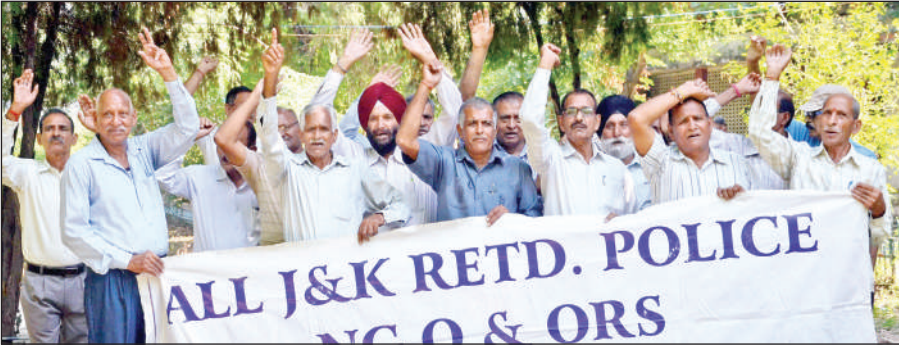


Police Pensioners hold protest, project demands



Retired police pensioners raising slogans during a protest at Jammu.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: J&K Retired Police Pensioners on Wednesday staged protest against the government for its indifference towards their demands. Led by Ajit Singh, police pensioners under the banner of J&K Retired Police Pensioners Welfare Forum assembled at Exhibition Ground and raised slogans in support of their demands. Addressing the protesters, Ajit Singh said that government is giving effect to its Order No 229-F of 2014 dated 7th October, 2014 regarding pay anomalies, from the

date of order though the effect should be given from the year 1996 when Fifth Pay Commission was implemented throughout the State leaving only Police Department. He alleged that government has played a joke with the retired police men. He criticised the government for ignoring the just and genuine demand of the poor police pensioners, stating that since the forum launched their struggle to get their rights, government is constituting committee after committee but doing nothing to redress the

issue. "As such we want to know the time frame because the issue is lingering for the last 20 years", he added. Ajit lamented that no relief has been provided to the retired police personnel, who were fighting their case since 1996. He demanded release of Rs 5,93,25,000 in favour of retired ASIs and HCs. Protesters appealed to the government to act on the issues highlighted and take necessary action for the benefit of retirees who are on the road to get their own rights and dues.

Farooq Abdullah's fight for Paharis started in 1983 finally saw triumph in 2022: Rattan Lal

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President National Conference Jammu on Wednesday said that the struggle initiated by NC Patron Dr Farooq Abdullah for the Pahari community's rights in 1983 has finally reached its logical conclusion in 2022, after HM Amit Shah's assurance over providing reservation to the community.

In a statement issued here, the NC leader said that the issue which was raised by the NC way back in 1980s has now been addressed by the Centre as it is likely that Paharis will get a sigh of relief in the form of adequate reservation.

He however made it clear that NC will not tolerate that

the 'dole' to the Paharis shall be given at the costs of genuine rights of Gujjars and Bakerwals.

He said that NC leadership has continuously taking up the matter of Paharis with Centre since 1983 as Dr Farooq Abdullah has also written a letter to the then PM to grant reservation to the Poonch and Rajouri districts.

He said that NC was pursuing the matter continuously with the Centre and the endeavour has finally led to relief to the community, which is a welcome step.

He said that the decades' old struggle by the NC has finally forced the central dispensation to cede to the demand which was fair enough to be addressed years ago.

He said that NC was also expecting employment package for the youth of Jammu and Kashmir from the visiting Home Minister as unemployment rate has all time high and reached upto 32.75, which is highest in the country right now.

The Senior NC leader also corrected the Home Minister over taking the credit of five medical colleges.

He said that the same were sanctioned under the NC regime headed by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, by taking up the matter with the then Central Government headed by former PM Manmohan Singh.

"There is no role of the Modi Government in sanctioning these colleges and whatever the HM has said is not factually correct", he added.

Reacting on the three families remark by Home Minister Shah at Baramulla, Rattan Lal said that Abdullah family had served the people of Jammu and Kashmir for the last more than seven decades and Sheikh Abdullah had

Dogra Sadar Sabha performs Shastra Pujan on Vijayadashami

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Gulchain Singh Charak, President, Jammu and Kashmir Dogra Sadar Sabha and former minister, performed Shastra Puja here on Wednesday along with other members of the Sabha and prominent citizens of Jammu, on the auspicious occasion of Vijayadashami, marking the culmination of Sharad Navratri festivities.

While extending greetings to the citizens of the Union Territory and the countrymen on behalf of the Dogra Sadar Sabha, Charak threw light on the significance of Shastra Puja by quoting from historical texts.

During a brief interaction later, he referred to Multiple traditions surrounding Vijayadasami, notably that of Durga slaying Mahishasura and Rama killing Ravana.

