

Constitutional reforms usher a new era of growth, development in J&K: RSS

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JAMMU: Observing that recent constitutional reforms have ushered a new era of growth and peace in Jammu and Kashmir, Sah-Sarkaryavah of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), Dr. Krishna Gopal on Wednesday said that the Union Territories (UTs) of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh are witnessing positive change after constitutional reforms.

Addressing Swayamsevaks on the auspicious occasion of Vijaydashmi at Jammu, Dr. Krishna Gopal said that J&K and Ladakh are the lands of writers and thinkers.

He said that from the days of Kashyap Rishi and till date, J&K has a 5000-6000 years old cherished history.

The J&K is now scripting another chapter in its old cherished history after constitutional reforms, he added.

Dr. Krishna Gopal addressed the Vijaydashmi function of Jammu Mahanagar at Ved Mandir Ground, Amhpalla here Wednesday.



RSS Seh Sarkaryavah, Dr. Krishna Gopal during Vijaydashmi celebrations at Jammu.

Sarkaryavah Dattatreya Hosbale, Prant Sanghehalak Dr. Gautam Mangi and Jammu Vibhag Sanghehalak Suresh Chandra were also present.

Dr. Krishna Gopal highlighted historical events associated with Vijaydashmi.

He said that Vijaydashmi signifies the victory of good over evil.

The clash between the evil powers and the civilized powers is perennial, but evil looks powerful primarily because it has been always tough to unite positive forces, he said.

Recalling formation of the RSS, he said that Dr. Hedgewar founded the RSS on the Vijaydashmi day in

1925 in Nagpur. It has been working relentlessly since its formation in 1925 to consolidate the Hindu society and thereby usher in a glorious era of prosperity for the nation.

Sah Sarkaryavah urged the Swayamsevaks to reach out to all sections of society and eradicate all forms of discrimination. Such a society will be a beacon light to the entire world which is struggling with various issues of harmony.

Dr. Krishna Gopal said that 97 years have passed since the establishment of the Sangh and the number of Shakhas kept on increasing. Those who did not under-

stand and opposed the Sangh are now understood what Sangh is, in its true sense.

He said that in the long journey of 97 years of the Sangh, we have to face hardships. Despite this, the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh stands with one force. Our resolve is eternal that India is a Hindu Rashtra.

Explaining Hindu philosophy and Hindutva, Dr. Krishna Gopal said that people do not understand Hindu philosophy and Hindutva because they see it through western vision and are caught in illusion.

"Hindu philosophy and Hindutva take different ideologies and thoughts together by evolving consensus", he said and pointed out that despite having hundreds of dialects, languages, and diversity in the country, from Kashmir to Kanyakumari, the Bharat is one and the Hindutva is the binding force.

Elaborating the philosophy of Vasudev Katubkam, Dr. Krishna Gopal said only Hindu philosophy says that God is omnipresent, the

earth is one and we are all its children.

In this context, Dr. Krishna Gopal gave the example of late singer Lata Mangeshkar's tour of America and said that when she reached the stage there, she worshiped the stage. Similarly, when the country's daughter climber Santosh Yadav reached the summit of Everest, she stopped two feet earlier and did not put his foot on the top point, but bowed her head before the top point. This sentiment is the spirit of Hindutva.

Referring to India's Sarvag Bhavantu Sukhina Mantra, Dr. Krishna Gopal said that despite having hostile relations with Pakistan our Prime Minister offered to send wheat to our neighbouring country when there was a shortage of wheat in Pakistan.

Quoting former President APG Abdul Kamal, Krishna Gopal said that in the history of ten thousand years, India has not looted nor invaded any country.



Div Com inspects pace of progress on NH-44 widening work in Ramban

Directs to ensure smooth traffic movement on Highway

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAMBAN: Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Ramesh Kumar on Wednesday inspected the pace of progress on National Highway-44 four laning construction works in district Ramban. He also reviewed the status of traffic movement on the Highway.

The Div Com was accompanied by Deputy Commissioner, Ramban, Mussarat Islam, SSP Mohita Sharma, officers from NHAI besides representatives of the construction companies engaged for the four laning project.

The Div Com visited several vulnerable spots, including the sliding area at Mehar, and directed the NHAI to expedite the road clearance works to facilitate smooth double lane traffic.

He also directed the NHAI to expedite the pace of progress on the widening work and ensure



Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Ramesh Kumar interacting with officials.

mechadamization of existing highway for undistruptive movement of the traffic on the National Highway.

He directed the construction companies to station adequate manpower and machinery at all the vulnerable sliding zones for immediate clearance of landslides and to maintain hassle free traffic.

The DC apprised the Div Com about section wise progress on the four-laning of National Highway, including Nashri-Ramban and

Ramban-Banihal sections.

The Div Com also directed the traffic police department to effectively regulate the Vehicular traffic and facilitate smooth passage of the fruit carrying vehicles on the National Highway.

Meanwhile, the DC also apprised the Div Com about measures taken by the District Administration to resolve the bottlenecks hindering the pace of progress on the prestigious national project as projected by the Construction Companies.

