

Chief Secretary reviews Budget Expenditure for FY 2026–27, Calls for Improved Fund Utilisation and Timely Execution of Development Works



Leh, July 28, 2026: Chief Secretary, UT Ladakh, Ashish Kundra, chaired a comprehensive review meeting to assess the budget expenditure and financial performance of various departments for the financial year 2026–27. The meeting focused on improving expenditure efficiency, ensuring timely utilisation of allocated funds and accelerating the implementation of developmental projects across the Union Territory.

At the outset, Secretary, Finance Department, Sh. Tsewang Tharchin, IA&AS, gave a detailed presentation on the overall budget performance.

The presentation covered the budget estimate break-up as per the Demands for Grants for the financial year 2026–27, composition of the budget estimates, overall budget performance dashboard, State and LAHDC-wise allocations, quarterly expenditure comparison, up-to-date expenditure, Monthly Expenditure Plan (MEP), capital expenditure under Major Head 4575, department-wise allocation and expenditure, utilisation rankings and object head-wise analysis covering motor vehicles, machinery and equipment, ICT equipment, buildings and structures, infrastructure assets, furniture and fixtures, heritage asset upgradation, other fixed assets and land.

Reviewing the presentation, the Chief Secretary undertook a department-wise assessment of expenditure trends and utilisation levels. He directed the concerned departments to ensure timely implementation of approved projects and improve the pace of expenditure, particularly under capital works, so that developmental objectives are achieved within the prescribed timelines.

Expressing concern over the low utilisation of funds in certain departments and sectors, the Chief Secretary instructed the Finance and Planning Departments to closely monitor expenditure and identify departments where the pace of spending remains unsatisfactory. He directed that such departments be asked to furnish reasons for the delay and submit concrete action plans for improving financial and physical progress.

The Chief Secretary further directed that funds lying unutilised for prolonged periods should be identified at an early stage so that they can be reallocated to departments and projects capable of utilising them effectively within the current financial year. He emphasised that optimal utilisation of public funds is essential for achieving developmental outcomes.

While reviewing sector-wise allocations, he examined expenditure under infrastructure development, urban development, rural development, education, municipal services and other key sectors. He stressed the need for continuous monitoring of revenue and capital expenditure to ensure balanced financial performance throughout the year.

The Chief Secretary also reviewed expenditure under various object heads, including procurement of motor vehicles, garbage collection vehicles, ambulances, machinery, ICT

equipment, buildings, furniture and other infrastructure assets. He directed the concerned departments to ensure that procurement and execution are undertaken in a timely and transparent manner in accordance with approved plans.

Emphasising the importance of uninterrupted execution of development works, the Chief Secretary directed the Planning Department to issue necessary instructions to ensure that contractors continue work during the permissible working season. He observed that, barring periods of severe winter, construction activities should continue as far as practicable so that projects are completed within the stipulated timelines.

He further directed that future project proposals should comprehensively include all essential components, including furniture, fixtures and allied infrastructure, wherever required, to facilitate the timely operationalisation of completed assets.

The Chief Secretary also reviewed issues relating to land compensation, municipal infrastructure, solid waste management assets and other ongoing capital projects. He instructed the concerned departments to strengthen planning, improve coordination and ensure timely completion of all sanctioned works.

Highlighting the need for evidence-based financial management, the Chief Secretary directed the Finance and Planning Departments to prepare periodic sector-wise analytical snapshots of expenditure covering major sectors such as education, infrastructure, Special Development Package (SDP) projects and other capital works. He stated that such consolidated assessments would facilitate better monitoring, informed decision-making and timely corrective interventions.

The Chief Secretary reiterated that regular expenditure reviews, strict financial discipline and close coordination among departments are essential for achieving the developmental priorities of the Union Territory and ensuring effective utilisation of public resources.

The meeting was attended by Secretary, Planning Department, Himashu Gupta; Secretary, Finance Department, Sh. Tsewang Tharchan, IA&AS; Joint Director, Finance; Joint Director, Planning; and other senior officers of the concerned departments.