

Government committed to strengthen healthcare infrastructure in J&K with special focus on rural, peripheral areas: Sakeena Itoo

Inaugurates Dialysis Unit at Shaheed Wali Mohammad Itoo Memorial Sub-district Hospital D.H.Pora

JAMMU BULLETIN NEWS

KULGAM, JAN 23:

Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo inaugurated newly established Dialysis Unit at Shaheed Wali Mohammad Itoo Memorial, Sub-District Hospital (SDH), D.H. Pora here today.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister Sakeena highlighted the government's commitment to ensuring accessible, affordable and quality healthcare services, especially in far-flung and rural areas.

She stated that the newly inaugurated dialysis facility will greatly benefit patients suffering from chronic kidney ailments by providing timely and lifesaving treatment closer to their homes, thereby reducing the need for referrals to distant tertiary hospitals.

Following the inauguration, the Minister also conducted a detailed inspection of various wards of the



hospital and reviewed the availability of essential medical care facilities. She interacted with patients and healthcare staff, seeking firsthand feedback on the quality of services being provided.

The Minister also took stock of

infrastructure, manpower, availability of medicines and functioning of medical equipment. She directed the officers to maintain buffer stock of medicines and other essential medical supplies in view of inclement weather.

Sakeena Itoo directed the hospital authorities to maintain high standards of patient care and ensure that all facilities remain fully functional. She stressed the importance of compassionate service delivery and timely medical attention to patients, especially living in far-flung and peripheral areas.

Director Health Services Kashmir, Dr Jahangir Bakshi; CMO Kulgam, BMO and other senior officers of district administration and health department were also present on the occasion.

On the sidelines of the inauguration ceremony, Minister Sakeena also interacted with locals and took stock of their issues.

Interacting with the locals, the Minister said that the Government is committed to strengthen the healthcare infrastructure across the length and breadth of Jammu and Kashmir, with special focus on rural and peripheral areas.

GDC Ramkote Shines at 1st National Rover/Ranger Jamboree at Chhattisgarh



JAMMU BULLETIN NEWS

KATHUA, JAN 23:

The Rangers of Government Degree College Ramkote proudly marked their maiden presence in the 1st National Rover/Ranger Jamboree of the Bharat Scouts and Guides held at Duhli, Balod District, Chhattisgarh under the theme "Sashakt Yuva, Viksit Bharat."

The 12 Ranger college contingent consisted of Minakshi Devi (Sem V), Tanya Sharma (Sem V), Sakshi Devi (Sem V), Minu Devi (Sem V), Latasha Sharma (Sem V), Reeta Devi (Sem III), Neha Devi (Sem III), Sonali Sharma (Sem III), Nitakshi Sharma (Sem III), Richu Devi (Sem III), Priyanka Devi (Sem III) and Tania Sharma (Sem III) was flagged off by Principal of the college Prof. Dr. Rakesh Kumar Koul under Haroon Malik Contingent Leader of Jammu & Kashmir Bharat Scouts and Guides and college Unit Leader- Shalla Verma.

Three Rangers, Minakshi Devi, Tanya Sharma and Sakshi Devi participated in the cultural Dogri folk dance. Four Rangers, Richu Devi, Tania Sharma, Sakshi Devi and Latasha Sharma participated in the March Past. Two Rangers, Nitakshi Sharma and Reeta Devi participated in the Colour Party. Two Rangers, Tanya Sharma and Minu Devi partici-

pated in Backwood cooking which helped develop teamwork, self-reliance and Time Management skills. One Ranger Neha Devi participated in the Youth Parliament which helped develop leadership skills and civic understanding.

Rangers Minakshi Devi and Tania Sharma welcomed the Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh, Vishnu Deo Sai at the jamboree site. The jamboree also featured activities and sessions on climate change, disaster management, life-saving skills and the theme "Be Prepared - Ready for Life."

The Jammu & Kashmir Rangers/Rovers contingent bagged 8 awards, outperforming in various competitions. The Rangers also got an opportunity to visit places like Ganga Mata Temple, Tandula Complex, Golden Temple (Amritsar), Jallianwala Bagh and the Attari-Wagah Border.

All the Rangers expressed their gratitude to Principal of their college and the Jammu & Kashmir Bharat Scouts and Guides for providing them the maiden opportunity to participate in the jamboree attended by around 15,000 Rovers and Rangers from across India and abroad.

DSEJ observes National Voters' Day

JAMMU BULLETIN NEWS

JAMMU, JAN 23:

Under the guidance and supervision of the Director School Education Jammu, Dr. Naseem Javaid Chowdhary, the Directorate of School Education today observed National Voters' Day, reaffirming its silent but sturdy bond with democracy.

