

# Adopt zero tolerance approach towards illegal mining in J&K: Dy CM to Officers

*Advocates stringent action against violators, safeguarding critical care infrastructure*

**JAMMU BULLETIN NEWS**

**SRINAGAR, JUL 2:**

Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary, today reiterated the Government's firm commitment to completely ban illegal mining activities across Jammu and Kashmir.

He made these remarks while chairing a high-level review meeting of the Geology and Mining Department at the Civil Secretariat, Srinagar.

The Dy CM emphasized the importance of taking stringent action against the violators to safeguard the region's natural mineral resources. He directed the officials to adopt a zero tolerance approach towards illegal mining, ensuring a complete ban on such activities.

The Dy CM instructed the District Mineral Officers to take full control of all mining resources while keeping strict monitoring and vigilance on the ground. He warned that any laxity or negligence, in this regard, would invite disciplinary action as per the law.

Underscoring the signifi-



cance of protecting the public infrastructure, the Deputy CM directed the officers to closely monitor all functional mining blocks to ensure that critical infrastructure such as bridges, roads and water supply schemes remain unaffected.

"Immediately cancel the licenses of functional blocks if any damage to infrastructure is reported and impose penalties on the responsible firms," he instructed the offi-

cials. He also directed the department to expedite the auctioning process of mineral resources strictly as per the existing rules and regulations, while ensuring robust enforcement and strict compliance with both the Central and UT mining Acts and Rules.

The meeting featured a detailed presentation on the status of exploration and extraction of key minerals

including limestone, granite, blue sapphire, gypsum, lithium and coal. The officials informed that 36 major mining leases for limestone and 233 minor mineral leases have been issued, so far.

To further strengthen enforcement, the Dy CM called for establishment of a robust monitoring mechanism involving multi-departmental district-level task forces, flying squads, informant networks, checkpoints

and e-challan systems to curb the illegal mining effectively.

Highlighting the potential of the mining sector, the Deputy CM stressed on promotion of mineral-based industries to enhance employment opportunities and revenue generation.

He was informed that the department has generated Rs. 16.79 crore revenue through the compounding of vehicles and machinery involved in illegal mining and transportation, with a total of 6,219 seizures recorded during the financial year 2024-25. Besides, the department has recorded a revenue generation of Rs. 150.49 crore during the same period. Additionally, gypsum mining has earned a revenue of Rs. 438 lakh in 2025-26.

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary Mining, Anil Kumar Singh, Director Geology and Mining, Suraj Prakash Rukwal, MD JKLM Pawan Kumar, Special Secretary Mining Dr. Suraya Fatima Tak, DMOs and other senior officers of the department.

# Lieutenant Governor pays obeisance at Daati Maa Dev Sthan in border village of Changiya, Arnia Jammu



**JAMMU BULLETIN NEWS**

**JAMMU, JUL 2:**

Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha today visited the border village of Changiya in Arnia Jammu and paid obeisance at Daati Maa Dev Sthan of Mahajan Phagtra Biradari.

The Lieutenant Governor prayed for the well-being of all and peace and prosperity of J&K UT. I also pray to Mata Daati for a safe and smooth pilgrimage for all the devotees of Shri Amarnath Ji, he said. The Lieutenant Governor lauded the courage displayed by the residents of border villages during Operation Sindoor. He reiterated the commitment of the Government of India to the inclusive development of the

border areas.

"Border areas are the first line of defence. Vibrant Village Programme is transforming our border villages through improved infrastructure, and it will be ensured that the villages of this area will be taken up under the

of Akhil Bharatiya Mahajan Phagtra Biradari for their valuable contribution to the development of the Daati Maa Dev Sthan.

Shri Rajeev Kumar, Member of Legislative Assembly from Bishnah; Shri Ramesh Kumar,

**»LG reiterates Government of India's commitment to inclusive development of the border areas**  
**»The sacred Daati Maa Dev Sthan will be brought to the religious tourism map: LG Sinha**

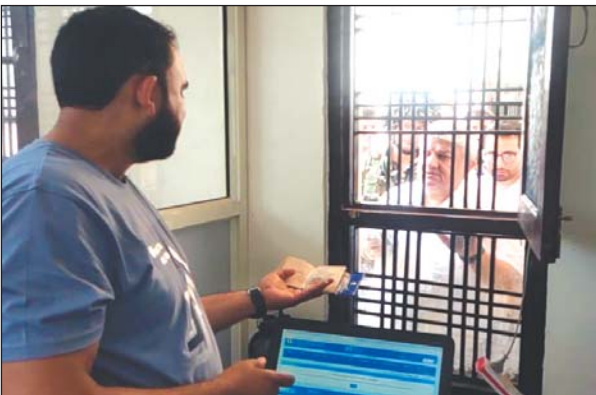
programme," he said.

Responding to the demands, the Lieutenant Governor assured that appropriate steps will be taken by the GoI to bring the sacred Daati Maa Dev Sthan on the religious tourism map.

The Lieutenant Governor appreciated all the members

Divisional Commissioner Jammu; Shri Rajesh Gupta, President VHP Jammu Kashmir & Ladakh; Shri Bharat Choudhary, President and other members of Akhil Bhartiya Mahajan Phagtra Biradari, prominent citizens and people from all walks of life were present.

