

# Sawhney leads Congress meeting for Anantnag-Rajouri Parliamentary Constituency

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: As per the directions given by AICC, Coordinator for Anantnag-Rajouri Parliamentary Constituency and former Minister J&K Yogesh Sawhney, on Wednesday chaired a meeting with the District Presidents regarding the upcoming Parliamentary elections.

This was the first interaction focused on electoral strategy for booth level. The Congress leaders strategized on enhancing the party's presence at the grassroots level in the parliamentary constituencies.

A comprehensive tour program was also devised for these areas, outlining plans to visit and engage with leaders and workers at the district and booth level.



Former Minister Yogesh Sawhney chairing a meeting with the District Presidents JKPC.

It was decided during the meeting that tour program will start on 22nd January 2024 with Kulgam, Anantnag and Shopian District. Rajouri-Poonch will be covered on 24th and 25th January 2024.

Along with Yogesh Sawhney, Shabir Khan District President Rajouri, Mohd. Yusuf Hajji District President Shopian, Ali Mohammad Mantoo

upcoming elections.

He underscored the need for a cohesive strategy that aligns with the party's vision and resonates with the concerns of the local population.

Sawhney acknowledged the critical role played by District Presidents and office bearers in channeling the party's message effectively, urging them to work collectively towards the common goal of securing victory in Anantnag-Rajouri Parliamentary Constituency.

He said that the party under AICC guidance will try to unilaterally work towards strengthening the foundation at the grassroots level and connect with local people.

"We will strive to maximize

outreach in the parliamentary constituency and further people's interest through the campaign and preparation," Sawhney said.

Furthermore, Sawhney outlined the tour program for the constituencies, devised with intent to personally engage with leaders and workers at the grassroots level.

He stressed the significance of direct interactions to understand the pulse of the electorate and tailor the electoral approach accordingly. Sawhney affirmed his commitment to a transparent and inclusive election campaign, encouraging open dialogue and feedback from all party members to refine the strategy for a stronger presence in the constituencies.

# MP Khatana urges LG to open tribal schools in all dists

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Bharatiya Janata Party MP Rajya Sabha Er. Gulam Ali Khatana has urged the LG administration to open tribal schools in all the districts of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and also resolve the issues of Waitlist candidates, Finance department compliers.

He said that Modi government is committed for the upliftment of the common masses and during past 9+ years have given a boost to economic activities, developmental works, employment generation and other sectors besides making India a formidable power on global arena.

Diverse deputations representing various segments of the community MP Khatana here and listed their demands. Addressing the deputations, Er. Khatana said that people should take the benefits of various schemes launched by Modi Govt.

The deputations listed



Delegation presenting memorandum to MP G.A. Khatana.

demanded for provision of essential services, infrastructure development, and community welfare initiatives.

They underscored the significance of robust infrastructure development, particularly in the context of connectivity and accessibility.

Issues related to healthcare facilities, education, and employment opportunities were also raised, reflecting the multifaceted nature of the challenges faced by the constituents.

Er. Khatana said that infrastructure development has been unprecedented under Modi regime not only across the country but especially in Jammu and Kashmir.

He assured the deputations that their concerns would be given due consideration, and he expressed his dedication to working towards tangible solutions. "As public representatives, it is our responsibility to actively engage with the community and work towards their betterment. I am grateful for the insights shared by the deputations, and we will collectively strive to address these issues through constructive dialogue and action," he affirmed.

## ICSI CSEET 2024 result on Jan 19 at icsi.edu

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NEW DELHI: The Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI) will release the CSEET (CS Executive Entrance Test) 2024 result on January 19, 2024. Students who appeared for the exam will be able to check their score at the official ICSI website - icsi.edu.

As per the official notification, the CSEET January 2024 result will be declared on January 19 at 2 pm.

The result along with e-result-cum-marks statement containing subject-wise break-up of marks will be made available to the candidates for download via the official ICSI website immediately after declaration of result.

## NMC urges PM to release pending installation of 5% DA

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: National Mazdoor Conference (NMC) president, Subash Shastri on Thursday urged upon the Prime Minister to release the pending installation of 5% DA due from 1st January 2024 along with 18 months pending Dearness Allowance arrears beside merge of 50% DA into basic pay and pension both central/state government employees and pensioners in view of increasing inflation and price hike of essential commodities and announcement in this regard should be made well before the enforcement of model code of conduct, relating to the Lok Sabha election 2024.

