

NC, PDP, Cong deprived people of basic amenities; Modi made it possible: Priya Sethi

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Underlining the importance of DDC polls, senior BJP leader and former Minister Priya Sethi said that under a democratic setup in a country like India the third tier of governance has a crucial role to play and its significance should not be undermined by anyone.

Priya Sethi said that the people are in an upbeat mood for the upcoming DDC elections, adding that she has witnessed a wave of enthusiasm among the masses wherever she had an opportunity to go during the campaigning.

She said that during her visits to Saranoo and Godhar Panchayats of Jammu region the people welcomed not only the initiative of the Modi government to hold DDC elec-



Former Minister, Priya Sethi campaigning for BJP candidate.

tions.

The general public is also wholeheartedly hailing the positive steps taken by the BJP government under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to bring holistic development in J&K, she added.

She further said that the people are thanking Prime Minister Modi for overall development without any room for corruption which

was earlier ruling the roost during the previous regimes of National Conference, Congress and the PDP.

Sethi said that the network of PMGSY roads in far-flung areas, provision of electricity to all, water supply schemes, PM Awas Yojana and other welfare schemes have brought a ray of hope for the gullible rural masses, who were deprived of these basic amenities by

the erstwhile rulers of J&K.

She said that the people are having a sigh of relief and satisfaction after the Modi government took initiatives to end the corrupt practices groomed and encouraged by the Congress, National Conference and the PDP, adding that the general public is welcoming the people-friendly and pro-development approach of the BJP.

Sethi said that holding DDC polls in J&K is yet another step of the Modi regime to make democracy more stronger at the grass root level as the third tier of governance will bring more transparency viz a viz the flow of development will gain further momentum.

Rajesh Raina and Harish Thakur also accompanied the former Minister.

Will press NOTA button in forthcoming DDC elections: Tractor Union

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Tractor Union of Jammu, under the leadership of Arif Hussain, Chairman of the Union today organized a meeting in wake of forthcoming DDC elections in J&K.

Addressing the meeting, Arif said that Union has unanimously decided to press NOTA button in forthcoming DDC elections to show resentment against all political parties which completely failed to raise their genuine demands and leaving them at the verge of starvation. He said that the ban on mining has largely affected daily earners, who are dependent on mining.

"If this ban continues, affected families will die of starvation, as it has affected everyone from labourers and mine owners to transporters," said Arif, adding that since the ban on mining, families concerned with this occupation have been struggling to make both their ends

meet. The COVID-19 pandemic has come as nightmare for them squeezing all their reserves and putting them in extremely hardships.

He asked all those involved in this occupation should question representatives of political parties who approached them for their support that what have their parties done in addressing their genuine demands and should return them with respect so that they can understand their sufferings. Arif maintained that despite approaching all the concerned platforms to get their issues mitigated and even after knocking every door, nothing has been done in this regard so far despite the fact that over thousands of labourers and their families engaged in mining have been severely affected by the ban.

Unemployed drivers and helpers and thousands of families whose livelihood is linked

with sand and stone mining at river beds are now out of jobs due to ban on mining activities. The sand miners, diggers, boat-owners find themselves at a disadvantage in this new mining policy. The sand diggers who belong to the working-class community have been the worst hit due to the introduction of the new mining policy in Jammu and Kashmir.

It is the responsibility of the government thus to acknowledge and respond to the concerns raised by Tractor Union making sure that the policy does not undermine their interests, added Arif. He called for waiving off the loans of the affected persons as a goodwill gesture in keeping with the fundamentals of a welfare state.

Prominent among those present in the meeting include Lakhvinder Singh, Krishan Choudhary, Nresh Bagat, Ayub Khan, Koshal Sharma beside others.

J&K should also bring ordinance on 'Love Jihad': NSF

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: National Sikh Front (NSF) demanded an ordinance on 'Love Jihad' in Jammu and Kashmir, as has been done in Uttar Pradesh by Yogi Adityanath led BJP government. In a press statement, National Sikh Front (NSF) Chairman Varinderjeet Singh, made this demand, while expressing concern for the safety, security and dignified living of Minorities girls in Jammu & Kashmir, adding that there has been many cases related to 'Love Jihad', where Muslim boys cheated the innocent girls on wrong identifications and religion.

