

## !! Continuations from Page 1 !!

### How long India...

delivery capacity will be used to help all humanity in fighting this crisis," Modi said in a strong assurance to the international community that is battling the devastating coronavirus pandemic. The COVID-19 pandemic has so far infected over 32 million people and more than 993,500 people have died across the world. In India, the virus has infected nearly 6 million people and killed more than 93,000.

Modi told the 193-member UN General Assembly that in India and the neighbourhood, "we are moving ahead with phase 3 clinical trials in India."

He further assured that India will also help all the countries in enhancing their cold chain and storage capacities for the delivery of the vaccines.

In his address, the prime minister also noted that India with more than 18 per cent of the world population and a leading global economy for centuries has also endured hundreds of years of foreign rule. "When we were strong, we were never a threat to the world, when we were weak, we never became a burden on the world, he said.

An objective assessment of the performance of the United Nations over the last 75 years would yield several stellar achievements but at the same time, there are also several instances that point to the need for a "serious introspection of the work of the United Nations," he said. "With the changing times, if we don't change, then the drive needed to bring change will also get weakened, he said. "Several terrorist attacks shook the world and rivers of blood have continued to flow by, he said. "During those times and even today, can we suggest that efforts of the United Nations to tackle these issues were sufficient, he said.

Modi said India will not hesitate to raise its voice against the enemies of humanity, including terrorism, smuggling of illegal weapons, drugs and money-laundering, and will always speak in support of peace, security and prosperity. He pointed out that India has sent its brave soldiers to about 50 peacekeeping missions the world over to keep peace and in the course of maintaining peace, has lost the maximum number of its brave soldiers. "India's experiences, and India's developmental journey marked with its ups and downs will only add to strengthening the path to global welfare," he said.

## Gulmarg Gondola Section-1...

requisite protocols of COVID-19 viz maintaining social distance, sanitization of cabins before and after boarding and de-boarding of passengers, compulsory wearing of masks by all, etc. No tourist shall be allowed to board the Gondola without wearing of masks and any tourist with temperature exceeding 99° Celsius shall not be allowed to enter the premises of the ropeway. This is for the information of tourists visiting Gulmarg.

## Pak shells forward...

said. "At about 11.15 am, Pakistan initiated unprovoked ceasefire violation by firing with small arms and shelling with mortars along LoC in Nowshera," the spokesman said. The cross-border shelling between the two sides was going on when last reports were received. However, there was no immediate report of any casualty on the Indian side, he said.

## Two KAS officers...

(JKSTCB), Hilal Ahmad Mir, chairman of non-existent River Jhelum Cooperative House Building Society, Srinagar; and Abdul Hamid Hajam, secretary of the non-existent River Jhelum Cooperative House Building Society, Srinagar, according to officials. The anti-graft body registered the case against Dar and others under various sections of the Prevention of Corruption Act for allegedly sanctioning a loan to the tune of Rs 250 crore in favour of the non-existent society for the purpose of construction of a satellite township at Shipora locality in Srinagar; bypassing the credit policy of the bank and on the basis of false and fabricated documents, they said. The ACB investigation revealed that a conspiracy was hatched between Dar, Mir, Hajam, Mujib Ur Rehman Ghazi -- the then registrar of cooperative societies, J-K, Syed Ashiq Hussain -- deputy registrar cooperative societies, and others in creating the fake society in 2018-19 in order to obtain a loan from the bank, officials said.

## 1,217 new COVID-19...

so far, they said. Meanwhile, 20 deaths took place in the past 24 hours in Jammu and Kashmir -- 12 in Jammu and eight in the valley -- taking the death toll to 1,125, the officials said. According to the daily Media Bulletin out of 71,049 positive cases, 18,430 are Active Positive, 51,494 have recovered and 1,125 have died; 306 in Jammu division and 819 in Kashmir division. The Bulletin further said that out of 15,39,284 test results available, 14,68,235 samples have been tested as negative till September 26, 2020.

