

J&K saw optimistic political, social change post Article 370 end: Kavinder

Anticipates de-freezing of 8 Assembly seats in J&K

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister, Kavinder Gupta on Wednesday said that post abrogation of Article 370, Jammu and Kashmir has witnessed encouraging transformation as far as political as well as social scenarios are concerned while the region is fast changing into hub of development processes leaving behind the dark era of underdevelopment and sluggish work culture.

The stalwart leader from J&K was interacting with various former Speakers of Parliament and other prominent personalities active in national politics.

Those present in the meeting with former deputy chief minister and former Speaker J&K Assembly include Shiv Raj Patil former Lok Sabha Speaker, Sumitra Mahajan former Lok Sabha Speaker, N Gopalswamy former



Senior J&K BJP leader, Kavinder Gupta interacting with former Speakers of Parliament.

Election Commissioner of India, Sushil Chandra former Election Commissioner of India and Gian Chand Gupta Speaker Haryana Assembly besides others.

Kavinder said that J&K has witnessed drastic changes on the political as well as social fronts after the historic decision of BJP Government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to make null and void

the contentious Article 370, which gave special status to erstwhile state of J&K.

He said that the Kashmir policy of Modi Government has instilled new hope among the residents of the UT of J&K as they have started becoming the part and parcel of all the initiatives started by the dispensation to steer out Kashmir from turmoil to development oriented region with

numerous opportunities for the people to have a good fortune.

Kavinder make it a point that people's support in the cause of restoration of normalcy in the Valley is helping out government in a big way and sooner than later the situation would turn absolutely normal because reports are averring that terrorism is on its last leg and normalcy is already on the doorsteps of the people.

Meanwhile, Kavinder has also welcomed the response given by the ECI with regard to query raised by an Advocate seeking de-freezing of eight seats out of 24 earmarked for the Pakistan occupied Jammu and Kashmir refugees as per the Jammu and Kashmir Constitution in 1956. He said, as the ECI has stated that the issue is under the Union Government's jurisdiction, a positive outcome is likely in the case.

VC inaugurates 'Display Your Talent 2022-23' at University of Jammu

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: 'Display Your Talent 2022-23' commenced today at the University of Jammu which is an annual feature of Department of Students Welfare, University of Jammu. Prof. Umesh Rai, Vice Chancellor, University of Jammu was the Chief Guest at the inaugural function. Prof. Arvind Jasrotia, Registrar, University of Jammu and other important functionaries of the university also attended the programme which started with the lighting of traditional lamp by the dignitaries. Prof. Umesh Rai, Vice Chancellor, University of Jammu stated with gladness that 'Display Your Talent' is a unique cultural extravaganza and welcomed all the participants to the great platform which has provided inspiration to hundreds of its alumni.

Prof. Prakash Antahal, Dean Students Welfare, in his welcome address expressed gladness over the notable participation of students. He also informed that, this year, the University of Jammu



Participants posing for a photograph with faculty members.

would be hosting the prestigious North Zone Youth Festival under the aegis of Association of Indian Universities and winners of this Display Your Talent would get an opportunity to participate in the same. Prof. Vishav Raksha, Chairperson, Campus Cultural Committee apprised the audience about brief history of 'Display Your Talent' and expressed gladness over the organization of Display Your Talent after a gap of two years. Prof. Sanjana Kaul, Co-Chairperson, Campus Cultural Committee presented the vote of thanks. The event of Light Vocal Singing was conducted on the first day wherein Pooja Pandita

and Ritika Verma both from Institute of Music and Fine Arts secured first and second positions respectively. Third position was shared by Geeta Devi from GDC, Reasi and Laksh from GDC (Boys) Udhampur. Certificates of Merit were awarded to Ankush Majotra from GDC (Boys) Kathua and Khushi Namita Kichloo from Department of Botany, JU. Upma Sharma, Monu Kumar and Dharmesh Nargotra were the adjudicators and Dr Sandeep Singh and Dr Satyapriya were Teachers In-Charge of the event. Others present on the occasion included Dr Anil Gupta (Associate Dean SW), Dr Garima Gupta and Dr

Pritam Singh (Assistant Deans, SW), Dr A R Manhas & Dr Shalhu Sharma (Deputy Proctors), members of Campus Cultural Committee, Mansi Mantoo (Media Officer), Sumeet Sharma (Drama Instructor) and Ifra Kak (Cultural Officer). The hall was managed by Sunny Singh, Janvi Sharma, Aaryan Chalotra, Insha Dawood, Deepika Rajput, Aparna, Palvasha Khanam and Rohan and Avinash and Vishal while sound was looked after by Kulbhushan Thakur. The event of Group Song Indian will be conducted at Brig Rajinder Singh Auditorium, University of Jammu, on Thursday from 10 AM onwards.

