

## Rana reviews measures to address water woes in Habbakadal constituency



**GY CORRESPONDENT SRINAGAR, SEP 16**  
Jal Shakti Minister Javed Ahmed Rana today convened a meeting with senior officials of the Jal Shakti Department to address the ongoing water supply challenges in Habbakadal Constituency and its adjoining areas. During the meeting, Rana emphasized the need for urgent and sustained interventions to improve water distribution and service delivery. He directed officials to prepare and implement a structured water supply roster aimed at ensuring timely and predictable distribution of water supply to all areas within the constituency. To provide immediate

relief in water-stressed areas, the Minister directed to install ten new hand pumps, particularly in localities where piped water supply remains inconsistent. The Minister also underscored the importance of upgrading critical water infrastructure, including ageing pipelines, pump stations, and filtration systems. Rana reaffirmed the Omar Abdullah Government's commitment to strengthen water services and infrastructure across Jammu & Kashmir, particularly in urban areas like Habbakadal facing supply constraints. Officials were instructed to identify existing bottlenecks and submit a

phase wise plan for infrastructure modernization to ensure a reliable and sustainable water supply system. The meeting also agreed on the construction of a new water reservoir in Habbakadal, aimed at enhancing storage capacity and bolster the area's water security. In response to the damage caused by recent floods, the Minister also directed immediate desilting and restoration of the ghats at Nawakadal and Alikadal. During the meeting, MLA Habbakadal, Shamim Firdous conveyed the concerns of the local residents, particularly in light of recurring water shortages and the damage to water infrastructure caused by recent floods.

## Sakeena Itoo reviews power sector scenario in Kulgam district

*Directs for reliable, affordable power supply, transparency in billing*

**GY CORRESPONDENT SRINAGAR, SEP 16**

Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo today chaired a meeting at Civil Secretariat here and conducted an extensive review of the electricity supply and distribution framework in Kulgam district. The meeting was attended by MD KPDCIL, Mehmoond Shah; SPDCIL Secretary, Power Development Department; Chief Engineer KPDCIL, SE KPDCIL Bijbehara; Executive Engineer KPDCIL, Kulgam; all Assistant Executive Engineers of Kulgam and other concerned officers. During the meeting, the Minister took detailed assessment of ground-level challenges, gauge the adequacy of power infrastructure and address consumer grievances, besides



measures taken for augmentation of power infrastructure in the district. Speaking during the meeting, Minister Sakeena expressed serious concern over arbitrary and unjustified hikes in electricity bills of common masses, particularly belonging to lower income families, causing acute distress among households. She stressed upon the officers to ensure reliable power supply, affordability and

transparency in billing. The Minister impressed upon the Chief Engineer KPDCIL to conduct load survey in the district before any hike in power tariffs is made. She also asked the Executive Engineer to submit a detailed report regarding load revisions carried across the district in last three years. The Minister also asked the officers to organise grievance camps in D.H. Pora, Malwan, Khull and other far off areas having

maximum disputes related to arbitrary hike in power bills. She also asked them to implement stringent monitoring mechanisms to prevent any arbitrary escalation in electricity charges. She further instructed the PDD officers to conduct thorough audits of billing systems and load sanction to ensure accuracy and fairness in consumer billing practices. Sakeena reaffirmed the Government's

commitment to providing uninterrupted, affordable and efficient electricity supply to every citizen, adding that any malpractice in billing or power distribution will not be tolerated at all. Meanwhile, during the meeting, the Minister also took stock of ongoing works regarding the establishment of 10 MVA Receiving Station at Manzanag, aimed to strengthen the power infrastructure in the area. She directed the officers to work with dedication so that the project can be completed before the actual date of completion. The Minister added that after the completion of project, a long-pending demand of the people of the area will be fulfilled as it is expected to significantly augment the power supply scenario, ensuring improved electricity availability and reliability for the residents.

## DC reviews execution of Beripatan-Jhallas Road Project

*Discusses measures to resolve bottlenecks*



**GY CORRESPONDENT RAJOURI, SEP 16**  
Deputy Commissioner Rajouri Abhishek Sharma today chaired an important meeting with concerned departments and executing agencies to

review and resolve issues related to the execution of Beripatan to Jhallas road project, being executed by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) under the PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan.

