Sr. No. 37

HIGH COURT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR AND LADAKH
AT JAMMU

CJ Court

Case: PIL No. 2/2018
IA No. 1/2018
c/w
PIL No. 37/2013
IA No. 1/2018

Citizens Forum Jammu .....Appellant(s)/Petitioner(s)

Through :- Mr. S.S.Ahmed, Advocate
(Amicus Curiae) with Mr. Amritaash Sharma, Advocate

v/s

State of J&K and others .....Respondent(s)

Through :- Ms. Monika Kohli, Sr. AAG with
Ms. Malvika Gupta, Advocate
Mr. Athrav Mahajan, Advocate vice
Ms. Deepika Mahajan, Sr. Advocate

CORAM: HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE RAJNESH OSWAL, JUDGE

ORDER
05.11.2026

1. The learned Amicus Curiae has raised five issues today.

2. The first is the strength of the doctors/medical officers; the second is the strength of the para-medics; the third is the position of transplant of critical organs like liver etc.; the fourth is the DPR for a flyover connecting the essential facilities in the Town of Jammu and fifth is the dearth of Dental Surgeons.

3. Ms. Monika Kohli, Sr. AAG submits that her status report dated 18.05.2026 is dealing with the issues delineated above. She, on the strength of the status report, submits that organ donation, retrieval and transplantation is being strengthened in the following manner:-

> *"7. That presently the following Organ/Tissue Retrieval and Transplant Centres are functional in Jammu & Kashmir in public and private sector:*

S. No.	***Institution***	***Public/ Private***	***Facility***
1.	*SKIMS Soura Srinagar*	*Public*	*Kidney Transplant*
2.	*GMC Jammu*	*Public*	*Kidney & Cornea Transplant*
3.	*GMC Srinagar*	*Public*	*Kidney & Cornea Transplant*
4.	*Eye Care & Research Centre Srinagar*	*Private*	*Cornea Transplant*
5.	*Command Hospital Udhampur*	*Defense*	*Organ Retrieval & Cornea*
6.	*Perfect Vision Super Specialty Eye Hospital Srinagar*	*Private*	*Cornea Transplant*
7.	*92 Base Hospital Srinagar*	*Defense*	*Organ Retrieval*
8.	*SKIMS Medical College Bemina*	*Public*	*Cornea Transplant*
9.	*Swami Vevekananda Charitable Hospital Jammu*	*Trust*	*Cornea Transplant*
10.	*ASG Eye Hospital Srinagar*	*Private*	*Cornea Transplant*
11.	*Plus Medicare Hospital Srinagar*	*Private*	*Kidney Transplant*

4. She further submits that 357 corneal transplants and 502 renal transplants have been done in Jammu and Kashmir till date. She submits that the administrative & infrastructural issues are dealt with in paragraphs (12) & (13) of the status report (supra) respectively, which read as under:-

> *"12. That the major healthcare infrastructure projects completed and operationalized during the recent period include:*
>
> *a) operationalization of a 160-bedded additional block at Bone & Joint Hospital Srinagar;*
> *b) operationalization of a 243-bedded labour Block at SMGS Hospital Jammu;*
> *c) establishment of Cath Labs at GMC Jammu and GMC Anantnag;*
> *d) operationalization of Sir Colonel Chopra Nursing Home at GMC Jammu;*
> *e) and commencement of work on Emergency Theatre Block at SMHS Srinagar.*
>
> *13. That bed capacity in healthcare institutions has progressively increased over the years and approximately 3200 additional beds are targeted to be added by March 2027 through various ongoing healthcare infrastructure projects.*
>
> *BED AUGMENTATION PROJECTS*

S. No.	*Institution/Project*	*Proposed Bed Addition*	*Status*
1.	*Critical Care Blocks under PM-ABHIM & ECRP-II*	*950*	*Under execution*
2.	*Teaching District Hospital of New GMCs*	*1300*	*Under phased completion*
3.	*SKIMS Medical College Bemina*	*250*	*Under execution*
4.	*Additional Block LD Hospital Srinagar*	*110*	*Under execution*
5.	*Theatre Block SMHS Srinagar*	*100*	*Under execution*

6.	*District Hospital Reshipora, Budgam*	*125*	*Under execution*
7.	*MCH Hospital Lamberi, Rajouri*	*100*	*Under execution*

5. Ms. Kohli further submits that work, relating to 17 Critical Care Blocks under PM-ABHIM and ECRP-II, are being fast tracked across various districts and health care institutions and Department has initiated strengthening of advanced diagnostics and specialty care, through phased establishment of: (a) Cath Labs; (b) CT Scan facilities; (c) MRI facilities; (d) AI based radiology systems; (e) Tele-ICUs; and (f) Tele-Radiology systems.

