



PARDESH BHUMI

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Lt Governor visits Government Hospital Gandhi Nagar, CD Hospital, GMC Jammu

Takes first hand appraisal of Covid infrastructure & facilities

Enquires about number of patients being treated in hospitals, patients discharged after recovery, availability of oxygen support beds

JAMMU
To take first hand appraisal of the infrastructure and patient care management in Covid care Hospitals, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha today visited Government Hospital Gandhi Nagar, Chest Disease & TB Hospital Jammu, and Government Medical College Jammu.

During his visits, the Lt Governor enquired about number of patients being treated in the hospitals, patients discharged after recovery, availability of oxygen support beds.

The Lt Governor,

while inspecting the functionality of Oxygen Generation Plants in the Hospitals, directed for effective rationalization of available resources to cater to the requirements of the patients.

The Lt Governor directed the hospitals to ensure that best possible care is given to the patients through regular rounds of HoDs and senior doctors in the wards. He also emphasized on strict compliance of the hospital referral policy and triage in the hospitals.

“Doctors must have personal interaction with the patients and their attendants to ensure better treatment”, main-

tained the Lt Governor. The Lt Governor directed the concerned officers of Health Department to increase Covid dedicated beds



ing best patient care in the Covid care hospitals. At Chest Disease & TB Hospital Jammu, the Lt Governor enquired from In-charge Triage Facility, Dr Rajeshwar Sharma about the number of patients being treated, number of patients discharged after recovery,

and health infrastructure available in the hospital to treat all Covid-19 patients. In order to strengthen health work-force, the Lt Governor directed the authorities of Covid care hospitals to increase the paramedical staff, besides rationalizing the medical staff from peripheral hospitals of the District.

Directions were also passed for the strict compliance of duty rosters at all Hospitals.

It was informed that the trial run of 2400 LPM capacity Oxygen Generation Plant in GMC Jammu is going on and the same would be made fully functional by May 8, 2021 enabling the addi-

(PR/DI)

Advisor Khan greets people on Jumat-ul-Vida; prays for well being of people around world, end of covid pandemic

Urges people to register and get vaccinated against covid -19; follow covid appropriate behaviour

JAMMU
Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Farooq Khan today extended his warm greetings on the occasion of Jumat-ul-Vida, urging people to seek the blessings from Almighty to take out the whole of humanity from the global health crisis of the Coronavirus pandemic.

In his message of greetings, Advisor Khan said the last Friday of the holy month of Ramadan is the sacred occasion when the faithful seek blessing from the Almighty for the whole of humanity.

“On this auspicious

occasion, we all must pray to Almighty to take us out of this current health crisis so that we will witness the end of this pandemic which has



struck the whole humanity,” Advisor Khan said.

He also urged people to strictly follow the guidelines and protocol of health advisories while celebrating auspicious occasions during

COVID-19 pandemic. “Following SOPs strictly will help us to collectively defeat this pandemic so that humanity would once again prevail for good,” he said.

He further appealed people to register and inoculate themselves with coronavirus vaccine, which would eventually strengthen their immune system to help in fighting this disease to its end.

The Advisor also hoped that this auspicious occasion would strengthen the bonds of communal harmony and brotherhood and be a harbinger of peace, progress and prosperity in Jammu and Kashmir. The Advisor also prayed for the well-being of the people of the J&K.

(PR/DI)

Dr. Minia urges people not to take steroids without doctor's advice

Says most positive cases mild, do not require oxygen support

JAMMU
Most of the Covid-19 patients fall under ‘mild’ category and they do not need oxygen support at all. Regular check of oxygen saturation levels and taking appropriate medicines is enough for such patients to recover, said Senior Resident Doctor, Department of Internal Medicine, GMC Jammu, Dr Rajesh Minia, while dispelling the panic and urge to hoard oxygen cylinders by the public.

Explaining the types of Covid-19 patients, Dr Minia says that they are of three types- mild, moderate and severe. “While most of the patients are of mild category and can recover easily, it is only the moderate and severe cases which need special care and treatment,” he informed. Dr Minia advised all patients to regularly check their oxygen saturation levels and get alerted only if the levels fall below 93. If such severe level is reached, he says, that patients should contact a doctor immediately.

The Senior Resident Doctor also urged the public, especially the mild category patients not to take steroids unnecessarily and without doctor's advice. “Only an expert doctor can diagnose better, especially in case a patient has other diseases in addition to Covid infection”, he cautioned. He also requested the public not to hoard oxygen cylinders unnecessarily, thereby causing shortage for the needy.

Dr Rajesh Minia has also requested the patients to take doctors' advice seriously, follow Covid-preventive protocols and make way for severe patients by not occupying covid-care beds against doctors' advice.

He informed that a round-the-clock Divisional Control Room has been established to address all medical advice and queries and can be reached at 0191-2520982, 2549676, 2674444, 2674115, 2674908.

Meanwhile, according to official report 54 covid patients have been discharged in the past 24 hours including 16 from GMC Jammu, 19 from Chest Disease & TB Hospital, 4 from Super Speciality Hospital and 15 from MCH Jammu. In all, 2673 patients have recovered from these hospitals till date.

In GMC Jammu, 60 Covid-19 patients have been admitted in the past 24 hours, 11 have been admitted in Chest Disease & TB Hospital, 1 in Super Speciality Hospital and 21 in MCH Jammu.

In the past 24 hours, GMC Jammu has reported 19 Covid-19 deaths and one other has been reported from Chest Disease & TB Hospital Jammu.

In GMC Jammu and other Category-II dedicated Covid Health Centres, 617 out of 804 Covid dedicated beds are occupied, while 117 are still vacant; 106 out of 688 oxygen beds are also vacant in these hospitals.

(PR/DI)

Online system of teaching-learning

WITH all its drawbacks, the current online system of teaching-learning seems to be the most justified one as in view of the surge in the COVID-19 cases in Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir as all schools, colleges and universities closed for imparting on-campus/in-person education to the students till May 15, 2021. The Covid-19 pandemic has created such a dilemma where it is difficult to take any concrete decision or measures considering the uncertainty of the situation and the current trend of rising number of COVID positive cases.

Considering the various disadvantages of online classes and learning a return to the normal offline classes is much longed for, which the students are also sincerely hoping for. However, in the current context online classes with all its disadvantages seems to be the most justifiable one, though many a time students are left at the mercy of internet connectivity. Network fluctuation and poor connectivity have not helped the cause of online classes.

In Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory most students who attend government schools and are from below poverty line families are at great disadvantage as they don't having any smart phones, laptops, desktops and internet connections for the online teaching classes.

Government should plan something for the students belonging to the poor families and provide smart phones and internet connections. Learning through television can be an alternative to online classes as most households own a TV set.

The administration of Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory should acknowledge the different dynamics of our society to bring forth novel solutions.

Remembering the 'Greatest Indian'

**RATTAN LAL
KATARIA**

A few years ago, a major English TV news channel in the country started a drive to choose the "Greatest Indian" through online and mobile voting. The people of the country chose Babasaheb B h i m r a o Ambedkar as the "Greatest Indian." This is Babasaheb's greatest legacy. Unlike other leaders, he is still as relevant in the hearts of crores of Dalits and those who fight for a dignified life for underprivileged Indians, as he was in his time.

As the country celebrates the 130th birth anniversary of Babasaheb on April 14, Ambedkar's struggle and values continue to inspire Indians and even the Black community in the US and others fighting discrimination across the globe. Ambedkar was different from other leaders in the sense that he encouraged the underprivileged to get their rights through education and political struggle. Despite all the protests, insults, reproach and neglect, he did not tread the path of violence and never dreamed of destroying the system. Staying within the confines of constitutional commitments, working within the system and changing it from within, were the hallmarks of his struggle.

Babasaheb was not only the principal architect of the Indian Constitution, he firmly

believed in the role of constitutional values in keeping the democratic system alive. Education, democratic struggle and unity were the core of his philosophy. He drew the path between socialist philosophy and communism for social justice. After the Round Table Conferences in 1931, the British proposed a separate electorate. When Madan Mohan Malaviya spoke to Babasaheb in this regard and envisaged its wider implications on Hindu society, Ambedkar agreed to have a more consistent reservation system for Dalits in place of a separate electorate. Thus, the historic Poona Pact of 1932 was signed. Ambedkar always fought for social justice and said that the scriptures that approve untouchability needed to be seen in the light of new knowledge. Ambedkar did not seek equality, fraternity and freedom only for the Dalits but also tried to bring the entire Indian society under the umbrella of his great ideals. When Pandit Nehru went back on his promise on the Hindu Code Bill, Ambedkar resigned from the Cabinet. Currently, while there is intense churning on its role in ensuring democracy and social justice on a global scale, Babasaheb has become more relevant than ever.

The values of dialogue, constitutional struggle and constant coordination are now playing an important role in making the

present system more effective. Babasaheb had also made similar efforts in the process of nation building. Just as the Government is working to re-establish India as the "Vishwa Guru", Ambedkar, too, constantly strived for a global stature for Bharat.

He was opposed to the prominence of competitive allegiance of religion, culture, caste and language. He believed that this made it difficult to cultivate Indianness and loyalty to India. He said, "I want people to be Indian first and to be Indian till the end, nothing but Indian."

Following in his footsteps, the Centre is not only ensuring social justice, but is also striving to bring the underprivileged into the mainstream through economic empowerment.

'Start-up India', 'Stand-up India', the National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation and scholarships for secondary and higher studies, are all efforts in this direction. On April 14, the whole world will salute Babasaheb, the true son of the nation, and his contribution towards nation building will be remembered. However, the younger generation must not only follow Babasaheb's ideals on his birth anniversary but every moment of their life. *(The writer is Minister of State, Social Justice & Empowerment and Jal Shakti. The views expressed are personal.)*

Sitting idle during lockdown may impact mental health: Dr M Maqbool

People especially in home quarantine must keep themselves busy in various activities

People can consult Clinical Psychologists on helpline nos for online consultation and counselling

SRINAGAR
At a time when people are confined within the four walls of their houses due to the prevailing Covid-19 lockdown, Psychiatric experts have severe apprehensions of people developing mental health issues.

Psychiatrists believe that people staying at home for days together with Covid trauma and without keeping themselves busy can have repercussions on their mental health.

Dr Mohammad Maqbool Dar, Head of the Department (HoD), Psychiatry, Government Medical College Srinagar while delving into the topic says that the there has been subsequent increase in the number of cases related to psychiatric diseases among people ever since the successive lockdowns had to be imposed in the wake of corona virus outbreak.

Talking about the most common mental health issues that people have developed during these lockdowns, Dr Maqbool says, "Most of the psychiatric patients have developed five types of illnesses during this period like depression, anxiety, dissociative and panic disorders besides obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD), while post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) has also been witnessed in some patients".

Giving details about the symptoms of these diseases, he said, "If we talk of depression, the patients suffering from this mental health issue are usually in bad mood, they sleep less, have poor concentration and sometimes even develop suicidal thoughts

also". In case of panic disorder, a patient feels intense anxiety which remains there for a few minutes, he experiences chest pain, headache, choking sensation in throat and also sometimes feels he is about to experience heart attack and these patients also visit cardiologists for treatment, Dr Maqbool said. The patients suffering from dissociative disorder feel like dizziness which remains there for some minutes and even sometimes it lasts till half an hour. "As regards Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD), the patients suffering from it frequently wash their hands, indulge in repetitive behaviour, face health anxiety and due to covid, their behaviour has also got reinforced", he added.

Giving reference to a study conducted by the Institute of Mental Health in collaboration with some of the renowned doctors from Government Medical College and CD Hospital, the HoD Psychiatry said that they have conducted a study on 119 patients to find out about the percentage of people suffering from different disorders. "During the study we found that as per scales, 44 percent of the people among these were found suffering from anxiety disorder, 61 percent from depression, 25 percent from PTSD and OCD was found in almost among 98 percent of the patients" he added. Dr Maqbool said due to prevailing Covid-19 pandemic people are developing mental health problems, people sitting home need to take care of their mental health and especially the ones sitting in home isolation.

"People sitting in home isolation need to keep themselves engaged, they can talk to people over phone, keep themselves busy in doing exercises, meditation, yoga and playing indoor games and this way they can prevent stress on their mental health," he suggested.

