

Engineering Miracles at 19,000 Feet: Project Himank redefines infrastructure in Ladakh's extreme terrain

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

LEH: In the awe-inspiring heights of the Himalayas, where terrain turns treacherous and the air grows thin, a quiet yet revolutionary transformation is underway. The Union Territory of Ladakh, one of India's most remote, ecologically fragile, and geopolitically significant frontiers, is being reshaped by the unwavering determination and engineering excellence of the Border Roads Organisation's (BRO) Project Himank. This ambitious initiative is not merely about laying asphalt—it is about redefining access, fortifying national defense, and catalyzing socio-economic development in a land where nature tests every human endeavor.

Dubbed "The Mountain Tamers," Project Himank epitomizes resilience and innovation in adversity. Tasked with developing and maintaining strategic road infrastructure in Eastern Ladakh—where altitudes soar between 11,800 and 19,000 feet and the working season is often limited to a narrow six-month window—the project's engineers and personnel have continuously overcome brutal climatic conditions and logistical complexities to deliver extraordinary results.

The sheer scale and significance of Himank's work are staggering. The project maintains an intricate network of over 2,300 kilometers of roads and 158 permanent and Bailey bridges across 43 strategically vital routes, covering a total



stretch of 2,591 kilometers. These lifelines are essential for maintaining uninterrupted year-round connectivity in a region where isolation is a perennial threat and mobility is dictated by extreme weather patterns.

Operating in this unforgiving topography comes with formidable challenges: glacial melt, sub-zero temperatures, sudden snowstorms, flash floods, and the erratic course of rivers like the Shyok. Logistics

supply chains stretch over 800 kilometers from Chandigarh to Leh, traversing high-altitude passes like Rohtang, Tanglang La, and Lachulung La—routes often rendered impassable by landslides and heavy snowfall. Yet, Project Himank mobilizes close to 44,000 metric tonnes of construction materials annually through these hazardous corridors, a testament to its operational prowess and strategic discipline. Despite being perennially short-staffed and

grappling with the physiological toll of high-altitude deployments, Himank's personnel have continually risen to the occasion. Their endurance and dedication ensure that both road maintenance and new construction projects not only meet deadlines but frequently exceed expectations—defying the odds stacked by nature.

In a progressive leap toward modern construction practices, Project Himank has pioneered the use of cutting-edge precast

technology for key infrastructural components such as culverts, line drains, and retaining walls. These prefabricated units expedite project timelines, enhance durability, and are tailored for military applications. On critical snowbound routes like Karu-Tangtse, precast interlocking concrete blocks have replaced traditional pavements, offering high resistance to weather damage and enabling quick restoration—a game-changer for mobility in

high-risk zones.

Himank's engineering mastery extends to some of the world's highest motorable passes—eight of the top fourteen globally—including Umiling La, Chang La, Marsimik La, Wari La, and Tanglang La. Keeping these arterial routes operational year-round is vital for both strategic troop movement and civilian accessibility. Moreover, the under-construction Nyoma Advanced Landing Ground (ALG), situated at an altitude of 13,700 feet, is poised to dramatically enhance the Indian Air Force's rapid deployment capabilities. In parallel, a pilot project for an underground ammunition cavern further strengthens India's defense infrastructure in this sensitive border region.

The explosive growth in Ladakh's tourism sector has introduced new infrastructural demands. Project Himank has responded proactively, not only maintaining key routes frequented by tourists but also establishing amenities like the UT Himank Café along the scenic Tangtse-Lukung road. This rest stop, perched amid the dramatic Himalayan backdrop, has become a welcome sanctuary for travelers. In areas devoid of civil mechanical services, Himank's Field Workshop Detachments regularly undertake rescue missions for stranded civilian vehicles, earning accolades from the UT Administration, law enforcement, and grateful visitors alike.

Reinforcing its reputation

as a forward-looking organization, Project Himank is playing a pivotal role in realizing Ladakh's vision of becoming India's first carbon-neutral Union Territory. The installation of solar street lighting along NH-3 and in remote work zones, combined with solar power initiatives and the resource-efficient use of precast components, underscores a strong commitment to sustainable and environmentally responsible development.

Project Himank is more than a construction project—it is a lifeline, a force multiplier, and a symbol of national resilience. It connects not only places but also people, possibilities, and progress. Through its relentless pursuit of excellence, it is reshaping Ladakh's socio-economic landscape, enhancing defense preparedness, and igniting a profound sense of national pride.

