

13,000 patients attended by 'Doctor on Wheels' in Udhampur constituency's remote areas: Dr Jitendra

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Nearly 13,000 patients have been attended so far in Udhampur-Kathua-Doda Lok Sabha constituency's remote areas by "Doctor on Wheels", the first-of-its-kind, state-of-the-art, Artificial Intelligence (AI) driven free Mobile Telemedicine Clinic.

This was stated by here on Saturday in a media interview by Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh who said that this novel experiment makes use of the latest technology tools whereby the patient attended by the Mobile Telemedicine Clinic is screened, thoroughly investigated and then the consultation is obtained from the concerned super specialist doctor in the one of the leading hospitals in metros like Hyderabad and Bengaluru with whom an arrangement has been tied up for the purpose. This entire exercise of patient examination and providing a pre-scription is accomplished in around 45 minutes which may otherwise take several days if the patient has to physically go to the hospital, he said.

The majority of beneficiaries of the



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh briefing the media about the state-of-the-art Artificial Intelligence driven "Doctor on Wheels" Mobile Telemedicine Clinic operating in Udhampur Lok Sabha constituency.

'Doctor on Wheels' initiative are women, said Dr Jitendra, stating that out of a total of 11,431 beneficiaries in Doda, Hiranagar and Kathua -Billawar areas 6,643 were women.

Same trend is visible currently in the fourth phase in remote Dudu Basantgarh in the upper reaches of

Ramnagar block of district Udhampur where as many as 835 women have availed consultation out of a total of 1,452 beneficiaries in 56 villages under 22 Panchayats where the Clinic van has camped so far, he said.

Dr Jitendra further explained that while the entire process of patient's examination and consultation calls for a very heavy cost, in this case it is being done free of cost to the patients in his constituency through the funds raised from voluntary sources.

The state-of-the-art, Artificial Intelligence (AI) supported "Aarogya-Doctor on Wheels" is possibly the first of its kind Telemedicine Mobile Clinic , Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh said .

Its huge success will inspire other similar initiatives elsewhere across the country as well, he said.

"Aarogya-Doctor on Wheels" functions on the latest methodology wherein a patient can narrate his illness or complaint in his native language and the AI Doctor understands the language and responds to the patient in the same language,

said Dr Jitendra Singh.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, this free telemedicine facility overcomes the problems of 'Accessibility, Availability and Affordability'. He said, the obstacles like quality of services, specialised doctor, distance of travelling and cost of consultation/treatment are targeted and solved efficiently through this facility. Ordinarily, a metro hospital will cost a patient very heavily and may take two to three weeks' time. This type of free telemedicine mobile camp solves all the problems especially for those having weak socio-economic background, he said.

For the convenience of patients, the prescribed medicines are also being provided free of cost and in addition, medicine kits containing commonly used drugs are being distributed across the constituency free of cost to all the families in general, Dr Jitendra informed. India, under PM Modi, surprised the world by administering 220 crore Covid vaccine doses through Cowin, a fully digital platform, he said.



KPDCL snapping connections of non-paying consumers

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Managing Director, Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCL), Mussarat Islam, on Saturday chaired a meeting with all Sub Divisional Officers of KPDCL to review the feeder-wise AT&C (Aggregate Technical and Commercial) losses in Kashmir Division. The meeting was attended by Chief Engineer, Distribution, Kashmir, Er. Sandeep Seth, SEs of all O&M Circles and Executive Engineers of all Electric Divisions.

During the review meeting, MD KPDCL issued standing directions to all SDOs to bring down AT&C losses and show visible improvement in smart metering saturation as well enhancing billing and collection efficiency.

Directions were also issued to snap the power connections of those consumers who fail to pay their pending electricity dues.

In order to ensure charging of already-installed LT-AB cable and shifting of smart meters from bare conductor, the MD issued express



MD KPDCL, Mussarat Islam chairing a meeting.

directions to SDOs to liaise with the Project Executing Agencies for conversion so that power pilferage, especially hooking, is completely plugged. He also tasked Executive Engineers to facilitate the charging of already installed LT-AB cable in their respective Electric Divisions.

MD was informed in the meeting that 26,746 consumers were disconnected in the month of January 2024 for non-payment of electricity dues.

He was also informed that funds to the tune of Rs.7.50 crore were collected on account of penalties imposed on those consumers who were stealing power by unauthorised

means.

KPDCL has further intensified its disconnection drives against consumers for non-payment of electricity dues across all Divisions.

The Chief Engineer (Distribution) emphasised upon the SDOs that there shall be zero tolerance on power theft and Revenue default. He also directed SDOs to further intensify their disconnection drives against those consumers who have huge outstanding dues pending.

He further advised SEs of all 06 Circles to analyse the performance of SDOs and take necessary corrective measures to improve AT&C index.

