

# CS reviews traffic movement, condition of Sgr-Jmu NH

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Continuing the momentum Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta on Friday impressed upon the traffic authorities to keep improving the Srinagar-Jammu National Highway for smooth movement of traffic round the clock.

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary, PWD; IG Traffic; Deputy Commissioners of Anantnag and Ramban; SP National Highway and RO, NHAI besides other concerned officers.

The Chief Secretary urged upon the officers to weed out any of the possibility that is hindering the smooth movement of traffic on the highway. He enquired from them about the status of the implemen-



Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta chairing a meeting.

tation of previous directions issued from time to time.

Dr Mehta took cognizance of the issues including blacktopping of potholed portion of the road, removal of muck, designating the

truck holding areas, completion of tunnels and use of alternative link of Jawahar Tunnel and Mughal Road.

He underscored the need of drawing a mechanism to get the chroni-

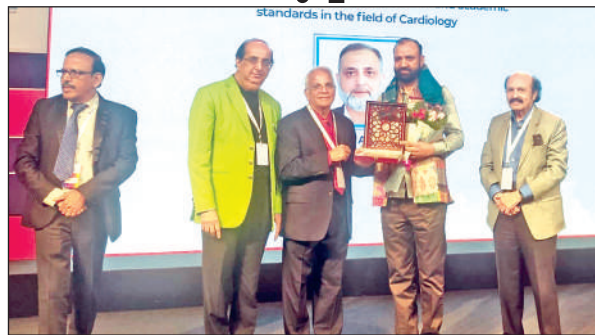
cally slow moving vehicles off the road besides taking appropriate action against them. He asked them to put a check on the overloading in trucks and make sure that no such vehicle is allowed to move ahead thereby creating hiccups for others.

The Chief Secretary also emphasized on clearing the muck, black topping of the road stretch and making the truck holding areas functional at an earliest. He asked them to send the geo-tagged photos of all these works after completion.

The Chief Secretary was assured by the traffic and NHAI that after the implementation of all these instructions the traffic on the road would be smooth and congestion free.



## Dr Sushil Sharma felicitated by World Hypertension League



Prof. Dr Sushil Sharma, Head of Department of Cardiology, GMC&H, Jammu, being felicitated by members of World Hypertension League.

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Prof. Dr Sushil Sharma, Head of Department of Cardiology, GMCH, Jammu, has been felicitated by World Hypertension League in recognition for setting highest clinical and academic standards in the field of Cardiology.

The felicitation was announced during The Global summit on Hypertension and Comorbidities 2022 in affiliation with World Hypertension League at Hotel Radisson Blu in Amritsar on Friday.

The World Hypertension

League (WHL) is a non-profit, non-governmental organization comprised predominantly of volunteers dedicated to the prevention and control of hypertension globally to include awareness of non-communicable diseases.

The WHL membership is currently comprised of 80 National Hypertension societies. The event was aimed to share ideas and expertise to create awareness, treating hypertension and honouring health professionals with outstanding contributions. Leading doctors from all around the world and healthcare service providers

were present at the award ceremony organized to encourage healthcare professionals to do quality work and contribute towards the society.

It is pertinent to mention that Dr Sushil Sharma, who gets the award has been performed over 18,000 simple and complex Coronary procedures. Dr Sharma heralded a new era in the field of preventive cardiology by organizing free camps for poor, downtrodden and rural area people every Sunday providing best medicare to the deserving people. He is also recipient of many national and international awards including State Award for meritorious public services, Swami Vivekananda Award, Gandhi Seva Medal, Double Helical National Health Award, Kariyappa Award, Global Peace Award, Most Popular Doctor Award by FM Radio 92.7 and Exceptional community Service Award by C3 Society, Orlando USA.

He is known for being available to the ailing community every time and known for his philanthropic initiatives.

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: President of The Jammu Pharmaceutical Distributors Association (JPDA) Jammu Province, Rakesh Gupta, expressed concern over the opening up of medical stores by multi brand chains in Jammu region.

Setting the alarm bells ringing, Gupta said, "These multi brand medical stores will gobble business of small stockists, chemists and pharmacists in Jammu region, thus making their survival difficult."