Earlier, the Institute of Mental Health (IMH) was functioning from two places simultaneously with its OPD at IMH, Kathi Darwaza Srinagar and General Psychiatry Hospital Unit at SMHS hospital, but due to Covid-19 outbreak, the General Psychiatry Hospital Unit

at SMHS Hospital has been converted into Covid facility and people are now visiting IMH Kathi Darwaza for counselling and treatment.

The de-addiction centre that was functioning from SMHS Hospital has also been shifted to the IMH. After the imposition of lockdown, Dr Maqbool informed that they have made OPD, counselling and other services available online also. On the directions of Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, a help line has also been made available for the general public for online counselling and psychi-

atric consultation. "Three Education Department officials have been advised through its National Health Mission has started public thrice a week at Covid Control Room in Divisional Commissioner's office and Psychiatrists have also given numbers for wide publicity and are receiving calls from the people for online consultation and counselling regarding covid and mental health issues" HoD Psychiatry said. He said people can take the precautions to maintain their mental health or they can avail counselling on helpline numbers already publicised through various media. Health & Medical

Psychiatrists receive calls from the public thrice a week at Covid Control Room in Divisional Commissioner's office and Psychiatrists have also given numbers for wide publicity and are receiving calls from the people for online consultation and counselling regarding covid and mental health issues" HoD Psychiatry said. He said people can take the precautions to maintain their mental health or they can avail counselling on helpline numbers already publicised through various media. Health & Medical

(PR/DI)

Follow the path of humanity in these pandemic times : Sat

PB NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU: Former State President BJP and Ex Minister Sat Sharma (CA) along with Corporator Sanjay Baru reviewed the sanitization process going on in containment zones of Ward 41 of Jammu West Assembly segment. The leader visited Anand Nagar, Bohri and also interacted with the people of the area. Also, the leader started works of installation of Gratings on the sites where there was dire requirement. The works are being done at an estimated cost of Rupees 9.24 lakhs and the funds were allotted to the local Corporator.

Speaking on the occasion, Sat Sharma said

that in these pandemic times, everyone must follow the path of humanity and during



these times it should be our priority to help each other in every way possible.

He said the process of sanitization is going on in all the containment

zones falling in Jammu West Assembly segment and he also said that is in regular connect with



the administration and wherever possible, help is also being provided to the people who are looking for beds and oxygen in the hospitals. He stated that PM Narendra

Modi and JK LG Manoj Sinha are doing their best to provide excellent health services to the masses of J&K and he also appealed to the masses to stay at their homes and asked them to get themselves vaccinated as soon as possible.

Sanjay Baru said that the Ward is being sanitized on a regular basis and he also said that with the efforts of Former MLA Sat Sharma every necessary help is being provided to the masses at their doorsteps. He also stated that during these tough times we all must cooperate with each other and must reject the divisive politics of opposition. Ward President Ashok Wazir, Jugal Sharma, Surinder Sharma and others were also present.

Mehbooba appeals to PM Modi to release all political detainees as COVID threat persists

PB NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR: PDP president Mehbooba Mufti on Friday appealed to Prime Minister Narendra Modi to release all political detainees languishing in jails in and outside Jammu and Kashmir immediately in the wake of the worsening COVID-19 situation.

"Throughout the world, most countries have released prisoners on parole in view of the alarming COVID crisis.

A democratic and civilised country like India shouldn't drag its feet and must release these detainees immediately so that they can return home at a time when life feels so threatened," Mehbooba said in a let-

ter to the prime minister.

The former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister said she did not wish to "politicise the human tragedy that has befallen us all". "It's an unprecedented humanitarian crisis that doesn't discriminate on the basis of caste, colour, religion or social status and has affected everyone. Perhaps the only silver lining in this tragic time is how Indians cutting across religious and regional lines are coming together to lend each other a helping hand," she said. Mehbooba said worrying reports about prisoners dying due to COVID-19 and subsequent lack of medical attention have been trickling in. At a time when the system is struggling to cope with this horrendous situation, lives of prisoners may

be the least priority, she said. "As far as Kashmir is concerned, it is no secret that hundreds, or may be thousands of detainees and political prisoners arrested since August 2019 continue to languish in jails both in and outside J-K. "Most of them are detained under preventive laws and don't face any prosecution.

Many continue to be held even after courts granted them bail. Most recent reminder of the lurking threat to their lives is Mohammad Ashraf Sehrai's death who lost his life because he contracted COVID in jail and was deprived of medical care," she added.

The PDP president hoped that the prime minister will give due consideration to the matter and order the release of detainees.

DC Gbl inaugurates Oxygen plant at Dist. Hospital

GANDERBAL
The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Krittika Jyotsna in presence of Director Health Services Kashmir, Dr. Mushtaq Ahmad Rather today inaugurated 1000 LPM Oxygen plant at



District Hospital (DH) Ganderbal here.

On the occasion, the DC said that with the commissioning of 1000 LPM Oxygen plant, the demand for oxygen that had increased because of the Covid-19 pandemic would be met and it can cater to over

100 beds. Jyotsna complemented the executing agency for completing the oxygen plant on a war footing basis to accept challenge to ensure oxygen supply as per demand adding that with the commissioning of this plant the

situation. Meanwhile, the DDC also enquired about the management and treatment being provided to the Covid-19 patients. She appreciated the role of medical staff in different aspects of Covid management besides providing proper treatment to Covid patients and expressed her satisfaction over the healthcare arrangements and other facilities being provided to the patients. The DC urged upon the people to strictly follow covid appropriate behavior, ensure use of face masks, frequent hand-washing and maintain social distance. The

Health Services Kashmir, congratulated the people of Ganderbal for having such a facility available at the time when there is large scale demand of medical oxygen due to covid pandemic. The Additional Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Farooq Ahmed Baba, Chief Medical Officer Ganderbal Dr. Mehraj u Din, Medical Superintendent DH and officials of executing agency were present on the occasion. (PR/DI)

DM Pulwama reviews COVID-19 containment strategy

Stresses for regular checkup of implementation of Covid-19 guidelines

PULWAMA
The District Magistrate (DM), Pulwama, Baseer ul Haq Chowdhary, today chaired a meeting to review the ongoing activities to mitigate the challenges to abate Covid-19 Pandemic in the district.

During the meeting threadbare discussion was held regarding implementation of government advisories and directions issued with regards to COVID-19. The meeting also discussed functioning of Health surveillance and teams, IEC activities and other precautionary measures taken by the administration for the containment of the pandemic.

On the occasion, the DM stressed on dealing with the situation as per the recommended guidelines and operating procedures and said that everyone has to play their role in combating the deadly disease. He said that health officials must maintain a constant watch on cases and immediate reporting and shifting of those who might develop Covid-19 symptoms.

He directed concerned officers and officials to act in an efficient manner and stressed for regular check up of implementation of Covid 19 guidelines at various places especially in markets and other Public Places.

The meeting was attended by ADCs Pulwama, Tral, Awantipora, SP Pulwama, Chief Medical Officer and other concerned officers and officials. (PR/DI)

Chairperson DDC Kishtwar discusses modalities to finalize Capex Budget 2021-22

Councillors advised to formulate Constituency plans keeping view larger public interest

KISHTWAR
To discuss the modalities for the formulation of developmental plan under District Capex Budget 2021-22, District Development Council chairperson Kishtwar, Pooja Thakur today chaired a meeting of DDC members and concerned District officers here at conference Hall of DC Office Complex.

District Development Commissioner, Ashok Sharma, DDC members, Joint Director Planning, Assistant commissioner Revenue, besides other District officers, and XEns attended the meeting.

At the outset, the Deputy Commissioner apprised the DDC members about various modalities and guidelines for the formulation of the plans under the District Capex budget 2021-22. He asked the DDC members to utilise the DDC grant amounting to Rs 10 crore judiciously in high priority sectors under District Development plan in

coordination with various departments.

He informed the DDC members that a special thrust shall be laid on formulation of viable District Employment plan, District drinking water plan, District Health plan, District Sports

to ensure that the people at large were benefited. She further asked the DDC members to personally supervise and monitor the pace and quality of the works to be undertaken during this financial year in their respective jurisdiction and also lay



activity plan and District Road Development plans as per the guidelines issued by the Finance Department.

Speaking at the meeting, DDC Chairperson Pooja Thakur urged all the DDC members and District officers to coordinate with each other in devising the plans on rational basis and without any bias to maintain the sanctity of the 3-tier system of Panchayati Raj Institution and also

special stress on the execution and completion of the work taken up under previous year plan.

While focusing on the larger developmental projects, the DDC chairperson laid stress on taking these projects in convergence mode so that the pace of these works is not hampered and tangible results were achieved in the implementation of all the schemes in the stipulated time period. (PR/DI)

Covid – 19 containment measures reviewed in Srinagar

SRINAGAR
The Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Pandurang K Pole and Commissioner Secretary to Govt, In charge Covid Containment Kashmir, Zubair Ahmad today jointly chaired a meeting to review the Covid-19 containment measures in Kashmir.

The meeting was held at Divisional Covid Control Room Kashmir where issue related to covid containment were discussed threadbare.

The meeting among others was attended by Director Health Services Kashmir, Deputy Director, In charge DCCRK, Epidemiologist Kashmir, Nodal Officer SKIMS, HOD

Anesthesia, GMC Srinagar, HoD Micro, GMC, CMO and other officers from Divisional

The chair impressed upon maintaining real-time dashboard of availability of beds.

testing with RT PCR. It is impressed upon Social Media users that for addressing Covid



Covid Control Room. During the meeting the chair stressed on conducting training of interns, paramedic staff from next week for effective Covid Control management in the valley. It was also given out that the training regarding Triage in all Districts shall also be conducted at an earliest.

During the meeting, isolation of patients, oxygen supply, bed capacity, vaccination and other related measures were also reviewed.

In order to reduce wastage and burden on Health care, people undergoing Rapid Antigen Test for Covid if detected positive should not go for re-

Related SOS calls, Divisional and District Control Room help-lines have been running since last year.

The official social media platforms are not for addressing and taking cognizance of SOS calls. The SOS calls are to be addressed through Covid Control Room help lines only. (PR/DI)

Administration fully prepared to tackle situation arisen out of Covid-19 Pandemic: Div Com Kashmir

Inspects GMC Anantnag, Covid Hospital Bijbehara; calls for medical need based utilisation of oxygen, inaugurates 'Pukaar Helpline

ANANTNAG
The Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, P. K. Pole today visited Anantnag and made on spot inspection of various medical and healthcare facilities associated with Covid management in the district.

The Deputy Commissioner Anantnag, Dr. Piyush Singla, ADC, Ghulam Hassan Sheikh, ADDC, Bashir Ahmad, SDM Bijbehara, CAO, CMO, Dy CMO, MS Trauma Hospital Bijbehara and other concerned officers were present during his visit.

Pole took a detailed stock of medical infrastructure and oxygen availability besides the augmentations being

made for effective mitigation of the pandemic here. At dedicated Covid Hospital (Trauma Hospital) Bijbehara, the Div Com inspected the newly commissioned 500 LPM oxygen plant and reviewed its functioning briefly. He directed the health officials to utilise the oxygen supply rationally while ensuring the health of the patients is not compromised.

The Div Com inaugurated the Pukaar Helpline at DC office Anantnag? which will function round the clock and serve as a single point contact for the people of the district to register their grievances with the administration. He also reviewed the functioning of the

district Covid control room which has been working for mitigating the problems of covid and non covid persons in the district.

Later, the Div Com visited GMC Anantnag and took stock of functioning of Covid dedicated ward besides the recently commissioned 1000 LPM and old 350 LPM oxygen plants. The principal GMC informed the Div Com the 1000 LPM plant is catering to the high flow oxygen needs of patients and another similar capacity (1000 LPM) plant will be commissioned in next two days.

Pole directed the Principal GMC for making proper teams which will oversee the working of oxygen plants besides

conducting fire and emergency audit of the hospital and removing the critical points. He also called for strict "no entry" for unauthorized persons in oxygen plants and other important locations.

Stressing on proper functioning of triage centre at GMC, the Div Com asked the health authorities to monitor its working on daily basis and allocate the facilities to Covid patients as per their need and condition.

Addressing the team of doctors, he emphasized for deferment of non-emergency surgeries so that the human and material resources are utilised for effective Covid mitigation.

