

# BJP satiating needs of COVID-hit, underprivileged: Yudhvir

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: No other party is stepping out like the nationalist BJP during the hour of need to provide succor to the COVID-19 affected population and the needy strata of the society.

This was stated by Yudhvir Sethi, Vice President BJP J&K Unit and Incharge Sewa Hi Sangathan, J&K, in a statement issued here on Sunday.

Sethi said that BJP is on forefront to extend help and cooperation to the people hit by the second wave of coronavirus.

He said that looking into the seriousness of the situation due to rising cases of the infection the BJP came up with a time tested solution of launching a two-way 24X7 party helpline to make its cadre available for public welfare and service round the clock.

He said that numerous distress calls have been



Vice President BJP J&K Unit, Yudhvir Sethi distributing masks, sanitisers and other items among people.

received so far through this facility and the volunteers of the party after getting information have provided the needful assistance on various aspects including healthcare, food, vaccine, help to oldage couples, etc.

The senior BJP leader also dwelled upon the Janjagran Abhiyan launched by BJP after collaborating with several NGOs to spread words of information on COVID-

19 among the people.

"Under this campaign the party activists distributed masks, sanitisers, and other items of need to scores of people thus serving dual purpose of providing necessary items for fighting corona and side by side generating awareness about fortification against the lethal germ corona.

Apart from this, he said BJP has come up with Sewa

Hi Sangathan Abhiyan to render selfless service to people for providing succor to those who have been marred by coronavirus in one way or the other.

He said that party workers have already accomplished tremendous work under the realms of this campaign. "The main focus of this Abhiyan was to hold blood and plasma donation camps, help people in COVID testing and vaccination, providing ambulance service and assistance to people in hospitals.

The campaign has been going under with supervision of J.P Nadda, National BJP President and J&K Party Chief Ravinder Raina.

"This campaign is still underway and persistently helping hundreds of people in the time of need", Sethi said and appealed to the people of all shades to share their information about their needs and difficulties

at any of the platform of BJP and see how the party will come to their rescue. He said that no other party in the UT is working on ground to mitigate people's problems.

"It is the time that all those entities which have resources to provide help to ailing lot of the society must come forward leaving aside the political affiliations and differences to meet the common cause of helping the needy and ensuring that the pandemic ends as soon as possible", he said and added that political outfits which have gone underground during this hour of need shall have to pay a huge price for this indifference towards people.

He informed that BJP has nominated Convener and Co conveners across the UT to provide various services to people in distress during COVID under this campaign.

# Don't fright but fight with corona: Randhawa



Former MLC, Ch. Vikram Randhawa, honouring a 90-years-old man who successfully defeated COVID-19.

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: "We have to fight boldly with COVID-19 instead of getting frightened after being tested positive with open mind and a cheerful heart". It was said by State Secretary BJP J&K and former Member Legislative Council (MLC), Ch. Vikram Randhawa, while honouring a 90-years-old man who successfully defeated COVID-19.

Randhawa said that Janak Singh, who is 90-years-old, resident of Gorkha Nagar, Jammu was tested positive but has defeated COVID-19 successfully with positive

thoughts, open mind and a cheerful heart. He said that it is the only mantra to defeat corona. He also advised the people to follow appropriate COVID-19 behaviour like wearing face mask, washing hands regularly or using sanitisers.

Randhawa also advised people to not venture out of their houses amid ongoing lockdown until there is an urgency or medical exigency. He further advised people to come forward and get themselves vaccinated as vaccination is the only way forward to defeat corona fully. He also advised people to not hide symptoms

of COVID-19 and in case any symptom they should get themselves tested so that a proper treatment can be started at an early stage to save a precious life.

Randhawa said that the delay in hospitalization raises the risk of losing a life and we should hospitalized a patient well in time so that the doctors may provide them better treatment and life is saved.

Others who accompanied Ch. Vikram Randhawa include Subash Chander, Naseeb Singh, Vikram Singh, Omkar Singh, Vicky Kumar and others.

## Declare all media houses' workers as frontline COVID warriors: UDA

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Convener; United Democratic Alliance (UDA), Rajiv Mahajan on Sunday again urged Lt Governor Manoj Sinha to declare all employees of media houses, both print and electronic, functioning in Jammu and Kashmir as Frontline COVID warriors. In a press statement issued here, Mahajan urged Lt Governor to declare members of all media houses, working in field as well as in office, including owner, editor, sub-editors, pagemakers, photojournalists, video-journalists, hawkers, printing machine operators as frontline COVID warriors in order to cover them under risk insurance and other allied schemes of Government.

