

# Sham inaugurates WSS, lays foundation of Filtration Plant

**Excelsior Correspondent**

BUDGAM, Sept 4: With a view to further improve the drinking water scenario in the rural areas, Minister for PHE, Irrigation & Flood Control, Sham Lal Sharma today inaugurated Water Supply Scheme (WSS) at Gogo Check Laxmanpora and laid foundation stone of Filtration Plant at Hayatpora Qaisermulla in Budgam district.

The Water Supply Scheme has been developed at an estimated cost of Rs. 2.37 crore and will cater to the drinking water needs of over 7000 population of half a dozen habitations falling under Chadoora PHE Division.

Similarly, the Filtration Plant of Water Supply Scheme Hayatpora Qaisermulla will cost Rs. 65 lakh. The plant will have the capacity of 0.40 MGD and will benefit over 27,000 souls of over 20 habitations.

MLA Budgam, Aga Syed Ruhullah Mehdi was present at Laxmanpora and MLA, Chadoora, Javed Mustafa Mir was present at Hayatpora.

Addressing a large gathering of people at Hayatpora after laying foundation stone of the filtration plant, the Minister said that Government was committed to provide better facilities to the people in every nook and corner of the State. He said the Government has been working under a well-knit development programme with a special focus to upgrade the basic services to

the funds have already been made available to the agency for the purpose. On the occasion, the Minister directed the engineers to monitor the performance of all Water Supply Schemes in the



Minister for PHE Sham Lal Sharma laying foundation stone of Filtration Plant at Budgam on Wednesday.

the people. He asked the people to cooperate with the Government so that it can carry out the developmental schemes ensuring their time-bound completion.

Congratulating the people for the new facilities, the Minister said that with the commissioning of PHE scheme, the people will get uninterrupted supply of neat and clean drinking water. Regarding the filtration plant, he said the scheme has already been developed and plant will be completed in a stipulated time frame. He said

area to ensure their efficacy. He asked the employees to work with extra zeal and dedication to maintain the essential services to the people. He emphasized the need for improving the work culture, especially at the grass root level. He also urged the Panchayat functionaries to supervise the functioning of the department, particularly at the PHE station level to ensure regularity of drinking water supply, adding that this is their mandate as well.

Chief Engineer, PHE, A.M. Lanker, prominent local leaders including, Gulam Nabi Mir Lasjan, Master Maqbool, Farooq Andrabi, Showket Raina, Syed Abdul Rashid also accompanied the Minister.

## Committee to examine issues related to selection of teachers

**Excelsior Correspondent**

SRINAGAR, Sept 4: The State Government today constituted a Committee headed by Advocate General to examine the matter pertaining to selection of teachers for district Kupwara and its quashment by Single Bench and Divisional Bench and application of non-select candidates for appointment.

Secretary, General Administrative Department, Secretary, Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs and Chairman, Service Selection Board will be members of the committee which has been asked to submit its report within one week.

# Vikar for timely completion of construction works

**Excelsior Correspondent**

BANIHAL, Sept 4: Minister of State for Technical Education, CA&PD, Power and Information, Vikar Rasool Wani, convened a meeting of officers of Revenue, PWD, RDD, PMGSY, Education, PDD and IRCON to take stock of progress on various development works being done under these departments here today.

Additional District Development Commissioner, Pardeep Kumar, XEn PWD, Abdul Rashid Shaikh, Tehsildar Banihal Dr. Usman, BDO, ZEO, Engineers and officers of various department and IRCON company attended the meeting.

While speaking on occasion, the Minister asked the officers of IRCON to complete the Water Lifting project for the surrounding villages of the Railway Project Banihal at the earliest. He also instructed the officers to manage water supply to the people of the area through existing line till said project is completed.

Vikar directed the XEn PWD to complete the ongoing construction work of ITI Banihal and various school buildings of the teshil within prescribed time besides making functional all the completed buildings. He also reviewed the ongoing road Projects under various schemes and stressed upon the Engineers to speed up the work so that these projects could be done in time. He directed the officers to take strict action against those people who are responsible for delay of construction works and complete the tendering process of various projects under BRGF. He further asked the officers to start the work on Bus Stand Banihal.

The Minister asked the Tehsildar to visit the spot with concerned BDO, ZEO and AEE to settle the issue of land for construction of school accommodation in various schools of the teshil.

Later, the Minister inspected the construction work on NH1 to Takyra road.

A deputation from the area also met the Minister and apprised him of their demands and problems.

# Students block Mendhar-Surankote road for 2 hrs

**Excelsior Correspondent**

MENDHAR, Sept 4: The students of class 9th and 10th of Government High School, Jaran Wali Gali, today blocked Mendhar-Surankote road at Jaran Wali Gali to protest against the non-availability of mathematics teacher in the School for last four years.