## Transport Commissioner inspects driving test centre, RTO office Srinagar



**JAMMU BULLETIN NEWS**

**SRINAGAR, JUL 2:**

Transport Commissioner, Vishesh Paul Mahajan, today conducted a comprehensive visit to Regional Transport Office (RTO) Kashmir, here at Bemina. The Commissioner interacted with the citizens waiting in queues, raising awareness about the Transport Department's online and faceless services. He encouraged them to leverage these digital platforms to streamline their transactions and minimize visits to the RTO office. He instructed the ARTO Headquarters to prominently display the signboards and informational material, highlighting the availability and advantages of online services, so as to raise awareness among the general public. He reiterated the department's commitment towards minimizing the footfall at the RTO office by promoting digital access and ensuring ease of service delivery through faceless platforms. Earlier, the Transport Commissioner inspected the trial ground located at Bemina and monitored the driving tests being conducted there. Interacting with the youngsters, he urged them to be careful while driving besides strictly abiding by the traffic laws. He directed the staff to ensure that those who appear for the driving test are guided properly. He also asked them that the test results should be uploaded online within 24 hours.

## Srinagar welcomes the first batch of Amarnath Yatris with warmth & devotion

*DDC Chairperson, DC Srinagar & SSP Srinagar welcome pilgrims at PanthaChowk*

**JAMMU BULLETIN NEWS**

**SRINAGAR, JUL 2:**

In a warm gesture of hospitality, the Srinagar district administration led by DDC Chairperson, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo along with Senior Superintendent of Police Sundeep Chakravathy on Wednesday warmly welcomed the first batch of Shri Amarnathji Yatra pilgrims as they arrived at PanthaChowk in Srinagar.

This followed the formal commencement of the annual yatra which was flagged from Jammu by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, as part of the significant spiritual journey undertaken by the devotees every year to the holy Amarnathji cave.

Deputy Commissioner & SSP personally received the pilgrims and extended greetings besides ensuring all arrangements are in place for their comfort and



safety. DDC Chairperson, DC, SSP & Officials from the District Administration Srinagar, along with senior Officers from SMC and Police Department were present at the reception site to assist and guide the pilgrims. The administration has reiterated its commitment to ensuring a smooth and secure yatra experience for all devotees.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC stated that the Amarnathji Yatra is a significant spiritual journey and we are committed

to ensure smooth conduct of the pilgrimage with safety and comfort of all pilgrims. He added that the District Administration Srinagar along with Srinagar Police has put in place comprehensive arrangements to ensure the smooth conduct of the annual Yatra and cater to the needs of the pilgrims.

Officials along with locals welcomed the Pilgrims and prayed for smooth, safe and peaceful conduct of Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra.

## Committee on Estimates convenes meeting in Srinagar

*Reviews functioning, fund utilization of Public Works Department*

**JAMMU BULLETIN NEWS**

**SRINAGAR, JUL 2:**

The House Committee on Estimates today convened a meeting at the Assembly Complex in Srinagar to review the functioning and fund utilization of the Public Works Department (PWD). The meeting was chaired by the Committee Chairperson, Shamim Firdous and attended by members Abdul Majid Bhat (Larmi), Ghulam Mohi-ud-Din Mir, Pawan Kumar Gupta, Professor Gharu Ram Bhagat, Dr. Shafi Ahmad Wani, Chander Prakash Ganga and Pyare Lal Sharma.

Senior officers including Principal Secretary, Finance Department, Santosh D Vaidya; Secretary PWD, Bhupinder Kumar; Director General, Accounts and Treasuries, Fayaz A Lone; Director Finance; Director Planning; Chief Engineer, PWD; Financial Commissioner, JKPC and other officials from the concerned departments also participated in the meeting.

The Chairperson emphasized the need for strict monitoring, efficient fund allocation and effective utilization to accelerate developmental projects and works under PWD across Jammu and Kashmir. She called for timely comple-



tion of all the ongoing and languishing projects for public convenience at the earliest.

The Committee also deliberated on easing the utilization of Constituency Development Funds (CDF) for the legislators on a discretionary basis.

The members stressed the importance of timely disbursement of funds and urged for a criteria-based approach to ensure equitable and holistic development across all regions.

The Chairperson asked the officials to ensure effective coordination and prompt response to public grievances, emphasizing that legislators are the voice of public aspirations and must serve to the best of their capacities.

The members further discussed the disbursement and utilization of exigency and emergency funds for the large public benefit.

The Committee resolved to continue regular review of the functioning of key departments besides scrutinising the budget estimates, revised estimates and actual expenditures on developmental works.

During the meeting, the members offered suggestions and raised various concerns related to fund allocation and project execution. Responding to the concerns, the officials assured that developmental works will be undertaken in a coordinated and streamlined manner to ensure smooth execution.

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## Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra - 2025

### Traffic Advisory

The yatris, travelling to seek blessings of Shri Amarnath Ji, in their own/rented cars/buses or any other mode, are requested to travel in the main Yatra convoy only, starting from Bhagwati Nagar Jammu daily; in the interest of smooth and secure conduct of Shri Amarnath ji Yatra 2025.

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