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DC Labroo Reviews Key Kashmir Heritage Sites

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Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat, reviewed the ongoing heritage restoration works at Khanqah-e-Naqshband Sahib and Aali Masjid as part of the government's efforts to preserve Kashmir's cultural legacy.

Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir – Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat, recently visited two of the valley's most treasured historical and religious landmarks Khanqah-e-Naqshband Sahib and Aali Masjid to review ongoing heritage restoration work.

The visit was part of the administration's continued focus on preserving Kashmir's rich cultural and architectural legacy.

The heritage sites, both located in the heart of Srinagar, are important symbols of the region's spiritual and historical identity. Khanqah-e-Naqshband Sahib is one of the most revered shrines in the city, known for its deep-rooted connection to the Naqshbandi Sufi order. Aali Masjid, on the other hand, stands as one of the oldest mosques in Kashmir, known for its traditional wooden architecture and spiritual significance.

Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat emphasized the importance of using traditional construction techniques and materials to maintain the original character of the monuments. During the inspection, he directed officials and conservation teams to ensure that the restoration work is completed with utmost care, quality, and in a time-bound manner. He also called for continuous monitoring of the work to preserve the historical authenticity of the sites.

The Deputy Commissioner's review comes under the broader framework of government-led heritage preservation efforts aimed at revitalizing historical structures while also promoting tourism and community engagement. He noted that these monuments not only reflect Kashmir's past but also offer opportunities for cultural education and sustainable tourism in the region.

Officials from the Department of Archives, Archaeology, and Museums, as well as engineers and conservation experts, were present during the visit. They briefed the Deputy Commissioner on the progress made so far and assured him of maintaining strict adherence to heritage conservation standards.

Local residents and religious scholars have welcomed the efforts, expressing hope that the restoration will bring renewed attention to the historical and spiritual relevance of these sites. Many believe that such initiatives are essential to keeping Kashmir's unique identity alive for future generations.

As restoration work continues under close supervision, the administration is committed to ensuring that these architectural gems are not only preserved but also celebrated as vital links to Kashmir's cultural soul.

The restoration of Khanqah-e-Naqshband Sahib and Aali Masjid represents more than just structural repair; it is a tribute to the enduring legacy of Kashmir's spiritual and artistic

heritage.