

Several Panchs, Sarpanchs join Congress Party

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Several Panchs, Sarpanchs and other prominent personalities on Tuesday joined the Congress Party along with their supporters here on Tuesday at PCC HQ Shaheed Chowk Jammu.

They were welcomed in the party by JKPC Vice President Raman Bhalla, General Secretary PCC Th Manmohan Singh, Kewal Krishan Jogi, Jatin Vashisht and others.

Prominent among those who joined Congress include Abdul Qayoom Mir Retd ADC, Rozy Zaffer Mir - Thanamandi BDC Chairperson, Gulzar Hussain Naib Sarpanch, Mehmood



Senior Congress leader Raman Bhalla welcoming new entrants into party fold.

Ahmed Sarpanch, Khalil Ahmed Naib Sarpanch, Bagh Hussain Naib Sarpanch, Advocate Shadab Ahmed Mir and others. They expressed full faith on the policies and programmes of Congress party and its leadership Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi. Raman Bhalla said that Congress Party is an instrument of service to the people,

which has remained dedicated to the cause of serving the people. He said Congress Party believes in strengthening the people and is committed to equitable development of the State. He said Congress Party is duty bound to address the urges and aspirations of the people, for the fact, it is the Congress Party alone which has always taken care of the urges

and aspirations of the people. Congress has been pioneer in implementing revolutionary programmes aimed at improving the conditions of the people, especially those living in remote and backward areas.

Bhalla described BJP dispensation as anti-poor and anti development, saying due to administrative inertia and lack of political direction the sufferings of the people increased manifold. The insensitive government pushed people to the wall, as unemployment has increased, prices have risen and developmental activities have suffered a lot. He claimed that BJP Government pushed back State in all sectors and no

progress has been recorded in the core sectors like PHE, PDD, R&B, Health, Education, etc during last more than six years. He said the BJP has been instrumental in adding to the miseries of people. In an atmosphere of uncertainty and political instability, the people of the state in general and Jammu region in particular are passing through most difficult times.

Bhalla appealed to the people to strengthen the hands of Congress party by supporting Congress candidates in the upcoming DDC elections, adding that it will be a vote against the broken promises of BJP.

Balvinder calls on Principal GMC, suggests measures for improving patient care



Social Activist, Balvinder Singh presenting memorandum to Dr Shashi Sudan, Principal GMC Jammu.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Social Activist, S Balvinder Singh called on Dr Shashi Sudan, Principal Govt Medical College Jammu and submitted a number of suggestions for favourable consideration of Principal GMC for improving and providing better patient care facilities in the premier health institution of Jammu. Dr Dara Singh, Superintendent GMC, Nagendra Singh Jamwal Administrator Associated Hospitals, Balvinder Singh Private Secretary to Principal GMC and Sharanjit Singh Social Activist were also present on the occasion. In a representation submitted to the Principal GMC, Singh said that there are many lacunae/deficiencies which need to be rectified for betterment of derailed institution, so that this divisional medical college serves its purpose for welfare of patients belonging to Jammu division. So far, unsatisfied patients leave the medical college and get treated at Nursing homes at Pathankot, Ludhiana, Jalandar and other towns of adjoining States. This trend needs to be stopped by streamlining the system, he added. He laid stress on regular attendance of employees, especially faculty by Face Recognition System. "GMC is the premier institute to generate MBBS and specialist doctors and it depends on teaching by dedicat-

ed faculty to produce good doctors for the society. Necessary stress should be laid on regular theory and practical/clinical classes by senior faculty," he added. Further points suggested in the representation included revival of roster of consultants visiting emergency between 6-10 PM as in past practice to supervise / help residents during evening hours, maintaining record of each consultant doing surgeries in a week, end of market prescription of medicines especially antibiotic salt, which is available in hospital etc. "GMC is having a well equipped lab but even then most of the patients are sent outside GMC for different tests, thereby causing unnecessary financial burden on the poor patients. I would like to request Hospital administration to display list of tests available in the Hospital," he added. The activist further requested for arranging skilled/trained staff for handling AMBU Bag (Artificial Manual breathing Unit) as it should not be handed over to the attendants of patients. Balvinder also urged the Principal GMC that some time back junior consultants were selected posted in medical college hospital emergency, who seem to have been absorbed into main departmental faculty. Such consultants may be posted back to facilitate the purpose of their selection /posting in emergency, he demanded.