While addressing press conference here on Friday, Rakesh Gupta, claimed that with the coming up of these big giants, more than 10 lakh people associated with pharma business across India will lose their jobs and will be on streets.

Gupta asked traders and industrialists to wake up from deep slumber and do something to counter this storm, before it wipes them out.

Rakesh Gupta appealed Traders and Industrialists here to pull their socks to take counter measures to deal with this threat staring towards them.

Giving details about big brand medical outlets that



President JPDA Jammu, Rakesh Gupta talking to reporters.

have opened so far in Jammu region, Rakesh Gupta, said Bharti Best Price (Walmart) now called Flipkart opened in Jammu way back in 2011 and Reliance Retail Ltd opened here in 2021.

"With the opening of many more such multi brand stores in Jammu, our survival in market will get difficult. Local Traders and Industrialists will have a real tough time to cope with price war that has started. Ultimately they will crumble under pressure and will be left with no option but to down their shutters," Gupta added.

Giving the details of the quantum of funding available with multi brand chains to negotiate their sourcing prices, Rakesh Gupta, ques-

tioned the GOI for not keeping their interest in mind.

"How GOI expects the wholesalers and retailers with a fixed profit margin of 8-10% and 16-20% respectively sat by NPPA as per the DPCO to compete with the big bulls in price war?" Gupta asked.

Gupta lashed out at govt for turning blind eye to violation of norms by Jan Anshadi Kendra stores opened inside various hospitals by selling generic medicines with Discount Advertisements in their Premises.

He said this was total violation of law and in contravention of Section 18(a) (iv) (vi) and Section 18 (c) of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940.

He further said that if the Government was really honest in providing affordable branded generic medicines to the patients, then the private sector be allowed too and given spaces besides their stores in hospitals. "And we vow to sell medicines on much cheaper rates than these government stores," assured Gupta.

He said that our demand to reduce MRP's further allowing to us our legitimate profit margins have fallen flat on deaf ears on the concerned departments of GOI, said Gupta.

He insisted that if corrective steps are not taken seriously and urgently than approximately 10 Lakh pharma wholesalers & retailers will be unemployed soon.

Gupta further said that they at association level are taking immediate corrective and precautionary measures like Financial Year Closing much before March next year and Calling a meeting of all the District Presidents from Retail Sector after consulting their members.

He appealed to Lt Governor Manoj Sinha, to assign task to someone from the UT Administration to convene an

urgent meeting of all the stakeholders from trade and industry and guide them how to survive under such unfavourable circumstances.

Rakesh Gupta also appealed to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Justice of India to once again review the Government's policy and direct the concerned departments to work on reducing MRP's further / Ensure One Sourcing Price Policy and then allow Medical Stores of Multi Brand Chain so that they don't lure with heavy discounts in the field of health care.

He also said that the rising cases of entry of spurious and sub standard medicines is the result of unfair practises and different pricing being allowed by the concerned departments of GOI which shall not be anyone's interest keeping in view the plight of suffering humanity.

Also present on the occasion were Ajay Gupta- Sr. Vice President, Sudesh Gupta- Vice President, Sanjay Gupta- Gen Secretary, Amit Sharma- Jt Secretary, Manmeet Singh Treasurer of The Jammu Pharmaceutical Distributors Association Jammu Province.

## Dr Jitendra offers to adopt 60 TB patients from his constituency

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Union Minister and MP from Udhampur-Kathua-Doda Lok Sabha constituency, Dr Jitendra Singh on Friday offered to adopt 60 Tuberculosis (TB) patients, that is, 10 patients from each of the six districts of Kathua, Doda, Udhampur, Reasi, Ramban and Kishtwar respectively.

Sharing this on twitter, Dr Jitendra Singh said, 'he was trying a humble contribu-

tion to accomplish Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of a TB-free India by 2025 and appealed to others too to join this movement.

He informed that the concerned Deputy Commissioners of each of the six districts has been formally conveyed the offer with the request to help identify the needy patients requiring support and provide their details, with the help of Chief Medical Officer.

