ISRO augmenting Oxygen availability, COVID infrastructure: Dr Jitendra

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Union Minister of (Independent Charge) Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh on Thursday said that the Indian Space Research Organisation Department of Space (DoS) are augmenting Oxygen availability and COVID infrastructure across the

ISRO has gone beyond its call to provide COVID related support mainly liquid oxygen to States of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and UT of Chandigarh, he said.

In an online review meeting, Chairman, ISRO, Dr. K. Sivan said that 9.5 tonnes of oxygen being given to these States per day.

He said, 87 Tonnes of LOX manufactured and supplied by ISRO Propulsion Complex, IPRC have already been given to Tamil Nadu and Kerala by ensuring 24x7 work sched-



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh holding a high level On-line meeting with Chairman ISRO, Dr K. Sivan to review COVID related measures.

Moreover, 12 MT of LOX sent to augment Oxygen availability in

Andhra Pradesh. He said, the Department is also ensuring supply of Oxygen cylinders for local public in Andhra Pradesh and Kerala. Advanced Medical devices designed including ventilators, Prana, and VaU and manufacturing to be

taken up with industries at the earliest. Dr Jitendra was informed that the Space Application Centre at Ahmedabad has successfully converted 2 Liquid Nitrogen Tanks of about 1.65 lakh litres into liquid oxygen tanks for storage and supply in Ahmedabad and nearby hospitals. Moreover, Face Shields and PPE kits are also being supplied to hospitals in

Ahmedabad. The Minister said that Oxygen Concentrators being procured for Dispensaries for use by needy patients and the Design of disinfectant chamber for baggage and new Oxygen concentrators is already in

The other technological support provided by the Department of Space includes, Covid vaccination centers mapping across India integrated with Cowin app to help citizen reach the nearest vaccination center, deployment of Non-contact Thermal camera developed by SAC, development of COVID-19 Dashboard in Sync with Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and the development of a

ration with ICMR, Dibrugarh, Assam for collection of geo tagged information of Covid19 cases in the state of

Senior officials of the Department of Space informed Dr Jitendra Singh that work is on for the 10 scheduled Satellite launch projects including the unmanned Gaganyaan Mission in December this year.

The Minister expressed satisfaction that despite the crippling effects of the pandemic, the launch campaign activities continued over Virtual Launch Control for PSLV-C49, C50 and C51 during the past six months.

Dr Jitendra also asked the department to explore the possibility of creating more COVID Care Centres apart from the ones established in

Bengaluru, Shillong and Sriharikota. The Minister expressed satisfaction over the various measures taken by the Department of Space to contain the COVID menace and specially appreciated the introduction of Biobubble teams and vaccination of about 30% of the staff so far

cination drive and ensure

the necessary facilities in

various hospitals on a war

footing. It may not be pos-

sible to get the jab for all

since we already lack in the

required resources and

infrastructure, considering

the size of our population.

Bhalla maintained that

though one may still con-

tract the virus even after

getting the jab, the disease

would not be that severe

and one would easily recov-

er as the infection would be



Advisor Bhatnagar visits GMC Jammu, reviews work progress of new Oxygen Generation Plant

STATE TIMES NEWS

Governor, Lieutenant Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar on Thursday Government Medical College (GMC) here and reviewed the progress on construction of new oxygen plant.

The Advisor was accompa-

Advisor Bhatnagar directed the concerned officers to commission two units of the plant immediately for better patient care and added that this plant will substantially increase the medical oxygen availability at this premier institution.

constant power availability

visit to GMC to review construction work of new oxygen plant. as well as back up for the plant. He directed that requirements for connecting the new plant to present oxygen supply system of the Hospital be completed within 24 hours.

Advisor, R.R Bhatnagar interacting with officials during

Bhatnagar Advisor stressed upon the officers for constant monitoring of the plant and asked them to ensure availability of crucial spare parts and technically sound persons 24x7 in the plant itself.