As Ladakh navigates a new chapter in its evolution—one defined by enhanced connectivity, strategic agility, and sustainable growth—Project Himank remains at the helm, silently but steadfastly transforming challenges into triumphs. In every meter of road carved from rock and ice, in every bridge suspended over roaring rivers, the indomitable spirit of Himank echoes—proving that no mountain is too mighty, no altitude too extreme, and no mission too daunting when fueled by vision, valor, and an unwavering commitment to serve the nation.

Agriculture Deptt celebrates World Bee Day

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: The Department of Agriculture, Jammu, today celebrated World Bee Day with great fervour and commitment across the Jammu Division. The central event was organized here at the Directorate of Agriculture, Krishi Bhawan, Talab Tillo, under the global theme "Bee inspired by nature to nourish us all." The celebration highlighted the indispensable role of bees and other pollinators in sustaining ecosystems, enhancing biodiversity, and ensuring food security.

Several progressive farmers and beekeepers shared their experiences, including Babli Devi, Neelam Devi from Samba, Jefi Kumari, Rajinder Baru and young entrepreneur Vasu Sharma, who spoke about his journey in organic honey production.

The event was presided over by Director Agriculture, Jammu, S. Arvind Singh Reen and was attended by Joint Director (Ex-



Joint Director (Inputs), Dr. Ashwani Kumar and Joint Director (SLUB), S. Sohan Singh among others.

The proceedings began with a welcome address by Assistant Entomologist, Apiculture Development Scheme Jammu Rajesh Verma. He provided an insightful overview of World Bee Day, emphasizing its importance in educating the participants about the vital role bees play in eco-

logical balance and agricultural productivity.

Speaking on the occasion, the Director emphasized the ecological and economic significance of bees. He said, "Bees are not just pollinators; they are vital contributors to our food systems and biodiversity. Jammu has immense potential for commercial beekeeping, which can serve as a sustainable income source for our farming

community." He also highlighted initiatives like honey testing labs, diagnostic centres, and processing units set up in Jammu to enhance quality production and provide support to beekeepers.

The Director urged the public and farmers to engage in pollinator-friendly practices such as planting native flowering plants, minimizing pesticide use, supporting local honey

producers, and spreading awareness about bee conservation.

The event also witnessed participation from senior officials including Deputy Director (Central), Sanjeev Rai Gupta, Deputy Director (Planning) Jammu, Priyanka Parihar, Agronomist (VIS) Jammu, Vikas Padha, Deputy Director (Trainings), Karuna Nidhi, SMS RL, Madan Lal, SMS RL, Dharmesh Vaid, SMS RL, Sanjay Anand, Chief Agriculture Officer Jammu, Manohar Lal Sharma, DSCO Jammu, Nirmal Parkash, DSSO Jammu, Rakesh Sharma, PPO Jammu, Raju Mahajan, Agriculture Chemist Jammu, Vinod Sharma, MDO Jammu, Raghubir Singh Kochar, Farmers, Beekeepers, Sectoral Heads, Section Officers and other staff members among others. The programme was hosted by the Apiculture Development Scheme Jammu and was seamlessly coordinated by AEA, Veena Wazir, who conducted the proceedings.

Annual Urs of Peer Baba Faiz Wakhsh Shah Bukhari to be organised on May 29

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JAMMU: The annual Urs is being organized on 29 May at the ancient Dargah of Peer Baba Faiz Wakhsh Shah Bukhari, which is a symbol of mutual brotherhood.

On this day, thousands of people residing in Ballebag which is two kilometers away from Akhnoor town hails blessings at Dargah. Giving information about the annual Urs, the Mazabar of the Dargah Shakeel Ahmed alias Tipu said that like every year, this year also the annual Urs Bhandara of Peer Baba Ji's Dargah is being celebrated on 29 May, the last Thursday of May.

Moreover, proper ar-



rangements have been made for all the people coming, he added. While people from all the communities come here with devotion throughout the year and this Dargah is

also a symbol of mutual brotherhood where everyone is respected and proper arrangements have been made by the administration for security on this day.

DDC Chairman tours Tirchi, Gandala panchayats

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

UDHAMPUR: Chairman District Development Council Udhampur Lal Chand on Tuesday conducted an extensive and productive tour of Tirchi and Gandala Panchayats.

The tour focused on reviewing ongoing development initiatives, inaugurating crucial water infrastructure and engaging with educational institutions. He was accompanied by former Sarpanch Pawan Kumar and other prominent citizens.

During the visit, the Chairman DDC took note of the various development works underway in the area, assessing their progress and impact on the local community. A highlight of the tour was the inauguration of a new hand pump installed at Ward No-7 in Panchayat Tirchi. The project was sanctioned under the ADP (DDC grant) 2024-25, and is expected to significantly alleviate water scarcity issues in the ward.

