

DC Srinagar Akshay reviews renovation works at Narayan Temple Bulbul Lanker

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo, on Tuesday visited the Narayan Temple at Bulbul Lanker in the Share-Khaas area of the District to inspect the renovation and upgradation works being taken under the Government's Heritage Conservation Scheme. During the visit, the DC was accompanied by Additional Deputy Commissioner, Mir Imtiyaz Ul Aziz, Joint Commissioner SMC, Nuzhat Qureshi, IAS Probationer Aakash Garg, Chief Planning Officer, Fayaz Ahmad, Superintending Engineer R&B North, Shabir Ahmad, SDM East, Zubair Ahmad, Chief Medical Officer, Dr Tahir Sajad, Executive Engineer, Water Works Division, Aijaz Rafiq, Executive Engineer, R&B Division Core, Arif



Hazari, Executive Engineer KPDCL, Syed Abrar, Tehsildar Khanyar, Syed Shahid, ZMO MR Gunj, Dr Shafqat, Executive Engineer, City Drainage SMC, and other concerned. During the visit, the Deputy Commissioner reviewed the conservation works being executed on the Temple and

its allied structures on heritage pattern. The DC emphasized the need for quality execution, close coordination among departments and timely completion of the works on the religious and heritage assets while up-grading associated infrastructure while ensuring that the heritage character and

architectural significance of the temple are preserved. He also directed the concerned agencies to address issues related to essential services and infrastructure in a coordinated manner so that the restoration work progresses smoothly and the site receives the required civic and utility support.

DC Shishir Gupta calls for strict COTPA compliance in Shopian

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SHOPIAN: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Shishir Gupta, today chaired a meeting of the COTPA District Level Coordination Committee (DLCC) to review measures for effective implementation of tobacco control laws and curbing tobacco use in the district. The meeting held detailed discussions on the enforcement of the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act (COTPA), prevention of tobacco use among youth and strengthening awareness regarding the harmful effects of tobacco consumption. He stressed upon the concerned departments to constitute market-checking committees headed by the respective Tehsildars for regular inspections



and strict enforcement of tobacco control provisions. He further directed that the sale of tobacco products within 100 metres of educational institutions be strictly prohibited, with regular inspections to ensure compliance. The concerned officers were asked

to take necessary action against violators as per the provisions of law. The DC called for coordinated efforts by all stakeholders to ensure effective implementation of COTPA and create a tobacco-free and healthier environment for children and youth.

The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner, Dr. Zakir Hussain Faaz; SSP Shopian, Rameez Rashid; CMO, Dr. Salma Bhat; DHO, Dr. Shafkat Khan; BMOs; representatives from the Directorate of Health Services, Kashmir, and other concerned officers.

DC Shopian chairs meeting on setting up De-Addiction Centre

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SHOPIAN: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Shishir Gupta, today chaired a meeting to review the steps for setting up a dedicated District De-Addiction Centre under the Scheme Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction. The proposed centre aims to provide comprehensive support, treatment and rehabilitation services to individuals affected by drug dependence across the district. During the meeting, the DC highlighted that the facility will focus on medical treatment, counselling, rehabilitation and social reintegration, while also strengthening preventive measures and community awareness campaigns. Reaffirming the District Administration's commitment to creating a drug-free Shopian, the DC stressed the importance of sustained prevention,

timely treatment and rehabilitation, along with active collaboration among government departments, community leaders and other stakeholders. He further underscored that the initiative will help streamline and coordinate de-addiction services at the district level, complementing ongoing anti-drug efforts under the Nasha Mukht Jammu and Kashmir Abhiyaan. The proposed centre will provide focused and coordinated services for the treatment, counselling, rehabilitation and social reintegration of persons struggling with drug dependence. Additional Deputy Commissioner, Dr. Zakir Hussain Faaz; ACR, Shakoor Ahmed Dar; ASP, Rameez Rashid; SDM Zainapora, Bilal Ahmed; Assistant Director Employment, Nida Yousuf; CEO, Bashir Ahmed Shah, and other concerned officers were present in the meeting.

