

PRIME MINISTER INAUGURATES THE PSA OXYGEN PLANT IN SERCHHIP DISTRICT HOSPITAL THROUGH VIDEO CONFERENCE. HEALTH MINISTER Dr. R. LALTHANGLIANA TOOK PART IN VIRTUAL MODE FROM SERCHHIP.

Dated Serchhip, the 7th October, 2021: Honourable Prime Minister, Narendra Modi inaugurated 35 Pressure Swing Adsorption (PSA) oxygen plants established under PM CARES (Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency situation) across 35 states and Union Territories via video conference. These include PSA Oxygen Plant at Serchhip District Hospital which can produce 250 Litres per Minute.

Honourable Health Minister, Govt. of Mizoram, Shri Dr. R. Lalthangliana attended this virtual inauguration of PSA oxygen plant at Serchhip District Hospital along with Shri. R. Lalramnghaka Health Secretary and Smt. Dr. T. Lalmangaihi, Director, DHME H&FW and Shri. Kumar Abhishek, Deputy Commissioner, Serchhip.

Prior to the virtual inauguration of the 35 PSA oxygen plants across the country by the Prime Minister, a short inauguration programme was held here in Serchhip. The programme was chaired by Dr. Lalnunhlina Khiangte, DMS, Serchhip.

Hon'ble Health Minister, Govt. of Mizoram, Dr. R. Lalthangliana said that due to outbreak of covid-19 pandemic, there is more demand in medical staffs and the government need to reinforce our medical infrastructure in the state. It is not easy for the government to complete this oxygen generation plant installation within a short period as equipments and materials for the project are imported from outside the state. He also said the government had done many projects to fight covid-19 which will continue to be useful even after the pandemic.

The Minister said that the ongoing project of RtPCR installation in each district and the newly inaugurated PSA oxygen plant are going to be very important after the pandemic is over. He conveys that it is a very special day for Serchhip District to be selected among the other oxygen plants installed under the PM CARES at different districts hospitals in the state, ZMC Falkawn and Cancer Hospital Zemabawk. Serchhip PSA Plant is among the 35 PSA plants across India to be inaugurated by the Prime Minister of India via video conference.

Minister told that all the 14 PSA Oxygen Plants inaugurated today across the state will be able to produce 6550 Litres per Minute. After the outbreak of covid-19, number of beds for patients has been multiplied greatly in numbers, ICU was multiplied from 13 to 34. The Aizawl Civil Hospital ICU also was extended and is yet intended to be extended within this year and these ICU are equipped with modern infrastructure and technology. The government of Mizoram has been strengthening Health Infrastructure from Rs. 280 crore funded by the World Bank. Japan International Funding Agency also funds Rs. 500 crores which will be utilized for establishing Cancer Super-speciality Hospital for the state. He also says that it took a long time to complete the negotiation between the central and the funding agency, now that it is done. However, it always takes long time to complete the work involved for construction of such a world-class hospital.

After the speech of the Chief Guest, Dr. Lalnunhlina Khiangte, DMS brief in his speech that prior to covid-19 outbreak, Serchhip District Hospital get their oxygen cylinders demand from Aizawl by means of road transportation, normally three times a month. After the outbreak of covid, oxygen

generation plant of 80 Litres per Minute was installed. He said that the PSA Oxygen Plant inaugurated by the Prime Minister today that can produce 250 Litres per Minute is expected to suffice the oxygen requirements of the district hospital, and felt very fortunate the district hospital is equipped with such a higher capacity generation plant. The DMS told the gathering that this 250 lpm PSA Plant was received on 19th September, 2021 and the plant is successfully installed on the 25<sup>th</sup> of the same month. He conveys that this prompt and timely installation of the plant is as a result of efforts rendered by the Deputy Commissioner, Shri Kumar Abhishek IAS and officials from the department of Power & Electricity.

Shri. Kumar Abhishek, IAS closed the programme with a short speech and the Prime Minister's virtual inauguration programme follows.

After the PM programme, Dr. R. Lalthangliana visited the ongoing building extension work of Serchhip Bazar. The Health Minister is followed by Shri R. Lalramnghaka, Secretary, Health & Family Welfare and Smt. T. Lalmangaihi, Director, DHME. The programme is attended by officials from Health & Family Welfare Department Serchhip and media persons also attended the same.

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