

Dr Jitendra announces additional family bunkers, automated Siren system for border area

STATE TIMES NEWS

HIRANAGAR: Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh on Tuesday announced additional 600 Family Bunkers besides the existing over 2,000 and an automated centralised Siren system for the border area.

In a day-long tour of the areas along the International Border (IB), Dr. Jitendra Singh held a series of meetings, including with the District administration led by Deputy Commissioner Rakesh Minhas, with public representatives including MLAs and DDC Members, following which he held an open interaction with the border dwellers.

Pertinent to mention that Kathua was the first in the country to experiment with family bunkers in the border area, when the issue was taken up by Dr. Jitendra Singh as Member of Parliament soon after Shri Narendra Modi took over as Prime Minister.

As a result, over 2,000 Family bunkers have been built for the people living along the border area in the last 6 to 7 years. The utility of these bunkers was realised during the recent Operation Sindoor. The people living in the border areas chose to shift into these bunkers instead of moving to any distant shelters as they found these Bunkers more comfortable and also secure. Each of these bunkers is virtually like a small living apartment with all the amenities in



Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh holding an interactive public meeting with bunker dwellers along the International Border, at Hiranagar on Tuesday.

place.

In response to public demand to have more of such bunkers, Dr. Jitendra Singh consulted the administration and immediately issued directions for construction of 600 additional Family bunkers immediately and later on, if required, construction of more similar bunkers.

In response to another demand that quite often the information regarding the blackouts was obtained through social media because the siren was not audible enough, Dr. Jitendra Singh issued directions that modern technology should be used instead of manually operated sirens. For this purpose, he said, an automated centralised siren system will be installed from the District Headquarter and whenever required, it will start operating spontaneously and

Siren will be blown out through local outlets at each of the border villages.

In addition, Dr. Jitendra Singh informed that soon after the Operation Sindoor was launched, district Kathua was provided with 39 medical ambulances considering the vulnerability of the border dwellers. In addition, 02 more Critical Care Ambulances were made available in Government Medical College, Kathua, he said.

Dr. Jitendra Singh said, all this has been possible because the border villages which had remained totally neglected over the years, were given highest priority by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. It was during the last 10 years, he said, that high quality road network upto the zero line of the International Border, where there were no roads before 2014. Similarly, there were no

Mobile Towers in the border villages and the same have also been installed only in the last 7 to 8 years, he added, so that the children and professionals did not suffer disadvantage due to lack of internet or connectivity.

Dr. Jitendra Singh appreciated the coordinated and joint effort put in by the district administration and civil society in meeting the challenges posed in the face of drone attacks by Pakistan, and he said this is truly an example of the whole of government plus whole of society approach. Dr. Jitendra Singh noted that one important highlight of the one week of turmoil in the region was that it gave us an opportunity to vindicate that whatever has been done in the last few years was for the benefit of the nation and the people, which includes construction of roads and mobile connectivity along the border areas.

Similarly, Dr. Jitendra Singh informed that in the age of technology warfare, Operation Sindoor was also an opportunity for India to prove to the world the kind of superior technology prowess, she had acquired in last one decade. He said, all the equipment including UAS (Unmanned Aerospace System) has been setup only in the last 10 years after Prime Minister Modi came. Not only this, he said, it is also a vindication of the mantra of Aatmanirbhar Bharat, which Modi gave soon after becoming Prime Minister, because each of the equipment used during these challenging few days was totally indigenously developed.

Dr. Jitendra Singh said, while operation Sindoor has raised the morale of the border dwellers to the new height and given them the confidence that they were totally protected and safe in the technology rich India of Modi, at the same time, the world also has seen a trailer of India's incredibly rising capacities and prowess.

Among those who participated in public interaction were MLA Vijay Kumar Sharma, Vice Chairman DDC Raghunandan Singh Babloo, DDC Abhinandan Sharma, former OBC Chairman Rashpal Verma, senior leader Prem Nath Dogra, Asha Nand, Bakshi, Ravi Kumar and others.



Sadhotra visits GMC Jammu; expresses solidarity with injured victims of Poonch by Pakistan shelling

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: National Conference Additional General Secretary and former Minister Ajay Kumar Sadhotra on Tuesday visited the Government Medical College (GMC) Hospital, Jammu, to enquire about the condition of the civilians injured in the recent shelling by Pakistan in Poonch, who have been referred to the facility for specialized treatment today.

During his visit, Sadhotra interacted with the attending doctors and was briefed on the health status of the injured, many of whom are admitted in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) and emergency ward. He appreciated the medical teams of doctors and paramedics for their missionary spirit, dedication, and round-the-clock service in attending to the injured during this critical time.

"Doctors are the real hope for the suffering people, and their commitment in moments of crisis is truly commendable," Sadhotra said, lauding the humanitarian role being played by the health workers in mitigating pain and saving lives.

