

Mayor assigns responsibilities to BJP councilors

STATE TIMES NEWS
 JAMMU: To provide best possible facilities to the needy, downtrodden and general public during the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, the BJP assigned important responsibilities to its councilors in Jammu Municipal Corporation.
 Mayor, Chander Mohan Gupta after consultation with senior leaders of BJP nominated Advocate Purnima Sharma Deputy Mayor JMC to be incharge of his team of councilors who will keep liaison with various social organizations. Sanjay Baru Councilor of Ward No.41 has been nominated as incharge of the help desk, Kapil Singh Chib Councilor of ward No.64 has been nominated as incharge of blood/plasma arrangement for the needy persons, Gurmeet Kour Randhawa Councilor of Ward No.69 has been made as incharge of Sewa Hi Sangathan team, Anil Masoom Councilor of Ward No.10 has been made as incharge of the team who will monitor



Mayor, Chander Mohan Gupta assigning responsibilities to BJP councilors.

the functioning of Hospitals management, Ajay Gupta Councilor of Ward No.52 has been nominated as incharge of the team of councilors for monitoring the COVID vaccination management at various centers of Jammu city.
 Surinder Singh Choudhary Councilor of Ward No.29 has been assigned the duty who will provide necessary assistance to the concerned departments dealing with crematorium of deceased COVID patients.
 Mayor said every councilor alongwith field staff of JMC are dedicatedly serving the needy persons continuously for the last one & half years since the inception of this

VC JU Prof Manoj Dhar bereaved

STATE TIMES NEWS
 JAMMU: B.N Kaul, Ex Sr Scientist, Central Drug Research Institute,(CDRI-CSIR), Lucknow, father-in-law of Prof Manoj K Dhar, Vice-Chancellor, University of Jammu passed away on Tuesday due to COVID-19.
 Mourning the sad demise, the Vice-Chancellor said that he was a noble soul and recollected the contributions of his deceased, father-in-law.
 The Vice-Chancellor also requested the University fraternity to maintain all SOP's and send condolences online.
 The deceased is survived by his wife, two sons, and two daughters. His elder daughter, Prof Sanjana Kaul is a Professor in the School of Biotechnology at the University of Jammu.
 The Jammu university fraternity comprising of teaching and non-teaching staff, Officers, scholars and students paid tributes to the departed soul and expressed solidarity with the aggrieved family in this hour of grief.

Medical employees hold protest, project demands



Medical employees raising slogans during a protest at Jammu.

STATE TIMES NEWS
 JAMMU: Jammu Kashmir Medical Employee Federation (JKMEF) under the chairmanship of its President Sushil Sudan on Tuesday organized a protest at Director Health Services complex Jammu to raise their genuine demands of DPC which has not been done since last four years.
 "There are a number of promotional posts lying vacant in many hospitals as a result the system is overburdened in the hospitals," Sudan said adding that besides meeting many times to Director Health Services Jammu and also the Financial Commissioner Health & Medical Education

the DHS is not paying any attention to this direction issued by the higher authority and genuine demands of health employees, during this pandemic period of COVID-19 the health employees are giving their best 24x7 to fight against this deadly virus but are deprived of their due service benefits.
 All the speakers at the protest also raised their demand of release salary of 2211 head employees which is pending for the last three months.
 As the 2211 head female multipurpose health workers playing a pivotal role in anti COVID vaccination, they demanded the early release of the salary of 2211 head employees.
 They hailed the decisions of Lt Governor Manoj Sinha, to give the incentive to health employees and demanded that this incentive should be given to all the categories of health employees because all employees are working with the COVID related programme.
 The speakers also hailed the decision to extend of services of doctors and demanded that this benefit should also be extended to paramedical staff from Safaiwala to doctors because they are also a part of this battle against COVID.
 At last, all the employees

strongly demanded that their genuine demands of DPC should be fulfilled. They also urged to Lt Governor to intervene in this matter so that the health employees could get their due services benefit, and fight this Pandemic with fresh energy.
 Those who spoke on the protest include Choudhary Jarnail Singh Working President Jammu Kashmir Govt Pharmacist Association, Ch Aslam Bhai President JKLF/TEA Parfulat Singh, Kamaljit Sawhney, R.P. Singh Pan Singh Jamwal, Dharminder Singh, Bharat Bushan Bhagat, Jaswinder Singh, Mohd Nadeem, Harpal Singh, Mohd Nadeem, Neelam Devi, Suriya Akhter, Seema Gupta, Sanjay Khajuria, Jaswinder Singh, Shaqqet Hussain, Madan Lal Sharma, Daleep Choudhary, Ved Pal Saini, Pawan Kumar, Mukhtar Ahmed Kohli, Sanjay Choudhary, Kuldeep Singh, Mahesh Sharma and Vikram Singh.

