

## Kesri demands instant relief for flood-affected farmers in Jammu District

TT CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, AUG. 27 : Shiv Sena Hindustan, led by Jammu and Kashmir President Pandit Rajesh Kesri, held a press conference to demand relief for farmers affected by the recent floods in Jammu district. The press conference was attended by prominent leaders, including Sanjeev Sharma, Balbir Kumar, Balwant Saini, Raj Kumar, Baba Suresh Kumar, and Satpal. The press conference highlighted the plight of farmers in border areas, including Nowshera, Arnia, Bishnah, Miran Sahib, Ramgarh, and others, where the majority of the population depends on agriculture.

Addressing media persons, Kesri expressed concern over the plight of farmers, particularly those living in border areas, whose crops have been damaged due to the floods. Kesri demanded that the government provide compensation to farmers who have lost their crops, especially rice, which is a crucial crop for their livelihood. He urged the government to send SDM, Tehsildar, and agriculture department officials to assess the damage and provide relief to affected farmers. He also demanded that the government provide relief to families who have lost their homes or have been affected by the floods. Kesri called upon the government to take immediate action to provide relief to flood-affected farmers and families in Jammu district. The recent floods in Jammu district have caused significant damage to crops and homes, affecting the livelihood of many farmers. Shiv Sena Hindustan's demand for relief and compensation is a timely reminder of the need for government support to affected families.

## Azad expresses grief over flood losses in J&K; urges govt to ensure relief, safety

TT CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, AUG. 27 : Former Chief Minister, Chairman DPAP Ghulam Nabi Azad has expressed deep sorrow over the recent floods in Jammu and Kashmir, particularly in the Jammu province. He said the cloudburst in Bhalessa has caused massive destruction, damaging several properties, while in parts of Jammu many houses and shops have also been affected. Azad said it is extremely unfortunate that precious lives have also been lost in Katra due to the calamity. He extended his heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families and prayed for strength to bear the irreparable loss. He said, "The loss of lives in Katra is deeply tragic. The government must ensure proper relief and extend immediate assistance to the families who have lost their loved ones in this disaster." He appealed to the people to remain vigilant and stay in safer places until the situation improves. Azad urged the government to take all necessary measures to ensure the safety of the people, provide immediate relief, adequate compensation to the affected families, and ex-gratia to the kin of those who lost their lives. He further said, "Even in several parts of Kashmir the water level has crossed the danger mark. The government must take necessary arrangements to ensure the safety of the people. Shelter sheds must be arranged immediately for those who have lost their homes and they must be shifted to safer places."

## NC questions LG's decision to let SMVD yatra continue inspite of inclement weather forecast

TT CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, AUG. 27 : The Jammu & Kashmir national Conference Wednesday expressed profound grief and anger over the tragic death of more than 30 pilgrims and questioned the LG's decision, who is also the Chairman of SMVD board, to let Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Yatra continue inspite of the inclement weather forecast. In a joint statement Additional General Secretary Ajay Kumar Sadhotra and Provincial President Rattan Lal Gupta raised serious questions about the glaring lapses in decision-making that led to the avoidable tragedy. "The buck for the safety and security of every pilgrim stops squarely with the Chairman of the Shrine Board," they stated adding, "When the severe weather forecast for the Jammu province was well-known, why was the yatra not halted proactively? Why were pilgrims allowed to continue on a track which is prone to landslides during such extreme conditions?" They said that the primary responsibility of the Shrine Board is to ensure pilgrim safety, a duty that appears to have been severely compromised. "This is not the first incident of its kind, and yet, the administration seems to have ignored clear and present dangers. The LG cannot keep getting away with such glaring lapses," they added.

The leaders extended their deepest condolences to the families of the deceased and demanded a thorough, time-bound inquiry into the failures that led to this catastrophe.

## Teachers of Jammu & Udhampur Await Transfers, Demand Immediate Action

TT CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, AUG. 27 : Teachers of Jammu and Udhampur continue to wait for their transfer lists, while lists for eight other districts-including the Poonch District list, which had been on hold-have already been uploaded on the Directorate of School Education, Jammu (DSEJ) website. The prolonged delay has created mounting concern among educators in these two districts.

Reports indicate that the Jammu and Udhampur lists have been finalized. Observers question why they are not being officially made public without any delay, citing ongoing review as an inadequate explanation. Teachers serving in remote and hilly schools have been working in the same postings for a decade, facing mental and physical strain, long daily commutes, and professional stagnation. Meanwhile, some teachers who have been serving in Jammu schools for a long time have not been transferred at all and have been retained in the same schools for years-a fact that is clear for all to see. One female teacher from Jammu reportedly travels nearly 70 kilometers one way-140 kilometers daily-and has been serving in that location for almost 10 years. Such hardships, observers say, affect not only teachers but also students, families, school management, and the wider community.

Teachers stress that the Jammu and Udhampur transfer lists should be officially made public without any delay to ensure transparency, fairness, and the smooth functioning of the education system. "A prompt release is critical," said a senior teacher. "It ensures stability, fairness, and the well-being of teachers and students alike."