Another event is that the Pandavas retrieved their weapons hidden in a Shami tree after thirteen years of exile on Vijayadasami day. Guru Gobind Singh also encouraged "Shastar Puja" or worship of swords. He



Dogr Sadar Sabha members performing Shastra Pujan at Jammu.

added that Sanskrit text Markandeya Purana describes the conflict between Devas, led by Indra, and Asuras led by Shumbha and Nishumbha, where the supreme Goddess is transformed into a liberating divine power in the form of a sword.

He said that it is interesting to observe how a culture that has a tradition of worshipping weapons approaches questions of war, violence and non-violence.

Dharma, Artha, Kama and Moksha are the four great "Purusharthas" (goals of life) of Hinduism.

Dharmik conduct is the basis upon which all the other goals of life are to be attained. At an individual level, it is the dharma of a soldier to fight if necessary.

At a social level, the ruler must enforce dharma and protect society. Use of weapons is seen as part of a sacred duty to protect dharma. This infusion of divinity and dharma into the use of weapons, in our minds, largely explains why in earlier times, wars in India were circumscribed by a strict code of conduct.

The most important component of this code is that wars were fought between

soldiers only and other segments of society were not involved.

Charak concluded by saying that the tradition that sees divinity in ahimsa (non-violence) also prizes weapons. It is the ideal of ahimsa that inspired Mahatma Gandhi's Satyagraha, a movement unique in the annals of world history. But the martial customs or the injunctions of the Bhagavad Gita say that a refusal to fight for highly justified cause on grounds of non-violence often only empowers Adharma.

At the end of the ceremony,

Former MP Shamsher starts developmental works

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Former Member-Parliament (Rajya Sabha) & Ex State President of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Jammu & Kashmir, Shamsher Manhas started the construction work of boundary wall of cremation ground of Keran Panchayat in Jammu North Assembly Constituency.

Speaking on the occasion, Manhas said an amount of Rs 10.00 lakh were released from his MPLAD's during his tenure as Member-Parliament (Rajya Sabha) & after completing all the codal formalities, its tender was floated and now the work has been started. Manhas said that BJP is working on the agenda of "Sabka Sath Sabka Vishwaas" and to develop every corner is our responsibility.

He, while admiring the efforts of workers said that they are doing great job by putting best efforts for development of their wards. He said that under the stewardship of our Prime Minister,



Former MP, Shamsher Manhas starting development works.

Narendra Modi India has been now enlisted into the developing nations and tremendous development has been observed in all the sectors and segments. Many mega projects have been kick started for the development of the area, he added. Sukhdev Singh Jamwal, State Executive Member of Bharatiya Janata Party, Jammu & Kashmir complimented former MP for visiting the Keran Panchayat.

He, while appreciating the efforts of former Member of

Parliament, said that Shamsher Singh is always ready to provide support to his workers. He said that by his efforts a great issue of boundary wall of cremation ground has been resolved and thus it will save the land of cremation ground from the encroachers.

Those who were present on the occasion were Advocate Ranjit Singh Jamwal, Dushyant Singh, Rocky Jamwal, Joginder Singh, Dwarka Nath, Bishav Bandhu and Ravinder Singh.

Freedom Fighter Memorial Association elects new body

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Freedom Fighter Memorial

R.C Puri (Former President), S.S Balwal President, Karnal Chand



FFMA members posing for a photograph.

Association (FFMA) around 35 years old association under the Chief Patron ship of Ved Gandotra has announced that Rajiv Mahajan, will be its Chairman and Ravinder Mittal is Vice-Chairman of the Freedom Fighter Memorial Association.

General Secretary, Pritam Sharma Sr. Vice President, Nirmal Kishore and Gharu Ram as Vice Presidents of the Association.

Meeting held its AGM on Tuesday. The leadership duo was unanimously elected at the meeting, held after the AGM.

Govt sidelined Christian community in J&K, alleges AJKCS



AJKCS President, Peter Mattoo talking to reporters.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Alleging that the Government has sidelined Christian community in the Union territory of J&K, All J&K Christian Sabha (AJKCS) has urged the administration to fulfill all pending demands of the community at the earliest.

While addressing a press conference, Peter Mattoo, President AJKCS said that Government has ignored Christian community of J&K UT in all fields. "As Christian community is a minority community in J&K and unable to quench the vote-bank thirst of political parties, the demands of the community are not visible in election manifestos of political parties from decades. We

were having high hopes from LG's administration and also met former LG G C Murmu in August 2020 and projected a number of demands, but despite considerable lapse of time, nothing has been done to resolve the pending issues," he asserted.

Various long pending demands of the community included installation of statue of Bharat Rattan Mother Teresa at a rotary in Jammu, providing grave-yard in Purkhoo, Santra-morh areas, reservation to community in JMC and SMC, employment policy for educated Christian youth, establishing housing colony under PMAY for Christians, constitution of Christian Welfare Board, etc.

Coronation of Bhagwan Ram marks culmination of Ramlila at Sainik Colony

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Ramlila organised by Shree Ram Leela Club, Sainik Colony, Jammu ended with presentation of scene depicting coronation of Bhagwan Shri Ram on Wednesday.