Dr Jitendra called upon the MLAs, Collectors, DDC Chairman and Members, NGOs, Eminent Personalities, Religious Leaders, civil society, TB Champions and Corporates from his parliamentary constituency to adopt tuberculosis patients as donors through 'Community Support to TB Patients' programme and become 'Nikshay Mitra' taken up as part of Pradhan Mantri TB-Mukt Bharat Abhiyan.

Under the programme, one can adopt individual TB patients or a group of TB patients via Nikshay 2.0 website (community support.nikshay.in) and sponsor their treatment or nutrition, a nutrition basket or offer a job to their family members.

They can adopt them for six months, one year, two or three years. Among 13.51 lakh TB patients in the country, over 10 lakh TB patients have given their consent for adoption.

## Union Minister inspects 500 bedded Paediatric Hospital, Bal Ashram

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment Dr. Virendra Kumar on Friday visited Srinagar district under third phase of Central Governments Public Outreach Programme and took on spot assessment of development scenario across the district.

During his visit, the Minister visited Paediatric Hospital Bemina, Integrated Command & Control Centre, HMT, Drug De-addiction cum Rehabilitation & Counselling Centre, SMHS and Voluntary Medicare Society (VMS) Bemina.

At VMS Bemina, the Minister inspected various sections of the facility and took stock of the services being extended to the disability patients there. He also took first-hand appraisal of the facilities made available for the specialty-abled children at the centre.

During the visit, the Minister inspected physio and occupational therapy centre, prosthetic orthopaedic department, various wards, fitness gym, CAM therapy units and other sections of the centre. The Minister also interacted with the patients/beneficiaries and took first hand appraisal from the concerned staff about the facilities being provided.

The Minister also took stock of the special school for differently abled children. He



Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, Dr Virendra Kumar interacting with a patient during visit to hospital in Srinagar.

inspected class rooms, vocational center and other sections of school.

Interacting with the officers there, the Minister stressed on further strengthening the facilities at VMS for the betterment and rehabilitation of persons with disabilities. He assured the management of the centre that all possible support and assistance from the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment will be provided to them on regular basis.

During his visit to 500 Bedded Pediatric Hospital Bemina, the Minister took stock of medical facilities being provided to public there.

The Union Minister took detailed round of hospital and inspected Casualty Emergency Ward, NICU ward, PICU ward and other sections of the hospital. He also interacted with the patients there and enquired from them about the facilities being provided at the insti-

tute.

While interacting with Principal GMC Srinagar, Medical Superintendent of hospital and other officers on the occasion, the Minister impressed upon them to provide best medical care facilities to the general public. He also asked them to percolate the benefits of Ayushman Bharat SEHAT scheme to people on timely basis.

The Union Minister also visited Integrated Command and Control Centre (ICCC), HMT here and reviewed the functioning of the Centre. He interacted with the staff of centre and enquired from them about the various services being provided through the centre to the public.

Appreciating this initiative of the government, the Minister impressed upon the officers to utilise this state of art facility to its maximum possible extent as it is one of the sophisticated and unique centre established under

Smart City Mission.

The Union Minister later visited the Drug De-addiction cum Rehabilitation Counselling Centre, SMHS and took overall assessment of the centre. He interacted with the patients there and enquired from them about the care being provided at the centre.

Interacting with the management of centre on the occasion, the Minister delved upon them to provide all possible assistance to the victims of drug abuse so that they are brought back to normal routine life.

Later on, Dr. Virendra Kumar visited Bal Ashram and Nari Niketan centre, Shalimar and took stock of its functioning. He interacted with the students there and enquired from them about the facilities available at the centre.

The Minister on the occasion directed the officers to organise different types of extra-curricular activities for the children as well as hold special classes for them with focus on Mathematics and Science subjects so that their inner capabilities are brought to fore.

Deputy Commissioner Srinagar Mohammad Ajaz Assad, Principal GMC Srinagar Dr. Samia Rashid, senior officers of the district administration and other concerned officers also accompanied the Minister during the visit.

"India's diversity is our strength. 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' seeks to enhance the spirit of unity in diversity and bring our people closer."

**Narendra Modi**  
Prime Minister

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Dance genres - **Folk/Tribal, Classical and Contemporary/Fusion**  
Multiple entries are **not allowed** from a single participant  
Winners of **last year are not eligible** to participate this year

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