KCPS excels in Swimming Meet 2022



Faculty members felicitating winner students.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: KC Public School (KCPS) swimming team performed well in the District Level Swimming Competition 2022 organized by the Department of Youth Services & Sports at KC Public School Senior School Pool from November 1 to 5, 2022.

Sixteen schools from Jammu Division participated in the competition.

Maintaining high standards in this sport year after year, KCPS swimmers won 36 medals including 25 gold, 8 silver and 3 bronze.

In different age categories for

both girls and boys, KCPS students Xena Bandhu bagged 3 gold, Jenita Bhat 3 gold, Mitali Raj 3 gold, Vanshika Gosain 3

gold, Sarvani Chowdhary 2 silver, Dhanya Singh 1 bronze, Sidhanga Singh 1 bronze, Vikas Koul 3 gold, Shourya Sambyal 3 gold, Mujtaba 2 gold, Ranveer Chowdhary 2 gold & 1 silver, Ayan Sharma 2 gold & 1 silver, Arjit 2 gold & 1 silver, Laksh Kapoor 1 silver and Arnab Gupta 1 bronze.

School Chairman, Raju Chowdhary, Managing Director Arti Chowdhary, Vice Chairman Arjun Chowdhary and Principal Amarendra Kumar Mishra congratulated the students and swimming Coaches Babita Rani and Sahil for their outstanding achievement.

Rajeshwar's 'Khitiz Paas Hai Nahin Bhi' released

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: 'Khitiz Paas Hai Nahin Bhi', a collection of Hindi poetry written by English, Dogri and Hindi writer Rajeshwar Singh 'Raju' is released on Amazon, Flipkart and Notion Press.

The book contains 82 poems which are written in simple language but carry significant messages. The majority of them are free verse poems focusing on the contents therein. It is 19th publication of writer. The cover page of the book is designed by Mrinalini Singh.

As per writer, the creative journey through this book 'KHITIZ PAAS HAI NAHIN BHI' was a feel good experience. He has also preferred to choose those subjects which are quite thought provoking and dear to present generation.

Natrang presents two shows of 'Bawa Jitto' at Jhiri Mela-2022



A still from the play 'Bawa Jitto' directed by Balwant Thakur, presented by Natrang at Jhiri Mela.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The most celebrated globally acclaimed Dogri play 'Bawa Jitto' mesmerised thousands of the audiences consecutively for the 2nd day here at the main stage of Jhiri Mela-2022. A presentation of Natrang Jammu is written by Late Prof. Ram Nath Shastri and is innovatively devised, designed and creatively directed by Padamshree Balwant Thakur. This mind-blowing presentation of Natrang magically transported along the thousands of the devotees and the pilgrims to a six hundred year old saga of supreme sacrifice of a farmer who gave his life in the fight of justice and exploitation by the landlords.

The most noteworthy feature of the presentation was that it made the audience relive a 15th century tale exactly at the same place where it happened hundreds of years ago.

Giving details virtually from Mauritius, Natrang Director Balwant Thakur said that if such events are made a permanent feature, they will not only revive cultural life of the area but will also become the ultimate global cultural destination. The role of Bawa Jitto was played by Neeraj Kant who kept everyone spellbound through his electrifying performance. Meenakshi Bhagat as Jojan, Suresh Kumar as Mehta Beer Singh, Vijay Bhatt as Sarpanch & Ghaghi and Subash Jamwal as Malli left the lasting impact on the audiences through their highly professional performances.

They were supported by senior actors like, Mahikshit Singh as Issa and Mohd Yaseen as Rullo with full perfection. Another noteworthy performance was by young Prial Gupta as Bua Gauri who received the praise of all.

Others who gave vibrant performances included Sachin Saini, Aadesh Dhar, Rishav Sharma, Vishal Sharma, Kanapreet Kaur, Aarti Devi, Sushant Singh Charak, Parth Magotra, Mohd. Umar, Priya Mehra, Shreya Raza, Rupali, Vansh, Kushal Bhat and Sanket Bhagat.