He also passed directions for minimiz-

ing entry of attendants to covid wards, separate entry and exit points for Covid and non-covid patients to reduce chances of virus exposure besides deputing volunteers (Ex-service-men, SDRF etc) who would help ensure the same. At last, the Div Com visited the CMOs office and took stock of the functioning of Covid Control Room there. He was informed by CMO Ang that the control room and similar control rooms at Block level are working round the clock to monitor the home isolation of positive patients, requirements of Covid persons, testing process and referrals across the district. Pole directed for further augmentation of the control room with

proper dovetailing of resources besides aggressive testing of the people in containment zones. Talking to the media, the Div Com said the administration is fully prepared to tackle the situation that has arisen out of the Covid-19 Pandemic and appealed the public to strictly follow the restrictions and SOPs besides avoiding gatherings to combat it.

As a proactive measure, the district administration and health authorities have put in place 335 oxygenated beds at various hospitals/facilities and other augmentative steps are being taken to ramp up medical infrastructure and oxygen availability across the district.

(PR/DI)

"Govt Must Disclose Where Cancelled MPLADS Were Utilised in J&K?" : Sawhney

"Why Despite Cancelled MPLADS and PMCARES, No Improvement in Medical Infrastructure Since Last Year?": Sawhney

PB NEWS SERVICE JAMMU

Former Minister J&K and Senior Congress leader Yogesh Sawhney on Friday raised serious questions to the BJP led Central Government on utilisation of the cancelled MPLAD FUNDS In J&K, expressing concerns if at all money had been deployed to improve medical infrastructure and tackle Covid in J&K. Last year, at the height of the pandemic, the cabinet had decided to suspend MPLAD funds for two years to divert the money flow towards Covid-19 management and healthcare facilities. However, even after one year since the decision, when a second wave of the virus has taken the country by storm, there is a huge shortage of medicines, beds, oxygen and other medical facilities necessary to deal with this disease. There is hardly any medical support to save precious lives. If MPLADs subsumed the funds to the Central pool

to fight the COVID-19 pandemic, where is the infrastructure to show for it. We want to know what the government has done with the money from these funds that were not given to the respective MPs.

Speaking on the matter, the former Minister asked to disclose the utilisation of the cancelled MPLAD Funds particularly in Jammu and Kashmir. MPLADs funds for five Lok Sabha and four Rajya Sabha members would have amounted to 745 crores worth of funds per annum only from the MPLADs. We urge the Government to disclose where that huge sum of money was spent and how did it not translate to improved medical facilities for our Patients. The condition of the entire nation has degraded to a level that foreign countries have to come to our aid but the government is a mute spectator. MPLADs is the only means for an MP to direct development resources to his constituency which was taken away by this govt with a promise to work on health-care system to competently face the second wave. But

that did not happen. Was a year not enough to install oxygen plants, hospital beds, and arrange other medical facilities. The blame cannot be on funds and it is only the govt's lack of sensibility, lack



of competence and lack of action to blame.

Further speaking on the issue the former Minister said that the administration, too, has not been at pace with the worsening covid situation in J&K. Numerous colleges, schools and other buildings are vacated in the lockdown, he said, the government should utilise them as temporary hospitalisation facilities. Experts have suggested countless times that young MBBS graduates wait-

ing for their PG entrance results can be deployed in primary care of patients to combat shortage of staff at least on a short-term basis. However, the administration is sitting hand in hand put-



ing all the burden on the hospitals and medical staff who're left to fight off the deadly virus without enough resources and strength. There's also confusion, lack of awareness and guidance. People are finding extremely difficult to find hospitalisation facilities when mixed signals and directives are coming from the administration. Without publicising new arrangements patients continue to be tossed between hospitals.

Thousands of cases are coming in J&K each day and hospitals across Jammu don't have the adequate facilities to deal with the increasing stress. Only if the government had kept its promise in working on our health sector after the first wave had subsided, many lives could have been saved.

The Congress leader further added that the Modi government had been blinded by the so-called success after the First wave so much so that they pushed the country into the second wave with their own hands. The world is witnessing our helplessness now and extending help. But where is the government in this crisis? Why did it not do enough even when they had the money? These questions need to be answered. As for the question of the MPLAD funds, they would have been better utilised by local leaders in J&K and perhaps the situation could have been better. The administration in J&K now needs to buckle up and focus on decisive planning, both short term and long term, and the government needs to decentralise Covid policies to protect the people of J&K.

Lt Governor releases Compendium of 1100 projects worth Rs 1555.16 crore completed by JKIDFC

Maintain transparency; ensure development works are visible in public domain: LG to JKIDFC

JAMMU Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha today released a Compendium, giving a



detailed briefing about the 1100 projects of public importance worth Rs 1555.16 crore completed by Jammu & Kashmir Infrastructure Development Finance Corporation (JKIDFC).

Sh. BVR Subrahmanyam, Chief Secretary; and Sh. Arun Kumar Mehta, Financial Commissioner, Finance Department were present on the occasion.

The Lt Governor emphasized the need for expediting completion of projects while simultaneously observing the necessary precautions related to Covid appropriate

behavior. The Lt Governor asked the JKIDFC to take comprehensive measures for achieving the target of completing

1000 more projects during the current financial year. The Lt Governor also laid special emphasis on regular monitoring of projects for ensuring their speedy execution, besides maintaining transparency in the execution of works by bringing out the information regarding development works undertaken by the Corporation in public domain. It was informed that the publication of Compendiums is part of the efforts to enhance transparency and accountability in the working of the Corporation. It will also be made available in the e-book

ing of payments, and systems for oversight by senior functionaries, for which a dashboard has been developed relating to key aspects of status of project implementation. The dashboard is available in public domain for citizens' oversight as well.

Earlier, the Corporation had published compendiums of 500 and 800 projects respectively. During 2019-20, 500 projects were completed under JKIDFC, whereas 600 more projects have been completed during 2020-21.

format. The JKIDFC has brought about a new culture of innovations such as Geo-tagging, Online billing and process-

(PR/DI)

World Red Cross Day: DRCS Kishtwar provides relief to Bal Ashram inmates

KISHTWAR To mark the World Red Cross Day 2021, the District Red Cross Society (DRCS) Kishtwar, under the supervision of Deputy Commissioner Ashok Sharma, who is also its



Chairman, today distributed the relief material comprising of the eatable items and other daily utility material among the beneficiaries of the Bal Ashram Kishtwar.

Joint Director Planning Mohammad Iqbal; ACR Kishtwar Akhter Hussain Qazi; DSWO, Traiq Parvez Qazi; Red Cross Secretary, Asgar Ali Sheikh; besides other officers and Volunteers were present on the occasion.

The packed material includes Haldi 10 Kg, Mirch Powder 1 Kg, Mustard Oil 48 ltr, Tea 20 Kg, Salt 25 Kg, Dal Chana 25 Kg, Sugar 50

Kg, Life-Boy Soap 30 nos and Rin Soap 30 nos. were handed over to the DSWO Kishtwar. The DC Kishtwar who was the chief guest, highlighted the role of District Red Cross society Kishtwar during COVID 19 pandemic. He said that RCS

Kishtwar has played a proactive role in mitigating and managing the COVID 19 pandemic since its inception in the district. The major highlights of their activities during the Lockdown period have been the free distribution of the face masks, sanitizers, eatables and other health and medical essentials at the door step of the poor and destitute, he reiterated.

Besides, the DC Kishtwar also appreciated the dedication of the volunteers in facilitating the emergency services to poor and affected ones round the clock in every nook and corner of the district. (PR/DI)

DC Kishtwar reviews COVID mitigation measures during late night inspection of District Hospital

Directs for strict compliance to duty roster; adequate emergency Medicare

KISHTWAR Deputy Commissioner, Kishtwar, Ashok Sharma reviewed the COVID mitigation measures in district hospital during a late night inspection.

He took first hand appraisal of the functioning of the district hospital, including health and patient care facilities being provided to the patients besides other COVID mitigation arrangements.

The DC inspected the emergency section besides other wards during which he interacted with the patients and other stakeholders to

enquire about various services being provided to them.

He directed the concerned registers and directed to provide qualitative and efficient patient care services to the people. He also took review of including availability of essential medicines, heating, light-COVID mitigation and other necessities. He directed the concerned authorities to provide these services to patients in a

hassle free manner. During inspection, he checked the attendance registers and directed

the concerned officials vividly on the notice board and said that any kind of laxity shall not be tolerated. Meanwhile, the DC Kishtwar also inspected him of the treatment provided to these COVID care patients. The DC centre established at district Hospital being followed by hospital management in the arrangement of these placed patients.

the concerned to display the duty roster of officials vividly on the notice board and said that any kind of laxity shall not be tolerated.

Meanwhile, the DC Kishtwar also inspected him of the treatment provided to these COVID care patients. The DC centre established at district Hospital being followed by hospital management in the arrangement of these placed patients. The DC was accompanied by SDM Chatroo Inderjeet Singh Parihar, COVID positive patients Hussain Qazi, CMO there. He Kishwar Dr. R S inquired from Manhas, District Immunization officer about the provisions of medicines, meal concerned officers and other medical officials. (PR/DI)



IRCS Jammu celebrates World Red Cross Day Div Com advises volunteers to reach out needy amid Covid pandemic

JAMMU Indian Red Cross Society, Jammu Region today celebrated World Red Cross Day at Red Cross Bhawan, Kachi Chawni as a mark of respect to the founder of Red Cross Movement "Sir Henry Dunant". The theme of the world Red Cross Day 2021 is "#Unstoppable".

The Red Cross Day function started with a flag hoisting ceremony by Chief Guest Divisional Commissioner cum Chairman, Indian Red Cross Society, Jammu Region, Dr. Raghav Langer, followed by Red Cross Pledge and Prayer by the gathering, Members Indian Red Cross Society and Red Cross Volunteers.

Floral Tributes were also paid to founder of Red Cross by Divisional Commissioner, Dr. Raghav Langer; Secretary, Indian Red Cross Society, Jammu Region, Vinod Malhotra; Executive

Members of Indian Red Cross Society, Jammu Region, Anil Suri, Surinder Mahajan, and S.C.Bali, Former Member

Covid-19 Pandemic. He said that this is a unique organization with the Government support and takes care of every

Indian Red Cross Society and its future plan of action.

Later, the Divisional Commissioner visited the



IRCS. The Chief Guest, Dr. Raghav Langer, congratulated the IRCS Jammu and maintained that there was great scope for doing much more activities in a coordinated and more scientific manner to reach and cover the maximum number of people who need Red Cross support during this

section of Society, especially the sick and the suffering lot. He sought cooperation of all departments and members of public in reaching out to the unreached.

Secretary, Indian Red Cross Society, Jammu Region, Vinod Malhotra, briefed about the activities being carried out by

IRCS vaccination centre setup at Indian Red Cross Society premises from 8th Feb, 2021. He expressed satisfaction over the working of the vaccination centre. He appreciated all the staff members of IRCS who are working as Front Line Warriors and are playing an extra-ordinary role. (PR/DI)

DC Reasi reviews Covid-19 containment measures in the district

REASI Deputy Commissioner (DC), Charandeep Singh, today convened a meeting of concerned officers to review the steps being taken to counter the Corona Virus pandemic in the district.

Among the others, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Reasi, Rajinder Kumar Sharma, ACR Sanjay Badyal, CMO Rajeev Kumar Sharma, Dy.CMO, BMOs, Doctors, ARTO and Medical staff attended the meeting.

During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner said that the war against the pan-

demie cannot be won without active cooperation of the people and everyone needs to take extra care and adhere to

social distance and other SOPs regarding the COVID19.

He directed the ARTO to deploy special

adhere to Covid-19 SOPs. He also directed the concerned officers to ensure full coverage of age appropriate persons

vehicles covered with covid banners to make the announcements regarding steps required to protect from CoronaVirus infection.

The Deputy Commissioner urged upon them to proactively sensitize the people to



Covid-19 SOPs in letter and spirit. The Deputy Commissioner directed concerned for establishing control room which will work 24*7 and stressed upon the importance of wearing masks, maintaining hygiene and

under vaccination drive. He also appealed to the public to adhere to the standard operating procedures (SOPs) issued by the Government for appropriate COVID-19 pandemic behaviour to break the highly infectious chain. (PR/DI)

Chief Secretary expresses profound grief over the sad demise of senior KAS officer Shamim Ahmad Wani

JAMMU Chief Secretary, B V R Subrahmanyam, expressed profound grief over the sad demise of senior KAS officer Mr. Shamim Ahmad Wani, who passed away this morning at Government Medical College & Hospital, Jammu due to COVID complications.

