

# NC District Vice President Ganderbal joins Apni Party



Senior NC leader Peer Mohammad Yousuf Shah and others after joining JKAP.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: Senior National Conference leader and District Vice President Ganderbal Peer Mohammad Yousuf Shah on Monday joined Apni Party at its office in Lal Chowk Srinagar. Shah who is also Deputy Block Development Council (Dy BDC) Chairman Wakoora Ganderbal joined

## UDA celebrates National Press Day

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: United Democratic Alliance (UDA), Jammu and Kashmir celebrated National Press Day. "National Press Day is celebrated to commemorate the foundation of Press Council of India. The day is symbolic of free and responsible journalism. We stand with journalists and media houses that strive everyday to bring out the truth," said Convenor UDA, Rajiv Mahajan. "Press has always played an outstanding role in empowering the people and furthering national interest. Democracy cannot survive without a free and fearless press," he said and added, "Press is the 4th Pillar of Democracy, which ensures that citizens are aware of the happenings and discourses in the country and elsewhere. Let us commit

## Trade Union leader Mohd Rafique Rather elected President EJAC

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: Eminent Trade Union leader and Chairman JK Teachers Forum (JKTF), Mohammad Rafique Rather has been elected as President of Jammu and Kashmir Employees Joint Action Committee (EJAC) on Monday. The elections were held under the supervision of Election Commissioner Nazir Ahmad Khan, nominated by EJAC, along with other members who exercised due care and transparency during poll process. Representatives of almost all the Departmental trade unions and corporations took part in the voting held at PHE office Srinagar. During his maiden speech to a huge gathering of employees, newly elected President EJAC, Rafique



EJAC leader addressing gathering after elections.

## Congress committed to secularism, strengthening integrity of nation: Secretary AICC

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Congress on Monday said it will regain its lost ground in the upcoming DDC elections in Jammu and Kashmir by defeating the communal and divisive forces in the country. "People should remain guard against the forces that pose a challenge to the basic idea of India and secularism promoted by the Congress. Congress workers should be ready to defeat the designs of the communal and divisive forces in the country. This was observed by former Minister Himachal Pradesh and Secretary AICC, Sudhir Sharma while chairing workers meet of Block Bhalwal today. Prominent among those who addressed the meeting include Raman Bhalla Vice President PCC, Th. Balwan Singh General Secretary PCC, Manmohan Singh General Secretary PCC, Hari Singh Chib President DCC Jammu Rural, Udey Bhanu President JKPYC, Jung Bahadur Block President, Vibhishan Singh and

the party along with his close associate Mohammad Younis from Kangan, in presence of Apni Party president Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari, vice president Usman Majid, party media advisor Farooq Andrabi and Abdul Rashid Haroon provincial secretary. Addressing the ceremony, Shah observed that Apni Party is gaining recog-

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## Sangram Sena celebrates Diwali with orphans, specially-abled

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Continuing its 20 years old tradition of celebrating Diwali with the orphans and inmates of Old-aged Home, the Sangram Sena Jammu & Kashmir celebrated this year's Diwali with orphans, specially-abled children at Ved Mandir Amphalla. Various programmes were organised on the occasion. 20 different stalls of sweets, fruits were arranged for children, blind and elders. This time, Bharatiya Modi Army has also joined hands with Sangram Sena in the celebrations. Eminent persons present on the occasion included R K Raina President Sangram Sena, Capt R S Langeh Gen Secretary, Rajesh Banathiya Chief Organiser, A K Chopra

## 'Modi's magic still growing across country'

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: From time and again, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has proved that it has utmost trust of people and the same will be reflected in the forthcoming District Development Council (DDC) elections in Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory. This was stated by Parneesh Mahajan, Convenor Training Cell, BJP, J&K, in a statement issued here today. Mahajan said that with the public centric and developmental decisions, the Modi led government has paved the way of national growth and development besides being on a path of public friendly governance. "The bold decisions of PM Modi have always inspired the people of the country and under his patronage the BJP would