Devotional Song Competition concludes; Meenu Atwal adjudged Best Singer



Top three winners posing with dignitaries during valedictory function of All India Devotional Song Competition at Katra.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATRA: The nine day long All India Devotional Song Competition in the holy town of Katra came to musical conclusion on Tuesday evening wherein Meenu Atwal from Punjab, bagged the prestigious first prize in the Mega Finale.

The All India Devotional Song Competition was jointly organized by SMVD Shrine Board, Department of J&K Tourism, PTC Punjabi Gold in association with Patanjali Dantkanti and co sponsored by Monalisa Fashion and Wedding Stores, Lia Agarbatti, J&K Bank, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Narayana Super Speciality Hospital, Nideesh Builders Pvt. Ltd. Jammu, Yog Ashram Trust with active support of District Administration Reasi and the local host Community with 92.7 Big FM as its Radio Partner .

The function concluded amidst chanting of Bhajans, beating of drums and firing of crackers at Yog Ashram Complex last Night.

Rajeev Salotra from Jammu bagged Second Position and 3rd

position went to Sukhjinder from Amritsar in the Devotional Song competition among the 7 candidates who reached to the mega final.

In the first round, Meenu Atwal from Punjab, Sukhjinder from Punjab, Rajeev Salotra from Jammu and Lalit Bhardwaj from Jammu qualified for 2nd round and after the completion of 2nd round, Meenu Atwal emerged winner, while Rajeev Salotra and Sukhjinder were declared as first and second runners up, respectively on the basis of the points scored.

Deputy Commissioner Reasi, Babila Rakwal was the Chief Guest on the occasion, while noted Bollywood and media personalities including Managing Director Venus Entertainment and Film maker, Ganesh Jain; Film maker Gordhan Tanwani; film maker Rishi Raj; film maker and Film Trade analyst Kumar Mohan; Famous bollywood singers Shanker Sawhney and Amrinder Bobby, Vice President Zee Network Barkha Arora, CL Verma and Dr. Surinder were the judges of the mega final.

Chief Guest Deputy Commissioner Reasi, Babila Rakwal, film and media personalities, Director Land Surveys J&K Bhawani Rakwal, Joint Director Tourism Sunaina Sharma Mehta, Addl. Deputy Commissioner, Reasi Abdul Sattar, Addl.SP Katra Amit Bhasin, SDM Katra Angrez Singh, Chairman Devotional Song Committee & President Hotel Association Rakesh Wazir, gave away prize worth Rs.3 lakh in the shape of gold to the first prize winner Meenu Atwal, she also got recording contract with Venus Entertainment, while Gold worth Rs 1 lakh was given to 2nd position holder Rajeev Salotra and Gold worth Rs 50,000 to third position holder Sukhjinder.

SDM Katra Angrez Singh, Captain Murthy, Yog Acharya Swami Yoga Nand ji Maharaj, Sardar Lal Dubey, Shiv Kumar Sharma, Subhash Chander, Gopal Singh etc were also present.

The Chief Guest, Babila Rakwal, while speaking on the occasion, said that this competition has attained new heights and populari-

ty over the years. She complimented the organizers and thanked all the people and organizations for extending their cooperation in making it a grand success. She extended special thanks to the people from the film and media fraternity, who make it a point to come over here and support it.

Joint Director Tourism Jammu, Sunaina Sharma Mehta, while speaking on the occasion, said that leaving aside providing a platform to the singers, the live telecast of the event all over the world has given vast publicity to the event and Tourism of J&K and Jammu region in particular. "I feel that with this event we have been able to convince the people to come to J&K and see the places of Tourist interest around Katra, especially in Jammu Region" she added.

Rakesh Wazir, Chairman of the All India Devotional Competition and President Hotel & Restaurant Association, Katra compared the proceedings of the programme in a magnificent way.

Renowned Bollywood Singers Shanker Sawhney, known for his Maha Marantugya Manter, which has got record 35 crore views, Amrinder Bobby who is known for his famous songs like Botiyein ti Cha they bich kal tu bhi jayengi etc. and Former Winners of Competition Naveen Punjabi and Ravi Kumar, who were special invitees on the occasion, captivated the audience with their melodic performances, filling the environment of the venue with spiritual ambience.

Dr Andrabi meets Home Minister, discusses public welfare measures

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SRINAGAR: Chairperson J&K Waqf Board J&K UT, Dr Darakhshan Andrabi on Wednesday met Home Minister Amit Shah at Raj Bhawan Srinagar and discussed many issues for the welfare of the people of Jammu & Kashmir.

Dr Andrabi gave presentation about the reformative steps taken by the Waqf Board in J&K which got applaude from the Home Minister.

He assured Dr Andrabi about all required help from the government to streamline and develop Sufi shrines in the UT.

The policy of converting Waqf assets into productive units for the public welfare was hailed by Shah.



Chairperson JKWB, Dr Darakhshan Andrabi calling on Home Minister Amit Shah.



Glimpses of Dussehra celebrations at Mini Stadium Parade, Jammu.