In a memorandum sent to Narendra Modi Shastri said the price index which was 6.95% in July 31 last year now

increased to 12.65% in December 31, 2023.

The rate of compensation was revised every six months based on average of the consumer price index for previous months and this would be the 17th biannual increase since the recommendation of the 7th pay commission which was accepted by the Central Government in 2016, he said.

Shastri pointed out that DA is part of salary and routine financial matter and as such there should be no hitch in releasing it.

"The Government should release these instalments at the earliest so that the employees and pensioners would have a sigh of relief from the rising prices of essential commodities", he maintained adding that DA should be exempted from the ambit of Income Tax

as it is linked with price index.

Shastri urged him to appoint Chairman and other members of the 8th Pay Commission and take decision in this regard at the earliest and start discussion with representatives of both Central and State governments employees and pensioners, organizations, adding that the appointment of 8th Pay Commission will end confusion and uncertainty among the salaried class and pensioners.

Stressing on the need Shastri also urged him to immediately restore old pension scheme in place of NPS as confidence building measures. He said that many states like Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Punjab, Karnataka and Sikkim have restored old pension scheme in favour of NPS Employees. He hoped that the NDA Government at the centre will

take positive step in this regard, adding that these will be a major political issue in the upcoming general election 2024.

Urging the PM to declare both Jammu and Srinagar as B-1 Cities, Shastri said, giving the status of both capital cities would ensure more flow of funds to upgrade infrastructure and modernize civic amenities.

The NMC chief further urged Modi to immediately grant a special package of Rs. 2,000 Crore per annum for regularization of UT, J&K daily rated workers in one go.

Shastri also insisted on the regularization of daily wagers who have completed seven years of service in December 2023, adding their monthly emoluments should be raised to Rs. 18,000 per month.

## KP delegation meets Solanki, seek enhanced financial relief



KP delegation calling on AICC Incharge J&K Affairs Bharat Singh Solanki.

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: President Jagti tenement Committee/Soan Kashmir Front JK Shadi Lal Pandita alongwith with the victims of unlawfully sealed quarter of KP migrants at Jagti township met former Union

Minister and AICC Incharge J&K Affairs Bharat Singh Solanki and President JKPC Vikar Rasool Wani at Jammu and appraised them about the burning issues of Kashmiri Pandit Migrants.

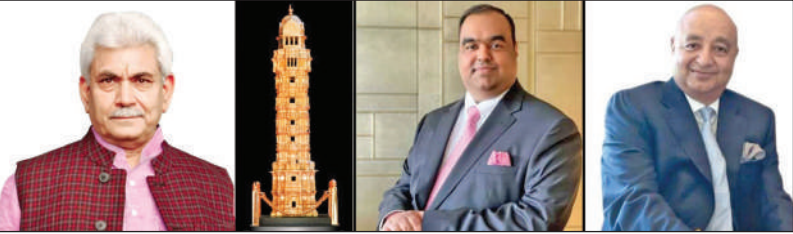
They alleged undue harass-

ment in the hands of Relief Department of sealing & clandestine allotment of the quarters already allotted and occupied by the allottees.

Jagti township was constructed under Dr Mamohan Singh Government but present administration especially Relief Department is harassing the allottees. They also raised their demand for enhancement of relief amount of Rs. 13000 to Rs. 25000 per family, immovable loss of properties, unemployment and other demands.

Solanki heard them patiently and assured them that Congress Party will raise these issues and also will highlight the same in the Parliament.

## JK Architects to organise Award ceremony in Jammu today



**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The 32nd edition of the JK Architects of the Year Awards Function being organized & coordinated by JK Cement Ltd, will be held at Radisson Blu, in Jammu tomorrow.

Lieutenant Governor of Jammu & Kashmir, Manoj Sinha will be the Chief Guest for the function.

