

Singtam, June 25 (IPR): Minister for Health Care, Human Services and Family Welfare Deptt. Mr. Arjun Kumar Ghatani inaugurated Centre for Addiction Medicine at Chuwatar, Singtam in presence of Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) Mr P D Rai and Area MLA Mr. Gopal Baraily, today.

It may be mentioned here that eleven bedded Centre for Addiction Medicine was constructed in phase wise manner involving project cost of 14 L(Fourteen Lakhs) in Phase I and 45 L (Fourty Five Lakhs) in Phase II. Third phase for Vertical extension of the centre is likely to be commenced at the earliest at the cost of 30 L (Thirty Lakhs). Out of total estimated cost of 89 Lakhs amount of Rs. 50 L (Fifty Lakhs) have been funded under Member of Parliament Local Area Development Programme.

The two storied building will facilitate the requirements of Male wards and rooms for Doctor, Counsellor, Psychologist, storage, Waiting Hall, MDR Card, Pharmacy and recreation, Multipurpose Hall, Canteen along with kitchen for OPD patients etc.

Mr Ghatani, in his address said that the state govt is working tirelessly in the field of Mental Health. He said that the state govt. under visionary leadership of Hon`ble Chief Minister Shri Pawan Chamling has strong political will to address the issues of mental health and other diseases. Minister expressed his happiness over establishment of the Centre for Addiction Medicine and assured to provide qualitative medical services to the patients and urged concerned authority to ensure security of health staff in the institution. He urged concerned officials to maintain newly inaugurated centre with full sense of responsibility.

He also appealed for joint coordination and collaborative efforts to work together to curb menace of substance abuse in the state of Sikkim.

He also sensitized public on HPV vaccine that is to be launched in the state of Sikkim for female of 9-14 years of age.

In the context of newly installed machines at District Hospital Singtam minister said that the installation and inauguration of CB-NAAT machine for the detection of Tuberculosis/ MDR TB and HbA1C for diagnosis of diabetes is another notable achievement to provide advance medical services . He also informed that the State Govt. is providing financial assistance of Rs. 3000/- to the TB patients for nutritional support on monthly basis.

He also urged concerned health officials to accelerate CATCH programme so that many silent killer diseases can be detected at the early stage in their door steps.

Member of Parliament Mr. PD Rai, in his address said that he was delighted for successfully establishment of the de-addiction centre and marked the asset as genuinely needed infrastructure to combat issues of Mental health in the state of Sikkim.

He came out with suggestions to adopt holistic approach of scientific and Social aspects together to root out substance abuse and addiction from the state.

Mr. Rai also advised to develop a relation with All India Institute of Medical Science so that the Centre for Addiction Medicine can be raised to the centre of excellence for the entire North East region.

He also expressed thankfulness to the Hon`ble Chief Minister for his initiatives to address the issues of Mental Health.

He also expressed deep concern over existing Total Fertility Rate and urged people to be committed to save children and youths from suicide and substance abuse.

Area MLA of West Pandem Constituency Shri Gopal Barailly expressed gratitude to the department of health for the establishment of Centre for Addiction Medicine at Chuwatar.

Commissioner-cum-Secretary proposed welcome address and also presented technical report of the construction.

Earlier, the programme began with plantation drive to observe Ten Minutes to Earth in the premises. Health Minister Mr. Ghatani, MP Mr. PD Rai, MLA Mr. Barailly, Secretary and officials of health deptt. planted saplings of Areca nut species.

Afterwards, Minister, MP and Area MLA also inspected ongoing construction of ANM Training School-cum-Hostel and Drug Testing Laboratory at Chuwatar.