## Airtel announces emergency connectivity support amid telecom disruptions in J&K, Ladakh

TT CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, AUG. 27 : Unprecedented rains and extreme weather have severely disrupted telecom services across Jammu, Kashmir, Ladakh, and Himachal Pradesh. In these challenging times, staying connected is more important than ever. To support our customers, Airtel is introducing special measures: Prepaid customers whose plans are expiring this week, will receive a 3-day extension with unlimited calls and 1GB data per day, even if they are unable to recharge; Postpaid and broadband customers will get a 3-day grace period on bill payments to ensure uninterrupted services.

# Div Com Kashmir reviews flood preparedness amid inclement weather

## Visits Hari Niwas to inspect the functioning of UT level Emergency Operation Centre

TT CORRESPONDENT

KASHMIR, AUG. 27 : In view of the inclement weather across Kashmir division, Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Anshul Garg convened an urgent meeting to assess the readiness of departments & district administrations to respond to any emergency and potential threat of floods in low-lying areas.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Commissioners, Commissioner SMC, CEO ERA, and senior officials from various key departments including ULB, FCS&CA, Education, IMD, Radio Kashmir, Doordarshan, I&FC, KPDC, MED, UEED, R&B, BSNL, SDRF, NDRF, SRTC, PHE, BEACON and others.



At the outset, Div Com took a detailed district-wise assessment of the flood situation, including the mapping of vulnerable areas and operational status of district-level control rooms. He reviewed the availability of essential supplies, readiness of man-

power and machinery, deployment of resource personnel, and evacuation contingency plans.

Garg emphasized the importance of activating communication channels to ensure real-time information dissemination to both officials and the pub-

lic. He directed Deputy Commissioners to update contact lists of district and tehsil-level committee members and to formulate backup communication plans in case of telecommunication breakdown.

Div Com also instructed departments to update

logistics and resource data on the official portal and ensure all relevant information is accessible via a centralized dashboard.

To strengthen preparedness, he called for immediate clearance of debris from roads affected by landslides, facilitating the movement of emergency services and supplies.

Commissioner of SMC informed the meeting that 49 mobile dewatering pumps had been deployed in waterlogged areas across the city. Officials from the Meteorological department informed the gathering that there is currently no imminent flood threat, and the weather is expected to improve later in the evening. Div Com reiterated that all departments must remain on high alert and work in close

coordination to ensure public safety and a prompt response to any emerging situation.

Later, Div Com visited Hari Niwas to inspect the operation and functioning of UT level Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) where he checked the consolidated data of the centre and distress calls received from the general public. He also assessed the timely response provided to address the issues.

Meanwhile, he has appealed to the public to reach out to the UT level EOC at 0194-2502254, 0194-2950767/ 1070 for any assistance.

Div Com was accompanied by DIG Police, DC Srinagar, Commissioner SMC and other officers of I&FC and line departments.

## DC Ganderbal chairs NCORD meeting, directs vigorous enforcement against drug menace

TT CORRESPONDENT

GANDERBAL, AUG. 27 : To assess and reinforce the district's anti-narcotics efforts, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Jatin Kishore today chaired the monthly meeting of the District-Level Narco Coordination Committee (NCORD) at the V.C. Room of DC office Ganderbal.

At the outset, DC took a department-wise review of progress on enforcement, awareness, treatment, and rehabilitation. Officers from concerned departments viz. Health, Education, Revenue, Agriculture, Excise and Social Welfare presented updates against the Action Taken Report on directives issued in the previous NCORD meeting. The functioning of the Drug De-addiction Centre was reviewed meticulously and the Chief Medical Officer was directed to explore the possibility of making IPD facilities available at the Centre.



While reviewing the status of computer billing and installation of CCTV cameras by medical shops, the District Drug Inspector informed that 97 percent shops have switched to computer billing systems and 100 percent CCTV camera installation is also ensured. DC directed for active enforcement to achieve 100% computer billing within the next 1 month. Status of NDPS cases was also reviewed

and Police and Prosecution departments were directed to ensure timely investigations, charge sheeting and trial proceedings in all NDPS cases. Excise department was asked to intensify wild cannabis destruction drives across the district. Chief Education Officer (CEO) was directed to conduct drug de-addiction awareness campaigns during morning assemblies, particularly in high

schools.

Emphasizing the need for a comprehensive and coordinated approach, DC called for focusing on prevention, surveillance, and community engagement to effectively combat the drug menace.

Under the ongoing Nasha Mukti Jammu & Kashmir Abhiyan, DC directed Block Development Officers and the Social Welfare department to organize regular awareness drives targeting vulnerable groups of society. The meeting was attended by the SSP Ganderbal, Khalil Ahmad Poswal; Additional Deputy Commissioner, Syed Fahim Bihagi; Deputy Director Prosecution, Chief Education Officer, Chief Medical Officer, Block Development Officers, District Drug Inspector, and representatives from the, Excise Department, Intelligence Bureau, and other concerned departments.

## Congress shocked over loss of lives of pilgrims, others & injuries to several Karra asks party cadres to render all possible help in rescue, relief

TT CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, AUG. 27 : J&K Pradesh Congress Committee has expressed deep shock over loss of lives including 34 Vaishno Devi pilgrims and five others in Doda district and injuries to several others due to devastating rains & landslides.

