

10 Cases approved for relief under SDRF at Kupwara

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KUPWARA: On the instructions of Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Shrikant Balasaheb Suse, Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Kupwara, Gulzar Ahmad chaired a meeting of concerned officers today to assess cases related to property and livestock damage in the district.

During the meeting, a total of 10 cases were presented for review, which included seven fire incidents, two cases of human-animal

conflict, and one earthquake related damage. After a thorough case-wise evaluation, all 10 cases were approved for relief assistance in accordance with the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) norms.

ADC emphasized the importance of timely support to affected families and urged officials to ensure swift processing of claims. The meeting was attended by, ACR Kupwara, CMO Kupwara, all Tehsildars, and other concerned officers.



Inclement Weather: DC Ganderbal visits low-lying areas along Sindh Nallah

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GANDERBAL: In view of the prevailing inclement weather, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Jatin Kishore today conducted an extensive visit to various low-lying areas of the district to assess the ground situation arising due to rising water level in the Sindh Nallah.

During the visit, DC inspected Bumloora, Fatehpura, Gadoora, Rakhi Haran and other vulnerable locations to personally take stock of the situation.

DC was briefed by Executive Engineer I&FC about the current water level and measures undertaken for strengthening embankments at vulnerable stretches.

DC directed I&FC authorities to keep men and machinery in a state of readiness and ensure availability of sandbags at identified locations. He further emphasized on keeping evacuation plans in place.

Tehsildar informed that suitable locations for evacuation have already been identified and

will be activated if required.

DC instructed that regular announcements be made in vulnerable areas to keep the public alert and aware of precautionary measures in case of emergencies.

Later, DC also visited Kijpora Kangan and reviewed the condition of the Kijpora road over Kijpora Nallah. He directed SDM Kangan to remain vigilant and asked Beacon authorities to ensure timely clearance of debris from affected spots along the SSG road to keep it traffic-worthy.

He reiterated the administration's commitment to safeguarding public life and property, while urging residents residing around Sindh Nallah and other water bodies to remain cautious, avoid unsafe areas and follow advisories issued by the district administration.

DC was accompanied by Additional Deputy Commissioner, Syed Fahim Bihagi, Executive Engineer I&FC, Tehsildar Ganderbal and other concerned officials.

Incessant rains: DC Kulgam visits several areas, takes spot appraisal of current situation

KULGAM: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan, along with SSP Kulgam, Sahil Sarangal, today visited several areas including Khudwani, Qaimoo, Brazloo, Chambagund, Aadpora and other locations to take stock of the situation arisen due to incessant rains.

During the visit, DC inspected the situation at these places and interacted with the local people. It was informed that the water level near Khudwani had crossed the danger mark and people from vulnerable spots were shifted to safer locations.

DC said that all men and machinery had been mobilized across the district to ensure a prompt and effective response to the situation.

He urged the public to remain vigilant and contact the district control room numbers 01931-295900 & 9103424365 for any kind of assistance. He also appealed to people to avoid unnecessary movements and stay away from swollen rivers and landslide-prone areas.

Accompanying the DC were ADC Viqar Ahmad Giri, ACR, Executive Engineers, Tehsildars and other officers.

Div Com Kashmir inspects preventive measures being taken to clog vulnerable spots at Barzulla, Gandbal

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SRINAGAR: In view of inclement weather conditions & rising water level of Jhelum, Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Anshul Garg on Wednesday visited Barzulla & Gandbal to inspect the protective measures being taken by Irrigation & Flood Control department to clog the vulnerable spots to avoid breaches.

During his visit to the spot of automatic water level recorder near Bone & Joint Hospital, Div Com directed for closure of the gap to avoid any potential threat of breach and flooding. The spot serves as a means for dewatering and out flow of the hospital drainage system.

Div Com instructed the SE, I&FC to find a permanent solution to address the issue and to avoid risk of breach in the left bank of the flood channel near the hospital.

While addressing the media at the spot, Div Com said that currently the water level at Sangam & Ram Munshi Bagh shows rising trend and informed that IMD has reported possibility of receding water level in the later part of

the day.

However, he said that the contingency plan has already been put in place by I&FC department to respond to any exigency. Speaking about the reinforcement steps being taken at B&J hospital, he said that the gap is being filled with sand bags and shall be completed within a couple of hours.

Sharing information about the rescue measures being taken in South Kashmir, he said that District Disaster Management teams are conducting rescue measures in low lying areas and evacuated some families to safer places. Div Com informed that teams of District Administration Kulgam were on the ground during the night to ensure evacuation of people in nine villages.

