

# JAMMU & KASHMIR

## After the snowfall: CM Omar monitors restoration process

DCs to assess progress in restoration of essential services

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, DEC 29

In the aftermath of the recent heavy snowfall, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Sunday chaired a comprehensive meeting with Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs) and Deputy Commissioners (DCs) of the Kashmir Division via video conferencing.

The meeting was held at the Raabita Public Outreach Office to assess the ongoing restoration efforts and review the status of essential services, including snow clearance, power and water supply, health facilities and other critical services.

During the meeting, MLAs across the party lines appreciated the efforts of CM-led Administration in swift response to snowfall, acknowledging the commitment of Government in times of weather adversities.

Minister Javaid Ahmad Dar attended the meeting as legislator.

Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani, along with other senior officers, were present during the meeting.

At the outset, the Chief Minister sought feedback from MLAs across party lines regarding the restoration measures in their respective constituencies.

Discussions centered on snow clearance operations, the restoration of power and water supply and the provision of other essential



services and supplies.

The Chief Minister also held one-on-one discussions with Deputy Commissioners of the Kashmir Valley and snow-affected districts of Jammu Division.

The DCs provided updates on the current situation and detailed the measures taken to restore normalcy, particularly in challenging weather conditions.

During the meeting, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah urged officers to remain sensitive and responsive to public grievances, directing them to identify gaps in service delivery and take immediate corrective actions.

He emphasized the need to minimize hardships faced by the common people and praised the dedication of the Divisional Commissioners, Deputy

Commissioners and employees who have been working tirelessly in adverse climatic conditions.

Looking ahead, the Chief Minister called for enhanced preparedness in light of the snowfall forecast for the following week.

He instructed officials to improve action plans based on lessons learnt from recent weather events.

The Chief Minister emphasized the need to prioritize snow clearance on link roads, inner lanes, and by-lanes to ensure accessibility for residents.

He directed the Jal Shakti Department (PHE) to address water supply issues promptly and enhance the deployment of water tankers in affected areas.

CM Omar Abdullah instructed Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) and concerned departments to

implement measures to prevent waterlogging in low-lying areas.

Stressing the importance of smooth traffic movement on the National Highway, the Chief Minister called for enhanced coordination between the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), Traffic Police, and District Administrations.

Chief Minister stressed the importance of continuous monitoring and synergy among various departments to avoid any inconvenience to the public.

Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, Additional Chief Secretary to the Chief Minister Dheeraj Gupta, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, Divisional Commissioner Jammu and other senior civil administration officials also participated in the meeting virtually.

## Union Minister addresses public durbar in Ramban, many issues disposed of on-the-spot

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JAMMU, DEC 29

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Earth Sciences, MoS, PMO, Department of Atomic Energy, Department of Space, Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Dr Jitendra Singh today held a "Public Durbar" and directly interacted with groups and delegations of public, in the presence of senior Central govt officers including those from NHAI and UT government officers led by Deputy Commissioner.

This was Dr Jitendra Singh's second such public durbar at Ramban in recent months.

Several on the spot decisions were taken. Dr Jitendra Singh gave a patient listening and for each matter, issued immediate instructions to the officers of the concerned department.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, the government has taken several path breaking measures in the last decade to scale up infrastructure development in Ramban district of Jammu and Kashmir.

The Minister said, during the period, the steps taken were two-pronged. The first and foremost was to overcome the deprivations of the past as well as resume the stalled projects, and lat-



ter to initiate ambitious projects to boost connectivity in the district.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, earlier the travel from Jammu to Ramban would take an entire day; now, the distance is covered less than two hours. He stated that Dr Syama Prasad Mukherjee Tunnel connecting Ramban with Udhampur is one such example of boosting connectivity in the region. He said the area is also now replete with a string of other tunnels enhancing ease of travel for commuters. Highlighting the significance of landmark Dr Syama Prasad Mukherjee Tunnel, he said it will become a source of inspiration for next generations, reminding them

about the life and struggles of Dr Mukherjee who was taken through this route to Kashmir and killed.

The Union Minister said that the government is focussed on bringing state-of-the-art facilities to rural areas of the country under the auspices of Prashasan Gaon Ki Aur programme, and improving grievance redressal mechanism besides ushering in more transparency in governance.

Highlighting the role of public representatives in governance, he said members of the PRIs have been instrumental in reaching services to the grassroots and alleviating public sufferings. He said together with the district administra-

tion, these representatives have formed an essential part of the team to serve common citizens in the last 10 years. Dr Jitendra Singh expressed the hope that the team will get strengthened with the participation of newly elected MLAs to better serve the people and improve their living standards matching the constituents of the national mainstream.

The Union Minister chaired a public durbar alongside the officials of the district administration, during which he listened to the issues of several delegations. On the occasion, a host of public grievances were redressed and matters of public importance were disposed of on the spot.

## Kids Planet Pre-School celebrates Annual Day

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, DEC 29

Kids Planet Pre-School, celebrated its much-awaited Annual Day Function with grandeur and enthusiasm at the Government Polytechnic College Auditorium, Bikram Chowk, Jammu. Themed "Rainbow-Unity in Diversity," the event was a vibrant showcase of cultural harmony, inclusivity, and the creative talents of tiny toddlers. The school management, led by Chairman Ravi Gupta as the Chief Guest, Director Kanchan Gupta as the Guest of Honour graced the occasion with their presence.