Expressing solidarity with the bereaved family members of the officer, Chief Secretary prayed for eternal peace to the departed soul and strength to near and dear ones to bear this irreparable loss. Chief Secretary remembered Mr Shamimas a dedicated, soft spoken and well-meaning officer who served with commitment in his capacity as Deputy Commissioner, Kulgam, Special Secretary, Finance and Commissioner, State Taxes among others. (PR/DI)

Additional Triage Center for Covid-19 patients set up in Gandhinagar Hospital (Old Block)

JAMMU: An additional Triage centre for Covid patients has been set up in Government Gandhinagar Hospital for regulating the admission of Covid patients in Jammu district.

The first Covid-19 Triage facility has been established in Chest Diseases Hospital, Jammu as first contact point for screening of any Covid +ve patient intending to get admitted in the designated Covid Hospitals in Jammu district:

"Now, in view of the recent surge in Covid-19 +ve cases and to ensure facilitation of such patients; additional Triage Centre is hereby ordered to be established at Govt. Hospital, Gandhinagar (Old Block), Jammu wherein Covid-19 patients shall be assessed by the designated teams of Health professionals," an order issued by Divisional Commissioner Dr Raghav Langer stated.

Accordingly, two Triage Centers at Chest Diseases Hospital and Government Hospital, Gandhinagar (Old Block), Jammu shall form the first Nodal point for the Covid-19 patients intending to get admission in the dedicated Covid Hospitals viz, Government Medical College Hospital, Jammu (Level-1, Tertiary Care Hospital); Chest Diseases Hospital, Jammu; Super Specialty Hospital, Jammu; MCH, Gandhinagar, Jammu; Psychiatry Hospital, Jammu; Government Hospital Gandhinagar (Old Block), Jammu (under Directorate of Health Services, Jammu); Rajiv Gandhi Hospital, Gangyal (under Directorate of Health Services, Jammu); Sub-District Hospital, Kot Bhalwal (under Directorate of Health Services, Jammu) and Sub District Hospital, Bishnah (under Directorate of Health Services, Jammu).

As per the order, additional Triage facility established at Government Hospital Gandhinagar (Old Block), Jammu shall work under the Supervision of Medical Superintendent of Government Hospital Gandhinagar (Old Block), Jammu.

A team of Health Professionals shall also be nominated by the Principal, Government Medical College, Jammu at the said Triage facility to provide necessary coordination in the triaging and rationalization of admission of Covid +ve in Govt. Medical College Associated Hospitals/Dedicated Covid Hospitals under Directorate of Health Services, Jammu.

Medical Superintendent, Government Hospital Gandhinagar (Old Block), Jammu shall dedicate a land line as well as mobile number for facilitation of Covid-19 patients which shall be given wide publicity.

All the Chief Medical Officers of other nine Districts shall also establish a similar mechanism of Triage facility at their respective GMCs/District Hospitals and also make sure that there was no unnecessary referral to the Tertiary Care Hospitals. (PR/DI)

Indians appreciate Pakistan's admission that Art370 is India's internal affair: Chrungoo

PB NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU: "Indians will always appreciate and welcome Pakistan's admission that Article 370/35A is an internal affair of India. This admission is a proof of the fact that the 2019 August developments have a global acceptance besides being it the sovereign right of the Parliament of India to choose its political options at its own timings", said **Ashwani Kumar Chrungoo, senior BJP and KP leader, Incharge, Deptt of Political**

Affairs and Feedback, J&K-BJP.

He was reacting to the recent and fresh statement of Shah Mahmood Qureshi, the Foreign Minister of Pakistan. Amid reports of back-channel talks between New Delhi and Islamabad, Pakistan appears to be toning down its rhetoric on Kashmir.

As per press statement issued to mercury times, in an interview with Pakistan's SAMAA TV, the country's Foreign Minister, Shah Mahmood Qureshi, has said that "the dilution of Article 370 is India's internal matter, adding

that the move has been challenged in the Indian Supreme Court". "In my view, Article 370 is not important," Qureshi said.

When asked what is important for Pakistan, he said Article 35A, Article 35A, incorporated into the Constitution in 1954 by an order of the President in 1954, allowed the Jammu and Kashmir legislature to define permanent residents of the state, their special rights and privileges.

Chrungoo made it clear a number of times previously also that it should not seem that Pakistan continues to live in its world of

dreams about Jammu and Kashmir notwithstanding the fact that the decisions taken by the sovereign Parliament of India on 5-6 August 2019 relating to Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh were supported by the 3/4th majority of the representatives of Parliament of India. These representatives included those belonging to the then Jammu & Kashmir state as well. In both the houses of the Parliament, mind it, all of them were directly and indirectly elected by the people of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.

Having such a huge legislative support in both the houses of Par-

liament regarding the August 5-6, 2019 developments, It is but rubbish to think in terms of any kind of willingness on the part of the government of India revisiting the decisions taken in August 2019.

A number of elections to various democratic institutions were held in the UT of Jammu and Kashmir, after the historic decisions, in which almost 60% people in the UT participated. The process of successful delimitation will also lead the UT to elect a new Legislative Assembly in the very near future.

Moreover, the people in the Union Territory are more interested in peace, progress, development and prosperity which Pakistan destroyed by its cross-border terrorism and cross-LoC firing over the last more than three decades, he further added. It has been made clear to the rulers in Pakistan that India continues to have a big

stake in those occupied parts of Jammu and Kashmir which are under the illegal control of Pakistan and we would want their liberation as soon as it is possible. But there can be no negotiations under the well established and recognized doctrine of India which clearly states that "terror and talks won't go together". There is always a big constituency available in India that goes by this doctrine that was invented during the last Congress regime and supported by the then opposition overwhelmingly.

The opposition of those years constitutes the government of the day and has a strong mandate of the people to pursue its election manifesto which includes this foreign affairs doctrine as an integral part, and Pakistan needs to make a permanent note of this reality on the ground, added the BJP leader.

Charak urges Lt Guv to ensure uninterrupted power supply at newly set up oxygen plants

PB NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: President Dogra Sadar Sabha Th. Gulcham Singh Charak has urged the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor Jammu and Kashmir, Sh Manoj Sinha to accord priority to provision of Diesel Generating sets for ensuring proper back up arrangements for power supply at the newly set up oxygen plants in hospitals and industrial areas. In a statement issued here today he emphasized that, during the current crises when there is a shortage of oxygen supply, and demand is increasing by the day, it is imperative that the oxygen plants operate at peak efficiency for which separate Diesel Generating sets of adequate capacity need to be made available for these plants along with diesel & other consumables as well as the requisite staff for their operation & maintenance, so that public does not face any inconvenience on this account. He said that the availability of consumables and staff for existing DG sets at the hospitals also needs to be reviewed. As per press statement issued to mercury times, Charak further suggested that the staff of the Power Development Department working in the field under COVID conditions should be declared "front-line workers" & provided facilities at par with police & health services. He said that such staff members should be vaccinated on priority and should also be insured / compensated against any unfortunate accidents or COVID related deaths. He also pointed out that the covid-19 helpline numbers specified by the Government for availing information/consultation are found to be non responsive and generally the phones keep on ringing and no one picks them up. He urged the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor, J&K, that an effective mechanism be put in place, under his personal supervision, for monitoring the responsiveness of the helpline numbers to ensure that the people get the intended services and relief on contacting the helpline.



BJP State President Ravinder Raina received his 1st dose of COVID-19 vaccine

PB NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: J&K BJP State President Ravinder Raina received his 1st dose of COVID-19 vaccine. Raina took his shot at Scouts and Guide Center Gandhi Nagar, Jammu at 10:30 morning today.

As per press statement issued to mercury times, receiving the shot, Raina expressed extreme

happiness and satisfaction as he received indigenous built vaccine.

He said, "This morning, I gratefully received my 1st dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. Highly thankful to our great Indian Scientists".

Raina also appealed all to come forward and timely receive the vaccine according to slots available.

Amarinder fooling people with SITs and panels in Guru Granth Sahib sacrilege cases: Chugh

PB NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: BJP national general secretary Tarun Chugh today blasted the Amarinder Singh government for taking recourse to evasive methods to shield and protect the culprits in incidents of Guru Granth Sahib sacrilege that took place six years ago.

As per press statement issued to mercury times, Chugh said there is no international conspiracy in these cases that we need an SIT. "There have been a series of incidents of sacrilege of Guru Granth Sahib following which the Kotkapura police firing incident took place for which simple magisterial or judicial inquiry should have sufficed, but the chief minister is bent upon not letting justice come about," he said. By entrusting the



investigation about the police action to the senior police officers how can we expect justice for all those whose religious sentiments had been hurt? Chugh asked. In a statement today Chugh ques-

tioned the propriety of forming yet another police SIT to investigate the Kotkapura police firing incident after the earlier SIT report was shot down by the Punjab and Haryana High Court and said that the new SIT has been in fact formed to put the entire matter in cold storage and let the culprit go scot-free. He said the chief minister was just willing away time with the formation of SITs and giving culprits a long rope.

Chugh said after wasting lakhs of rupees from the state exchequer in courts after the first SIT report the chief minister should be held accountable for the failure of the first SIT to deliver. "Amarinder seems to be fooling people by leaving the investigation to the SIT", Chugh added.

Advisor Baseer Khan Visits Baramulla, Kupwara to review COVID control measures

Says need of the hour is to supplement Govt efforts by all stakeholders at this critical juncture

BARAMULLA: Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Baseer Ahmad Khan, accompanied by concerned officers today visited Baramulla where he chaired two separate meetings with Deputy Commissioners of Baramulla and Kupwara besides interacting with various stakeholders in order to discuss means and measures for combating the challenge of COVID-19 pandemic.

On the occasion, a comprehensive discussion was held wherein the stakeholders comprising religious heads, transporters, traders among other prominent sections of the society from both the districts separately presented their feedback and suggestions with regard to the issue.

DDC Chairperson Baramulla, Safina Beigh, DDC Chairman

Kupwara Irfan Panditpuri, Deputy Commissioner Baramulla Bhopinder Kumar, Deputy Commissioner Kupwara Imam ud din, Director Tourism Dr G N Itoo, Director RDD Kashmir, heads of various departments, PRIs among other concerned functionaries were present on the occasion.

Advisor underlined the need of active cooperation from every stakeholder in combating the challenge of COVID-19 pandemic and said that need of the hour is to supplement the government efforts at this critical juncture. He added that religious heads and PRIs enjoy a respectable position in the society and they can effectively do their part by motivating people to follow SOPs and guidelines for averting major exigencies.

Advisor called for stringent measures for curbing this infection. He also stressed upon the traders and trans-

porters to strictly follow the requisite advisories saying that the situation can go out of control if the issue is not taken



seriously. Advisor said that any kind of gathering in the form of religious congregation need to be avoided at the time of pandemic.

Baseer Khan added that administration has procured sufficient stock of Oxygen supply and essential drugs and there is no need to pay any heed to the rumours regarding its scarcity. He emphasized upon the officers and other stakeholders to educate people about the ongoing COVID-19 vaccination campaign

so that people come forward and take the vaccine doses at their stipulated time. Meanwhile, Advisor

followed. Interacting with the PRI and ULB representatives, Advisor impressed upon them

During the separate meetings, both the DCs briefed about various initiatives that have been taken up by the administration to combat COVID-19 pandemic.

DC Baramulla informed that presently there are about 2500 active cases in Baramulla district with 300 cases being reported on daily basis. He added that 38 zones have been declared as containment zones where mass testing is being carried out. He also informed that Baramulla has the capacity of 400 hospital beds and 03 Oxygen plants are operating effectively. Bhopinder Kumar said that GMC Baramulla shall be equipped with 70 high Flow Oxygen beds which will prove very beneficial at this critical time. Appreciating the role of both district administrations, Advisor emphasized to scale up such activities for overall well being of the people. (PR/DI)

to play a bigger role in tackling this pandemic. He appealed them to step forward and aware the masses about the importance of wearing a mask and social distancing. He further requested them to get their localities sanitized/fumigated.

Later, Advisor convened meetings of officers where he took an appraisal of various anti-corona measures that are being currently taken up by both the district administrations.

directed both the DCs to formulate exigency plans in view of forthcoming festivals of Shab-e-Qadr and Eid-ul-Fitr and make arrangements of mobile vans in containment zones so that all the essential commodities are delivered at the door steps of those living in such zones. He emphasized to ensure that the economic activities relating to agriculture, horticulture, MGNREGA etc goes on smoothly provided COVID appropriate protocol is strictly

DLSA Udhampur establishes help desk for needy people

UDHAMPUR
Under the directions of Executive Chairman of J&K Legal Services Authority, Justice Ali Mohammad Magrey, J&K High Court & under the chairmanship of Yash Paul Bourneay, its chairman, District Legal Services Authority, Udhampur has established various Help desks to help the needy people amid Covid-19 Pandemic.

