

# Has dilution of special status helped people's cause: Bhardwaj

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**VIJAYPUR:** Senior Democratic Azad (DAP) leader and veteran advocate, Mohinder Bhardwaj has said that state with special status, since its inception and its earlier 'avtar' during the Maharaja's time were brought squarely to protect the rights of people of Jammu and Kashmir, empower them and ensure their overall welfare. It is ironic that the post August 5, 2019 developments leading to dilution of this Constitutional provision thereby demoting the state to Union Territory were done mainly to further political and electoral interests of a particular party and its leaders which is totally unacceptable to the people. As a result Jammu and Kashmir has been in a total mess.

Addressing an impressive gathering of the people of Vijaypur and Bishnah assembly constituencies at a function organised to celebrate Dewali, he said that since Article 370 is still very much part of the



DAP leader and veteran advocate, Mohinder Bhardwaj addressing a gathering at Vijaypur.

Constitution, contrary to the propaganda of the BJP leadership on its abolition, time has come to thoroughly debate as to how the developments that took place three years back have benefitted or not the people of Jammu and Kashmir. Since the Article is still an integral part of the Constitution nobody should object to discussing its merits and demerits as it involves the survival, sustenance and future of the people. After all every Constitutional provision is made for people's welfare.

Bhardwaj said that the manner in which the special

status was mindlessly diluted by the current dispensation has caused immeasurable problems to the people of Jammu and Kashmir particularly in the Jammu region. The UT has been gripped by an air of uncertainty as no provision brought as result of the August 5, 2019 Constitutional changes has helped in protecting the rights of the people on the scale of political empowerment and guaranteeing the land and employment rights. To the contrary it has in many ways deprived them of their livelihood leave alone opening new avenues as was

being wrongly propagated. How have these changes benefited the people of the UT, other than becoming a propaganda tool of the BJP at the Centre, the authors of these changes must explain to the people, he asked.

Under these circumstances the people, civil society and political parties have every right to debate these issues as it involves welfare and survival of the society as a whole. " If everything has gone right after dilution of special status and demotion of Jammu and Kashmir to Union Territory, then why is every section of the society in Jammu region protesting on the roads. It is simply because firstly their rights have been taken away without making provisions of empowering and protecting them and secondly on account of a total unresponsive administration. This situation cannot be allowed to continue where floodgates are being opened for outsiders while ignoring the locals simply because it caters to the political agenda

of a party at the national level.

Addressing the gathering Balwan Singh (Senior Leader and Ex-MLA) said that the powers that be cannot close their eyes to the fact that the entire issue has a strong political connotation directly related to the existence of the nationalist and patriotic people of Jammu. They cannot wish away this important aspect of the entire issue under the garb of false propaganda of development. Yes development is a necessity but development for whom, if the local people were deprived of its benefits, he questioned.

Among those present on the occasion were Gaurav Chopra (Corporator), Sobat Ali (Corporator), Badri Sharma Sarpanch, Vicky Mahajan, Sagar Singh, Magar Singh, Vidhya Sagar and others.

# Modi Govt fulfilled aspirations of Jats by providing OBC status: Johal

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**SAMBA:** District Development Council (DDC) Member Ramgarh and President J&K Sir Chhotu Ram Jat Sabha, Sarabjeet Singh Johal expressed gratitude to the Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah for considering the long pending demand of OBC status to the Jat community.

Addressing media persons, Johal said that he had taken up the demand of OBC status to Jat community with the Home Minister Amit Shah during his visit to Jammu recently. Besides this many significant issues with regard to jat community and Sikhs were discussed in detail.

Johal appreciated the gesture of PM Modi and Home Minister for considering this long pending demand within shortest possible time, giving much relief to the Jat com-



DDC Member Ramgarh Sarabjeet Singh Johal briefing media.

munity. He also appealed to the Central Government said that the demand of PoJK refugees for the remaining amount of Rs 25 lakh as one time settlement should also be released.

The DDC Member said that BJP is the only party which has 'will and spine' to protect interest of every community unlike its opponent parties which never cared about the aspirations of people of J&K. He maintained that BJP is the only party that has provided healing touch to poor and it is committed to carry on this

legacy forward.

Among others who were present in the press conference include BDC Darshan Choudhary, Sarpanch Jagdish Bhatti, Sarpanch Roop Choudhary, Sarpanch Vijay Choudhary, Sarpanch Parkash Choudhary, Sarpanch Tejinder Singh, Shiv Choudhary, Binder Singh, Parkash Choudhary, Sunil Choudhary Naib Sarpanch, Madan Choudhary, Gurmeet Bhangara, Ramesh Choudhary, Ankey Singh, Surinder Choudhary and Ex Capt Chaman Lal.