Bail denied to Director of NGO in corruption case

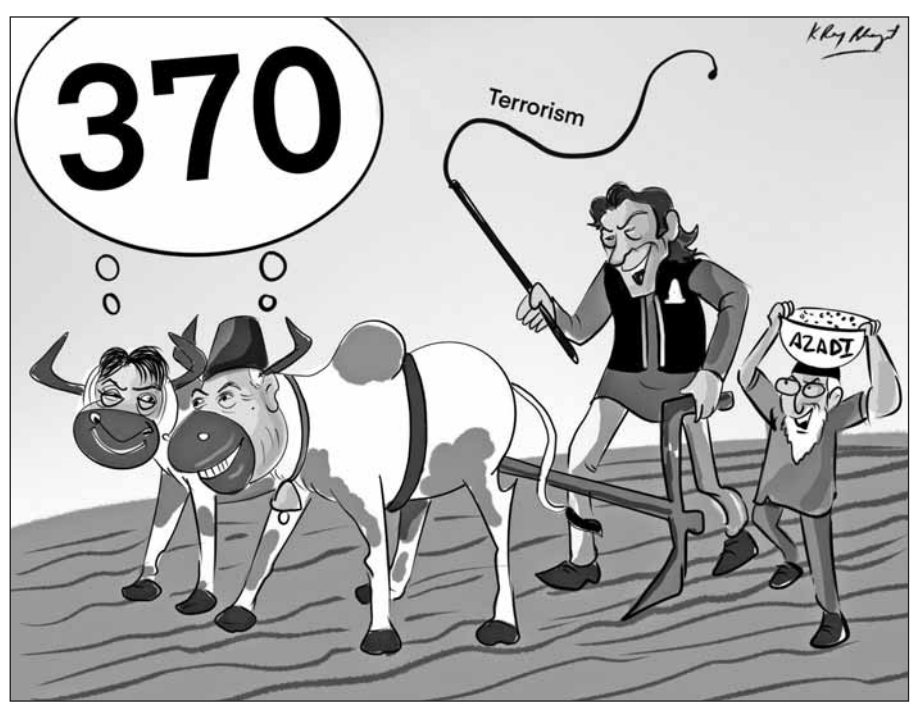
STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Special Judge Anticorruption Kashmir R N Watal rejected bail application of Zaheer Abbas Bhatti, Director M/s Social Welfare of India-a NGO, who was booked by ACB Kashmir. Police report revealed that on basis of Joint Surprise Check (JSC) conducted to look into allegations of fraud, corruption and embezzlement of public money by a NGO namely M/s Social Welfare of India and officials of Srinagar Municipal Corporation in construction of individual House Hold Latrines (IHHL) units under Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM). During JSC, it was revealed that vide agreement No. 01 dated 13.05.2018 and allotment order No. SMC/EEERRWD/ 899-903 dated 04.07.2017, the SMC allotted construction of 218 IHHL units and 9 Twin Storage Pits to an NGO namely M/s Social Welfare of India at the rate of Rs 17,490 per IHHL unit and Rs 12,000 per Twin Storage pit, respectively. During JSC, it surfaced that not a single unit had been constructed by the NGO M/S Social Welfare of India and the engineering wing of SMC submitted false competition/verification report to higher ups as such facilitated release of huge amount in favour of the NGO against no work done. By acting in this manner, the officers of the SMC in league with the NGO namely Social Welfare of India, headed by the accused/applicant by sheer abuse of their official position and for their own pecuniary benefits, submitted false completion/verification report facilitating in release of huge amount in favour of said NGO, as such conferred undue benefit upon NGO of the accorded/petitioner and themselves.

