

Haryana Review

An initiative of Directorate of Information, Public Relations & Languages, Government of Haryana

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AYUSHMAN BHARAT MISSION A BOON FOR POOR COVID PATIENTS
Free treatment for BPL patients in all hospitals ▶ P 3

TACKLING COVID-19 WITH A WHOLESOME APPROACH ▶ P 6

CORONA TRACKER

■ PEOPLE VACCINATED - 64,13,099 ■ SAMPLES TESTED - 94,71,467 ■ PATIENTS DISCHARGED - 7,50,443 ■ RECOVERY RATE - 98.08% ■ POSITIVITY RATE - 8.10% ■ FATALITY RATE - 1.16%

ON JUNE 12, 2021

CM HINTS AT STEPS TO FIX ECONOMY, EASE THE PAIN

Govt. begins to look at life beyond Corona

By PARVEEN K MODI

He looked every bit a general who had just returned from the battlefield, having successfully fought a relentless battle against Covid-19, an insidious and invisible enemy. The feeling of having had an upper hand in the combat makes his face glow. But rooted in the soil, the Chief Minister, Mr Manohar Lal, does not wear laurels on his sleeves.

When Haryana Review caught up with him, he was firmly ensconced in a sofa at his official residence. A firm believer in 'karma' (doing one's duty), the Chief Minister was as calm and poised as ever, drawing satisfaction from the outcome of the calibrated strategies crafted in the battle against the second wave of the ravenous and rampaging pandemic chomping hungrily at the economy.

Confident of his wicket, he answered a wide array of questions as diverse and divergent as chalk is from cheese, and coal is from soot. Playing the ball with a straight bat, he ducked the bouncers, dodged the googlies, and hit all round the wicket. His words dipped in the faith he has in himself, Mr Manohar Lal punctuated his narrative with facts and figures reeled off with the ease knife enjoys through the butter.

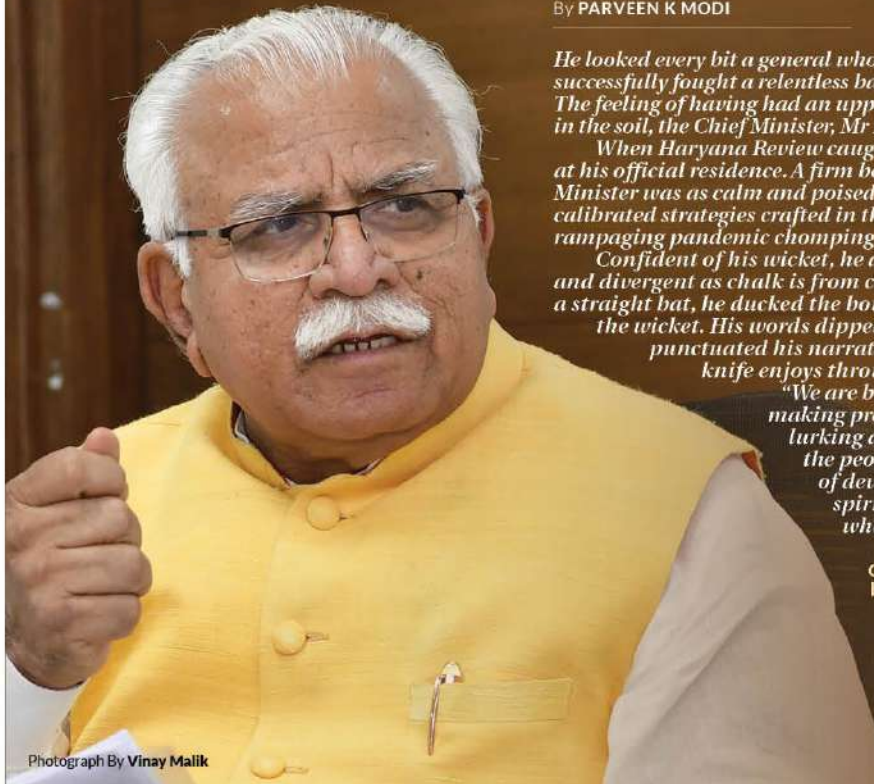
"We are beginning to look beyond Corona while simultaneously making preparations to face the third wave, experts say, is lurking around. It is time to take more steps to ease the pain of the people, and take forward our mission to make the fruits of development reach the last man standing in the true spirit of Antyodaya," the Chief Minister said in a free-wheeling interview. Here go excerpts from the interview:

Q: How do you look at life beyond Corona?

A: We are beginning to look at life beyond the Corona while simultaneously ensuring that every patient is cured, and preparations are made to face the third wave which, experts say, is lurking around. With Covid curve in the second

wave flattening, we are beginning to address such issues as alleviating the pain of the people, and repairing the dent caused to the economy. We must extend the hand that helps those at the lower end of the economic pyramid, and take more steps to make life easy for the man in the street by ensuring hassle-free delivery of services to the people.

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Photograph By Vinay Malik

INSIDE STORIES

Dairying Gets New Impetus

While the Haryana government has taken many measures in the recent past to breathe a new life in agriculture, a well-orchestrated plan has also been rolled out to uplift animal husbandry... ▶ P 7



Moving up the SDG Index ladder

By RAJEEV RANJAN ROY

Affordable and clean energy is the key to sustainable development. Thanks to the consistent efforts made over the past six years, Haryana has achieved a milestone by becoming an achiever of the 7th Sustainable Development Goal (SDG-7) as per report of NITI Aayog titled 'SDG India Index and Dashboard 2021: Partnerships in the Decade of Action.'