"Wherever inundation in low-lying areas in Anantnag & Kulgam has occurred, the administration is following evacuation protocol", he added.

In Srinagar, he said, the teams of district administration are in the field and a contingency plan has been put in place to immediately respond to any exigency.

"Our emergency control rooms are

operational, power supply is up-end, and telecom services are OK. Hopefully there should be reasonable improvement in couple of hours", he said.

Anshul Garg said we all need to remain alert and people need to follow advisories issued by district administrations and remain away from water bodies. He said that magistrates have been deployed to monitor the ground situation and alert people.

On the occasion, he also inspected the delivery of critical health care services to the patients by the hospital administration and availability of medical & paramedical staff besides availability of medicines.

Div Com also visited Gandbal where he inspected restoration efforts underway for reinforcement of the river bank near the bridge. On the occasion, he interacted with the locals and assured a permanent solution for strengthening of the bank and execution of the remaining works.

Later, Div Com visited the UT level Emergency Operation Centre at Hari Niwas to take the stock of addressing of distress calls of people and resolution of urgent issues faced by them.

Cooperative Society Elections: Meeting of Returning Officers held at Kupwara

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KUPWARA: A meeting to plan the upcoming elections for the managing committees of Cooperative Societies in Kupwara district was held today, here.

The meeting was chaired by the Assistant Commissioner (Rev), Kupwara, Peerzada Mumtaz Ahmad, and attended by Deputy Registrar Cooperative societies Kupwara, Adnan Nazir, all Assistant Registrars of District Kupwara, respective Returning Officers and officials.

During the meeting, detailed discussions were held to ensure the elections are conducted smoothly. ACR issued necessary instructions, directing the Returning Officers to join their election duties immediately after the notice is issued. The officers were also instructed that any objections to the entries made in the electoral roll must be received and considered by the concerned



Assistant Registrar. Furthermore, Returning Officers were asked to collect details of all nomination papers and submit this information daily to the election authority office, followed by a thorough scrutiny of all nominations.

He emphasized the strict ad-

herence to election guidelines and timelines to guarantee a free, fair, and transparent process. Key directives included conducting a general body meeting on the day of the election and ensuring that the final results from each cooperative society are submitted without delay.

DARS, SKUAST-K concludes two-day training programme at Sumbal

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BANDIPORA: A two-day capacity building training programme under the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP) concluded today at Sumbal Bandipora.

The programme, organized by the Dryland Agriculture Research Station (DARS) Rangreth, SKUAST-Kashmir was conducted under HADP Project No. 15 titled 'Rainfed Area Development,' with a thematic focus on 'Integrated Farming System Modules under Diverse Ecologies of Kashmir Himalayas.'

The concluding session started with a presentation of a training report by Dr. Fayaz Ahmed Bahar, training coordinator for the event.

Sub-divisional Magistrate Sumbal in his address highlighted the burning issues confronting agriculture, and stressed the major role of SKUAST-K in

overcoming them and desired to conduct more such programmes in future for the overall progress and prosperity of the farming community.

He called for efforts in promoting sustainable and climate-resilient farming practices in agriculture.

On the occasion, Dr. Mehfuza Habib, Professor GPB, DARS, Rangreth highlighted the importance of training programme with respect to prevailing situations and use of crop diversification in integrated farming systems.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation of more than 50 officers from the Agriculture department including Agriculture Extension Officers, Assistant Agriculture Officers, Junior Agriculture Extension Officers, Junior Agriculture Officers and other concerned officers from Ganderbal, Bandipora and Baramulla districts.

GMC Srinagar postpones written test for Counsellor (ATF) to Sep-09

SRINAGAR: In view of the inclement weather conditions across valley, the written test for the post of Counsellor (ATF) at the Institute of Mental Health & Neurosciences Kashmir (Psychiatry), scheduled for September 4, 2025, has been postponed to September 9, 2025.

Meanwhile, candidates have been advised to download fresh admit cards/Roll Number slips.

Inclement Weather: Div Com Kashmir orders closure of educational institutions on Thursday

SRINAGAR: In view of adverse weather conditions and as a precautionary measure, Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Anshul Garg today ordered the closure of all educational institutions, including schools, colleges, universities and coaching centres across Kashmir on Thursday, 04th of September, 2025.

DC Kupwara convenes meeting on Revenue Capex Budget 2025-26

KUPWARA: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Shrikant Balasaheb Suse, today chaired a meeting in his Office chamber here to review the revenue sector in the district.

During the meeting, DC took a comprehensive assessment of ongoing works, and stressed the importance of timely preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) and estimates to ensure projects are launched without delays.