Strongly condemning the shelling by Pakistan from across the border, Sadhotra said such unprovoked acts



Additional General Secretary NC Ajay Kumar Sadhotra visiting GMC Jammu to inquire injured by Pakistan shelling.

bring disaster and devastation to peaceful civilian lives.

He expressed solidarity with those who have lost their loved ones and prayed for the speedy recovery of the injured.

He also praised the resilience and courage of the border residents, who faced repeated disruptions to their lives with fortitude and unity. "Their strength in the face of adversity is an inspiration to all," he said.

Sadhotra also extended his support to those whose homes, shops, and businesses have suffered damage due to Pak shelling and urged the administration to conduct immediate surveys and ensure adequate compensation for the affected families.

Sadhotra referred to the laudable efforts of Chief Minister Omar Abdullah in

reaching out to the people in distress in the forward and severely affected areas along Line of Control and the International Border to assess damages and to chalk out strategies in tackling situations in terms of providing health cover and safer shelter.

Sadhotra reiterated the National Conference's commitment to stand with the people in times of grief and hardship.

Sadhotra said the party will continue to work towards alleviating the sufferings of the border population in terms of rehabilitation and protection.

Others who accompanied Sadhotra were Mohd Ayoub Malik Provincial Secretary, Chander Mohan Sharma, Raghbir Singh District Presidents, Ab Gani Teli OBC President, Ashwani Charak Block President, Ch Razak, S Bunty.

Dr Tahir hails PM Modi's decisive leadership, slams Pak for targeting civilians in J&K

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: J&K BJP spokesperson Dr. Tahir Choudhary has hailed Prime Minister Narendra Modi's strong and resolute leadership in the wake of Operation Sindoor, praising the government's decisive action against terrorism and its firm message to Pakistan.

Dr. Choudhary lauded PM Modi's historic address to the nation on Monday, where the Prime Minister clearly stated that India will not bow to nuclear blackmail, asserting that "terror and talks, terror and trade cannot go together."

"PM Modi has demonstrated what true leadership means in the face of barbaric terrorism. He has spoken not just for the nation, but for every victim of terror and every civilian who has suf-

fered due to Pakistan-sponsored violence," said Dr. Choudhary.

He particularly condemned Pakistan for targeting civilians, religious places, and causing widespread suffering in Jammu and Kashmir.

Dr. Choudhary further added that India's stance that "blood and water cannot flow together" reflects the country's security-first foreign policy under Prime Minister Modi's leadership.

Calling Operation Sindoor a turning point in India's counter-terrorism doctrine, he said the world has now witnessed India's strength, and that "the days of tolerating cross-border terror-



ism are over." "More than 100 terrorists were eliminated, and terror havens were demolished with precision. This is the New India - we do not wait for wounds to heal; we respond with full might," he asserted.

Dr. Choudhary also welcomed the Prime Minister's declaration that any future talks with Pakistan will only be on the issues of terrorism and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.

Commenting on recent provocations, he said "The drone attacks carried out by Pakistan even after pleading for a ceasefire are signs of desperation and frustration. The Indian Army's suc-

cessful interception of these drones once again proves our superior readiness and exposes Pakistan's duplicity, after having lost the battle on both the ground and the global stage."

He reiterated that peace will only come when the infrastructure of terror is completely dismantled.

Praising the unity shown by citizens across the country in rejecting communal narratives and standing together, Dr. Choudhary added, "Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India. Pakistan's evil attempts to create divisions will never succeed. We will continue to stand by our brothers and sisters in Kashmir and work for their safety and prosperity under the leadership of Prime Minister Modi."

Satish visits shelling affected villages; assures relief



FCS&CA Minister, Satish Sharma visiting village affected by recent cross border shelling to assess damage.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Minister for FCS&CA, Transport, Science and Technology, Satish Sharma, on Tuesday visited several villages affected by recent cross border shelling to assess the damage and extend support to the affected families.

During the visit, the Minister met with the resi-

dents whose homes and livelihoods have been severely impacted.

A preliminary assessment indicated that numerous households have suffered losses, including damage to residential structures and loss of livestock.

The villages visited by the Minister included Kot Maira, Chaprial, Pahariwala,

Panjtoot, Narayana, Dhaleri and other adjoining areas.

The Minister expressed deep concern over the situation and assured all affected families that the government stands with them in this time of crisis. He directed the local authorities to expedite relief and rehabilitation measures, ensuring timely assistance to the victims.

"The safety and well being of citizens is our top priority. We will take all necessary steps to provide immediate relief and long term support to the affected families," said the Minister.

He added that the administration is conducting a detailed survey to determine the full extent of damage. He said that further announcements regarding compensation and assistance packages will follow accordingly.

Tara Chand demands 10 Marla plot, Rs 5 lakh each for residents of Border areas

Special relief package also be sanctioned



JKPCC Working President Tara Chand interacting with border residents.

borders migrant camps and villages in forward areas like Danna Chappri, Jalada, Gulaba, PHC Dori, Higher Secondary Dager, Baba Mahimal Sarain Dager, Bali, Kharra, Sajwal, Dhaleri, Naraina, Kot

Mehra, Badwal, Gigrial, Hamirpur, Sainth, Gard and Derian.