6. Ms. Kohli, further, submits that Cath labs have already been operationalized at GMC, Jammu and GMC, Anantnag, whereas establishment of Cath labs at GMC Baramulla and GMC, Rajouri has been initiated while Cath labs at GMC, Doda is in pipeline. She, further, submits that the CT scan facilities are being expanded in district and tertiary health care institutions.

7. Ms. Kohli also submits that the other critical care facilities, like PET-CT, Brachyterapy, LINAC and CT Simulator facilities, are being augmented in collaboration with NITI Aayog and ICMR. As far as human resource position and recruitment measures are concerned, she refers the Medical Officers position as follows:

"MEDICAL OFFICERS POSITION

Directorate	***Sanctioned***	***In Position***	***Vacancies***
DHS Jammu	*1390*	*676*	*714*
DHS Kashmir	*1469*	*1343*	*70*
Total	*2859*	*2019*	*784*

As far as paramedical position is concerned, the position reads as under:

PARAMEDICAL POSITION

Division	***Sanctioned***	***In Position***	***Vacancies***
Kashmir Division	*9434*	*6690*	*2744*
Jammu Division	*9311*	*6064*	*3247*
Total	*18745*	*12754*	*5991*

HIGH COURT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR AND LADAKH
सत्यमेव जयते

8. Ms. Kohli, further, submits that against the sanctioned strength of 884 consultants, 621 consultants are available. Ms. Kohli also submits that telemedicine and digital healthcare accessibility is being strengthened with a proposed addition of 100 additional digital radiology Units. Ms. Kohli also submits that 44 Advanced Life Support Ambulances have been added to the existing fleet, increasing the operational strength of the ambulances to 533 geo-tagged ambulances for centralized emergency response systems. Ms. Kohli, submits, that as far as medical education and specialist capacity building is concerned, 340 MBBS seats have been newly added; approvals have been obtained from multiple MD/MS, DNB and DM/MCH courses and also, PG Ayurveda seats have been sanctioned. Ms. Kohli also submits that the strengthening of faculty and non-gazetted manpower in Government Medical Colleges are also underway. Ms. Kohli, further, submits that 3168 Health & Wellness Centers have been operationalized across the Jammu and Kashmir.

9. The status report shows the current position of the infrastructure & manpower and other medical facilities that are being strengthened.

10. In the PIL, this Court has been taking up all these issues and continuous mandamus has been issued on various points from time to time. Apart from the issues raised, which will continue to be addressed by the respondents, this Court passes the following directions today:-

(a) that an affidavit of the Principal Secretary to Government, Health and Medical Education Department, J&K shall be filed, giving a time frame, in which 714 vacancies of Medical Officers in DHS Jammu and 70 vacancies of Medical Officers in DHS Kashmir, are proposed to be filled;

HIGH COURT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR AND LADAKH

(b) that the affidavit shall also mention the time frame, in which the paramedical vacancies of 2744 from Kashmir Division and 3247 in Jammu Division, are being proposed to be filled;

(c) further the affidavit shall include district-wise information of doctors & paramedics vacancy position, on various posts, for all the districts of Jammu and Kashmir Divisions;

(d) the affidavit shall also contain, as to how far, the DPR, of the flyover for the medical facilities to be safely accessed at Jammu, has progressed;

(e) the affidavit shall also reflect the proposition of the respondent-Authorities as to augment the critical transplants like liver etc;

(f) the affidavit shall also indicate the details of vacancies of Dental Surgeons in the UT and the time-bound plan, in which, such vacancies are proposed to be filled;

(g) the affidavit shall also contain the timeline, regarding proposed works, relating to 17 Critical Care Blocks under PM-ABHIM and ECRP-II and another facilities, which are being augmented, as per the status report, which include, Cath labs, CT scan facilities, cancer management services, HPV/cervical cancer, dialysis services and AI based X-ray system;

(h) the affidavit shall also require to contain the timeline for filling up the 250 consultants positions lying vacant as only 621 positions are filled against the sanctioned strength of 884, as also to furnish the details of the manpower and infrastructure, with respect of 3168 health and wellness centers.

HIGH COURT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR AND LADAKH

11. This Court, being gravely concerned over the lackluster manner, in which the critical issues like medical officers positions and paramedical positions, the essential manning of the hospitals and medical facilities have been dealt with, has directed filing of the requisite affidavit with the comprehensive information on or before the next date of hearing, for, the issue is critical to the health care and directly touches the fundamental right envisaged under Article 21 of the Constitution of India.

12. List on 25.11.2026.

(RAJNESH OSWAL) JUDGE

(DR. PUSHPENDRA SINGH BHATI) CHIEF JUSTICE

JAMMU :
05.11.2026
Pawan Chopra, Secy

HIGH COURT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR AND LADAKH
सत्यमेव जयते

Pawan Chopra
2026.11.05 17:17
I attest to the accuracy and
integrity of this document