

DC reviews Healthcare scenario in Poonch

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, OCT 17

Deputy Commissioner Poonch Ashok Kumar Sharma on Saturday chaired a comprehensive review meeting of the Health Department to assess the implementation and progress of various healthcare programmes, including Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY SEHAT and Vay Vandana.

The meeting also focused on the winter plan, continuity of essential healthcare services and strengthening quality standards across healthcare institutions in the district.

A key focus of the meeting was ensuring uninterrupted access to healthcare during the upcoming winter months, particularly for pregnant women, patients undergoing dialysis, cancer patients and individuals suffering from asthma, especially those residing in remote and snow-affected areas.

The Deputy Commissioner directed health authorities to ensure that all institutional deliveries are facilitated at designated healthcare institutions. He instructed officials to identify pregnant women whose Expected Date of Delivery falls between November and March and make advance arrangements to shift them to the nearest designated delivery point well before the onset of adverse weather conditions.

He also stressed the need for advance planning to facilitate uninterrupted treatment for cancer patients, dialysis patients and those suffering from asthma.



Health authorities were directed to coordinate at district and block levels to identify vulnerable patients, assess their medical requirements and establish appropriate arrangements to ensure timely access to healthcare services during periods of heavy snowfall or road disruption.

Emphasising the importance of improving healthcare quality and patient safety, the DC stressed that maximum healthcare institutions across the district should be brought under the ambit of National Quality Assurance Standards (NQAS) certification. He called for focused attention on the quality of patient care, availability of essential services, hygiene and sanitation, infection prevention, maintenance of records and adherence to established healthcare protocols.

The concerned officers were directed to identify gaps in infrastructure and service delivery and take timely corrective measures to improve the overall functioning of healthcare institutions.

The Deputy Commissioner emphasised that

NQAS certification should be pursued as part of a sustained effort to strengthen public healthcare services and ensure accessible, safe and quality treatment for people across the district.

During the meeting, Chief Medical Officer Dr. Parvaiz Ahmed Khan delivered a detailed PowerPoint presentation on the progress of various health programmes and key performance indicators in the district.

The Deputy Commissioner reviewed the issuance and utilisation of Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY SEHAT cards, which provide eligible beneficiaries access to cashless healthcare services. Progress under the PM Vay Vandana scheme, aimed at extending healthcare coverage to eligible senior citizens, was also assessed.

The DC directed the health authorities to accelerate the verification and generation of cards for all remaining eligible beneficiaries. He called for intensified awareness campaigns to ensure that people are informed about the benefits available under the schemes and can access

treatment in accordance with the applicable provisions. He stressed that no eligible beneficiary should be left out and that implementation of the schemes at hospitals and other healthcare institutions must remain smooth and effective.

The meeting also reviewed the functioning of outpatient and inpatient services, major surgeries, institutional deliveries, diagnostic facilities, X-ray services, laboratory testing and dialysis units operating at District Hospital Poonch and Community Health Centres in Surankote and Mendhar.

The Deputy Commissioner took stock of the implementation of several national and public health programmes, including the Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK), Anaemia Mukh Bharat Abhiyan, National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme (NTEP), National Tobacco Control Programme, Family Welfare Programme and Immunisation Programme, along with other ongoing health initiatives.

stressed the need for effective implementation, regular monitoring and improved outreach to ensure that the benefits of these programmes reach the intended beneficiaries, particularly children, women, vulnerable groups and residents of remote areas.

The officers were directed to maintain close coordination among district and block-level health units, improve service delivery and address operational challenges affecting the implementation of various programmes.

Div Com Jammu reviews progress on conferment of ownership rights to DPs, WPRs

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, OCT 17

Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Vikas Kundal, today chaired a meeting to review the progress on the conferment of ownership rights to Displaced Persons (DPs) and West Pakistani Refugees (WPRs) under the relevant Government Orders, including Government Orders No. 100, 101 and 105.

During detailed deliberations, the Deputy Commissioners of Jammu Division apprised the chair of the district-wise progress in the receipt, scrutiny, approval and disposal of claims, besides highlighting issues requiring intervention for expeditious processing of cases.

Emphasising time-bound disposal of claims, the Divisional Commissioner directed all Deputy Commissioners to expedite verification of pending cases and strengthen coordination among district administrations, SDMs, tehsil offices and the Custodian Department. He stressed that eligible beneficiaries



should not face unnecessary delays in securing their rightful ownership claims.