Till date 5,66,602 persons have been enlisted for observation which included 16,811 persons in home quarantine including facilities operated by government, 18,430 in isolation and 50,232 under home surveillance. Besides, 4,80,004 persons have completed their surveillance period. Providing district-wise breakup, the Bulletin said that Srinagar has 14,204 positive cases (including 180 cases reported today) with 2,158 Active Positive, 11,761 recovered (including 200 cases recovered today), 285 deaths; Baramulla has 4,215 positive cases (including 46 cases reported today) with 1,243 Active Positive, 2,851 recovered (including 20 cases recovered today), 121 deaths; Pulwama reported 3,817 positive cases (including 58 cases reported today) with 482 active positive cases, 3,268 recovered (including 67 cases recovered today), 67 deaths; Kulgam has 2,244 positive cases (including 15 cases reported today) with 135 Active Positive, 2,066 recoveries (including 10 cases recovered today), 43 deaths; Shopian has 2,000 positive cases (including 5 cases reported today) with 184 Active Positive, 1,785 recovered (including 3 cases reported today), 31 deaths; Anantnag district has 3,444 positive cases (including 28 cases reported today) with 428 Active Positive, 2,954 recovered (including 18 cases recovered today), 62 deaths; Budgam has 4,703 positive cases (including 47 cases reported today) with 1,174 Active Positive and 3,448 recovered (including 209 cases recovered today), 81 deaths; Kupwara has 3,450 positive cases (including 73 cases reported today) with 808 Active Positive, 2,577 recovered (including 103 cases recovered today), 65 deaths; Bandipora has 3,319 positive cases (including 19 cases reported today) with 678 Active Positive, 2,605 recovered (including 73 cases recovered today), 36 deaths and Ganderbal has 2,819 positive cases (including 26 cases reported today) with 566 active positive cases, 2,225 recoveries (including 80 cases recovered today) and 28 deaths.

Similarly, Jammu has 11,688 positive cases (including 301 cases reported today) with 3,868 active positive cases, 7,656 recoveries (including 755 cases recovered today), 164 deaths; Rajouri has 2,464 positive cases (including 63 cases reported today) with 1,339 active positive cases, 1,095 recovered (including 39 cases recovered today), 30 deaths; Ramban has 1,273 positive cases (including 16 cases reported today) with 451 active positive, 814 recoveries (including 15 cases recovered today), 8 deaths; Kathua has 1,934 positive cases (including 41 cases reported today) with 579 Active positive, 1,334 recovered (including 59 cases recovered today), 21 deaths; Udhampur has 2,089 positive cases (including 41 cases reported today) with 492 active positive cases, 1583 recovered (including 92 cases recovered today), 14 deaths; Samba has 1,627 positive cases (including 21 cases reported today) with 774 Active Positive, 834 recoveries (including 78 cases recovered today), 19 deaths; Doda has 2107 positive cases (including 88 cases reported today) with 1,211 active positive cases, 870 recoveries (including 82 cases recovered today), 26 deaths; Poonch has 1,670 positive cases (including 64 cases reported today) with 975 active positive, 683 recoveries (including 26 cases reported today), 12 deaths; Reasi has 877 positive cases (including 32 cases reported today) with 342 active positive, 530 recoveries and 05 deaths while Kishtwar has 1,105 positive cases (including 53 cases reported today) with 543 active positive cases and 555 recoveries (including 8 cases reported today) and 7 deaths. According to the bulletin, of the total 71,049 positive cases in J&K 8,551 have been reported as travelers while 62,498 as others.

The Bulletin said that the breakup represents districts from which the patients have been traced or are ordinarily residing. The bulletin added that there are 1,306 COVID dedicated beds, 1,170 Isolation beds with 893 vacant beds and 136 ICU beds where 68 beds are vacant in Jammu division while there are 2,358 COVID dedicated beds, 2,214 Isolation beds where 1,630 beds are vacant and 144 ICU beds where 120 are vacant beds in Kashmir division. There are a total of 3,664 COVID dedicated beds, 3,384 Isolation beds with 2,523 beds are vacant and 280 ICU beds with 188 vacant beds in the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

## Terrorist arrested in...

resident of Mandigam Kralgrund, was arrested, he said.