The lights were designed and executed by Brijesh Avtar Sharma and sound was professionally audio graphed by Tilak Raj.

National Conference begins at Botany Deptt CUJ

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Two-day National Conference on 'Promoting Applied Research in Plant Sciences (PARPS - 2022)' organized by Department of Botany, Central University of Jammu (CUJ) was inaugurated at Brig. Rajinder Singh auditorium, CUJ on Wednesday.

Prof. Sanjeev Jain, Vice Chancellor, CUJ was the Chief Guest while Prof. J.P. Sharma, Vice Chancellor, Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology (SKUAST), Jammu, and Dr. C. M. Seth, Retd PCCF, J&K and Prof. B. S. Bhau, Head, Department of Botany, CUJ were the



Prof. Sanjeev Jain, VC CUJ and Prof. J.P. Sharma, VC SKUAST-J after signing MoU.

Guests of Honour. Prof. J. P. Sharma highlighted that despite decreasing land and water resources, we have surplus agricultural production. However, post-harvest wastage leads to considerable economic loss, and technologies should be developed to reduce these losses which would also lead to farmer prosperity. Prof. Sanjeev Jain

emphasised the need to scientifically document, protect and patent our traditional knowledge of plants. Dr. C. M. Seth urged the participants to plan their research such that it can go from 'lab to field', thus contributing towards the GDP of our nation. Earlier, Prof. Bhau reiterated his commitment that at Department of Botany, CUJ research is ori-

ented with the motto 'Think global, Act local'.

Highlight of the occasion was signing of MOU between CUJ and SKUAST-Jammu which would promote faculty and student exchange between the two leading Universities of the region. Dr. Vanya Bawa, Convenor PARPS- 2022 gave the vote of thanks. Prof. Felix Bast, Central University of Punjab, Bhatinda, Prof. Tuhina Dey, and Prof. Gurdev Chand, SKUAST-Jammu and Dr. Reyazul R Mir, SKUAST-Kashmir and research scholars and students from CUJ, Jammu University, SKUAST-Jammu, CSIR-IIIM, Govt. Dept. of School Education, Jammu, GDC Paloura, BGSBU, Rajouri were also present.

HL Abrol hosts DAP workers' meeting, resolves to strengthen Azad's hands

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Democratic Azad Party (DAP) leaders held public meeting at Raghunath Bazaar, here.

The public meeting organized by top DAP leader, Hira Lal Abrol was attended by other prominent workers of the party.

Speaking on the occasion, Hira Lal Abrol exhorted the party workers to amplify their efforts to reach out to wider sections of society across the Jammu District.

"We have to strive for an atmosphere, where basic needs of our people including development and other issues are addressed. On the other hand, the party



DAP leader, Hira Lal Abrol chairing a public meeting.

has to keep up its peaceful and constitutional fight for land and job rights," Abrol said.

"People are looking towards us to protect J&K's social, political and cultural individuality as ever before. To achieve this goal, the party's moves have to be

marked by collectivism and better coordination at all levels," he added.

Later, the DAP leaders deliberated on the current political situation and measures to strengthen the party at the grassroot level.

The leaders of Democratic Azad Party resolved to

strengthen the hands of DAP Chairman, Ghulam Nabi Azad.

The meeting was attended by Gourav Chopra (Corporator), Lalita Sharma (Ex-Corporator), Maana Gupta, Renu Balla, Madhu Sharma, Sunita Arora, Prakha Salathia, Rajani Sharma, Santosh Manjotra, Vinod Manas, Raj Kumar Sharma, Indes Paul Singh, Narinder Sharma, Vinod Sharma and Other.

Those who joined DAP on the occasion were Baldev Khullar (Ex President Raghunath Bazaar Association) Vishal, Amit and others.

