

Dr. Piyush Singla reviews progress, implementation of IT initiatives across J&K

JAMMU BULLETIN NEWS
JAMMU, SEP 25:

Secretary, Information Technology (IT), Dr. Piyush Singla, today chaired a meeting to review the progress of various ongoing initiatives of department across Jammu and Kashmir.

During the meeting, the Secretary directed the officers that a mobile application for e-office be developed on the lines of the standards adopted by the Andhra Pradesh. He instructed the Finance Department to initiate concurrence for the establishment of a Mini Security Operations Centre (SoC), and further, to create a dedicated budgetary head for the same. It was also decided that, as an interim arrangement, all websites and applications shall be hosted on the NIC MeghRaj Cloud for a period of one year. The JaKeGA was directed to submit monthly optimization reports and prepare a comprehensive 6-12 month proposal for augmentation of the State Data Centre (SDC), ensuring its optimal utilization.



On the cyber security front, Dr. Piyush Singla emphasized the need to expedite security audits of websites, including three NIC-managed websites, and directed that the migration of SICOP systems be completed and made live by 30th September 2025.

To ensure continuous monitoring, daily activity updates on CCMF, eSAM, and IT infrastructure shall henceforth be submitted by 7:00 PM.

Additionally, a proposal on WhatsApp-based integration shall be prepared, with comparative insights drawn from the models adopted in Andhra Pradesh and Odisha.

Secretary reviewed the progress of the SaKOON application, which is presently in its final stages of development, with a demonstration scheduled before the Home Department. Directions were issued to SeMT to seek

support from MeitY for establishing six Data Analytics Labs across two ITIs in Jammu and Srinagar, and to replicate an AI Tools proposal within J&K. The revised Cyber Security Contingency Plan (CSCP) was instructed to be submitted by 1st October 2025.

Further, the IT Cell was tasked with the development of an AI-enabled "Minutes of Meeting" application, undertaking de-duplication of services on the eUNNAT platform, and publishing monthly knowledge products, including a Coffee Table Book and an IT Magazine.

As part of outreach activities, Secretary directed the CSC and the Additional Secretary (DB) to coordinate with the Information Department for dissemination of information under the SeWA Parv campaign. With regard to DigiLocker, all departments were instructed to prepare issue-wise formats covering challenges, on-boarding of legacy data, and corresponding action points.

Satish Sharma reviews winter preparedness of FCS&CA Deptt.

Also assesses stocking of essentials, smart PDS implementation across J&K



JAMMU BULLETIN NEWS
SRINAGAR, SEP 25:

Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA), Information Technology, Youth Services

and Sports, Satish Sharma held a detailed review meeting here today to assess the overall preparedness of FCS&CA department for ensuring uninterrupted availability of essential commodities during the forthcoming winter months in Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting was attended by Commissioner Secretary FCS&CA, Saurabh Bhagat; Director FCS&CA Kashmir, Owais Ahmad and Assistant Directors of Kashmir Division besides representatives of Food Corporation of India (FCI).

Director FCS&CA Jammu, Rifat Kohli, Director Finance (FCS&CA), and all Assistant Directors of Jammu Division joined the deliberations through virtual mode.

At the outset, the Minister sought a comparative analysis of the dumping position of foodgrains during the month of October last year vis-à-vis the present status, and directed that adequate foodgrain stocks be positioned well in advance in snow-bound and far-flung areas. He emphasized that stocking should be sufficient to cater to at least six months of public requirement, considering the frequent road blockades and disruptions during peak winter.

Satish Sharma also reviewed the availability of petroleum products, including LPG, and instructed that special measures be taken to ensure dumping of adequate stocks in remote regions before the onset of winter. He stressed that priority must be accorded to LPG and kerosene supplies, given their critical importance for cooking and heating in sub-zero temperatures.

The Minister further reviewed the transportation mechanisms available in snow-bound areas, noting that reliance on conventional modes often leads to delays. He asked the officers to prepare contingency plans involving alternate transport systems, including load carriers, sledges, and coordinated movement through RTC vehicles, wherever feasible, to guarantee smooth supplies.

While reviewing the functioning of Smart PDS, the Minister acknowledged the benefits of transparency and efficiency it brings but took serious note of public grievances related to its implementation. He instructed that dedicated grievance redressal cells be strengthened at district levels to promptly resolve consumer issues.

On the quality of rice and other foodgrains distributed through PDS, the Minister reiterated the Government's zero-tolerance policy towards sub-standard supplies. He directed field officers to conduct frequent inspections at depots and Fair Price Shops and ensure that only quality-assured stocks reach the beneficiaries.