As per press statement issued to mercury times, the Help Desks created by Secretary District Legal Services Authority, Rajni Sharma will address the distress calls of the people in Need.

As per the Secretary DLSA, the Help desks have been created to respond to the distress calls of the poor and needy people who require any type of assistance whether it is for transportation, ration, medical assistance etc besides other legal assistances. In Salathia Chowk,

Udhampur, People can contact Advocate, Sanjeet Kumar (9419175686), Para Legal Volunteer Rachna Devi (9149954854), Advocate, Pawan Gupta (9796674003), PLV Amit Bhardwaj (8825037287); Advocate, Akhil Dubey (9796887770), PLV Babu Ram (6005547002) & Advocate, Karun Raina (9018110550), PLV Swarnkant Dubey (9149846683).

In M H Chowk Udhampur, People can contact Advocate, Anil Kumar (9906112988), PLV Rajni Sharma (9469257750); Advocate, Tanya Mahajan (8493968699), PLV Bandana Sharma (9419811263); Advocate, Mallikarjun Singh Slathia (9906241772), PLV Nita Devi (9149570846), Advocate, Atul Singh (7889792855) & PLV Shehnaz Akhtar (8803179481).

In Gole Market, Udhampur, People can contact Advocate, Ajay Singh Wazir (9419160182), PLV Sham

Lal (9419849652); Advocate, Akhil Khajuria (9622221822), PLV Tara Chand (9858554976); Advocate Akash Somatra (9018230789), PLV Ranjinder Kumar (9622206801); Advocate, Nikhileshwar Singh Slathia (8717041153) & PLV Avtar Singh (7889607249).

Residents of Chenani can contact Advocate Balwan Singh (9622339033), PLV Sushma Sharma (7889807266); Advocate M.M Bhat (7780829428), PLV Rakesh Kumar (7006033625); Advocate Tariq Mijahid Mughal (9419167244), PLV Sumit Sharma (7889479455) & Advocate A.S Katoch (9697175289).

Likewise, residents of Majalta, Udhampur can contact Adv. Mohan Lal Gupta (9419335625), PLV Rajani Sharma (9797637933), Adv. Devinder Singh (7006886497), PLV Sonu Kumar (8491834468), PLV Rohit Verma (9906882788), PLV

Angreez Singh (9596961762), PLV Sanjogta Devi (7051082171), PLV Luxmi Sharma (8899370787), PLV Suman Lata (8082824791), PLV Sunita Devi (6005367270) & PLV Meena Rani (9469420300). Residents of Ramnagar can contact Advocate KD Sharma (7051182750), PLV Anuradha Devi (9858894926); Adv. Mohan Lal Gupta (9419158553), PLV Veena Devi (6006933827); Adv. Sudesh Kumar Gupta (9419379400), PLV Surinder Kumar (9858249073); Adv. Harjeet (9622009315), PLV Nisha Devi (6005140956); Adv Rakesh Kumar (7006839931), PLV Sheela Devi (9797616867); Adv. Vikrant Sharma (7889967016), PLV Ram Krishan (9149837544), PLV Shakti (9906292149), Parvez Deman (9149796826), PLV Abid Maqbool (9797336909) and PLV Mukhtyar Husain (9697552650).

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(PR/DI)

COVID-19 recovery data in J&K: Declines from 96% to 82% in one month

SRINAGAR
The recovery rate of Covid-19 cases in Jammu and Kashmir which once was over 98 percent has now reduced to 82 percent amid a spike in the cases on a daily basis.

Sources told mercury times, that as per the data the recovery rate in J&K has declined from 96.54 percent to 82.59 percent in the month of April alone. The recovery rate in Kashmir division is 82.08 percent while the recovery rate of Jammu division is 83.38 percent.

In Kashmir Division, the recovery rate of Srinagar is 79.55 percent, Baramulla has 80.02 percent, Budgam 85.68 percent, Pulwama 85.49 percent, Kupwara 85.29 percent, Anantnag 79.81 percent, Bandipora 91.45 percent, Ganderbal 90.18 percent, Kulgam 71.80 percent and Shopian 87.48 percent.

In Jammu division, the recovery rate of Jammu district is 80.74 percent, Udhampur has 89.29, Rajouri 80.35 percent, Doda 91.11 percent, Kuthua 87.18 percent, Samba 78.74 percent, Kishtwar 95.06 percent, Poonch 87.41 percent, Ramban 87.31 percent and Reasi 78.83 percent.

J&K is witnessing a steep surge in positive cases while deaths are also increasing with each passing day.

Notably, the active cases in Jammu and Kashmir are around 30,000 while as in first wave the highest active positive cases in J&K were around 22,000. (PR/DI)

Advisor Farooq Khan says Tele Medicine being extended to districts ensuring medical advice to healthcare staff in remote locations

SAMBA
Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Farooq Khan, today visited District Hospital Samba and reviewed the status of Covid control measures being put in place to tackle effectively Covid-19 pandemic.

Advisor Farooq Khan, accompanied by Deputy Commissioner, Samba, Anuradha Gupta, took stock of entire medical infrastructure availability in the hospital which serves as a prime health institution adjacent to national highway. He was informed that the hospital is equipped with modern state of art medical CT scan machine, X-ray machine, ultrasound machine besides well equipped OT rooms, Gynaec rooms and general ward.

As per press statement issued to mercury times,

Deputy Commissioner informed the Advisor about status of initiatives being taken up by the district administration saying that more than 40 vaccination centres have been identified in the district where regular vaccination of Covid-19 is being carried out. Besides, testing/sampling of travellers coming through road and railway is also being carried out while surveillance teams are conducting random testing of Covid-19, she added.

She also informed about the present status of RTPCR/RAT/Truenat testing, active positive cases, micro containment zones, vaccination status of HCW/FLWAW, availability of oxygen equipments, beds and other medical facilities in the district.

Advisor Farooq Khan, while reviewing the healthcare system, ex-

horted upon the administration to adopt proactive approach in handling Covid-19 positive cases besides increasing recovery rate. He said additional hospitals and health institutions can also be ramped up for enhancing medical aid facilities in the district.

He laid emphasis on ensuring tele-medicine facility in the district for attending non Covid-19 OPDs. Advisor Farooq Khan also enquired about the status of oxygen generating plants in the district.

He directed the SSP for ensuring zero pilferage and zero diversion of medical oxygen to non-health institutions. Advisor also visited Kathua district to take stock of Covid control measures being put in place in Government Medical College there.

Advisor was accompanied by Deputy Commis-

sioner, Kathua, Rahul Yadav, SSP Kathua R C Kotwal, Professor Pathology, Dr Surinder Attri, Medical Superintendent, Dr. Chitra Vaishnavi, HoDs of different departments and other concerned officers.

Advisor Farooq Khan visited Isolation Ward for Covid patients of GMC Kathua and interacted with patients and enquired about their well being and status of medical care being provided to them by the hospital authorities. He also visited ICU unit and enquired about the availability of necessary infrastructure in the hospital. While inspecting the ongoing works of Oxygen Generation Plant at GMC, Advisor directed the executing agency to expedite the works and complete it within next four days so that better patient care can be ensured.

He also visited Oxygen Manifold plant and enquired about the availability of oxygen for daily consumption in the hospital.

He was apprised that Hospital has sufficient stock of cylinders catering to the need of the Covid and other patients. Farooq Khan informed that the facility of Tele Medicine is being extended to the districts so that necessary monitoring and medical advice can be provided to the health care staff sitting in far and remote locations.

Regarding installation of new CT scan machinery at GMC, Advisor assured that the necessary equipments will be installed within next fifteen days.

Later, Advisor Farooq Khan held a brief meeting with Deputy Commissioner and senior officers of Medical Education and Health

Department and other concerned officers at DC office Complex.

He directed the concerned officials that proper plan should be made beforehand for smooth operation of the oxygen plant besides training the staff meant for operating the plant.

Advisor impressed upon the officials for taking periodic assessment of availability of medical resources like oxygen, beds, manpower, medicines etc to meet out any exigency.

He asked them to ensure that hassle free medical services are provided to the public and their concerns are addressed regularly.

Advisor assured the concerned officers that infrastructure required to strengthen the healthcare and other amenities for the patients welfare will be given priority.

(PR/DI)

Guru Tegh Bahadur's Prakash Diwas celebration begins at low-key amid strict adherence to COVID SOPs

JAMMU
Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji's 400th Prakash Diwas celebration begin today at a low-key here amid strict adherence to COVID SOPs.

May 1st marked the Prakash Purab (birth anniversary) of Guru

Raghav Langer; Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Anshul Garg; Chairman State Gurudwara Prabandhak Committee, Sardar Trilochan Singh, and Secretary District Gurudwara Prabandhak Committee, Sardar Fateh Singh.

mode, the School Education Department will also celebrate the Prakash Purab. Debates, cultural talks and Essay Competitions have been planned by the department.

Depending upon the COVID situations in the District UT future events like



Tegh Bahadur Ji, the ninth Guru of Sikhism, who is known for his supreme sacrifice and refusal to bow to tyranny and injustice.

A programme was held today at Gurudwara Maharani Chand Kour, which witnessed the participation of Divisional Commissioner, Jammu,

Administration along with District Gurudwara Parbandhak Committee Jammu (DGPC) started the celebrations at a low key amid strict adherence to CoVid guidelines.

Two programmes, on 1st of May and 16th of May will be held to celebrate the Prakash Diwas of 9th Guru. In a virtual

blood donation camps, Kirtan Sandhaya, Light and Sound Show have also been planned. The Sikh organizations have appealed to the people to cooperate with the administration for prevention of present COVID threat and to follow necessary precautions for the safety of all. (PR/DI)

In six years, nearly 1,000 people lost lives in road accidents of rural Kashmir

SRINAGAR
Over one thousand persons have lost their lives in the past six years in different road accidents that occurred in rural areas of Kashmir division.

Traffic police officer of rural Kashmir said that at least 954 persons have lost their lives during traffic accidents in the jurisdiction of traffic rural Kashmir from March 2016 to March 2021.

The officer in a reply to Right to Information (RTI) application filed by the activist M M Shuja has said that the department has recovered over Rs 14 crores from its jurisdiction.

"Rs 1,41,033,256 have been recovered from violators as fine in the jurisdiction of traffic rural Kashmir from March 2016 to March 2021," it reads.

The Public Information Officer (PIO) has also said, "There are 282 officers and 104 SPOs including those attached from various districts are presently deployed on traffic regulation duties in the jurisdiction of this unit comprising all districts except district Srinagar of the Kashmir valley."

As per press statement issued to mercury times, "At least 90 Traffic awareness programmes have been organized by this unit during the

year 2020. However no expenditure has been projected or allotted for the said purpose," reads the RTI reply.

The officer said that in the year, 2017-2018 at least Rs 60,000 were utilized for organizing various traffic awareness programmes in schools, with drivers and road users and the department also organized road rallies in the jurisdiction of traffic rural Kashmir. However, in the year 2018-2019 no amount was utilized by the department in jurisdiction of traffic in rural Kashmir.

The documents reveal that in the year 2019-2020 only Rs 10,000 were utilized in organizing various traffic awareness programmes in schools, with drivers and road users.

On asking about the proposal submitted by the traffic police department to the government for streamlining the traffic system, the officer in a RTI reply has said, "Various projects have been forwarded to PHQ and THQ Jammu and Kashmir for perusal and consideration."

"110 programmes have been jointly organized by the department of traffic in rural Kashmir with ARTOs of the Valley from March 2016 to 2021," it reads.

(PR/DI)

Advisor Baseer Khan seeks cooperation of all stakeholders towards containing Covid-19

SRINAGAR
Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Baseer Ahmad Khan, on Saturday held interactive meetings with representatives of Trade Bodies, Tourism Industry, Industries, Religious leaders and other stakeholders at Sher-i-Kashmir International Conference Center (SKICC) here to discuss issues arisen due to outbreak of second wave of Covid pandemic besides working out remedial measures.