Compared to last report, Haryana has fetched 67 composite points in its overall ranking as a front runner, which is 10 points more than bagged in the last report.

"It is a matter of pride that the state has marked the highest improvement since the previous report. Compared to the previous year, this time Haryana has been awarded 100 per cent score in the category of 'Affordable and Clean Energy.' Not

only this, Haryana has improved drastically in other categories too including sustainable consumption, zero hunger, etc.," said Chief Minister Mr Manohar Lal.

Energy security is a prerequisite for socio-economic development.

Access to energy enables people to augment their income and productivity, enhance access to healthcare, water and education, and improve their overall well-being. In order to ensure access to affordable, reliable and efficient energy services for all, Haryana is expanding infrastructure and upgrading technology, which is critical for sustainable energy reliance.

It is worth mentioning that SDGs, also known as the Global Goals, were adopted by the UN in 2015 as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that by 2030 all people enjoy peace and prosperity. The 17 SDGs are integrated.

Haryana defies odds on way to SDGs on Page 2

Flashback to 2019

In 2019, Haryana occupied the high bench shared by performers and front-runners from the standpoint of achieving Sustainable Development Goals. Logging a composite score of 57, the state performed very well chasing many of the 17 goals and meeting 169 targets. The state ranked 18 among the 29 states in Niti Aayog's SDGs Report for 2019.

HARYANA DEFIES ODDS ON WAY TO SDGs

By RAJEEV RANJAN ROY

Defying all odds caused by the unprecedented Covid-19 pandemic, Haryana continues to march ahead with resilience towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Coping with challenges efficiently, the state government's well crafted strategies and their timely execution under the dynamic leadership of Chief Minister Mr Manohar Lal have led to a comprehensive outcome in the areas of health, education, gender justice, economic growth, climate change and environment, improving the ease of life. According to NITI Aayog's SDG India Index and Dashboard 2020-21, Haryana with 67 composite points is among top 15 States to have made a significant improvement in people's life.

What has added value to Haryana's odyssey towards an inclusive development is focussed attention on the well-being of underprivileged sections of society, continuous addition of verve to health and education system, ensuring people have access to quality water, boost to industry and infrastructure, affordable and clean energy, and economic growth. It is the whole government approach, which put Haryana on the road to log many more milestones to realize the mission of SDGs. According to NITI Aayog, Haryana along with Mizoram and Uttarakhand is the top gainer in 2020-21 in terms of improvement in score from 2019 with an increase of 10, 12 and 8 respectively.

According to the report titled – SDG India Index and Dashboard 2021: Partnerships in the Decade of Action, Haryana has strengthened its ways and means by working with a whole government approach to build a more resilient and sustainable society, where no one is left out. It is among top 15 States along with Kerala, Himachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Karnataka, Uttarakhand, Sikkim, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Telangana, Mizoram, Punjab and Tripura, which have launched a comprehensive initiative to fight poverty. Similarly, concerted efforts are afoot to decimate the menace of hunger from the State.

The SDGs aim to end all forms of hunger and malnutrition by 2030, making sure all people, especially children, have sufficient and nutritious food all year. This involves promoting sustainable agriculture, supporting small-scale farmers and equal access to land, technology and markets. It also requires international cooperation to ensure investment in infrastructure and technology to improve agricultural productivity. The goal also focuses at - doubling agricultural productivity, maintaining genetic diversity of seeds, plants and farmed animals, and strengthening capacity for climate change adaptive agriculture, which the State is doing on a large scale.

According to report, a copy with Haryana Review, Haryana has registered the biggest jumps in SDG 1 – poverty elimination – (22 points), SDG 7 – affordable and clean energy – (23 points), SDG 10 – reduced inequalities – (14 points), SDG 11 – sustainable cities and communities – (32 points), and SDG 12 – responsible consumption and production – (38 points). It is worth mentioning that poverty elimination, reduced inequalities, and responsible consumption and production are also the thrust areas of the United Nations Food Systems Summit, which is scheduled to be held before the end of the year in Nairobi, Kenya.

NO POVERTY
Haryana is making a rapid progress in eradicating poverty not only in monetary terms but in all forms and dimensions by 2030. This is being done by reaching out to the

Holistic progress!

Haryana has also shown a considerable amount of efficacy so far as meeting other SDGs is concerned. The state is faring quite well in the field of clean water and sanitation; decent work and economic growth; industry, innovation and infrastructure; reduced inequalities; sustainable cities and communities; responsible consumption and production; climate action; life below water; and peace, justice and strong institutions, and gender equality. Taking all stakeholders together in the spirit of partnerships to achieve all SDGs by 2030, the state government has adopted a well crafted blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all, which has the potential to address the challenges we face, including poverty, inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, peace and justice.

most vulnerable, increasing basic resources and services, and supporting communities. The state is effectively implementing appropriate social protection systems and measures for all including women, children, poor and vulnerable. With 69 points, Haryana is among top 12 States who are doing fairly great in fighting against the menace of poverty notwithstanding the going having gone tough in view of the prolonged two years long upsetting impact of Covid-19. The other states are Tamil Nadu, Goa, Kerala, Tripura, Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Sikkim, Meghalaya, Uttarakhand and Nagaland.