Incriminating materials, including arms and ammunition, were recovered from his possession, he added. Preliminary investigation revealed that Parray is an active militant associate linked to proscribed terror outfit LeT, the spokesperson said.

A case has been registered and investigation has been initiated, he said.

On Friday, two terrorist commanders of LeT were killed in an overnight encounter with security forces in Anantnag district.

## Corruption gets wings...

applied for leave to the Chief Engineer. The CE marked the leave as illegal, invalid and not accepted. Instead Gupta was treated to be on unauthorized absence from duties and period of absence was termed to be treated as without pay.

The CE's order issued on Friday stated, "In-compliance to Government Order Pawan Gupta Executive Engineer PWD, Chatroo, was relieved from this office vide order No.CEJ/ADM/92 of 2020 dated: September 11, 2020 whereas, after date of relieving from this office Gupta's whereabouts are not known.

"In pursuance to government order you were supposed to join at your new place of posting i.e PWD (K&B) Division Chatroo and you have not joined at your new place of posting till date at PWD (R&B) Division Chatroo which is lying vacant presently", the CE's order stated, adding that being the working season of very limited there, all developmental works have suffered."The Superintending Engineer PWD (R&B) Circle, Udhampur vide his No.5714 dated: 25-09-2020 has reported that your leave application has been treated as illegal, invalid and not accepted. So, now onwards you are treated absent and period of

absence shall be treated as without pay", the CE's order states.

## CAG flags deficiencies...

of Rs 24,299 crore incurred on power purchase during 2012-17, revenue realisation from sale of power was only Rs 9,428 crore, the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) said in its report on 'Social, General, Economic (Non-PSUs) Sectors' for the year ended 31 March 2017. "The department (PDD) failed to meet its power requirement and the gap between unrestricted demand and self-generation available to the state ranged between 77 per cent and 84 per cent.

"Around 73 per cent to 76 per cent of the power requirement of the state was met through purchase from Central Generating Stations," the report, tabled in the Parliament this week, said. It said JKPPD incurred an extra expenditure of Rs 840 crore on power purchased during 2012-17 due to deficiencies in planning and non-optimisation of power purchase cost.

"The JKPPD made an avoidable payment of Rs 1,420.26 crore towards late payment surcharge and lost the opportunity to avail rebate of Rs 297.92 crore due to deficient financial management. It also had to shell out Rs 33.67 crore towards fixed charges without availing power due to imposition of regulation for delayed payments," the report said.

Due to non-completion of transmission infrastructure for evacuation of power, the report said, the department made an avoidable payment of Rs 543.47 crore towards idle capacity charges and energy charges on deemed generation to two power projects.

"Poor collection efficiency resulted in recoverable revenue of Rs 2,508.23 crore ending March 2017," it said. JKPPD failed to recover its power purchase cost due to operational inefficiencies like increasing gap between average cost of supply and average billing rate, high aggregate technical and commercial losses, which were at 62.56 per cent in 2015-16 and increased to 67.63 per cent in 2016-17, which resulted in foregone revenue of Rs 10,176 crore. The report said the department failed to implement revised tariff order approved by the Jammu and Kashmir State Electricity Regulatory Commission, resulting in loss of Rs 10.06 crore to the state exchequer.

"The department had not devised any mechanism for filing objections on petitions filed by the generators," it said. Meanwhile, the consolidated position of water usage charges assessed, collected and the balance outstanding against all the 29 power projects in J&K was not available with the department responsible for assessment and collection, CAG said.

