

Haryana Review

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COVID: HEROES AND THE VILLAINS

Adversity, they rightly say, brings out the best and also the worst in human beings, both at the same time **▶ P 3**

HARYANA'S MEDICAL TRACER CHASES CORONA VIRUS IN THE HINTERLAND **▶▶ PP 4-5**

CORONA TRACKER

PEOPLE VACCINATED - 53,72,311 | SAMPLES TESTED - 87,37,182 | PATIENTS DISCHARGED - 6,96,059 | RECOVERY RATE - 93.84% | POSITIVITY RATE - 8.52% | FATALITY RATE - 1.03%

ON MAY 25, 2021

INSIDE STORIES

Efforts match resolve

All ends are being tied and efforts are matching the resolve. Every possible source is being tapped and converted into a resource; energies of various departments are being cohesively channelised; and front-rank warriors are being judiciously deployed to take on the Covid-19 pandemic in Haryana... **▶▶ P 6**

Weaning farmers away from wheat-rice cycle

Haryana has been making a concerted effort to wean farmers away from the wheat-rice circle and inspire and guide them to take to crop diversification lending a new upturn to agriculture in the state... **▶▶ P 7**



Taking to sports to boost immunity

Haryana's emphasis on expanding and upgrading sports facilities across the state is turning out to be a blessing in disguise. It is giving a boost to people's fitness and immunity, two vital tools in our wholesome fight against a virulent infection like the coronavirus... **▶▶ P 8**

Combat with corona goes door to door

By PARVEEN K MODI

It's a door-to-door battle Haryana is waging in its villages against the deadly Covid-19. The deft battle strategy was evolved under the first-of-its-kind Haryana Rural General Health Check Scheme, especially designed to conduct health check-ups of people in the rural areas, and to squelch the virus which seems to have crested in the hinterland.

The weaponry deployed and the strategy employed by the Manohar Lal Government were shared at a meeting the Prime Minister had with the Chief Ministers of 11 states and district magistrates of 60 districts through video-conferencing on May 20, 2021.

Though a wide range of initiatives taken by the state government were showcased at the meeting, what attracted attention was the rural orientation of the offensive spearheaded by the Haryana Rural General Health Check Scheme.

Needless to emphasise, the skillful and speedy handling of Covid-19 through proactive measures taken to trail and tame the

wily virus, has begun to tell. The data tells the tale.

The number of fresh cases has come down by 50 per cent in the seven days ended May 24; 18 of the 22 districts have more recoveries than cases; and the recovery rate went up from 86.7 per cent on May 15 to 94 per cent on May 25.

Multi-pronged is the approach; multi-layered is the attack; and multi-disciplinary are the 8,000-odd teams constituted to trace, track and treat the patients. Split into Field and Headquarters levels from the standpoint of functionality, the multi-disciplinary teams have been tasked with implementation of the scheme.

The 8,000 multidisciplinary teams are out conducting door-to-door surveys in the villages. Until May 24, about 5,000 teams had fanned out in the rural deep, covered 4,559 villages and examined more than 64 lakh members of 14.46 lakh families. Asha workers, Anganwadi workers, school teachers, Panchayati Raj representatives and health volunteers are included in the Field team.

While the Field teams identify those having Covid-19-like symptoms, the Headquarters teams ensure treatment of such patients at

Isolation Centres set up in the villages. Specially prepared Covid safe kits are given to every patient who is undergoing treatment in these centres.

The kit includes 15 medicines, medical devices, nine allopathic, three AYUSH medicines, stethoscope, digital thermometer and oximeters.

Primary Health Centre in every village has been converted into a 20-bedded Covid hospital and isolation centres have been set up in about 1,310 villages with a capacity of 18,270 beds.

Be it setting up new Covid hospitals and isolation centres; provisioning for more Covid beds which aggregate 13,700 plus; beds with oxygen (12,375); ramping up testing (52,000 plus/day) or ratcheting up vaccination (46,000 plus/day), the Manohar Lal Government has come up trumps.

Besides fighting the Covid battle, the Chief Minister is playing the guardian angel to the BPL families which are being given free treatment. He has also decided to give ex gratia relief of Rs 2 lakh to such BPL families as have lost a member to Covid-19.

And the battle rages with advantage tilting the scales in favour of the state government.

Haryana clocks a milestone

Two 500-bed Covid hospitals built within 3 weeks

By AJAY BHARDWAJ

Waging a relentless fight against Covid-19 Haryana has achieved a big milestone by setting up two 500-bed Covid hospitals in Panipat and Hisar within a short span of 2-3 weeks where a provision for round-the-clock oxygen supply has been made from the nearby industrial houses.

The first of its kind feat in the country will not only go a long way in strengthening health infrastructure in Haryana but would also prove to be a boon for people in the region.

Inaugurating the two hospitals Chief Minister Manohar Lal lauded the remarkable efforts of the state officials and said that the novel idea of setting up the two hospitals close to industrial houses came to him after he realised that

availability of oxygen was going to be a tall order in view of the severity of pandemic.

He underlined that the supply of oxygen from outside the state has been in a liquid form and it would become quite an expensive and time-taking process to convert it into gas form for supplies to the patients. With the setting up of hospitals close to industrial houses, where oxygen is available in abundance, this problem could be taken care of.

"For hospitals with nearby industrial houses there would be no problem of this kind and the oxygen supplies would remain uninterrupted", said the chief minister adding that more such hospitals are likely to be opened in the state.

