

CS sets the tone for transforming rural women into successful entrepreneurs

Reviews the progress & performance of JKRLM

SRINAGAR, JUNE 30 : In a move to empower rural women and foster self-reliance, Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo today chaired a meeting to review the performance of the Jammu & Kashmir National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) here with the prime objective of trans-

forming women registered with NRLM across the UT's rural areas into successful entrepreneurs.

On this occasion Dulloo emphasized the immense potential of this tremendous human resource of around 7 lakh women calling for their intensified social mobilization and capacity building efforts to ignite a powerful movement of self-reliance among them.

The Chief Secretary further issued a slew of directives aimed at bolstering the economic independence of women Self-Help Group (SHG) members. He directed the registration of Cluster Level Federations (CLFs) with the Cooperative Department under the Cooperative Societies Act, strengthening their organizational framework.

Dulloo also enjoined upon the NRLM to aggressively enhance credit linkage for SHGs, aiming to reach at least 75,000 linkages by the end of October this year. The Chief Secretary stressed the need to bridge the existing gap of 16,000 linkages through

focused efforts and active support from financial institutions.

Recognizing the substantial number of literate SHG members (around 3 lakh), Chief Secretary Dulloo directed the MD, NRLM, to ensure they are skilled and trained. This will be achieved by linking them with the online

ing of registered SHG members, he emphasized.

Dulloo also advised the Finance Department to prioritize the enrolment of all SHG members under social security schemes like PMSBY and PMJJBY. Furthermore, this 7 lakh strong human resource should be leveraged by the Finance Department to

capturing, he concluded. Shubhra Sharma, MD, J&K NRLM, highlighted the remarkable success of the Lakhpati Didi initiative, which aims to make rural women financially self-reliant. Over 1.84 lakh women have achieved LakhpatiDidi status in the past six months, with efforts underway to support a cumulative total of 2.3 lakh women in achieving this milestone by the end of the current month.

She elucidated that these women are engaged in diverse sectors, including agriculture, animal husbandry, manufacturing, services, and trade, with support from convergence departments.

The meeting also reviewed the functioning of Community Managed Training Centres (CMTCs), with six currently established. It was divulged in the meeting that plans are in place to establish CMTCs in all the remaining 14 districts during the upcoming financial year.

Further it was given out that the Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana (MKSP) surpassed expectations, covering 123% of targeted women farmers and 140% in livestock interventions during FY 2024-25.

In the non-farm sector, initiatives like the Start-up Village Entrepreneurship Programme (SVEP) and Micro Enterprise Development (MED) achieved around 100% target coverage, demonstrating significant fund utilization. Additionally 99.3% of SVEP funds have been utilized, and all Community Enterprise Funds (CEF) have been successfully transferred to rural entrepreneurs, the meeting was apprised.

The concerted efforts and strategic directives are poised to create a robust ecosystem for women's empowerment and rural entrepreneurship across the length and breadth of J&K.

raise awareness about these schemes during an upcoming 3-month long campaign across the UT, he added.

The Chief Secretary also noted the potential of utilizing SHG members as Banking Correspondents, Krishi Sakhis, Pashu Sakhis, and Van Sakhis in rural areas, enhancing both their livelihoods and service delivery accessibility across the region.

Earlier in the meeting, Secretary RDD, Aijaz Assad, provided a panoramic view of NRLM's functioning in J&K, detailing past achievements and the future roadmap. He informed the meeting that J&K NRLM has successfully formed 94,000 Self-Help Groups (SHGs), covering 7.55 lakh rural households across the Union Territory.

Notably, J&K stands out as a top-performing State/UT in key parameters, securing 1st position in Cluster Level Federation (CLF) profiling, 2nd in Village Organization profiling, and 4th in SHG profile

Daksh Kisan Courses offered by the Agriculture Production Department, thereby increasing their chances of sustainable livelihoods.

In order to create successful entrepreneurs, he directed the organisation to link the members with the HADP of the Agriculture Production Department or with Mission YUVA of the Skill Development Department to achieve the set objective successfully.

On this occasion the Chief Secretary highlighted that mere formation of Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) is not enough; their credit linkage and production must be the primary focus to ensure they become successful enterprises.

He emphasized optimal utilization and establishment of Community Managed Training Centres (CMTCs) across all 20 districts of the UT. Assistance from J&K Bank, NABARD, and other institutions, along with agreements with OMPLIS, shall be sought for comprehensive train-

forming women registered with NRLM across the UT's rural areas into successful entrepreneurs.

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Commissioner Secretary H&UDD reviews Muharram arrangements in Srinagar

SRINAGAR, JUNE 30 : Intensifying efforts towards ensuring seamless and safe observance of Muharram-ul-Harrah and Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra, Commissioner Secretary Housing & Urban Development Department, Mandeep Kaur, today conducted a comprehensive inspection of key sites across Srinagar.

She was accompanied by Commissioner, Srinagar Municipal Corporation, Faz Lul Haseeb and senior officials from SMC and allied departments.

