

## Chief Secretary review Rural Development Schemes and Annual Plans

Leh, March 11, 2026: The Chief Secretary of the Union Territory of Ladakh, Shri Ashish Kundra, chaired a meeting to review the departmental schemes of the Rural Development Department and to discuss the approval of the Annual Plans for the upcoming financial year.

During the meeting, Administrative Secretary, Rural Development Department, Shashanka Ala, gave a detailed presentation on the administrative structure of the department, including the staff strength of Group A and Group B officers, as well as the status of Group C positions. He also highlighted the functioning of various wings of the department and the progress of ongoing developmental initiatives.

The Chief Secretary took stock of developmental works being executed under the State Sector and Special Development Packages. The meeting reviewed key achievements of the department, including the construction of 98 Public Libraries across Leh and Kargil districts, with 50 additional libraries currently in progress.

The department has also completed 184 Community Facilitation Centres, Panchayat Ghars, Block Development Offices (BDO), and Block Development Council (BDC) offices, along with works related to solar street lights, high mast lights, public parks, and solid waste management infrastructure in rural areas.

The meeting also reviewed the progress under various flagship schemes and programmes, including the Special Development Package (SDP) and Core Implementation Schemes.

Detailed discussions were held on the implementation of MGNREGA, PMAY-G, Swachh Bharat Mission, Solid Waste Management, and other centrally sponsored schemes. The summary of physical and financial targets for the financial year 2026-27 was also presented and reviewed.

Further, the meeting discussed the key components of the Ladakh Rural Livelihood Mission (LRLM) and DAY-NRLM, with emphasis on women empowerment, financial inclusion, Self-Help Group (SHG) bank linkage, community investment funds, and skill development initiatives. The status of the Lakhpati Didi initiative and the proposed NRLM budget for 2026-27 were also reviewed in detail.

Important deliberations were also held on WDC-PMKSY (Watershed Development Component – Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana), with focus on water conservation, springshed development, and district-wise performance.

The Chief Secretary also reviewed the category-wise works being undertaken under MGNREGA and stressed the need for timely execution and proper monitoring. The meeting was attended by the Administrative Secretary, Rural Development Department, Shashanka Ala; Administrative Secretary, Higher Education, Bhanu Prabha; Director, Rural Development Department; Joint Director; Heads of Departments; and other concerned officials.



