

IGP Traffic reviews arrangements for SANJY-2026 during visit to Baltal Base Camp

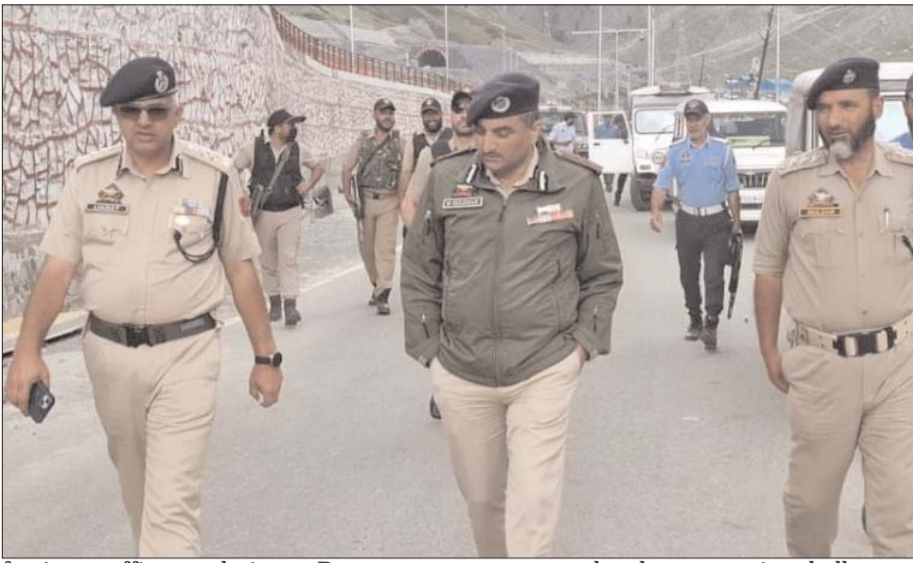
HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, JUNE 09

M. Suleman Choudhary, IGP Traffic J&K, today visited Baltal Base Camp to review the traffic management arrangements and preparedness being put in place for the smooth conduct of Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra (SANJY)-2026.

He was accompanied by Liaqat Ali, SSP Traffic Rural Kashmir; Gulzar Ahmad, DySP Traffic Ganderbal, SHO Sonamarg and other officers/officials.

During the visit, the IGP conducted a comprehensive inspection of the designated Yatra routes, parking areas, traffic regulation points and critical junctions along the Baltal axis. He reviewed the condition of roads, assessed traffic diversion plans, parking facilities, signages, barricading arrangements and coordination mechanisms established for efficient traffic regulation during the Yatra period.

The officer emphasized the importance of maintaining seamless and hassle-free movement of Yatris, particularly through sensitive and high-altitude stretches. He directed the officers to ensure prompt clearance of stranded or broken-down vehicles, ef-



fective traffic regulation and real-time coordination with Yatra control rooms and other stakeholder agencies.

During the inspection, M Suleman Choudhary interacted with officers and personnel deployed on the ground and obtained feedback regarding operational challenges and preparedness measures. He stressed the need for visible police presence, proper deployment of manpower, installation of adequate directional signages and strict adherence to traffic advisories to prevent congestion and ensure orderly vehicular movement.

The IGP issued key directions to the concerned officers. He stressed that

Recovery cranes and breakdown assistance teams shall remain deployed at identified vulnerable stretches prone to congestion or vehicle breakdowns.

He directed for dedicated parking facilities for LMVs, HMVs, service vehicles and Yatra-related transport shall be properly demarcated and managed with adequate signage. He stressed for separate corridors for emergency and essential service vehicles shall be maintained to facilitate swift movement during exigencies.

He also stressed for daily briefing and debriefing sessions to be conducted with field staff to review operational performance and ad-

dress emerging challenges. Special attention shall be paid to balancing the movement of Yatris, tourists and local commuters to ensure smooth traffic flow for all road users.

The IGP emphasized close coordination be maintained with the Civil Administration, District Police, BEACON authorities and other stakeholder agencies for timely resolution of traffic-related issues.

