

Shri Amarnathji Yatra 2017

Governor expresses grief over death of pilgrims Lauds work of local NGO

Srinagar, July 16: On learning about the unfortunate accident in Nachilana area of Banihal in Ramban district of a Pahalgam bound bus, which was carrying Shri Amarnathji Yatra pilgrims, Governor N.N. Vohra, Chairman of the Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board, immediately flew to Banihal along with Sh. B.B. Vyas, Chief Secretary; Sh. S.P. Vaid, DGP; and Sh. Umang Narula, Chief Executive Officer of the Board, to see to the rescue operations being carried out by the District Administration Ramban with the help of Indian Air Force. As per the Governor's earlier directions to the Chief Secretary, the seriously injured pilgrims were got evacuated to Jammu through IAF Helicopters. Governor saw the critically injured Yatris who were airlifted in a M17 helicopter after he arrived at Banihal. He met the doctors and enquired about the medical treatment given to the Yatris before they were airlifted in his presence.



Governor also visited the Banihal Sub-District Hospital where, after discussion with the Chief Secretary and the attending doctors, he directed that the bodies of the 16 dead pilgrims be transported to Jammu from where after embalming and other formalities the dead bodies would be sent by the civil airlines to the home towns of the dead.

Governor drove to the site of the accident where this unfortunate accident took place. Appreciating the prompt relief provided by a local NGO, "Youth Against Evils, Banihal", who rescued the injured pilgrims, in co-ordination with the District Administration, Governor sanctioned an amount of Rs. 5 lakh for this NGO, for strengthening their humanitarian endeavours.

Governor expressed his deep grief over this unfortunate incident and conveyed his condolences to the bereaved families of those killed in the incident. On behalf of the Shrine Board he announced relief of Rs. 3 lakh to the next of kin of those killed in the incident and; Rs.1 lakh each to those who had suffered injuries.