The observance was marked by the solemn reading of the National Voters' Pledge by the staff members of the Directorate, underscoring their civic responsibility as custodi-

ans of the republic's most sacred instrument - the vote.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Chowdhary remarked "The ballot is the great equalizer - it neither bows before privilege nor bends under pressure. When a citizen casts a vote, he or she does not merely select a candidate; they affirm faith in a system that recognizes every individual as an essential syllable in the national sentence. Today's pledge-taking is a reminder that democracy survives not on noise, but on participation."

IGP Traffic reviews post snowfall situation, traffic arrangements for Republic Day celebrations

JAMMU BULLETIN NEWS

JAMMU, JAN 23:

IGP Traffic J&K, Mohd Suleman Choudhary, today convened a meeting to review the prevailing traffic situation in view of recent snowfall in Kashmir Valley, Banihal and Ramban areas of Jammu Division as well as for finalization of traffic arrangements for the forthcoming Republic Day celebrations.

The meeting was attended by Dr. Mohd Haseeb Mughal, DIG Traffic Range Jammu; Ajaz Ahmed Bhat, SSP Traffic City Srinagar; S. Ravinder Paul Singh, SSP Traffic Rural Kashmir; Amit Bhasin, SSP Traffic City Jammu; Raja Adil Hamid, SSP Traffic NHW Ramban; Farooq Qaiser, SSP Traffic Rural Jammu; Arvinder Singh Kotwal, SP Traffic City Jammu; Dr Sunniya Wani, Dy.SP Traffic City South Jammu and Ashwani Kumar, Dy.SP Traffic City North Jammu. Out stationed officers participated in meeting through Video Conferencing.

During the meeting, the IGP took a comprehensive review of traffic regulation measures on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway and other vulnerable stretches affected by snowfall and inclement



weather.

The IGP laid stress on ensuring smooth regulation of traffic, timely dissemination of advisories and close coordination with all concerned agencies like Distt Administration, Police, BRO, NHAI etc.

In view of the prevailing weather conditions, SSP Traffic City Srinagar was directed to make announcements through the Public Address (PA) system advising that Jammu-bound vehicles shall not be allowed to proceed until further clearance. Further, SSP Traffic Rural Kashmir was directed not to allow Jammu-bound traffic from Qazigund until improvement in road and weather conditions, besides SSP NHW

Ramban was directed to put in place multiple cut-off points at strategic locations along the NHW, in order to discourage movement of vehicles on NHW and prevent congestion and ensure safety of commuters.

IGP Traffic instructed that the breakdown assistance teams shall be kept readily available at identified locations, especially along National Highway stretches and other vulnerable road sections, to ensure immediate clearance of stranded, disabled or stuck vehicles. Officers were also instructed to ensure availability of sufficient manpower, snow-clearance coordination, reflective barricades, signage and traffic management equipment on ground.

The Jal Shakti Department was directed to ensure regular supply of safe drinking water, deploy water tankers and put in place necessary barricades at the venue. The XEN, JPDCL was

tasked with ensuring uninterrupted power supply and installation of backup generators. The PWD and PMGSY departments were instructed to blacktop roads and repair potholes on routes leading to the shrine to ensure safe and smooth access.

The Assistant Director Tourism, Katra, was directed to undertake special measures for publicity and tourist facilitation to ensure wider outreach and convenience of visitors. The Tourism Department was also asked to make necessary arrangements for cultural programmes and allied activities.

The Motor Vehicles Department was instructed to implement an effective traffic management plan and closely monitor transport operators to prevent overcharging.

To meet water requirements, the Jal Shakti Department was directed to ensure regular supply of safe drinking water, deploy water tankers and put in place necessary barricades, signage and traffic management equipment on ground.

The Shri Shiv Khori Mandir was directed to undertake beautification of the cave to provide a pleasant and spiritually enriching experience to devotees. The CEO Reasi was instructed to deploy additional staff during the Mela to effectively manage various arrangements.

Emphasis was laid on health and safety measures, with the Health Department directed to deploy medical staff along pilgrimage routes and near the shrine, along with adequate ambulance services to ensure prompt medical care. Fire tenders will be stationed at strategic locations to address any emergencies.

Sanitation and hygiene were identified as key focus areas. The ACD was directed to coordinate with BDOs to ensure proper sanitation arrangements and installation of mobile toilets. The FCS&CA

Department will ensure adequate supply of essential ration items.

The Deputy Commissioner

also directed the constitution of a committee for price control and market surveys, which will commence 10 days prior to the Mela. The AD Food Safety was instructed

to conduct regular inspections to ensure fair pricing and availability of quality food items. She further emphasized the provision of locker facilities for devotees to safely store their belongings during the Mela.

Addressing the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner stressed the importance of inter-departmental coordination and proactive planning to make Mahashivratri Mela-2026 safe, well-organized and spiritually enriching. She emphasized that all departments must work in unison to ensure the comfort, safety and convenience of pilgrims, making the Mela a model of effective planning and management.

ADDC Sukhdev Singh Samyal, ADC Rakesh Kumar, Addl. SP Ifthikar Ahmed, ACR Nitin Verma and other district officers were present in the meeting.