Later, the Chairman DDC also inaugurated a newly constructed 'Bowl' in the same vicinity. This project, sanctioned under the Capex Budget Plan (DDC grant) was specifically undertaken to address the dearth of water in the area, underscoring the DDC's commitment to ensuring access to basic amenities for all citizens.

Concluding his comprehensive tour, the Chairman DDC visited High School Narore. He extended his heartfelt congratulations to the students and staff for their commendable academic results, acknowledging their hard work and dedication. Chairman DDC also engaged with the school authorities, attentively listening to the problems and challenges faced by the institution. He expressed his deep appreciation for the tireless efforts of the teachers in delivering quality education to the students, emphasizing the crucial role they play in shaping the future generation.

JMC intensifies efforts to make city garbage free

JAMMU: Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) is making continuous and determined efforts to transform Jammu into a completely garbage-free city in a sustainable manner. As part of this mission, the Corporation regularly organizes awareness programs and activities to educate and engage citizens on waste management.

To further streamline waste management, JMC has established a Material Re-

covery Facilities (MRF) Center at Bandhu Rakh. This center caters to municipal wards in Zone III, in an effort to convert waste to wealth, wet waste collected from households, vegetable markets, and fruit markets is brought in for processing. At the MRF Center, efforts are being made to convert this organic waste into compost—supporting both environmental sustainability and effective waste disposal.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
DIRECTORATE OF INDUSTRIES AND COMMERCE, JAMMU
(REGISTRAR OF SOCIETIES/FIRMS JAMMU)
1st Floor, Udyog Bhawan, Rail Head Complex, Jammu
Telefax-0191-2474085 Email: directorindcomjammu@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

The partners of the Firm M/s Subash Road Lines Unit-II located at shop no. 402, Yard No. 06, Transport nagar, Narwal, Jammu registered with the office of Registrar of Firms, Jammu under No. 38-CPA of 2020 dated 10.10.2020, have approached this office for record of Supplementary Deed of Partnership executed on 17.05.2024 whereby due to demise Subash Chander Leekha ceases as partner and Shasi Kumar Leekha has retired as partner in view of the Compromise judgment and decree dated 12.01.2024. Now by virtue of the documents submitted Shakuntla Rani Leekha, Karam Veer Leekha and Hariday Vir Leekha are continuing partners of the firm. Before record of changes are made, objections, if any, from individual, Institution, State or Semi State Government organization may kindly be communicated to the office of Registrar of Firms (Director, Industries and Commerce) 1st Floor Jawahar Lal Nehru Udyog Bhawan, Rail Head Complex, Jammu by post or in person within a period of 10 days from the date of publication of this notice in the news paper.

No. F&S/CSA/38/ 2
Dated: 19.05.2025

DIP/J-1317/25

Dny's Bhushan
17/5/25
For Registrar of Societies,
Dte. Of Industries and Commerce,
Jammu.

Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir
Office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Mech. Division North
Jammu
e-mail: xennorth@gmail.com

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

e-NIT No. 04 of 2025-26

For and on behalf of Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Jammu, Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Mech. Division North Jammu, invites tenders by e-tendering mode from the reputed/registered firms/Sole Prop. for the below mentioned work:-

S. No.	Name of work	Estimated cost (in ₹)	Cost of document/ tender fee (in ₹)	Earnest money (in ₹)	Validity of Rates	Bid validity
1.	Replacement/Repair of damaged components 600 KVA manually operated voltage stabilizer with allied works of Company Bagh.	2,47,500/-	200/-	5,000/- in the shape of CDR / FDR	180 days	180 days

Position of AAA: Accorded

Position of TS: Sanctioned

Date of Publishing: 19-05-2025 (04.00 pm).

- Bid documents can be seen at and downloaded from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from 19-05-2025 (04.00 pm).
- The Bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from 19-05-2025 (04.00 pm) to 28-05-2025 (04.00 pm).
- The complete bidding process will be online <http://jktenders.gov.in>.
- The Technical bids received shall be opened online on 29-05-2025 (04.00 pm) or any other subsequent date in the office of Executive Engineer Jal Shakti PHE Mech. Division North Jammu.
- The Financial bid of the bidders shall be opened online after scrutinizing the technical bid in the office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Mech. Division North Jammu in presence of the bidders who wish to attend. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.
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JSM/DNI/604-06
Dated: 17-05-2025

DIP/J-1300/25

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Jal Shakti Mech. Division North
Jammu