

Modi Govt 'assaulting' common man's budget by record hike in fuel prices: Chib

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Former Minister and Vice President JKPC, Mula Ram along with Hari Singh Chib President DCC Jammu Rural on Friday termed the unprecedented hike in petrol and diesel prices an assault on the budget of the common man and said the Narendra Modi government has lost the moral right to reign the country.

They jointly asserted that the mirage of Achehe Din, promised by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the people of the country in general and J&K in particular after making Article 370 null and void has been shattered and the time has come when the people will give a befitting reply to the Bharatiya Janata Party in the ensuing elections in the UT of J&K.

Mula Ram and Hari Singh Chib said this while addressing a meeting of party activists in Raipur Domana Assembly segment.

The senior Congress leaders said that BJP government is a total failure

Patnaik takes charge as MD LIC of India



■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: B.C. Patnaik has been elevated to the rank of Managing Director of LIC of India on Friday. He was appointed as Managing Director vide Government of India notification dated 5th July 2021.

Patnaik, born in 1963, joined LIC of India in March 1986 as a Direct Recruit Officer.

He holds a Master's Degree and is a Fellow of Insurance Institute of India.

Prior to taking charge as Managing Director of LIC, Patnaik was Secretary General, Council for Insurance Ombudsmen, (CIO) Mumbai. Before joining Council for Insurance Ombudsmen, he was Director, Zonal Training Centre, North Central Zone, Agra.

In a career span of over three decades in the Corporation, Patnaik has occupied important positions and made his mark in the areas of Marketing, New Business, Personnel, Pension and Group Savings and Customer Relationship Management.

He has served as Regional Manager (Marketing), Western Zonal office covering States of Maharashtra, Gujarat and Goa.

He also worked as Regional Manager (CRM), North Central Zone and Regional Manager (Bancassurance) in Eastern Zone. He was Senior Divisional Manager in-charge of Jamshedpur and Berhampur Divisions of LIC of India.

His innovative style of working, people orientation, marketing brilliance and customer handling has resulted in success in each of his assignments.

GMC Kathua organises voluntary blood donation camp

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: On the occasion of National Voluntary Blood Donation Day, the Department of Immunohaematology and Blood Transfusion Medicine Government Medical College (GMC) Kathua and ISBTI in collaboration with JK Blood Donors Society organized a voluntary Blood Donation camp on Friday.

The camp was inaugurated by Dr. Anjali Nadir Bhat, Principal GMC Kathua.

Other dignitaries present were Dr. Chitra Vaishnavi Medical Superintendent Associated Hospital GMC Kathua, Dr. Deepak Abrol HOD Deptt. of Radiotherapy and Dr. Ankush Bhargava Executive Member ISBTI. Dr. Anjali Bhat appraised the need for increasing the



President DCC Jammu Rural, Hari Singh Chib addressing a public gathering in Jammu.

because it has brought number of miseries for the common man and also forced the elite class to come down to the level of lower middle class by snatching their income sources by way of implementing directionless policies and envisaging new plans without going into the technical details like the GST, which was amended umpteen times after its implementation and also the demonetization which was the biggest blunder of the BJP government, which

is lately proving out to be the biggest enemy of the people of the country.

Few respectable persons from Raipur Domana locality also raised the issue of poor civic edifice in the vicinity including abysmal roads infra, irregular water supply marred with contaminants, power outage and filthy surroundings.

After listening to the woes of people of the area, the Congress leaders assured that they will highlight the issues before the concerned authorities but at the same

time they said that the chances of action on the issues are bleak because the BJP government believes more in rhetoric than work on ground. They said that by now each and every soul in the country knows well that BJP is the party of liars as development is being carried in the media only and on ground things are getting worse with each passing day.

Another issue which saw lots of hullabaloo in the meeting was the disconnections of power in the area on one pretext or the other.

The Congress leaders assured that they will take up the matter with PDD men and try to sort it out as early as possible. People present in the meeting reposed faith in the leadership of Mula Ram and Hari Singh Chib, and promised to extend support to Congress party in all the ensuing elections in J&K.

SSP Traffic reviews monthly functioning of Traffic Police City Jammu



SSP Traffic City Jammu, Dr. Koshal Sharma chairing review meeting in Jammu.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: SSP Traffic City Jammu, Dr. Koshal Sharma on Friday convened an interactive session at District Police Lines (DPL) Jammu with all the Officer's of traffic police Jammu to review the detailed functioning of traffic police city Jammu.