The 500-bed Panipat hospital, set up adjacent to the Panipat Refinery at a cost of Rs 28 crores, has been named after Guru Teg Bahadur to commemorate the 400 birth

anniversary of the Sikh guru. It would have a team of five SMOs, 30 doctors, about 150 nurses and 46 pharmacists besides senior students from medical colleges.

The chief minister had a special word of thanks for the panchayat of village Bal Jatana which not only donated land for the hospital but also made a contribution of Rs one crore in the cost of the hospital.

The hospital in Hisar, named after Jamayak Chaudhary Devi Lal, has come up close to the Jindal Industries from where interrupted oxygen supply would come. Built at a cost of Rs 28 crores the hospital would have five SMOs, 45 doctors and around 40 MBBS interns.

The chief minister was grateful to the Jindal Industries for joining hands with the state government in this venture. With this the Haryana government has made a provision of 12,375 oxygen beds and 5214 ventilators/ICU in the state.

Farmers get Rs 356 cr under PM-Kisan

By RAJEEV RANJAN ROY

In a big financial boost, a sum of Rs 356,15,90,000 has been credited into bank accounts of 17,29,311 farmers as the 8th instalment of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) Scheme. The Prime Minister, Mr Narendra Modi, while releasing the amount on May 14, lauded the efforts of farmers who have made record produce in food grains and horticulture amid difficulties during the pandemic.

The Haryana Chief Minister, Mr Manohar Lal, while welcoming the decision to release the 8th installment of PM-KISAN Yojana, said the scheme, launched 32 months ago, is a revolutionary step in the interest of farmers. It transfers Rs 2,000 directly into their accounts every four months so that they can make timely procurement of seeds and other agricultural inputs for sowing their crops.

- Over 17 lakh farmers in Haryana get over Rs 356 crore under PM-KISAN Scheme
- Rs 2000 is directly transferred into farmers' accounts every four months
- PM-KISAN Yojana was launched 32 months ago

The Chief Minister said an amount of Rs 19,000 crore had been transferred into the accounts of farmers of the country. "It shows that the Central Government is indeed moving towards realizing the vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat by uplifting farmers," he said, adding that the BJP remains committed to holistic development of farmers, who constitute the backbone of our economy.

Efforts are constantly on to provide new solutions and new options in farming. Promoting organic farming is also one such effort. Organic farming delivers more profit and is now being practiced across the nation by young farmers.



Haryana turns over a new leaf in fight against corona

By AJAY BHARDWAJ

In its fight against Covid-19 Haryana has turned a new leaf with the launching of "Sanjeevani Pariyojna" meant to provide medical care to corona patients with mild to moderate symptoms at their homes.

The pilot project has taken off from Karnal where it was launched by Chief Minister Manohar Lal and would soon be extended to other districts of the state. One of the key highlights of the project is that it would save patients from going to hospitals.

Its main focus would be in rural areas where there has been a general lack of awareness about the intensity of the second wave of pandemic and how to treat the ailment.

With the right processes and care, officials believe home convalescence is possible for over 90 per cent of patients.

The project would also focus on post-Covid care of patients as an increasing number of patients have been facing health problems even after they had tested negative for Covid.

Launching the project the chief minister said that there was a sudden surge of cases during the second wave and it was then that the State

Government swung into action and made efforts to meet the demand for medicines, oxygen cylinders, ICU beds et al. Also, when the contagious virus reached the villages the State Government formulated policies to contain the spread of the virus which included the formation of constituting committees to monitor COVID cases in rural areas and the setting up Isolation Centres. The Sanjeevani Pariyojna, he said, was yet another step forward to intensify

the fight against Corona.

This Project would enable the management of critical resources like hospital beds availability, oxygen supply, ambulance tracking and door-to-door awareness campaign to enable a crystal clear overview of the healthcare system for the district administration.

With the implementation of this Project the State Government will be able to enhance the medical facilities and will provide three-tier

medical infrastructure for patients, including Isolation Wards at the Village level and sub-centre level and at Primary Health Care Centres for patients with mild symptoms, Community Health Centres or Field Hospitals at a Zila or sub-district level for patients with moderate symptoms in need of oxygen and Advance Medical Centres at larger government civil or private hospitals equipped with ICU facilities for critical patients.



The Chief Minister, Mr Manohar Lal, launching the "Sanjeevani Pariyojna" in Karnal through video conference

Fake Covid drug unit sealed in Nalagarh

In a major crackdown on black-marketing of counterfeit drugs, Haryana Police has sealed a 'pharmaceutical unit' located at Nalagarh in Himachal Pradesh which was manufacturing large quantities of fake remdesivir injections.

The unit was sealed along with the drug control authorities of Haryana and Himachal Pradesh.

An FIR in the case was registered in Ambala following the seizure of 24 remdesivir vials from the possession of four accused.

In all, 11 accused have been arrested so far for selling the vials, considered a life-saving drug in the pandemic, to the needy people at exorbitant rates.

In all 673 fake remdesivir injections were recovered of which 423 vials were seized from the arrested accused. The remaining 250 vials were recovered from the unit which was subsequently sealed.

Fighting the virus with WHO tips

The world is in the midst of a Covid-19 pandemic. As the World Health Organization (WHO) and partners work together on the response – tracking the pandemic, advising on critical interventions, distributing vital medical supplies to those in need – they are racing to develop and deploy safe and effective vaccines.

Vaccines save millions of lives each year. Vaccines work by training and preparing the body's natural defenses – the immune system – to recognize and fight off the viruses and bacteria they target. After vaccination, if the body is later exposed to those disease-causing germs, the body is immediately ready to destroy them, preventing illness.

