

# DC Kulgam calls for strict monitoring to prevent water borne diseases in flood affected areas

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

**KULGAM:** Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan today chaired a crucial meeting at Mini-Secretariat here to discuss the prevention of waterborne diseases in flood-affected areas of the district.

The meeting focused on ensuring the quality of drinking water by carrying out water quality testing and implementing measures to prevent the outbreak of waterborne diseases.

DC directed the Jal Shakti and Health departments to conduct regular water quality tests in

flood-affected areas to identify contaminated water sources.

He also emphasized the need to launch awareness campaigns to educate people about the importance of using safe drinking water, proper hygiene practices, and water chlorination.

DC directed the health department to take strict measures to prevent the spread of waterborne diseases. He also directed to ensure close monitoring in each and every village regarding any cases of water borne diseases.

Social Welfare and Health departments were directed to mobilize the services of ASHA/Angan-



wadi workers for door-to-door awareness on safe drinking water usage.

The meeting was at-

tended by, ACD Kulgam, CMO Kulgam, CEO Kulgam, Principals of GDC's Kulgam, Kilam and DH

Pora, Executive Engineers of Jal Shakti Kulgam and Qazigund, DSWO, among others.

## 15 Day campaign for prevention of water borne diseases begins in Shopian

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

**SHOPIAN:** Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Shishir Gupta today convened a meeting of officers to discuss and outline the action plan for a 15-day long campaign that commenced today, aimed at prevention of water-borne diseases through a sustained awareness campaign.

The campaign has been initiated in order to prevent the possibility of spread of waterborne diseases due to contamination of drinking water during the recent floods.

During the 15 day campaign, departments of Jal Shakti, Health and Medical Education, Rural Develop-

ment, Higher/School Education and Social Welfare departments shall undertake an organised set of activities on preventive measures against water borne diseases. The measures include intensive water testing especially in flood affected areas for quality monitoring and provision of potable water, awareness for safe consumption and storage of drinking water, and consequences of consuming contaminated drinking water, promoting WASH practices in schools, colleges and Anganwadi centres, conducting special sanitation drives at water supply assets, and educating people about the importance of maintaining proper sanitation and hy-

giene.

DC stressed the need for impactful conduct of the campaign with effective collaboration among the departments.

He called upon all to involve local village level institutions in water quality testing and monitoring, sanitation drives, chlorination of water sources and sharing feedback of testing with people and among departments for preventing any possibility of water borne diseases.

ADDC, Dr.Nasir Ahmad Lone; ADC, Dr.Zakir Hussain Faaz; Principals of GDC Shopian & Zainapora; ACR, ACD, CMO, Xen Jal Shakti, DSWO, CEO, BMOs, BDOs and other concerned were present.

## DC Shopian visits Mughal road, inspects

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

**SHOPIAN:** Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Shishir Gupta today visited the Mughal road enroute Per Ki Gali in order to assess the road worthiness for traffic and the ongoing works for restoration of stretches damaged due to landslides and rockfalls.

The visit was in continuation of yesterday's visit to the stretches where the directions for immediate restoration of damaged stretches were ordered.

DC took stock of the restoration works ahead of Dubjan Landslide zone area where he was informed about the status of ongoing works and timelines for full traffic restoration.

Gupta emphasised the need for the early re-opening of this vital link between Kashmir and Jammu divisions and the rest of the country, and asked BEACON authorities to expedite the works

so that the traffic is fully allowed to ply.

Most of the road has been cleared off the debris while the work on retaining walls is ongoing and upon appraisal of the road condition for traffic and ensuring connectivity, the road was opened for phase wise traffic movement for light and heavy vehicles with the single lane movement.

The traffic personnel were instructed to ensure the smooth traffic, maintaining driving discipline and ensuring safety along the damaged stretches. District administration has also deployed personnel to monitor the traffic at the damaged stretches to ensure safety of the commuters.

DC was accompanied by ADC Shopian, Dr.Zakir Hussain; DIO Shopian, Tehsildar Shopian, SHO Heerpora, SO Rural Traffic and other concerned.

## Special awareness campaign under SANKALP-HEW, Mission Shakti held at Shopian

**SHOPIAN:** Sankalp Hub for Empowerment of Women, Mission Shakti Shopian today organised an awareness cum interactive programme on gender sensitization at AWC Matujan Shopian.