Secretary RDD distributes Rs 76.57 lakhs to JKRLM SHGs

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

CHENANI: In a significant move towards fostering economic independence and sustainable development among rural women, Secretary Rural Development Department (RDD) and Panchayati Raj, Dr Shahid Iqbal Choudhary on Saturday distributed sanction letters worth Rs 76.57 lakhs to Self-Help Groups (SHGs) associated with the Jammu & Kashmir Rural Livelihood Mission (JKRLM) in Chenani.

The allocated funds are specifically designated for various livelihood initiatives, aimed at providing crucial support to enhance their economic prospects.

Among the initiatives, the establishment of a Farm Machinery Bank, with a total cost of Rs 10 lakh and an 80% subsidy sanctioned by the Agriculture Department, two Masala Processing Units, costing around 13 lakhs with a 60% subsidy sanctioned by the Horticulture Department.

The sanction of a Poly House, with a cost of Rs 2.15 lakh and a 95% subsidy sanctioned by the Agriculture Department, will provide an ideal environment for cultivating high-value crops. Furthermore, the Micro



Secretary RDD, Dr Shahid Iqbal Choudhary distributing sanction letter to JKRLM SHGs for livelihood initiatives.

Enterprises Development Programme (MEDP) on Chir-Pine Needles, costing Rs 1.17 lakh and sanctioned by NABARD, along with the NOC provided by the Forest Department for Chir-Pine Collection, will create opportunities for sustainable livelihoods and promote forest conservation.

Additionally, a Bank Credit Linkage of Rs 50 lakhs has been allocated to SHGs for various livelihood initiatives initiated by the members, further demonstrating the government's commitment to supporting rural women in their entrepreneurial endeavors.

Dr. Shahid emphasized JKRLM's dedi-

cated efforts in implementing these initiatives across rural areas of District Udhampur; providing crucial last-mile support to empower rural women and elevate their status within their families and communities.

He said that these initiatives, sanctioned by respective line departments and JKRLM, are strategically aimed at fostering sustainable development and economic independence among rural women. Secretary RDD reiterated the commitment to address genuine demands and issues on a priority basis, underlining the government's dedication to the welfare and development of rural

communities.

Expressing gratitude, Mission Director JKRLM, Indu Kanwal Chib, extended appreciation to Secretary RDD & PR for their visit to Tehsil Chenani.

She highlighted JKRLM's proactive efforts in empowering rural women in District Udhampur; emphasizing the provision of last-mile support to enhance livelihoods. During the program, beneficiaries of SHGs shared inspiring success stories, showcasing the tangible benefits derived from government welfare schemes.

Additionally, Ex-PRI members voiced pertinent issues and demands, including the promotion of rural tourism, provision of bus services, resolution of pending liabilities of footbridges, construction of roads, establishment of small industries, development of an eco-tourism park in Patnitop, construction of Karlah Gouri Kund road, and the establishment of a conference cum meeting hall.

Director Rural Development Jammu, Mohammad Mumtaz Ali, Director Panchayati Raj, Sham Lal, SDM Chenani Gurdev Kumar, CEO PDA, and other officials, alongside Ex-PRI members, SHGs, and the general public were present.

DM orders temporary ban on operation of drones, other aerial devices in Jammu Distt

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: District Magistrate Jammu, Sachin Kumar Vaishya, responding to intelligence reports highlighting potential security threats, on Saturday issued a comprehensive order under Section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code, of 1973.

Effective immediately and continuing until February 20, 2024, the order imposes

restrictions on the operation of drones, remote-controlled micro-light aircrafts, paragliders, para-motors, hand gliders and hot air balloons within the district.

Notably, this precautionary measure is in place to counter possible activities by terrorist and anti-national elements.

Exceptions to the ban include aerial surveillance

conducted by Security Forces during VIP visits or with specific written permission from the District Magistrate's office. Defence and Para Military Forces are exempted from these restrictions.

Violation of this order is subject to punitive action under section 188 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860.

RERA instrumental in curbing malpractices in real estate

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, a significant milestone in evolution of India's real estate sector, has made a considerable impact on the real estate landscape of Jammu and Kashmir with enhanced transparency and accountability.

"The historic initiative is contributing towards a more balanced and accountable real estate ecosystem besides instilling greater confidence among the homebuyers, leading to a more vibrant and sustainable real estate market across the Union Territory". J&K, like other states and union territories of India, established the Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA) to regulate the real estate sector in the UT. Former IAS officer, Satish Chandra, is Chairperson of JK RERA and in case of any query or assistance, one can mail at email-id jkrerachairperson@gmail.com.

The Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act is successfully addressing the longstanding issues, promoting transparency and establishing mechanisms for dispute resolution, RERA has ushered in a new era of accountability and fairness. As the real estate market continues to evolve, RERA stands as a beacon for responsible and ethical practices, benefiting both developers and homebuyers alike. The Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, commonly known as Real Estate Regulatory Authorities (RERAs), stands as a transformative piece of legislation in India's real estate landscape. Enacted in 2016, RERA was a response to the longstanding issues plaguing the sector; aiming to bring about transparency, accountability and fairness. At its core, RERA seeks to protect the rights and interests of homebuyers, a group often vul-

nerable to unscrupulous practices in the real estate market. One of the key provisions of RERA is the mandatory registration of real estate projects with the respective state's regulatory authority. This ensures that developers provide accurate and timely information about their projects, including project details, layout plans, and financial aspects. Furthermore, RERA mandates the registration of real estate agents, thereby creating a more structured and regulated environment for property transactions. Real estate agents are now accountable for providing accurate information to buyers and adhering to the prescribed code of conduct. This move is instrumental in curbing malpractices within the industry and enhancing consumer confidence. In addition to registration requirements, RERA introduces a range of mechanisms to address disputes and

grievances. The establishment of RERAs in each state serves as a forum for dispute resolution, promoting a fair and efficient process. Homebuyers now have a dedicated platform to voice their concerns, ensuring a quicker and more transparent resolution of disputes. The Act also defines the rights and responsibilities of both developers and buyers, establishing a more equitable relationship. Developers are obligated to adhere to the project specifications as outlined during registration, ensuring that buyers receive what was promised. On the other hand, buyers are expected to fulfill their payment obligations promptly, contributing to a more balanced and accountable real estate ecosystem. The Act further mandates that all the real estate ventures where the area of the land proposed to be developed exceeds five hundred square metre or the number of

apartments proposed to be developed exceeds eight requires registration with RERA. The act applies to all residential as well as commercial projects. For starting any real estate project, the real estate agents mandatorily have to get approval of the layouts, building plans etc. from local authority before registering in the RERA. Real estate ventures must also conform to the zoning regulation and master plan of the area where the venture is to be developed.

Non-compliance with RERA provisions carries significant penalties, creating a strong deterrent against fraudulent practices. Developers who fail to register their projects or violate any prescribed norms face severe consequences, including fines and imprisonment. This stringent approach underscores the seriousness with which the legislation addresses malpractices in the real estate sector.

4000 schools being strengthened to promote ECCE: PDSS

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU:Project Director Samagra Shiksha (PDSS), Rakesh Magotra on Saturday conducted a whirlwind tour of schools of Jammu City.

The visit aimed at assessing the progress of educational initiatives and promoting the integration of innovative labs in government schools. The Director was accompanied by Deputy Director Planning Bilal Rashid, Chief Education Officer Jammu Jagdeep Padha and Coordinator Quality Ajeet Sharma. The Project Director firstly visited the High School Bathindi-a PM SHRI School, where ongoing Construction work amounting to Rs. 56.00 Laes was inspected.

The Headmistress Wahida Tabassum, informed that 3 Rooms along with CWSN Washroom are at the final stage of completion. The OPD Samagra Shiksha asked the executing agency to expedite the work and complete the finishing within 20 days, so that the same can be dedicated to the students. He also asked them to start the construction of one Library Room in the complex, for which authorization has already been given.

The DD Planning informed that, in Jammu District, around 280 (Major/Minor works) are in progress and shall be completed in span of 6-9 months. He informed that the upgradation of Civil infrastructure under Access and retention component is the priority intervention of Samagra Shiksha.

The PD Samagra also visited GHS Gandhinagar, Jammu, where Astro Physics Lab stands established under Samagra Shiksha to boost the scientific temper among the students.

It was informed that 376 Astro Physics /AAGHAZ Labs stand established across the UT, which are being visited by the students of nearby schools as well.

The Project Director interacted with students and teachers and said that, under the leadership& guidance of Dr. Piyush Singla, Administrative Secretary, SED, proper resource utilization is being emphasized across the UT. He said it is the mantra of Administrative Secretary, to make all Schools

exemplar and competitive, so that the students may feel the same environment, as felt by the Students of leading states/UTs.

The Samagra Shiksha's mission is to uplift the educational landscape in Jammu and Kashmir, he maintained. He said that, institutions are being encouraged to become a hub for other schools in the zone, fostering exposure to new technologies and boosting scientific curiosity.

Expressing enthusiasm about the initiative, the Project Director stated that, the training sessions are a crucial aspect of the initiative and will empower teachers to guide students in exploring astronomy and space-related topics." He highlighted that the labs are equipped with state-of-the-art instruments, providing hands-on experiences in astrophysics for government school students from 5th to 12th classes.

