

## Budget Session 2026: Calling Attention Motion

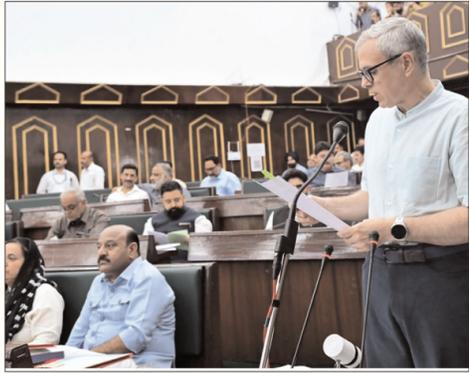
## Rs 3.80 cr UT subsidy disbursed to 4288 beneficiaries under PM Surya Ghar Yojana: CM

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, MAR 31

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today informed the Legislative Assembly that Rs 3.80 crore has been disbursed as UT subsidy in favour of 4,288 consumers of Kashmir and Jammu Power Distribution Companies under the PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana.

The Chief Minister was replying to a question raised by legislator Shakti Raj Parihar regarding the scheme.

The Chief Minister, who also holds the Power portfolio, said that ₹1.80 crore has been disbursed in favour of the first 2,053 consumers of KPDC, in line with the Central Financial Assistance (CFA). Similarly, ₹2 crore has been disbursed in favour of 2,235 beneficiaries of JPDC under the scheme.



under the scheme.

He informed the House that under the PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana, the subsidy component is primarily borne by the Government of India through the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, with an additional subsidy component provided by the UT.

The Central Financial Assistance (CFA) is provided to residential consumers installing rooftop solar systems at ₹33,000 per kW for the first 2 kW of installed capacity and ₹19,800 per kW for the next 1 kW, taking the total maximum subsidy to ₹85,800 for systems up to 3 kW.

In addition, the UT provides a subsidy of ₹3,000 per kW—₹6,000 for 2 kW and up to ₹9,000 for 3 kW (capped at 3 kW)—taking the total subsidy up to ₹94,800 for a 3 kW system, he added.

The Chief Minister further stated that delays, wherever applicable, in the release of the UT's share are primarily due to the verification of beneficiary installations, scrutiny of supporting documents, and integration of subsidy disbursement through the national portal.

He said that the J&K Administration is taking necessary steps to streamline the process and assured that the pending UT subsidy share will be released to eligible beneficiaries upon completion of verification formalities.

## NCORD meeting; DC Kathua reviews anti-drug measures, enforcement strategy

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, MAR 31

Deputy Commissioner Kathua, Rajesh Sharma on Tuesday chaired a meeting of the District Level Narco Coordination Centre (NCORD) Committee to review the progress of ongoing initiatives and devise a comprehensive strategy to curb drug abuse in the district.

The meeting was attended by ADC Vishavjeet Singh; ASP Rahul Charak; CMO Dr Vijay Raina; ACD Akhil Sadotra; ACP Ajeet Kumar; Assistant Commandant 107 BSF Battalion, CAO, DIO, CEO, DSWO, Assistant Controller Drugs and other concerned officers.

The meeting was informed that paramedical staff and teachers are being trained as Counsellors through structured training being imparted to them in a phased manner. Nearly 200 individuals have al-



ready been trained at GMC Kathua to strengthen grassroots-level intervention, the meeting was told.

The Deputy Commissioner emphasized the need to ensure availability of at least 2-3 trained counsellors at each block, besides one trained teacher at every High and Higher Secondary School to guide and sensitize students against drug abuse.

Chief Education Officer Kewal Krishan informed that all 13 private coaching centres in the district have been equipped with CCTV surveillance, while government schools are being covered in a phased manner.

Stressing stringent enforcement, the Deputy Commissioner directed the Drug Control Department to intensify drives, conduct surprise inspections, main-

tain strict vigil on over-the-counter sale of drugs and ensure effective functioning of de-addiction OPD clinics. The meeting also underscored the importance of sustained IEC activities under the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan along with enhanced youth engagement in sports to promote a healthy and drug-free lifestyle.

Threadbare discussions were held on key issues including consolidation of data of offenders for punitive actions such as cancellation of licenses, regular monitoring of contraband cultivation, identification and surveillance of hotspots and surprise inspections of vulnerable areas.