The Ramlila is the story of God Rama from his birth. It recites his childhood along with those of others who are major characters in it, such as Sita, Lakshmana, Ravana and others. It includes chapters on the marriage of Sita and Rama, the exile of Rama because Dharma requires him to give up his throne, Sita and Lakshmana joining him in the exile, their journeys through India and they meeting revered Rishis of Hinduism, the abduction of Sita by demon Ravana, the sorrow of Rama and Lakshmana, their hopelessness, how



Ramlila concluding at Shree Ram Leela Club, Sainik Colony with presentation of scene depicting coronation of Bhagwan Shri Ram.

they creatively build an army from other living beings in the forest such as monkeys, their journey to Lanka to confront Ravana, the battle between the good and evil, the destruction of Ravana, the return of Rama to Ayodhya and as king, and the life thereafter.

All the artists participating in the event performed their respective characters with full devotion and tried their level best to depict the role assigned to them realistically. Their efforts were also applauded by the people, who used to visit the Club on daily basis to

watch Ramlila at Sainik Colony.

On the eve of Dusherra, Shree Ram Club Sainik Colony also celebrated 15th year completion. President, Rajeshwar Singh thanked all members of civil society for the contribution in successful completion of RamLila.

Live for Others-Being Helpful Foundation launches 'Save Tawi' campaign

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Live for Others-Being Helpful Foundation in collaboration with Jammu & Kashmir Pollution Control Committee (JKPCC) Jammu launched Save Tawi Campaign at Vikram Chowk, Jammu. The campaign was supported by Jammu Municipal Corporation and volunteers, Climate Front Jammu, GGM Science College NSS Unit-1, GCW Parade & SPMR College. On the occasion, volunteers requested and motivated devotees to immerse only

holy Ssakh (Biodegradable Material) in Tawi river besides handing-over other used religious material to volunteers for segregation and disposal in an environment-friendly manner.

Vivek Parihar (Director) said that the team members of the LFO-BH Foundation conducted awareness drive to aware people to be environment-friendly by not throwing plastic, earthen pots and other non-decomposable materials in the holy river. "Team wants to spread some awareness by means of this



Live for Others-Being Helpful Foundation members at Save Tawi campaign.

campaign. Also by not forgetting about cleanliness of city, we are requesting people not to throw any plastic material or bags in water-bodies, as

we see that water level of river is decreasing day by day and it is getting polluted by non-decomposable wastes thrown by people, which is

very harmful for aquatic life as well as other living organisms.

Vishal Singh (Director & COO) & Abhinandan

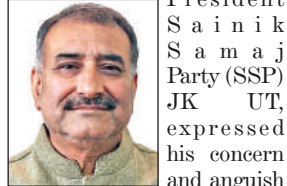
ny, Prashad was distributed among the participants.

Prominent among the participants included Prem Sagar Gupta, Lt. Gen. Rakesh kumar Sharma (AVSM SM), Dr. Akshay Sharma (Corporator), Raman Sharma, Gambhir Dev Singh (I/C Youth Wing), Chhattar Singh, Jagdeep Singh, Chhankar Singh, Balwinder Singh, Ravi Singh, Shubam, Naresh Sharma, Rajinder Gupta, Pawan Sharma, Rahul Gupta, Ishan Gupta, Prikistik, Pratap Singh Jamwal, Byoam Gupta and others.

Give arrears of One Rank One Pension to veterans, family pensioners: SSP

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Col SS Pathania,



President Sainik Samaj Party (SSP) JK UT, expressed his concern and anguish

on release of arrears of One Rank One Pension (OROP), for more than 3 years.

He said that union government had committed that equalisation after five years will be made, considering 2014 as base year, hence first equalisation was to be given in June 19.

Supreme court in its judgement in March 2022, directed government to give the arrears within three months ie June 22. However no arrears were given and government of India sought additional time till September 22, Supreme court fully aware of the government's concern granted more additional time and directed the government to clear the arrears by December 22.

Pathania further said that concept of one rank, one pension stands greatly diluted and in actual, one rank, five pension is in vogue. A large number of pensioners have died in the intervening period, without getting the increase and arrears, for more than 3 years.

He urged government of India and PM, to ensure the release of OROP, without further delay and expedite dispensation of justice.

J&K Aam Aadmi Democratic Party launched

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Chief Patron Navneet Mishra and State President Jammu and Kashmir Aam Aadmi Democratic Party (JKAADP) Raqib ul Rashid launched political party which would stand for "spiritual secular politics" with no caste or religion.

Mishra and Rashid, While addressing the media here on Wednesday, stated that their party will surely win the assembly polls and give honest, transparent, corruption free, spiritual secular politics without caste, creed

or religion.

The leaders said that all others party have always promised but on grass root level nothing is reflected rather than the fake promises.

The JKAADP is created for JK common people, who wants basic amenities of life, employment, education for their children, sports facilities, security etc.

Further stated that their party is a voice of people of Jammu and Kashmir and will always raise its voice whenever it required and will stand for their people.



JKAADP members talking to reporters at Jammu.