The visit included prominent Imam Bargahs in Zadibal and Hassanabad, where the Commissioner Secretary reviewed the arrangements being made for Muharram processions and religious gatherings. She interacted with the members of the Shia community, listening to their

suggestions and concerns regarding a peaceful and dignified observance of the holy month.

The inspection focused on several essential services

efforts and timely action to address any issues that may arise during the period. She reassured the community members of the government's full support and its

mosques and shrines.

In addition to reviewing the Muharram arrangements, she also visited the Animal Birth Control (ABC) Centre at Tengpora



including sanitation, power supply, street lighting, drinking water, water tanker availability, drainage and road conditions.

The Commissioner Secretary stressed the importance of coordinated

commitment to public safety and well-being.

Regarding the hygiene standards, she directed concerned officials to carry out thorough fumigation at all key religious sites, including Imam Bargahs,

to assess its operations.

Later, she inspected the Yatra Transit Camp at Pantha Chowk, taking stock of facilities and preparations being put in place for the upcoming Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra.

Sakeena Itoo reviews progress on health projects across Kashmir division

SRINAGAR, JUNE 30 : Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo, today chaired a meeting at Civil Secretariat to assess the status of ongoing works being executed under health infrastructure projects across Kashmir Division.

The meeting was attended by MD J&K Housing Board, MD Police Housing Corporation, Chief Engineer R&B North Kashmir, Director Health Services Kashmir, representatives of mechanical and hospital engineering department and other officers of the concerned departments and project executing agencies.

While reviewing the district-wise progress on each project, the Minister underscored the importance of adhering to deadlines, particularly in far-flung and snow-prone areas. "Timely completion of these projects is crucially important

for saving precious human lives. We cannot afford delays that could hamper rural healthcare delivery during harsh winters," she

Highlighting the importance of these projects for rural healthcare services, the Minister underlined that once completed, these proj-

equity", asserted the Minister.

During the meeting, the Minister stressed upon the officers of the health



ected will significantly

strengthen the healthcare network in rural and underserved areas of Kashmir division. "Government's goal is to make quality healthcare accessible at the grassroots level. These infrastructure upgrades are a crucial step towards achieving the healthcare

department and executing agencies to conduct regular check-ups of ongoing construction works so that the buildings are constructed as per the approved works. She also asked them to consult every stakeholder in DPR formulation, ensuring that all necessary basic facilities are incorporated.

While visiting Super Speciality hospital Srinagar, the Minister toured several departments of the facility including Cardiology, Nephrology, Oncology and other Critical Care Units. She held direct interactions with patients and their attendants to understand their experiences and gather feedback

"Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra-2025" LG inaugurates SASB's Yatri Niwas at Pantha Chowk Srinagar

SRINAGAR, JUNE 30 : Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha today inaugurated the Yatri Niwas of Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board at Pantha Chowk, Srinagar and dedicated the new facility to Shri Amarnath Ji pilgrims. The Yatri Niwas has been built through donation and it will accommodate 1300 pilgrims.

"This Yatri Niwas is a symbol of our dedication and commitment to provide better facilities for devotees of Baba Barfani and make their pilgrimage more comfortable and safer.

The construction of the second phase of Yatri Niwas will begin soon. It symbolises devotion to selfless service. Let us pray to Baba Amarnath to bless our land with peace, happiness and prosperity," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor expressed his gratitude to Shri Mukesh Garg, Member, Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board, his team members and Shri

Amarnath Ji Shrine Board for their invaluable contribution in building the Yatri Niwas for the pilgrims.

Interacting with the

of Jammu and Kashmir, drawing full support and cooperation from its people," he said.

On the occasion, the

Mukesh Garg - Members of Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board; Dr Mandeep K. Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lieutenant



media persons, the Lieutenant Governor said that the Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board is making continuous efforts to improve facilities for the pilgrims.

"A wave of enthusiasm is sweeping across Jammu and Kashmir. This Yatra is deeply rooted in the spirit

Lieutenant Governor also unveiled a painting on Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra, by Shri KK Gandhi.

The Five floors of the Yatri Niwas building dedicated to the Yatris are comprised of total 75 rooms having a bed capacity of 225, and 43 dorm rooms. Shri K.N.Rai and Shri

Governor and CEO SASB; Shri Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; Shri VK Birdi, IGP Kashmir; Shri Akshay Labroo, Deputy Commissioner Srinagar; senior officials of SASB, Police and Civil Administration were present at the inaugural ceremony.

Public Accounts Committee holds meeting in Srinagar

SRINAGAR, JUNE 30 : The Public Accounts Committee (PAC) today convened a meeting to discuss audit paras pertaining to Finance Department at the Assembly Complex in Srinagar.

The meeting was chaired by Committee Chairman Sham Lal Sharma and attended by members Nazir Ahmad Khan, Qaysar Jamshaid Lone, Javid Hassan Baig, Devinder Kumar Manyal, Sajad Shaheen and Muzaffar Iqbal Khan.

The Committee undertook a detailed review of audit paras pertaining to the Finance Department, including Paras 3.6 (2001-02), 2.2 and 2.5 (2018-19).

