

LG Kavinder celebrates Diwali with Army jawans; hails their contribution in safeguarding border areas

Urges people to contribute to nation-building for making Viksit Bharat by 2047

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

LEH: The Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Kavinder Gupta, on Monday celebrated Diwali with jawans of the Indian Army posted in Ladakh.

In an event organised by Fire & Fury Corps at Rinchin Auditorium, the Lt Governor was joined by Lieutenant General Hitesh Bhalla, General Officer Commanding (GOC), 14 Corps; Major General Praveen Chhabra, General Officer Commanding, 72 Sub Area; Brigadier Umesh Parab and Brigadier Ajay Katoch in celebrating the festival with uniformed services.

Wishing the jawans on the auspicious occasion of Diwali on behalf of the people of Ladakh, the Lt Governor saluted the bravery, dedication and courage of the



Lt Governor Ladakh, Kavinder Gupta during Diwali celebration with jawans of Indian Army in Ladakh.

Indian Army as they serve in hostile conditions, braving extreme cold, to guard the border areas. He emphasised that while others are busy celebrating festivals like Diwali with their families and friends, the jawans of the Indian Army, away from their families, maintain a

high state of alertness to ensure the safety of the country. He saluted the sacrifices made by the jawans of the Indian Army to ensure the safety and well-being of the citizens of the country, some even sacrificing their lives in the line of duty.

The Lt Governor emphasised that the entire nation remains indebted to the Army jawans for ensuring the safety and security of citizens, allowing them to celebrate Diwali peacefully with their families. He stressed that the Army jawans are like diyas that cannot be extinguished by enemy forces, expressing deep admiration for the bravery and resilience of soldiers. He paid homage to the Indian Army for their exemplary bravery and courage against enemy forces during the Kargil War in 1999 and for standing firm, undeterred, while guarding the nation at Siachen Glacier- one of the highest battlefields in the world, where the temperature plummets to more than -50 degrees.

The Lt Governor, citing Bhagwan Ram, also known

as Maryada Purushottam, for choosing the path of righteousness (dharma) and truth (satya), emphasised that Diwali, which exemplifies victory of good over evil and light over darkness, showcase he celebration of India's unity in diversity. He reiterated the Government of India and UT Administration's commitment to the welfare of armed forces and ex-servicemen along with their family members. He also urged the people to contribute to nation-building so that India can become a Viksit Bharat by 2047.

Later, the LG interacted with the jawans and shared sweets with them. He wished all the Army jawans a bright and prosperous year ahead filled with peace, happiness, and collective progress.



BJP celebrates Deepawali with religious fervour

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu & Kashmir, organized Deepawali Milan and celebrated the occasion with religious fervour amid Vedic Aarti, distributed sweets and burst crackers, at the party headquarter, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

J&K BJP President Sat Sharma CA, and general secretary (Org.) Ashok Koul accompanied by Priya Sethi, Rajiv Charak, Rekha Mahajan, Sanjita Dogra, Baldev Billawaria, Yudhvir Sethi, Ashwani Sharma, Surinder Ambardar, Prabhat Singh, Tilak Raj Gupta, Adv. Purnima Sharma, Dr. Pardeep Mahotra, Dr. Tahir Chowdhary, Adv. Parimoksh Seth, S. Varinderjit Singh, Naresh Singh Jasrotia, Ajay Vaid, Anuradha Charak, Neha Mahajan, Dharminder, Brahmjyot, Arun Dev Jamwal, Kulbhushan Mohtra, Mookherjee Sharma, Ayodhya Gupta, Parduman Singh, Abhay Mahajan, Prem Gupta, Parmod Kapahi, Shailja Gupta, Vikrant Gupta, Hans Raj Loria, Ramesh Katoch, and others participated in the Aarti and the celebration of Deepawali.

Sat Sharma, while extend-



BJP J&K leaders performing Puja during Deepawali Milan at Jammu on Monday.

ing his greetings on the auspicious occasion of Deepawali, celebrated on Kartik Amavasya, conveyed his heartfelt wishes to all fellow citizens. He said that the festival marks the triumphant return of God Shri Ram to Ayodhya, symbolizing the victory of good over evil. He further added that this sacred day also commemorates the divine incarnation of Mata Lakshmi. Wishing good fortune to all, Sat Sharma prayed that the festival of lights may illuminate everyone's lives with joy, prosperity, and happiness.