JK Cement Ltd has been organizing this award function since 1990 to felicitate outstanding talent in the field of architecture & this award function is dedicated to the Architect community

year of 1990, JK AYA has continued the same tradition of flying high with new heights and features towards encouraging outstanding talents in the architecture field to work for our society under the leadership of Dr. Raghavpat Singhania, Present MD & Chairman of JK AYA.

Prominent architects from Jammu city will be present along with Architects from various parts of Asia, East Africa & India at this award ceremony.

The winners' names will be announced and the trophy, citation, and prize money will be handed over to them by the Chief Guest, Lieutenant Governor of Jammu & Kashmir, Manoj Sinha.

Vice Chairman of JK Cement Ltd, Dr. Nidhipati Singhania, Managing Director of JK Cement Ltd & Chairman of JK AYA, Dr. Raghavpat Singhania, Rana Pratap Singh, Administrator- JK AYA will be present at the ceremony.

## 358th Parkash of Guru Gobind Singh celebrated



Sikh devotees visiting Gurdwara Digiana Ashram Jammu on 358th Parkash of Guru Shri Gobind Singh Ji.

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: 358th Parkash Utsav of Guru Shri Gobind Singh Ji was celebrated with great religious fervor and gaiety in Gurdwara Digiana Ashram Jammu under the Supervision of Shri Man Mahant Manjeet Singh Ji of Shironani Dera Nangali Sahib Poonch.

The Ragi Jathas of Bhai

Jabarjit Singh, Hazuri Ragi Shri Darbar Sahib Amritsar Sahib, Giani Bachan Singh, Bhai Ranjit Singh and Bhai Harpreet Singh Chuhala recited Gurbani Kirtan. Katha Vachak Fateh Singh, Bhai Gurpreet Singh Johal, Parcharak Shironani Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee

Amritsar, Harnittar Singh, Sudarshan Singh Wazir and Balwant Singh spoke on the contributions and sacrifices of Guru Gobind Singh Ji.

Mahant Manjit Singh Ji of Shironani Dera Nangali Sahib while addressing the Sangat asked the people to follow the teachings of Guru Gobind

Singh Ji who gave unique sacrifices to save humanity. He said that all human beings are creation of one God and should be loved alike irrespective of the cast, colour and creed. He stressed upon the parents to advise their children to remain away from drugs and other evils and become Amritdhari.

## Shree Ram Leela Club Sainik Colony organises Shoba Yatra

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Shree Ram Leela Club, Sainik Colony in collaboration with other social, cultural and religious organizations organized Shoba Yatra in connection with forthcoming consecration of Lord Rama at Ayodhya.

Rajeshwar Singh, President Shree Ram Leela Club, Sainik Colony, Jammu while addressing the media persons said that Maryada Purshtotam



Shree Ram Leela Club Sainik Colony taking out Shobha Yatra.

Bhagawan Shree Ram has been the epitome of Dharma, valour, loyalty and compassion since times immemorial.

Lord Rama is undoubtedly the guiding force for whole humanity irrespective of religion, caste, colour, creed as he is celebrated across the world.

The consecration of the Ram Mandir at Ayodhya is the final culmination of five hundred year old struggle and needs to be celebrated for

one and all.

Since it is practically impossible for everyone to be present at Ayodhya for this celebration, Shree Ram Club is organizing a Shobha Yatra at Sainik Colony, Jammu.

"This Shobha Yatra is a sincere effort to showcase solidarity, unity, and immeasurable joy and the club invites all the citizens to be part of this great event and get blessings of Lord Rama," he said.

## Yatra drama can't save Congress' sinking ship: Dr Parneesh

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Dr Parneesh Mahajan, Convenor, Department of Training, BJP, J&K, has asserted that Congress is a sinking ship due to its misrule for about seven decades and that resorting to the staging of dramas like the ongoing 'Bharat Jodo Nyaya Yatra' cannot save this sinking ship that is already on its deathbed. In a statement issued to media here today, the senior BJP leader said that from the existing scenario of Congress party one can easily see the party's inevitable doom very soon. He added that as of today this so called grand old party is nothing more than a mismanaged NGO being poorly run by Sonia Gandhi and her family. He said that the party has thrown the democratic norms to tatters and the internal strife of the party is an open secret today. How can the party failing to address the internal strife

address the people's issues, he questioned.

