

Chief Secretary Chairs Meeting in Drass, Public Representatives Raise Key Development and Administrative Demands

Drass, June 08, 2026: Chief Secretary, Ladakh, Ashish Kundra chaired a meeting with public representatives, heads of political and religious institutions, and other leaders of Drass district today at the Conference Hall of the Tourist Dak Bungalow, Drass.

Present on the occasion were Deputy Commissioner Drass, Imteeaz Kacho; SDM Drass, Vishal Atri; Director Health; Superintending Engineers of R&B and PDD; Councillors Abdul Wahid and Abdul Samad; District Officers, Departmental Heads, heads of various religious and political institutions; and other public representatives.

Councillor Bhimbat, Abdul Samad raised several issues, including the demand for a full-fledged district, creation of two additional sub-divisions, tehsils and blocks, formation of a Municipal Committee, establishment of a separate Hill Development Council for Drass, equitable distribution of assets in Srinagar, Jammu, and Delhi among districts, establishment of allied departments, and a recruitment board, among others.

Councillor Bhimbat, Abdul Wahid also highlighted key issues of the area, including maintenance of Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) projects, especially during winters, and sought funds for the launch of the Ladakh Premier League, with the expected visit of Sachin Tendulkar next month. He also requested the establishment of a Kendriya Vidyalaya in Drass. He expressed gratitude for the inclusion of three villages of Drass under the Vibrant Village Programme and urged for the inclusion of four more villages.

The delegation further demanded the opening of the Drass–Gurez road to connect the two regions sharing common language, culture, and ethnicity. They also called for opening Batukul for tourism, developing Tiger Hill base for trekking, and promoting Pariyun Ka Talab as a tourist attraction. Other issues discussed included granting ST status to residents of Matayen, filling vacant posts of lecturers, improving facilities at Higher Secondary Schools and the college, and ensuring engagement of locals in the Zojila Tunnel project.

The BJP President, District Drass, requested the development of an artificial lake at Pandrass, establishment of a civil helipad at Manman Top, and raised tourism-related concerns at Zero Point.

A representative of Anjuman Ahl-e-Hadees requested clearance of liabilities related to land acquisition during the construction of the circular road at Muradbagh.

The Chief Secretary patiently listened to the public and, in his address, congratulated the people on the grant of district status to Drass. He stated that a separate assessment would be conducted to facilitate the formation of sub-divisions, tehsils, and blocks. He further assured that funds under LAHDC would be rationalized to ensure equitable development across all newly formed districts.

He also urged public representatives to ensure proper segregation and collection of garbage and appealed for raising public awareness on sanitation. He added that the demand for a bus and truck terminal at the Zojila entry point would be given due consideration.