Deputy Commissioner, Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad, Director SKIMS, Dr A G Ahanger, Commissioner SMC, Amir Athar, Director Tourism, Kashmir, Dr GN Itoo, Director Health Services Kashmir, Dr Mushtaq Ahmad Rather, Director Rural Development Department and other senior officers were present in the first meeting while the sec-

ond meeting was attended by Deputy Commissioner Budgam, Chairman DDC Budgam and other officers.

While interacting with the representatives in both the meetings, Advisor sought their cooperation to the administration in dealing with the global pandemic more efficiently and effectively for good of the community. He urged upon them to ensure strict adherence to all SOPs and guidelines regarding Covid to save precious lives. He sought cooperation from the religious heads, PRI members, transporters, business community, tourism players and civil society members to use their influence in motivating people towards strict adherence to Covid guidelines.

As per press statement issued to mercury times, Advisor called for a vigorous vaccination drive asking all the participants to make people aware about the significance of vaccina-

tion to reduce the spread of Covid-19 and protect precious human lives. He said that all possible measures are being taken to en-



sure adequate supply of essentials to combat the second wave of Covid-19. He said J&K has abundant resources with potential to tackle any eventuality as there is no dearth of vaccines, drugs or medical oxygen.

Advisor directed the SMC authorities to intensify sanitization and fumigation drives par-

ticularly at markets, religious places, transport vehicles and other vital places where large number of people visit. SMC Commissioner

gave a brief account of the activities being taken up by the Municipality in this regard. Advisor stressed for augmenting the health infrastructure besides preparing a meticulous and actionable plan to address any medical emergency. He asked both the Deputy Commissioners to have re-

source assessment done in terms of infrastructure, oxygen availability, bed capacity, ventilators, manpower and other infrastructure to be ready for any possible spike in COVID positive cases. Advisor directed the Deputy Commissioners to conceptualize plans for efficient vaccination, management of containment zones, movement of people, food and supply, medicine, emergencies, avenues of wages and other aspects that need prime focus at this stage. He directed them to have mobile supply vans ready to suffice to the needs of people at their door steps in the containment zones.

Advisor exhorted for ensuring that the wage employment programmes like MGN-REGA and agricultural operations go smoothly amid adherence to Covid SOPs adding the government is taking calibrated measures for saving both lives and livelihoods together.

Highlighting the importance of IEC and awareness activities for mitigating the infections, he asked the officers to rope in PRI and ULB members besides religious leaders and committees at micro level in this regard. Deputy Commissioners of Srinagar and Budgam, Ajaz Assad and Shahbaz Mirza gave detailed presentation about the Covid-19 management efforts being taken up besides giving the profile of infrastructure, oxygen and bed availability in their respective districts. Responding to the suggestions and issues put forth by the participants, Advisor assured them that all possible measures will be taken up for betterment of the business community. On the occasion, all stakeholders associated with Trade, Transport, Tourism and NGO assured the Advisor their full support towards supplementing administration's efforts regarding the fight against the second wave of Covid pandemic. (PR/DI)

GMC Jammu suspends OPD services amid Covid surge

JAMMU
Administration of Government Medical College Hospital Jammu has decided to suspend OPD services, including in its Associated Hospitals in view of increased Covid Patient load.

A handout issued here to mercury times stated that 'In view of recent surge of Covid 19 pandemic and increase in patient load, the routine OPDs in GMC & its Associated Hospitals shall remain suspended w.e.f. 03-05-2021 till further order.'

However, in order to avoid inconvenience to general public, the emergency services shall continue to remain functional (24x7) as per routine. (PR/DI)

Govt rolls out largest vaccination drive in J&K, 204 persons get jabs on day-1

JAMMU
The Jammu and Kashmir government on Saturday rolled out the largest vaccination drive for people between the age group of 18-45 years and on day one over 200 persons were vaccinated. Officials in State Immunisation told mercury times that day one 140 persons in Jammu and 64 persons in Kashmir got Covaxin doses.

Pertinently, due to the shortage of the Covishield vaccine, government had decided to start largest vaccination drive from around May 20.

Officials said that "we

are expecting Covishield vaccine for 18-45 years of age in between 15 to 20 May, however, yesterday late night we got intimation from Bharat Biotech a Hyderabad based company about Covaxin and during night invoices were prepared and on Saturday afternoon we received 1.5 lac doses of Covaxin, 75,000 doses for each division and accordingly drive was started."

Officials said that those who have taken the Covishield vaccine must take Covishield as a second dose and can take it at any Covishield site.

Officials further added that those among 18-45 years of age who want to take Covishield have to

wait few days as our big consignment of Covishield is coming in next few days.

Officials said that they are going to ramp up the vaccination drive from tomorrow and there will be separate sites for Covaxin and Covishield.

Officials said that on Saturday 24,870 persons received Covishield doses in Jammu and Kashmir.

The State Immunisation Officer said that so far 2,371,985 doses of Covishield vaccine have been administered in Jammu and Kashmir and among them 1,992,448 doses have been given as first dose and 379,537 as second dose. (PR/DI)

DDMA Srinagar establishes Covid-19 War Room

SRINAGAR
In order to facilitate the general public regarding Covid-19 related queries and to ensure systematic Redressal of such issues, the District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA), Srinagar today on 01.05.2021 has launched 24/7 dedicated Helpline at Covid-19 War Control Room. The facility was inaugurated by the Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Pandurang K Pole in presence of Chairman DDMA Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad. After inauguration, the Div Com was given a brief about the facilities available at Covid War Room. The Div Com was given a brief demonstration about the initiative and was told that people can log on to the website www.wasela.in and can get real time information about Covid-19 related issues including the number of isolation beds, Oxygen & beds as well as normal beds available in city hospitals. Statistics about positive cases, tests conducted, vaccination details, information regarding containment zones etc. shall also be available on the web portal. As per press statement issued to mercury times, the Div Com was further informed that all City hospitals have been mapped with the Covid-19 War Room so that all information is timely updated on the website. People can dial helpline No's. *01942483650* & *01942483651* for any query with regard to Covid-19.

The Divisional Commissioner appreciated the efforts of DDMA for timely setting up of the Control Room to facilitate the people in this crucial time. On the occasion, the Chairman DDMA said the basic purpose of establishing the Covid-19 War Room is to provide instant information to the people about Beds, Oxygen, Ventilators, ICU available in the hospitals besides addressing other Covid-19 related issues. He also said that necessary support in the form of medicines and food etc will also be facilitated for the deserving covid positive persons especially ones belonging to BPL families through voluntary organisations. (PR/DI)

Dr Nisar-ul-Hassan urges Govt to increase ICU bed capacity as, we are fighting war with deadly virus

SRINAGAR
As the Covid-19 cases and deaths continue to increase with each passing day, experts believe that the second wave of the virus is yet to reach its peak and that the authorities must continue restrictions for some more time.

Flu expert and President Doctors association Kashmir Dr Nisar Ul Hassan said that to break the transmission of the second wave of Covid-19, the government must

continue restrictions for one week or more as positive cases and deaths are escalating with each passing day. As per press statement issued to mercury times, he said that the second wave is yet to reach the peak stage which is expected to reach the peak stage in next 15 days so cases and deaths may increase further in these days and easing restrictions at this stage can prove suicidal.

He said that with more cases, there will be more admissions to hospitals and more deaths and in

such conditions "our hospitals can't cope up."

Dr Nisar said that the positivity rate is more than what is available in the data as there are many unreported cases and deaths as many people die at home and several people avoid testing.

He added that to combat the virus at this stage, there is no alternative other than to continue lockdown for a few more days besides that the government must increase ICU beds on a war footing basis to counter the virus as we are fight-

ing war with the deadly virus. "Around 95 per cent people in J&K are still susceptible and the government must ramp up the vaccination process in the lockdown period after which restrictions can be eased after accessing this situation as nobody wants lockdown," the doctor said. "Administration must take decision keeping in view that it is a matter of life and death and such things should not be decided on basis of public pressure or economy." (PR/DI)

People become carefree after the attack of first wave of COVID: Advisor Farooq Khan

KATHUA

Talking about increasing death rate of COVID positive patients, Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Farooq Khan on Saturday, "People become carefree after the attack of first wave of COVID. Most of us and particularly youngsters thought that COVID was over but unfortunately it strike back."

While talking to reporters during his visit to Kathua GMC, Khan "People of Jammu and Kashmir must trust doctors, health department as administration is fully aware of the situation and we won't allow the 'chaotic' scenes in J&K that you see on television about other states." As per mercury times reporter, Khan said that people should not panic as UT administration has sufficient stocks or drug and medicines and hospital staffs, adding in coming day we may require more oxygen, so we are preparing for it and soon Oxygen plant in Kathua hospital will be functional.

Khan claimed that J&K will have ample resources in coming days that it helps other states in future. Denying commenting of incident of Batra hospital, Khan said: "I will not comment on the any news run by social media." He said that situation in Jammu and Kashmir is much under control and "we won't allow 'panic' scenes in J&K that people see on television (from other states). Khan appealed people to follow all SOPs and realize the importance of using face masks. Deputy Commissioner Kathua, Rahul Malik, SSP Ramesh Kotwal also accompanied him. (PR/DI)

DC Shopian issued directions for setting up of Isolation Centres in a ready to use condition

SHOPIAN

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Sachin Kumar Vaishya today issued directions for setting up of Isolation Centres in a ready to use condition. He further directed for quick response to meet up with any exigency occurring due to unprecedented rise in the Covid cases. He was speaking while convening a meeting to review the control measures in view of rise in Corona Virus cases in the district. As per press statement issued to mercury times, the DC on the occasion directed the HODs and other concerned officers to remain alert and ensure strict implementation of existing control measures and SOPs to put a control on the rising Covid cases. The meeting, in consonance with government guidelines, decided to take strong measures to enforce SOPs including social distancing and using of masks. The DC expressed grave concern over the surge in Covid-19 cases in the district and asked the concerned not to show any laxity in enforcing protocols.

The DC impressed upon the officers to strictly implement the strategy of vaccination above 45 years of age, strict control in Containment Zones and promotion of Covid appropriate behaviour among masses and also ensure display of posters in their respective jurisdictions to prevent further surge in the cases. He asked the respective Tehsildars and Nodal Officers to ramp up and prioritize vaccination in the eligible

population groups to address the worsening scenario. He also urged people to participate in the vaccination drives and get vaccinated on priority to keep themselves and their families safe from infection. Tehsildars and Nodal Officers were also directed to mobilize the targeted beneficiaries towards the vaccination process by seeking help of Lumberdars and other senior citizens.

The DC discussed the status of an ongoing vaccination drive in the district. He stressed upon the Revenue Officers, including Sub Divisional Magistrate and Tehsildars to immediately call a meeting of their subordinate staff and rope them for mass awareness among the general public about Covid protocols. Highlighting the importance of close coordination among different agencies of the government involved in the mitigation efforts, he passed directions for the establishment of dedicated control rooms at Sub Division Level and at Block Levels to share data and take effective measures in case of any emergency like situation in their respective areas with the District Control Room.

Among others, CPO Shopian, HODs, Tehsildars, Nodal Officers Health functionaries attended the meeting. (PR/DI)

Naina-Awantipora road in dilapidated condition, locals aghast

PULWAMA

The residents of Naina-Awantipora area alleged that over seven months after the Naina-Awantipora via Dogripora road was macadamized it has again got damaged raising questions over the use of the material on the road.

Locals from Kawani, Dogripora and its adjacent areas on Wednesday alleged that macadam laid on the road after around a decade didn't last even for six months. They said that soon after the macadamisation the road rutted at multiple spots and grooves surfaced all over the road. They said that the conditions of the road at maximum places are like it has never been macadamised ever.

"The road is again in a very dilapidated condition and is giving very tough time to the commuters as well the passersby," Shahid Ahmad a local resident said. He said a matter must be investigated and action must be taken against the erring officials.

Locals accused PMGSY of using substandard materials due to which the blacktopping suffered erosion in no time.

"They had macadamised the road only three inches deep instead of eight inches.", Mushtaq Ahmad another resident, said.

He said that Naina-Awantipora is a vital road on which hundreds of vehicles ply each day.

The residents of the area appealed to higher ups of the PMGSY department to look into the matter and take erring officials to task.

Executive Engineer PMGSY Er Muzaffar Ahmad said that roads might have got damaged in winter at some places.

