

Congenital heart diseases on rise, grim reality: Dr Sushil

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: With aim to create more and more awareness regarding the congenital heart diseases and methods for prevention and early diagnosis a health checkup camp was organized by Head Department of Cardiology, Dr Sushil Sharma at Bal Niketan Ved Mandir, Amphalla, here on Sunday wherein caretakers and children were screened for any evidence of congenital heart disease and accordingly advised for further evaluation.

While interacting with the children, Dr Sushil stated that considering a birth prevalence of congenital heart disease as 9/1000, the estimated number of children born with congenital heart disease in India is more than 2,00,000 per year.

Of these, about one-fifth are likely to have serious defect, requiring an intervention in the first year of life. Challenges to pediatric cardiac care include financial constraints, health-seeking behavior of community, and lack of awareness.



HOD Cardiology GMC Jammu, Dr Sushil Sharma with his team examining patients.

He further added that substantial proportion of births in India occur at home, and the infant is likely to die before the critical, ductus-dependent CHD is diagnosed.

Fortunately, the rate of hospital deliveries have significantly increased due to several incentivized schemes by the Government of India. Ductus-dependent CHD may still escape detection as babies are often discharged earlier.

Pre-discharge screening of newborns by pulse oximetry, which may pick up these CHDs, is often not practiced, especially in rural and semi-urban centers.

Frontline health workers

and primary caregivers are not sensitized to the problem of CHD and a number of them believe that a child with CHD is doomed and will never be able to lead a fruitful life, even if intervened. Delay in referral results in poor outcomes as complications and co-morbidities (such as under-nutrition) may have already set in.

The resources for treatment of CHD are not only inadequate but also seriously mal-distributed. As mentioned earlier, the geographical distribution of these centers is very uneven. Poverty, which is the greatest barrier to successful treatment of CHD, is more common in states with little or no car-

diac care facilities. Transport of newborns and infants with CHD is another neglected issue in India. Which they can barely afford. Though several state government level programs, microfinance schemes, charitable and philanthropic organizations exist for the benefit of economically weaker sections of the society, awareness amongst community about such programs is very low, He said.

In his concluding remarks, Dr Sushil Sharma told that we should try to address modifiable risk factors for CHD whenever possible.

Several of these risk factors are routinely addressed by high-quality prenatal care for example, folic acid supple-

mentation, education about teratogens, and management of maternal weight and gestational diabetes-and investment in prenatal care can be a first step to addressing CHD in the absence of treatment options. The specific treatment strategy could be individualized, depending on resources, disease characteristics, comorbidities, and local medical expertise.

Management Committee of Bal Niketan Ved Mandir, Suresh Chander Gupta (President), Anita Sharma (Vice-President), Nagar Mal, Alok Sharma and K K Mengi appreciated the efforts of Dr Sushil and his team for conducting Cardiac awareness cum health checkup camp.

Others who were part of this Camp include Dr Nasir Ali Choudhary (Cardiologist), Dr Anup Singh (Orthopaedics) and Dr Dhaneshwar Kapoor.

Paramedics and volunteers include Kamal Sharma, Raghav Rajput, Sahil Sharma, Rajnish Dogra, Sandeep Pal, Rajkumar, Gourav Sharma, Amandeep Singh and Akshay Kumar.



Constitute special task force to identify unserved areas; Khatana to Admn

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: MP Rajya Sabha Gulam Ali Khatana on Sunday urged the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir to give special focus to areas inhabited by tribal and backward communities and appoint a special task force in all the districts to map these areas and augment provide basic facilities like road, electricity, potable drinking water and health-care.

Addressing a well attended meeting at Phallain Mandal organized by Sarpanch Amarjeet Kour, Khatana said that successive governments during past 7 decades have neglected the areas inhabited by tribals, Gujjars, Bakkerwals, Gaddi, Sippies and backward communities and even funds earmarked for their development were diverted for other works.

He said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi led BJP government has focused on equitable development of marginalized sections of society in Jammu and Kashmir. He urged the local administration to con-



MP Rajya Sabha Gulam Ali Khatana speaking at a programme.

stituted a special task force at district level to identify under-developed and undeveloped areas and formulate time based plans to augment the basic facilities in such areas.

Khatana said that divisive forces are trying to create a wedge between the Gujjars and bakkerwals but such attempts would not succeed. We will jointly fight and defeat such forces and expose their evil designs, he said.

Earlier Organizor Alam Din welcomed the MP Rajya Sabha Gulam Ali Khatana and listed the demands of the people of the area.

others who spoke on the occasion were BDC chairman Madan Lal Bhagat and Sarpanch Prahladpur Amarjeet Kour.

BJP nominates new Prabharis, Seh-Prabharis

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: After consultation with BJP National General Secretary & Prabhari J&K Tarun Chugh, Seh-Prabhari J&K Ashish Sood and J&K General Secretary (Org.) Ashok Koul, J&K BJP President Ravinder Raina nominated new Prabharis and Seh-Prabharis for various Divisions and districts in Jammu & Kashmir.