"Only Rs 3,971.63 crore, 67 per cent of the assessed amount of Rs 5,950.55 crore in respect of 17 power projects had been recovered. Out of the total expenses of Rs 4,159.85 crore from the water usage charges fund, 2.40 per cent were allocated for creation of assets, 80.25 per cent were used for purchase of power. "Purpose for which Rs 721.56 crore (17.35 percent) had been transferred to the Common Pool Account, could not be ascertained," the report said. It said the revenue from water usage charges had proved to be only an additional resource mobilisation by J&K Government, especially for power purchase, and has not served the purpose of establishment and buying back of hydro electric projects and for capital investments in transmission and distribution network.

## Pulls up JKPC...

value of works from Rs 364.19 crore in 2012-13 to Rs 250.65 crore during 2016-17. The public sector undertaking (PSU) firm was dependent on the state government departments or agencies for works on nomination basis and had failed to secure any work on competitive tender basis, the CAG said in its report on revenue sector and PSU (social, general and economic sectors) on the government of J&K for the year ending March 31, 2017, which was tabled in Parliament this week.

JKPCC was incorporated with the objective of execution of construction works for the state and central governments and PSUs, carry on the business of builders, contractors, engineers, architects, surveyors, estimators and designers in J&K and curb monopoly of private contractors and provide healthy competition between private and public sectors.

"The company had finalised its accounts up to 2010-11 only. The value of works done decreased from Rs 364.19 crore during 2012-13 to Rs 250.65 crore during 2016-17. It suffered loss of Rs 3.95 crore and Rs 11.69 crore during 2014-15 and 2015-16, respectively, the report said. It said the shortfall in achievement of targets of value of works done remained between 29 and 50 per cent. "Funds ranging between 58.52 per cent and 75.55 per cent only were utilised on works during 2012-17".

The report said the service tax of Rs 5.14 crore paid in excess had neither been reconciled nor refund thereof received. "The company had not submitted revised cost offers, to the extent of Rs 22.66 crore, to reflect enhanced rate of service tax and made payment of service tax at the enhanced rate without actual recovery of Rs 3.45 crore from the project authorities," the report said. It said the company was dependent on the state departments and agencies for works on nomination basis and had failed to secure any work on competitive tender basis. "The quantum of new works obtained declined during 2012-16 from Rs 349.48 crore to Rs 236.03 crore, but increased during 2016-17 to Rs 696.64 crore. Execution of works in excess of the funds released by the project authorities led to accumulation of outstanding balance of Rs 188 crore as of March 2017 and loss of interest of Rs 26.56 crore," it said.

The delay in completion of works led to increase in cost to the extent of Rs 360.87 crore which was mainly due to poor monitoring by company and slow progress.

It said the company had not framed any recruitment and promotion policy and staff had been deployed at different units in an ad hoc manner. The report said JKPC did not devise any mechanism for ensuring continuous monitoring and internal control.

"Weak quality control, inadequacy of internal audit and variations amongst performance reports were observed," the report said.

Jammu and Kashmir had 30 working PSUs (27 companies and three statutory corporations) and three non-working PSUs. The working PSUs recorded a turnover of Rs 8,357.91 crore as per their finalised accounts as of September 30, 2017. As on March 31, 2017, the investment (paid-up capital, free reserves and long-term loans) in 33 state PSUs and statutory corporations was Rs 7,426.67 crore, the report said adding the power sector accounted for 43.47 per cent (Rs 3,228.68 crore) of the total investment as on March 31, 2017. The total investment consisted of 21.70 per cent towards paid-up capital and 78.30 per cent as long-term loans, it said. It said the investment has grown by 45.08 per cent from Rs 5,119.04 crore in 2012-13 to Rs 7,426.67 crore in 2016-17.

## Time to exert...

Commissioner Kashmir Pandurang K. Pole, IG CRPF Srinagar Sector Deepak Rattan, IG CRPF (Ops) Charu Sinha, IGP Kashmir Vijay Kumar, BGS 15 Corps Brig. P.J Mishra, DIG SSB Kashmir Ranjeet Singh, DIG BSF Srinagar B.K Jha, SSP Srinagar, Dr Haseeb Mughal and SSP SBK Srinagar Showkat Ahmad Shah.