The session was attended by Pardeep Singh Gouria Addl SP traffic city Jammu, Shivali Kotwal DySP (T) City North, Sunil Singh DySP (T) City South, All DTIs/SOs of Traffic Police City Jammu, Insp Rakesh Kumar MTO, Insp Vinla Raina, SI Mohan Singh of TPO, HC Ravi Kumar and Sadhu Ram of Statistical Data Branch (SDB) of Traffic Police Office Jammu. SSP Traffic stressed upon the officers to take all necessary measures to remove the wrongly parked vehicles around the Bus Stand, Hari Market, Shalamar, etc. and further added no violators especially without helmets, seat belt, DL, rash driving, overloading, overcharging should be

spared.

"Ahead of festivals season all officers must ensure no traffic jamming shall be made in the city," Said Pradeep Singh Gouria, ASP traffic city Jammu. SSP issued directions to all the concerned that top priority must be given to elderly people or people who have medical urgencies and also ensure no emergency vehicles struck in traffic congestions and also advised the officers to work with utmost honesty and dedication.

NSS Unit-1 of GGM Sc. College organises plantation drive

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: NSS Unit 1 of GGM Science College Jammu organised plantation drive in the campus. In this connection a lecture was organized here today to sensitize the students to raise awareness about the importance of Plantation drive and to inspire positive approach towards plantation.

The webinar was organized under aegis of Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav with the theme Swachh Bharat Clean India (village) " under guidance of worthy principle Dr. Ravender Tickoo and supervision of Dr. Narinder Kumar NSS PO.

The ceremony was organized in the august presence of the Principal Dr. Ravender Tickoo and faculty members of Zoology department.

"Vriksharopan Abhiyan" will spread awareness regarding plantation amongst society stakeholders employees, and motivate everyone to nurture plants in their surrounding and beautify our landscapes, Tickoo underlined. Dr. A.M. Raza a well known educationist and former director of research institute at Eritrea was the main resource person on the occasion. In his lecture, Dr.



NSS volunteers along with faculty planting sapling.

Malik threw a detailed light on disseminating awareness among people about the importance of plantation drive and said that there cannot be any bigger service to nature and humanity than to plant as many saplings as possible and emphasised for possible solutions to protect it. He added that the benefits of today's act of plantation will be reaped over by generations in his message. He pointed out that seeing the little saplings grow in front of our eyes gives the joy of raising a life - a life that in return saves several human lives.

Earlier, NSS PO Dr. Narinder Kumar in his welcome, address give a brief introduction why do plantation day is important. While conducting the proceeding of the programme, he apprised the audience that the United Nations acts as the torch-bearer in organizing events on an eventful day to disseminate awareness on the importance of plantation drive.

He underlined Vriksharopan Abhiyan 2021 will bring environmental sustainability and facilitate the return of reclaimed barren sites to the local community. He emphasised the importance of trees for the well-being of the ecosystem and urged everyone to plant and take care of trees.

He also advised audience to develop their own nurseries for growing seedlings in order to promote plantations in and around mining/barren areas.

The webinar ended with a special vote of thanks by the NSS PO. Technical support was provided by Seemab Raza, Tejessvani, Karanveer, Rohit Pooja and Shubham in organizing the webinar.

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AWSC JK celebrates International Day of Older Persons

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The 'International Day of Older Persons' is celebrated worldwide on the 1st of October each year. The day is observed in different ways throughout the globe. Generally, the day is used to make authorities in the administrative set up of the Government, aware of the needs of elderly people in the society including their health and social concerns; besides spreading awareness among common masses through social media and other communication platforms. Association for Welfare of Senior Citizens Jammu-NGO working in the service of Senior Citizen since 2001, in Friday organised a function to mark the International Day of Older Persons. The function was and participated by its life members in large number: A welcome address was presented by Dr. Shashi Kant Goswami, General Secretary and opening of the programme by Virender Kumar Gupta, President of the Association elucidating highlights about the 'Day'. Participants reminder the



Dr. R R Khajuria being honoured by President of Association.

authorities in UT's Social Welfare Department for ensuring redressal of genuine grievances of elders projected by the Association from time to time, with special emphasis on bringing out an appropriate exclusive scheme for providing land and grant-in-aid to the eligible NGOs for establishing or running the 'Senior Citizen Homes/Pay & Stay Homes and Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana as announced on the lines of Atal Vayo Abhiyuday Yojana, Government of India, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

R. R. Khajuria, a veteran and pioneer in introducing the concept of NGOs in Jammu was honoured by presenting a Shawl

by A.K.Arora, Prem Gupta and J.S Sudan the Patrons, R.S Broca and Abhinandan Jain Vice Presidents and Virender Suri Joint Secretary of the Association. Dr T.R. Gupta enriched the participants by elaborating ways and manners to handle all age-related ailments.

A team comprising renowned artists, supervised by Vijay Anand, Cultural Programmer, Directorate of Information and Public Relations, Jammu, presented a musical programme.

The function was conducted by S.K Jain Yoga Guru and came to be concluded with a vote of thanks by Vinod Gupta Joint Secretary of the Association.