The commission on part of the then Executive engineer SMC namely Maroof Bandy (now retired), son of Hissam-ud-din Bandy, resident of Habak Hazratbal; then Junior Engineer SMC namely Javaid Iqbal Shah, son of Maqsood Ahmad Shah, resident of Bhagi Sunder Payeen, Kaka Sarai Srinagar; Zaheer Abbass Bhatti (petitioner), son of Muneer Hussain Bhatti, resident of Vidhata Nagar Bathindi Jammu, Director M/s Social Welfare of India; Ishrat Ashraf Shah, daughter of Mohammad Ashraf Shah, resident of Noorbagh Srinagar; General Secretary M/s Social Welfare of India and others constitute offences punishable under Sections 5(1)(c), 5(1)(d) read with Section 5(2) of JK PC Act and Section 120-IPC and accordingly case FIR No. 12/2020 was registered in Police Station ACB Srinagar and investigation taken up.

Special Judge Anti-corruption Kashmir R N Watal after hearing both the sides observed that not a single latrine was constructed on spot and documents were manipulated pursuant to conspiracy to give an impression about the construction of IHHL units on spot. The construction of IHHL units remained on papers only without execution on spot. Resultantly, the Government exchequer was defrauded and loss to the tune of Rs. 39 lakh was caused to the government exchequer. "From the evidence collected by the prosecution till date as reveals from police report, there are genuine reasonable grounds that petitioner has committed offences as referred in FIR. In light of the incriminating material that has come fore against the petitioner during investigation, the stage is not right to grant bail in favour of the

petitioner. The investigation in the case is still in its infancy. Moreover, involvement of some influential who were part of criminal conspiracy with petitioner, the investigation qua their role is going on. The concession of bail at this stage shall undeniably prejudice and obstruct the further course of investigation as material witnesses being influenced with, cannot be ruled out. Petitioner's involvement is in economic offences. Economic offences are committed with cool, calm intent and planned design with an eye on personal profit regardless of the consequences and its adverse effect on the society. These offences affecting the economy very much fall within the category of grave offences. On this count also petitioner does not deserve the concession of bail at this stage," he observed.



ADGP takes stock of traffic scenario in Jammu city

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) Traffic J&K, T. Namgyal on Tuesday issued directions to the concerned for effective regulation of traffic as well as enforcement against traffic violators particularly against illegal parking.

T. Namgyal was speaking in the meeting held in the Conference Hall of ZPHQ, here.

The meeting was attended by SSP Jammu Shridhar Patil, SSP Traffic City Jammu Shiv Kumar, SO to ADGP (T) SSP Rakesh Kumar, ASP North Jammu P.D Nitya, ASP Traffic City Jammu Pardeep Singh Gouria, DySPs, DTIs of Traffic City Jammu.

While taking stock of the overall traffic scenario of traffic City Jammu as well as out-



ADGP Traffic J&K, T. Namgyal chairing a meeting.

skirts of city, ADGP Traffic stressed upon the officers to take all necessary measures to smoothen the flow of traffic in city and outskirts in view of Darbar Move during which the volume of traffic increased.

Serious concern was expressed over traffic congestion in busy areas particularly around hospitals, Ambphalla-Janipur road, Kachi Chawni, Parade, Shalamar road, Bikram Chowk, Satwari,

Airport road etc and directions were issued to the concerned to make ensure that these areas are free from on-road parking and traffic Jamming, so that people in general and patients in particular will not suffer. ADGP Traffic stressed upon all Ranks of Traffic City Jammu to work with transparency, zeal and zest and in accordance with law besides keeping a people friendly approach.