The students who were accompanied by their parents and other locals blocked the aforesaid road for about two hours (9am to 11am) and disrupted the traffic movement. The protesting students raised slogans against the Chief Education Officer, Poonch, Director School Education Officer, Jammu and Education Minister, Tara Chand.

The protesting students alleged that in the absence of mathematics teacher, many students of the school have failed in the subject during last four years but the authorities have shown no concern with it. Knowing everything, they have just closed their eyes and failed to arrange a mathematics teacher for the School having a good strength of 320 students.

## Absconder held

**Excelsior Correspondent**

JAMMU, Sept 4: Police today arrested an absconder, who was evading arrest for past 15 years.

He has been identified as Narinder Singh son of Natha Singh, a resident of Kharota, Kathua.

He had been booked at Kathua police station in 1998 under Sections 420 and 406 RPC but had been evading arrest.

A Kathua police station team headed by SHO Inspector SD Singh made the arrest.

# Govt to set up spiritual museum at Charar-e-Sharief

**Excelsior Correspondent**

SRINAGAR, Sept 4: Government today decided to set up a state-of-the-art spiritual museum near revered shrine of Hazrat-e-Sheikh Noor-ud-Din Wali (RA) at Charar-e-Sharief. The concerned authorities of Yusmarg Development Authority and Tourism Department were asked to initiate measures for this purpose at an earliest.

The decision to set up this effect was taken at the 5th meeting of Yusmarg Development Authority (YDA), convened here today to approve current year's works plan and review on-going Tourism Development Works at the world famous tourist destination of Yusmarg.

The Minister for Tourism, Gulam Ahmad Mir chaired the meeting where as the Minister for Finance and Ladakh Affairs, Abdul Rahim Rather, who is also present in the meeting.

The meeting also decided to develop Kanidajan and Nagbal-two villages adjacent to Yusmarg as tourist villages. In this regard, the authority members directed to convert 10 houses each as guest houses in these villages and for the purpose the Government would provide subsidies to the house holders.

The meeting was informed that Centre has approved Rs. 3.97 crore for construction of a modern TRC at world famous destination Yusmarg. Another two mega tourism development projects worth Rs. 9.90 crore for development and providing added tourism related infrastructure to Yusmarg as a major adventure tourism attraction are in pipeline.

The Master Plan for Yusmarg Development Authority, which has recently been approved by the State Cabinet also come up for discussion. The meeting also approved current year's Action Plan of Rs. 2 crore and directed the concerned authorities to ensure time-bound completion of all on-going tourism related works being executed under the authority.

On this occasion, a power point presentation on various programmes and tourism developmental activities under execution at Yusmarg was also presented by Chief Executive Officer.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Rather urged for developing Yusmarg as a major hub of adventure tourist activities, adding that this beautiful resort is surrounded by unique and natural green-lush fresh meadows like Bargah, Drugdolan etc. He also urged to work for the proposed Gandola project from Yusmarg to Nilnag and Yusmarg to Bargah, adding that this facility would give big boost to tourism promotion activities in the area.

Mr. Rather asked for opening more trekking routes up to meadows surrounding Yusmarg and urged for expediting work on construction of Gandola from Yusmarg to Nilnag and Bargah as a long term and chair lift as a short term tourism attraction measures.

The Tourism Minister urged for strict adherence to the Master Plan. He asked to check the violations, saying that un-planned growth will spoil the picturesque essence of this tourist destination which is considered a great source of mental peace and recreation to the visitors, as the place is yet free from concrete structures.

Commissioner Secretary, Tourism, Atul Dulo, Director General Accounts and Treasuries, Dr. Isaq, District Development Commissioner, Budgam, Khurshid Ahmad Shah, Director Tourism, Kashmir, Talat Parvez, Managing Director Cable Car Corporation, Tufail Mattoo, Managing Director JKTC, Shamim Ahmad Wani, Chief Conservator Forests, Kashmir, Chief Town Planner, Chief Executive Officer, YDA, senior officers of Planning Development, Tourism and other concerned departments attended the meeting.



Pilgrims paying obeisance at Kailash Kund on Wednesday. -Excelsior/Tilak Raj

# Chhari Mubarak reaches Kailash Kund

**Excelsior Correspondent**

JAMMU, Sept 4: Chhari Mubarak reached the Kailash Kund today.

After reaching the holy Kund the yatis took a dip in the Kund. The people had a belief that by taking a dip in the ice cold water of the Kailash Kund several diseases get cured.

The devotees came from several places of the State including Ramnagar, Dudu Basantgarh, Udhampur and Doda district.

Total 10,000 devotees are taking part in the yatra.

Langer was also arranged for the devotees at Kailash Sewa Sangh Bhardwarah and Annapurna Langer for the devotees.

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