"Data including names and designation of all staff members of all media houses is lying with the Directorate of Information and Public Relation office in Jammu and Kashmir," he said adding that lists should be updated after consultations with media houses, for benefit of employees.

Several other state governments have already declared all aforesaid employees as frontline warriors and covered their risk, he added.

## ‘Govt well equipped to tackle any emergency situation arising due to COVID’

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: Director Health Services Kashmir (DHSK), Dr Mushtaq Ahmad Rather on Sunday made it clear that the Government is well-equipped to tackle the 2nd wave of COVID-19 pandemic in Kashmir division.

Divulging the details, the Director said that all district and sub-district hospitals in urban as well as in rural areas, besides associated or tertiary care hospitals across Kashmir are well prepared to meet any emergency situation arising due to COVID pandemic.

He said medical oxygen which has been seen as one of the key require-

ments in case of severe cases in COVID care hospitals has been made available in all such hospitals to meet the demand, "The medical Oxygen plants with a minimum capacity of production of 1000 lpm and at some places 2000 lpm have been installed in all the COVID hospitals in Kashmir," Dr Rather added.

He said since Oxygen is considered as a lifeline to ensure survival of patients, so no compromise is being made on the production and ensuring the availability of the same in all COVID hospitals.

Talking about the supply position of medicines especially those mostly

used in treatment of Coronavirus by the doctors, Dr Rather said that they have enough stocks of medicines available with them which are being supplied to the hospitals as per demand and requirement. He further assured that there is no shortage of such medicines and all treatment protocols of patients are going on smoothly.

The Director said that people need not to press the panic button and government has already put in place 2nd line including extra beds at various places in all the districts including Srinagar at Hajj house, NIT and at other identified venues in addition to SMHS,

JLNM, C.D hospital and SKIMS.

"In case all the beds at our COVID care hospitals are occupied, there is always a 2nd line at our disposal to cater to the demand and provide best of the treatment facilities to the patients and fight the pandemic," he added.

While appealing people to follow COVID-19 related SOPs in letter and spirit and get vaccinated, the Director said, "People should follow SOPs even after the vaccination and ensure strict adherence to three things including mask, hand hygiene and social distancing".

He said on the directions of Lt. Governor, the health department has started dis-

tribution of Kits for patients in home isolation which includes both medicines and pulse oximeters so that they are provided healthcare facilities at their doorsteps.

Dr Rather said that besides distribution of Kits, the government has established Call Centres both at districts as well as at divisional level to assist patients in home isolation. "The home isolation patients can make a call to these Call Centres in case they feel health related complications, an ambulance with a doctor shall arrive at their home and conduct a check-up of the patient and in case he requires admission in hospital the same shall be done," he added.

## Commence special vaccination campaign for bed-ridden patients, journalists: Shiv Sena

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Shiv Sena Bala Saheb Thackeray Jammu and Kashmir unit on Sunday demanded a special vaccination campaign for the bedridden patients and journalists.

In a press release issued today, the Shiv Sena J&K unit President Manish Sahni, while drawing the attention of the government towards bedridden patients, alleged that the government seems to have forgotten that this category deserves priority attention so far as vaccination is considered.

He said that the vaccination of media persons called the fourth pillar of democracy also stand on the same pedestal.

He added that during the ongoing pandemic, many journalists have lost their lives due to corona infection while carrying out their duties as frontline warriors in hospitals and crematoria highlighting the absence of doctors and many other issues before the public and the Govt so that the requisite

reforms could be brought to improve the situation.

The Shiv Sena president claimed that doctors and experts believe that people suffering from other diseases have suffered the most during the pandemic and regretted that till date the government has not rolled out any plan for the vaccination of such bed-ridden sick people. Quoting data released by the National Health Mission, Sahni said that, the data released in the last 30 days of COVID-19 in Jammu and Kashmir has made it clear that 93 percent of those who died those who were not vaccinated.

Emphasizing that vaccination is the only protective shield against the deadly virus, Sahni appealed to all the Govt specially to the Lieutenant Governor of J&K Manoj Sinha to immediately issue directions to commence a special vaccination campaign for journalists and those unable to reach the vaccine site due to bedridden illness.

## Dogri Sanstha holds online short-story telling programme

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: In a unique initiative, Dogri Sanstha Jammu held an online short-story-telling programme in which the stories written by senior iconic Dogri writers, who are no more in this world, were read by the short story writers of present generation.