The officers who attended the meeting via video conference include DIG SKR Anantnag Atul Goel, DIG NKR Baramulla M. Suleman Choudhary, DIG CRPF South Anantnag D S Ambesh, DIG CRPF South Avantipora B. S. Negi, DIG CRPF North Baramulla Aneesh Sirohi, all district SSPs including Police Districts of Kashmir Zone and all Commandants of CRPF Battalions.

The meeting deliberated on present security scenario in the Valley.

The officers representing different agencies briefed the DGP about the measures put in place for maintaining peace and order and ensuring security of the people.

The DGP, while addressing the meeting, said that all forces have sacrificed number of officers and Javans in achieving peace in the Jammu and Kashmir; and it is time to exert more pressure on the terrorists and their supporters.

He stressed for intensified cordon and search operations to flush out the terrorists, who are desperate to disturb peace and order on the behest of Pakistan terror agents and also their agents present in the Valley.

"During the current year, the intensified anti-terror operations have yielded good results across Jammu and Kashmir against the terrorists, yet we have to continue our actions against them with coordinated strategies to ensure long-lasting peace in Jammu and Kashmir," the DGP asserted.

He emphasised on collective measures to tackle any situation and any subversive act by the terrorists and their masters across the border.

He stressed upon all officers to put in place effective measures for maintaining peace and order in coordination with each other.

The DGP reiterated that the support of the community was essential and more and more public cooperation should be ensured by prioritizing community-based programmes.

He directed the officers that all possible help should be extended to the public as and when required.

The DGP directed the supervisory officers to regularly brief the Nafri at Nakas established and activated in various districts.

He directed all jurisdictional officers to channelise their resources at security grids established in all major towns and cities so that all the suspicious elements are kept on the radar.

Later in the afternoon, the DGP visited District Police Lines and Police Component, Anantnag in South Kashmir where he inaugurated Main Gate Complex, Multi-facility Center; Quarter Guard, Dry Canteen and Equipment Store facilities for the officers and javans at DPL Anantnag.

While in Police Component the DGP inaugurated Mess and Badminton Hall and also inspected various available facilities for officers/javans, and also chaired a meeting of officers. The DGP was accompanied by IGP Kashmir Vijay Kumar. He was received by DIG SKR Anantnag Atul Goel, DIG CRPF South Anantnag D. S. Ambesh, SSP Anantnag Sandeep Choudhary, SSP Avantipora Tahir Salim, ASP Anantnag Parbeet Singh and other gazetted officers.

On these occasions, the DGP appreciated the District Police Anantnag SSP and DySP DAR for upgrading the facilities for officers and javans and also for coming up innovative structure for adjusting various facilities at one place.

He said that Police Headquarters is forever ready to provide any type of assistance to Police districts and units in upgrading the facilities for its personnel.

Chairing the meeting of officers, the DGP stressed for taking all preventive measures which will stop the recruitment of youths into terrorism.

He also stressed for smashing the terror network and the OGWs support system.

SSP Anantnag and SSP Avantipora briefed the DGP about security scenario and meas-

ures taken for maintaining peace and order in their respective districts.

## COVID-19: Ladakh records...

The two new COVID-related fatalities were reported from Kargil, raising the death toll in the district to 33. The rest of 23 patients died in Leh district since the outbreak of the disease in March. Out of total active cases, 601 are in Leh district and 397 in Kargil district, the officials said, adding that so far, 2971 patients have recovered from the infection in the Union Territory. Fifty-six more people tested positive for coronavirus. These included 48 in Leh and eight in Kargil.