Training Programme on Digital Crop Survey Kharif Season 2026 held in Kulgam

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

KULGAM: A comprehensive training programme on the Digital Crop Survey (DCS), Kharif Season, 2026 was today conducted at Kulgam. Deputy Commissioner, Kulgam Shahzad Alam presided the training programme. The training was aimed to sensitize the field functionaries with the requisite knowledge and skills for smooth, accurate and timely conduct of the Digital Crop Survey across the district. The training programme was attended by the officers and officials associated with the implementation of the Digital Crop Survey, including Surveyors, Supervisors, Verifiers and other concerned field functionaries. Addressing the participants, the Deputy Commissioner emphasized the importance of the Digital Crop Survey in ensuring accurate, transparent and technology-driven assessment of crop coverage and agricultural activities. He stressed upon all concerned to discharge their assigned duties with utmost sincerity, diligence and a sense of responsibility. The Deputy Commissioner directed the concerned officers to ensure that the survey is conducted strictly as per the prescribed guidelines

and within the stipulated timelines. He further underscored the need for ground-level verification, accuracy of data, proper geo-tagging and timely uploading of survey details on the designated digital platform. During the training session, detailed demonstrations and practical guidance were provided regarding the various components and procedures involved in conducting the Digital Crop Survey. The participants were apprised of the methodology to be followed for recording crop details, capturing field-level information, ensuring correct identification of land parcels and addressing technical issues that may arise during the survey. The trainers also provided hands-on guidance to the field functionaries regarding the use of the Digital Crop Survey application and other relevant digital tools. The participants were encouraged to raise their queries and seek clarifications regarding the survey process and technical aspects. The Deputy Commissioner directed all the concerned Tehsil and sectoral officers to closely monitor the progress of the survey in their respective jurisdictions and ensure that the field functionaries remain in regular coordination with the concerned supervisory authorities.

DDC Anantnag reviews Bijbehara Anantnag Road Widening Project

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

ANANTNAG: District Development Commissioner (DDC), Anantnag, Dr. Bilal Mohiuddin Bhat, today chaired a key meeting with concerned officers to review the proposed widening of the Bijbehara-Anantnag Road and the shifting of utilities affected by the project. During the meeting, the DDC directed the revenue authorities to undertake a proper demarcation of the land and ensure a comprehensive survey of the proposed alignment. He stressed the need to prepare a sustainable and realistic Detailed Project Report (DPR) after conducting a thorough site inspection. Dr. Bilal directed the officers to identify and address all issues likely to arise during the execution of the project, including land acquisition, utility shifting, structures falling within the proposed alignment, encroachments, and illegal constructions. The DDC emphasized that all necessary provisions and associated costs must



be incorporated into the DPR to ensure the smooth and timely execution of the road-widening project. He directed the officers to undertake coordinated field visits and ensure that all technical, revenue, and utility-related aspects are properly assessed before the finalization of the DPR. He further directed the agencies concerned to take the necessary measures to

remove encroachments and illegal constructions falling within the proposed alignment, in accordance with applicable rules and procedures. The meeting was attended by Addl Deputy Commissioner, SE Hydraulics, CPO, ACR, XEN R&B, XEN KPDCL, Tehsildars of Bijbehara and Anantnag, Executive Officer Municipal Committee Bijbehara besides.

DLSA Ganderbal initiates steps for establishment of Village Legal Aid Clinics at Anderwan

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

GANDERBAL: District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Ganderbal has initiated steps for establishment of Village Legal Aid Clinics at identified village Anderwan of the district for mega drive of NALSA scheme under Phase-1. The village Anderwan comprises two Panchayat Halqas namely Anderwan-A and Anderwan-B consisting of seven wards each. Accordingly, a team of DLSA Ganderbal comprising of Deputy Legal Aid Defence Counsel (LADC) and Para-Legal Volunteers (PLVs) visited Anderwan to assess local requirements and facilitate establishment of the proposed Clinics as per the SOP for the mega drive. During the visit, one room each



in the Panchayat Ghars of Anderwan-A and Anderwan-B was identified and earmarked for the respective Village Legal Aid Clinics. The Clinics will provide accessible platforms for legal awareness, identification of eligible beneficiaries, free legal advice and assistance, dissemination and facilitation of benefits under relevant NALSA Schemes

mentioned in the SOP for mega drive commencing from today and will culminate after expiry of 60 days. The outreach activities will cover the identified NALSA Schemes relating to education and schooling, children, senior citizens, persons with mental illness and intellectual disabilities, victims of human-wild-

life conflict, acid attacks, trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation, workers in the unorganized sector, Veer Parivar and poverty alleviation schemes, besides other relevant legal services and entitlements. Awareness regarding free legal services under Section 12 of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 will also be undertaken. The initiative aims to bring legal services closer to vulnerable and disadvantaged sections at the grassroots level and facilitate their access to justice and welfare benefits. DLSA Ganderbal will undertake and supervise the legal awareness and outreach activities in accordance with the Operational Modalities prescribed for the 60-day Mega Drive.