The Deputy Commissioner further stressed robust coordination among Police, BSF, Health, Drug Control and School Education Departments to ensure a sustained and effective crackdown on drug abuse across the district.

## J&amp;K has sufficient stock of petroleum products: Satish

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, MAR 31

Minister for Food, Civil supply and Consumer Affairs, Satish Sharma today informed the House that the Department is maintaining regular monitoring of availability and distribution of LPG and Petroleum products across Jammu and Kashmir.

"As per the daily stock position reports furnished by Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs), the availability of Petrol, Diesel and LPG is adequate as on date, with availability of petroleum products" maintained the Minister.

The Minister was replying to the Calling Attention Notice moved by Legislator Mohammad Yousuf Tarigami in the Legislative Assembly.

He said that geopolitical tensions have triggered panic buying and spike in Petrol, Diesel and LPG consumption beyond normal levels. He gave out that as per the report furnished by the Oil Marketing Companies, stocks are adequate, urging the public to ignore rumours, as the overall supply remains stable and



sufficient despite the temporary surge in demand.

Satish Sharma said that the Divisional and District Level Control Rooms are in place and functional. He said that the department is conducting regular inspections across the districts to strictly check and prevent any instance of hoarding and black marketing. The government is taking strict action against those found violating norms, imposing fines and penalties for any irregularities found.

The Minister said that the department is conducting detailed inspections and raids besides undertaking punitive action including fine, penalties

against the hoarders and black marketers, FIRs have also been lodged. He said that since 17 March 2026 a total number of 3442 inspections/raids have been conducted and several FIRs have been launched and 252 goods/articles have been seized/im-pounded with 2443 grievances/complaints redressed. With regard to ensuring uninterrupted supply of Motor Spirit (MS) and High Speed diesel (HSD), the Minister informed that daily monitoring of Petroleum Products including LPG from stockiest/outlet level to bulk level of OMC's (State level) is being monitored.

The Minister said that steps taken for ensuring uninterrupted supply of MS/HSD/CNG Movement of LPG and Petroleum products in coordination with SLC/OMC (State level) is being facilitated with review of stock at stockiest/outlet level monitored by respective District Level Committee headed by Deputy Commissioners/District Magistrates. He said that other field functionaries drawn from different Departments for enforcement including punitive action against hoarders, black marketers, conducting of surprise visits stands encouraged.

He stated that there's no panic buying and no reports of rumours, with all channels being monitored for such activity. He added that from March 15 to 24, 36 media interactions, briefings, and social media engagements have been conducted, along with on-ground community interactions. The Minister said that regular review meetings are also being held to monitor the availability and the measures being taken to ensure the same at different levels.

## Four red category units functional in IE Udhampur : Deputy Chief Minister

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, MAR 31

Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary today informed the House that a total of four units falling under Red category are functional in Industrial Estate (IE) Battal Ballian Udhampur on 51.7 Kanals of land with employment for 172 persons under these units.

The Deputy Chief Minister was replying to a Calling Attention Notice moved by Legislator R S Pathania in the Legislative Assembly today.

He added that these



units are functioning with properly installed Pollution Control Devices and emissions are well within

the prescribed limits, with Divisional Officer, Jammu and Kashmir Pollution Control Committee

(JK PCC) Udhampur ensuring proper monitoring.

The Deputy Chief Minister also informed the House that a unit can only operate in the industrial estate/private land after obtaining the required 'Consent to Operate' certificate (category based) from Pollution Control Committee based on the norms/rules/guidelines with respect to environment, in vogue. He further said that closure order for one red category unit namely "M/s Super Refineries" has been issued by the Member Secretary, JK PCC.

## 4 red category units functional in IE Udhampur: Dy CM

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## Budget Session 2026: Question Hour

## Govt endeavouring to boost J&amp;K's educational ecosystem: Sakeena Itoo

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, MAR 31

Minister for Education Sakeena Itoo today informed the House that the government is endeavouring hard to boost the educational ecosystem in Jammu and Kashmir, with special focus on establishing all kind of facilities in the government schools.

The Minister stated this while replying to a question of Legislator, Khurshed Ahmad Sheikh in the Legislative Assembly regarding introduction of new subjects.

She informed that components relating to general studies, computer education, digital literacy and vocational skill-based education have been introduced at different levels of schooling in a phased manner depending upon the levels of institution, availability of infrastructure, trained manpower and other requisite facilities.