Dr Parneesh Mahajan, while accusing the Congress of staging the so called 'Nyaya Yatra' to keep Rahul Gandhi and Sonia Gandhi in good books, termed it as just a gimmick and nothing else. He said that Rahul Gandhi has already conducted a number of 'Videsh Yatras' during which he only insulted the nation and its army while rubbing shoulders with all categories of anti-India elements. In fact his Yatras deserve to be called 'Bharat Badnam Yatras' which will do no good to the nation or its people, not to talk of benefitting the party. The senior BJP leader asserted that Rahul Gandhi's ongoing Yatra has been a failure at the very initial stage and the whole nation is looking forward to 2024 when Narendra Modi will be sworn in as the Prime Minister of world's largest democracy for the third consecutive term.

## RDD to empanel IIT, IIM, NIFT, Universities as PIAs for placement-linked youth skilling initiative

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The Rural Development Department (RDD) and Panchayati Raj will empanel premier institutes in Jammu and Kashmir as Project Implementing Agencies (PIAs) for implementation of flagship placement-linked skilling scheme, and converge with associated departments, banks and training institutes for outcomes-based skilling and placement initiative.

Secretary, Rural Development Department and Panchayati Raj, Dr Shahid Iqbal Choudhary on Wednesday took a comprehensive review of the placement-linked skill training program Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY).



Secretary, RDD&PR, Dr S.I Choudhary chairing a meeting.

It was decided to approach and assist the premier government education institutions of repute for engagement as PIAs for a credible skilling and placement endeavour of the Jammu and Kashmir Government.

Emphasizing the need for greater rationality in the selection and training process for youth, Dr Shahid Iqbal directed officers to explore the possibility of

incorporating government educational and technical institutions as Project Implementing Agencies (PIAs) in this program.

Secretary highlighted the importance of selecting deserving candidates for training and ensuring effective supervision of the training process. He stressed the need to clarify the program's initial stages, training procedures, and prospects for par-

ticipants.

Referring to the success of schemes Mumkin and Tejaswini of Mission Youth J&K, Dr Shahid said that skill development is only beneficial when paired with sustainable employment for the youth. He asked the officers of the program management unit to explore the possibilities of including the Indian Institute of Management Jammu, Indian Institute of Technology Kashmir, SKUAST University, Jammu University, Kashmir University, Schools of Business Management, and other such government educational and technical institutions as PIAs in the program, and to seek full support from RSETIs and Krishi Vigyan Kendras as well.

He stressed on the need to register state cooperative societies and semi-government agencies as PIAs as well.

Recognizing the importance of robust infrastructure, Dr Shahid Iqbal directed officers to seek capacity building analysis from prestigious institutions like IITs and IIMs. He further emphasized the crucial role of technical, financial, and managerial support in any program's success.

Stressing the need for strong political will and administrative backing, Secretary envisioned DDU-GKY as a mission-driven initiative with the potential to significantly improve the lives of thousands of young people in Jammu and Kashmir.

## Bhupinder Kumar inspects progress on Jammu-Akhnoor 4-laning Project



**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Secretary Public Works Department (R&B), Bhupinder Kumar, on Wednesday assessed status of ongoing construction works on Jammu-Akhnoor road widening during his extensive inspection of the vital four laning project.

The inspection specifically focused on Package I and III of the 30 Km 4-lane road widening project, which will ease travel to Akhnoor, Rajouri and Poonch districts.

Secretary visited and inspected the work sites at Bhagwati Nagar, Muthi, Domana, Kangrail, Akhnoor and other key locations on the road. While inspecting Bhagwati Nagar flyover, Secretary directed the NHIDCL authorities to

further expedite work on 1.35 Km flyover and complete the project within stipulated timeline of January 2025. On Muthi-Akhnoor section, Secretary asked the NHIDCL engineers to pace up the work and complete remaining stretches and incomplete bridges. He also inspected the site of 450 meter bridge under construction at Akhnoor over Chenab river and was briefed about the project details. He was apprised that 7.42 Km Akhnoor bypass including bridge over Chenab is expected to be completed by March 2025. Bhupinder also directed NHIDCL authorities to maintain an effective liaison and regular communication with district administration for timely redressal of issues concerning the execution of ambitious road widening project.