DLIC approves 180 Sheep Husbandry Cases in Budgam

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

BUDGAM: A meeting of the District Level Implementation Committee (DLIC) was held today under the chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner, Budgam, Athar Aamir Khan, to consider and approve cases under various development schemes being implemented in the district. During the meeting, a total of 180 cases pertaining to the Sheep Husbandry Department, Budgam, were approved under the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP), Integrated Sheep Development Scheme (ISDS), and

Jammu & Kashmir Competitiveness Improvement in Agriculture and Allied Sectors Project (JKCIP). The approved cases comprise 100 cases under ISDS, 65 cases under HADP, and 15 cases under JKCIP. Speaking at the outset, the Deputy Commissioner said that the approval of these cases reflects the District Administration's commitment to strengthening the livestock sector and extending the benefits of government schemes to farmers and aspiring entrepreneurs in a timely and transparent manner. He said that sheep husbandry has immense potential for

employment generation and sustainable livelihood creation, particularly in rural and far-flung areas of the district. The DC stressed upon the concerned department to ensure effective implementation and close monitoring of the approved cases so that the intended benefits reach the beneficiaries on the ground. He further urged the beneficiaries to make optimum use of the assistance provided under the schemes and develop their enterprises on scientific and sustainable lines, thereby contributing to increased production, productivity and the overall growth of the rural economy.

AMEAK raises security concerns for PM Package employees, seeks stronger protection in South Kashmir

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

ANANTNAG: The All Minority Employees Association Kashmir (AMEAK) stepped up its engagement with the administration and police on Tuesday, holding a series of high-level coordination meetings with senior officials to review the security concerns of PM Package and minority community employees posted across South Kashmir. A delegation led by AMEAK President Sanjay Koul, accompanied by District Coordinator and MEASK President Rakesh Fotedar, met Deputy Commissioner Anantnag Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat, DIG South Kashmir Range Javaid Ahmed Matto, and SSP Kulgam Inayat Choudhary. During the meetings, the dele-

gation placed the security concerns of employees before the senior authorities and sought strong, visible and proactive security measures to ensure their safety at workplaces, transit accommodation camps and residential locations. The delegation stressed that continuous surveillance, strengthened perimeter security, regular security assessments and enhanced vigilance around vulnerable locations are essential to maintain confidence among employees working in South Kashmir. AMEAK leadership also highlighted ground-level issues affecting employees and called for swift administrative intervention and closer coordination between civil administration, police and employee representatives to

address emerging concerns. The senior officers assured the delegation that comprehensive security arrangements would remain in place and that necessary measures would be taken to ensure a safe and secure environment for employees. The delegation also appreciated the role of Deputy Commissioner Anantnag in expediting the approach road connectivity to the Machbawan (Mattan) transit camp via the 96 CRPF Battalion area. AMEAK termed the road project an important infrastructure intervention, stating that improved connectivity would help remove a major logistical bottleneck and facilitate the smooth transition of PM Package employees from rented accommodation to the

newly developed transit campus. ety at workplaces, transit accommodation camps and residential locations. The delegation stressed that continuous surveillance, strengthened perimeter security, regular security assessments and enhanced vigilance around vulnerable locations are essential to maintain confidence among employees working in South Kashmir. AMEAK leadership The delegation thanked the administration and police leadership for their continued engagement and reiterated that security, dignity and confidence of minority employees must remain a priority for ensuring their effective and uninterrupted contribution to public service in Jammu and Kashmir.

SWD Srinagar organizes awareness session on “Dignity and Personal well-being” under BBBP

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: The Social Welfare Department (SWD), SANKALP-HEW Srinagar organised an awareness session on “Dignity and Personal Well-Being” at Government Boys Higher Secondary School (GBHSS), Mujgund, Srinagar today. The session focused on sensitizing students about the importance of maintaining personal dignity, self-respect, emotional well-being, healthy habits and responsible behaviour in their day-to-day lives. The participants were encouraged to develop a positive attitude towards themselves and others and to understand the importance of seeking appropriate support whenever required. The Officials from SANKALP-HEW Srinagar highlighted the significance of personal well-being in



building confidence, promoting healthy relationships and creating a respectful and supportive environment at home, in educational institutions and in society. The programme witnessed active participation from the students, who interacted with the officials of SANKALP-HEW Srinagar and

shared their views and experiences during the session. The Department of Social Welfare, Srinagar, reiterated its commitment to organizing such awareness and sensitization programmes for the overall well-being, empowerment and development of students and young people.