Div Com reviews progress of digitization of Jamabandis, backlog mutations across Kashmir Division

Earth News Service

SRINAGAR: Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Anshul Garg today chaired a meeting to review the progress of digitization of Jamabandis across the Kashmir Division and to assess the status of backlog mutations and implementation of the SVAMITVA Scheme.

The meeting was attended by Commissioner Survey & Land Records, Deputy Commissioners of the Kashmir Division, Additional Commissioner (Central) with the Finance Commissioner Revenue, besides other concerned officers.

Deputy Commissioners briefed the Divisional Commissioner about the progress of digitization of Jamabandis, digitization of backlog mutations and grievances received during the public reading camps of Jamabandis held across their respective districts.

The Divisional Commissioner directed that the errors identified during the public reading of digitized Jamabandis should be rectified promptly to ensure accuracy and transparency in land records.

While reviewing the status of digitization of backlog mutations, the Divisional Commissioner emphasized the need for a district-level strategy to ensure timely disposal of pending mutation cases. He directed all Deputy Commissioners to expedite the process so that the backlog is cleared within the stipulated timeline.

Meanwhile, the Deputy Commissioners raised certain technical issues being faced while punching backlog mutation data on the portal. The Commissioner Survey & Land Records informed that these technical issues are being addressed and will be resolved by the technical team soon.

The meeting also reviewed the status of the SVAMITVA Scheme, including villages surveyed, submission of Maps, and generation and distribution of property cards. The Divisional Commissioner directed the Deputy Commissioners to expedite submission of corrected maps wherever required and ensure timely generation and distribution of property cards among beneficiaries.

NIT Srinagar to host BIS–FOSS Open Standard Summit on Mar 14

Earth News Service

SRINAGAR: The Computer Science and Engineering Department at National Institute of Technology Srinagar will host the "BIS - FOSS NIT Srinagar – Open Standard Summit" on March 14 (Saturday), bringing together experts from the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), industry professionals and students to deliberate on the role of open standards and open-source technologies in India's digital ecosystem.

The event is being organised in collaboration with the institute's FOSS Club will feature technical talks, a hackathon and hands-on activities aimed at familiarising students with national standards frameworks and the evolving architecture of Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI).

According to organisers, experts from BIS and industry will deliver sessions on India's Digital Public Infrastructure, open standards and enterprise Free and Open-Source Software (FOSS), highlighting how standards-based frameworks can strengthen interoperability, cybersecurity and scalability in digital platforms.

The summit will also feature a talk by S. Yasser Kazmi, founder of MYASA Network Solutions, who is expected to share insights on the evolution of internet and communication technologies in Jammu and Kashmir and the importance of adopting global technology standards.

The organisers said interactions with industry practitioners and standards experts will give students insights into technology-led innovation, quality certification frameworks and the growing relevance of open standards in India's digital economy.

A key highlight of the summit will be the "Standard-a-thon" hackathon, where students will work in teams to develop innovative applications focused on verification of ISI certification marks. The challenge aims to encourage technology-driven solutions that improve consumer awareness, product authenticity verification and compliance monitoring.

Organisers said the winners of the hackathon will be awarded cash prizes to recognise innovative ideas and encourage student participation in standards-related technological development.

Participants will also take part in a Draft Standards Preparation Activity, simulating the process through which national standards are formulated. Students will draft proposed BIS standards for assigned products or problem statements, offering them practical exposure to how quality benchmarks are developed and implemented.

DDC Anantnag reviews progress of District Capex, dev schemes

Earth News Service

ANANTNAG: District Development Commissioner (DDC), Anantnag Dr. Bilal Mohiud Din Bhat on Tuesday chaired a comprehensive meeting of the concerned officers to review the physical and financial progress of the district on works being executed under District Capex and other development schemes at Dak Bunglalow, Khanabal.

During the meeting, the DDC undertook a comprehensive sector-wise evaluation of the District Capex Budget 2025–26, Tribal Sub-Plan (Dharti Aaba Abhiyan), SASCI (Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment), CDF Grants, MPLADS, and other flagship development programmes.

The chair was informed that out of 3,105 works taken up (including 107 ongoing and 2,998 new works) under District Capex (UT Component), 2342 works have been completed. An overall expenditure of Rs. 5174.04 lakh (64.33%) against the available funds of Rs. 8,042.49 lakhs has been achieved so far.

Similarly, under District Capex (CSS Component), against the target of 150797 works, 147006 have been completed indicating physical progress of 97%. The overall financial progress against availablity in this category has been 95% till date.