There are several safe and effective vaccines that prevent people from getting seriously ill or dying from Covid-19. This is one part of managing Covid-19, in addition to the main preventive measures of staying at least one metre away from others, covering a cough or sneeze in your elbow, frequently cleaning your hands, wearing a mask and avoiding poorly ventilated rooms or opening a window.

Take whatever vaccine is made available to you first, even if you have already had Covid-19. It is important to be vaccinated as soon as possible once it is your turn and not wait. Approved Covid-19 vaccines provide a high degree of protection against getting seriously ill and dy-

ing from the disease, although no vaccine is 100 per cent protective.

WHO SHOULD GET VACCINATED

The Covid-19 vaccines are safe for most people 18 years and older, including those with pre-existing conditions of any kind, including auto-immune disorders. These conditions include hypertension, diabetes, asthma, pulmonary, liver and kidney disease, as well as chronic infections that are stable and controlled.

There is not yet enough evidence on the use of vaccines against Covid-19 in children to make recommendations for children to be vaccinated against Covid-19. Children and adolescents tend to have milder disease compared to adults. However, children should continue to have the recommended childhood vaccines.

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO AFTER VACCINATION

Stay at the place where you get vaccinated for at least 15 minutes afterwards, just in case you have an unusual reaction, so health workers can help you. Check when you should come in for a second dose – if needed. Most of the vaccines available are two-dose vaccines. Check with your care provider whether you need to get a second dose and when you should get it. Second doses help boost the immune response and strengthen immunity.

In most cases, minor side effects

are normal. Common side effects after vaccination, which indicate that a person's body is building protection to Covid-19 infection, include arm soreness, mild fever, tiredness, headaches, muscle or joint aches. Contact your care provider if there is redness or tenderness (pain) where you got the shot that increases after 24 hours, or if side effects do not go away after a few days.

If you experience an immediate severe allergic reaction to a first dose of the Covid-19 vaccine, you should not receive additional doses of the vaccine. It is extremely rare for severe health reactions to be directly caused by vaccines. Even after you're vaccinated, keep taking precautions. While a Covid-19 vaccine will prevent serious illness and death, we still don't know the extent to which it keeps you from being infected and passing the virus on to others.

The more we allow the virus to spread, the more opportunity the virus has to change. Continue to take actions to slow and eventually stop the spread of the virus. Keep at least one metre from others. Wear a mask, especially in crowded, closed and poorly ventilated settings. Clean your hands frequently. Cover any cough or sneeze in your bent elbow. When indoors with others, ensure good ventilation, such as by opening a window. Doing it all protects us all.

(Compiled by RAJEEV RANJAN ROY)

Big relief: Rates of key tests capped

HARYANA REVIEW BUREAU

Giving a big sigh of relief to the patients, suspected or confirmed, who may require to get investigated for HRCT Chest and other lab investigations such as IL-6, D-Dimer, LDH, CRP, Procalcitonin, Ferritin, etc, the Haryana Government has capped the rates of these tests required for diagnosis or treatment of COVID-19 and post-COVID patients.

Sharing more details regarding the same, an official spokesperson said that as per the orders, the rate of CT/HRCT scan of the chest had been fixed at Rs.2100.

However, for IL-6, D-Dimer, LDH, CRP, Procalcitonin, Ferritin, an amount of Rs. 1000, Rs.400, Rs.250, Rs.350, Rs.1500 and Rs.300 respectively would be charged.

These rates are inclusive of all the expenses involved in testing that is PPE, packing, documentation, reporting and GST Taxes (if any).

However, in the case of the home collection, an extra amount of Rs. 200 per home visit, irrespective of several samples collected, is allowed

to cover the expenses incurred for transportation, PPE kit and manpower etc.

These rates do not apply to the CT Scan centres providing services to Health Department under PPP mode, for which the existing rates would prevail, said the spokesperson.

Non-adherence to these orders may invoke penalty under section 188 of the IPC.

The spokesperson said that the decision of capping the rates had been taken after various observations of uneven and exorbitant rates being charged by various private hospitals, diagnostic centres and Labs have been received via media and other modes.

Therefore, after due consideration on the matter of the cost of reagents and consumables, the state government, exercising the powers bestowed under the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897, has capped the maximum charges to be levied for the above-mentioned tests.

The Haryana Government has been taking various measures to combat COVID-19 pandemic and is providing free testing and treatment in government hospitals across the state, he added.

COVID: HEROES AND THE VILLAINS

Adversity, they rightly say, brings out the best and also the worst in human beings, both at the same time. While it brings to surface out some Good Samaritans and social outfits who, imbued with the spirit to serve humanity, lend a shoulder to the grieving, and extend a helping hand to the needy, it also breeds bad elements who, consumed by greed and avarice, seek to capitalize on people's suffering and misery to make a fast buck. The deadly coronavirus has spawned the two sides in Haryana. Haryana Review brings you a glimpse of both in this column: Heroes and Villains

Helpers Society lives up to name

By SHAGUN KAPOOR

The stressed Corona times have made many organizations and socialites come forward to serve the Covid-19 victims, survivors and the needy. While some have teamed up with the Haryana Government in this humanitarian effort, others are going about the task all by themselves.

The Helpers Society of Shahabad is one such example. The Society is engaged in distributing food packets to the Corona-affected patients and survivors at nine places in Kurukshetra district.