ZERO HUNGER
Having launched a multi-sectoral attack on the menace of hunger, Haryana has achieved a place of pride among top 10 performing states – Manipur, Nagaland, Uttarakhand, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Tripura and Telangana. By promoting sustainable agriculture, supporting small-scale farmers and equal access to land, technology and markets to all, the state is steadfast in its pursuit to end all forms of hunger and malnutrition

by 2030, making sure all people, especially children, have sufficient and nutritious food all year. The government is also working hard to end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under five years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons.

GOOD HEALTH
In terms of health and well-being, Haryana has displayed resilience in its performance by securing 72 points. It is among 20 front runner states, which are making concerted efforts to achieve the SDG 3 – Good Health and Well Being – by 2030. The other front runner states are Gujarat, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Mizoram, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Punjab, Uttarakhand, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Goa, Kerala, Meghalaya, Rajasthan, Manipur, Odisha, Telangana, Tripura and Bihar. In view of the fact that good health is essential to sustainable development, the state government under the leadership of Chief Minister Mr Manohar Lal is making

multiple interventions to ensure all have access to quality essential health care services and access to safe, effective, quality, and affordable medicines, which are integral to the SDG 3. A special focus is also being laid on ensuring universal access to sexual and reproductive healthcare services including for family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programmes.

QUALITY EDUCATION
Achieving inclusive and quality education for all reaffirms the belief that education is one of the most powerful and proven vehicles for sustainable development! A slew of measures initiated by the Haryana government in the past seven years have ensured that all girls and boys have access to primary and secondary schooling. They have been provided with equal access to affordable vocational and skill training as well to eliminate gender and wealth disparities, and achieve universal access to a quality higher education. As per the assessment done by NITI Aayog, Haryana tops the list of performers in imparting quality education to its people followed by Karnataka, Maharashtra, Manipur, Telangana, Mizoram, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh.

In conclusion, the state has adopted a multi-pronged strategy to ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university. A case in point is the State's annual budget for the current financial year which has been hailed as one of the most forward looking, multifaceted development road maps to take care of health, education, agriculture, poor people, women, elderly, and infrastructure so that everyone's aspiration is met in a sustainable manner!



Ayushman Bharat Mission a boon for poor Covid patients

By AJAY BHARDWAJ

Kamala Devi, 50, wife of a hawker in Sonapat, tested Corona positive and was admitted to a private hospital where she was unable to meet the medical expenses. At a doctor's advice she got herself registered to Ayushman Bharat following which all her medical expenses were taken care of and she was cured in 15 days.

In the horrid Covid times the Ayushman Bharat Haryana Health Protection Mission has proved to be a boon for thousands of such families who are provided free of cost medical treatment. The Haryana government has made a concerted effort to enroll as many families as possible.

Chief Minister Manohar Lal has emphatically directed the deputy commissioners and the health department officers that special care be taken of people below poverty line who have been finding it difficult to make both ends meet in these trying times.

The chief minister, however, going a step forward has also announced that all BPL families, including those which somehow could not register themselves under the Ayushman Bharat, would be provided free-of-cost medical treatment in any hospital in the state.

The facility would not just be limited to the government hospitals but would cover private hospitals as well.

"The mission of the government is that nobody should be deprived of medical aid due to the family's poor financial condition," said the chief minister.

The state took a novel initiative by constituting 'Ayushman Bharat Haryana Health Protection Authority' which has so far spent an amount of Rs 4 crore on the COVID-19 testing of 10791 persons. Furthermore, an amount of more than one crore has been spent on the treatment of 583 patients.

Testing and Treatment of COVID-19 Pandemic is also included in the Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana from April 4, 2020. Since then, the Haryana government has spent an

amount of Rs 5 crore on the treatment of COVID-19 patients covered under this scheme.

In Haryana, 15.50 lakh families are registered under the mission who are entitled to free medical treatment worth Rs five lakh annually..

In all, 593 hospitals in the state

are empanelled of which 176 are the government hospitals and 417 are the private ones. So far these hospitals have claimed an amount of Rs 315 crore for the treatment of 2.59 lakh patients. Out of these, a claim of Rs 263 crore has been paid by the government for the treatment of

2.33 lakh patients.

Ayushman Bharat - Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana was launched in the country on August 15, 2018 and under this, Haryana is the first state in the country which has paid the medical claim raised under Ayushman Bharat.

- CM announces free treatment for BPL patients in all hospitals in the state
- Around 15.50 lakh families in Haryana getting yearly free of cost treatment upto 5 lakh*
- So far an amount of Rs 5 crore spent on providing timely treatment to COVID-19 patients*



The Chief Minister, Mr Manohar Lal, presiding over a review meeting of the schemes made for the BPL families

Status of expenses by 6 selected districts on Ayushman beneficiaries

Districts	Testing Count	Testing Amount	Treatment Count	Treatment Amount	Total Count	Total expenditure
Karnal	312	1443169	29	444300	341	1887469
Faridabad	490	2143670	9	44280	499	2187950
Hisar	1891	4969320	35	678920	1926	5648240
Panipat	580	2418295	13	150120	593	2568415
Gurugram	213	768400	14	277560	227	1045960
Sonapat	107	1250520	34	335880	141	1586400
Total	3593	12993374	134	1931060	3727	14924434

Corona cases begin to nosedive



Following a steep decline in the number of Covid cases last month which indicated that Haryana has successfully tided over the second wave of pandemic Chief Minister Manohar Lal has said that health infrastructure is being strengthened ahead of the possible expected third wave of COVID-19.