The Advisor during the visit said that the present government has ensured that all the facilities of Medical exigencies are in place at hospitals across J&K to meet any kind of eventuality. He added that patients under home isolation in Jammu are being regularly monitored through call centres providing tele consultation and also medical surveillance teams.

Advisor Bhatnagar further said that District Hospitals in J&K are well equipped with oxygen laden beds and facilities for meeting any emergency situation. He also appealed the people to get vaccinated and follow all

Advisor

by Development Commissioner Works, J&K, Medical Superintendent GMC, HoDs of various medical departments, officers from Mechanical Engineering, PWD and Health departments during

The Advisor further directed the concerned technical team of plant to ensure

No beds available for patients in CD Hospital

🕶 e art - breaking visuals of COVIDvisuals of Co. hospital.

The attendants holding

number of patients they are not being able to provide beds to some patients.

Hospital administration further assured that they are trying their best to

JKTPO, CII organise virtual session to promote industrialisation in J&K

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

emphasis on central I and UT Industrial development policies, Kashmir Promotion Organization on

Thursday organized a virtual session with Confederation of Indian Industry for their SME industrialist members.

The virtual session high lighted the land allotment policy, incentives offered and strengths and advantages of J&K region. The policy of J&K is expected to pave way for the development of all economic sectors and a special push to the region's manufacturing and service sec-

During welcome address. Mr.Sanjay Chairman,CII Khurana. Regional Committee stressed upon the importance of SME participation in industrial development of Jammu and Kashmir. He reaffirmed that CII will help to spread awareness about the new industrial policies of J&K, which in turn is expected to support economic development and encourage sustainable livelihood of the youth of the

Kar, Managing Ankita Director, Jammu and Kashmir Trade Promotion Organization shared key

JAMMU: Apni Trade Union

State President J&K Ajaz

Kazmi on Thursday fervently

appealed to the Lt. Governor

of J&K, Manoj Sinha to

direct financial institutions

for waiving off the EMI

installments of downtrodden

sections of the society, associ-

ated with the business of

house boats, Shikharas, taxi

& cabs, auto Rikshaws, and

street hawkers in view of the

He said that the lockdowns

and restrictions imposed in

current COVID-19 crisis.

offered to investors under the JAMMU: With a strong new policies and how it will be

linked with the progress of the project on the ground. She also emphasized the proactive approach to disseminate information

web site www.invest.jk.gov.insocial channel@Investinjk.

Government of J&K is committed in streamlining the investor-experience starting from information dissemination of industrial policies and initiatives, facilitation in conversion of investors' interest through single window system and further till grounding the project. Latest in the slew of the initiatives, the opening of land allotment portal has seen a warm response from different business enterprises.

At the end of session, many queries and observations were shared by participants and it helped many knowing about the region. CII appreciated the outreach and initiative to inform the SME community.

In the closing note, Sanjay assured full support of CII and its resources in attracting potential SME investors to avail investor friendly incentives under the new policy and setup business units

pandemic have made

the lives of traders and

business class people

utterly miserable and

"The trade and busi-

ness industry of Jammu and

Kashmir has been hit badly

by continuous lockdowns and

restrictions imposed from

the past one year has

immensely affected the poor

traders who were running

small business units of

Shikharas, houseboats, taxis,

cabs and rickshaws

pathetic.

J&K struggles to find way out of COVID mess: Bhalla

Speed-up pace of vaccination to cover all priority groups

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Amid a spike in COVID-19 cases in J&K, former Minister and sen-Congress leader Bhalla LGThursday askedAdministration increase RT-PCR tests, strictly enforce test-tracktreat protocol and speed up the pace of vaccination to cover all priority groups. He said keeping in view

the fresh surge in COVID-19 cases, the new positive cases, detected as a result of intensive testing, need to be isolated or quarantined at the earliest and provided timely treat-Union Territory admin-

istrations should strictly enforce the test-tracktreat protocol in all parts of J&K, ensure observance of COVID-19appropriate behaviour by everyone and, scale up the vaccination drive to cover all the target groups, he