She added that Computer Science, Information Practices and IT as separate subjects have already been introduced in the cur-



riculum at Higher Secondary School Level (XI to XII).

Besides, vocational/skill based education with 15 different trades have also been implemented in High and Higher Secondary in alignment with the recommendations of the National Education Policy

She further said that the introduction of Artificial Intelligence as a subject/discipline is also under active consideration in the department in alignment with NEP 2020.

The integration of 21st century skills, as articulated in the National Curriculum Framework for School Education 2023,

and envisioned in NEP 2020 is already being implemented in a phased manner and the revised curriculum framework emphasizes critical thinking, creativity, communication, collaboration, digital literacy, problem-solving, and experiential learning, the Minister further said.

She added that these competencies are being systematically embedded across subjects through curriculum rationalization, revised pedagogical approaches, competency-based assessments and integration of skill-oriented modules at the Secondary and Senior Secondary levels.

The Minister also informed that the existing curriculum is aligned with the National Education Policy-2020, particularly in respect of digital literacy, multidisciplinary learning and vocational education. She informed that the National Education Policy 2020 advocates an integrated and holistic approach to curriculum design, and accordingly, domains like Digital Literacy and Skill Education are embedded within the curriculum from the Foundational Stage onwards.

She also gave out that the teachers are being oriented and trained to effectively integrate these competencies into classroom practices, thereby ensuring the acquisition of relevant skills and learning outcomes in a holistic manner.

The Minister further revealed that at the Secondary and Senior Secondary levels, Digital Literacy and Skill Education are also being offered as dedicated elective subjects within the curriculum, in addition to their cross-curricular integration.

## Metrolite, Light Metro projects for Jammu, Srinagar under Govt consideration: Itoo

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, MAR 31

The Government of India is currently reviewing proposals for Metrolite and Light Metro projects in Jammu and Srinagar, aiming to enhance the cities' transportation infrastructure.

This was stated by Minister for Education Sakeena Itoo in the Legislative Assembly today while replying to a question of Legislator Mohan Lal, regarding the matter, on behalf of Chief Minister Omar Abdullah.

The Minister informed that in Jammu city, comprehensive ground surveys, traffic studies, feasibility analysis and DPR preparation has been completed through M/s RITES Limited. She added that the DPR included alignment planning, ridership projections (2.84 lakh daily ridership by 2035), cost estimates, land requirements (29.58 hectare permanent

and 1.50 hectare temporary), environmental and seismic design considerations besides financial structuring.

It was also apprised that the Economic Internal Rate of Return (EIRR) has been assessed at 18.92%. The current proposal is confined to the Jammu urban corridor from Bantalab to Bari Brahmana covering 23 km with 22 stations, she said.

It was told that at present no proposal is under consideration for extending the Metrolite corridor to Akhnoor town and any future expansion would be subject to separate feasibility assessment and approval of the Government of India.

Regarding Srinagar city, the Minister said that detailed topographical surveys, traffic and ridership assessments, engineering feasibility studies, financial and economic analyses and alignment planning have been undertaken through M/s RITES Ltd.

## 1190 AWCs functional in Srinagar, 152 in Central Shalteng Constituency: Sakeena

JAMMU, MARCH 31: Minister for Social Welfare, Sakeena Itoo, today said that 1190 Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) are functional in Srinagar district with 152 AWCs functioning in Central Shalteng Constituency.

The Minister informed this in reply to a question raised by Legislator Tariq Hameed Karra regarding Social Welfare schemes in the Legislative Assembly.

She said that at present there is no proposal under consideration of the government regarding opening/establishment of new Anganwadi Centres in Central Shalteng Constituency as the existing centres are catering to the needs of the target beneficiaries of the said Constituency.

The Minister further said that the that any proposal regarding opening of new AWCs that fulfil the criteria would be examined for submission to the Government of India.

She also informed that the monthly honorarium to Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) and Anganwadi Helpers (AWHs) is in consonance with the honorarium provided to AWWs and AWHs at the National level on the pattern of 90:10. She added that the Government of J&K is already giving additional state share to AWWs and AWHs and the matter would be taken up with Central Government to examine enhancement of honorarium subject to availability of resources.

Giving details about the beneficiaries covered under social welfare schemes in Central Shalteng constituency, the Social Welfare Minister informed that 6756 beneficiaries are covered under Old Age Pension, Widow Pension and various other Centrally and UT sponsored welfare schemes in the constituency.