

COVID: Over 200 villagers from Chenab Railway Bridge project get jobs in J&K's Reasi



Jammu, June 17 (UNI) Over 200 villagers from Kauri in the Reasi district of Jammu and Kashmir, where the world's highest railway bridge is being constructed, on Thursday received their first jobs of COVID-19 vaccine.

In an initiative led by Afcons, who are constructing the Chenab Railway Bridge, nearly 700 vaccine doses were administered

under the supervision of the Reasi District Hospital medical staff.

The vaccination camp was conducted for the 18-45 age group as the interim paucity of vaccines temporarily halted the center's mass vaccination drive.

Speaking about the initiative, Mr SM Viswamurthy, Afcons' The project Manager for the Chenab Railway Bridge project, said, "The stringency of lockdowns is gradually reducing across the country, and it is possible that operations will resume to near normal as much as possible".

"But to ensure that normalcy is not impacted again by the pandemic, we undertook the vaccination drive. We are happy to be able to invite nearby communities for the vaccination in the drive to extend our support in the fight against this pandemic. The villagers appreciated the initiative undertaken by the company and turned up for the vaccination in large numbers," he asserted.

"Close to 700 vaccines were administered from which over 200 locals benefitted. We're expecting similar or a greater number of locals to participate when we organize another vaccine camp at Bakkal," Mr. Viswamurthy added.

Appreciating the initiative, Kabul Singh, a shopkeeper in Kauri, said, "We didn't expect this vaccine camp at Kauri, and the villagers were really happy when Afcons informed and invited us for the jobs. We are extremely satisfied and hope they will organize the second dose for us, too."

Mushtaq Ahmad, a local villager, thanked the officials for the vaccination drive stating how important it was for the youngsters and the women in the village to receive the vaccine.