The IGP further directed that feedback received from Yatris, local residents and other stakeholders should be continuously monitored and utilized for mid-course corrections wherever necessary

Viksit Bharat is a vision of empowered citizens, effective institutions, responsible leadership: Speaker

CHANDIGARH, JUNE 9: The vision of Viksit Bharat is ultimately a vision of empowered citizens, effective institutions and responsible leadership. It is a vision where every citizen becomes a stakeholder in national progress and every legislator becomes an agent of positive transformation.

This was stated by the Speaker Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly, Abdul Rahim Rather, while addressing a two day conference of CPA India Region Zone-II held at Chandigarh on 8 and 9 June in presence of Speaker Lok Sabha Shri Om Birla, Deputy Chairman Rajya Sabha Harivansh, Speaker Haryana Legislative Assembly Harvinder Kalyan, Presiding Officers and legislators

The Speaker, while speaking on the topic "Role of Aware Society and Legislators in realizing future challenges and goal of Viksit Bharat - 2047", said that under the vision of a developed India or Viksit Bharat, our Nation is moving with confidence towards becoming a global leader in economic growth, innovation, governance, sustainability and human development.

The Speaker said that no vision can be realized by the governments alone. The true architects of a developed Nation are its citizens and the true custodians of democratic aspirations are its legislators. He added that a democracy flourishes when



the citizens are informed, engaged and conscious of both their rights and responsibilities.

"An aware society is not merely one that participates in elections; it is one that actively contributes to public discourse, respects constitutional values, upholds social harmony and remains vigilant in safeguarding democratic institutions" maintained the Speaker. Rather stated that unprecedented technological advancement has empowered the citizens but it has also created new challenges in the form of misinformation, polarization and declining trust in institutions. Therefore, the need of the hour is not just access to information but access to credible information, critical thinking and civic education. "As Legislators it is our responsibility to strengthen the democratic literacy, promote transparency and make governance more accessible,

accountable and encourage a culture where the citizens are informed participants rather than passive observers", asserted the Speaker.

The Speaker underscored that India's greatest strength is its youth so the role of young legislators assumes extraordinary significance. They bring energy, innovation, technological understanding and contemporary perspectives into legislative institutions, he added. Rather exhorted that the young Legislators understand the language of the digital age, the aspirations of emerging entrepreneurs, the concerns of students and the challenges of a rapidly changing world.

"Young legislators can act as bridge between the traditional governance structures and the expectations of a modern society. They can introduce innovative policy solutions, encourage citizen participa-

tion through technology and make the democratic institutions more responsive and inclusive" he said.

The Speaker stated that as Presiding Officers and legislators, we have a special responsibility to nurture future leaders. Legislative institutions must become platforms for democratic learning, he added.

The Speaker also highlighted several emerging national challenges, including climate change and environmental sustainability, technological disruption and the ethical use of artificial intelligence, employment generation and future skills development, urbanization and infrastructure demands, cybersecurity and data protection and maintaining social cohesion in an increasingly interconnected world.

The Speaker stressed that meeting these challenges requires anticipatory governance. Legislators must proactively study the emerging trends and formulate policies that are adaptive, resilient and future-oriented, he said.

He also said that the journey towards Viksit Bharat requires a collective commitment to certain foundational principles which included quality education and skill development, good governance and institutional accountability, innovation and entrepreneurship, social inclusion and equitable development and the legislative community has a central role in advancing these priorities.

Div Com Kashmir reviews SMRDA Projects, Stresses timely completion of Development Works

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JAMMU, JUNE 09

Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Anshul Garg, on Tuesday chaired a high-level review meeting of the Srinagar Metropolitan Regional Development Authority (SMRDA) to assess the physical and financial progress of ongoing developmental projects.

The meeting was attended by the Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Commissioner Srinagar Smart City Limited (SSCL), Vice Chairman Srinagar Development Authority (SDA), Additional Deputy Commissioners of Srinagar and Budgam, Chief Engineer R&B, and senior officers of SMRDA.

During the meeting, SMRDA Officers presented comprehensive presentation outlining the status of various projects being executed through different implementing agencies. It was informed that a total Capex outlay of ₹2,702 lakh has been approved for the financial year 2025-26, against which ₹846 lakh has been released.

The meeting was informed that out of 15 ongoing projects, one project



has been completed both physically and financially, while seven projects have achieved physical completion.

Additionally, six more projects are expected to be completed by the end of the financial year 2026-27.