The Divisional Commissioner called for a thorough review of rejected cases and directed officers to examine the grounds of rejection on merit, ensuring that every decision is supported by proper justification. He emphasised that eligible claims must be dealt with fairly and transparently and called for the involvement of senior revenue officers wherever required to review such cases.

He also underscored the need to intensify outreach efforts to ensure that all eligible beneficiaries are informed about the scheme and encouraged to submit their claims. Deputy Com-

missioners were directed to organise awareness camps, undertake field visits, contact beneficiaries individually and coordinate with relevant organisations to facilitate the submission of applications and requisite documents.

Reviewing cases referred to the Custodian Department, the Divisional Commissioner directed the officers concerned to promptly address observations and deficiencies and resubmit the cases without delay. He also stressed the need to deploy additional staff, including Patwaris and other revenue functionaries, wherever necessary to accelerate verification and processing.

The meeting also deliberated on procedural issues

concerning documentation required to establish land allotment and possession under the relevant Government Orders. The Divisional Commissioner said that the matter would be taken up with the competent authorities for necessary clarification.

Directing all districts to adhere to prescribed timelines, the Div Com called for accelerated progress during October and measurable improvement before the next review meeting. Deputy Commissioners of Jammu, Samba, Kathua, Udhampur, Reasi, Rajouri and Poonch, along with Additional Deputy Commissioners and other senior officers, attended the meeting in person and through virtual mode.

CSIR-IIIM, CAD Team explores feasibility of cultivating medicinal, aromatic plants in Patyari Cluster

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, OCT 17

Experts from CSIR-IIIM Jammu and CAD today conducted a joint visit to various sites of the Patyari Cluster under the Modernization of Command Area Development and Water Management (MCADWM) scheme.

The visit was undertaken under the supervision and directions of the Director Command Area Development Project Jammu Pankaj Magotra to explore the feasibility of cultivating medicinal and aromatic plants in the Patyari Cluster and obtain expert recommendations on suitable crop options based on the prevailing agro-climatic conditions.

The expert team deputed by the Director, CSIR-IIIM Jammu, consisted of Principal Scientist (Soil Science) Dr. Rajendra Bhanwaria; Principal Technical Officer (Agronomy) Dr. Siya Ram Meena and Project Associate-I (Soil Science) Mah-



naz. The team was accompanied by District Subject Matter Specialists (SMSSs), S. Sukhbir Singh and Pankaj Verma, along with SCA Rajeev Kumar from CAD Jammu.

During the visit, the team interacted with local farmers to understand their agricultural practices

and field-level requirements. Soil samples were also collected from different locations for laboratory analysis to assess their suitability for the proposed cultivation.

The CSIR-IIIM team shall submit a detailed report to the Directorate of CAD Jammu after receipt

and analysis of the soil sample reports. The findings and expert recommendations will help identify suitable medicinal and aromatic plant species and formulate a viable cultivation strategy for crop diversification and enhancement of farmers' income under the MCADWM scheme.

DDC Poonch reviews implementation of Vibrant Villages Programme-II

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, OCT 17

District Development Commissioner Poonch Ashok Kumar Sharma today reviewed the implementation of the Vibrant Villages Programme-II (VVP-II) and the saturation of beneficiary-oriented government schemes in the identified border villages of the district.

The meeting focused on assessing the progress of developmental initiatives and identifying gaps in essential infrastructure and services, including road connectivity, electrification, drinking water, sanitation and livelihood generation.

The DDC reviewed the implementation of agriculture and horticulture schemes, including the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP), PM-KISAN, Soil Health Cards and Kisan Credit Cards. Interventions under Sheep Husbandry, Fisheries and the National Rural Livelihoods



Mission were also discussed to strengthen livelihood opportunities and improve the socio-economic conditions of residents in border villages.

The progress under VB-G-RAM-G, Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G), Jal Shakti, Swachh Bharat Mission-Gramin (SBM-G)

and social security pension schemes was also examined, with special emphasis on identifying uncovered eligible beneficiaries and addressing gaps in infrastructure and service delivery.

The DDC stressed the need for close coordination among all concerned departments to ensure the ef-

fective implementation of VVP-II and achieve saturation of beneficiary-oriented schemes. He emphasised that eligible residents of identified border villages must receive the full benefits of government welfare programmes and that existing gaps in basic amenities should be addressed on priority.

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