies to ensure timely completion of the works with strict adherence to prescribed quality standards, leaving no room for delays or lapses.

The Minister reiterated the government's commitment towards developing robust flood mitigation infrastructure and assured that all vulnerable stretches along the major rivers would be addressed on pri-

ority. He called upon the officers to adopt a proactive and responsive approach towards maintenance and strengthening of existing protective structures ahead of the approaching monsoon, particularly in areas susceptible to erosion and inundation.

Earlier, the Minister also inspected the damaged Tawi embankment at Bhagatpur village in Marh Block of Jammu district.

During his visit to Bhagatpur, the Minister inspected the damaged portion of the Tawi embankment and sought detailed report from the officers regarding the

restoration plan.

He stressed the need for adopting a proactive approach towards maintenance and strengthening of flood protection infrastructure, particularly in areas prone to erosion and inundation.

The Minister also interacted with the local residents and public representatives, who apprised him of various issues concerning the flood protection and water management in their respective areas. He assured them that all their genuine concerns would be addressed in a time-bound manner.

Itoo reviews healthcare arrangements for forthcoming holy month of Muharram-ul-Haram

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, JUNE 09

Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo today chaired a comprehensive review meeting to assess and strengthen healthcare arrangements being put in place for the forthcoming holy month of Muharram-ul-Haram.

During the meeting, the Minister took a detailed appraisal of the preparedness of the Health Department to ensure seamless medical services for devotees participating in Muharram processions and gatherings.

The meeting was attended by MLA Uri, Dr. Sajjad Shafi; MLA Khansahib, Saifuddin Bhat; MLA Beerwah Dr. Shafi Ahmad; MLA Zadibal, Tanvir Ali Sadiq; MLA Lal Chowk, Sheikh Ahsan Pardesi; MD NHM, MD JKMSCL, Director SKIMS, Principals of all GMCs, Director Health Kashmir, Director ISM, CMOs and other senior officers of health department.

Addressing the participants in the meeting, the Minister emphasized on the need for a coordinated and



proactive approach to provide prompt healthcare facilities at all designated congregation points and procession routes.

She directed the administrators of SKIMS, JVC Hospital, SMHS and other city hospitals to establish medical camps for the facilitation of mourners during this holy month.

The Minister instructed officers to establish round-the-clock medical camps at identified venues and ensure availability of specialist doctors, paramedical staff and life-saving drugs. She also called for strengthening emergency preparedness in hospitals to cater to any unforeseen situation.

The Minister asked them to keep Ambulances on alert so that the patients can be shifted to health facilities without losing time. She

also directed them to make people aware beforehand about the availability of ambulances at designated spots.

Sakeena Itoo directed the concerned officers to ensure deployment of adequate medical teams, emergency response units and essential medicines at key locations. She stressed that all health institutions, particularly those located along major procession routes, should remain fully equipped and prepared to handle any medical exigency during the observance period.

Highlighting the importance of public convenience and safety, Sakeena Itoo directed the officers to maintain close coordination with district administrations and other line departments for effective implementation of healthcare arrangements.

She also underscored the need for uninterrupted functioning of ambulance services and emergency healthcare facilities throughout the holy month.

The Minister further stressed on ensuring adequate stock of essential medicines, blood supplies and emergency medical equipment in all major healthcare institutions. She asked officials to conduct regular monitoring of arrangements and address any gaps well in advance.

Reaffirming the Government's commitment towards facilitating smooth and peaceful observance of Muharram-ul-Haram, Sakeena Itoo stated that every possible effort would be made to provide quality healthcare services and ensure the well-being of devotees.

Dir Sericulture visits Allachizab in Kupwara, reviews developmental plan

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, JUNE 09

Director Sericulture Kashmir, Ajaz Ahmad Bhat today visited the Vibrant Village of Allachizab in Kupwara district to assess its developmental profile and review the progress of various initiatives being implemented under the Vibrant Villages Programme (VVP).

On his arrival, the Director convened a meeting of concerned officers at Panchayat Ghar Allachizab during which he took a comprehensive appraisal of the developmental agenda and ongoing projects being executed in Allachizab Village under the Vibrant Villages Programme. He stressed the importance of timely implementation of development works and effective coordination among departments to ensure holistic growth of the village.

The meeting was attended by Chief Planning Officer, Assistant Commissioner Development, Executive Engineers of R&B, PHE, and other officers from concerned depart-



ments.

Later, the Director chaired a public interaction programme in the village. During the interaction, large number of local residents and senior citizens highlighted different developmental issues and demands, including upgradation of the local school and health centre, water supply augmentation, macadamization of roads

and other day to day problems. The Director heard them patiently and assured them that all genuine issues would be addressed in a time-bound manner through the concerned departments.

The Director emphasized upon the officers to intensify awareness campaigns regarding various welfare and development schemes so that eligible beneficiaries

can fully avail themselves of government services and entitlements. He appealed the people to focus on income generation by availing different government schemes.

Earlier, officers from Agriculture, Sericulture, Labour and other departments gave detailed awareness to the people about their departmental schemes.