The progress of the e-KYC exercise was also reviewed threadbare during the meeting.

Satish Sharma underlined that completion of e-KYC is vital for eliminating bogus beneficiaries, preventing leakages, and ensuring rightful targeting of subsidies. He asked officers to expedite this process with active support from local administration. He asked them to organise awareness campaigns to encourage beneficiaries to complete their authentication at the earliest.

Reiterating the Government's commitment to the welfare of the people, Minister said, "The primary responsibility of the administration is to ensure that no household in J&K suffers shortage of essentials during the winter. All necessary arrangements must be put in place well in advance, especially for those living in remote and snow-bound areas who face the brunt of harsh weather." The Minister appreciated the efforts of the Department in streamlining supplies but urged all officers to work in mission mode for timely completion of stocking and efficient implementation of reforms.

Plantation drive, other activities held at GDC Ramkote

JAMMU BULLETIN NEWS
KATHUA, SEP 25:

Government Degree College Ramkote organized a Plantation Drive today here on the College campus as a part of ongoing activities under Seva Parv celebrations.

The College Principal Dr. Rakesh Kumar Koul led the drive organised to promote ecological awareness, educate participants on environmental issues and foster a sense of collective responsibility for a greener future. The plantation drive was followed by a Swachata Rally under the banner of Swachata hi Seva Campaign 2025. The rally started from the College Campus and marched through the adjoining lanes chanting slogans in favour of cleanliness, hygiene and environment conservation. Nearly 50 NSS volunteers participated in the rally and made it a successful event. The activities were coordinated by Prof. Pankaj Nandan, IQAC Convener, Prof. Suresh Chander, Convener NSS, Prof. Anu Sharma NSS, Prof. Vasundra Raje, HoD Sociology and Mr. Krishan Singh.

Govt Polytechnic Reasi, JKEDI host Bootcamp to promote startup ecosystem

JAMMU BULLETIN NEWS
REASI, SEP 25:

Government Polytechnic Reasi in collaboration with the Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI) on Thursday organised a Boot camp under the Start-up India Challenge. The Bootcamp proved to be an enriching experience, giving young minds a platform to showcase their innovative ideas and understand the entrepreneurial ecosystem. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, who came forward with innovative start-up ideas. Several innovative ideas were pitched by participants, which were evaluated by a panel of experts for shortlisting to the next round of the Startup Idea Challenge. The ideas presented by Reetika, 5th Semester Computer Engineering student; Abhishek Thakur, 5th Semester Mechanical Engineering student, Mohd. Younis, Computer Engineering student, Arti Sharma, Computer Engineering student, Vikram Singh, Computer Engineering student, Kapil Sharma and Israr Ahmed, Computer Engineering student, were shortlisted by the panel of experts. The event concluded with a formal vote of thanks by Ajay Dogra, Incharge Training and Placement cell of college to the JKEDI for their support in making the program a success. Others present on the occasion were staff of the college including Himanshu Bakshi, Sunil Kumar, Parshotam Lal and a large gathering of students of the college.

Earlier, the event began with a welcome address by the Principal Er. Arun Bangotra, who motivated the students by sharing inspiring examples of successful start-ups such as Zomato, Paytm, OYO etc. He encouraged them to think creatively and pursue entrepreneurship with confidence.

Sorab Mengi (Assistant Manager), JKEDI and Abilash Kumar Braroo, District Nodal Officer, JKEDI also shared insights into the various programs and policies undertaken by JKEDI to strengthen the startup ecosystem in Jammu and Kashmir.

Sewa Parv: DC leads swachhata cleanliness drive at Doda

JAMMU BULLETIN NEWS
DODA, SEP 25:

A massive Swachhata cleanliness drive themed "Ek Din - Ek Ghanta-Ek Saath," was organized today by the Municipal Council Doda as part of the ongoing Sewa Parv campaign.

The drive, led by Deputy Commissioner Harvinder Singh, attracted active participation from district officers, government officials, NGOs, civil society members and the general public.

The drive commenced from the main gate of the DC Office Complex, covered various areas of downtown and culminated back at the DC Office Complex. On the occasion, the DC gave away disaster relief kits to Municipal Workers, acknowledging their tireless service in maintaining cleanliness and sanitation across the town. The participants carried banners of Swachhata initiatives and wore masks, symbolizing their commitment to both cleanliness and public health. Addressing the gathering, the Deputy Commissioner said that the initiative forms an integral part of the Sewa Parv, which is a movement dedicated to public service with passion and commitment. Other Government functionaries present were Additional Deputy Commissioner Anil Kumar Thakur; Assistant Commissioner Revenue Ashraf Pervez; Assistant Commissioner Development Din Mohammad Afagi district heads of different departments, municipal functionaries, and officials. The active participation of NGOs, civil society members and local residents reflected the spirit of collective responsibility towards a cleaner and healthier environment.