# 7th Ayurveda Day celebrated at Govt Ayurvedic Medical College Akhnor

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**AKHNOOR:** 7th Ayurveda Day celebrated with enthusiasm at Govt. Ayurvedic Medical College Akhnor with the theme Har Din Har Ghar Ayurveda (Ayurveda Everyday, Ayurveda Everywhere) to promote Ayurveda in leading a healthy life. Principal Prof. (Dr.) Shashi Sudhan in her address emphasis to adopt Ayurveda not only for treatment but also for prevention of disease process, so that burden of disease can be decreased.

The programme commenced with Lamp lighting ceremony, Dhanwantri Vandana followed by a amazing skit on Lord



Faculty and students during the event.

Dhanwantri's Avatara & Samudra Manthan presented by BAMS students under guidance of Dr. Sheetal Sharma & Dr. Anupama Thakur, department of Samhita & Siddhanta, GAMC Akhnor. Dravyaguna department

organized a workshop on Ayurveda in the Kitchen in which Dr. Rajesh Sharma & Dr. Dheeraj Khajuria explained the importance and scientific value of various herbs (spices) used in the kitchen like cumin seeds in anaemia, Tamarind in

liver disorders, Clove for toothache, Trikatu most essential spices (Black Pepper, Long Pepper, Dry Ginger) for recurrent cough and obesity (in children). A Health check-up and free investigation camp organized by department of Roga Nidana under the leadership of Dr. Priya Pnesh Pargotra, Associate Professor, GAMC.

The function was attended by Accounts Officer, Statistical Officer, Faculty members, Non teaching staff, Hospital staff and BAMS students. Vote of thanks was presented by Dr. Twinkle Gupta, Associate Professor, GAMC.

# NYK organises district-level Yuva Utsav at Bhadarwah, over 500 students participate



A section of dignitaries during the event.

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**BHADARWAH:** To engage youths in positive activities and to provide them a platform to showcase their talent, Nehru Yuva Kendra (NYK) Doda, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Govt. of India organised a one day 'District Level Yuva Utsav' at Community Hall, Bhadarwah under the aegis of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'.

The event was organised on the theme 'Sense of Duty among the Citizens'. Six different events including Young Artist Camp, Young Writers Contest, Photography Contest, Declaration Contest, Cultural Fest and Yuva

Samvaad were held during the day long event.

Dhanater Singh, Chairman District Development Council Doda was the Chief Guest where as Dil Mir Choudhary, ADC Bhadarwah was the Guest of Honor. While Aftab Alam SP Bhadarwah was the Special Guest of the programme. Yousaf Ul Umar, EO MC Bhaderwah also attended the event along with Jury members belonging to different academic backgrounds.

At the outset, Khushal Gupta, District Youth Officer welcomed the guests and participants and briefed about the objectives of organising such events.

Thereafter more than 500 young boys and girls showed their talent in their respective categories. Cultural teams belonging to the remotest corners of the district made the event more colourful. After the competitive events, Prizes and Certificates were distributed among the winners of all events followed by the addresses of all guests.

Dhanater Singh (DDC Chairman) welcomed such initiatives being undertaken by NYK Doda to provide platform to the youngsters and extended his cooperation towards such nation building events. He welcomed all the participants on the land of Bhaderwah.

Dil Mir Choudhary, ADC Bhadarwah also encouraged the youth and spoke about the various initiatives being taken by district administration to uplift the youth of rural areas. Aftab Alam SP Bhadarwah lauded the efforts of NYK Doda to bring the youth under one platform and guided the participants to remain away from Drug Addiction and come towards nation building activities.

Participants Mehr-Ul-Nisa and others expressed their gratitude to the organizers for providing them an opportunity to perform and showcase their talent.

# JU's Deptt of Students Welfare conducts theatre & dance workshop

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**HIRANGAR:** After the successful completion of the Training Outreach Programme at GCW, Udhampur, earlier this year, the Department of Students Welfare, University of Jammu conducted yet another impactful training programme at GLDM, GDC Hiranagar. Around 65 students from five colleges were imparted training in Theatre and Dance for 4 days. The programme was jointly organised by the Department of Students Welfare, University and GLDM, GDC Hiranagar for the benefit of the students. Under the visionary guidance of Prof. Umesh Rai, Vice-Chancellor, University of Jammu, 'Training Outreach Programme', a new programme was initiated by the Department of Students Welfare with the aim to provide unprecedented training opportunities in performing arts and fine arts to the students of colleges located outside Jammu.