The road project, which is crucial for improving rural connectivity, has pending issues like assessment of structures, fruit trees and non-fruit trees at some sites. Taking note of the issues, the Deputy Commissioner directed all concerned departments to expedite the process and submit the assessment reports at the earliest. He emphasized that timely resolution of these issues is crucial for maintaining the momentum of the project, which is of strategic and developmental importance.

The meeting was attended by the AC Defence, Israr Ahmed; OC BRO 58 RCC, Ankit Uniyal; DFO Nowshera, Shweta Deona; DHO, Shafiqat Khan and other concerned officers.

**GY CORRESPONDENT KATHUA, SEP 16**

The Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB) on Tuesday announced that the pilgrimage to the holy shrine will resume from September 17, 2025 (Wednesday), subject to favorable weather conditions. In a statement on X, the Board has advised devotees to remain updated through official communication channels regarding the status of the Yatra. "Following the cloudburst in the Ardhkuwari section, rescue operations were immediately launched to ensure the safety of all pilgrims and locals. The route has now been cleared, and teams are continuously monitoring the situation," an official said, as per the news agency. He said that all necessary arrangements, including security, medical aid and traffic management are being taken into consideration to ensure the safe resumption of the Vaishno Devi Yatra. The pilgrimage had remained suspended since August 26, 2025, following heavy rainfall that triggered a landslide and a cloudburst in the Ardhkuwari section, causing casualties and rendering the route unsafe.

## DECC Jammu hosts training programme for BPMs, cluster coordinators under Mission YUVA



**GY CORRESPONDENT JAMMU, SEP 16**  
The District Employment and Counselling Centre (DECC) Jammu conducted a one-day Mission YUVA orientation programme for BPMs and cluster coordinators of NRLM here at the Employment Complex Toph Sherkhania. The training was held in two sessions to orient participants on the core objectives of Mission YUVA and to strengthen implementation strategies

at the grassroots level. Officials briefed the attendees on the mission's key goals, including youth engagement, career guidance, skill development and employment facilitation. The sessions included live demonstrations and practical guidance on improving the effectiveness of Mission YUVA. Participants were briefed on their roles and responsibilities, coordination mechanisms and outreach strategies to connect with youth across clusters.

BA 7th Semester. At Srinagar, the event was graced by the presence of Rafi Ahmed Bhat, Regional Director JKDEERS. Others present were Prof. (Dr.) Mudisar Afshan, Principal GDC, Bemina, Tanvir Ahmed, Prof. Mubashir Jeelani, HOD Env. Science, Mass Media Officer JKDEERS, Prof. Niyaz Ahmed, Noted Social Activist Nazir Bhat, Sheikh Ansuman, Information Officer EIACP staff, the faculty members and a large gathering of students also attended the function. A total of 100 participants attended the function. Around 70 students enthusiastically took part in the Ozone Quiz Competition.

## DC Kathua flags off women farmers for exposure tour under HADP



**GY CORRESPONDENT KATHUA, SEP 16**  
Deputy Commissioner Kathua Rajesh Sharma today flagged off a group of 40 women farmers and Self Help Group members for a three-day training-cum-exposure visit to Palampur University, Himachal Pradesh, organised under the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP). The initiative has been designed to acquaint the participants with modern agricultural practices, advanced technologies and innovative methods of farming with a special focus on organic farming, mushroom cultivation and allied activities. Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner highlighted that the training will not only enhance the knowledge base of participants but also prepare them to act as Master Trainers to further disseminate the learnings among the farming community in Kathua district. He said the holistic training modules are intended to

promote sustainable farming practices, strengthen the role of women in agriculture and create new livelihood avenues. The DC further underlined the pivotal role women play in nation-building, asserting that they are moving shoulder to shoulder with men in every sphere of life, including agriculture and allied sectors. He encouraged the participants to act as role models for fellow farmers and also appealed to the youth to take maximum benefit of government-sponsored schemes, subsidies and training opportunities being rolled out under HADP. Chief Agriculture Officer Kathua, Jatinder Kumar informed that the exposure visit is specifically provided under the 'Promotion of Oil Seeds' component of HADP. He said the department is committed to organising regular training programmes, exposure visits and awareness camps to build the capacities of farmers

in adopting modern agricultural practices. The women farmers and SHG members expressed gratitude to the District Administration and Agriculture Department for facilitating the exposure visit.

