

## **Activities of Central Government Pensioners' Welfare Association, J&K,**

### **Highlights of the Week Ending 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2016:**

- **Seeding of Aadhaar Card Number in Pension Accounts:**  
DOPPW had intimated mail ids of Nationalized Banks for requesting the Banks to seed the Aadhaar Card Nos. in the pension a/c in respect of all pensioners holding their pension accounts in their Branches. Request letters by mail to 26 Banks were sent in the first & second week of Feb, 2016 with intimation to DOPPW. The Banks have been requested to intimate all the Branches in J&K State to ensure that Aadhaar Card Nos are seeded in the pension accounts of the pensioners to enable them to submit their Life Certificate (*Jeevanparmaan*) by digital mode in the first week of November every year.
- **Weekly Talk by Dr. K.C.Sharma:** Dr.K.C.Sharma, a Udhampur based Consultant Surgeon was an invited Guest for a Presentation on Innovations-Some Interesting Events in the weekly meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb. Recounting his experience of collection of medicinal plants in Poonch and Kargil during his younger days while in service, his keen interest in innovations by the lesser mortals took him to an ordinary farmer Hariman Sharma of Himachal Pradesh in recent years. Hariman Sharma, a 54 year matriculate farmer hailing from an obscure village Paniala in Bilaspur dist. (H.P), developed a variety of apple even along with mangoes. This is in the backdrop that a Fruit Research Station was established in 1965 at Bagthan at 3500 feet elevation in Sirmur dist. For research on the project of growing apple at low altitudes. Scientists worked for 12 years in this project and failed to develop the low altitude variety of apple and the project was wound up in 1977.
- In 1999 after 24 years, Hariman Sharma could do what the Scientist Fruit Breeders had failed to do. Again this was a coincidence. Hariman noticed a fruit bearing apple seedling in his courtyard which had probably germinated from some thrown out seed. Hariman could sense that this little apple bearing tree growing at a warm place Paniala at 1800 feet height was not an ordinary plant . He preserved it.
- Next year, he grafted some branches of this apple tree on a plum tree. Grafting was successful and after 2 years, the apple plants started bearing quality fruits. Hariman created a mini orchard of 8 apple trees in due course and all these trees are bearing fruit till date.
- On 7 July, 2008, Hariman presented a basketful of his apples to Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh who gave the name of Hariman to this variety of Summer Zone Apple. The variety was later modified as Hariman-99 and is being propagated to many parts of the country, including in Jammu area.
- Dr. Sharma also highlighted some other instances of hidden talent examples which merit promotion and recognition.
- His talk on Innovations generated keen interest amongst the members.



- **Preparations for 21<sup>st</sup> AGM:** 21<sup>st</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Association is due to be held in the last week of April, 2016 and preparations for the same were continued. More write-ups have been received for the Journal 2016 and the same are being edited, including on Nutritional Issues and Geriatrics by Dr. Shashikant Goswami, a Nutrition Expert who has joined the Association recently after his retirement from Sports Authority of India. A paper on Col. Sir R.N.Chopra by Dr. Bedi of IIM Jammu has also been received for publication in the Journal.
- **Weekly Meeting Attendance:** Attendance of the members in the weekly meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb 2016 was 24 members.

Sd/-22.02.2016  
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