The session focused on educating women about their rights, improving health and nutrition, and fostering a supportive community environment.

On the occasion, people were also made aware of gender issues, promoting gender equality, and challenging gender stereotypes.

It further sought to change attitudes, behaviours, and beliefs that perpetuate discrimination and inequality based on gender.

Through education and training, participants were encouraged to understand the social constructs of gender, recognize gender biases, and foster a more inclusive and equitable environment for all genders.

# Div Com Kashmir visits flood-affected areas in Srinagar, Budgam

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

**SRINAGAR:** Following breaches in the embankments of the River Jhelum at Zonipora and Shalina in Budgam, which led to flooding in several low-lying areas of Srinagar and Budgam districts, Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Anshul Garg, visited the affected regions to oversee relief and rescue operations.

Accompanied by IGP Kashmir and the Deputy Commissioners of Srinagar & Budgam, Div Com visited Lasjan and Nowgam to assess the situation and ensure that coordinated efforts were underway to safeguard residents.

Speaking on the occasion, Div Com said, "Early this morning, breaches occurred in the Jhelum embankments at Zonipora in Budgam,

resulting in flooding of nearby areas. However, as a precautionary measure, we had already evacuated around 9,000 people last night, which helped in preventing any loss of life."

He further added that the weather conditions have started to improve, especially in South Kashmir, and most areas are currently experiencing clear skies.

"Water levels at Sangam and Ram Munshi Bagh are receding, which is a positive sign," he stated.

He added that relief and rescue teams including personnel from the SDRF, NDRF, police, and revenue departments are actively engaged in operations in affected low-lying areas, ensuring timely assistance to residents.

"To ensure proper coordination and effective on-ground response,

senior officials of divisional administration & district administrations are present on the spots," he said.

Highlighting the importance of public cooperation, Div Com appreciated the support from the people and said that continuous announcements are being made to keep the public alert and informed.

He also shared updates on evacuation efforts, stating that evacuations have been carried out in six villages of Budgam, while preventive evacuations are underway in Srinagar. He urged people to avoid venturing into low-lying areas as a safety measure.

Later in the day, Div Com along with Deputy Commissioner Budgam visited Shalina to inspect ongoing relief and mitigation efforts, reaffirming the administration's commitment to supporting all affected residents.

## DC Ganderbal directs Intensified Water Quality Testing to prevent Water-Borne Diseases

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

**GANDERBAL:** In view of the recent incessant rains that caused water logging in several areas of the district, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Jatin Kishore today convened a meeting to review preventive measures against water-borne diseases and directed for intensified water quality testing across the district.

The meeting discussed the functioning of water testing laboratories, activation of Pani Samitis, and finalization of the Information, Education and Communication (IEC) campaigns to spread awareness about preventive measures.

DC directed the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti to

enhance water quality monitoring through intensified testing and ensure that Pani Samitis carry out regular water testing at Panchayat level to prevent any outbreak of water-borne diseases. He also instructed that daily water testing reports be shared for close monitoring.

Further, Chief Medical Officer Ganderbal was directed to distribute chlorine tablets, especially in water-logged areas, and to ensure wide publicity of health advisories issued by the Health Department. He was also directed to ensure adequate availability of essential medicines at all PHCs.

The CEO and Heads of higher education institutions were asked to sensitize students about precaution-

ary measures to be adopted at home in post-flood situations.

DC also instructed the Rural Development Department (RDD) and Municipal authorities to conduct sanitation drives in affected areas.

He stressed on intensifying IEC campaigns jointly by RDD, Municipality and Health, particularly through IEC vans in water-logged areas to spread awareness among the general public.

The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner, Syed Fahim Bihagi; SDM Kangan; Program Officer ICDS; ACD; Executive Engineers of Jal Shakti and I&FC; CMO; EO MC Ganderbal, besides other concerned officials.

## Rising water levels: DC Bandipora inspects Wular Lake areas

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

**BANDIPORA:** In view of incessant rains and the rising water levels in Wular Lake posing a possibility of flood-like situation, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Indu Kanwal Chib, on Thursday conducted an extensive tour of the lake's adjoining areas including Zurimanz, Kulhama, Banyari and Laharwapora.