When reached over the telephone, Mr Tilak Aggarwal, head of the Helpers Society, told Haryana Review that during the first wave of corona last year, the Society arranged two-time meals for the patients at the General Civil Hospital, Shahabad, for 12 months, and provided free dry ration and cooked food to thousands of people.

Besides, the organization, along with members of the Visargina Sanstha, performed last

rites of the unclaimed bodies of the corona-affected patients and their ashes were immersed in the Ganga. Members of the Society are now serving victims of the disease and the needy 24X7 during the second wave.

Mr Aggarwal said the Home Goods Association of Shahbad also offered cooked food to about 35-40 corona-affected families. Those rendered jobless to the lockdown are given dry ration and cooked food. It is also distributing two-time meals in nine service towns of Shahabad, at the shelter home near the railway station, and the shun dwellers under the Barara Bridge, he added.

The Founder Chairman of the Helpers Society, Dr. Pradeep Goyal, said the organization worked on the notion of "Nar Seva, Narayan Seva". Two-time meals have also been sent by the Society to the Adesh Medical College and Hospital in Ambala for the Covid-affected patients and the needy.

The Society has 22 members, all fired with the zeal to serve humanity. "We shall always stand with the victims and survivors of the pandemic," Dr Goyal added.

76 racketeers held in crackdown

By PARVEEN K MODI

Though not many, there are elements out to make money out of people's suffering by indulging in black-marketing of vital medical supplies like Remdesivir injections, oxygen and other drugs vital for the Covid-19 patients gasping for breath and struggling for life. But the Haryana Police is giving them a hot chase and has nabbed many.

Stepping up action against such bad elements across the state, the Haryana Police have arrested 76 accused engaged in black-marketing of oxygen, oxygen cylinders and Remdesivir injections. Not that it has given up its hunt for others.

According to the Director General of Police (DGP), Haryana, Mr Manoj Yadava, a total of 132 Remdesivir injections and 411 oxygen cylinders have been recovered by lodging 37 FIRs across the state. Instead of

making the recovered cylinders and injection a case property, these are being given to the civil administration for treatment of the infected patients.

As many as 23 FIRs have been registered in connection with black-marketing of Ramdev Sisir vial in 13 districts and 55 accused have been arrested in these cases which led to the recovery of 132 oxygen cylinders. Similarly, 21 accused have been arrested who engaged in black-marketing of oxygen and oxygen cylinders by lodging 14 FIRs against them in seven districts after the recovery of 411 oxygen cylinders.

The police action continues against such unlawful people. Helpline numbers have also been issued to prevent black marketing and hoarding of medicines and oxygen cylinders in the state. Citizens can give information in this regard on mobile number 7087089947 and toll-free number 1800-180-1314. Mr Yadava added.

Haryana Police rise to the call

By RAJEEV RANJAN ROY

Together we will defeat Covid-19 is the spirit with which Haryana Police have geared up to contribute in the best possible manner to add verve to the state's decisive battle against the corona virus under the dynamic leadership of the Chief Minister, Mr Manohar Lal.

From intensifying surveillance to checking unethical practices in the form of hoarding or black marketing of essential drugs like Remdesivir or oxygen to partnering with resources to strengthen the united fight against the menace, the Haryana Police have proved once again that standing by the people of the state under any circumstances is the hallmark of their ethos.

Responding to the need of the hour, the Haryana Police have provided 440 Covid-19 Hospital Transport Service (COV-HOTS) vehicles for free transportation of the needy

patients from their home to hospitals or nursing homes and vice versa. According to the Director General of Police (DGP), Haryana, Mr Manoj Yadava, each police district would get 20 Toyota Innova SUVs for this purpose. These vehicles are providing free services to patients and relief to the infected persons.

These vehicles have been provided exclusively for the purpose of providing transportation service to Covid-19 patients. The persons in need can dial 108 or the police control room number of the district to which they belong for free transportation from their homes to hospitals or vice versa. To ensure that the police personnel driving these vehicles are not exposed to any infection, they would wear masks, gloves and PPE kits while being on duty.

"The state police force is working shoulder-to-shoulder with the medical fraternity to help Covid-19 patients in fighting against the deadly wave of coronavirus. Our district

- Police force is working round the clock to help Covid-19 patients in fighting against the deadly wave of corona virus.
- Noose tightened around those indulging in unethical practices like black-marketing.
- Strict enforcement of lockdown order across the State, ensuring the needy get e-passes for movement.
- In these hard times, police teams are working tirelessly to ensure people don't face any problem at all.

units are extending full cooperation to civil administration in arranging resources, while maintaining law and order and continuing its routine

duties. As always, for us serving the people of the state in any situation is the only priority," he said.

In view of the increase in the number of Covid-19 cases, there was a sudden increase in the demand for oxygen and anti-viral drug Remdesivir. Taking advantage of the situation, unscrupulous elements and employees of private hospitals indulged in the black-marketing of oxygen and Remdesivir. Acting swiftly, the Haryana Police tightened the noose around those indulged in unethical practices when the people were struggling to cope with Covid-19 pandemic.

Apart from taking action against hoarders and black marketers of oxygen cylinders, Haryana Police have collected a total of 1,249 cylinders as a voluntary contribution from factory owners, welding shop owners, gas balloons sellers and ordinary citizens, which have been made available to the District Administration for utilization. Thanks

to robust mechanisms, Haryana Police have been able to strictly enforce the lockdown order across the State and ensure the needy get 'e-pass' from 'Saralharyana' web-portal.