## CB registers FIR...

conducting a preliminary verification including spot inspection etc. into the matter prima facie found that the allegations are substantiated," it said, adding that during the verification, it has been revealed that M/S National Infra Construction Company Gutlipora, Hyhama, a partnership firm, had sought registration with the DIC Kupwara for establishing Stone Crusher/Hot Mix Plant. The registration of the plant was to be governed by the Government Order (No. 104/Ind of 2015 dated 14.07.2015), where under the Plant Holder was required to seek the NOCs from the Deputy Commissioner; Kupwara regarding ownership of land, etc, State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) regarding Pollution Control, Geology and Mining regarding location, feasibility and availability of raw material, Forest Department, I&FC and Fisheries Department. The then Office of the Deputy Commissioner; Kupwara had "illegally" issued NOC in favour of the Plant on March 27, 2017 in violation of the standing laws and rules regulating the establishment of such plants, it said. "The Plant was registered in the name of a partnership firm, which was not having the required title over the land. During the verification, it also surfaced that the land on which the alleged illegal plant was set up was Abi-Aval, but the District revenue officers/officials manipulated the nature and the character of the land by showing same as Gair Mumkin Shart in violation of section 133A Land Revenue Act Svt. 1996 read with the Government Policy regarding change of land use issued vide Govt. Order No. 138-Rev (S) of 2016 dated 07.10.2016 to extend undue favor to the beneficiaries," it read.

The verification also revealed that General Manager; DIC, Kupwara provided registration to the Plant without the required NOCs from Fisheries and Forest Department.

"The Officers/Officials of SPCB, Geology & Mining, Forest, I&FC were also found to have illegally issued NOCs in violation of Government orders, rules and regulations framed thereunder for the purpose," it added.

The then Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, the crime branch said, also failed to take any further action against the illegal operation of the plant as was mandated under Government Order No. 104/Ind of 2015 dated 14.07.2015, when the complainants and residents brought the issue to his notice.

"FIR has been registered against the then Deputy Commissioner; Kupwara; the then Additional Deputy Commissioner Kupwara; District revenue Officers/Officials; the then General Manager District Industries Centre (DIC) Kupwara; then Officers/Officials of State Pollution Control Board (SPCB); the then District Officers/Officials of Geology and Mining Department, then Officers/Officials of Forest Department; the then Agriculture Officer; Kupwara and beneficiaries including Haji Mohabbat Ali Khan son of Rehmatullah Khan resident Shortpora Hyhama, Kupwara and others for setting up a Stone Crusher/Hot Mix Plant illegally at Gutlipora, Hyhama Kupwara," the statement added.

## On Aug 5...

and thanks were showered on the person of Prime Minister Narendra Modi who himself also described the action/ move also as a humanitarian step to bring to an end the inhuman Gender Discrimination that the Woman / Girl Child was facing in J&K. Felicitations were showered on Modi.

But while issuing order S.O. 1229(E) of 31-03-2020 & S.O. 1245(E) of 03-04-2020 laying down definition of Domicile of UT of J&K as well as while laying down the Rules for issue of Domicile Certificate under SO 166 of 18-05-2020 provisions to cover requirements like that "Spouse / children of a PRSS of J&K/ Domicile of UT of J&K shall be Domicile of UT of J&K "were not been incorporated inspite of there being repeated suggestions for doing that since the conventions that existed before 5th August could still cause illusion in the working of some officers/ officials dealing domicile cases. And right since the day the process for issue of Domicile of UT of J&K Certificates was started problems are being faced by the Permanent Resident Woman of erstwhile J&K State married to non Permanent Resident , her spouse and their children .Daily State Times has recently on 10th September placed in public domain the case of oneMs Aahana Sharma D/O Ankita Sharma ( a J&K Permanent Resident ) whose application for Domicile Certificate was submitted vide Application DOM/0207/ 04Jul202/13012 1986 Dated 04-07-2020along with the PRC of her mother as parent. but she was denied. Domicile after 66 days by the concerned Tehsildar suggesting that since her father was a non PRC she cannot get Domicile by treating her Mother as parent. There have been cases where even PRC holder woman have been denied Domicile since their husband has been a non PR of J&K and it has been after 10 September that may be in view of gender discrimination issue was raised in State Times one such woman has been issued Domicile Certificate but her son has not been yet issued.