Significant progress was noted under MGNREGA, which achieved 77% of its physical target with an expenditure of Rs. 10,245.27 lakh. Other schemes like PM Poshan (Education & ICDS), PMGSY and NRLM reported 100% achievement against physical targets.

Under Area Development Grants, out of 2794 approved new works, 2139 stand completed with district witnessing push for grassroots development through 2,289 works in PRI grants in which 1,763 have been completed and against total amount of Rs. 6346.97 lakh released, an expenditure of Rs. 4098.98 lakh has been realised.

The meeting was informed that under the scheme for revival and restoration of architecture, 21 heritage projects are being executed at an alloted cost of Rs. 2864.63 lakh. Notable projects like the Ziyarat Sharief Zain-ud-din Wali (RA) and Mughal Hamam at Achabal have reached 100% completion.

DC Srinagar visits ST Boys hostel at Tulsi Bagh to assess student requirements

Earth News Service

SRINAGAR: Deputy Commissioner, Srinagar Akshay Labroo on Wednesday visited ST Boys Hostel at Tulsi Bagh to take stock of the functioning of the hostel and facilities being provided to the enrolled students.

Among others, Chief Planning Officer, Fayaz Ahmad Dar; Deputy Director, Tribal Affairs, Syed Mushtaq; Tehsildar South, Sajad Ahmad Shah; Wardens of Gujjar & Bakerwal Hostels for Boys and Girls, and other concerned Officers accompanied the DC during the visit, while Students of the ST Boys Hostel and Tribal Girls Hostel were present on the occasion.

During the visit, the Deputy Commissioner interacted with the staff and students of both the hostels and enquired about the lodging, boarding, academic, sports and other facilities being provided at the hostel.

On the occasion, the DC also inspected the newly procured bedding, furniture and other essential items provided under the UT Capex for the ST Boys Hostel Tulsibagh to strengthen basic facilities at the facility.

While interacting with the students, the Deputy Commissioner assured them of all possible support from the District Administration to ensure a nurturing and supportive environment for their overall development. Responding to the demands put forth by the students of both hostels, the DC directed the concerned officers to make provisions for establishing a computer laboratory, library with books, sports equipment and other required facilities at both centres.

Regarding the construction of the building for the ST PG Boys Hostel at Tulsibagh, the Deputy Commissioner stated that efforts are underway to make the hostel functional in Phase-I to facilitate ST postgraduate students. He added that the District Administration has transferred state land in favour of construction of Girls Hostels at Batmaloo so that students can be shifted from rented accommodation to a permanent facility.

DC, SSP review anti-drug measures at District NCORD meeting

Earth News Service

SRINAGAR: The monthly meeting of District Level Committee on Narco Coordination Centre (NCORD) was today held under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo here at the Meeting Hall of the DC Office Complex to review the ongoing enforcement measures aimed at combating the drug menace across the District.

Senior Superintendent of Police(SSP), Sundeep Chakravarthy was also present in the meeting.

At the outset, the Committee conducted a comprehensive review of enforcement measures and chalk out a more stringent and result-oriented strategy to combat drug peddling and narcotics trafficking in Srinagar district. The Stress was laid on enhanced inter-departmental coordination and adopting a tough strategy to curb the drug menace.

Emphasis was also laid on further strengthening intelligence networks to combat drug abuse, identifying and cracking down on drug hotspots and intensifying confiscation of vehicles and disqualification of driving licences under the NDPS Act. The meeting also stressed intensifying anti-drug IEC activities, particularly in educational institutions, coaching centres to sensitize youth about the harmful effects of narcotics and to strengthen the capacity building of the concerned staff.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner emphasized the need to disrupt the logistical support network of drug peddlers. He urged the Regional Transport Officer (RTO) to take strict measures against transporters involved in drug trafficking and peddling without any leniency.

The DC called for continued focused enforcement, preventive awareness and rehabilitation measures to effectively combat the drug menace in Srinagar district.

Reiterating the administration's commitment, the DC emphasized that stringent action will continue to curb the drug menace and dismantle the supply chain of narcotics trade. He underlined that the District Administration will leave no stone unturned to protect society, especially the youth, from the devastating impact of drugs. SSP Srinagar, in his remarks, stated that strict action against drug hotspots will continue and drug peddlers will face criminal prosecution and other punishments as warranted under law.

DLIC approves 69 beneficiaries under Mission YUVA in Ganderbal

Earth News Service

GANDERBAL: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Jatin Kishore today chaired a meeting of the District Level Implementation Committee (DLIC) under Mission YUVA to review and approve cases submitted under the scheme.

During the meeting, the committee held detailed deliberations on the applications received. After thorough scrutiny, 69 cases were approved for financial and institutional support under Mission YUVA, aimed at enabling youth to establish their own income-generating ventures.