Jugal, Sat visit Govt Hospital Sarwal to review medical facilities



MP Jugal Kishore Sharma interacting with doctors during visit to Government Hospital Sarwal.

STATE TIMES NEWS
 JAMMU: Member of Parliament, Jugal Kishore Sharma along with former Minister, Sat Sharma on Tuesday visited Government Hospital Sarwal and took stock of medical facilities and arrangements for patients and discussed the installation of Oxygen generation plant as soon.
 Jugal conducted inspection of Sarwal Hospital Jammu and took a serious

note to start Oxygen Plant at Sarwal Hospital as early as possible.
 Member Parliament said that there is an alarming increase in the number of COVID-19 patients and it is the dire need to install oxygen plant at earnest.
 He also assured the hospital administration that Bharatiya Janata Party activists will always be ready to assist the administration in managing the situation. Sharma reviewed

the arrangements made by the hospital administration for meeting out the needs of both COVID-19 positive patients and non COVID patients.
 He further directed the administrative setup to cope for extra mile to install Oxygen generation plant as soon.
 Superintending Engineer (mechanical) assure that the commissioning setup has been completed and waiting for generation plant to be installed soon so that patients and people may get adequate supply of Oxygen.
 Medical superintendent Dr Harbaksh Singh, SE Mechanical Rajeev Gupta, Councillor Dinesh Gupta, Block President BJP Raveesh Mengi, Senior BJP Leaders Rohit Gupta, Amreek Singh and Sangeeta were also present.

Kavinder seeks comprehensive package for transporters, traders

STATE TIMES NEWS
 JAMMU: Senior Bharatiya Janata Party leader and former Deputy Chief Minister, Kavinder Gupta while welcoming the initiatives announced on Tuesday by the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha for the COVID-19 victim families, besides others, demanded relief for the trade and transport sector that too has been worst affected by the ongoing pandemic. In a statement issued here today, Kavinder Gupta lauded the Lieutenant Governor for coming to the rescue of helpless section including those daily workers who have become jobless and all the registered construction workers, Ponywallas, Pakiwalas and Pithuwalas. Asserting that the Government is relentlessly working round the clock in defeating the ongoing second wave of COVID-19 pandemic and in addressing the woes of those affected by this unprecedented pandemic, he said that traders and those connected with transport sector have also suffered tremendously due to the crisis. He said now the UT administration needs to immediately address their concerns.
 He appealed to the Lt Governor Manoj Sinha to take note of their problems and announce a comprehensive relief package for the persons linked to these sectors so that they are able to sustain their families in this hour of deep crisis. While enumerating the aforesaid initiatives, the former Deputy Chief Minister reiterated that the Union Territory administration is leaving no stone unturned to provide succour to those affected while fighting the battle against the pandemic. Asserting that our biggest priority is to defeat the COVID-19 pandemic, he urged the Lieutenant Governor to announce a comprehensive relief package for the transport sector and the traders. Meanwhile, he appealed to strictly follow COVID appropriate behaviour and get vaccinated so that the battle against this pandemic is won very soon.

Birth anniversary of Dinu Bhai Pant celebrated

STATE TIMES NEWS
 JAMMU: 104th Birth Anniversary of legendary Dogri poet Late Dinu Bhai Pant was commemorated with literary fervour by Dogri Sanstha Jammu.
 An on-line programme was held on Tuesday featuring the poetry recital and musical presentation of the poems of Pant.
 Selected poems of Pant were recited by well-known radio and theatre artistes Sahiba Bashir and Pawan Verma.
 In addition, Lovely Chandra and Vanshika Jiral, star vocalists of Jammu, sang two of the popular Geets of Pant.
 The musical compositions of these songs were done by Brij Mohan, the well-known composer of J&K.
 In his introductory remarks, Prof. Lalit Magotra, President of Dogri Sanstha Jammu said that celebration of the birth anniversary of Dinu Bhai Pant is of special significance, as Dogri litera-



