

when the police brought him to the hospital. Child specialist Dr PS Klair examined the immature baby and gave him first aid. Later, he referred him to the PGI, Chandigarh but he died on the way.

A case has been registered.

tion, deprecated the menace of female foeticide and said the state government had sent

Ajmail Singh Mohie, Head Teacher, Government Elementary School, Rurkakala

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Call to promote homoeopathy

TRIBUNE REPORTERS

ABOHAR, SEPTEMBER 5

State Health and Family Welfare Minister Laxmi Kanta Chawla has asked Satish Chandra, Principal Secretary of the department, to appoint an independent director to promote homoeopathy.

Though homoeopathy is practised in various countries, India claims to have the largest number of practitioners of this system.

Speaking as a chief guest in the state-level seminar on "Homoeopathy for Mother and Childcare" at Homoeopathic Medical College here today, the minister said the Department of Ayurveda had got an independent director after a lapse of 29 years.

She said there was a need to promote ayurveda and homoeopathy to make treatment within the financial reach of a common man.

She asked the Principal Secretary to prepare a proposal for raising the first state-owned homoeopathy hospital.

Earlier, she inaugurated an exhibition and medical care camp in the college.

Tara Singh Ahuja, Chairman of the college, expressed concern over a decline in admissions to DHMS and other courses, as job opportunities were not available.

Dr Mohinder Singh Gujral, Assistant Director, Homoeopathy, said a proposal for developing a 10-bed-



Health Minister Laxmi Kanta Chawla talks to a BSF jawan as Health Secretary Satish Chandra looks on at the Civil Hospital, Fazilka, on Friday. Photo: Praful Chander Nagpal

ded homoeopathic hospital at Sangrur was under consideration and four homoeopathic wings and six specialised clinics in civil hospitals would start functioning soon.

The Principal Secretary said the Central government had launched the National Rural Health Mission Scheme (NRHMS) in 2005, but the state had started its implementation now. Last year, 120 ayurveda practitioners and 1,500 ANMs were recruited, he added.

Vinod Kumar Bhalla, Additional Secretary-cum Commissioner of the Ayush project, said 212 one-man dispensaries had been sanctioned and 50 per cent of the homoeopathic practitioners recruited for the purpose were old students of Abohar-based homoeopath-

ic medical college.

Dr KM Dhawale and Dr Suchitra Navinchandra from Mumbai gave a presentation on mother-child care.

Meanwhile, a surprise visit by the minister to the Nehru Memorial Civil Hospital (NMCH) here today resulted in acceptance of its long-pending demands.

The minister visited the hospital along with the Principal Secretary and SDM Amit Dhaka.

Realising that the hospital was long back upgraded to the 100-bedded level, but still awaited prescribed facilities, the minister sanctioned Rs 3 crore for renovating the NCMH.

FAZILKA: Chawla visited the Civil Hospital, Fazilka, on Friday around 9.15 pm. She was accompanied by

Health Secretary-cum Director, NRHM, Satish Chandra.

She talked to patients in an emergency ward and BSF jawans undergoing treatment in the hospital.

She also inspected the Primary Health Centre, Guruharsahai, and the Civil Hospital, Jalalabad.

Talking to mediapersons, the minister said to check the drug menace, the government had decided to appoint two or three drug inspectors in the district.

Responding to a shortage of gynaecologists and doctors in the Malwa belt, the minister said the government was keen to appoint more doctors. About 200 appointment letters were issued to newly appointed doctors, but only 50 had reported, she added.