"Haryana Police force remains at the forefront of providing services to people during the entire course of the pandemic. It was again a challenging time with an increasing number of our personnel infected during different duties. Police officers looked after the welfare of staff, especially Covid infected ones in their districts. We have already set up Covid care facilities in the Police Lines," said the DGP.

Given the enormity of the task, police teams are always on their toes to reach out to the needy with the right kind of help in these trying times and keep unscrupulous elements out to make a quick buck by selling oxygen cylinders and medicines at inflated prices. "In these hard times, police teams are working tirelessly to ensure people don't face any problem at all," said Mr Yadava.



HARYANA'S MEDICAL TRACER CHASES CORONA VIRUS IN THE HINTERLAND

Focus and forces shift to rural areas

By PARVEEN K MOJIB

It is like taking the battle right into the enemy's camp. The Haryana Government has fired the tracer medical bullet to chase, track and choke the ongoing Covid-19 in the rural areas where the pandemic seems to have crested. Focus along with medical weapons to adequate strength has been shifted to the hinterland.

Leading from the front and leaving nothing to chance, the Chief Minister, Mr Manohar Lal, keeps reviewing the situation in the state, especially in the rural areas, on a day-to-day basis. Even late night meetings are called to take stock of the situation.

Efforts should be made on a war footing to prevent the spread of the pandemic in the rural areas. It is about strengthening infrastructure, ensuring timely purchase of other necessary items, procedures should be done on the spot instead of through tenders, the Chief Minister has told officials.

Working the link, he inaugurated more than 1,500-bedded facilities in hospitals and Covid care centres, some in the rural areas, between May 14 and May 18, 2021. He has directed the officials to set up an isolation centre in every village with the required infrastructure to test, trace and treat the patients for which pharmaceuticals, government schools, or Ayush centres could be used. Many have been set up while work is in progress on others.

What stands out as a testimony

to the foresight of the state government, Haryana has rural thrust to its all-out offensive against the pandemic involving the Jeevan Jyoti of the set-up and workers long before the SOP in this regard came from the Union Health Ministry. As many as 8,000 special multi-disciplinary teams have been constituted to conduct door-to-door health check-ups of villages.

Adopting a Test, Track, Treat strategy to control the virus in the rural areas, the state government has

launched Haryana Villagers General Health Check-up Scheme (HVGHCS) to conduct extensive door-to-door COVID-19 screening in villages.

The multi-disciplinary teams have hit the ground running. Each team has started conducting door-to-door screening by visiting 500 households. About 40 lakh rural households would be covered under the scheme. Those found with Covid-like symptoms would be quarantined in the isolation centres set up in the villages and given the

required treatment. Medical, paramedical and Aasha workers are being deployed on duty 24x7 at these centres.

More than 1.5 lakh kits, 30,000 public Diagnostic meters and more than 10,000 thermal scanners have been given to these teams. Besides, about 1.5 lakh Rapid Antigen Test Kits have been distributed to the villages.

So far, about 8,000 oxygen cylinders have been supplied at the doorsteps of the COVID-19 patients who



The Chief Minister, Mr Manohar Lal, inaugurating several hundred-bedded Covid-19 care centres in Punjab.

- Haryana lent rural thrust to its all-out offensive against the pandemic long before the SOP came from the Centre.
- Isolation centre being set up in every village to do health check-up of the villagers.
- CM has directed that purchase of equipment for the isolation centres should be done on the spot instead of through tenders.
- Under the Haryana Villagers General Health Check-up Scheme, multi-disciplinary teams have visited 3,214 villages covering health check-up of 21,60,522 persons.

are in home isolation and patients having other health issues who need oxygen cylinders at their homes.

An estimated total of about 6 to 8 hours is taken for the supply of these oxygen cylinders. But the Chief Minister has issued directions that the supply time of oxygen cylinders should not be more than 2 to 3 hours against 15-20 days used to be in the past. The Chief Minister said.

Every gram purchased with a population of up to 10,000 would be given Rs 30,000 such where as those above 10,000 population would receive Rs 50,000 each for making basic arrangements.



The Chief Minister inaugurated 500-bed Covid-19 care centres in Punjab.

Combat gets infra teeth

By RAJEEV RANJAN ROY

Block Kalam village in Panchkula Assembly constituency of Gurgaon, the first Corona Care Centre of rural areas of Haryana district.

The Chief Minister said the residents of Block Kalam along with the patients from nearby villages would be greatly benefited from this facility. A 100-bedded Covid Care Centre was set up by the Haryana Group in the schoolhouse of Government College, Sector 14 in Gurgaon. It is equipped with the supply of oxygen, in collaboration with the NCO - Doctors for You, Haryana Group will also make medicines and doctors available for the patients.

Chief Minister Manohar Lal said that the patients of Block Kalam along with the patients from nearby villages would be greatly benefited from this facility. A 100-bedded temporary field hospital was set up at the Devi Lal Stadium in Gurgaon, which will cater to the needs of residents of nearby villages as well.

All Deputy Commissioners are undertaking the campaign on a war footing to check the spike of corona cases. While directing the administrators to carry out all exercises to take the challenge head-on, the Chief Minister has expressed his resolve that in no case the pandemic would be allowed to spread its wings in villages. "An atmosphere of positivity needs to be fostered in villages," he said.

It is worth mentioning that the Chief Minister for the last one year has been keeping a close vigil on the proactive measures and strategies being adopted by the state government to tackle the crisis. He himself visited various districts to make sure that the state is well-prepared to tackle the crisis. He himself visited various districts to make sure that the state is well-prepared to tackle the crisis. He himself visited various districts to make sure that the state is well-prepared to tackle the crisis.