He said the Haryana government, while taking this challenge head-on, is making dedicated efforts to set up oxygen plants in hospitals which would certainly prove beneficial in tackling the third wave.

The chief minister said that oxygen generator plants will be set up in all 135 Community Health Centres (CHC) and District Hospitals of the state for uninterrupted oxygen supply.

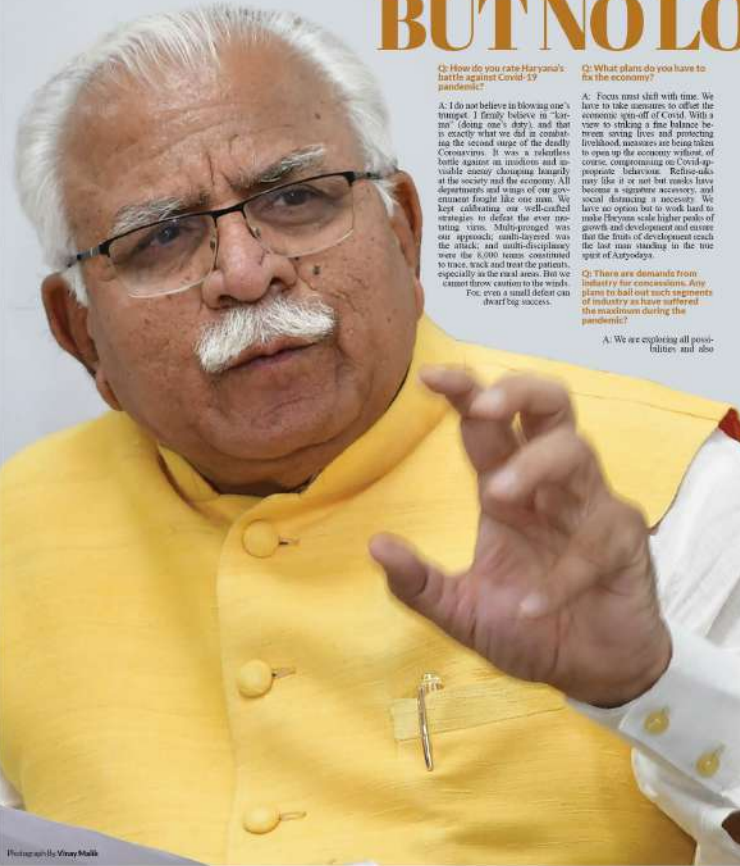
It was the result of a multi-

pronged attack by the Haryana government on the pandemic that saw the number of Covid cases tumbling down steeply in May last. While the second week of May had recorded 78,350 new cases, the third week saw the number coming down to 43,601 and in the last week of the month it stood at 18,580.

Programmes like "Mahamari Alert, Surakshit Haryana" and Haryana Villagers' General Health Check-up scheme under which not only door-to-door check-up was conducted but also adequate infrastructure was built to prevent the pandemic from spreading tentacles in the state.

Under the Haryana Villagers' General Health Check-up Scheme more than 64 lakh people were screened covering around 14.5 lakh households. - AB

WORST OF SECOND WAVE MAY BE BEHIND BUT NO LOWERING OF GUARDS



Q: How do you rate Haryana's battle against Covid-19 pandemic?

A: I do not believe in blowing one's trumpet. I firmly believe in "jism" (doing one's duty), and that is exactly what we did in combating the second surge of the deadly Coronavirus. It was a relentless battle against an insidious and inevitable enemy changing hourly at the society and the economy. All departments and wings of our government fought like one man. We kept cautioning our well-crafted strategies to defeat the ever mutating virus. Multi-pronged was our approach, multi-layered was the attack, and multi-disciplinary were the 8,000 teams constituted to track, track and treat the patients, especially in the rural areas. But we cannot throw caution to the winds. For even a small defect can start big success.

Q: There are demands from industry for concessions. Any plans to bail out such segments of industry as have suffered the maximum during the pandemic?

A: We are exploring all possibilities and also

Q: What is your view made things turn around and gave the government an edge in the fight against Covid-19?

A: People's co-operation and all departments and wings of the state government working as one team worked wonders. Beating up medical infra, increasing supplies of oxygen machines and other equipment vital for the treatment of Covid-19 patients constituted the

Q: How did your meeting go with the Prime Minister?

A: Very well. I apprised him of the comprehensive arrangements made by the Haryana Government to defeat the pandemic. I also briefed him on the present and future requirements of the state in combating the virus and Black Fungus. The Prime

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Q: What plans do you have to fix the economy?

A: Focus must shift with time. We have to take measures to offset the economic set-off of Covid. With a view to striking a fine balance between saving lives and protecting livelihood, measures are being taken to open up the economy without of course, compromising on Covid-appropriate behaviour. Referrals may like it or not but roads have become a separate accessory, and social distancing is necessary. We have an edge but this does not mean we can lower our guards. We have to remain in a state of high-alertness to take on the final wave which, experts say, is looking ahead, and may strike any time soon. It is always better to prevent and prepare than regret and repair. As a part of our preparations, we are stepping up health infrastructure, including rooms and beds, at the Community Health Centre (CHC) level and increasing the number of wards for children. One ambulance would be allocated to every CHC, with a maximum life support system to cope with any emergency.