Power shutdown

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: To carry out various development upgradation/repair works, the power supply to Kaleeth, Khour Town, Giral Kharah, Dhangar, Chack Malal, Aizal Mallal and adjoining areas fed from 33 KV line from Khour to Kaleeth emanating from 132/33KV Grid Station Kaleeth shall remain affected on November 18 from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Similarly, the power supply to Mandal, Guraha, Raya and its adjoining areas fed from 33KV Mandal line emanating from 132/33KV Grid Station BB-II shall remain affected on November 19, 22 and 25 from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

Cancellation/Regulation of Special trains

Due to Kisan agitation, the following special trains will be cancelled/regulated :-

- 02332 Dn Jammu Tawi-Howrah Festival Special (journey commencing on 19.11.2020 from Jammu Tawi) will remain cancelled.
- 02358 Amritsar-Kolkata Special (journey commencing on 19.11.2020) will short-originate from Ambala Cantt. and will remain partially cancelled between Ambala Cantt.-Amritsar-Ambala Cantt.

Chief Passenger Transportation Manager
EASTERN RAILWAY

Abrogation of Art 370: Curse or blessing for Jammu?

With the abrogation of Article 370, the role of the Centre and the BJP has come under close scanner. The people are assessing the political changes in terms of fulfilling the promises with the youth and the discriminated and marginalised segments of the Jammu population. There seems to be growing despair and helplessness with nothing actually happening on ground.



Mahesh Banathia, Central Executive Member IkkJutt Jammu: After the abrogation of Article 370 and 35A, people did not feel many changes on ground for the past over 15 months as claimed by many political parties.

The things are not on expected lines and even after the abrogation of Article 370, the sufferings of the general public are not getting minimised. Rather they are touching alarming heights with each passing day. Daily wagers from different departments are on roads for the past few months to highlight their demands but nobody from the UT administration is listening to them. The Jammu region is still discriminated against in terms of jobs and recruitment. The BJP leaders, to whom people voted to power with 25 MLAs in last Assembly elections, have failed to highlight the issues of public importance, especially of the Jammu region at an appropriate level and they are still behaving like puppets of Kashmir leaderships and their policies. The recent example came to light when Amandeep Singh Boparai, youth activist was arrested for hoisting the national flag at the PDP office and no political leader from Jammu came forward in his support except IkkJutt Jammu. It is an open secret now that no major changes were felt after the abrogation of Article 370 and 35A so the people of Jammu have no option but to demand for separate Jammu State.



Lakshay Mahajan, student: The abrogation of Article 370 should be seen in a positive perspective and it is indeed a blessing for the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

The Centre Government has brought an effective reform for the people of erstwhile J&K State. Beating the old age historic practice this new reform and change will open doors for private sectors to invest in J&K. This will boost the economy of the Union Territory. There will be scope for more job opportunities now apart from tourism. The Centre will be able to provide better medical facilities to citizens of J&K now. Finally, it is 'One Nation One Constitution'. This will instill the feeling of unity among all the citizens of India.



Er Sushant Gupta, Chairman G.S. Sports Club: The people of erstwhile Jammu & Kashmir State wholeheartedly welcomed the abrogation of Article 370 as they were of the view that this will bring the newly created Union Territory directly under the control of Centre.

Now, after the abrogation of this draconian Article, the people from the rest of the country can buy land here to establish industries and factories that will give a boost to the private sector which in turn would generate more job opportunities in the Union Territory. The sports infra-



Sheena Sharma, Teacher: It was a historic step taken by the central government to revoke Article 35A and 370 from Jammu and Kashmir. After the abrogation of Article 370, a new ray of hope has been there that it will begin a new era of development. But it is very unfortunate that the ground situation is still the same with zero development,

zero job opportunities and zero avenues for youth. We lost special status with the hope to have more employment opportunities and other development avenues. But it is sad that we are still facing the discrimination in the hands of corrupt politicians. Most of the employees are on roads, protesting in support of their demands and pending salaries. But there have been only fake promises and false hopes, nothing else. It is another failure.

NO CASH PAYMENTS FROM 1ST JANUARY 2021

ALL TOLL PAYMENTS VIA

ONLY

No more long queues
Save time and fuel

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- Petrol Pumps on NH
- RTOs
- Transport Hubs
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- Banks (ICICI, HDFC, Axis, others)
- Banking Mobile Apps
- My FASTag App
- Sukhad Yatra App
- NHAI/ NPCI/ IHMCL Website

For nearest point of sale visit www.nhai.gov.in or www.ihmcl.co.in

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