'Degrees/Diplomas lying unclaimed at Regional Centre'

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The 34th Convocation of the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) was organized through virtual mode on 15th of April 2021 at IGNOU headquarters and simultaneously at all the IGNOU Regional Centres through teleconferencing mode. The University conferred Diplomas/Degrees on the learners who had completed their academic programmes in December, 2019 and June, 2020 term end examinations.

The eligible candidates had to pay a fee of Rs.600/- per certificate either online or through a Demand Draft for obtaining Diploma/Degree. However, there are quite a considerable number of learners who have so far not obtained their Diplomas/Degrees and their Diplomas /Degrees are lying unclaimed at the Regional Centre Jammu, Govt. SPMR College of Commerce, Canal Road, Jammu.

The details of Degrees/Diplomas lying unclaimed at the Regional Centre are placed on the Regional Centre Website www.ignouregjammu.ignou.ac.in.

Those learners who have not yet obtained their Degrees/Diplomas need to either apply online and pay the fee through their Debit/Credit card or apply offline and pay the requisite fee of Rs.600 per certificate through Bank Draft in favour of "IGNOU" Payable at Jammu along with the application.

The online link for applying online is <https://sedservices.ignou.ac.in/idms/login.aspx>.

The Degree/Diploma certificate shall be issued within 20 days from the date of receipt of the online/offline applications.

No separate communication with regard to registration for 34th convocation will be sent to the learners by the Regional Centre/ University.

Rajat Gupta takes over as MD CVPPPL

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Rajat Gupta, a luminary of Aligarh Muslim University, has assumed the charge of Managing Director (MD), CVPPPL.



Rajat completed his Civil Engineering Graduation in 1987 and holds Post Graduation in Building Engineering and possesses a Diploma in Management from IGNOU. He started his career as Trainee Engineer(Civil) from Tanakpur Power Station in the year 1989, served at Dhauliganga and Subansiri Lower HE Projects of NHPC and acquired experience in different spheres of hydropower development including Civil Design and Engineering, Procurement and Construction. Gupta has vast experience of 32 years in the field of Hydro Power Development. His experience would be of great advantage for CVPPPL in timely construction of Pakal Dul, Kiru and Kwar HE Projects.

HC takes serious note of failure of Municipalities to frame buildings By Laws

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Division Bench of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh High Court comprising Justice Dheeraj Singh Thakur and Justice Puneet Gupta, while deciding a Letter Patents Appeal (LPA) after hearing Advocate Vlakshan Singh for the appellant and Advocate SS Nanda Sr. AAG and Advocate Suresh Sharma for respondents, has taken a serious note of the failure of the Municipal Committees and Municipal Councils to frame Building By Laws Regulations, master plans or building Schemes. The Court observed that while the Building By Laws, Master Plans have been framed for cities of Jammu and Srinagar but some of the smaller towns governed by Municipal Committees and Municipal Councils are still having no building By-Laws, master plans or Schemes. The Court also found it understandable as to how in the absence of a building scheme, master plan, building By Laws and regulations, Municipal Committee Sunderbani, to which the matter pertained, was proceeding to exercise powers sanctioning the plans and compounding the Building violations.

The court held that the net result of the omission to frame By laws, regulations, schemes on the part of Municipal Committees or the Deputy Commissioners of the Districts in which the Municipal Committee/Councils fall is that the large scale construction activity is being permitted to go on without any sort of regulation whatsoever. The court further observed that there was no justification in denying the citizens living in smaller towns the civil rights which ought to be protected by framing/enforcing the building by laws and by regulating the construction activity for planned development.

The court further observed that right to enjoy civil rights in a locality in a peaceful and orderly manner having adequate amount of sunshine, free flow of air and access/use of public roads and utilities is not a right which can be denied to citizens living in smaller cities and towns.

The court also made an observation that omission on the part of Municipal Committees and the concerned Deputy Commissioners to enforce framing of a scheme in terms of Section 205 of the Municipal Act has resulted in encouraging totally unregulated construction activities with total disregard to the interest of citizens living in that area.

Keeping in view the seriousness of the matter, the Court directed all the Deputy Commissioners other than the Deputy Commissioners of Jammu and Srinagar also the Chief Executive officers/ executive officers of Municipal committees and Municipal councils to file affidavits as to whether the provisions of the Municipal Act 2000 have been complied with in their respective districts/municipal committees/municipal councils by way of framing of town planning schemes/master plans and building By Laws for an orderly development and regulations of building activities in their respective regions.

The court further directed that the affidavits so filed should state reasons for inaction and proposed time lines within which the same shall be framed. The court directed the matter to be registered and taken up as a PIL.

The High Court also held that neighbours have locus to file petitions for seeking enforcement of provisions of Municipal Act and for challenging the illegal composition of building violations by the Municipal authorities.

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