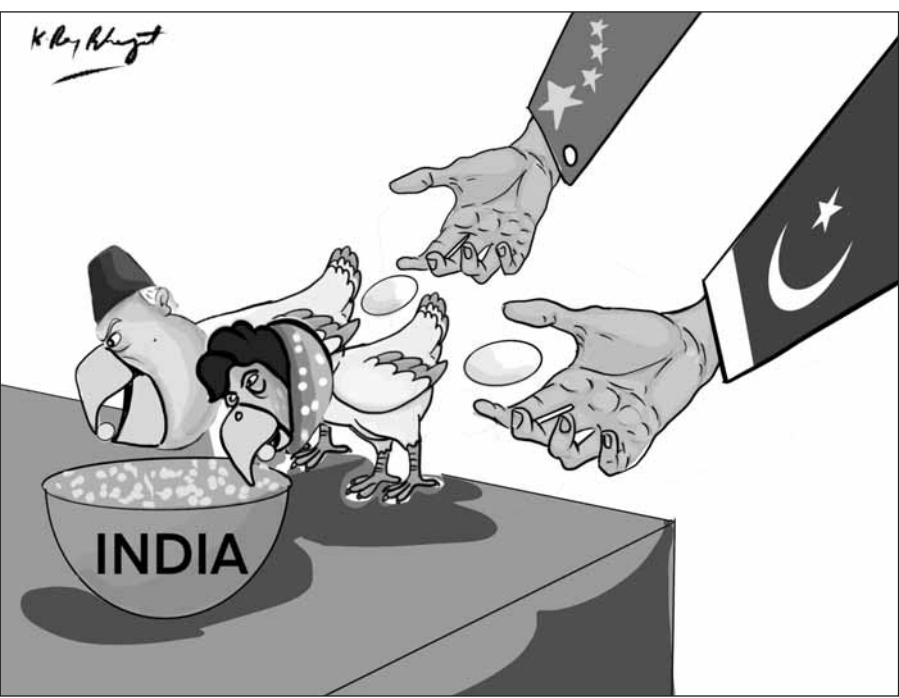
## 73rd Annual Nirankari Sant Samagam from Dec 5

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NEW DELHI: The 73rd Annual Nirankari Sant Samagam will be held by the Sant Nirankari Mission on 5, 6 and 7 December, 2020 in a virtual form in the presence of Satguru Mata Sudiksha Ji Maharaj, Head of Sant Nirankari Mission. Amidst the prevailing conditions of COVID-19 pandemic, Sant Nirankari Mission adheres to the guidelines laid by the Government and plans to hold the Sant Samagam virtually to be viewed by devotees across the globe. The decision has been welcomed with great enthusiasm by the entire Nirankari Fraternity. The programme will be web-cast on the Mission's website on 5, 6 and 7 December. It shall also be aired on Sanskar TV channel from 5:30 PM to 9:00 PM on the same three days. In the History of Nirankari Sant Samagams, this is the first time it will be held in a Virtual Format. History of Nirankari Samagams dates back to 1948 when the first Samagam was



Sangram Sena members distributing eatables among inmates of Ved Mandir Amphalla.

District President, Kapil Sharma, Raju Jamwal, Santosh Chib President Bharatiya Modi Army (Kissan Morcha), Ved Gandotra President, Freedom Fighter Association, Sudhir Padha Chairman Divine Touch and Member Sewa Samiti, Brij Mehra President