The stories selected for this programme include those written by late Madan Mohan Sharma and late Bandhu Sharma, which were read out by Nirmal Vikram and Rajeshwar Singh "Raju" respectively. Prior to the story reading, a brief introduction of each of the story writer was given by well-known Dogri scholars Prof. Shashi Pathania and Prof. Veena Gupta.

This gave the viewers a proper perspective and created appropriate environment for the story telling.

Gazing from the responses and comments of the numerous on-line viewers, the program



appeared to be a great success.

Earlier, welcoming the viewers in the program, Prof. Lalit Magotra, President of Dogri Sanstha Jammu shed light on the relevance and importance of this programme. He said that this endeavour will serve twin purposes-it will make the public, especially the young generation, aware of the high-quality literature written in their own mother tongue and will also provide a healthy entertainment and relaxation to the viewers, of which they are in a dire need in these times of pan-

demic. He also spoke about the great contribution of late Madan Mohan Sharma and late Bandhu Sharma to the Dogri literature by raising its standard. In the end of the programme, Gyaneshwar Sharma, Vice-President of Dogri Sanstha Jammu presented a vote of thanks. The technical help for the smooth functioning of programme was provided by Pawan Verma.

## Bharat Bhushan mourns demise of father of VC DDC Jammu

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Bharat Bhushan Bodhi, Chairman DDC Jammu and ex MLA BJP, has expressed grief and sorrow over the demise of father of Suraj Singh Bhau, Vice Chairman DDC Jammu. In a condolence message issued today, Bharat Bhushan said that Suraj Singh's father was a staunch supporter of BJP since the time of Jana Sangh. He was a great visionary worker who tirelessly struggled for raising issues of weaker sections of society." The Chairman said "A gem of a person, a committed Party worker and a pious person grounded in values of humanity. His passing away has created a void that will be impossible to fill for years. Such self-sacrificing persons are uncommon in the society. He always worked for downtrodden & weaker sections. His love and passion to work for common masses will remain unmatched." He prayed to God to grant eternal peace to the departed soul and give strength to the family members to bear this irreparable loss.

## Declare PDD employees, engineers as frontline workers: JKNGEEA

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: J&K Non-Gazetted Electrical Employees Association (JKNGEEA) President Fared Ahmad Mir, General Secretary Md. Maqbool, Secretary Gurmeet Singh, Zakir Hussain, Raj Kumar and Surinder Kumar in a joint statement at Jammu expressed serious concern and anguish over the Govt's step motherly treatment towards a large section of frontline workers especially electricity employees and engineers in power sector who are becoming victim to COVID 19 pandemic and sacrificing their lives daily in dozens while ensuring regular power supplies to hospital and general public.

These Power sector employees & engineers are passing through a very bad time due to COVID-19 Pandemic second deadly surge, they said adding that situation is getting bad to worse every day.

"We are maintaining 24x7 electricity supply and are vulnerable to virus. We are getting badly affected and due to this deadly virus many power employees and engineers have sacrificed their lives," they said. JKNGEEA demands employees and engineers be covered as frontline workers and ensure the recently announced remuneration to these employees as well.

**JKPCC condoles death of Rajeev Satav**

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) has deeply condoled the sudden death of AICC General Secretary and MP Rajya Sabha Rajeev Satav. In a condolence message, JKPCC President G A Mir and all senior leaders of the party have expressed profound grief and shock over the sad demise of Satav who was a young and committed Leader of the party.

He remained president of All India Youth Congress and presently General Secretary and Incharge of Gujarat State. His death has created a void in the society especially in the inc which is difficult to be filled, Mir said.

The entire rank and file of party conveyed heartfelt condolences to family and prayed for peace to the departed soul.

**Indian National Youth Congress** senior leader Vishal Chopra paid tribute to senior Congress leader, Rajya Sabha member from Maharashtra & Ex-National President Indian Youth Congress, Rajiv Satav.

While expressing grief, Chopra said Satav's youthful leadership and excellent work style impressed everybody.

He will be remembered for his simplicity, openness, ground connection, leadership and loyalty to the party, Chopra said.

their lives," they said. JKNGEEA demands employees and engineers be covered as frontline workers and ensure the recently announced remuneration to these employees as well.