Sunil Sharma, BJP General Secretary has been nominated as BJP Incharge for Kashmir Division; Vibodh Gupta, BJP General Secretary for Jammu Poonch Parliamentary Constituency; Dr. Devinder Manjyal, BJP

General Secretary for Kathua-Udhampur- Doda Parliamentary Constituency.

Jagdish Bhagat, has been nominated as Prabhari BJP, SC Morcha J&K-UT; Ajay Gupta (Pargal) as Incharge President's Office, Tour & Programme; Sofi Yousuf, as BJP Seh-Prabhari Kashmir Division; Munish Sharma as Prabhari and Amar Singh as Seh-Prabhari of District Kathua; Jangvir Singh is nominated as Prabhari and Inderjeet Sambyal as Seh-Prabhari of District Pahari Zila (Basholi); Th. Narayan Singh as Prabhari and Munish Khajuria as Seh-Prabhari of District Samba; Rajeev

Charak as Prabhari and Vikas Choudhary as Seh-Prabhari of District Jammu; Sham Lal Sharma as Prabhari and Vinay Gupta as Seh-Prabhari of District Jammu North; Ayodhya Gupta as Prabhari and Adv. Dev Raj Sharma as Seh-Prabhari of District Jammu South; Rajinder Chib as Prabhari and H.S. Pummy as Seh-Prabhari of District Udhampur; Puran Chand as Prabhari and Pardeep Parihar as Seh-Prabhari of District Ramban; Pawan Sharma as Prabhari and Rakesh Thakur as Seh-Prabhari of District Doda; Gaje Singh Rana as Prabhari and Swami Raj as Seh-Prabhari of District Kishtwar; Ajay Bharti (former MLC) as Prabhari

of District Rajouri; Rajinder Gupta as Prabhari and Gurdeep Singh Khalsa as Seh-Prabhari of District Poonch; Arvind Gupta as Prabhari and Pardeep Singh as Seh-Prabhari of District Reasi; Chander Mohan Gupta as Prabhari and Sheel Magotra as Seh-Prabhari of District Udhampur; Puran Chand as Prabhari and Pardeep Parihar as Seh-Prabhari of District Ramban; Pawan Sharma as Prabhari and Rakesh Thakur as Seh-Prabhari of District Doda; Gaje Singh Rana as Prabhari and Swami Raj as Seh-Prabhari of District Kishtwar; Ajay Bharti (former MLC) as Prabhari and Hira Lal Bhat as Seh-Prabhari of District Kashmir Displaced; Javid Qadri as Prabhari of District Anantnag; Adv. Wajahat Hussain as Prabhari of District Kulgam; Sajad Raina as Prabhari of District Shopian; Altaf Thakur as Prabhari of District Pulwama; Dr. Ali Mohd Mir as Prabhari of District Budgam; Dr. Farida Khan as Prabhari of District Srinagar; Moshataq Noorabadi as Prabhari of District Ganderbal; M.M. War as Prabhari of District Baramulla; Anwar Khan as Prabhari of District Kupwara; Arif Raja as Prabhari of District Bandipora.

District Jammu gears up for ambitious 'My Town My Pride 2.0'

Week-long Jan Shehri Abhiyan awareness ends with series of activities across all MCs

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Multifarious activities were held across all the Municipal areas of Jammu district on the concluding day of the ongoing "Jan Abhiyan Shehri"- a prelude to ambitious My Town My Pride Programme 2.0

On the last day of the 'Shehri Jan Abhiyan' awareness cum training programmes, plantation drives, special sanitation drives and other activities were conducted by the line departments across all Municipal areas of the district.

Several development works were started and on the site inspection was conducted at various locations in Akhnoor Township. The MTMP will be held in Akhnoor at Community Hall Kameshwar Temple.

Sanitation drive, distribution of property cards, awareness camps were held in MC RS Pura, where the MTMP will be held in the Govt. Higher Secondary School.

The MC Khour conducted sports activities, sanitation drive, Awareness on home composting etc and its going to organise MTMP near its



JMC employees carrying out cleanliness drive.

office.

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At MC Gho Manhasa campaign against anti-littering, inspection of ongoing works and modalities for formulating MTMP 2.0 plan were held during the Jan Abhiyan Shehri. The MTMP will be held at Middle School Gho Manhasan.

At MC Jourian, mega camp was organized wherein stalls of health, social welfare, tourism, Ayush etc were installed where awareness was imparted among the general public about the schemes and programmes

MTMP will be held in the Govt High School Jourian.

At MC Bishnah, an awareness camp where Health, Social Welfare, Revenue and other departments installed their stalls to educate people about welfare schemes and programmes offered by the departments.

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