Varinderjeet Singh said that the decision of the UP government of ten years imprisonment to such persons, who indulge in tactics of playing with the lives of females by false promises and wrong information, is highly appreciable and will surely induce a sense of safety among girls of the poor and weaker sections of the Indian society.

Jandial Biradari annual congregation cancelled

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: All Jandial Sabha (Regd) today announced cancellation of the annual congregation on 'Kartik Purnima' falling on Monday, 30th November, 2020 in view of the prevailing deadly coronavirus in Jammu which has been taking toll of human lives every day and infecting hundreds of residents in Jammu.

This decision was announced by the President of the Sabha, Raman Jandial after intense consultation with the members of the Executive Committee, other prominent members of the biradari and district administration.

Finally, the Committee headed by the Patron Justice K K Gupta (Retd) approved cancellation of the 'Mail'.

The Committee comprises I. C. Jandial (Chairman),

Rakesh Jandial (General Secretary), Mohan Lal Gupta, Subash Jandial, Adv Rattan Lal Gupta, O. P Gupta & K. B Jandial.

As per the guidelines of the Govt, no religious congregation except for a gathering of 200 shall be allowed in temples for fear of spread of coronavirus in the city.

Thousands of members of Jandial biradari visit the devasthan of Baba Sehnajth ji on this annual 'mail' and it was not possible to allow and regulate such a huge gathering at the devasthan without violating the Govt instructions on this count and risking safety of the members of the Biradari which is the prime consideration of the Sabha while taking this decision.

However, necessary religious rituals shall be performed at the Temple without any gathering.

Article 370 root cause of discrimination with SCs, Valmiki, Gorkhas & women: Balbir

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Making a scathing attack on the leaders of Gupkar Alliance for mis-leading the people on bringing back Article 370, BJP Jammu and Kashmir, Spokesperson, Balbir Ram Rattan, said that much water has flown through Chenab and Jehlum during the last one year and this Article cannot be brought back. This is a fact which Gupkar Group knows very well but their personal interests are making them to indulge in politics of deceit and lies.

Balbir said that barring a handful of people, majority of the population has welcomed the removal of Article 370 but has disturbed those who had been running their shops by playing emotional card and had accumulated huge wealth and immovable properties worth hundreds of crores of rupees.

"History is witness that Jammu and Kashmir was the only State in India where various sections of the society were deprived of even basic rights and were treated as Second Class Citizens", Balbir said and added that a glance at the list of beneficiaries after the abrogation of the controversial Article will make it clear that the erstwhile State had been turned into hell for Refugees, Valmiki, Gorkhas, SCs, etc who were deprived of all such rights, which were otherwise enjoyed by their counterparts in other State of India.

The BJP Spokesperson elaborated that West Pakistan Refugees, SCs, Valmiki were the worst

sufferers, who were not treated as State Subjects and their wards could not get admissions in professional institutions, nor they could avail the benefits of scholarships, none from among them had the right to purchase and own land. They could not contest elections of Local Bodies, Panchayats, BDCs, DDCs and State Assembly. Similarly, the daughters of Jammu and Kashmir, married to other parts of the country, lost their rights as citizens of the State, which was highly discriminatory and unconstitutional.

Not only this, the STs were not given any political reservation under Article 370 and they had no constitutional platform to raise their voice. Even they were deprived of the rights over the forest land as the centre's Forest Act 2007 was not implemented under the excuse of 370, which could have benefited this section.

BJP's misrule gave big jerk to development activities: Hari Singh

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Lambasting BJP for depriving the people of Jammu and Kashmir from basic amenities, President District Congress Committee (DCC) Jammu (Rural) Hari Singh Chib said that the BJP leadership has failed to deliver on its promises made to people during the previous elections.

Senior Congress leader Hari Singh Chib said that the BJP's misrule and anti-people policies have given a big blow to the developmental activities in various parts of J&K taken up during Congress regime.