The Chairman emphasized the importance of ensuring efficiency and transparency in public expenditure. He reiterated that the mandate of the

Committee is to scrutinize the government spending, identify lapses, fix accountability and recommend corrective actions.



The Committee deliberated on key issues such as computerisation of Toll Post Lakhanpur, management of bank accounts and disbursement of flood relief funds.

The meeting reviewed the details submitted by the concerned department and asserted that action taken

reports be submitted over various matters in a time bound manner.

Principal Accountant General J&K, K P Yadav,

also decided to drop various audit paras, including Para 2.2.4 related to the management of bank accounts with a direction to submit a detailed action taken report within a stipulated time frame.

The Chairman highlighted the importance of the Committee, emphasising on the core responsibilities, including examination of audit reports from the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG), scrutiny of public spending and recommendation of reforms to enhance fiscal discipline.

He appreciated the commitment and meticulous efforts of the Committee members and officials and encouraged them to continue contributing effectively towards the public accountability. He underlined the crucial role of the PAC as a watchdog over public funds and government operations.

Javid Dar inaugurates JKRTC Bus Service from Zaloora to Srinagar

BARAMULLA, JUNE 30 : Minister for Agriculture Production, Rural Development, Panchayati Raj, and Cooperative Election, Javid Ahmad Dar, today inaugurated a new Jammu and Kashmir Road Transport Corporation (JKRTC) bus service from Zaloora to Srinagar.

This long-awaited serv-

ice fulfills a persistent demand of the local residents, offering them a much-needed transportation link and improved regional connectivity. The bus service will cater to areas of Zaloora, Harwan, Tujjar Sharif and Sopore for travel to Srinagar city.

Speaking on the occasion, Javid Dar said that the launch of this service

reflects the commitment of the Omar Abdullah-led government towards ensuring enhanced basic facilities for the people, especially in far-flung and underserved areas. He emphasized that improving public transportation is a key step towards enhancing daily mobility, boosting local economic activities and connecting com-

munities.

The Minister assured that the government would continue to strengthen the road connectivity, upgrade transport infrastructure and enhance the public amenities across the region.

Later, Javid Dar, visited Goripora, Rafiabad, to participate in the Muharram commemoration.

LMD intensifies market inspections ahead of Shri Amarnathji Yatra : Traders penalized for violations in Kathua

JAMMU, JUNE 30 : With the view to safeguard the interests of consumers, especially Shri Amarnath pilgrims, the Legal Metrology Department, under the directions of Controller Legal Metrology J&K Rajinder Singh Tara conducted a special enforcement drive ahead of the Shri Amarnathji Yatra. The rigorous inspections were carried out along the National Highway in Kathua district-a crucial transit zone for Yatris en route to the holy shrine.

The inspection drive, led by the Legal Metrology unit in Kathua, was aimed to

ensure fair trade practices and strict compliance with the Legal Metrology Act, 2009. During the inspections, several traders were found violating various provisions of the Legal Metrology Act/rules and were accordingly booked by the area inspectors and penalties amounting to ?1.40 lakh were imposed.

The department emphasized that traders must strictly use certified weighing instruments and cautioned against short-weight sales, particularly involving commodities like sweets, bakery items, snacks, beverages and pre-packaged

food products which witness high consumer demand during the pilgrimage season and the department stressed the need for transparency.

In an official hand-out, the Department urged the consumers to remain vigilant and thoroughly inspect pre-packaged products for key labelling details such as the manufacturer or importer's address, country of origin, net quantity and the Maximum Retail Price (MRP), inclusive of all taxes. As the proper labelling helps ensure transparency and provides consumers with accurate prod-

uct information of pre-packaged commodities which in-turn discourages deceptive or fraudulent practices.

The Controller Legal Metrology J&K reiterated the department's commitment in protecting the rights of consumers and maintaining ethical standards in market transactions, especially during the festive and pilgrimage season. He also encouraged consumers to report any instance of overcharging or short-weight sales or deceptive pre-packaging to the department for prompt action.

Sakeena Itoo visits SKIMS, Super Speciality Hospital Srinagar

SRINAGAR, JUNE 30 : Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo today visited SKIMS Soura and Super Speciality Hospital Srinagar and took stock of medical care facilities available for the patients.

While visiting Super Speciality hospital Srinagar, the Minister toured several departments of the facility including Cardiology, Nephrology, Oncology and other Critical Care Units. She held direct interactions with patients and their attendants to understand their experiences and gather feedback

regarding the quality of treatment and services available at the hospital.

facilities available at this prestigious institution. She inspected different sections



Later, the Minister also visited SKIMS Soura and took stock of medical care

of the hospital and took stock of medical care facilities available at the facility.

The Minister urged hospital authorities to ensure timely treatment, streamlined processes and patient-centric care for the patients coming from different far flung areas of the Jammu and Kashmir.

She also interacted with the patients and their attendants and took detailed feedback from them about the services available at this facility.

While interacting with them, the Minister assured them that the Government is focusing on increasing medical care facilities in rural areas so that they can get access near their vicinities.