Q: What role did the corporate sector play during this crisis period?

A: I am grateful to the people of the state in general, and the corporate world in particular, for standing with us in this fight against the pandemic. While the people willingly observed the lockdown norms, corporate entities helped us with Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds making us to meet the demands for more hospital beds, oxygen ventilators and other equipment vital for saving lives. Multinational companies and large commercial and industrial groups walked hand-in-hand with the state government and rendered help on all fronts. Be it providing oxygen to health centres, construction of Covid Care Centres, setting up of makeshift hospitals, ensuring adequate availability of ventilators, oxygen cylinders, the corporate world played a crucial role in defeating the pandemic. Free providing infrastructure vehicles, PPE kits for doctors and other health workers, sanitizers, masks, medicines and other necessary materials, they fell in and out of the state in helping

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Q: Do you think Haryana has left the worst behind? What is being done to face the possible third wave?

A: Let me share with you that our real strategy has been noted by the Government of India. We gave the virus a hot pursuit at the deep ends of the villages where it seemed to have crept. It was virtually a door-to-door battle. The left viral 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 defeat the virus. The 8,000 teams constituted under the scheme to trace, track and treat the patients fanned out in no time and did a door-to-door survey. Available data suggests the strategy has begun to yield. Up to June 5, the teams had screened more than 1.9 crore people.

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Minister expressed confidence over the efforts made by the state government to suppress the virus and asked us to be alert on the final wave.

Q: Any plans for post-Covid care of patients?

A: We've always people to find for themselves once they get cured for lacking any post-Covid complications, we're setting up training post-Covid centres in government hospitals. Here, not only Covid patients will be treated but will also be given training in physical fitness through Yoga and Pranayam. To render a helping hand to the people facing mental health issues, the Faridkot district administration has started tele-counselling and treatment services for the residents. Altimark, infrastructure is being put in place to defeat the third wave if and when it strikes.

Q: How the last 15 months have been totally lost to Corona?

A: Not. While putting their best foot forward in combating the virus, different departments have been working hard to achieve their respective goals. Among the many achievements, we have logged, let me share at least ten with you to prove the point. Haryana has managed to rank 14 (from 18) and score 67 (from 57) in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, according to Niti Aayog report, and DHBVN has cut down transmission losses by 2.37 per cent in one year from 16.5 to 13.63 per cent.

Q: Both the Central Government and some states have come up with relief measures for children orphaned by Covid-19. What has your government done?

A: Scanning the future of children who lost both parents in Covid-19 is our prime duty. We have launched Mukhyamantri Bal Seva Yojana which packs relief measures for them. The state government will give Rs 2,500 per child per month as financial aid to the families taking care of the orphaned children. This assistance would be given until they turn 18. Further, an amount of Rs 12,000 would be deposited every year in the bank accounts of such children to enable them to meet other expenses until they reach 18 years of age, and are pursuing education. We shall also give Rs 1,500 per orphaned child per month to the Child Care Institutions for the upbringing of children living in these institutions. The amount will be deposited in the bank account as a recurring deposit, and the maturity amount will be given to the child on attaining the age of 21 years.

Q: Anything done for adolescent girls orphaned by Covid-19?

A: Yes, we have Adolescent girls orphaned by Covid will be provided free residential education at Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya. An amount of Rs 5,000 will be credited in the accounts of these girls under the Mukhya Mantri Yash Shiksha Yojana. At the time of their marriage, this amount along with interest, would be given to them. Besides, a mobile tablet would be given to the students, studying in VIII to XII standard and those enrolled for vocational courses.

Q: You have blamed the agitating farmers for the spread of the virus in some villages of the state. Is it really so?

A: Wrong! I never blamed them. I just stated the fact that the number of deaths in some villages the agriculture came from have gone up manifold. I again appeal to the farmers to stop harassing their neighbours, and the agitation in these Corona days, and go back home.

Q: What's your take on the controversy between IIM and Balra Ramesh?

A: It is an unseemly and uninformative controversy. All systems of teaching—classical, orthodox, modern and homeopathy—are there to serve mankind. These should work together and jointly to alleviate people's suffering rather than get entangled in unwarmed stand-off.

Tackling Covid-19 with a wholesome approach



The Chief Minister, Mr Manohar Lal, presiding over a review meeting through a video conference regarding COVID-19 situation in the state with Administrative Secretaries and Deputy Commissioners, in Chandigarh. The Deputy Chief Minister, Mr Dushyant Chautala, is also seen in the picture

By RAJEEV RANJAN ROY

Given the enormity of Covid-19 challenge, a multi-sectoral stakeholder engagement was the need of the hour to contain the spread and repercussions of the Coronavirus. Enforcement measures along with a wholesome set of enabling interventions ensured Haryana's fight against Covid-19 remains resilient throughout.

From taking care of Covid-19 patients, testing suspected and vulnerable people, providing essential items to the poor, timely release of benefits under the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) scheme, ensuring round the clock supply of power, plying of buses with appropriate Covid-19 behaviour, online classes for students and tele medical consultancy for non-Covid-19 patients, the wholesome government approach under the dynamic leadership of the Chief Minister, Mr Manohar Lal, helped in dealing a body blow to the Coronavirus, which was more contagious, severe and deadly in its second wave.