He also highlighted the unwavering commitment of Prime Minister Narendra Modi towards the welfare and prosperity of every citizen as he leads the nation for the third consecutive term.

Sat Sharma emphasized that the true essence of festivals lies in rising above differences and embracing each other as one family bound by harmony and affection.

Ashok Koul, in his message, also extended warm greetings to all BJP activists and fellow citizens. He said that Deepawali inspires everyone to follow the path of truth and to stand firmly for righteousness. On this sacred occasion, he prayed that the Almighty blesses all with virtue, wisdom, and a spirit of unity, so that humankind progresses with the world as one global family. He further wished that the divine light of the festival brings enduring peace, prosperity, and good health to the people of the nation and the entire world.

Hexamed BIG Diwali Mela lights up Jammu with festive spirit, excitement

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The much-awaited Hexamed BIG Diwali Mela organised by 92.7 BIG FM lit up Jammu with grandeur, festive cheer, and community spirit. The event witnessed an overwhelming response from every nook and corner of the city as families, shoppers, and well-wishers came together to celebrate the festival of lights with joy, fun, and entertainment.

The evening was graced by Deputy Inspector General of Police, Jammu-Samba-Kathua Range, Shiv Kumar Sharma (IPS), who attended as the Chief Guest. In his address, he appreciated the efforts of the organizers for creating such a vibrant and engaging platform that brought people together beyond the barriers of age and background. He lauded 92.7 BIG FM, Hexamed Diagnostics, and their partners for promoting togeth-



DIG J-S-K Range, Shiv Kumar Sharma with other dignitaries at a programme.

erness and positivity during the festive season through creative, community-oriented celebrations.

The highlight of the evening was a power-packed live performance by the Agnikosh Band, led by Ricky, whose electrifying vocals and energy set the stage ablaze. The crowd swayed to their beats, adding to the festive fervor that defined the evening.

The much-awaited Lucky Draw brought waves of excitement among the audi-

ence. Nargis Nazia won a brand-new Hero Scooty, Rajvika took home an Apple Watch, while Vikram Singh and other participants won Sunshine Kitchen Appliances. The joy, smiles, and cheers of the winners perfectly captured the true spirit of Diwali happiness, sharing, and good fortune.

The event was beautifully hosted by RJ Juhie, one of Jammu's most popular radio personalities, who kept the audience entertained with her warmth, wit, and festive charm throughout the evening.

Among the dignitaries present were Nigam Gupta, Director, Hexamed Diagnostics & Specialty Clinics; Madan Mohan Rana, Vice President, Wave Mall Jammu; Bharat Bhandari, Director, Wave Mall Jammu; Ranjeev Khajuria from Skoda; and Rajinder Sharma, ASM, Sunshine Appliances J&K, Deepak Gupta, President, Traders Federation Ware

House Jammu and representative of Deepak Trading Co.; Vijay Menon, Partner, Aroma Multicuisine Family Restaurant; Dr. Varinder Sharma, Consultant Sonologist, A-One Ultrasound Clinic, Gandhi Nagar; Rishika Kapoor, representative of Arpit Electronix Shoppee; Aashish from Hero Premia Tawi Automobiles; and Vikas Khajuria from JK Yamaha.

The Hexamed BIG Diwali Mela concluded on a high note, leaving the audience with smiles, laughter, and memories to cherish. The celebration not only captured the true essence of Diwali but also strengthened the bond among local brands, business partners, and the community. It was a shining reflection of cultural vibrancy, collaboration, and togetherness living up to 92.7 BIG FM's philosophy, "Dhun Badal Ke Toh Dekho."

IGP Jammu Zone promotes 1,520 police personnel on Diwali

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: On the auspicious occasion of Diwali, a festival symbolizing light, hope, and new beginnings, Inspector General of Police (IGP) Jammu Zone, Sh. Bhim Sen Tuti, IPS, today issued promotion orders for 1,520 police personnel across various ranks in the Jammu Zone. This significant move recognizes the dedication, competence, and professional excellence of the officers/officials.