tures owe much of its initial popularity and growth to Pant.
 He further added that Pant is rightly said to be the father and originator of modern Dogri poetry. When he appeared in nineteen forties on the Horizon of Dogri literature, there were hardly any literary creations in Dogri to boast of. One of his very first poems "Shehar Pahlo-Pehal Gaye" changed the whole literary scenario and brought a revolution in the mindset of writers of that time.
 Magotra said that he penned down many poems which

attained the status of Folk songs. Not only that, even his play "Sarpnach" till date serves as a benchmark in the art of play writing.
 Lovely Chandra Sang "Mere Desai Da Shalaipa" an iconic song of pant and Vanshika Jiral lended her voice to a beautiful song "Makhno Makhaneo" which Pant wrote specially for children. Sahiba Bashir and Pawan Verma, recited many of the popular and modern poems of Pant in a most impressive and professional manner, which increased the impact of Pant's poetry many fold.

Truck drivers-helpers honoured by Ware House Traders

STATE TIMES NEWS
 JAMMU: Truck Drivers and their Helpers who provided rations to people, traveling thousands of miles away from their families in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic were honored in Jammu. Traders Federation Ware House - Nehru Market on Tuesday organized a small function in the Ware House to honour these driver-helpers.
 Shopkeepers showered flowers on them to honour their contribution in maintaining the essential supply in Jammu Kashmir.
 These driver-helpers from different parts of the country are regularly reaching Jammu with supplies of ration.
 Ware house traders described them as Corona



Traders Federation Ware House - Nehru Market members honouring drivers and helpers.

warriors, saying that these people are risking their lives in this pandemic, to keep the supply chain running.
 A Bhandara was also organized for these corona warriors and all the SOPs were strictly followed on this occasion.
 On this occasion, Deepak Gupta, President Traders Federation Ware House-

Nehru Market Jammu said that these people are working in odd conditions and putting their lives at risk just to feed the people of Country.
 Gupta said that due to these Drivers and helpers, people get essential commodities. Last year too, these people risked their lives and supplied the ration to the people of

J&K, but nobody paid any attention towards them.
 Deepak Gupta said that the Traders Federation salutes the courage of these drivers-helpers.
 He said that these people are constantly traveling in the present pandemic so that no one sleeps hungry. Deepak Gupta also appealed to the government to recognize them as Corona Warriors and vaccinate them on priority.
 On this occasion Munish Mahajan, Sr. Ve. President, Abhimanyu Gupta, Ve. President, Sham Lal Langer, General Secretary, Vishal Gupta, Secretary and Amit Gupta, Cashier of the Federation and Ashok Gupta, President Dogra Front Shiv Sena were also present.

Abhay urges administration to improve health care system

'Initiate vaccination & testing drives at people's door step'

STATE TIMES NEWS
 JAMMU: Apni Party State Youth General Secretary Abhay Bakaya on Tuesday urged the administration to put unswerving efforts in improvising the health care system in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir in view of the continuous spread of pandemic to avoid further loss of precious lives.
 In a statement issued here, Abhay deliberate that due to the COVID-19 second wave there exists a huge shortage of oxygen, medicines, beds, medical kits, manpower and other requisite infrastructure in order to tackle this Health emergency in an effective

manner.
 "The administration must primarily focus on adapting every necessary means to overcome these shortages in the Health Care system. The lives lost in this pandemic are due to the unavailability of proper infrastructure and essential medical facilities," he said.
 He further said 24/7 Control room is a welcome step but the efforts required to appositely handle this crisis demand much more than it.
 "There must be special provisions incorporated for carrying out the testing and vaccination drives at the door steps of people. In this way unnecessary crowds

will be avoided and the phased inoculation will further help to save precious lives from being consumed by this dreaded virus.
 He also has appealed to the administration for devising a comprehensive strategy in rural areas wherein medical facilities are already scarce.
 "Our pre-emptive measures in rural areas will help to prevent the spread of this fatal virus where the maximum population resides. The reports of viral spread in the rural areas is worrisome and requires immediate attention from the concerned authorities.
 Moreover, Abhay appealed to the people to follow and

adhere to the guidelines, SOPs and lockdown restrictions imposed by the government for the collective safety of all.
 "We as responsible citizens have also to play our part. Our precautionary measures will eventually result in breaking the infectious chain of this virulent virus and only then will the impact of this pandemic be neutralized effectively," he said.