He expressed grave concern over the handling of the Covid-19 situation in the country, while calling for speeding up vaccination and stepping up

Kazmi demands special package for COVID pandemic sufferers

'Exempt EMI's of Taxi Owners, Cab & Auto Rickshaw Drivers, Shikara Owners and House Boat owners'

STATE TIMES NEWS the country during the They have become installments while simultane-

he remarked.

restrictions

snatched their livelihood and

their economic position is in

shambles which needs to be

He further said their posi-

tion is quite deplorable and

they are not in a position to

their monthly loan

considered

humane prism.

the prime victims of

this lockdown and

have suffered badly,'

He said that the

continuous lockdowns

through a



challenge in the Union

Bhalla said the Centre had failed to gauge the severity of the second wave of the pandemic and did not take timely stock of the facilities in Jammu Kashmir.

expressed concern over the loss of lives across the country due to a lack of oxygen supply and shortage of vaccines, which were exported to other countries, and said it was a "highly irresponsible" act of the Narendra Modi government.

Bhalla observed that situation has taken a very serious and ugly turn and the country has occupied the top spot in the world in terms of the number of COVID-19 cases.

ously providing for their fam-

"Keeping in view the cur-

rent financial position of

these nimble sections of our

society, I appeal to Lt.

Governor of J&K, Manoj

Sinha to save the future of

these poor businessmen from

further deterioration on

humanitarian grounds and

amnesty in regards with their

bank loan installments, so

that they feel a sigh of relief,"

exemplary

an

deliver

mild, which might not be the case otherwise. In order to cover more population, mobile centres

should be set up, social organizations should be roped in, regular monitoring of the vaccinated persons and awareness drives among the beneficiaries are a must. Bhalla observed that pandemic has shaken the world all around. Social and economic order has been adversely paralysed. The Jammu and Kashmir government still has the time to move from pressers and to check things on the ground; otherwise, this delay can cost Jammu and Kashmir its fight against

must also come up with spe-

cial financial packages doled

out in their favour to revive

these business classes in line

with the examples of other

Governments have provided

necessary financial aid to the

"Such immediate meas-

ures are essential in order to

ameliorate their depriva-

tions as well put this class

back on rails for sake of eco-

equity," he concluded.

stabilization and

owners of such sections.

wherein

He urged the government the deadly

ting treated openly in the ground of Jammu's CD hospital have been observed. Due to the shortage of beds, these patients are being administered treatment on the staircases as well as in the lawn of the hospital. Many patients with attendants were lying in the lawn with oxygen mask and cylinder along side; waiting for a bed in

the cylinder and praying for the safety of their loved one shared, "There is acute shortage of beds due to which we are left with no other option than to sit here in lawn. There are no beds in the hospital and we are waiting here with a hope to get



patients are decreasing and we are feeling help-

Meanwhile, while talking to STATE TIMES. the hospital administration assured that the patients are being provided complete assistance and treatment, however, due to sudden increase in

arrange beds for suffering patients but due to sudden rise in the cases, they are facing issues. which would be resolved

Issues which UT of Jammu & Kashmir must first step on to show that an era with difference has arrived

Executing SAC decision of 22-10-2019 about PDD Engineers & Putting adhocism to end-Staffing Medical colleges Adequately Honoring PVC Decorated Soldiers - Projects for Needy & Firm Sr. Citizens - Unexploited Summer /Commercial/ Pilgrim Tourism Must focus on: Under Employed Youth -Rural Health Care - Nearness of Commonman to Distt. Adm./ MLAs-PSU- PoJK DPs Revisit Management of PSUs-Review ADB/WB Funded Projects -Health/ School Education-Electricity/Water- Social Audit

he state of affairs as regards delivering the public services with quality in the erstwhile State of J&K had had remained quite disappointing particularly since mid after 1980. Except for the case of IAS services (lately IPS also to some extent) even the human resource management & matters related to service conditions of Gazetted Officers of State services have remained frustrating for the incumbants more due to the culture of adhoc promotions / incharge promotions in services. Officers have been made to retire while working for even 2 to 3 years as Incharge Chief Engineers/ Incharge Directors and there could be many who may be drawing pension even 10 years after retirement in the grade of Assistant Executive Engineer or Asstt Director. J&K came under Governor rule in June 2018 and J&K as UT is under President Rule. It was hoped that may be after 5th August 2019 some reforms would be there but even in 2021 the Incharge custom of promoting