The initiative was conducted under the guidance of Deputy Commissioner Doda Harvinder Singh and supervision of Executive Officer Municipal Council Doda, Yasir Wani.

Committee on Government Assurances holds meeting in Srinagar

Discusses assurances pertaining to Public Works Department



JAMMU BULLETIN NEWS
SRINAGAR, SEP 25:

The Committee on Government Assurances of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly today convened a meeting at the Assembly Complex, Srinagar, to review assurances pertaining to the Public Works Department (PWD).

The meeting was chaired by Committee Chairman, Sajad Gani Lone, and attended by members Ch. Mohammad Akram, Javid Ahmad Mirchal, Hilal Akbar Lone, Ifthikar Ahmad, Mian Mehar Ali, Mohan Lal, Sunil Bahardwaj, and Shagun Parihar.

Senior officers of the Public

Works Department, including Principal Secretary PWD Anil Kumar Singh, Special Secretary R&B Naseer Ahmad Wani, Director Finance Mazhar Hussain, Joint Director Planning Mohammad Yaseen Lone, and Deputy Director Finance Mohd Iqbal, were also present in the meeting.

The Committee held a detailed discussion on assurances given by the government regarding various PWD-related works and projects.

At the outset, the Chairman directed the concerned officers to address the grievances and issues raised by the members on priority. The officers acknowledged the concerns

and assured the Committee that all pending assurances would be addressed at the earliest. Principal Secretary PWD reaffirmed the Department's commitment to take up all highlighted works on top priority.

In his opening remarks, Chairman Sajad Gani Lone emphasized that the Committee's primary mandate is to scrutinize the assurances, promises, and undertakings made by Ministers on the floor of the House and assess their implementation within the stipulated timeframe.

He underscored the Committee's critical role in holding the government accountable, ensuring transparency, and improving governance. He added that frequent meetings would be held to monitor progress and ensure that every assurance made in the House is tracked and fulfilled.

During the meeting, members shared valuable suggestions and flagged several public importance issues for the Committee's consideration.

Himayat creating pathways for rural youth empowerment: Javid Dar

Hails mission for shaping futures, announces its expansion to agri-sectors

JAMMU BULLETIN NEWS
SRINAGAR, SEP 25:

Minister for Agriculture Production, Rural Development Department and Panchayati Raj, Cooperative and Election Department Javid Ahmad Dar, today lauded Himayat for creating a unique platform that offers rural youth an opportunity to shape their skills and build independent futures.

While speaking at the Himayat Alumni Meet 2025 in Srinagar, where several beneficiaries shared their success stories, the Minister said most participants came from humble backgrounds and had advanced in life through resilience and determination. "Himayat is a unique platform that offers rural youth an opportunity to shape their skills and build independent futures," he noted.

He added that in today's world, academic qualifications alone are not enough, skill is the real currency.

The Minister urged that skill development should extend to modern farming techniques, soil testing, livestock care, and even the use of artificial intelligence in agriculture. "If we train our youth in these areas, it can spark a real revolution," he said.

Citing inspiring success stories of Himayat trainees, Dar said every individual must write their own journey of achievement despite hardships. Encouraging the youth, he quoted: "The essential thing in life is not conquering, but fighting back."

He emphasized that honesty, hard work, and discipline are the foundations of lasting success. "Shortcuts never bring real achievements. Competition should be faced with courage and preparation," he stressed.

Dar also called for regular personality development training alongside skill trades to boost youth confidence. He congratulated the participants and lauded the Seva Parv initiative, running from September 17 to October 2 across the country, as a platform to highlight grassroots progress and youth empowerment.



"Every household faces difficulties, but we must overcome them, polish our skills, and move forward," the Minister said. Secretary, Rural Development Department (RDD) & Panchayati Raj, Mohammad Aijaz Asad, in his remarks, said the event was not merely an alumni meet but a journey that reflected "stories of struggle and success" of youth from remote areas of Jammu and Kashmir who through the Himayat Mission, have found their path to self-reliance.

"The alumni who shared their journeys today are a source of inspiration for the trainees present here. It shows that Himayat is not just training but also a ray of hope and a path to success," he noted.

The Secretary emphasized that the government is not only imparting skills but also committed to tracking the post-training journey of candidates, ensuring placements and further interventions wherever

needed. He congratulated the Himayat Mission team for sustaining this engagement and called for more such alumni meets in the future.