Chib said this while addressing a gathering of party supporters and workers during a programme to hand over mandate to party candidates for the forthcoming DDC polls.

Senior Congress leader handed over the party mandate to Congress candidates Ramesh Motton from Block RS Pura and T. S. Bajwa former MP from Block Suchetgarh in district Jammu in presence of Pawan Raina, Secretary Pradesh Congress Committee, Sarpanch and Senior Vice



DCC Jammu (Rural) President, Hari Singh Chib handing over mandate to party candidates.

President DCC Jammu (Rural), Ravinder Singh, Block President RS Pura Sham Mehra, SP Mandi, Ajit Singh, Ajaib Singh Motton, Prithvi Singh and others.

Chib said that the people of Jammu region are facing numerous hardships on account of shortage of drinking water, power cuts, dilapidated condition of roads, poor condition of hospitals, unemployment and several others largely due to step-motherly treatment given by the previous BJP government in J&K.

Chib further said that BJP has not only deceived the people of J&K by making false promises in the name of development

and progress but it has also betrayed the masses by snatching the statehood of historical J&K created and unified by the erstwhile Dogra rulers. He said that BJP is solely responsible for degrading the J&K state into two Union Territories for which the people will teach a lesson to the local leadership for their betrayal.

Asking people to inflict a blow to the BJP in the DDC elections, Hari Singh appealed to them to extend full support to the Congress Party and its candidates in the hustings. Make Congress party victorious to ensure peace, prosperity and equitable development, Chib said.

BJP has nothing to showcase as achievement in DDC polls: Goyal

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Treachery and deceit of the BJP is haunting people of Jammu region who reposed their unflinching faith and support to it with the hope that Jammu may perhaps get a better deal as during the days of its wilderness in the opposition, the BJP leaders were crying hoarse over discrimination and neglect.

This was stated by Raj Kumar Goyal, Vice President District Congress Committee Jammu Urban while interacting with party workers here today.

The senior Congress leader said that J&K BJP leadership has nothing to showcase as its achievement. He said the sense of alienation and deprivation being felt in Jammu Province also needs to be understood and addressed. He attributed this sense of deprivation to the exploitative and opportunistic politics of the BJP and its local leaders.

Goyal blamed the BJP leadership for their utter failure on all fronts, and misleading Jammu people with false loud statements, as the

main motive of BJP is to divert the attention of Jammu people from the real issues of public interests. He alleged that BJP whom Jammu people have voted into power should not shift their responsibility, but should concentrate on fulfilment of their electoral promises made.

Goyal recalled the role of BJP in opposition and said that instead of seeking better way of life for them, they were misused as vote banks. "And once sitting on the driver's seat in Government, the very existence of these people has been undermined", he added.

"The people of Jammu, Kashmir should be empowered as a matter of right and not as charity", Goyal said while recalling the inclusive character of the State which can legitimately take pride in its inclusiveness and glorious pluralistic ethos.

Goyal said Jammu, being abode of Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs and Christians, has always shown the spirit of assimilation and accommodation and is a shining example of pluralistic character.

DB directs ACB to file ATR with regard to raid of J&K SCARD Bank

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Taking serious note over functioning of Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) in case related to J&K State Cooperative Agriculture & Rural Development (SCARD) Bank, the Division Bench of J&K High Court comprising Chief Justice Gita Mittal and Justice Rajesh Bindal directed ACB to file Action Taken Report within four weeks.

DB observed that in instant case, the Anti-corruption Bureau stated that it received a communication from J&K State Vigilance dated 24th April 2015 to look into complaint against management of J&K State Cooperative Agricultural and Rural Development (SCARD) Bank, inter alia, with regard to misappropriation of crores of bank's finances. DB observed that investigation in respect of subject matter thereof remained pending despite passage of over five years.

To say the least, it is a shocking state of affairs. By now, the investigation/inquiry, if

any, should have been long over. The delay speaks volumes about the functioning of the Anti Corruption Bureau.