Executive Engineer to Incharge Superintending Engineer to Incharge Chief Engineer to retired I/C Chief Engineer drawing pension in the grade of AEE is continuing in UT of J&K. No doubt the then Governor J&K Satva Pal Malik did take notice of the reports on the subject and it was on 22-10-2019 that State Administrative Council (SAC) directed that Establishment cum Selection Committee should decide the pending cases of promotions of I/C officers of PDD (surely the focus appeared to be more on cases atleast of those already retired) by 30-11-2019 even bypassing involvement of PSC as one time exception but what was to be put in practice in 40 days is no where in the sight even after more than 16 months and the decision that was taken as 'historic' atleast by 'Retired' officers like PDD i/c Chief Engineers appears to be only history now. In case that has been the treatment given to an order of SAC it speaks well of the 'seriousness' with what the Administrative Departments



A Look through the mist Part-V

where in the 'Secretriat' all authority has been fixed may be working in gen-

Not only that Government of Jammu and Kashmir taking leads/ directions from the order passed in the matter of writ petition WP(Civil) No. 94612020, titled Ghulam Hassan Rather v/s Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir has constituted a Group of Officers vide Government Order No:1172-JK (GAD) of 2020 Dated:31.12.2020 for proposing with in a period of 4 weeks a roadmap/way forward for putting an end to the practice of making 'adhoc promotions' in various Government Departments of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir (Administrative Secretaries of Finance Department, PW(R&B),

GAD ,ARI & Trainings , Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs as members) to examine (i) the reasons behind prevalent and continuing system of making adhoc promotions in Government Departments. ii) To examine the issues/bottlenecks confronted by the Departments in making regular promotions. iii) To propose a way forward /roadmap for stopping the practice of making adhoc promotions. J&K HC Srinagar Bench while passing order at para 21 had said in reference to adhocism in J&K government services as regards promotions <"Before parting with the case and to take care of the fact that because of adhocism lot of litigation is being generated by the government, this court would like to seek comments from the government as to how this system can be put to an end and all recruitments and promotions are made strictly in terms of the Rules governing the post and not I/c basis? >. The "Group of Officers" was supposed to submit the report by about 28--01-2021 and status is not known even 3

months after that instead I/C promotions are still being made.

That means very serious surgical reformatic measures will have to be taken by the Leiutenant Governor since he can well question the non performance of the quarters where "ALL" Authority has been fixed in the present bureaucratic system. Establishing a human resources wing department wise may be of some relief..

Running scales have been given to Allopathic/Ayurvedic/ Animal Husbandary/ Sheep Husbandary Doctors where as no justification is there for not giving to Gazetted

Services Engineers Medical colleges in J&K State have always remained inadequately staffed in terms of experience and qualification since no recruitment were/ could be made of non- Permanent Residents of J&K .At times requirements have been relaxed to fill senior position locally which has less benefitted the students and more the individuals for getting promotions. It was expected that after

would be reshaped but instead even the 5 new Medical Colleges that need more of experience (both academic and administrative) the positions of even Principals are being filled up with some individuals who do not have meaningful academic experience as well as any administrative experience worth taking up the responsibility of deciding and getting executed the requirements that a new college could have. This must attract the first attention of LG Manoj Sinha since it appears that the present bureucratic set up has not so far brought the real needs to his notice.

The feed back like atleast the one contained herein if draws the immediate concern of the UT and Union Governments, common man of UT of J&K would surely get convinced that the era of unfair and irrational governance would surely be wiped off soon otherwise 'plans' would not yield.

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