It was hoped that atleast after 10th September 2020 seniors in the administration would have brought the deficiencies in S. O. 166 of 18-05-2020 to the notice of Lt Governor who has been every second day expressing his priorities resting in prompt and good governance but since the clarifications / amendments have not yet been put in the public domain it appears that Honble Manoj Sinha LG is not being provided needed inputs. Instead as per the information received Ms Ahana's mother is said to have received a call from concerned Competent Authority (Tehsildar) on 25th September informing her that since her husband is not a PRC holder the her children / girl child is not yet entitled for Domicile Certificate. This has resulted in the pious intentions of Prime Minister Narendra Modi falling short of their reach. It appears that the people even from the political arena near to Prime Minister are not that truthfully conducting the routes for good governance that he is intends to lay or is tirelessly working to lay every moment.

Daya Sagar: Patron JKSC . Sr Journalist / Analyst Jammu & Kashmir Affairs dayasagr45@yahoo.com)

## HM discusses issues...

Intelligence Bureau Arvind Kumar also attended the meeting.

"Union Home Minister @AmitShah met with former MP Thupstan Chhewang, former MP Thiksay Rinpoche, former Minister Chering Dorjay Lakrook & other public representatives of Union Territory of Ladakh in New Delhi," Shah's office tweeted.

## DG CRPF visits group centre Jammu; rewards 6 personnel for COVID-control efforts

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Director General of CRPF A P Maheshwari on Saturday visited the group centre of the force here and announced a reward to six personnel, including an officer, for their work in COVID-control measures, a spokesman of the paramilitary force said. Maheshwari visited the group centre at Bantalab and interacted with the officers and javans who are discharging their duties in different circumstances, especially during the present crisis due to the outbreak of coronavirus, he said.

The spokesman said he announced to confer the Director General's Disc (DG's Disc) and commendation letter to second-in-charge (Deputy Financial advisor), J&K Zone, Rajesh Kumar, and also honoured five other personnel with cash reward to boost their morale. Maheshwari lauded their efforts in controlling the spread of coronavirus.

The CRPF chief interacted with the javans in Sainik Sammelan and lauded them in discharging their duties in different areas under difficult circumstances, the spokesman said. Maheshwari said the CRPF lost many of its personnel to the COVID-19 but despite the loss, the force has not hesitated in serving the general public in various fields with full dedication and honesty. He also hailed the personnel serving in the Valley and said besides rendering their effort in preventing the spread of COVID-19, they are helping police in maintaining law and order and tackling terrorism and stone-pelting protesters.

Maheshwari also conducted a conference at station officers' mess with Additional Director General, New Delhi, Sanjay Arora; Additional Director General, J&K zone, Zulfikar Hasan; Inspector General, CRPF, Jammu sector; P S Ranpise; Inspector General, J&K Zone (Jammu), Sarbjit Singh; and Deputy Inspector General, Group Centre Bantalab, S P Singh and other officers, the spokesman said.

The DG praised the efforts of the doctors and para-medical staff of Composite Hospital, Bantalab, for their utmost service for care and treatment of COVID-19 patients of the Central Armed Police Forces, he said.

## Scarcity of medicare facilities in Govt hospitals: Neeraj to sit on hunger strike on Sep 28

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Neeraj Gupta Social activist raised serious concern over the poor Medicare facilities being provided to patients suffering from various diseases at GMC Jammu amid Covid scare.

Briefing media persons here, Gupta said that due to lack Medicare and other facilities in GMC Jammu, he has decided to sit on oneday hunger strike along with his supporters on September 28 in the GMC hospital premises.

He further said that the Govt is not paying heed to the supplies of essential services in GMC. He asserted that there is acute shortage of medicines, Ventilators, CT Scan, Oxygen in GMC Jammu and even medical staff including para medical staff are not sufficient to cater the rush of patients in the GMC Jammu. This negligent attitude of Govt. added miseries to the life of common masses, he added.

Gupta said that if Govt. will not improve the circumstance then the hunger strike will continue for further period.