



Govt. of Jammu & Kashmir

Jhelum and Tawi Flood Recovery Project

Press Release

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JKERA/JTFRP resumes work on projects in Kashmir Post-Covid Lockdown

CEO ERA/JTFRP takes stock of the resumption of the works in valley.

With a dual objective of the resumption of the developmental activities and restoration of the economic activities in the valley for the creation of employment opportunities among the locals who are suffering due to the economic stress Post- COVID Dr. Syed Abid Rasheed Shah, Chief Executive Officer, JKERA/JTFRP directed the officers of J&KERA/JTFRP to restart work on projects under JKERA/JTFRP..

It was revealed that work has been resumed on the Construction of State of the Art 5 –storeyed additional Block at Lal Ded Maternity Hospital Srinagar being executed by JTFRP through Project Implementation Unit, JKPCCC at an estimated cost of Rs 132.5 crores. The existing hospital is the only facility of its kind in the region to provide health services on gynae and child care; which is under tremendous pressure due to increase in patients with population growth. Therefore, the construction of the additional block will ease the increasing pressure and demand for improved facilities, including the needs of present and future and to create a more resilient infrastructure. The new block is proposed to be constructed with base isolation technology which is being used for the first time in J&K for disaster resilience and performance-based design.

The main features of the hospital are 82 inpatient beds, 49 floating beds, 6 modular OTs, 3 wards, State of the Art medical equipment. Piling work for the foundation of the main building and sump house is underway with heavy machinery, adequate labor and engineering staff deployed at the site along with the sufficient stock of steel and cement also kept at site to ensure that work is executed uninterrupted. Dr Abid impressed upon officials of JKPCCC to redouble their efforts for timely completion of the project which will lead to a major augmentation of the existing infrastructure in LD Hospital, Srinagar. Focusing on the need to mobilize adequate resources in the project, the CEO underlined the vital importance of the project for the general public and asked for a weekly progress upon designed format.

In North Kashmir, work has re started on the construction of Gogjidaji bridge at the cost of Rs 6.17 crores connecting Sopore via Tarzoo-Naidkhai to Sumbal Bandipore and benefitting about

30,000 plus souls. About 15 villages will get benefitted by way of connectivity with National Highway due to the bridge. Work has also restarted on the upgradation of Amberpora- Haritar road at the cost of Rs 8.03 Cr in Baramulla District connecting villages of Amberpora, Akhanpora, Haritar and Rabi Gaon and a population of about 60000. It will provide an alternate route from Sopore via Tarzoo to Pattan

In South Kashmir work on the Construction of Rs 9.22 crores additional block of the Govt. Degree College , Bijbehara and also on the upgradation of Rs 4.98 crore *Halmulla- Panchpora Kralkot* in the Anantnag District has also been resumed . Similarly efforts are underway to resume work on the other sub-projects in south Kashmir with contractors directed to mobilize men and machinery at an earliest.

JKERA has also resumed work on some of the pending works under the Construction of Jehangir Chowk Rambagh- Flyover and Grade Separator near Radio Kashmir Junction, Srinagar under the Asian Development Bank funded JKUSDIP.

CEO ERA directed the Engineers to strictly adhere to the SOPs (Standard Operating Procedures) issued by the U.T Administration for the execution of developmental activities which include social distancing, health and hygiene measures like provision of hand to prevent the spread of COVID-19. He also directed that local labourers be involved in the works in order to create employment opportunities among them as it will also lead to the ownership of the projects among the local communities .He further directed the officers to resume the work on the remaining works in Kashmir division.

A weekly progress report will be submitted to the CEO for regular follow up and monitoring of the sub-projects.

Pertinent to mention here that JTFRP has been one of the first organizations to restart the developmental activities across the Jammu and Kashmir. This is especially vital from the perspective of livelihood generation in the Post-COVID economic scenario under stress due to the Pandemic. Further the restart of such big tickets projects wiil revitalizes the local economy by pumping the liquidity in the economy thus improving the post-COVID economic recovery.