## Kavinder reviews facilities at Saraswati Dham COVID Centre

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Senior Bharatiya Janata Party leader and former Deputy Chief Minister, Kavinder Gupta visited Saraswati Dham COVID Centre near Jammu Tawi Railway Station and reviewed the medicare facilities being provided to COVID affected people.

The former Deputy Chief Minister was accompanied by Corporator and Mandal President Lucky Neeraj Puri and Corporator Ajay Gupta.

Dr Anita Samyal, In-charge of Saraswati Dham COVID Center briefed the former Deputy Chief Minister about the functioning of the Centre and the facilities being provided to the visiting people.

Kavinder appreciated the doctors and paramedical staff for working relentlessly in serving the COVID-19 patients least bothering about their lives. He lauded them for providing a ray of hope to the



Former Dy CM, Kavinder Gupta interacting with doctors during visit to Saraswati Dham COVID Centre.

COVID-19 victims during the ongoing pandemic amid tough working conditions and tight schedule. The former Deputy Chief Minister, while expressing satisfaction over the arrangements, said that the Centre is properly equipped with the requisite facilities including 34 oxygen concentrators and beds with oxygen cylinders. Moreover, the hygiene conditions at this Centre are the best and deserve full appreciation, he added.

Kavinder said that he was highly impressed by the dedication of doctors and para medical staff who are putting in all

efforts to ensure the smooth functioning of the Centre.

He reiterated his appeal to the people of Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory to keep patience and fully cooperate with the administration to support the measures initiated to win the battle against COVID-19 pandemic.

Mandal President Lucky Neeraj Puri and Corporator Ajay Gupta also made a fervent appeal to the people to strictly follow the COVID SOPs most sacredly besides ensure that they get vaccinated against the deadly virus at the earliest.

## DSK appreciates opening of COVID care centres in Jammu for patients with mild symptoms

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The Dogra Sahayata Kendra (DSK), Jammu on Sunday appreciated the opening of COVID Care Centers at several locations in Jammu by the UT Administration and Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, including at the Yatri Nivas, Bhagvati Nagar and Saraswati Dham, Rail Head Complex, Jammu.

This was stated by Gulehain Singh Charak, Chairman, Dogra Sahayata Kendra and President Dogra Sadar Sabha, Jammu after holding an online meeting of the Coordination Committee of the Dogra Sahayata Kendra, Jammu.

He said that this will help in reducing the difficulty being faced by the people in managing home isolation, and provide much needed succor to the patients.

He also appealed to other

religious and social organizations to come forward and join the fight against the pandemic in this hour of crises.

He expressed concern over the higher fatality rate in Jammu and the reports that about 20% of mortalities in Jammu are taking place at home, which indicates that the patients in Jammu are not being able to avail the health facilities of the Govt.

He said there was a need to launch a concerted campaign through print, electronic and social media to appeal to the people of Jammu that they should not hesitate to go to the Triage Centers opened at the C.D. Hospital, Jammu, the Govt. Hospital Gandhi Nagar and the District hospitals, in case of other districts, as soon as they get Covid symptoms, to avail timely medical advice.

He said that this will help in timely treatment and early recovery of the patients.

He further said that the Dogra Sahayata Kendra had a crucial role to act as the link between the Administration and the people of Jammu to ensure that proper and timely treatment and other facilities are made available to the people in order to save their lives.

He stressed upon the need to maintain a close coordination by the members of the Dogra Sahayata Kendra with the concerned Health Authorities and other official agencies to facilitate the availability of all essential services to the People. He also called upon the district units of Dogra Sadar Sabha to join hands with the district authorities to educate the people, and help them in availing proper health facilities.

Charak also expressed concern at the congestion observed in the Sabzi Mandi at Narwal, which was becoming one of the main spreading

hotspot for the COVID-19 in Jammu. He called upon the District Administration to put in special efforts to ensure that the social distancing norms are adhered to, in Sabzi Mandi during the period of relaxation in Corona Curfew every day, and also by Shopkeepers and Vendors between 6 AM to 10 AM when a heavy rush can be invariably witnessed at all shops.

He also reiterated his demand for a complete and proper lockdown for about a week or ten days to break the COVID chain in Jammu.

Amongst others who participated in the Zoom meeting included Ajay Khajuria (KAS Retd), Dr. Purshottama Sadhotra, Col. (Retd) Karan Singh Jamwal, Adv. Dinesh Chauhan, Gambhir Dev Singh, I/C Youth Wing DSS, Samar Dev Singh, Secretary, Dogra Educational Trust and Suresh Sharma.