## 73rd Annual Nirankari Sant Samagam from Dec 5

held in the gracious presence of Baba Avatar Singh, who settled in Paharganj, Delhi, post partition and established the Sant Nirankari Mandal in 1948. The 73rd Annual Nirankari Sant Samagam will focus on the theme 'Composure'. 'The Eternal Stability': to derive strength from the Formless God and lead a balanced, stable living. In the fast changing materialistic world the need has arisen to provide stability to the human mind so that a balanced, stable living adorned with human values can be achieved for humans to mutually coexist and make this earth a heavenly place to live in. This can be achieved through Spiritual Enlightenment only. The message of Spiritual Awareness will be highlighted with the vision of establishing an atmosphere of peace and serenity in the world on the basis of Truth, Love and Oneness. Elaborating on the importance of the theme, Satguru Mata Sudiksha draws analogy of a strong rooted tree which withstands the fiercest of

## Hotel Association Katra delegation calls on Comm Secy I&C, demands industrial estate



Mentor, Jammu Region Chapter of PHDCCI, Rakesh Wazir interacting with Comm Secy, I&C Manoj Diwedi.

Association, every effort would be made to establish an Industrial Estate around Katra wherein products particularly related to Vaishno Devi pilgrimage, Ayurveda and other products, whose raw material is available around Katra like Chavanparash, packed Prasad of Vaishno Devi, dry fruits, local Pickles, masalas, Honey, Vaishno Devi Patkas, Jute Bags, Vaishnodevi Chunnris

and photographs etc would be manufactured. Rakesh Wazir, while speaking on the occasion, said that establishment of such Industrial Estate besides adding on to religious sentiments and Yoga activity in the area will provide employment to people just like Patanjali, which is established in Haridwar. Wazir further said that tourism has been declared as Industry and likewise all benefits of industry should be provided to it including re-imbursement of GST

and power tariff to Hotels. Shyam Lal Kesar, while speaking on the occasion, elaborated that J&K's main economy and industry is tourism and it becomes important to safeguard the same because economy and livelihood of entire state is dependent on it. Now when all religious and tourism related places all over India have been opened particularly in competitive states like Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Kerala, Goa etc, the same are still closed or partially opened with restrictions in J&K. Shiv Kumar Sharma & Virender Kesar, emphasised for special package to the Tourism Industry because it is the only Industry which is the worst sufferer of pandemic. Diwedi listened to the delegation patiently and assured that sympathetic consideration to each and every point would be given.

## DDC elections: BJP candidate Gandharv Singh files nomination from Pancheri



Ch. Vikram Randhawa along with BJP candidate Th. Gandharv Singh and others after filing nomination for Pancheri territorial constituency.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
UDHAMPUR: BJP's preparation for DDC elections in full swing as Ch. Vikram Randhawa (Election Incharge Udhampur District) has started campaigning in the area. BJP candidate Th. Gandharv Singh on Monday filed nomination for Pancheri territorial constituency. Many prominent personali-



Former Minister Himachal Pradesh Govt and Secretary AICC, Sudhir Sharma speaking during workers meet.

defeat the communal and divisive forces" in J&K who were creating an "atmosphere of discord". "Congress will defeat the designs of communal and divisive forces creating atmosphere of discord and will not allow them to play with the emotions of people for political gains," he said. My perception and understanding of the situation is that Congress will emerge as the largest party in the next assembly elections," he said. "The Congress is the only secular and unifying force and it will continue to safeguard the secular fabric of the country and the state," he added. Sharma said his party always stood for equal development of

have fallen flat," he said. "What happened to those promises, have they fulfilled any single promise during their rule Sharma questioned and asked the people to give a befitting reply to BJP and other opportunist forces for exploiting them and playing with their emotions, from time to time," he said. "BJP is in habit of playing religious & emotional cards for electoral gains and emphasized the people to defeat their nefarious designs to ensure the victory of Congress party with a thumping majority," Sharma urged people. Sharma emphasized the people to forge unity and ensure victory of Congress Candidates, for the fact, it is the Congress Party alone which has the capability of safeguarding the interests of the people, besides ensuring that they do not suffer further on account of employment and others facilities they deserve. Raman Bhalla described Congress party as "strong" and "vibrant" in J&K, capable enough to defeat anti-people forces in the country and