He expressed grief over the tragic loss of innocent lives and the injuries sustained by many in shelling incidents.

Former Dy. CM demanded 10 Marla plots and Rs. 5 lakh be sanctioned in favour of families which fall within fire range of Pakistan.

He said most of the forward areas are vacant and people are facing the miseries in these camps due to non availability of ration and relief.

He said Government distributed few items with gas cylinders to these families in pick and choose manner.

He urged to the Central as well as J&K Governments to provide immediate financial assistance to border land owners who have lost their crop due to tension on borders even their domestic animals are either died or crossover to Pakistan.

Three times representative

of Border Constituency Chhamb, Tara Chand recalling the time of UPA Government said our Govt always remained on toes even during simple shelling on border. Special packages were sanctioned then in favour of border area residents.

Tara Chand cautioned the residents to be aware in future as Pakistan is not a trustworthy neighbour. He also urged to the Govt's that India should not compromise on its sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Congress leader also demanded community bunker be immediately constructed in these villages so that the residents can save their lives at the time of tension on borders.

District administration Jammu assesses cross-border shelling impact in Marh and Pargwal

DC visits affected areas, meets public

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In the aftermath of recent cross-border shelling, Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Sachin Kumar Vaishya conducted a comprehensive tour of the affected areas in Tehsil Marh and Pargwal to assess the damage and coordinate relief efforts.

He was accompanied by SSP Jammu Joginder Singh and Additional District Development Commissioner Jammu, Sher Singh.

During the visit, the DC evaluated the extent of loss of livestock and property, ensuring that relief and State Disaster Response Fund cases are processed promptly. He also reviewed the condition and requirements of community and individual



DC Jammu, Sachin Kumar Vaishya conducting tour of affected areas in Tehsil Marh.

bunkers, including those necessary for government offices, to enhance civilian safety in these vulnerable regions.

The DC's itinerary included a visit to the Sub-District Hospital (SDH) Marh to oversee medical facilities and ensure readiness to handle

any emergencies arising from the shelling incidents.

The SDM Marh Athar Amin, SP Rural Brijesh Kumar, Tehsildar Marh Ram Krishan Rathore, Tehsildar Pargwal Manjeet Singh and Block Medical Officer Marh besides others also accompanied the DC during his visit.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In order to express support and applause for the brave Indian forces, Ashok Koul, General Secretary (organization), J&K BJP appealed the Jammu Civil Society to join the Tiranga Rally to be held on the 15th May'2025 at 5:00 PM from Indira Chowk to Bikram Chowk.

Ashok Koul, accompanied by MLAs Yudhvir Sethi (Vice-President J&K, BJP), Arvind Gupta (Secretary, J&K BJP) and Ch. Vikram Randhawa, made this fervent appeal to the Jammu Civil Society, while addressing a meeting of senior party leaders at BJP headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

District Presidents Adv. Rajesh Gupta, Naresh Singh Jasrotia, Rajeev Pandita

Koul appeals Jammu civil society to join Tiranga Rally on May 15



Ashok Koul, General Secretary (organization), J&K BJP at a party workers meeting.

Prabharis Rajiv Charak and Ayodhya Gupta, Media Incharge Dr. Pardeep Mahotra, District General Secretaries, and Mandal Presidents participated in the meeting.

While addressing the meeting, Ashok Koul said that in a significant nationwide out-

reach effort, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has decided to hold 'Tiranga Yatra' to honour the courage and sacrifice of India's armed forces, particularly in light of the recently concluded and successful 'Operation Sindoor'.

He said that the Tiranga

Yatra is designed to instill a sense of national pride and unity, with a special focus on recognizing the valour of the Indian Army.

"The BJP aims to connect with citizens across communities and regions, emphasizing a message of patriotism, national solidarity, and respect for the Tricolour", said Ashok Koul.

"The first 'Tiranga Yatra' in the series will be held by J&K BJP on the 15th of May'2025. The yatra will start at Indira Chowk at 5:00 pm and will culminate at the Bikram Chowk, where it will be addressed by the prominent", said Ashok Koul.

Ashok Koul made a fervent appeal to the Civil society to join the Rally in large numbers to express their love, support and thankfulness for

the brave Indian Forces, who spent sleepless nights, so that the civilians could sleep well in their homes.

Ashok Koul shared that BJP has framed a committee at the state level to coordinate the whole series of 'Tiranga Yatras'. The committee comprises of BJP Vice-President Yudhvir Sethi (MLA), General Secretary Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal (MLA), and senior leaders Vikram Randhawa (MLA), Rajeev Charak and Mudassar Wani, he said.

Koul further shared that the similar 'Tiranga Yatras' will be held at the levels of District, Mandal, Wards and so on to express support for our Armed Forces. These Yatras will be held till 25th of May'2025 in Jammu & Kashmir, he added.