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Taking inspiration from Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji's life, everyone has to stand united to fight the pandemic. A 100-bedded temporary field hospital was set up at the Devi Lal Stadium in Gurgaon, which will cater to the needs of residents of nearby villages as well.

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Buses now mini-hospitals, mini-buses ambulances

HARYANA REVIEW BUREAU

Every possible resource is being tapped to enable and equip the Haryana Government to put in a determined fight in oxygen with the surge in Covid cases, and create more oxygen in a little time.

With a view to meeting the soaring demand for beds for Covid patients, the Manohar Lal Government has converted buses into makeshift hospitals, and mini-buses into ambulances to carry patients to hospitals.

As many as 25 Haryana Roadways buses have been turned into makeshift hospitals to provide health facilities to the people in the rural areas. While these buses have been equipped with primary health facilities, including oxygen etc, other required health facilities have also been provided to the patients, the Chief

Minister, Mr Manohar Lal said. More buses will be turned into small hospitals, if required. Additionally 18 mini-buses of Haryana Roadways have been converted into ambulances. Five ambulances have been sent to each district. More mini-buses will soon be made into ambulances and deployed in villages at Primary Health Centres and Community Health Centres, said the Chief Minister, Mr Manohar Lal.

The proposal sent to 110 mini-buses have been converted into ambulances with beds and other services. Covid patients in the hospital immediately. Each district will be given five mini-buses. Each ambulance has four beds, two oxygen cylinders, masks, sanitizers, PPE kits and first aid kit etc. In addition, every district will have large AC buses which can be used as isolation centres.

The other day Mr Manohar Lal

flagged off 10 'mini bus-ambulances' from Chandigarh. These 'mini bus-ambulances' will work to bring corona patients of Covid-19 to hospitals in Panchkula and Ambala. A total of 110 such 'mini bus-ambulances' will cover the entire state.

Being flagged off these 'mini bus-ambulances' from Chandigarh, the Chief Minister interacted with the drivers and motivated them to work to give their best in the service time of Covid-19.

"Transporting corona patients to hospitals through ambulances during Covid-19 is not only a job but a service in hand. The nature of the job while working as a driver in the Haryana Roadways Department is different from serving as a driver in an ambulance. Mutual cooperation in this hour of pandemic crisis will definitely help to reduce the misery and pain of the people," he said.



The Chief Minister inaugurated 500-bed Covid-19 care centres in Punjab.

Oxygen comes at their doorsteps

By AJAY BHARDWAJ

It is like taking the battle right into the enemy's camp. The Haryana Government has fired the tracer medical bullet to chase, track and choke the ongoing Covid-19 in the rural areas where the pandemic seems to have crested. Focus along with medical weapons to adequate strength has been shifted to the hinterland.

Leading from the front and leaving nothing to chance, the Chief Minister, Mr Manohar Lal, keeps reviewing the situation in the state, especially in the rural areas, on a day-to-day basis. Even late night meetings are called to take stock of the situation.

Efforts should be made on a war footing to prevent the spread of the pandemic in the rural areas. It is about strengthening infrastructure, ensuring timely purchase of other necessary items, procedures should be done on the spot instead of through tenders, the Chief Minister has told officials.

Working the link, he inaugurated more than 1,500-bedded facilities in hospitals and Covid care centres, some in the rural areas, between May 14 and May 18, 2021. He has directed the officials to set up an isolation centre in every village with the required infrastructure to test, trace and treat the patients for which pharmaceuticals, government schools, or Ayush centres could be used. Many have been set up while work is in progress on others.

What stands out as a testimony

- 13,949 oxygen beds set up
- 7096 oxygen cylinders delivered
- 5,550 ventilators, ICU beds operational



The Chief Minister inaugurated 500-bed Covid-19 care centres in Punjab.

Efforts match resolve

By PARVEEN K MODI

All ends are being tied and efforts are matching the resolve. Every possible source is being tapped and converted into a resource; energies of various departments are being cohesively channelised; and front-rank warriors are being judiciously deployed to take on the Covid-19 pandemic in Haryana. Haryana Review captures below some nuggets: absorbing bits which speak for the effort involving one and all; and bytes which reflect the steely resolve of the Manohar Lal Government and officers to tame the virus.

ESI DOCTORS TO HELP FIGHT CORONA

Contributing its might to the all-out offensive launched by the Haryana Government to contain the Covid-19 pandemic, the Employees State Insurance (ESI) has decided to place the services of about 300 of its medical and para-medical staff at the disposal of the Health Department.

They will be on deputation to the Health Department until further orders, and shall assist in the treatment of Covid patients in the 500-bedded Covid hospitals being constructed in Panipat and Hisar.

Mr Anop Dhankad, Minister of State for Labour and Employment, said all departments of the state government were working in close coordination to control the situation caused by the pandemic.

Since there is a dire need for medical and para-medical staff in the Health Department, the Labour Department has decided to send medical officers, pharmacists, lab technicians, MPH (F), MPHS etc. staff working in their ESI Hospitals on deputation. These include 136 Medical Officers, 88 Pharmacists, 26 MPHS (F), 17 Lab Technicians, 40 MPH (F).

MEDICAL COLLEGES TO TREAT 'BLACK FUNGUS' CASES

The Chief Minister, Mr Manohar Lal, has directed that all medical colleges in the state be notified for the treatment of 'Black Fungus', another major health problem which has become a cause of concern during the Pandemic. Pandit Bhagwat Dayal Sharma Postgraduate Institute, Medical Sciences, Rohtak, has been authorized to treat patients coming from Rohtak, Jind, Mahendergarh and Charkhi Dadri districts who are suffering from 'Black Fungus'.