Secy DLSA visits Central Jail Srinagar

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, JUNE 09

As per plan of action for the month of June 2026 issued by J&K Legal Services Authority, Secretary, District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Budgam, conducted a visit to the Central Jail Srinagar to review the functioning of legal aid services and interacted with inmates.

The programme was conducted under the guidance of O.P. Baghat, Chairman DLSA (Principal District & Sessions Judge) Budgam.

The visit was conducted in the presence of the Superintendent, Central Jail Srinagar, who accompanied the Secretary DLSA Budgam during the inspection of the Legal Aid Clinic, Mulaqati Area, and the awareness programme.

Amongst many good practices adopted by the jail administration, the Superintendent Central Jail



Srinagar informed the Secretary, DLSA, Budgam, about the recent establishment of a separate cabin for breastfeeding mothers near the reception area of the jail. The Secretary appreciated

oriented measure and lauded the efforts of the jail authorities in creating a more inclusive and humane environment for visitors.

During the visit, the Secretary inspected the Legal Aid Clinic functioning within the jail premises and assessed the legal assistance being provided to the inmates. The Secretary also visited the recently established Mulaqati Area and reviewed the facilities made available for prisoners and their visitors.

As part of the visit, a legal awareness programme was organized on the topics "Plea Bargaining" and "Rights of Prisoners." The programme aimed at sensitizing inmates about the legal remedies available to them and the rights guaranteed under law during incarceration. Fozia Shafi, Assistant LADC Budgam and Minhaj, Assistant LADC Srinagar served as the resource persons for the programme who elaborated on the concept of plea bargaining.

JMC launches AI-driven pothole detection system, cold emulsion patching machine for pre-monsoon road repairs

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, JUNE 09

Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) has operationalised an integrated system combining AI-based road monitoring with a cold emulsion pothole patching machine worth ₹1.3 crore for the scientific and timely repair of damaged roads across Jammu city.

The initiative was showcased today during a live demonstration organised for the media. Commissioner (JMC) Dr Devansh Yadav said the corporation has adopted a proactive approach to road maintenance by leveraging modern technology to identify and repair potholes before the onset of the monsoon season.

Under the initiative, specially equipped municipal vehicles fitted with AI-enabled cameras have been deployed for continuous monitoring of city roads. The AI system automati-



cally detects potholes and other road defects, geo-tags their locations and generates digital reports for engineering teams. The identified locations are then taken up for immediate repair using the cold emulsion pothole patching machine, ensuring quick, durable and all-weather road restoration.

Dr Yadav stated that inte-

grating AI-based detection with mechanised patching technology will significantly reduce the time between identification and repair of road defects, thereby enhancing road safety, improving riding comfort and minimising damage during the monsoon season.

The AI platform has also been designed to detect a range of civic issues includ-

ing garbage on roads, overflowing dustbins, waterlogging, open manholes, open drains, damaged pavements, broken road markings, illegal parking, encroachments, stray cattle, construction and demolition waste dumping and other municipal defects, enabling a comprehensive smart governance framework.

CS calls for saturation of beneficiary-oriented schemes across J&K

SRINAGAR, JUNE 09: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today chaired a high-level review meeting attended by the concerned Administrative Secretaries to assess the implementation and saturation of individual beneficiary-oriented schemes being executed by various departments across Jammu and Kashmir.

During the meeting, the Chief Secretary stressed the need for ensuring complete saturation of all eligible beneficiaries under these welfare schemes by proactively reaching out to the people and generating mass awareness through different communication channels.

The Chief Secretary impressed upon all the concerned departments to bridge the gap between

identified targets and beneficiaries already covered under different schemes. He directed them to make concerted efforts to ensure that the benefits of these schemes reach every intended beneficiary in a time-bound manner.

Emphasising the importance of grassroots outreach, Dulloo called for the formulation of concrete action plans to identify and enrol all eligible individuals and households under the schemes. He maintained that it is the responsibility of the administration to ensure that every deserving beneficiary receives the benefits meant for them and that leaving eligible persons uncovered would amount to a disservice to the people.

He further directed the

departments to undertake periodic reviews of their respective schemes and fix measurable targets at every administrative level so that the benefits are extended to all eligible beneficiaries in a systematic and efficient manner.

Earlier, Commissioner Secretary, Planning Development and Monitoring Department, R. Alice Vaz, informed the meeting that a total of 66 beneficiary-oriented schemes are currently being implemented in the Union Territory through 18 departments. She highlighted that these schemes are designed to provide direct benefits to the people and play a crucial role in improving their socio-economic well-being.

Giving a detailed presentation, the Commissioner

Secretary outlined the targeted beneficiary groups under each scheme and the nature of assistance being extended through cash transfers, food security, housing support, healthcare services, educational assistance and livelihood promotion initiatives.

The meeting was informed that among the 66 schemes under implementation, 21 are being executed by the Social Welfare Department, eight by the Health Department, seven each by the Agriculture Production Department, Rural Development Department and School Education Department, three by the Tribal Affairs Department, while the remaining schemes are being implemented by other departments.