Principal Shilpa Kalsotra extended a warm welcome to all dignitaries and parents, emphasizing the school's commitment to fostering creativity and promoting unity among children from diverse backgrounds. The event commenced with a heartfelt welcome address by Principal Shilpa Kalsotra, followed by the ceremonial



lighting of the lamp and a bouquet presentation to the Chief Guest.

"The Annual Day Function 2024 was a memorable celebration that not only highlighted the talents of the students but also reinforced the importance of cultural harmony and teamwork," said Director Mrs Kanchan Gupta.

"This year's celebration stands as a testament to Kids Planet Pre-School's commitment to holistic education and fostering a vibrant, inclusive community for its students," she added. The atmosphere was

filled with excitement as the program unfolded, featuring a series of captivating performances that left the audience enthralled.

The celebrations began with a Ganesh Vandana by students followed by melodious welcome song by the teachers, setting a joyful tone for the day.

The graceful Ganesh Vandana, was invoking blessings for the success of the event. A Qawwali performance mesmerized the audience, while the Play Group (Papa, Jingle Bell, New Year) delighted everyone with their charming fes-

sive songs. Audience also enjoyed the regional soulful songs of Dogri and Punjabi performed by the little champs. The event also celebrated the students' achievements through prize distributions, which were interspersed between the performances. Levels II and III showcased their patriotism with a stirring Patriotic Song and a Mobile Act that highlighted modern-day social messages. Karate demonstrations by Levels II and III exhibited the students' physical agility and discipline, leaving the audience in awe.

## DC G'bal reviews snow clearance ops, restoration of essential services

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In the wake of the recent snowfall, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Shyambir, convened a meeting of district officers today to review snow clearance operations and the restoration of essential services across the district, here.

During the meeting, the DC conducted a thorough assessment of the situation and directed the mobilization of additional manpower and machinery to ensure all major and link roads are cleared on a war footing. He emphasized that no inconvenience should be caused to the public due to delays.

The DC instructed the departments to submit tehsil-wise updates regarding progress of snow clearance and restoration of affected services to his office for effective monitoring.



Sharing the details, Exen R&B Division Ganderbal reported that out of 449 km of roads under their jurisdiction, 418 km have been cleared while the remaining stretches shall be cleared by today.

Similarly, Executing Engineer PMGSY informed that 106 km out of 135 km of roads under their purview have been cleared. The DC also directed manual clearance for areas inaccessible to machinery including upper reaches of the district.

The Mechanical Department confirmed the clear-

ance of all roads under their jurisdiction, while EO Municipality reported that all inner links have been cleared in the town.

Regarding power restoration, SE, KPDCI informed that all receiving stations are fully functional in the district besides replacement/ repairing of damaged transformers is also under progress.

Meanwhile, DC directed him to ensure the prompt replacement of damaged transformers across the district.

The Chief Medical Officer

(CMO) Ganderbal provided an briefed regarding the medical facilities, staff rosters & attendance.

He stated that heating systems at the District Hospital and Sub-District Hospital are functioning as scheduled.

The DC instructed the CMO to share tehsil-wise staff rosters for further monitoring.

While concluding the meeting, DC stressed on the need for continuous monitoring of the situation, timely restoration of affected services, and the establishment of a robust monitoring mechanism to ensure effective service delivery to the public.

The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Gulzar Ahmad, SE KPDCI Ganderbal, CMO, Executive Engineers of R&B, PMGSY, EO Municipal Council Ganderbal, In-charge Control Room and other concerned officials.

## J&K's Ruksana Kousar shines at OTA Gwalior Girls Battalion

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Lieutenant Ruksana Kousar of 1 J&K Girls Battalion NCC, Srinagar, has successfully completed the Pre-Commission Course (PRCN) at the Officers Training Academy (OTA), Gwalior. Graduating with an 'A' grade, Lieutenant Ruksana demonstrated academic excellence, leadership and operational expertise throughout the training.

She performed duties of Platoon Senior, managed responsibilities as Camp Adjutant during Exercise



"Shakti" and earned a Certificate of Excellence in firing for her outstanding marksmanship. Her contributions to the National In-

tegration Awareness Programme (NIAP) through a vibrant Assamese-Manipuri cultural performance further highlighted her

commitment to fostering unity and diversity. Additionally, she was recognized as Performer of the Month for her impeccable turnout. The ANO anchored cultural events, participated in the Flag Area Exercise and served as the English Editor for the 10th edition of the OTA Newsletter.

Lieutenant Ruksana's achievements are a testament to her dedication, competence and leadership. Major General Anupinder Bevi, VSM, Additional Director General, NCC Dte, Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh, felicitated the ANO and appreciated her achievements.

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Deputy Commissioner Shopian, Mohammad Shahid Saleem Dar, today visited Heerpora village to review the snow clearance operations on Mughal Road.

He was accompanied by ADDC, Dr.Nasir Ahmad Lone, ADC, Dr. Zakir Husain Faaz and other officers & officials of MED & Police.

The DC emphasized the importance of clearing snow from the vital road which serves connecting link between Shopian and the Pir Pangal region.

He also stated that the snow clearance shall be completed upto Peer Ki Gali by tomorrow provided fair weather conditions.

During his visit, the DC



took stock of the snow clearance efforts ensuring that the road is cleared as soon as possible to facilitate smooth transportation and accessibility for residents

and travelers.

He also directed the concerned agencies to gear up their activities by deploying more snow cutters.

The visit demonstrates

the district administration's commitment to minimizing disruptions and ensuring smooth vehicular movement during the winter season.