In a significant decision to improve public service delivery, DC directed the construction of a new building at various Nayabat offices and construction of tehsil offices.

He also directed the concerned officers to ensure all construction work is completed within the stipulated timeframe and maintain strict adherence to deadlines, enhance inter-departmental coordination. The meeting was attended by ACR, ACD, all Tehsildars and Accounts Officer DC office.

Inspection of Government offices conducted at Handwara

KUPWARA: On the directions of Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Shrikant Balasaheb Suse, a comprehensive inspection of various government offices was carried out in Handwara today.

The inspection team was led by Additional Deputy Commissioner Handwara, Javeed Naseem Masoodi accompanied by various officers and officials.

The offices inspected include Jal Shakti, Chief Horticulture Officer Handwara, SDAO, EO MC Handwara, BDO Office, Ex. Engineer R&B, and I&FC.

During the inspection, several officials were found absent from duty without authorization. Their absence was duly recorded, and necessary action as per rules was initiated against them.

ADC emphasized that punctuality, discipline, and accountability in government offices are of paramount importance for effective public service delivery. He reiterated that any dereliction of duty will not be tolerated and strict action will be taken against defaulters.

DLSA Srinagar sensitizes students on critical social & legal issues at GBHSS Nawa Kadal

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: In order to sensitize students on pressing social and legal issues, with a particular focus on the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act and the growing menace of drug abuse, District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Srinagar today organized a comprehensive legal awareness programme at Government Boys Higher Secondary School (GBHSS) Nawa Kadal, Srinagar.

The programme was held under the chairmanship of Tasleem Arief, Principal District and Sessions Judge, Srinagar, and was conducted under the supervision of Sajad Ur Rehman, Sub-Judge/ Secretary, DLSA Srinagar.

The event commenced with an awareness video on the Lokpal, presented in the local language to ensure accessibility and relevance for the student audience.

Addressing the gathering, Deputy Chief Legal Aid Defence Counsel (LADC), delivered an insightful session on the dangers and legal implications of drug abuse.

Panel Lawyer spoke on the provisions and protective mechanisms under the POCSO Act, highlighting the importance of safeguarding children from sexual offences and ensuring timely legal intervention.

The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, who engaged actively with the resource persons, raising pertinent questions and sharing their perspectives.

Sagar inspects Jhelum bund, reviews flood preparedness in Srinagar

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Jammu & Kashmir National Conference General Secretary Haji Ali Muhammad Sagar, accompanied by party legislators and functionaries, today conducted an extensive inspection of the River Jhelum bunds at multiple locations across Srinagar to assess the current flood preparedness amid rising water levels.

During the tour, the delegation made a significant stop at the Flood Control Room at Zero Bridge, where concerned officers briefed Sagar on the emerging flood situation and the preventive measures being implemented to mitigate any potential threat.

Sagar expressed satisfaction over the level of preparedness and the alertness demonstrated by the officials and departments involved.

He acknowledged the coordinated efforts of

the administration and urged continuous vigilance. "We pray to the Almighty for the safety of the Kashmir Valley and hope we are spared from any flood-related calamity," he added.

He was accompanied by Additional General Secretary Dr. Sheikh Mustafa Kamal, MLA Lal Chowk Ahsan Pardesi, State Spokesperson Imran Nabi Dar, Provincial Secretary Syed Tauqeer, District President Peer Afaz, YNC Provincial Secretary Sheikh Ovase and other party functionaries. Sagar held telephonic conversations with several MLAs from various districts of Kashmir to get first-hand updates on the ground situation in their respective constituencies. The visit comes in light of recent heavy rainfall and the subsequent rise in water levels in the Jhelum, prompting authorities to remain on high alert across the Valley.

Dr. Farooq Abdullah expresses grief over demise of Abdul Hameed Kitab

SRINAGAR: The Jammu & Kashmir National Conference President Dr Farooq Abdullah has expressed profound grief and sorrow over the passing of noted businessman Haji Abdul Hameed Kitab of Raj Bagh, Srinagar.

In a condolence message, Dr. Abdullah remembered Haji Abdul Hameed Kitab as a man of integrity, compassion, and enterprise, who made significant contributions to the business and social fabric of the region. He said, "Haji Abdul Hameed Kitab was not only a successful businessman but also a generous soul who was always at the forefront of community welfare and support. His demise is a great loss to the people of Kashmir."

Dr. Abdullah extended his heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family and prayed for eternal peace to the departed soul. "I share in the grief of the Kitab family during this difficult time.