

Div Com Kashmir discusses preparedness for containment of 'Omicron'

STATE TIMES NEWS

Srinagar: In view of the spread of new Covid-19 Variant, Omicron, in different countries of the world, the Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Pandurang K Pole on Tuesday chaired a special meeting of officers to formulate the strategy for containment measures in Kashmir Division. The meeting was attended by MD, NHM; DC Budgam; ADC Srinagar; Director Health Services Kashmir; Director Airports, Principal, GMC Srinagar, CMO Srinagar, CMO Budgam, Incharge DCCR, SSO/ Epidemiologist Kashmir and other public health specialists of DCCR.

In view of government advisory, the meeting decided that mandatory RTPCR test of all international passengers should be conducted at Srinagar Airport irrespective of travellers previous negative report or fully vaccination status. Besides, it was fur-



Div Com Kashmir, Pandurang K Pole chairing a meeting.

ther decided that if RTPCR report turns negative, the passenger shall be kept under home quarantine for 1st week and again retested on 8th day of home quarantine or whenever traveller develops symptoms of ILI during the course of Quarantine; if the report of RTPCR comes negative he/she will self monitor for one more week at strict home Quarantine.

However, if first test of a international traveler comes out positive then the person will be shifted to DRDO hospital Khumroh and the testing sample shall be sent for whole genome sequencing to know whether they are infected by new Covid-19 variant of Omicron or any other strain.

At the outset, MD NHM Kashmir Yaseen Chowdary gave a Power Point Presentation where he shared the information about the presence of new covid variant in some countries and travel related cases in other nations.

It was informed that B.1.1.529 new variant is possibly 500% competitively more infectious and has rapidly spread in South Africa, Some European Countries, and Some Asian countries also. Besides, it was also informed that WHO guidance note mentions that current RTPCR test continues to be effective in detecting the new variant.

The DCCR Kashmir also gave the plan for strength-

ening surveillance of international passengers, enhanced testing, monitoring of hot spots, ensuring augmentation of health infrastructure, prompt dispatch of genome sequencing and other actions. Div Com stressed on widespread campaigning of Do's and Don'ts, IEC for Confidence Building and Fear Mitigation especially IEC materials with messaging and information in local language for ASHAs, ANMs and other stakeholders.

He also directed to Strengthen the call centre for monitoring of suspected cases under home quarantine, besides once again starting Capacity Building of clinicians and paramedical health workers, Refresher Trainings on PSAs, ventilator experts, clinical management, Operationalise the real-time dashboards for tracking available health infrastructure and oxygen status and other important information in view of the threat of this new variant.

Kansal reviews functioning of power sector in Budgam district

Budgam, Chadoora Grids to be augmented; Waterwani, Ratithan stations to be commissioned

STATE TIMES NEWS

Srinagar: Principal Secretary, Power Development and Information Departments, Rohit Kansal, on Tuesday chaired a high level meeting to review the functioning of Power Development Department (PDD) of Budgam district.

He took a first-hand appraisal of all ongoing central and UT level projects in the district, besides reviewing the winter preparedness, languishing projects and other projects under CAPEX budget of the district. The Deputy Commissioner Budgam, Shahbaz Mirza welcomed the Principal Secretary and briefed him on the power situation of the district. Kansal said that considering that power supply has been enhanced significantly in most of the Budgam district a reasonable and fair curtailment schedule has to be properly framed and strictly adhered to. He sought details from the officers about the unscheduled power cuts and disturbed power supply and directed them to strictly ensure that no unscheduled cuts were imposed and in case of any exigency adequate information should be shared



Principal Secretary PDD, Rohit Kansal visiting Nowbugh Grid Station.

people, the 10 MVA Waterwani receiving station should be completed and commissioned by the 15th of December. He also directed the officers for the augmentation of Budgam grid station to be done next year and removal of all other bottlenecks for improving the power sector in the district. Kansal said that through different media, a regular feature. While reviewing the position of AT&C losses and revenue generation, the Principal Secretary regretted that the position of losses and revenue collection remained a matter of serious concern. He observed that reduction of losses and uninterrupted supply were two sides of the same coin and if losses were brought down below 20%, the KPDCL would be in a position to supply uninterrupted power.

Conversely, if illegal power usage and theft continued unabated, the position of the department to supply power would be severely constrained. Kansal also sought a detailed list of all the feeders which suffer more than 80 percent losses and directed the field staff to take immediate remedial action.

He also took serious note of the use of crude heating devices which were not only illegal but also a safety hazard. He asked the DC Budgam Shahbaz Mirza to provide all possible support to the department in carrying out intensive drives to seize crude heaters besides seeking support from the public in this regard. He also appealed to the public to make judicious use of power and desist from illegal use of power.

Later the Principal Secretary also visited the Nowbugh grid station and reviewed its functioning. He reviewed the progress in the work of further augmentation of the grid by way of addition of 50 MVA capacity and directed that the work should be expedited and completed in the current financial year.