The promotions encompass multiple ranks across the force, reflecting a structured career progression for deserving personnel. These include 10 Assistant Sub-Inspectors promoted to Sub-Inspector; 4 Head Constables elevated to Assistant Sub-Inspector; 874 Selection Grade Constables promoted to Head Constable, and 632 Constables elevated to

Selection Grade Constable. These advancements mark an important milestone in the professional journeys of the officers, acknowledging their years of service, tireless efforts, and commitment to upholding the values and reputation of the Jammu Police.

The IGP said that through initiatives such as these promotions, the Jammu Zone Police remain committed to nurturing talent, recognizing merit, and motivating personnel to continually perform their duties with enthusiasm, professionalism, and a deep sense of civic responsibility. He encouraged all officer/Officials to continue setting benchmarks of excellence in public service, contributing not only to the safety of society but also to the enduring prestige of the Jammu Police.

Sunil denies Govt formation with NC, vows to keep distance from culprits of common Kashmiris

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BUDGAM: Leader of Opposition (LoP) in J&K Assembly Sunil Sharma, J&K BJP General Secretary (Org.) Ashok Koul and General Secretary Anwar Khan joined the nomination rally of BJP Budgam Candidate Aga Syed Mohsin at Budgam.

The rally witnessed enthusiastic participation from people across different regions, reflecting the increasing faith on people on the party.

Mudasir Wani, State Secretary, Arif Raja, State Secretary, Hakeem Ghazi Ruhullah, DP Budgam, Aga Syed Mohsin, Candidate, Dr. Ali Mohammad Mir, Senior Leader, Prabhari Budgam Sheikh Bashir, Bhat Intiyaz, Budgam Election Incharge, Bilal Parray, Co-Incharge All



LoP in J&K Assembly, Sunil Sharma addressing public rally at Budgam.

Cells, Er Aijaz, Co-Incharge Minority Moreha, Manzoor bhat, Spokesperson, Ashraf Azad, Senior Leader and others were also present.

Sunil Sharma made a strong and clear statement during a massive nomination rally today, asserting that his party will never align with the National Conference (NC) under any circumstances. Addressing a charged gathering of supporters and workers, Sharma

emphasized that his party stands firmly for the dignity, peace, and progress of the people of Jammu & Kashmir and will not compromise those principles for political gain.

"We will never form the government with NC, nor do we have any need for it," Sharma declared amid loud applause. "We will never join hands with those whose hands are soaked with the blood of innocent Kashmiris.

Our commitment is to the people of Jammu & Kashmir; not to power politics or opportunistic alliances."

The LoP said that the days of dynastic politics and exploitation are over and that the people of Jammu & Kashmir have now seen through the divisive politics of the past. "Those who ruled this land for decades pushed our youth towards violence, destroyed institutions, and looted public resources. We

are here to build a new, transparent, and accountable political culture that will restore faith in democracy and governance," he added.

Sharma further stated that his party is capable of forming the government on its own strength whenever it chooses to do so, underscoring the growing trust and support among the people. "Whenever we want, we will form the government. The people of J&K are with us because they see in us a promise of peace, progress, and justice," he said.

Ashok Koul, in his address, said that the massive turnout at Budgam reflects the growing trust of people in BJP's vision and leadership. He emphasized that the party's strength lies in its commitment to service, unity, and the welfare of every citizen of

Jammu & Kashmir.

Anwar Khan stated that BJP is the only party that believes in real empowerment and equitable development. He said that the people of Budgam have shown faith in BJP's agenda of inclusive growth and transparent governance, which will soon bring visible change on the ground. Aga Syed Mohsin, the BJP candidate from Budgam, expressed heartfelt gratitude to the people for their overwhelming support. He appealed to every voter to come forward and strengthen the hands of Prime Minister Narendra Modi by voting for BJP. Mohsin said that he is committed to serve the people with honesty, dedication, and transparency. Together, we will build a prosperous Budgam that reflects peace, progress, and unity, he added.