Dy Mayor flags-off Sadhbhavana Yatra

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A Sadhbhavana Yatra was flagged-off by Baldev Singh Billawaria Deputy Mayor, Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) from Jammu on Wednesday, which after passing through Punjab, Haryana, HP, will culminate at Chandni Chowk, New Delhi on November 11, 2022, a place where Guru Tegh Bahadur attained martyrdom on November 11, 1675 (English calendar). The Yatra has been organised by Global Guru Nanak Mission under the chairmanship of Dr Jaswant Singh, Co-Chairman Surjeet Singh and Co-Sanyojak Sandeep Tyagi, Jagjit Singh, Avtar Singh besides other members. The organizers said that narrow and fanatic outlook of Aurangzeb started persecution of Kashmiri Pandits, with an objective of securing their conversion to Islam. "Saddened by plight of Pandits, Guru Tegh Bahadur became pensive and made up his mind to put his life at stake. Guru Tegh Bahadur's Martyrdom has become a symbol of religious unity, tolerance and the message against fanaticism and he sacrificed his life for dignity of Indian ethics. It is requested to Government for issuing instructions to observe 2-minute silence on Nov 11, at 11 AM across the country to remember great sacrifice as no amount of praise would suffice for the great work," they asserted.

Dr Arvind re-elected President, Akshi Secretary ABVP J&K

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Dr Arvind Parkash Singh has been re-elected as State President and Akshi Billowria as State Secretary of Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) Jammu Kashmir for year 2022-23. It was announced by Election Officer Dr Permendra Singh in a press statement issued in Jammu on Wednesday.

He further stated that tenure of both posts will be of one year, and both office bearers will assume their charge during



58th State Conference of ABVP scheduled to be held in Kangra Fort (Jammu) from November 11-13, 2022.

DBPS hails SC's verdict on 10 pc reservation for EWS

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Dogra Brahman Pratinidhi Sabha (DBPS) on Wednesday hailed the decision of the Supreme Court regarding 10 per cent reservation of Economically Weaker Section (EWS) of the Upper Castes.

President DBPS, Ved Parkash Sharma, while addressing the media persons in the Sabha, said that this verdict of the Apex Court has created history in Judiciary by upholding 130th Constitutional Amendment by the Parliament.

This amendment shall not benefit to the poor strata of the upper castes only but will also fulfill the long pending overdue demand of the society, he added.

Senior BJP leader Chander Mohan Sharma said that the decision of the

Apex Court will bridge the gap between rich and poor people of the country.

Chairman of the DBPS Advocate P.C Sharma and Retd. DC B.S Jamwal said that it is the need of the hour that reservation should be stopped and the caste based benefit of reservation in the Govt. Jobs and higher education reach to the Economically Weaker Section of the society.

Others present on the occasion included V.M Magotra, N.C Sharma, M.L Sharma, Saya Nand, Shiv Ram Sharma, Jagan Nath, Soujanaya Sharma, Subash Shastri, Gurdas Sharma, Sat Pal Sharma, Sunil Sharma, S.S.Baru, K.L Sharma, M.L.Padha, Brita Ram, Ramesh Sharma, Ritiz Khajuria, Devinder Sharma (Baboo) Rajesh Bargotra and Raman Sharma.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Rashtra Bhasha Prachar Samiti Jammu, an organization working for promotion of Hindi in the region released Chuni Lal Sharma's collection of Hindi essays entitled 'Su -Vichar Sangrah' at K.L Saigal Hall, Writers' Club Jammu.

The Chief Guest on the occasion was eminent Hindi, Dogri and Urdu writer Padmashri Dr. Jitender Udhampuri and was presided over by Prof. Lalit Magotra, President Dogri Sanstha Jammu whereas Dr. Arvinder Singh 'Amn' Additional Secretary Jammu & Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages was Guest of Honour.

The program started with Prof. Bharat Bhushan Sharma, Secretary Rashtra Bhasha Prachar Samiti



Dignitaries releasing Chuni Lal Sharma's collection of Hindi essays entitled 'Su -Vichar Sangrah'.

Jammu giving detailed account of activities undertaken by Samiti and efforts made to promote regional culture and Rashtrabhasha Hindi. He congratulated Chuni Lal Sharma for thought provoking collection of essays that will benefit the readers.

In his address, Dr. Jitender Udhampuri complemented the writer for outstanding work and recalled his long association with him in Radio Jammu. Prof. Lalit Magotra and Dr. Arvinder Singh 'Amn'

also talked at length about literary works of the writer and his encouragement to litterateurs in literary programs broadcast from AIR Jammu.

Dr. Chanchal Bhasin presented detailed paper on the book. The program was conducted by Madhvi Sharma, senior announcer Akashwani Jammu and was attended by galaxy of personalities from literature, art field, Akashwani Jammu, literature lovers and family members of writer.