Division Bench further observed that a fervent prayer is made by Raman Sharma, AAG to give one opportunity to place latest action taken report in the matter. DB further made it clear that in case, proceedings have not been finalised, the Court would be compelled to take a serious view of matter and directed to file Action Taken report within four weeks.

In a Public Interest Litigation filed by Arif Mustaq & ors, in which an application was filed seeking directions to respondents to be restrained from issuing any orders with respect to confirmation/regularization of the services of Recovery Helpers/Orderlies/ Drivers, who are back-door appointees as has been resolved by them in their 125th Meeting of Board of Management of J&K SCARD Bank and also seeking Director ACB to file a detailed status report with respect to the raids carried out by them.

J&K Bank Preliminary PO Exams: Around 6,000 aspirants appear on first day

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: In a large exercise involving more than 56000 aspirants and thirty-nine centres spread across the UT of Jammu and Kashmir and in rest of the country, around 6000 aspirants appeared for the first phase of online preliminary examinations for the posts of Probationary Officer (PO) in J&K Bank on the first day. Notably, the online exams are held directly by the Institute of Banking Personnel Selection (IBPS), Mumbai - a prestigious agency of impeccable track record - with technical expertise being facilitated by the Tata Consultancy Services (TCS). The role of the J&K Bank besides being an observer in the exams, is restricted to making appropriate logistical arrangements for the candidates. Meanwhile, the bank has taken all measures to ensure that the Government's Covid-19 guidelines at all these centers are complied with besides taking care of the convenience and comfort of the candidates writing the exams.

With the centers mostly set-up in the government and private educational institutions across the UT and outside, more than 56000 aspirants are expected to appear in the exams to be conducted in five phases beginning today across 39 centers including 10, established in the rest of the

country to facilitate the candidates stationed outside the UT, who had already opted for the same in their application forms.

Wishing all the aspirants best for the online PO exams, the bank's Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) R K Chhibber said, "Although due to the ongoing pandemic this process got delayed, however, as I had promised recently, the preliminary online examination for the posts of Probationary Officer (PO) has begun. I wish all the best to every aspirant appearing in the tests for his/her future career."

For transparent and efficient conduct of these online tests, the bank's specially constituted teams led by the top management from the CHQ and zonal offices visited the centers throughout the day to ensure that the arrangements made at these venues are strictly Covid-compliant besides being convenient for the candidates.

A team of senior officers led by Executive President Sunil Gupta visited various centers in Srinagar and peripheral areas to take first hand stock of the arrangements.

"It is heartening to see so many young boys and girls taking part in the examinations and enthusiastic to be a part of the JK Bank family. This says lot about how people perceive and emotionally connect with

this institution. We have tried our best to make sure that the aspirants are provided with the best possible facilities so that they write their exams without any hindrance or hiccups", said Sunil Gupta.

The aspirants expressed their satisfaction with overall arrangements and heralded the bank as main source of employment to the youth of J&K.

"JK Bank is one of the main sources of employment to the youth of J&K and we are thankful to the bank for providing us such a good job opportunity. The arrangements were good and I would love to be part of this premier institution", said enthusiastic Bisma Jan, an aspirant on the occasion, while as another candidate asserted, "I aspire to be part of J&K Bank Family to serve the people as this bank is the backbone of region's economy."

The parents accompanying the aspirants also echoed their wards' sentiments.

"It is my dream to see my son working as an officer in this bank. He will have a bright future working in J&K Bank as a professional", said Rajinder Singh. Senior officers of bank's human resource and technology departments monitored all the test-sessions online throughout the day along with personnel from TCS at the bank's corporate office.