He said that the road will be repaired wherever it has got damaged next month. (PR/DI)

COVID-19 SoPs implementation Enforcement teams recover Rs 11,200 fine from violators in Ramban

1651 vaccinated, 977 samples collected

RAMBAN
Continuing the drive to implement covid protocol across the district Ramban, the Enforcement teams today fined scores of violators for roaming without wearing face masks and not maintaining physical distance.

The enforcement teams, during the inspection in their respective jurisdictions, recovered a

fine of Rs 11,200 taking second Covid vaccine doses across Ramban since April 1, 2021 to Rs. 5,17,600.

The Enforcement officers urged the people to wear face masks and maintain physical distance besides taking Covid vaccination doses at their nearest CVC. District Immunization Officer, Ramban, Dr. Suresh informed that as many as 1651 persons were administered first and

(PR/DI)

Mission Youth: DC B'pora reviews preparation of DPRs for various Projects

BANDIPORA
The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Dr Owais Ahmad on Tuesday chaired a meeting to discuss preparatory work for various developmental projects including mission youth programme and Srinagar Metropolitan Development Authority (SM-RDA).

The meeting discussed several developmental projects coming up at 21 villages of four Tehsils of the district that have been included in Srinagar Metropolitan Development Authority including Sonawari, Shardpore, Nowgam, and Hajin.

Threadbare discussion was held on the projects taken up under the SMDA including multilevel car parking, upgradation of Bus Adda, Development of public parks, sanitary complexes and other projects. The meeting also discussed the bottlenecks that hinder the progress of these projects. On-spot directions were passed for removing the bottlenecks. As per press statement issued to mercury

times, the meeting also discussed modalities and measures to be taken for the effective and better implementation of Mission Youth- J&K. A thorough discussion on several aspects of formulation of DPRs and proposals for new cluster mode villages funded by Tribal affairs, Mission Youth, Mumkin Scheme, Skill Development, additional DPRs for various projects vis-à-vis indoor sports complex Bandipora and Sports activity. Meeting discussed proposals for establishment of Youth Facilitation Centre (e-office / library etc), Club with 2 VIP suits indoor offices, Fitness centres, badminton court, snooker etc near Kaloosa Auditorium, Action plan for Development of Play fields with changing rooms, washrooms under convergence mode in each Panchayat by Youth Services and Sports and the Department of Rural Development.

It was given out that a Water kingdom, Synthetic Turf Badminton courts and Youth Hostel shall also come up at Gurez, Sumbal and Bandipora on outsourcing

basis and modalities for establishment of the same were also discussed.

Officers also discussed the DPRs as per ceiling New Model Villages including Vevan, Mantrigam, Athwato and Pannar besides modernization of tribal Hostels, establishment of library, common rooms

Dr Owais stressed upon the concerned officers to work in coordination to ensure effective implementation of the dream projects.

He said skill development initiatives are being given due concentration for enhancing the employability of the unemployed youth.

He said the Mission Youth is an ambitious programme to nurture the capabilities and potential of youth through the intervention of appropriate and common platforms where all the activities of youth development are carried out for better and positive results.

The meeting was attended by Joint Director Planning, Assistant Commissioner Development, Chief Education Officer and other senior officers of the district. (PR/DI)

Director Agriculture visits SMF Padgampora, inaugurates Dapog/ MAT Nursery Technology

SRINAGAR
The Director Agriculture Kashmir Chowdhary Mohammad Iqbal today visited Seed Multiplication Farm (SMF) Padgampora, Pulwama where he inaugurated the Dapog/ MAT Nursery Technology for the preparation of Paddy Nurseries.

Dapog/Mat Nursery Technology seedlings are established in a layer of soil mix, arranged on a farm surface (concrete floor/ Polythene sheet/ seedling trays) seedlings are ready for planting within 14-20 days after seeding thus saving the time.

On the occasion while interacting with the concerned officers and technical staff of the farm, the Director highlighted the importance of introduction of real time technologies in the cultivation of paddy and other agriculture crops. As per press statement issued to mercury times, he said that the Rice is the most important staple food in the region and our challenge is that the land resource is decreasing with every passing day because of various obvious reasons and we have the responsibility to feed the ever increasing population.

He said therefore the only way forward is that we introduce modern technologies / varieties and increase not only the production but also

Vaccination Drive for 18-45yrs age group begins in Akhnoor

AKHNOOR: Bharat Vikas Parishad in association with health department started Covid Vaccination Camp at Kameshwar Mandir Akhnoor.

The Vaccination drive started today in presence of local administration including SDPO Akhnoor Varun Jandial, Tehsildar Akhnoor Surinder Singh, BMO Akhnoor Ashok Kumar and SHO Akhnoor Hilal Azhar.

Where as from Bharat Vikas Parishad National Vice President Dev Raj, Jammu Province President Ashok, Casier Bharat Bhushan, Kameshwar Shakha Pramukh Ramesh, Secretary Pawan were present mainly during drive.

Today total 185 people of 18-45 years age group were vaccinated.

the productivity of paddy and other crops.

The Director said that a good quality seed is the foundation for the successful cultivation of a crop and finally leads to the socio economic transformation of the farming community. He said the Department is making all possible efforts to ensure the availability of high quality seeds (produced from the Department's Seed Multiplication Farms) to the farmers well in time.

Earlier Manager Seed Multiplication Farm Padgampora Mr. Ajaz Ahmad gave a detailed presentation of various activities and programs being executed in the concerned farm.

During the tour Director inspected Mushroom Demonstration cum Training Centre at Pulwama and also interacted with the mushroom growers of the area. He stressed upon Chief Agriculture Officer Pulwama to explore marketing avenues for the mushroom growers.

Later, he visited different Fertilizer, Pesticide Dealers and Sales outlets of different agriculture inputs in Pulwama district.

The Director Agriculture Kashmir was accompanied by Deputy Director Law Enforcement, Chief Agriculture Officer Pulwama, District Agriculture Officer and other senior officers of the district. (PR/DI)

DC Kishtwar conducts surprise market inspection

KISHTWAR: Deputy Commissioner Ashok Sharma, along with the Senior Superintendent of Police Shafiq Hussain Bhatt, today conducted surprise market inspection in Kishtwar town and took stock of the Implementation of the COVID 19 guidelines and SOPs.

During the inspection of town, he urged the shopkeepers to sincerely follow the COVID 19 appropriate behavior, besides seeking the cooperation of the public in the fight against the pandemic.

The DC, along with SSP, also visited District Hospital Kishtwar and inspected the ongoing civil work of Oxygen generation plant and took stock of the COVID19 care facility there.

During the inspection, he directed the officer of executing agency to work in double shifts so as to complete the civil work of the

OGP within one week time. The Medical Superintendent of District Hospital, Dr Parveez Iqbal Wani was asked to ensure the installation of Oxygen generator immediately for the safety of the patients.

The MC apprised that the machinery for oxygen generation plant is on the way and shall reach Kishtwar within a few days.

He informed that the same will be installed as soon as OGP hall was completed by the PWD department.

While speaking on the occasion, the DC Kishtwar informed that all the critical care machinery have been placed in by the district administration which includes the preparation of 70 bedded COVID care centres at DH Kishtwar, 150 bedded COVID centre at Chatroo, 100 bedded COVID care centres each at Paddar and Sarthal, while 20 bedded ICU has been established in the DH Kishtwar to deal with criti-

cal cases.

Meanwhile, he conducted surprise inspection at various market places including old Bus stand, Gudhali chowk, Hidyali chowk, Bun Astan market, Tapal market etc

He urged the shopkeepers to sincerely follow the COVID 19 appropriate behavior and sought the public cooperation in the effective implementation of guidelines issued by govt for the effective management and containment of COVID19.

He asked SSP to gear up field agencies to ensure the effective implementation of Universal usage of face masks and avoidance of unnecessary gathering at public places besides asked to fine the defaulters.

Besides, the EO Municipal Council Kishtwar was directed to ensure the evacuation of vendors alongside the road and to ensure sanitation and cleanliness of public places. (PR/DI)

**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, JAL SHAKTI (PHE)
DIVISION UDHAMPUR
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
e-NIT No. 07 of 2021-22 Dated 29-04-2021**

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of UT of Jammu & Kashmir, Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE) Division, Udhampur invite tenders by e-tendering mode on above / below percentage from approved and eligible Govt. contractors registered with J&K Govt./ CPWD/ MES and Railways etc. for the following works.

5. No.	Name of work	Name of Sub Division	Cost document/ tender fee (In Rs.)	of	Class Contractor
1	Maintenance / repair / Improvement of civil structures and laying and fitting of pipes for new works of water supplies of small amount of urgent nature of works under various water supply schemes in Dudu and Basantgarh area (Ral Chak Kadwa, Loudhara, Khaned, Ponara, Basantgarh, Gandhopt, Dudu Fangu, Jophed, Chakal, Pachound etc)	Jal Shakti PHE Sub Division Ramnagar	1000.00	A to D	
2	Maintenance / repair / Improvement of civil structures and laying and fitting of pipes for new works of water supplies of small amount of urgent nature of works under various water supply schemes in Jandriari & Adjoining area (Jandriari, Rasli Thakral, Sia Mari, Chigla Blotha, Johaffar, Keya, Chattrari, Anroh, Chown Mottu etc)	Jal Shakti PHE Sub Division Ramnagar	1000.00	A to D	
3	Maintenance / repair / Improvement of civil structures and laying and fitting of pipes for new works of water supplies of small amount of urgent nature of works under various water supply schemes in Khagote & adjoining areas (Khagote, Delsari, Old Pinger, New Pinger, Bainete old, Kogamarh, Thaley etc)	Jal Shakti PHE Sub Division Ramnagar	1000.00	A to D	
4	Maintenance / repair / Improvement of civil structures and laying and fitting of pipes for new works of water supplies of small amount of urgent nature of works under various water supply schemes in Khoon area (Babey, Garh Samna Bari, Pathwar, Thial, Nakki Khoon, Sali kori Bair, Sundia, Bilaspur Deot, Kail, Pardai etc)	Jal Shakti PHE Sub Division Ramnagar	1000.00	A to D	
5	Maintenance / repair / Improvement of civil structures and laying and fitting of pipes for new works of water supplies of small amount of urgent nature of works under various water supply schemes in Kund and Ramnagar Town (Kund, Sandh, Birnoo, Romain Palaran, Dalsar, Sulan, Katwalk, Baletar, Satyan Taggan, Kidmoo, Ramnagar Town, Khein Bein, Kella, Prey Badhal, Thaplal etc)	Jal Shakti PHE Sub Division Ramnagar	1000.00	A to D	
6	Maintenance / repair / Improvement of civil structures and laying and fitting of pipes for new works of water supplies of small amount of urgent nature of works under various water supply schemes in Majaita Section (Majaita, Peoni Kathool, Mansar, Battal, Sunal, Marwal, Chalni, Bhati Badi Garh, Tajor, Jansal, Jagwal, Haripur Lala, Srail Chowra, Chadawa, Chalni, Neeli, Paletar, Puna, Satrari etc)	Jal Shakti PHE Sub Division Ramnagar	1000.00	A to D	

Position of funds : Demanded and the Execution of work shall be taken up as per availability of funds.

Position of AAA: Accorded

- Date of Publishing 03-05-2021**
- Bid documents can be seen at and downloaded from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from 04/05-2021 from 1100 (Hrs)
- The Bids shall be deposited on the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from 04/05/2021 (1200 Hrs) to 17/05/2021 (1800 Hrs).
- The complete bidding process will be online.
- The Technical bids received shall be opened online on 18/05/2021 (1300 Hrs) in the office of Executive Engineer Jal Shakti PHE Division Udhampur.
- The Financial bids of the bidders shall be opened online in the office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti PHE Division Udhampur and shall be communicated separately.
- Bids must be accompanied by cost of Tender Document and bid security declaration form and performance security of Rs. 1.00 lac for each work. The performance security of unsuccessful bidder shall be released. However, the performance security of L2 shall be released after allotment to the L1.
- The cost of downloaded tender documents in the form of E-Challan, Treasury challan /Receipt shall be in separate envelop with cover marking cost document pledged in favour of Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti PHE Division Udhampur.
- As per the instruction of the principal secretary to Government Finance Department J&K Srinagar vide his No. O.M.No. A/24 (2017)-61 dated 07.06.2018 regarding furnishing of hard copies of bids immediately after submission of e-tenders is dispensed with. The same should be obtained only from the bidder who is declared as L1 after opening of financial bid. The cost of tenders should be collected by introducing e-challan or simply uploading a copy of necessary treasury challan / receipt.
- The bid shall remain open for acceptance for a period of 60 days from the date of opening of bids. If any bidder/tenderer withdraws his bid/tender before the said period or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid, the said earnest money shall stand forfeited.