Given the fact that poor people were adversely exposed to the reverses caused by the pandemic, there was a need to ensure they continue to get benefits of welfare schemes in a seamless manner. And this happened thanks to the efforts of the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment, which implements a number of schemes for the care, protection and rehabilitation of socially underprivileged people. It implements several schemes

for the welfare of senior citizens, orphans, destitute children, widows, destitute women, mentally retarded children, blind, deaf and dumb, dwarfs and eunuchs, minority communities such as Muslim, Sikhs, Christians, Parsis, and others.

Aware of the hardships Covid-19 might have caused to those living below the poverty line (BPL), the Chief Minister has been very particular in ensuring that every BPL family residing in the state gets the benefits of welfare schemes, specially announced by the government during the pandemic. Similarly, the government also encouraged social organizations to extend their help in mitigating people's woes during trying times like the current

one society is passing through.

"Social organizations have a wider scope. These organizations believe in working ahead with body, mind and wealth during the time of any calamity. Activities performed by social institutions during the global pandemic have been inspirational," said the Chief Minister while interacting with the representatives of more than 30 self-help organizations, social bodies, and members of trade unions through a video-conference recently.

Given the importance of agriculture in the state economy, the Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Department walked the extra mile to ensure that farmers do not have to face any problem in selling their

produce. The procurement process continued smoothly. From officers to public representatives, they all visited grain markets to be doubly sure that things are well in place to procure wheat, and the payments are made on time. The Chief Minister himself kept taking stock of the procurement situation.

From capping various rates for Covid-19 tests and hospitalization costs, appointment of contractual doctors to galvanizing the existing health infrastructure and human resources, the Department of Health and Family Welfare was quite quick in reading the writings on the wall and responding accordingly. In fact, Haryana was among the first few states in the country to fix hospital-

ization rates for Covid-19 patients under different categories including ICU care. Recently the state government also capped the charge of different investigations such as HRCT chest and other lab tests like IL-6, D-Dimer, LDH, CRP, Procalcitonin, Ferritin, and so on.

The capping of rates for various tests was done after the government realized that uneven and exorbitant charges were being collected by various private hospitals, diagnostic centres and labs. After due consideration to the cost of reagents and consumables, the state government, exercising the powers bestowed under the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897, capped the maximum charges to be levied for certain tests. However, Covid-19 patients get free testing and treatment in government hospitals across the state.

It is an outcome of the wholesome government approach that eight pressure swing adsorption (PSA) oxygen plants are going to be set up in eight districts of the state in collaboration with the Central Government. This work, which is being done by the Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO), will be completed by June 30, 2021.

PSA oxygen plants consume less energy in comparison to the conventional cryogenic oxygen generation plants. PSA based medical oxygen generators can create sufficient oxygen for a person or a group of people to use immediately, and these units are in widespread usage for onsite oxygen in hospitals and health care areas, with the advantage of being continuous supply without the need for additional deliveries of bulky cylinders.

According to Health Minister, Mr Anil Vij, these plants will help in supplying oxygen to 6,210 beds, including 550 beds in the government aided medical college of Maharaja Agrasen Medical College Agroha, Hisar. Similarly, 550 beds in Military Hospital (MH), Ambala, 750 beds at AIIMS, Jhajjar, 550 beds at Kalpana Chawla Government Medical College, Karnal, 652 beds at SHKM Government Medical College, Nalhar, 658 beds at Western Command Chandimandir, Panchkula, 2000 beds at PGIMS, Rohtak and 500 beds at BPS Government Medical College, Khanpur Kalan, Sonapat. These PSA plants will have a capacity of producing 1,000 liters of oxygen per minute.

How great the impact of this wholesome government approach has been can be gauged from the fact that Haryana started inching towards tiding over the severity of the second wave of Coronavirus from May 24 with the recovery rate touching almost 94 per cent.

The Chief Minister, who continues to monitor the day-to-day situation personally, kept the administration motivated with the singular aim of building adequate health infrastructure and most importantly within a given time-frame. Haryana logged a rare milestone by setting up two 500-bed Covid-19 hospitals in Panipat and Hisar within a short span of 2-3 weeks. The whole government approach really matters!

'Steel Frame' does it with dedication

The way the bureaucrats and their teams responded to the situations arising out of Covid-19 crisis deserves fulsome appreciation. The sudden surge in demand for oxygen and life saving drugs like Remdesivir called for the best kind of coordination, supply chain management and foolproof monitoring of the ground situation. The challenge was not only to ensure proper treatment to Covid-19 patients but also to mitigate general people's woes they were facing on account of the pandemic and lockdown.

The district administration teams worked round the clock in close coordination with their seniors and other stakeholders so that people do not face any difficulties in tiding over the crisis. Deputy Commissioners had their hands full as the Covid-19 started spreading their tentacles in rural areas as well. Rising to the occasion with determination, they ensured Covid-19 did not spiral out of control.

Equally fantastic job was done by the State Police under the leadership of DGP Mr Manoj Yadava. From tightening the noose around the black marketeers to keeping a tab on routine, traditional crimes, they did a laudable work in providing ambulance assistance and responding to the people's cries for help.

From top to bottom, they worked hard with escape velocity. With no flaw in planning, designing and execution, Haryana's 'steel frame' has done yeoman's work in breaking the spine of Coronavirus in the state.

