

CGPWA holds 24th AGM, discusses pensioners' issues

Jammu, April 22, 2019: The Central Government Pensioners' Welfare Association (CGPWA) J&K Jammu held its 24th Annual General Body Meeting (AGM) at IIPA Conference Hall here today and discussed important issues relating to the pensioners, their welfare and health facilities available under CGHS.

On the occasion, the Pensioners' Journal was also released. The 150-pages annual Journal carries immensely useful information for the Central Government Pensioners and senior citizens like pensioners related Office Memorandum issued by the Central Govt's Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare from time to time besides health related information, activities of the Association etc

The Association has 343 members who come from 35 central services as on date and has been identified by Govt. of India as Nodal Association for central pensioners of J&K State and is one of the 46 Central Govt. Pensioners' Associations in the country to get such recognition for operating Pensioners' Portal under National e-Governance Plan (NeGP) of Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare, New Delhi.

Welcoming the members at the AGM, the President of the Association S.S. Wazir IPS (Retd) listed the multifarious activities of the Association during the last year including social work undertaken like adoption a deaf & dumb school under the scheme Sankalap, raising funds for natural calamities like floods within and outside the State and cleanliness drive. He said that the landmark achievement of the Association was the empanelment of SMVD Superspecialty Hospital, Kakryal under the CGHS and later extending cashless facility there for the Pensioners. He called upon the members to co-operate with the Doctors and staff of the Wellness Centre, Jammu who are working under tremendous pressure with number of beneficiaries increasing every day in view of Govt order of mandatory enrolment as beneficiary for pensioners and Central Govt Staff living within the radius of five km of the Centre. He said another achievement was sanctioning of separate Wellness Centre for Srinagar. He said the CGPWA has observed many National and International days including Elders Day, Yoga Day, Swachhta fortnight, Heritage Walk along Bund in Srinagar, Republic Day. The Day Care Centre's environment and functioning has improved with regular facility of SUJOK therapy which is benefitting quite a large number of chronic patients of Jammu.

General Secretary, J.K. Vaid GSI (Retd) who conducted the proceedings, presented the Annual General Report for the year 2018-2019. He also briefed the house on the latest Govt. orders for

the welfare of pensioners, including operation of Pensioners' Portal for on-line redress of the pensioners' grievances on Centralized Pension Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPENGRAMS). Many long pending pension cases have been resolved through this system, including a number of cases of non-member pensioners and family pensioners of the State. He said that the Association has updated Directory carrying names, addresses including email address each of the members.

Ghulam Nabi Kant IAS (Retd), Vice President Srinagar Chapter briefed the house on activities of the Association at Srinagar, including weekly meetings and programmes undertaken on Swachhta..

Mohd Shafi Pandit IAS (Retd), former Chairman PSC also addressed the members, highlighting the progress made in commissioning of CGHS Wellness Centre Srinagar which has been sanctioned by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, along with 5 other CGHS Centres across the country; one each at Kochi, Varanasi, Jalandhar, Vishakhapatnam and Baghpat in Govt. Order Dated 30th August, 2018. He said that deployment of Doctors and Staff are expected soon. He complimented the achievement of the Association and hoped that it would continue to establish near landmark in years as well, covering new areas of social work and welfare of senior citizens.

The Treasurer, H L Raina presented the annual statement of accounts indicating the receipts and expenditure during the last year which the House adopted.

K B Jandial IAS (Retd) former member PSC spoke on the status and background of CGHS Wellness Centre Jammu which was inaugurated on 4th June, 2008 in two room accommodation at Police Hospital Jammu. Subsequently, the Wellness Centre was shifted to Exhibition Ground Complex near Dogra Chowk and OPD facilities started on 7th September, 2012. There has been considerable improvement in the functioning of CGHS since then despite the no of beneficiaries has increased to 5630 including employees of 15 central Govt Departments. The Centre has been providing medicines valuing Rs. 2.80 cr during 2018, including over Rs. one cr of life saving drugs befitting CGHS beneficiaries. Now, SMVD Superspecialty Hospital, Kakryal is CGHS empanelled Hospital in the State where the cashless treatment facility has been extended to beneficiaries. So far, the Wellness Centre has referred 167 cases to Narayana Hospital besides 20 cases of emergencies where such referral is not required. Queries of the Pensioners were responded to by him and Dr. Kuljeet Kour, CMO Wellness Centre who along with Dr. Shivali Sharma were specially invited for the purpose.

As part of the CGPWA's initiative to create awareness among the Pensioners on serious ailments, Dr. Vivek Rishi, Consultant, Department of Neurology, Govt. Medical College Jammu gave presentation on Brain Stroke which is common with senior citizens and useful tips to prevent the same. It was followed by question answer session on the subject.

Dr. K. C. Sharma gave a presentation on Cultivation of Harman-99 Summer Apple, a low chilling variety of apple, in hot climate of Jammu and other such places in the country. He has been acting as one of the crusaders to popularize summer apple cultivation.

Among others who spoke on the occasion included, former CVC, Kuldeep Khoda, former DGP, Dr. Ashok Bhan and Treasurer Srinagar Chapter Gh. Mohd Wani.

Vice President, B K Raina GSI (Retd) presented Vote of Thanks.

Nearly 100 CGPWA members attended the AGM; including a representative team of 4 members from Srinagar chapter. About a dozen prominent social activists associated with noted NGSs were special invitees in the vibrant function.