On the occasion, The Div Com reviewed key infrastructure projects, includ-

ing the upgradation of the General Bus Stand at Parimpora, upgradation of Transport Nagar at Parimpora under the SASCI Project, construction of community facilities and community halls in various parts of Srinagar, and several developmental works in Ganderbal and Budgam districts.

Emphasizing the need for accelerated execution, Anshul Garg directed the concerned agencies to ensure timely completion of all projects and maintain quality standards. He also approved the release of funds for ongoing works to facilitate their smooth and expeditious implementation.

Dr Karwani inspects construction work in Transit Accommodations for PM Package Employees

SRINAGAR, JUNE 09:

Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner (Migrant), Dr. Arvind Karwani, accompanied by Assistant Commissioner Relief, Kailash Devi concluded a week long inspection tour of transit accommodation sites for PM Package Employees under construction in North, Central, and South Kashmir.

Dr Karwani was accompanied by concerned engineers and senior officials from the district administration. While interacting with the site engineers at the construction sites, he emphasized on achievement of targets in a time bound manner. He particularly underlined on the importance of early completion of allied works like boundary wall, internal roads and basic amenities at the sites, so that the possession of allotted quarters



can be handed over to the employees at the earliest possible, as per the criterion laid down by the Government. He enjoined upon the engineers to ensure quality of the work and

execution strictly as per the approved DPR.

The team of officers also interacted with PM package employees at Baramulla, Srinagar, Budgam, Kulgam and Anantnag and

gave a patient hearing to their demands, particularly related to the allotment of quarters, basic amenities like water supply, power supply, sanitation, education and recreation facility of their children. Pertinent to mention that 6000 quarters at 20 different locations across the Kashmir valley under PMDP programmes are being constructed for PM Package employees, out of which about 4700 flats stand constructed.

The construction work on allied works like boundary wall, internal roads, drainage, elevators and community hall etc is also going on in full swing.

Dr Karwani assured employees that all possible efforts are being made to ensure that employees are handed over possession of flats by next month at most of the locations.

Workshop on Aquifer Mapping, Ground Water Management held at Anantnag

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JAMMU, JUNE 09

A one day workshop focusing on "Aquifer Mapping and Ground Water Management in parts of Anantnag District" was held today at Dak Bunglow, Khanabal.

The event was organized by the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) under the aegis of the Ministry of Jal Shakti and was attended by GM DIC, Scientists from CGWB, SE PWD, SDMs, DFO, AD Tourism, Exen R&B, DSWO, Tehsildars and officials from PHE, I&FC, Agriculture and sectors and other departments.

The primary agenda of the workshop centered on the strategic integration and sharing of hydrological data to ensure sustainable water resource management in the region. The resource persons from CGWB emphasized the seamless integration of data sourced from various departments with central databases. A key objective of the workshop was the public and institutional dissemination of CGWB data to optimize local water management practices.

Specialized discussions were held on the specific



aquifer profiles and groundwater challenges unique to parts of Anantnag district. The scientists from CGWB elaborated about the groundwater management study to be held in collaboration with various departments in villages and panchayats of the district. The departments were briefed about the re-

spective roles for successful conduct of the study and generation of reliable data.

The workshop served as a vital platform for scientists and officials to collaborate on sustainable groundwater management strategies. Speakers highlighted the importance of scientific aquifer mapping in mitigating future water

scarcity and balancing ecological needs with agricultural and domestic demands.

The event concluded with an interactive session focused on to streamline the procedures and data-sharing protocols for conducting the study in a smooth and seamless manner.

DC Kulgam visits Mata Kheer Bhawani Asthapan at Manzgam to review Mela Arrangements

KULGAM, JUNE 09:

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Shahzad Alam, today visited the Mata Kheer Bhawani Asthapan at Manzgam to review the arrangements being put in place for the smooth and successful conduct of the religious event. The DC was accompanied by SDM, Bashir-ul-Hassan, Executive Engineers, Tehsildar, CMO and other senior officers.

During the visit, officers from key departments including KPDC, Jal Shakti,



Health, and others apprised the DC of the steps being undertaken to ensure all essential services and facilities are made available to the devotees.

DC Kulgam emphasized the importance of coordinated efforts among all departments to facilitate a seamless and safe environment for the pilgrims.

He directed the concerned departments to finalize and implement all necessary arrangements well in advance of the Mela.