No. JSDU/ 819-47
Dated:29-04-2021

**No: DIP/J-1110/21
Date: May 8/2021**

**Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Jal Shakti PHE Division
Udhampur**

DC B'pora discusses Covid-19 containment measures with trade members

BANDIPORA
The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Dr Owais Ahmad on Tuesday held an interactive session with the members of Traders Federation Bandipora to discuss the covid containment measures in the district.

During the meeting, threadbare discussion were held regarding the covid safety measures taken by the administration in the district and sought cooperation of the traders federation and general public regarding the same. The DC appreciated the cooperation of the trade fraternity in implementing the covid lockdown in the district. He said the containment measures are the compulsion owing to the sudden surge in covid positive cases.

He said the administration did not want economic activities to slow down but health is the priority of all and hence the lockdown was inevitable.

He said that the traders have a key role in the battle against the new wave of Covid-19 and urged upon them to use their influence to ensure that every person follows the Covid-19 appropriate behavior, uses mask, maintains hand hygiene and keeps social distance while they are out. On the occasion traders informed the DC about the issues faced by the trade community and sought his intervention for their resolution.

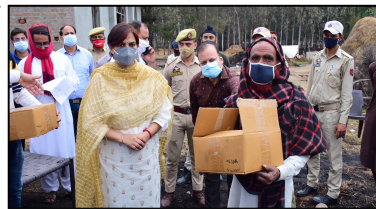
They also assured full cooperation with the administration in the initiatives taken for containment of the covid19 spread. Besides others, President Trade Federation, senior officers of the district were also present on the occasion. (PR/DI)

DC Samba meets fire incident victims of Kurlian-Ramgarh

SAMBA
Deputy Commissioner, Samba, Anuradha Gupta today met the fire victim families of Gujjar community at Kurlian-Ramgarh in district Samba wherein 14 sheds were damaged in a devastative fire incident.

The Deputy Commissioner, along with other revenue officers, visited the fire victim families and took the stock of the situation and damages. The DC Samba provided the fire victim with relief packages, including ration, daily use products etc. during the visit. The victim families expressed gratitude towards prompt action taken by administration

Samba in addressing their genuine demands. The District Administration, upon receiving the report of fire incident, immediately



ly dispatched assessment teams on ground zero in order to take cognizance of the situation. * District Administration Samba upon receiving the information of fire incident immediately dispatched assessment teams on ground zero and provided tents, utensils, ration, fodder and other daily use products to all the affected families, said deputy commissioner while addressing the families at ground zero. The DC further added that affected families shall also be covered under government schemes including PMAY, besides their other demands of roads, electricity and water shall also be met on priority. (PR/DI)

DC conducts midnight inspection of Covid care hospitals, oxygen plant

SAMBA
To take an on-spot review of COVID mitigation infrastructure, Deputy Commissioner, Samba Anuradha Gupta conducted late night inspection of COVID treatment Hospitals and upcoming Oxygen plant in the District Hospital Samba. During the tour, the DC Samba visited the 1000 LPM Oxygen generation plant at District Hospital Samba and reviewed the installation work. This oxygen plant, when commissioned, shall provide uninterrupted Oxygen to nearly 70 patients, thus increasing the COVID bed capacity of the District. This will prove as a shot in arm for District Administration Samba in mitigation of COVID-19. Later, Deputy Commissioner also visited COVID Hospital Ramgarh, wherein she interacted with the Doctors, para medic staff & patients. DC enquired about the hospital in house medical infrastructure availability and wellbeing of COVID patients. (PR/DI)

DC Srinagar chairs meeting, reviews Covid-19 control measures

SRINAGAR
The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammed Aijaz Asad Tuesday reviewed the control measures put in place by the district administration to prevent the spread of covid-19 in the district, following fresh surge in different parts of the country.

Referring to the reports of Covid surge, the DC directed CMO, BMO and all ZMOs to review the control measures in their respective jurisdictions and focus on further improving the Covid-19 Control measures to contain the spread of infection.

While taking strong note of complaints received with regard to underweight filling of Medical Oxygen Cylinders by some plant owners, the DC directed for initiating enquiry to ascer-



tain the factual position. He said strict action as warranted under DDMA will be taken against the erring medical oxygen companies.

With regard to augmentation of human resources, the DC directed for preparing a list of retired Doctors and other Paramedical staff at the earliest so that their services can be utilized during any emerging exigency.

He also directed the officers to work in close liaison with Covid-19 War Control Room for better coordination besides ensuring timely updates regarding availability of beds, medicines, oxygen and other related facilities available in their respective health facilities so that the same is shared with the general public through Covid-19 War Control Room.

The DC further asked them to prepare a concrete programme for at least next one month to fight the Covid-19 and undertake all required measures to further strengthen the health care system to break the chain of infection.

The DC asked the officers to identify a few PHCs which can be used as Covid-19 wellness centers and necessary oxygen concentrators will be installed at these PHCs to further strengthen the system to defeat the Covid-19.

Among others, the meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Joint Director Planning, CMO, Srinagar, Nodal Officer Covid-19, BMO, and ZMOs. (PR/DI)

Jammu Smart City project: Div Com chairs 9th Board of Directors meeting

Asks departments to work in unison for creating tangible assets

JAMMU
Divisional Commissioner, Jammu Dr Raghav Langer today chaired the 9th Board of Directors meeting of Jammu Smart City Project.

The meeting was attended by IGP Jammu, (Director JSCL) Mukesh Singh; Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Anshul Garg; Commissioner JMC, Avny Lawasa, (Chief Executive Officer, Jammu Smart City); Additional CEO, JSCL, Hitesh Gupta; VC JDA, Rohit Khajuria, Chief Engineers of PWD, Irrigation & Flood Control, Director Tourism, Director Floriculture, besides senior functionaries of Project Management Consultancy (PMC) and other board members.

The CEO gave a detailed power-point presentation on the works taken up and completed, so far besides future work plans for the smart city projects.

She also presented agenda points before the members for discussion

and approval of various projects under smart city. The CEO also apprised the Board members about the status of ongoing projects including Way-finding Signages, Panjtirthi Parking, Vertical Garden Improvement of Road



from Dogra Chowk to KC Chowk, Solid Waste Management projects, Up-gradation of fire and Emergency services, Construction of Musical Fountains at Bagh-e-Bahu, Jammu Zoological park etc.

It was informed that some projects are near completion, while work is in full swing on the rest.

It was also informed in the meeting that tenders have been floated for various projects under JSCL, which includes installation of Smart Poles in

Jammu city on PPP mode at 20 Locations, Façade lighting illumination of Bahu Fort and Mubarak Mandi Heritage Complex, improvement of 23 junctions, modernization of Narwal Fruit/Vegetable mandi, AD panels and



Dashboard display at Intersection and street lights, Jammu Smart Public Bicycle sharing system, Smart Cards, Smart toilets, IT based smart parking management system.

The Board members also discussed in detail the projects that need to be tendered, which include High Street at Residency Road, Integrated Command and Control Centre, Intelligent Traffic Management System, E-bill & pay for civic services etc.

It was informed that various other projects are also under preparation stage which include complete street development, smart lightings at 4th bridge, E Rickshaws for Old city, development of cycle track, street vendor zones, blue green project, waste composting, E support centre, smart traffic booth, Rescue & Rehabilitation Centre, Development of River front.

The Divisional Commissioner issued instructions to the senior government functionaries to expedite the works being taken up by their respective departments for early completion.

He asked the concerned officers to keep ambit of project for longer horizon and expedite work in a time bound manner so that tangible results are achieved on the ground. He also asked the concerned departments to work in unison, zeal and dedication for completion of Smart City Project to make Jammu a model city. (PR/DI)

Take cue from corona spike, enhance healthcare structure on priority: Yudhviri Sethi

PB NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU: Raising serious concern over the unprecedented spike in COVID-19 cases and the surge in fatalities, J&K BJP Vice President & Convenor "Sewa Hi Sangathan" Covid-2 Yudhviri Sethi on Saturday urged government that there should be no laxity in providing adequate healthcare facilities to the people of Jammu region.

In a statement issued here to mercury times, Sethi said that government's response to the pandemic has, thus far, been fairly positive but as the things are getting complicated due to rise in new cases therefore more steps to make healthcare edifice robust is the need of the hour.

He asserted that the shortcomings hampering the public healthcare should be removed on priority as the situation has lately turned grim and grave with number of patients being infected by the new variants of coronavirus swelling on day to day basis. "Due to good work of Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and wholehearted sup-

port of PM Narendra Modi led government at the Centre, till date the facilities available for the ailing lot is in abundant but looking into the trend of rise in fresh corona cases it is likely that the dearth of facilities will soon pinch the UT", Sethi said, adding that there is an urgent and towering need to reinforce the public health sector which will have to be at the forefront of this battle against the foreign virus.

Appreciating the Administration for working round the clock in providing healthcare facilities to people, Sethi said that although much has been done but the situation demands to strengthen the health edifice in such a manner that even the third wave of the Covid-19 can do no harm to people.

Sethi said that Oxygen generation plants have been installed in several districts, provision of 1,300 Covid beds, most of the Jammu based government hospitals have been designated as Covid facilities, DRDO along with J&K Government started constructing 500-bed Corona hospital in Jammu and many more steps speak louder than words that ad-

ministration is combating the virus on war footing but what is required now is that administration must run ahead of time since the experts are warning of the more dangerous third wave of the virus. The senior BJP leader appealed to Lt Governor Sinha for accelerating the steps required to fight the virus so that deaths do not deter the health sector from fighting this battle with the coronavirus. Earlier, Sethi along with other party leaders met Medical Superintendent CD Hospital, Jammu, Dr Rajeshwar and reviewed the healthcare facilities being provided to patients. Sethi interacted with the patients and enquired about the Medicare facilities being provided to them. He also asked the general public not to panic as doctors and healthcare workers are on job and doing their best to eliminate this virus from the soil of J&K very soon. Yudhviri Sethi was accompanied by BJYM President & Arun Jamwal Co-Convenor "Sewa Hi Sangathan" Covid-2: Co-Convenor "Sewa Hi Sangathan" Covid-2 Nitish Mahajan and Transport Cell Convenor Ashu Mahajan.

Sat urges JK Govt to immediately start Talab Tillo's Covid Care Centre for patients

PB NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU: Former State President BJP and Ex Minister Sat Sharma (CA) has urged LG Manoj Sinha and Advisor Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar for immediately opening up of Yog Ashram Covid Care Centre, Talab Tillo for Covid patients till the works on 500 bedded Covid Centre is completed by DRDO which is being constructed at Bhagwati Nagar area of Jammu West. Sharma while visiting the Covid Care Centre gave the final touch to the inspection of facilities in presence of Tehsildar Jammu West Mohit Gupta. He was also accompanied by BJP Leader and Corporator Sanjay Baru, Mandal President Keshav Chopra, District General Secretary Rajesh Gupta, Corporator Sat Pal Karliupia and others.

As per press statement issued to mercury times, Sat Sharma said that the need of opening up of the Centre has arisen and he appealed to the LG for opening up the Centre for Covid patients as soon as possible so that the chaotic situation in the hospitals could be avoided. He said he also spoke to Advisor Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar in this regard who has assured that the Centre will be started as soon as possible for the Covid patients which will reduce the burden of other health institutions as well, he added. He also said that every possible facility will be provided here to the patients and it will be also seen that every medical facility is also provided.

He stated that Central Government under the leadership of PM Narendra Modi is very concerned about the welfare of public across J&K and that is why other organizations including Defence have become a part of fight against the pandemic and they are setting up institutions across various parts of country including J&K to fight the deadly virus. He also stated that panic will only deteriorate the atmosphere and he appealed to the masses to be united in this fight and surely that day will come when humanity will over power such a situation, he added. He also thanked the District Jammu Administration for setting up a Covid Care Centre in no time for the public and he expected from the administration that the Centre will be started as soon as possible so that the best possible health care system is provided to the masses.

Naib Tehsildar Vijay, Girdawar Kali Dass, Nazam Ajay Sharma, Satyabhushan Dubey, Naveen Sharma, Rajesh Saini, Abhishek Sharma and others were also present.

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By Vikas Sharma (Editor PB)