Prof. Prakash Antahal (Dean Students Welfare), informed that the Department of Students Welfare, University of



Organisers along with participants during the event.

Jammu keeps on organizing several training camps/workshops of music, dance, theatre, fine arts etc. for the benefit of students of university and affiliated colleges. But, the students from far-off places don't find it feasible to come a long way to participate and get benefit from such workshops. So, to overcome this limitation, we have formulated this new initiative which would extend the benefit of professional training/orientation to maximum students.

Dr. Garima Gupta, Assistant Dean Students Welfare was the Chief

Guest at the Valedictory Function. Witnessing the wonderful presentations prepared during this workshop and listening to the heartening feedback from the participants and their teachers incharge, who lauded this futuristic endeavour of the University, she expressed gladness over the effective conduct of this workshop which has kindled a creative spark amongst the students. She also appreciated Dr. Pragya Khanna, Principal GLDM, GDC Hiranagar for being a brilliant host to this workshop and providing the best facilities to the students of GDC

Kathua, GDC Samba, GDC Vijaypur, GDC Bishnah in addition to the students of the host college.

Dr. Pragya Khanna, in her address, stated that she is always keen to organize the activities which are for the benefit of the students and this collaboration has yielded positive results. She asserted that students of this region have immense talent and opportunities like this programme would inspire them to pursue their talents in a professional manner. She also complemented her team consisting of Dr. Bharat Bhushan, HoD Music, Dr.

Mukesh Kumar, Mr. Vikram Singh, Dr. Arun Kumar and other associated staff members for their efforts in making this wonderful event possible. The valedictory function was conducted by Prof. Rakesh Sharma.

The outreach programme is being coordinated by Sumeet Sharma (Drama Instructor, SW) who was also the resource person for the theatre workshop. Sunny Mujju, an expert dancer/choreographer, looked after the dance classes.

The events of DSW are conceived, planned and organised by the team consisting of Prof. Prakash Antahal, Prof. Vishav Raksha (Chairperson, Campus Cultural Committee), Prof. Sanjana Kaul (Co-Chairperson, Campus Cultural Committee), Dr. Anil Gupta (Associate Dean SW), Dr. Garima Gupta and Dr. Pritam Singh (Assistant Deans, SW), Dr. A.R. Manhas & Dr. Shalla Sharma (Deputy Proctors), members of Campus Cultural Committee, Mansi Mantoo and Sumeet Sharma.

# 7th National Ayurveda Day celebrated in Kishtwar

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

**KISHTWAR:** The 7th National Ayurveda Day (Dhanwantri Day) was on Sunday celebrated by AYUSH Kishtwar.

On the direction of Director AYUSH Jammu and Kashmir, Dr Mohan Singh and under the close supervision of District Nodal officer AYUSH, Dr Taraq Hussain, a team comprising of the Medical officers, Pharmacists and other supporting staff cel-



A dignitary being honoured during the event.

ebrated the 7th National Ayurveda

Day (Dhanwantri Day), here at AHWC Proper

Kishtwar. Sarpanches, members, general Public and other dignitaries also attended the function.

On the occasion, appreciation certificates were distributed among the Ayush Staff for their extraordinary contributions.

Free medical checkup and immunity booster kits were also distributed among the beneficiaries on the occasion.

**GHSS Dool** and inspected ongoing construction work of the buildings there.

Earlier, an interactive programme was also organized at Government GMS Gulabgarh Padder with the PRIs, ZEO, Padder, staff of the Education department, students and their parents.

The officer impressed upon the teachers and parents to hold periodic meetings to discuss the problems and issues of students and also bring back to school all drop out children as Education is the fundamental right of every child.

While interacting with PRIs, Sarpanches and parents, the officer assured that basic facilities such as toilets, drinking water etc. shall be made available in all the schools. He asked the CEO

Meanwhile, he also visited

to ensure these services by utilising the available grants.

The visiting officer shared practical and psychological techniques to tackle various issues of minors and teenagers and stressed on the need for understanding the joint responsibility of teachers and parents towards these students who are the future of the nation.

Later, the officer directed the headmaster and the teachers to remain easily available for the parents and design a coherent mechanism like school websites, school dashboard etc.

He praised the teachers for organizing various activities in a very attractive manner in the school. ZEO Padder, PRIs, Parents of the students also remained present on the occasion.

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