Continuing the tour, PD also visited Girls High Sec. School Bakshi Nagar, where a Virtual Reality Lab has been established. Project Director took a demonstration of the VR Lab and interacted with students. Aligning with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, Virtual Reality Labs have been set up in 10 districts. He encouraged teachers to acquaint themselves with the new technology, promoting experiential learning in line with NEP 2020.

Later, he also visited to Shri Ranbir High Secondary School, and got Pre-Primary students under ECCE. He said that, nurturing of the Pre-Primary students at appropriate level shall definitely lead to real development of Nation and experiential learning aligned with NEP 2020, has major focus on imparting Skill education to Children. He said that, Samagra Shiksha is underlining the commitment to promote quality education and innovation across the UT. The visit also included an inspection of the educational facilities and discussions on ways to enhance the learning environment. Magotra reiterated the importance of schools becoming catalysts for educational advancement and encouraged collaboration between institutions to create a supportive network for students.

son@gmail.com. The Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act is successfully addressing the longstanding issues, promoting transparency and establishing mechanisms for dispute resolution, RERA has ushered in a new era of accountability and fairness. As the real estate market continues to evolve, RERA stands as a beacon for responsible and ethical practices, benefiting both developers and homebuyers alike. The Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, commonly known as Real Estate Regulatory Authorities (RERAs), stands as a transformative piece of legislation in India's real estate landscape. Enacted in 2016, RERA was a response to the longstanding issues plaguing the sector; aiming to bring about transparency, accountability and fairness. At its core, RERA seeks to protect the rights and interests of homebuyers, a group often vul-

Chief Justice inaugurates Special Lok Adalat at Kulgam

Cheque Bounce Cases involving Rs 13.97 cr settled

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Under the patronage of Chief Justice, High Court of J&K and Ladakh and Patron-in-Chief, J&K Legal Services Authority, Justice N Kotiswar Singh and with the approval of Executive Chairman, J&K Legal Services Authority, Justice Tashi Rabstan besides under the guidance of Chairperson, High Court Legal Services Committee, Justice Sindhu Sharma, a special Lok Adalat was organized throughout the UT of J&K here on Saturday, being part of activities for the year 2024, calendar which was issued last month by the J&K Legal Services Authority.

The Chief Justice inaugurated the special Lok Adalat at District Court Complex, Kulgam in presence of Justice Sanjay Dhar, Judge, High Court of J&K and Ladakh and Administrative Judge for Kulgam district. He inspected the benches of Lok Adalat besides interacting with Judicial officers,

lawyers and litigants.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Justice impressed upon the Secretary DLSA Kulgam to organize awareness camps for Horticulturists and orchard owners as well as traders to educate them regarding mode of payment through cheques and its repercussions in case of dishonor to ensure that they do not face any legal proceeding in the business transactions.

The Chief Justice lauded the pivotal role played by the Legal Services institutions in ensuring equitable access to justice to all the citizens and in extending legal services to remote areas that helps in bridging the gap between the law and the legal aid seekers.

The Chief Justice also distributed wheel chairs among the deserving persons and participated in a special plantation drive carried out in the court complex.

Later, the Chief Justice urged upon the lawyers to take maximum benefit of the



Chief Justice N Kotiswar Singh distributing wheel chair among the deserving person.

ADR mechanism especially the mediation and the lok Adalat for amicable settlement of case. Today's Special Lok Adalat focused on amicable settlement of Cheque Bounce cases under Negotiable Instrument Act that were pending disposal before various courts in UT of J&K. As per the data received from District Legal Services Authorities, UT of J&K, a total 1106 Cheque Bounce cases were taken up in the Special Lok Adalat, out of which, 356 pending cases were amicably settled

involving an amount of Rs. 13,96,83,291/- giving a huge relief to the litigants.

Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority, Amit Kumar Gupta, while informing media persons applauded the efforts of District Legal Services Authority Jammu for settling 191 pending cases which is more than 50% of the total cases settled in today's lok Adalat. He further informed that this was the second Special Lok Adalat of the current calendar year and the next special

lok Adalat shall be held on Friday, February 23, 2024 focusing on the settlement of consumer cases pending disposal in different consumer forums within the UT of J&K.

Gupta urged upon the Advocates in general and the litigants in particular to take maximum benefit of such Special Lok Adalats which are being organized by the J&K Legal Services Authority. He appreciated the efforts of all the Judicial Officers, Secretaries DLSA's, Advocates, staff of the district and tehsil courts as well as Legal Services Institutions besides litigants for their whole hearted participation in the Special Lok Adalat and facilitating settlement of cases in such a large number. He also acknowledged the role of Para Legal Volunteers and the media, both print and electronic in creating and spreading awareness among the masses about such initiatives of Legal Services Authority.