DAIRYING GETS NEW IMPETUS

By AJAY BHARDWAJ

While the Haryana government has taken many measures in the recent past to breathe a new life in agriculture, a well-orchestrated plan has also been rolled out to uplift animal husbandry and dairying in the state. The primary target has been to generate self-employment and also to help farmers generate extra income.

The scheme for setting up hi-tech dairy units envisages establishing 2500 during the current financial year with an investment of around Rs four crores.

The unemployed persons would be assisted by way of establishing 5-10, 11-20 and 21-50 milch animal dairy units for which a grant of up to 75 per cent of the investment would be provided by the government. The aim is to set up 2,000 hi-tech units mainly in pockets where agriculture has not been sustainable.

In order to promote the indigenous species of cattle, in particular, a target has been fixed to set up 500 mini dairy units of 3/5 milch animal cattle of Haryana, Sahiwal and Belahi in the current year. The scheme also provides financial assistance for interest subvention for the purchase of ancillary dairying, processing equipment.

The assistance would be extended to all categories, cash in form of subsidy for 5 years on loan availed on purchase of milch animals by the beneficiary for the establishment of the dairy unit. The applicant should be of 18-55 years of age, a resident of Haryana and must be unem-

ployed. There would be no mandatory educational qualifications or training requirements for availing assistance under the scheme.

This scheme would target the following objectives:- (i) to provide self-employment to unemployed rural youths, (ii) to enhance

the production of milk to cope with the increasing demand of consumers in general and milk plants of the State in particular, (iii) to provide additional income to the families of young entrepreneurs, (iv) Creation of a pool of quality germplasm of Murrah Buffaloes, (v) to

encourage the unemployed youth to establish indigenous cattle units.

Yet another scheme that has been afloat targets providing employment to SCs by setting up livestock units with an outlay of Rs 18 crores for the current financial year.

The objective of the scheme is to provide employment opportunities to the scheduled Castes by establishing two or three milch animals units for which the Haryana government provide subsidy to the tune of 50% of the unit cost on the establishment of these dairy units, whereas the remaining part will be managed in the shape of the loan from the bank/financial institutions. A target to set up 2000 such units during this year has been fixed.

The self contribution in this scheme may include already available livestock and any other related assets with the Scheduled Caste families the cost of which will be counted as the share of the beneficiary.

In order to promote the rearing of sheep and goat, about 200 units would be set up in which each unit would have at least 20 female and one male. The Government may consider continuing the free distribution of sheep/goat units or providing subsidies to the tune of 75% of the unit cost on the establishment of Sheep/Goat units.



Black fungus: Causes and the effect

HARYANA REVIEW BUREAU

Adequate arrangements have been put in place to deal with black fungus in the state. Though the daily cases of black fungus and Covid-19 are ebbing in the state, the government remains in mission mode to ensure quick response to any emergent situation. The Haryana government had declared mucormycosis infection as an epidemic on May 18. Without wasting any time, the entire state machinery swung into action to make sure that there are no dearth of beds and drugs for the patients of black fungus.

WHAT CAUSES MUCORMYCOSIS?

Mucormycosis or black fungus is a complication caused by fungal infection. People catch mucormycosis by coming in contact with the fungal spores in the environment. It can also develop on the skin after the fungus enters the skin through a cut, scrape, burn, or other type of skin trauma. The disease is being detected among patients who are recovering or have recovered from Covid-19. Moreover, anyone who is diabetic and whose immune system is not functioning well needs to be on the guard against this.

According to an advisory issued by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), the conditions in Covid-19 patients, which increase the risk of mucormycosis infection, are uncontrolled diabetes, weakening of immune system due to use of steroids, prolonged ICU or

hospital stay, co-morbidities and voriconazole therapy, which is used to treat serious fungal infections

COMMON SYMPTOMS

Mucormycosis begins to manifest as skin infection in the air pockets located behind our forehead, nose, cheekbones, and in between the eyes and teeth. It then spreads to the eyes, lungs and can even spread to the brain. It leads to blackening or discoloration over the nose, blurred or double vision, chest pain, breathing difficulties and coughing of blood. ICMR has advised that not all cases of blocked nose should be considered as cases of bacterial sinusitis, particularly during/after the treatment of Covid-19 patients.

TREATMENT

While the infection may just begin with a skin infection, it can spread to other parts of the body. Treat-

ment involves surgically removing all dead and infected tissue. In some patients, this may result in loss of upper jaw or sometimes even the eye. Cure may also involve a 4-6 weeks course of intravenous antifungal therapy. Since it affects various parts of the body, treatment requires a team of microbiologists, internal medicine specialists, intensivists neurologists, ENT specialists, ophthalmologists, dentists, surgeons and others.

Member, Health, NITI Aayog, Dr VK Paul, says: "Steroids should never be administered at an early stage of COVID-19. It should be taken only after the sixth day of infection. Patients should stick to appropriate doses of the drugs and take the drug for a specific number of days as advised by the doctors. Rational use of medicines should be ensured to avoid adverse side effects of the drug."



Panchkula to be made economic capital

It was in the year 2019 when Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal soon after coming to power had envisaged developing Panchkula, as the second 'Economic Capital' of Haryana after Gurugram. Conceptualizing the Chief Minister's vision, every wing of the government functionary worked relentlessly to prepare a roadmap for developing Panchkula as a 'Centre of Excellence'.

