

LATEST

Chief Secretary e-inaugurates 44 Aspirational Blocks



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By editor



A new era of development will begin in these blocks The Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta today e-inaugurated 44 Aspirational Blocks under Aspirational Block Development Programme in presence of Manoj Kumar Dwivedi, Principal Secretary, General Administration Department, Sushma Chauhan, Secretary, Planning Development & Monitoring Department, and other senior officers of department.

Divisional Commissioner, Jammu and District Development Commissioners of all the districts attended the e-inauguration through virtual mode from their respective offices. The Chief Secretary said that the Aspirational Block Development Programme is a step towards equitable and inclusive development in J&K.

He said the developmental realities of these blocks have been different from those, which are not part of this programme and, therefore, an affirmative action for these blocks was long overdue. “The programme is expected to usher in a new era of development in these blocks,” he said.

Earlier in her presentation, Secretary, Planning Development & Monitoring Department, informed that Aspirational Block Development Programme is aimed at achieving holistic development of the 44 most backward blocks in J&K.

These most backward blocks (2 most backward blocks from each District) have been selected as Aspirational Blocks based on their socio-economic backwardness on 21

parameters/indicators covering sectors like poverty, education, health & infrastructure in consultation with NITI Aayog,

Under the programme, the District Development Commissioners will prepare Aspirational Block Development Programme Plan in convergence with other schemes in the block.

Asum of Rs. one crore per block has been earmarked under the programme and the District Development Commissioners will be the focal point for this programme, who will designate Nodal Officers for each such block in their districts for its implementation.

Dr. Mehta informed that for proper implementation of the programme, Senior Secretaries will be designated as Prabhari Officers of these blocks and each Secretary will be assigned more than one block for mentoring/supervision of the programme.

The Chief Secretary advised DDCs to explore innovative ways having regard to the unique challenges/ constraints in their areas for improving the socio-economic status of these backward blocks under the programme.

He further said that a mid-term appraisal of these blocks will also be carried out after 3-4 months for any necessary mid course policy changes.

Major achievement of 2021 major challenge for in Kashmir: IGP

"This year there was no collateral damage during encounters. Not a single civilian was killed in law and order incidents," he said. He said curbing rickshaw-trade will also be a top priority for the police besides preventing crime against women.

Kumar said that peaceful burial of senior separatist leader Syed Ali Geedari was the major achievement of the year. "There was no law and order incident and burial remained peaceful. So, I count this as the major achievement for police for the year 2021," he added.

The IGP said that only court has the authority to decide whether SIT probe into the Hyderpora encounter was having any flaw and that political leaders should refrain from "instigating people by terming police probe as fake."

He said that court is the only authority to decide whether SIT probe into Hyderpora encounter was having any flaw. "Families of slain, media organizations, and political leaders have no right to pass judgments on the police probe by terming it fake etc. Families of slain can demand a probe by NIA, CBI and others if they feel dissatisfied with the police investigation," said Kumar. He urged political leaders to refrain from instigating people by questioning police probe.

DB directive in PIL on Patnitop illegal constructions

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Dec 31: In a PIL filed by Harsharan Singh, a Hotelier/Owner of Krystal Hotel and Restaurant seeking demolition of the illegal/unauthorized buildings raised in Green Belt/areas of Patnitop, Division Bench of the High Court comprising Chief Justice Parkaj Mittal and Justice Javed light. Wam has granted six weeks time to counsel for the CBI for producing the notification for the prosecution of the offenders.

When the PIL came up for hearing, Advocate Monika Kahlid, counsel for the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), submitted that the CBI has completed the investigation and the other formalities for the prosecution of the offenders but the notification is awaited from the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT), Government of India.

44 Aspirational Blocks e-inaugurated CS directs RDD to speed up execution of works

Directs YSS, S&T, Estates to complete targeted works by March

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Dec 31: The Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta today directed the Rural Development Department to gear up to meet annual capex targets for sustainable, people-centric development in the rural landscape of J&K.

He made this observation



Chief Secretary, A.K. Mehta chairing a meeting on Friday.

while reviewing the Capex of the department in which Commissioner/Secretary, Rural Development Department and other senior officers of the department were present.

The Chief Secretary directed the department to ensure that tendering is followed in all works in the department, and all administratively approved and technical sanctioned works are allotted expeditiously in a transparent manner.

Dr. Mehta directed the department to meet the target of 30000 works under capex and saturate all the eligibility cases under PMAY-G with first installment by the end of the current fiscal year.

The Chief Secretary directed the department to cover all villages under Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) during the current year besides targeting 4 Lakh Mahila Kiosks under Mahila Kiosk Sashaktikaran Pariyojana Scheme (MKSPS) in the next year for creating sustainable livelihood options for women in the rural areas.

In her presentation, Commissioner/Secretary, Rural Development Department informed that the ongoing departmental works both in the category of non convergence and con-

vergence works will be completed during the current fiscal year.

The Chief Secretary directed the department to prepare a compendium of fully functional 3000 Panchayat Ghars with geotagged photographs. He further directed the department to ensure that all Panchayat Ghars were supplied with computers by the end of January next year.

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Dr. Mehta directed the department to explore the possibility of generating energy from biomass in Kathmir Valley, besides considering setting up of one plant in J&K for fuel generation from plastic wastes.

He asked the department to think about providing Solar Light options in Karul areas.

Principal Secretary, Estates in his presentation informed that about equal number of heads of departments are working in both the capital cities of the UT and that after the practice of Darbar Move was stopped, work in offices across J&K is going on smoothly.

Dr. Mehta advised the department to improve the aesthetics of the entrance of the secretariat by de-congesting the area in and around the lawns and reimagining the existing landscape design so that the front yard of the secretariat becomes aesthetically pleasing.

Meanwhile, Chief Secretary, e-inaugurated 44 Aspirational Blocks under Aspirational Block Development Programme in presence of Lt. Governor, Kamini Dikshit, Lt. Chief Secretary, General Administration Department, Assistant Secretary, Planning Development

LG greets people on New Year

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Dec 31: Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, has greeted the people of Jammu and Kashmir on the joyous occasion of New Year.

In a message, the Lt Governor said that as we welcome the dawn of a New Year, we should build upon the achievements of the past year in striving for the realization of our dreams.

"On the eve of the New Year, I want to assure all the citizens that Jammu and Kashmir administration will work with renewed resolve for the welfare of the people. We are entering 2022 with a sense of confidence and purpose to sustain the upward curve of inclusive socio-economic development in the UT. May the New Year bring peace, progress, prosperity, health and happiness to all," the Lt Governor added.

On this occasion, we should also remember and pay homage to all the brave hearts who sacrificed their present for our future, said the Lt Governor.

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CS e-inaugurates 44 Aspirational Blocks

By **Northlines** -
January 1, 2022



CS reviews situation in J&K

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