According to the Health Minister, Mr Anil Vij, all district medical officers have been directed to refer black fungus patients to the nearby medical college immediately for treatment. Medical colleges have all facilities and specialist doctors for treating the black fungus.

THIKHRI PEHRA' MAKES A COMEBACK

'Thikhri Pehra' (community policing), launched last year to revisit the pandemic broke, has come to revisit some villages of Haryana. Amid the surge in Covid-19 cases in the rural areas, the Haryana Government has decided to resort to the age-old practice of setting up 'Thikhri Pehra' to keep a close vigil on the movement of people in and out of villages to ensure containment of the virus.

This social tool, deployed by the state government in 2020, had proved to be effective in the prevention of virus spread in the rural areas. An order has been issued by the Chief Secretary's Office to all DCs

that they may issue or enforce necessary orders regarding the performance of patrol duty by able-bodied adult male inhabitants of the village to secure public safety under the relevant provisions of the Punjab Village and Small Towns Patrol Act, 1918.

DHBVN RESTRICTS PUBLIC DEALING

Conscious of the need for social distancing in the wake of the surge in Covid cases, the Dakshin Haryana Bijli Vitran Nigam (DHBVN) has restricted public dealing in its offices. Now consumers can file online complaints of electricity, including, excess billing, malfunctioning of meter or cable and cable failure.

Consumers can register their complaints through toll free number 1912 or e-mail at 1912@dhbvn.org.in. The complaints filed through online medium are monitored regularly and consumers will also be informed after resolving the complaints.

On line billing facility has already been started by DHBVN under which consumers can receive a bill by giving a missed call from the registered mobile number. The DHBVN app can be downloaded from Google Play Store to pay the bill. Bill can also be paid online by entering the account number in this app. Besides, bill payment facility is also available on other apps.

'AYUSHMAN BHARAT' COVER FOR 23 K NAMBARDARS

Keen on discharging its social mandate, the state government has decided to bring nambarendars under the 'Ayushman Bharat Yojana'. This will get them benefits under the scheme in case of serious illnesses. Apart from this, smart mobile phones are being provided to them.

According to Mr Sanjeev Kaushal, Financial Commissioner and Additional Chief Secretary, Revenue and Disaster Management Department, there are 23,375 sanctioned posts of nambarendars in the state. Under this scheme, beneficiaries will be provided funds up to Rs 5 lakh per family per year for secondary and tertiary health treatment in public and private listed hospitals in India.

HALSA LAUNCHES OXYGEN ON WHEELS

In another initiative to reach people during the current pandemic and address the current crisis, Judge, Punjab and Haryana High Court and Executive Chairman, Haryana State Legal Services Authority (HALSA), Mr Justice Rajan Gupta, has inaugurated 'Oxygen on Wheels'.

The Haryana State Legal Services Authority (HALSA), in association with Rotary Midtown Chandigarh and Buddy Cabs, has initiated this project with an aim to provide necessary relief to the Covid patients.



Building a hospital near the oxygen plant of Panipat refinery was a big demand in today's time. I congratulate Mr Manohar Lal and Mr Anil Vij for setting it up. Such an

experiment was done in Gujarat when the state was badly hit by disastrous floods.

Dharmendra Pradhan
Union Petroleum Minister



As the virus has now started spreading its wings in the rural areas too, special attention needs to be paid to the villages. We have constituted 8,000 multi-disciplinary

teams to conduct door-to-door health check-up in the villages for early detection of the disease. Special isolation kits designed for Covid-19 patients undergoing treatment will also be provided to every home isolated patient in the rural areas.

Manohar Lal
Chief Minister



The Haryana Government will purchase the anti-Covid drug 2DG, developed by DRDO for the treatment of Corona patients. The Defence Minister, Mr Rajnath Singh

and the Union Health Minister, Dr. Harsh Vardhan, have released this drug which helps corona patients recover faster and reduces the dependence of oxygen supplement.

Anil Vij,
Health Minister

The Labour Department has decided to send medical officers, pharmacists,



lab technicians, MPH (F), MPHS etc. working in ESI hospitals on deputation to the Health Department to help combat the pandemic. These

include 136 Medical Officers, 88 Pharmacists, 26 MPHS (F), 17 Lab Technicians, 40 MPH (F).

Anoop Dhanak
Minister of State for Labour and Employment



Officers and employees of the state government are working with dedication and good coordination and are hopeful that in the coming week or two, the impact of COVID-19 will lessen in the state.

Sanjeev Kaushal
FCR, ACS (Revenue and Disaster Management Department) & DGIPR



We have directed all deputy commissioners in the state to continuously update the data regarding the treatment of Covid patients in the district hospitals on the specified portal.

V Umashankar
Principal Secretary to CM



The deputy commissioners have been instructed to upload and update authentic data of Covid patients on the prescribed portal in a timely manner, and also ensure that the data is correct.

Amit Agrawal
APS to CM and DGIPR

WEANING FARMERS AWAY FROM WHEAT-RICE CYCLE

- Mukhyamantri Bagwani Bima Yojana (MBBY) spreading wings
- SC farmers being encouraged to adopt latest technologies
- Special thrust to cover areas of Shivalik hills.
- Haryana collaborating with international agencies

By **AJAY BHARDWAJ**

Haryana has been making a concerted effort to wean farmers away from the wheat-rice circle and inspire and guide them to take to crop diversification lending a new upturn to agriculture in the state.