Power shutdown

STATE TIMES NEWS
 JAMMU: To carry out various upgradation/repair works, the power supply to Kunjwani, Bandhu Rakh and Arjun Vihar shall remain affected on May 12 from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM.
 Similarly, the power supply to Bandhu Rakh shall remain affected on May 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19 from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM.
 Likewise, the power supply to Ekta Vihar shall remain affected on May 19, 20, 21 and 22 from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM.
 Meanwhile, the power supply to Greater Jammu shall remain affected on May 12, 14, 15, 16 and 17 from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM.
 Similarly, the power supply to Industrial area, PIHE, Muthi, Barnai, Green City and their adjoining areas shall remain affected on May 12 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM.
 Likewise, the power supply to Dumi, Thathi, Pargwal, Channi Tanna, Rajpura, Bhalwal, Bharat, Bhalwal Mairpur, NS Pura Rajpuras, Najwal Kanachak, Sumi, Sobka, Sua No.-1, MES Domana, Rajouri Line, Army Area, Lale-Da-Bagh, Kullian, Simbal, Badyal, Abdullahian, Rangpura and adjoining areas shall remain affected on May 12 from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

Press Club Jammu, journalists remember photojournalist Ashok Sodhi on death anniversary



STATE TIMES NEWS
 JAMMU: The Press Club of Jammu and journalists from across the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday remembered senior photojournalist Ashok Sodhi on his 13th death anniversary. Sodhi sacrificed his life while performing professional duties during an encounter in 2008 at Kalvi Mandi in Samba district of Jammu and Kashmir.
 As per the handout issued here, the Press Club of Jammu and the journalists representing different media houses from parts of Jammu and Kashmir, remembered him and paid tributes. However, due to COVID pandemic, the homage paying function could not be held but the PCJ management and fraternity members remembered Sodhi on his death anniversary.
 The journalists remembered their days with

late Sodhi and termed him as a professional man. They also missed him as a person especially in this COVID pandemic as he was always ready to extend a helping hand in such situations.
 Many journalists remembered Sodhi and shared the moments they had lived together as professionals and friends. They termed him a lively man.
 Remembering Sodhi, Journalists asked fellowmen especially the photojournalists to stay safe and prioritise their safety when performing duties especially at this juncture when the whole world is fighting against coronavirus.
 Meanwhile, Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee paid rich tributes to the veteran photo journalist Ashok Sodhi on his martyrdom today.
 JKPC Chief spokesperson Ravinder Sharma remembered the veteran journalist Ashok Sodhi who was committed and devoted to his profession and was a daring devil.
 Sharma recalled his long association with Sodhi and said that his services to the profession and nation would always be remembered. He sacrificed his life for the sake of nation when he fell victim to the billets covering a terrorists encounter. Sharma saluted his bravery and paid rich tributes to him.

STATE TIMES NEWS
 JAMMU: Bharatiya Janata Party senior leader and Councillor Ward No 41, Sanjay Kumar Baru organised a meeting on Tuesday here in Talab Tillo to discuss strategy to put in joint efforts and support administration to contain this deadly coronavirus in a more focused and coordinated manner.
 The agenda of the meeting was to make a close liaison with civil and police administration to make people aware to follow SoPs and administrative guidelines in a more appropriate behaviour approach.
 The meeting was attended by Councillors Neelam Nargotra Ward No 40, Sucha Singh Ward 31, Prithipal Singh Sarpanch Panchayat Gole Gujral besides Tehsildar Jammu West Mohit Gupta, SDPO Domana Kosheen Koul, Naib Tehsildar Gole



Councillor Ward No 41, Sanjay Kumar Baru speaking during a meeting.

and PP Incharge Ponichak Dilwar Kumar.
 A threadbare discussion was held and some unanimous decisions were taken to ensure proper door to door awareness and survey in all areas falling under the territorial jurisdiction of Tehsils Jammu North, Jammu West, Jammu Khas and SDPO Domana including distribution of Masks/ Medical Kits as directed by Divisional Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner Jammu recently. All Councillors and Sarpanchs put forth their valuable suggestions before Tehsildar Mohit Gupta and SDPO Kosheen Koul for effective management and extended full support to district administration.
 Sanjay Kumar Baru said that it is very painful and a matter of grave concern that we are losing human lives besides people are facing acute problems for lack of facilities or shortage of oxygen and ventilators etc. in hospitals. A big panic has erupted because of lack of coordination amongst departments.