In a statement JKPC Chief Shri Tariq Hameed Karra and other senior congress leaders have expressed deep shock over the loss of lives and injuries to number of people.

They conveyed heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families and prayed for peace to the injured persons. They appealed to the government to provide best medical treatment to the injured.

Karra and other senior leaders also expressed deep sorrow over the death of four persons in Doda district due to devastation of heavy rains besides injuries to ten others.

They prayed for peace to

the departed souls and expressed sympathies with the bereaved families. They prayed for early recovery of the injured and asked the administration to arrange for best treatment to the injured.

The PCC leaders urged the government to provide immediate ex gratia relief to the next of kin of those killed and the injured for their specialised treatment etc.

The party also expressed serious concern over the devastation being caused by the heavy rains, floods, cloudbursts and landslides and urged all concerned agencies to be on full alertness to come to the rescue of people getting trapped and affected.

They lauded efforts of the administration and all those involved in the rescue and relief measures including armed forces police and para-military forces for extending full support to the rescue measures.

PCC Chief also appealed to all party cadres through-

out UT to come to the aid and assistance of administration and people at this hour of need. He also appealed to the people to remain alert and stay away from the dangerous situations as far as possible.

Other leaders who are signatories include Working President Raman Bhalla, Senior leaders Ch Lal Singh Ex-MP Mula Ram, Balwan Singh, Ravinder Sharma Chief Spokesperson, Yogesh Sawhney, Ved Mahajan, T S Bajwa, Yashpal Kundal, Th. Balbir Singh, Sheikh Haider Naresh Gupta, Jahangir Mir, GM Saroori, Shah Mohammed Chaudhary Sr. Adv. Iftikhar Ahmed MLA, Ex MLAs Indu Pawar, Dina Nath Bhagat, Ashok Dogra, Krishan Bhagat, Hari Singh Chib, TS Tony, DCC Presidents Shabir Ahmed Khan, Manmohan Singh, Pankaj Dogra, Bhupender Singh, Sanjeev Sharma, Vinod Khajuria, Sheikh Mujeeb, S Rajinder Singh Parvez Wani & Asif Naqeeb besides others.

## Narinder Sharma takes initiative to mitigate flood impact in Kotli Shah Doula

TT CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, AUG. 27 : Renowned social activist and senior JKDPD leader Narinder Sharma has taken a proactive approach to mitigate the impact of flooding in Panchayat Kotli Shah Doula, RS Pura constituency. Sharma managed a JCB machine to ensure the smooth flow of flooded water, which had entered residential houses, damaging roads, infrastructure, household items, and eatables.

Sharma's timely intervention helped to reduce waterlogging in the area, prevent further damage to property and infrastructure and facilitate relief efforts for affected residents. Sharma also reviewed the losses incurred due to the torrential rains and urged authorities to conduct a sincere survey to assess the damage.

He emphasized the need for suitable compensation to flood victims to help them recover from the devastating impact of the floods.

Sharma's efforts highlight the need for govern-



ment support to affected families.

The demand for compensation is crucial in helping residents rebuild their lives and restore their livelihoods.

The recent floods in Jammu have caused widespread destruction, with over 3,500 residents evacuated and multiple bridges damaged.

The Meteorological Department has issued a red alert for seven Jammu

districts, warning of heavy to very heavy rainfall, thunderstorms, and potential hailstorms.

Narinder applauded Indian Army, NDRF, SDRF, local authorities for working in close coordination together to rescue those stranded and provide relief to affected areas.

The situation remains critical, and cautioned public to remain alert and safe at homes and don't leave homes unless it is extremely necessary.

## 21 day training programme for Master Trainers concludes at CTI HG/CD Kot Bhalwal

TT CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, AUG. 27 : Twenty one day Training programme for Master Trainers concluded today at CTI HG/CD Kot Bhalwal Jammu.

The valedictory function was graced by Dy. Inspector General HG/CD & SDRF Jammu, Mohammad Arshad as the Chief Guest. The event

began with a welcome address by Dy.SP Dev Raj, Principal CTI HG/CD Kot Bhalwal, who extended a warm welcome to the dignitaries and participants.

The Dy. Inspector General HG/CD & SDRF Jammu commended the participants for successfully completing the training and highlighted the

importance of Disaster Management skills in mitigating the loss of life and property during emergencies and motivating civil society to serve people.

He urged the trainees to share their expertise with the community and actively contribute during any disaster.

He also emphasized the significance of the spe-

cialized training in CBRN (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear) disaster response, which has equipped the participants with advanced knowledge and capabilities to act as Master Trainers, thereby strengthening the overall disaster response framework.

Later, the Dy. Inspector

General HG/CD & SDRF Jammu gave away certificates to the trainees.

The culmination ceremony was attended by Dy. SP, Staff Officer to DIG HG/CD & SDRF Jammu Tajinder Kour, and Dy.SP, Dev Raj, Principal CTI Kot Bhalwal, Jammu, along with other officers/officials and trainees.