Mission YUVA is a flagship initiative of the government designed to promote youth entrepreneurship, encourage innovation and create sustainable employment opportunities by facilitating access to financial assistance, mentorship and institutional support for young entrepreneurs.

While reviewing the cases, the DC stressed the importance of timely processing of applications and directed the concerned departments to ensure prompt facilitation and guidance to the selected beneficiaries. He emphasized that proper handholding of beneficiaries and coordination among departments is essential to help youth successfully establish and sustain their enterprises.

He directed the concerned officers and banking institutions to expedite sanction and disbursement of cases so that the beneficiaries can commence their activities at the earliest.

The DC also called for intensified awareness at the grassroots level so that more eligible youth can come forward and take advantage of the opportunities available under Mission YUVA for self-employment and entrepreneurship. The meeting also discussed training and capacity building and finalization of internal trainers who will act as Resource persons for capacity building under the said scheme.

The meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner, Manzoor Ahmad; Lead District Manager, Assistant Director Employment; District Social Welfare Officer; District Nodal Officer JKEDI; Functional Manager, District Industries Centre; Lead District Manager, besides other concerned officers.

Sports Kits distributed among schools by SHEW Mission Shakti

Earth News Service

SHOPIAN: Sankalp Hub for Empowerment of Women (SHEW), Mission Shakti Shopian, under the Department of Social Welfare, conducted a distribution drive today during which sports kits were distributed among various schools of the district.

The schools that benefited from the distribution included HS Melhura, GHS DK Pora, GMS Kellar, HS Sindoor Shirmal, GHS Vehil and HS Nowgam. The initiative was carried out to encourage students, especially girls, to actively participate in sports and physical activities.

During the programme, officials highlighted that sports play a vital role in the overall development of students by promoting discipline, teamwork, confidence, and a healthy lifestyle. They also emphasized the importance of supporting girls in all spheres, including education and sports.

The drive was conducted under the spirit of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, spreading the message of empowering the girl child, promoting gender equality, and ensuring equal opportunities for girls to grow and excel.

DC inaugurates Inter-Block District Level Competitions under Youth Engagement Programme

Earth News Service

PULWAMA: Deputy Commissioner Pulwama, Dr. Basharat Qayoom, today inaugurated the Inter-Block District Level competitions in the disciplines of Volleyball and Football for Under-17 and Under-19 categories at the Sports Stadium Pulwama.

The competitions were organised by the Department of Youth Services and Sports under the Youth Engagement Programme being held under the banner "The League of Classics – Enjoy the Game." The event witnessed enthusiastic participation of more than 300 players representing 11 blocks of the district.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner said that sports activities form an integral part of the broader government plan aimed at constructive youth engagement and holistic development of young people. He emphasised that such initiatives encourage healthy lifestyles, discipline, teamwork and the positive utilisation of youth energy.

"Events like these provide an important platform for young players to showcase their sporting talent while also fostering community spirit and healthy competition," he added.

Dr. Qayoom further highlighted that the Youth Engagement Plan envisions empowering young people by providing them opportunities to channelise their potential through sports, skill development and various self-employment schemes. He also underlined the importance of youth participation in the Nasha Mukt Jammu & Kashmir Abhiyan, aimed at keeping young people away from the menace of drug abuse and promoting a healthy and vibrant society. During the event, the Deputy Commissioner also administered the Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan pledge, wherein all participants collectively resolved to work towards building a drug-free society.

The event was attended by District Youth Services and Sports Officer, Pulwama; District Social Welfare Officer, Pulwama; and is expected to continue over the next few days, drawing large crowds and highlighting emerging young talents.

District Admin conducts Water Testing Demonstrations in Schools

Earth News Service

BANDIPORA: As part of the ongoing Jal Mahotsav Pakhwada, water testing demonstrations were conducted in various High and Higher Secondary Schools across District Bandipora to promote awareness about safe drinking water and water quality monitoring among students.

During the programme, Resource persons from the concerned departments demonstrated different methods of testing drinking water and sensitised students about the importance of maintaining water quality and ensuring safe water for public health.

Meanwhile, Plumbers Day was also celebrated as part of the Jal Mahotsav Pakhwada at three Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) across the district. On the occasion, staff and trainees were imparted essential training on the operation and maintenance (O&M) of water supply schemes.

The training sessions highlighted the crucial role of skilled manpower, particularly plumbers and technical staff, in ensuring sustainable, efficient and reliable drinking water services under various water supply programmes.

The activities were organised to strengthen awareness, enhance technical capacity and reinforce the importance of skilled workforce in maintaining water infrastructure and ensuring safe drinking water for the community.