SKUAST-TAJ felicitates Dr JP Sharma on his superannuation



President SKUAST-TAJ Dr. Vikas Sharma and other members of association felicitating Dr. J.P. Sharma on his superannuation on Tuesday.

STATE TIMES NEWS

Jammu: SKUAST-Teaching Association Jammu (SKUAST-TAJ) felicitated Prof J.P. Sharma, Director Research-eum-Registrar SKUAST-J on his superannuation after rendering distinguished services of 33 years.

Upon this, President DT assured that soon the work of beautification of this temple will be taken up and all the required facilities to facilitate visiting devotees will be ensured to realize increase in visitors' footfall.

President Teaching Association Dr. Vikas Sharma, while felicitating Dr. Sharma's contributions in research and extension selflessly wished him a very healthy post-retired life.

in which latter's achievements as a teacher and contributions in the discipline of Plant Breeding were reflected.

Besides, Sr. K.D. Singh-President Non Teaching Association, PDK Uppal, Ex-President NTEA-J, Zameer-Ul-Haq-General Secretary NTEA-J and Divyansh Verma Student Leader, Dr. Pradeep Wali, Dr. Sandeep Chopra, Dr Sanjeev Kumar, Dr. Satish Kumar, Dr. Manoj Kumar, Dr. SK Singh, Dr. Anil Bhushan, Dr. Mahital Jamwal and Barkat Ali were present on the occasion.

Unprecedented development witnessed in J&K proves Centre's commitment towards people: Bharat Bhushan

STATE TIMES NEWS

Jammu: District Development Council (DDC) Jammu Chairman, Bharat Bhushan has asserted that the unprecedented overall development witnessed in Jammu and Kashmir today is the result of sincere commitment of BJP and Central Government for the progress and prosperity of the people of this sensitive Union Territory. He reiterated that Union Government stands fully committed to the overall development of Jammu and Kashmir. He stated this while addressing a gathering after kick-starting road macadamization work here on Tuesday. This road project from Gharota Fagwari to Bann has been taken up under PMGSY and is estimated to cost Rs. 58 lakh.

Bharat Bhushan said that the execution of various works



DDC Jammu Chairman, Bharat Bhushan starting blacktopping work.

which had got stalled to a great extent due to the ongoing pandemic has now been initiated and all the roads pending will be macadamized in a phased manner without any compromise with quality of work. He said that after the completion of macadamization of this road from Gharota Fagwari to Bann, the life of the roads is also going to increase thus leaving less scope for dilapidation.

He said that he would leave no stone unturned in transforming

the Council constituency for which providing good roads is the first step in the direction.

The DDC Chairman also interacted with the residents of the area who apprised him of their problems. He listened keenly and patiently to them. Taking note of all the genuine demands he assured to get their grievances redressed at the earliest.

Among others present on the occasion were BDC chairman Kuldeep Raj, Sarpanch Santosh Kumar, Sarpanch Joginder Singh, Sarpanch Pratap Singh, Naib Sarpanch Rahul Singh, Panthi Veena Devi, Poli Devi, Executive Engineer PMGSY Ram Pal Gupta, JE Sohail Ibrahim and JE Anjeel Sharma.

He asserted that it is his duty to fight and work for the public of his constituency. He appealed to the residents of the area to become proactive and remain vigilant about the ongoing works in their area. He added that more works are in the pipeline and shall be taken up soon in the near future.

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32nd Batch of DAGO visits 160 Bn CRPF HQ Jammu

STATE TIMES NEWS

Jammu: As per directions of higher authorities, the 32nd Batch of Directly Appointed Gazzeted Officers (DAGO) of CRPF arrived at 160 Bn. CRPF, Chatha, Jammu for familiarization.

They were welcomed and accompanied by Bhanu Pratap Singh, DIG, Range Jammu, K.D. Joshi, Commandant, 160 Bn.



CRPF and other officers.

being performed in Unit.

All the DAGOs have visited in and around the camp area and familiarized with func-



STATE TIMES NEWS

Jammu: President J&K Dharmarth Trust, Ajay Gandotra on Tuesday asserted that Trust is committed to upkeep of all the temples and shrines running under its ambit and it will leave no stone unturned in providing all necessary facilities to devotees visiting these places of worship.

He said this after inaugurating a public convenience complex inside the premises of Rani Park Temple complex in presence of Corporator Ward No. 10, Anil Masoom and Secretary DT, Dr. Gopal

Parthasarathi Sharma.

On the occasion, Gandotra lauded the proactive role played by the aforesaid Corporator in carrying out development in the constituency.

He said that by

constructing a public convenience complex, Anil has fulfilled long pending demands of the people living in the vicinity.

After the inauguration ceremony, Trust's President also

inspected the temple premises and also reviewed the facilities being provided to visitors. He

gave some suggestions to further improve the facilities for

devotees visiting these places of worship.

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