DGP sanctions Rs 2.20 crore special welfare relief for NoKs of martyrs

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Continuing with its endeavour to provide financial assistance to the families of the police personnel who attained martyrdom while fighting terrorism and personnel who have passed away due to any illness while in service, the Director-General of Police (DGP) Dilbag Singh has sanctioned Rs 2.20 crore as Special Welfare Relief. The special welfare relief of Rs 20 lakh each has been sanctioned in favour of dependents/legal heirs of deceased personnel Sub Inspector Amar Singh, Sub Inspector Bashir Ahmad, HC Nishat Ahmad, HC Vinod Kumar, SgCt.(Dvr) Gulzar Ahmad, Sgct. Madan Gopal, Constable Hilal Ahmad, Constable Ramesh Lal and

families/NoKs for performing the last rites as immediate relief by the PHQ through their concerned units. The financial assistance has been given out of Contributory Police Welfare Fund of SPOs.

DGP has also sanctioned Rs 5 lakh as ex-gratia relief in favour of NoKs of martyr ASI/GD Naresh Umrao Badole of 117 Bn CRPF, who attained martyrdom in a terrorist attack.

Police Headquarters is running many schemes for the welfare of its personnel and their families. There are also schemes for the wards of Police personnel and SPOs. Besides, there are schemes for the NoKs of martyrs, their wards and also for the retired Police personnel and their spouses.

BJP failed to fulfill promise of providing 2 crore jobs annually: Mula Ram

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Lambasting the BJP for playing politics of deceit and indulging in rhetoric, senior Congress leader and former Minister Mula Ram said that not fulfilling the promise of providing 2 crore jobs annually is enough to prove the lies of its leadership. Mula Ram said that the Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his colleagues had made tall promises of creating 2 crore jobs per year before the Lok Sabha polls of 2014 but even after more than six years they are unable to create employment opportunities for lakhs of unemployed youth.

Accompanied by DCC Rural President, Hari Singh Chib, Mula Ram was addressing party workers and supporters at Rathua, Fallore, Suhagani, Kaintwala, Bachial, Jasswan and Karloop while campaigning for Party's candidate Rajinder Kumar for the forthcoming DDC polls.

Mula Ram said that people have understood the game plan of the BJP which is only to hoodwink the masses and doing nothing substantial on ground. He said that BJP is specialized in

only raking up emotive issues and diverting the attention of the people from real issue in a bid to hide its failures and lies.

Senior Congress leader said that the BJP talks of transparency in governance is also hollow as the BJP rule witnessed several backdoor entries in jobs, adding the case pertaining to the scam is still going on while the persons who were illegally appointed are still serving and not been sacked.

Mula Ram said that the government should initiate measures to procure paddy from the farmers at their steps while he also sought higher rate of MSP for the farmers. He said that the Congress is committed to strive for empowerment of down-trodden and marginalized segments of the society while continuously endeavouring for strengthening the various institutions tasked with the responsibility of taking governance to grassroots level. Among prominent who accompanied Mula Ram included Surinder Singh Chib, Captain Hakim Singh, DySP Jagdish Singh, Gajey Singh and Balkar Singh.

Congress condoles demise of Ahmed Patel

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Senior leaders of Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee deeply shocked by the passing away of senior AICC leader Ahmed Patel and have joined together to express heartfelt condolences. They deeply mourned his loss and prayed to the almighty to give strength to the family as also loved once to bear the loss.

In their condolence message they said that Ahmad Patel was a strong pillar and veteran party leader, who contributed a lot to the Party. The Party has lost a great leader and visionary in the passing away of Ahmed Patel, who was known for his acumen and dedication. They conveyed deepest condolence

to the family, friends and followers of Ahmed Patel and prayed for eternal peace to departed soul.

Prominent among those who condoled the death include Raman Bhalla, Mula Ram, G.M. Saroori, Kanta Bhan, Ravinder Sharma, Rajnish Sharma, Th. Balwan Singh, Abdul Mjid Wani, Th. Manmohan Singh, Yogesh Sawhney, Shah Mohd Choudhary, Ch. Gharu Ram, Indu Pawar, Hari Singh Chib, Vinod Sharma, Shashi Sharma, Pawan Raina, Thomas Khokhar, Shiv Kumar Sharma, Uday Chib, Rajesh Sadotra, Col Swarn Singh, Gurdarshan Singh, K.K Pangotra, Krishan Lal Gupt, Zahida Khan, Rajvir Singh, Gajan Singh and Iqbal Dar.

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