Bye-Election to Budgam AC RC reviews arrangements for facilitation of Kashmiri migrant voters

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Relief & Rehabilitation Commissioner (M), Dr. Arvind Karwani, on Monday took stock of the arrangements being put in place for facilitation of Kashmiri migrant voters at Jammu, Udhampur and Delhi, for upcoming Bye-Election to Legislative Assembly from 27-Budgam AC, with Assistant Returning Officers stationed at Jammu, Udhampur and New-Delhi.

During the meeting, Dr. Karwani was apprised about the arrangements in place for establishment of Special Polling Stations in Jammu, Udhampur and Delhi, distribution and collection of polling material/EVMs and also the arrangements being put in place for Counting of Votes.



Relief Commissioner emphasized on ensuring all requisite Assured Minimum Facilities (AMFs) for voters like permanent ramps, drinking water, toilet facilities as per norms of Election Commission of India. Camp Commandants/Zonal Officers were directed to reach out to the voters and facilitate their participation.

He also emphasized upon the officers for adequate

training of polling staff well in advance, and strictly follow the laid down instructions/guidelines for free, fair and impartial polling.

Pertinently, special polling stations have been established for Kashmiri Migrants who are residing outside their territorial jurisdiction of their assembly constituency in Kashmir and who are staying in and around the Relief Camps in Jammu, Udhampur and Delhi, as done in earlier elections. In addition, special arrangements have also been made for those Kashmiri migrant electors who are staying elsewhere in India outside Jammu, Delhi and Udhampur with the option of either to vote in person at the polling stations in Jammu, Udhampur and Delhi or by postal ballot.

Satish extends Greetings on Diwali

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Transport, Information Technology, Youth Services and Sports, Satish Sharma has extended his warm greetings and best wishes to the people of Jammu and Kashmir on the auspicious occasion of Diwali - the Festival of Lights.

In his message, Satish Sharma said that Diwali is a celebration of the eternal victory of light over darkness and righteousness over evil. He said the festival reminds us of the power of truth, compassion, and unity in strengthening the social fabric and fostering a spirit of collective progress.

J&K Police observes Police Commemoration Day with blood donation camp

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: As part of the observance of Police Commemoration Day, the Jammu and Kashmir Police organized a Blood Donation Camp at the Police Auditorium, Gulshan Ground, Jammu, on Monday.

The camp was inaugurated by Bhim Sen Tuti, Inspector General of Police, Jammu Zone, and was organised under the supervision of IRP 15th Battalion.

The initiative was a humble tribute to the brave martyrs of the Jammu and Kashmir Police who laid down their lives in the line of duty. It also aimed to promote the values of service, sacrifice, and compassion, which form the foundation of the Police force.



Police official donating blood during a camp.

as a gesture of solidarity and humanitarian commitment. A total of 125 police personnel voluntarily donated blood during the camp.

The event was graced by senior officers including Dr. Ajay Misri; Vinod Kumar, DIG IRP Jammu; Shiv Kumar Sharma, DIG Jammu-Kathua-Samba Range; Sargun Shukla, Commandant IRP 15th Battalion; Joginder Singh, SSP Jammu, Shamsheer Hussain, SO to IGP Jammu and several other officers of

Jammu Zone, whose presence added encouragement and significance to the occasion.

The camp was organised in coordination with the Police Hospital, Jammu, under the guidance of the Medical Superintendent, whose team of doctors, nurses, and paramedical staff ensured proper medical care, hygiene, and safety protocols throughout the event.

Speaking on the occasion, IGP Jammu, Bhim Sen Tuti, appreciated the over-

whelming response and voluntary participation of police personnel in the camp. He stated that holding such an event on the eve of Police Commemoration Day is a noble way to remember and honour the supreme sacrifices of J&K Police martyrs by serving humanity and saving lives in their memory.

He further highlighted that the Jammu and Kashmir Police continues to remain at the forefront of humanitarian and community welfare initiatives, reflecting its enduring ethos of service, sacrifice, and compassion. The event concluded with expressions of gratitude for all the donors, officers, and medical staff whose collective efforts made the Blood Donation Camp a meaningful tribute to the valour, dedication, and selfless service of the Jammu and Kashmir Police martyrs being commemorated on this solemn occasion.