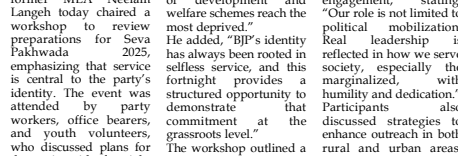
## JKDEERS celebrates World Ozone Day

**GY CORRESPONDENT JAMMU, SEP 16**  
To mark the World Ozone Day, the Department of Ecology, Environment & Remote Sensing (DEERS) - EIACP Hub, JKDEERS, organized events at both Jammu and Srinagar. A symposium competition on the topic "Scientific Discoveries and global actions for ozone layer protection" was held at MIER College and a Quiz Competition at Department of Environmental Science, Abdul Ahad Azad Memorial College, GDC Bemina Srinagar. The events were aimed at raising awareness about the importance of the ozone layer and the need to protect it, aligning with

this year's global theme "From Science to Global Action". At Jammu, the event was graced by Dr. Rajan Singh, Coordinator EIACP & JK Hub, who delivered an expert lecture focusing on significance of the Ozone Layer and the recent scientific developments in ozone monitoring and protection. Others present were Dr. Kirti Joshi, PO-EIACP, Anil Sharma, RO and Prof. Nithya, Dr. Monica Bajaj and Suman Gupta, Aditi Gupta & Mrs Gupta from MIER College. Around 120 students along with staff members participated in the event. In the symposium competition first prize was won by Aditi Gupta,

BA 7th Semester. At Srinagar, the event was graced by the presence of Rafi Ahmed Bhat, Regional Director JKDEERS. Others present were Prof. (Dr.) Mudisar Afshan, Principal GDC, Bemina, Tanvir Ahmed, Prof. Mubashir Jeelani, HOD Env. Science, Mass Media Officer JKDEERS, Prof. Niyaz Ahmed, Noted Social Activist Nazir Bhat, Sheikh Ansuman, Information Officer EIACP staff, the faculty members and a large gathering of students also attended the function. A total of 100 participants attended the function. Around 70 students enthusiastically took part in the Ozone Quiz Competition.

## Neelam Langeh reviews 'Seva Pakhwada 2025' preparations



**GY CORRESPONDENT RAMBAN, SEP 16**  
BJP District President and former MLA Neelam Langeh today chaired a workshop to review preparations for Seva Pakhwada 2025, emphasizing that service is central to the party's identity. The event was attended by party workers, office bearers, and youth volunteers, who discussed plans for the nationwide fortnight of service, observed from September 17 to October 2 to commemorate the birthdays of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Mahatma Gandhi. Addressing the gathering, Langeh said, "Seva Pakhwada is not just an event; it is a mission to connect with the last person in society. Through service, we aim

to carry forward the vision of Antyodaya, ensuring that the benefits of development and welfare schemes reach the most deprived." He added, "BJP's identity has always been rooted in selfless service, and this fortnight provides a structured opportunity to demonstrate that commitment at the grassroots level." The workshop outlined a comprehensive plan for activities, including blood donation camps, health check-ups, plantation drives, cleanliness campaigns, distribution of Ayushman Bharat health cards, awareness drives on government schemes, and programs to honor senior citizens and freedom fighters. Langeh urged karyakartas to actively

participate in each initiative and ensure maximum public engagement, stating, "Our role is not limited to political mobilization. Real leadership is reflected in how we serve society, especially the marginalized, with humility and dedication." Participants also discussed strategies to enhance outreach in both rural and urban areas, with a special focus on youth and women's participation to create a wider social impact. The workshop concluded with Langeh reaffirming the BJP's commitment to transforming service into a people-centric movement, asserting that Seva Pakhwada 2025 will showcase the party's collective responsibility toward the nation.