He announced that Himayat 2.0 will soon be rolled out with additional training sectors, including agriculture, dairy, horticulture, and farming. "By adding these sectors, we aim to give rural youth more opportunities and pathways for success," he said.

Linking the programme to the nationwide Seva Parv initiative launched by the Prime Minister on September 17, Asad said the campaign, running till October 2, seeks to connect people with various schemes and highlight stories of empowerment.

Chief Operating Officer, Himayat, Rajneesh Gupta, also shared key insights into the program's impact during the Alumni Meet, underscoring its role in empowering youth across Jammu and Kashmir. "As of now, Himayat has trained more than 34,000 candidates and approximately 15,000 of them have been successfully employed," he informed.

The event was attended by Director RDD Kashmir, Shabir Hussain Bhat; Chief Executive Officer, IWMP, Rajnish Kumar; and other officers.

DC Udhampur conducts extensive tour of Panchari, interacts with flood-affected families

JAMMU BULLETIN NEWS
UDHAMPUR, SEP 25:

Deputy Commissioner Udhampur, Saloni Rai today conducted an extensive tour of the remote Pathi Meer and Panchari areas to assess the damage caused by the recent floods and to interact with the affected families.

During the visit, the DC met flood-affected families at Pathi and listened to their issues and demands. The locals demanded immediate

restoration of water supply, repair of damaged link roads, including Mansar Kanthgali and Gandala Tirchi roads. They further demanded advance stocking of ration, improvement of mobile network connectivity, power supply to Ladha Tower, JK Bank branch and Sub-Centre at Kainthgali.

After patiently listening to the grievances, the DC directed the concerned officers to provide temporary sheds to

families whose houses were completely damaged. She further instructed the concerned departments to expedite the disbursement of relief and ensure prompt resolution of public issues on a priority basis. She also inspected the damaged roads, government buildings and other public properties in Panchari area.

During the tour, relief material was also distributed among the affected families at Pathi and en-route.

Rajouri observes Sewa Parv Day 09 with focus on sericulture, labour welfare, cleanliness & environmental awareness

JAMMU BULLETIN NEWS
RAJOURI, SEP 25:

On the ninth day of the ongoing Sewa Parv, a series of impactful activities were held across Rajouri district on the directions of the Deputy Commissioner Abhishek Sharma. The activities focused on sustainable development, labour welfare, environment conservation and citizen-centric outreach programmes. The departments and institutions actively participated, reinforcing the commitment to inclusive growth and good governance. A demonstration program under ATMA was organized at the

Sericulture Complex, Taryath. The local farmers were informed in detail about various Sericulture-related schemes. The program aimed at enhancing knowledge among farmers and stakeholders associated with Sericulture. An awareness camp for construction workers was organised at a construction site in Village Dalogra. The Construction workers were informed about their rights and welfare entitlements under JKBOWWB schemes and labour laws. A special sanitation drive was conducted at the ADC Office Complex, Sunderbani, ensuring

ing a cleaner and more hygienic public space. The Municipal Committee Kalakote in collaboration with the local Community Health Centre organised a blood donation camp underlining the importance of voluntary service. Government Degree College (GDC) Nowshera, in collaboration with the Social Forestry Department, conducted a plantation drive, planting more than 100 saplings on the College Campus. GDC Thannamandi organised a plantation drive and a debate competition encouraging students to know about environmental issues.

cheaper, machine-made alternatives. The GI tag is expected to serve as a catalyst in revitalizing this centuries-old tradition and enhancing its market visibility at both national and international levels.

In pursuit of this objective, the Directorate has intensified its outreach by encouraging master artisans to avail the benefits of the Department's flagship Karkhandar Scheme, aimed at capacity building, skill development and knowledge transfer to younger generations. District offices have also been directed to actively engage pass-out trainees to strengthen the grassroots implementation of the scheme. At present, the Department is running nine Elementary and two Advanced Training Centres for Namda, creating a strong framework for skill

development and knowledge transfer.

Redoubling its efforts for revival of the craft, under the CAPEX Budget 2025-26, an amount of ₹26.50 lakh has been earmarked for the repair and restoration of the Carding Machine at the UNDP facility, a step that will guarantee uninterrupted availability of quality raw material and thereby reinforce the production base for Namda artisans.

The spokesperson appealed to the public to support the Government's "Vocal for Local" initiative by buying felted Namdas, emphasizing that collective patronage is essential to provide a level playing field to Namda artisans and to ensure the revival of this unique craft, which forms an integral part of Kashmir's cultural heritage.