The programme was presided over by District Development Commissioner, Abhishek Sharma and was attended by officers from various departments along with a significant number of beneficiaries. The gathering listened attentively to the Prime Minister's address, which highlighted the importance of financial inclusion and easy access to institutional credit for street vendors. On the occasion, the District Development Commissioner distributed sanction letters to 11 eligible street vendors, marking a significant step towards empowering them through formal credit facilities. Speaking on the occasion, the DDC said that the PM SVANidhi Credit Card initiative, which forms part of the restructured PM SVANidhi scheme aims to provide UPI-linked RuPay credit cards to eligible street vendors who have demonstrated good repayment behaviour under earlier loan tranches. He added that the initiative would enhance financial flexibility, promote digital transactions and help street vendors expand their livelihoods in a sustainable manner.

SMC Srinagar Webcasts Launch of SVANidhi Credit Card Facility by Hon'ble PM

DC, Commissioner SMC distribute sanction letters, Credit Cards to street vendors



the PM SVANidhi Credit Card Facility during an event, and proceedings were collectively viewed by officers, officials, and beneficiaries at SMC.

The event at SMC was attended by Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Akshay Labroo and Commissioner, Srinagar Municipal Corporation, Faz Lul Haseeb, along with Joint Commissioners SMC, senior officers, and staff of the Corporation.

On the occasion, Deputy Commissioner, Srinagar and Commissioner SMC, distributed sanction letters and credit cards to eligible beneficiaries, marking an important step towards ensuring timely access to institutional credit and strengthening the financial empowerment of street vendors.

One-day Marketing, Entrepreneurship workshop for PM Vishwakarma beneficiaries organised at ITI Samba



JAMMU BULLETIN NEWS

SAMBA, JAN 23:

A one-day Marketing and Entrepreneurship Orientation Training Workshop for PM Vishwakarma beneficiaries was today organised at Government ITI-Samba.

The programme aimed at equipping beneficiaries with essential marketing, financial and digital skills to strengthen their livelihoods and enhance market access. Joint Director, MSME-DFO, Jammu, who

inaugurated the programme, underscored the significance of capacity-building initiatives for traditional artisans. He

stressed that training in branding, packaging, pricing and digital payments is crucial for improving product visibility and ensuring sustainable income generation. He encouraged beneficiaries to adopt professional business practices and effectively utilise platforms such as e-commerce and institutional credit facilities.

Principal, ITI highlighted the importance of skill development and self-reliance. He encouraged participants to actively take part in the training and make the best use of opportunities provided under the scheme.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by the Functional Manager DIC Samba.

DC Reasi reviews preparations for

Mahashivratri Mela-2026 at Shri Shiv Khori Shrine

JAMMU BULLETIN NEWS

REASI, JAN 23:

Deputy Commissioner Reasi, Nidhi Malik, who is also the Vice Chairperson of the Shri Shiv Khori Shrine Board, today chaired a high-level meeting to review the arrangements for the Mahashivratri Mela-2026, scheduled to be held from 14th to 16th February at the revered Shri Shiv Khori Shrine. The annual religious congregation attracts thousands of devotees from across the country. The meeting focused on ensuring smooth, safe and well-coordinated preparations.

The discussions covered critical aspects including security, traffic management, sanitation, drinking water, electricity, health services, fire safety, cultural programmes, hawker management and crowd control. Officers from all concerned departments participated and contributed to detailed planning aimed at providing a seamless experience to pilgrims.

The Assistant Director Tourism, Katra, was directed to undertake special measures for publicity and tourist facilitation to ensure wider outreach and convenience of visitors. The Tourism Department was also asked to make necessary arrangements for cultural programmes and allied activities.

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Udhampur: DCO foils drug trafficking attempt through courier service

JAMMU BULLETIN NEWS

UDHAMPUR, JAN 23:

Drugs Control Organization (DCO), Jammu & Kashmir has confiscated a consignment of 8,000 Pregabalin-300 capsules being illegally transported through a private courier service.

Acting on specific intelligence and routine surveillance of courier networks, a team of Drugs Control Officers-Rakesh Singh Slathia and Narinder Parvez, under the supervision of Assistant Drugs Controller Udhampur, Sanjeev Gupta conducted a targeted inspection at a courier facility operating in the region.

During the inspection, a suspicious parcel was identified and opened in the presence of authorized personnel. Upon examination, the parcel was found to contain 8,000 capsules of Pregabalin-300 (SP-NYL-300), a drug commonly prescribed for neuropathic pain but reportedly misused for intoxication by anti-social elements. The consignment was found concealed and was not supported by any valid documentation.

Taking immediate cognizance of the matter, the drugs were seized on the spot under Form-16 in accordance with the provisions of the Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940.

Preliminary investigations indicated that the consignment was being routed into Jammu & Kashmir from a neighbouring state and intended for illegal sale within the