As the Chief Minister announced the setting up of Panchkula Metropolitan Development Authority (PMDA) it was a step forward not only for ensuring sustained and balanced growth of Panchkula but also for ensuring timely and swift execution of the Integrated Development plan for it.

INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT

The chief minister announced that the State Government's futuristic plans for making Panchkula a major hub for Industrial Investment, Medical, Tourism and Paragliding and said that in the coming days, the Government is geared up to take up several other initiatives to create a conducive environment for investment in residential as well as commercial properties in Panchkula along with ensuring other holistic development which will be ecological and eco-friendly.

INDUSTRIAL HUB

The Chief Minister said the state

government would aim to develop it as an Industrial and Logistics hub. For this, the State Government has been in regular touch with industrialists to attract investors from the pharmaceutical industry in Panchkula and Barwala.

SPECIAL FOCUS TO DEVELOP PINJORE TOURIST HUB

The Chief Minister said that the development of Pinjore is one of the key parts of the Panchkula's integrated development plan and for this, a comprehensive plan for setting up a film city to be built there is being chalked out. Besides this, work to include Pinjore Mandi in Panchkula's development plan is also being done on a priority basis.

The chief minister said the state government had developed paragliding facilities at Morni to develop Panchkula as a tourism hub. Paragliding will be started there on the occasion of International Yoga Day on June 20, 2021. As paragliding involves a lot of risk, therefore a provision of insurance has been made by the state government for those who wish to explore this adventurous sport," said the chief minister.

He said that to promote mountaineering, trekking routes will be made in such a way that youth can easily reach the destination by evening. Besides this, Policy has been formulated for Home Stay or Farm Stay and will be implemented soon. - AB

Beating the heat

PHOTOGRAPH BY VINAY MALIK



WINDOW ON SPORTS

Panchkula gets Khelo India Centre of Excellence

Work in full swing on infra for 10-day games

HARYANA REVIEW BUREAU

The Central Government has approved a proposal to set up Khelo India State Level Centre of Excellence in Panchkula. Apart from boxing and badminton, athletics activities will be encouraged at this centre where hostels will also be constructed to accommodate about 100 players.

Disclosing this, Mr Sandeep Singh, Haryana Minister of State for Sports and Youth Affairs, said the centre would not only ensure further development and expansion of sports in Haryana but would also help the players in establishing new dimensions. More national and international level players will be prepared in the state. The performance of trainers would also improve and Panchkula would certainly emerge as a sports hub.

Mr Singh inspected the Tau Devi Lal Sports Stadium in Panchkula and reviewed the work being done for the Khelo India Youth Games-2021. He also took stock

of the infrastructure being prepared for the hockey and volleyball grounds in the stadium.

He directed officers of the Haryana Shahari Vikas Pradhikaran to complete the construction work of infrastructure in all stadiums on time so that the games could be conducted smoothly. The deadline fixed for the completion of construction works should be strictly adhered to.

High-quality material should be used in the construction of these structures. Any deficiency in the quality of construction material would not be tolerated. Strict action will be taken against those who are found guilty of the same, he said.

Preparations are in full swing for the 'Khelo India Youth Games-2021' which are being organised for the first time in Haryana. The event will now be concluded in ten days--from November 21 to November 30, 2021. As many as 25 different games will be played in this event.

The fourth edition of the 'Khelo India Youth Games-2021' will be held in Panchkula, Ambala, Shahabad, Delhi and Chandigarh. 90 per

cent of the games will be held in Panchkula, besides the BRICS Games 2021 in which volleyball will also be organised in collaboration with Khelo India. This will give the games international recognition. The BRICS countries include Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.

Mr Sandeep Singh said that an amount of Rs 5 lakh each had been given to the players who have qualified for the Olympic Games. If more players also qualify for these games, they will also be given the benefit of this amount. The players should give their best to make their country and state proud and win more and more medals in the Olympic Games.

The performance of coaches working in the districts would be assessed by the Sports Department as to how many players of national and international level have been trained by them at the respective Centres. In this way, their achievements will be linked with their transfer, he added.

The Director of the Department



of Sports and Youth Affairs, Mr Pankaj Nain, said that under-18 category games would be organised in the Khelo India Youth Games. As many 25 types of games will be included in this event, including five traditional sports such as Gatka, Kalaripayattu, Thanga-ta, Malkhamb and Yoga.

About 8,000 players from across the country and abroad will participate in these games which will be organised jointly by the Government of Haryana and Sports Authority of India (SAI), Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India.

CAMPUS CORNER

CM okays nine new posts in PGI, Rohtak

HARYANA REVIEW BUREAU

The Health Minister, Mr. Anil Vij, has said that nine faculty posts for conducting Diploma National Board (DNB) / Doctorate of Medicine (DM) courses in the Department of Pediatrics Pulmonology and Intensive Care of PGIMS, Rohtak, have been created. The Chief Minister, Mr Manohar Lal, has given approval in this regard.

These include one post of Senior Professor, two posts of teacher and six posts of Senior Resident. He said that these posts will incur an amount of about Rs 1.25 crore per year.

The Paediatrics Department in PGIMS, Rohtak, needs these posts to conduct DNB/DM courses, while other necessary infrastructure is available in the Paediatric Department, Mr Vij added.

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