

CS directs RDD to complete 2 lakh MGNREGA works during current fiscal

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta on Saturday made a strong pitch for strengthening democracy at the grass-roots level as he urged for the proactive role of gram panchayats in developmental activities and doubling down on the developmental initiatives, taking advantage of the immense resources under various schemes of the central government.

While laying thrust on progress of rural areas, Dr Mehta said J&K should move towards becoming best performing UT amongst all the states/UTs in the country as it improves governance through enhanced transparency and efficient service delivery.

The Chief Secretary was speaking in a meeting held



to approve the annual action plans of various schemes of the rural development department for the year 2022-23. Dr Mehta laid emphasis on convergent actions amongst various departments for maximizing the impact of MGNREGA and asked the department to work in convergence with the departments like jalshakti, forest, school education, industries & commerce, agriculture/horticulture etc. so that the twin aims of resource optimization and accelerated development

that the department proposes to generate an aggregate of 426 lakhs person days at an outlay of Rs. 1610.56 cr under MGNREGA in the next fiscal year.

RDD Secretary said that under NRLM, out of 21194 SHGs proposed to be set up, 18000 SHGs will be linked with banks during the next financial year. The department also proposes to set up 1644 VOs.

The department has set a financial target of Rs. 111.88 cr for this purpose.

The department proposes to provide revolving fund and community investment fund facility to 2000 SHGs in 2022-23 at an outlay of Rs. 116.67 cr.

Under Rurban, the department proposes to complete 207 works while further saying that it expects to train 50000 youth for employment in

the private sector under HIMAYAT in the next financial year.

The Chief Secretary asked the department to ensure that at least 2 lakh MGNREGA works are completed by the end of this fiscal year while further adding that spill over of these works in the succeeding years should be completely avoided.

The Chief Secretary asked the department to complete the pending 82 projects under IWMP by the end of the current fiscal year.

Several towns across Jammu Div declared as ODF+ by respective MCs

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Several towns across Jammu division were declared as ('Open Defecation Free) ODF+ by respective Municipal Councils and Committees after seeking public feedback.

Municipal Committees of Vijaypur, Khour, Basohli and the Municipal Council Reasi declared their respective towns as 'Open Defecation Free' after seeking objections

and feedback from the local residents as per the guidelines issued by Swachh Bharat Mission, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

"Feedback and objections received were taken under consideration and all necessary improvements were made on the ground. Thus, Municipal Committee Vijaypur declares itself as an ODF+ town" the MCs said through handouts.

"Open defecation, open urination, and unauthorized dumping of sewage in open areas, drains and water bodies are a punishable offence.

It is hereby declared that a penalty of Rs 200 for open defecation, Rs 100 for open urination and INR 500 for unauthorized dumping of sewage in open areas, drains and water bodies shall be imposed in case of any violation" it stated.

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