The Integrated Horticulture Development scheme under which financial assistance is given to farmers for promoting the cultivation of fruits, vegetables, spices, flowers

etc three more districts, Panchkula, Ambala and Yamunanagar have been covered this year with an added allocation of Rs 60 crores. The plan has been to cover areas of Shivalik hills.

Till now, the scheme was confined to Kaithal, Faridabad and Rewari districts. Besides, the cultivation of onion crop and mushroom would be undertaken on a large scale under the scheme.

Under the scheme, two major activities proposed to be taken would be to promote the formation



of Farmer Interest Groups (FIG) and Farmer Producer Organisations (FPO) that are engaged in introducing and promoting the latest technologies, spread awareness about the ill effects of pesticides.

The focus would also be motivating SC farmers for adoption of the latest technologies for which a provision of subsidy has been made.

Officials said the Haryana government is also collaborating with international agencies for the transfer of international technologies in the State with the objective of increasing the productivity of the crops. Efforts have been to train farmers in growing varied crops so that their income is enhanced and the quality of land does not suffer.


Special teams of the department have been entrusted with the task of educating farmers on not letting the quality of soil suffer in the course of cultivating new crops.


An important bulwark provided by the government has been that the farmers would be incentivised during low prices of their produce in wholesale markets. A total of 19 horticulture crops (vegetable/fruit/spice) are covered under the scheme. The government proposes to set up a corpus fund for the facilitation of producers in marketing their produce, particularly in the case of perishable commodities like fruits and vegetables.

The "Mukhyamantri Bagwani Bima Yojana (MBBY)" launched

this year is also aimed at encouraging farmers to use innovative and modern agricultural practices. The major objectives of the scheme are to facilitate farmers to raise horticultural crops to increase their income level and to ensure the financial sustainability of farmers suffering from crop losses due to adverse weather and natural calamities.

As many as 20 crops covered under the MBBY are that of Tomato Onion Potato Cauliflower Pea Carrot Bhindi Bottle Gourd Bitter Gourd Brinjal Chilly Capsicum Cabbage Radish Spices Turmeric Garlic, Kinnow Guava Mango and Ber. A provision of Rs ten crores has been made in the current financial year for the scheme.

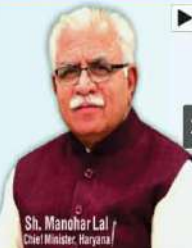




Water Conservation by Crop Diversification

Rs. 7,000 per acre as incentive to farmers

Crop Diversification from Paddy to alternate crops such as maize, cotton, millet, pulses, vegetable, gram etc.



Information, Public Relations & Languages Department, Haryana

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Sunflower, a Sun look-alike, is a food crop for humans, cattle and poultry

PHOTOGRAPH BY VINAY MALIK

WINDOW ON SPORTS

Taking to sports to boost immunity

By RAJEEV RANJAN ROY

Haryana's emphasis on expanding and upgrading sports facilities across the state is turning out to be a blessing in disguise. It is giving a boost to people's fitness and immunity, two vital tools in our wholesome fight against a virulent infec-

tion like the coronavirus.

Aligned to the idea as embedded in the Prime Minister, Mr Narendra Modi's 'Fit India' campaign, the Haryana Government, led by the Chief Minister, Mr Manohar Lal, has left nothing unturned to ensure that people make the most of sports,

key to building strong immunity, also the need of the hour to fight Covid 19.

There is a need to encourage fitness and help citizens get freedom from obesity, laziness, stress, anxiety and other diseases. Haryana is emerging as a sports hub. The new Sports Policy aims at connecting youths to sports. The state government is making exceptional efforts to promote sports among youths and encourage the established players to scale greater heights of success.

Healthy youths mean healthier adulthood and healthier elderly. Over 500 sports nurseries have been set up across the state to promote sports among the youths. Sports gymnasiums and stadiums are being improved to develop the interest of rural folk in sports. National and international level stadiums are being built for sportspersons in

various towns of the State so that they can get all facilities.

It is worth mentioning that Haryana has earned its place in the country in terms of sports. The state accounts for just two per cent of the country's population, but the players from Haryana win 50 per cent of the medals in the country level sports events. This has been possible thanks to a slew of measures initiated over the years. From facilities to man power, the Haryana government takes care of every minute thing to ensure that focus on the promotion of sports remains intact.

Haryana is perhaps the only state in the country where a youth club consisting of 10-15 members in each village is being set up. These youth clubs while giving a positive direction to the energy of youths can also play a pivotal role in awakening the society by holding awareness against drug menace, environment protection, women empowerment.

During the Covid-19 pandemic, youths worked with the district administration in preparing and distributing food for the helpless, helping to maintain social distance, distribution of sanitizers, masks and making arrangements for drinking water and organizing blood donation camps, and so on.

According to Chief Minister, Mr Manohar Lal, the youth power of India has the ability to lead the

- 'Khelo India Youth Games-2021' is going to be hosted by Haryana
- 297 sports nurseries are running in government and private schools in the state
- Process of establishing four rehabilitation centres for the purpose of scientific training, sports injury treatment and speedy recovery has been initiated
- Haryana Adventure Sports Academy has been set up at Morni in an area of about five acres.

world in 21st century as the creative and positive mindset of youth along with sports, education and skill development play a decisive role towards society and nation building. Saksham Yuva scheme has been implemented for the educated youth, under which a monthly allowance of Rs 9000 is being provided to the youth along with 100 hours of work.

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