During the visit, DC interacted with people at all these locations and took firsthand account of the issues faced by the local population due to the increasing water level. She listened to the concerns of residents, especially the Mahigeer community, and assured that necessary measures will be taken to safeguard their lives and livelihoods.

DC also visited Lodgement Centres established for the evacuation of vulnerable families in case of any eventuality, and reviewed facilities put in place for the local population. To ensure swift response, district administration has constituted ded-

icated teams that are on the ground monitoring the situation closely and coordinating rescue and precautionary measures.

At Banyari, DC held a detailed interaction with the Mahigeer community where fishermen apprised her of their difficulties. She emphasized that the administration is keeping close watch on the situation and directed concerned departments to remain on high alert, ensure timely assistance, and take proactive steps to mitigate risks.

Indu stressed on coordinated efforts of Revenue, Fisheries, Irrigation & Flood Control and allied departments to respond effectively in case of any eventuality. She reiterated the administration's commitment to protect the interests of people living around Wular Lake.

DC was accompanied by SDM Sumbal, Tehsildars of Bandipora and Sumbal; BDO Hajin besides officers from WUCMA, Revenue, Fisheries, I&FC and other concerned departments.

## Sagar chairs high-level meeting to review preparations for Sher-e-Kashmir's Death Anniversary

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

**SRINAGAR:** Jammu and Kashmir National Conference General Secretary Ali Muhammad Sagar Thursday chaired a high-level meeting of party office bearers at the party headquarters, Nawa-e-Subha, Srinagar, to review preparations for the upcoming death anniversary of Sher-e-Kashmir Sheikh Muhammad Abdullah.

The meeting focused on the arrangements for the main commemorative event, scheduled to take place at the Qaid Mazar in Naseem Bagh. The General Secretary's office has already issued a comprehensive poster outlining the complete programme for the occasion.

In addition to the central event at Naseem Bagh, similar commemorative functions will be held across Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh at all district headquarters,

reflecting the widespread reverence for Sheikh Muhammad Abdullah and his legacy.

The meeting also addressed the evolving flood situation in the region. Party functionaries acknowledged and appreciated the proactive measures taken by the Omar Abdullah-led government to mitigate the impact of the floods. The participants expressed their unwavering solidarity with the people of Jammu and Kashmir, extending their full support to those affected by the current crisis.

Among those in attendance at the meeting were Additional General Secretary Dr. Sheikh Mustafa Kamal, Provincial President Kashmir Showkat Mir, District President Srinagar Peer Afaz, Provincial President of the Women's Wing Kashmir Engineer Sabiya Qadri, and Provincial Secretary Syed Tawqeer.

# DC Ganderbal monitors on-ground Situation in water-logged areas along Sindh Nallah

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

**GANDERBAL:** Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Jatin Kishore today conducted an extensive visit to several water-logged and vulnerable areas along Sindh Nallah to personally monitor the ground situation and review the situation.

The DC was accompanied by Additional Deputy Commissioner, Syed Fahim Bihagi, Assistant Commissioner Revenue (ACR), Executive Engineer Irrigation & Flood Control (I&FC), Tehsildars of Tullamulla and Wakura, besides other concerned officials.

During the visit, the DC inspected Shallabugh, Paribal Ghat, Gungji Gund, Malik Pora, Nariyan Bagh, Gadhihanji Mohallah Rabitar, Gund Roshan, and other adjoining areas affected by the rising water level of Sindh Nallah.

On the occasion, ACR Ganderbal briefed the DC about the evacuation process and informed that residents of partially submerged areas have already been shifted to safer locations.

The Executive Engineer I&FC apprised the DC about the current water level and measures taken to plug water overtopping. The DC directed him to keep all field staff on high alert and

ensure immediate response measures in vulnerable areas.

The DC also instructed the ACR to ensure deployment of officials in low-lying areas to facilitate smooth and timely evacuation, if required.

Later, the DC visited the temporary gauge at Gund-i-Roshan and directed I&FC to deploy dedicated staff for round-the-clock monitoring to ensure real-time reporting of water levels. Appealing to the local residents, the DC urged them to remain vigilant and shift to safer locations wherever necessary, stressing that safeguarding lives remains the administration's top priority.

## DC B'la convenes meeting on Water Quality Testing and Prevention of Water-Borne Diseases

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

**BARAMULLA:** Deputy Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, Minga Sherpa today chaired a meeting in his office chamber here to review the campaign for prevention of water-borne diseases and intensifying of water quality testing in affected areas of the district.

During the meeting, DC directed the concerned departments to constitute

special teams to collect water samples from different areas for regular testing to ensure the availability of safe drinking water. He further instructed for special sanitation drives at water sources and related assets to prevent contamination.

It was highlighted that recent heavy rainfall and flood-like situations in parts of Kashmir had raised concerns regarding water contamination and the

spread of water-borne diseases. DC emphasized the need for wide-scale public awareness, including announcements through mobile vans, to sensitize people about the safe use of drinking water, hygiene, and sanitation practices.

Chief Education Officer was directed to disseminate awareness among students regarding preventive measures, hygiene, and safe water consumption so that

children can act as ambassadors of change within their families and communities.

The meeting was attended by the Assistant Commissioner Development Baramulla, Chief Medical Officer Baramulla, Chief Education Officer Baramulla, Executive Engineer PHE Baramulla, Executive Engineer I&FC Baramulla, and District Social Welfare Officer Baramulla.

## SANKALP-HEW Mission Shakti launches special campaign in Bandipora

**BANDIPORA:** SANKALP-HEW Mission Shakti in collaboration with the Social Welfare department Bandipora and Rural Self Employment Training Institute (RSETI) today conducted a comprehensive program in the remote area of Ketsan, Bandipora.

The initiative aimed to educate the tribal community on gender sensitization and financial literacy, marking a significant step towards women's empowerment.

The event featured an insightful session by Najmau Saqib, financial literacy specialist, who provided a detailed overview of various women-centric schemes.

Pamphlets detailing these schemes were distributed to participants, followed by an interactive workshop to enhance understanding and accessibility.

Additionally, Sumaiya Muzafer, a gender specialist from SANKALP, delivered a lecture focusing on gender sensitization in self-employment and its integration into all aspects of life, empowering attendees with valuable knowledge. The program also witnessed the presence of the Director of RSETI.

## Dr. Farooq, Omar Abdullah express condolences over Kullu landslide tragedy

**SRINAGAR:** The Jammu and Kashmir National Conference President Dr Farooq Abdullah and Hon'ble Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Thursday expressed profound sorrow over the tragic loss of lives, including Kashmiris in a catastrophic landslide in Himachal Pradesh's Kullu district.

The victims, mostly from Gurez's Tulail area, all labourers employed in the region, were buried under massive rubble and debris when the landslide struck the Inner Akhara Bazaar area of Kullu earlier today.

In a joint statement, both leaders condemned the tragic incident as "shocking and heartbreaking," and extended their deepest condolences to the families of the deceased. They expressed solidarity with the bereaved households, assuring them of their support in this time of immense grief. The leaders also expressed their prayers for the safety and well-being of other residents of Jammu and Kashmir who may be working in Himachal Pradesh, hoping for their swift and safe return. Senior party leaders, including GS Ali Muhammad Sagar, Advisor to HCM Nasir Aslam Wani, MLA Gurez Nazir Khan Gurezi and others, also conveyed their heartfelt sympathy and shared in the grief of the affected families, praying for strength and resilience during this difficult time.

## Orientation programme under Aadi Karmayogi Abhiyaan concludes at Chitternar

**BANDIPORA:** The three-day Block Level Master Trainer orientation programme under Aadi Karmayogi – Responsive Governance programme concluded today at the Forest Training & Research Institute Chitternar, Bandipora.

The programme, organised from September 2 to 4, 2025, was part of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs' initiative for tribal transformation aimed at strengthening grassroots governance and ensuring saturation of government schemes in tribal villages.

During the concluding day, sessions focused on integrating participatory planning with sustainable tribal development, with particular emphasis on health-care, education, livelihood generation, digital access and preservation of traditional knowledge. Trainers highlighted the need for responsive governance models that address local gaps and empower communities to actively contribute to decision-making.