

Cong rally in Jaipur against inflation marks beginning of NDA Govt's downfall: JKPCC

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAIPUR: Several prominent leaders and workers including office bearers of PCC, DCC, Frontal Wings like Mahila Congress, Youth Congress NSUI, Seva Dal and various cells and departments of the party on Sunday attended Mahangai Hatao Rally as part of Jan Jagran Abhiyan.

Becoming part of mammoth gathering, senior JKPCC Leaders said that rally against rising inflation will be beginning of NDA government's downfall.

They said inflation is hitting every citizen of the country, which is a result of the government's economic policies.

They added that a large number of people joining the rally have given a message that it is the beginning of NDA's downfall.

JKPCC leaders targeted Home Minister Amit Shah and BJP leaders for speaking lies to



J&K Congress leaders during 'Mahangai Hatao Rally' at Jaipur.

mislead people.

"We have been seeing that BJP leaders are speaking without any logic and fact. They are doing unrestrained propaganda," they alleged.

They charged that whatever the Congress built in 70 years, the Central government wants to sell it to industrialist friends.

Targeting the BJP's proxy government in J&K, they charged that BJP dispensation is spending crores of rupees on

advertisements but has failed in getting farmers fertiliser.

Addressing the media here, JKPCC leaders targeted Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) government for its policies and decision that they said have "led to rising inflation" in the country.

They alleged that every decision of the Modi government was anti-people.

Economic activities derailed

after the decision of demonetisation, they claimed.

"Every decision of the Modi government is anti-people. Small and medium industries collapsed. Neither terrorism ended nor black currency was eliminated. Unemployment rate in the country is 10 per cent. Defeat Modi and BJP to get rid of rising inflation," they said.

Highlighting rising prices of fuel and cooking oil, they said petrol and diesel prices have crossed Rs 100 per litre, cooking oil costs Rs 200 per litre, tomatoes cost Rs 80-100 per kg.

They said the Modi government will have to give answers for seven years' "mis-governance" and take measures to check inflation.

They said when elections come, BJP leaders talk of China or other countries, casteism, communalism but not about the struggles of the people and asked what the Modi government has done in seven years of its rule.

It is our responsibility to make the government accountable, it is our responsibility to ask why there is so much inflation, they said while addressing a national level rally against inflation here. The goal of Congress Govts has always been service, dedication and truthfulness to the public and there is a government whose target is lies, greed and loot. The target of the present central government is lies, greed and loot, they alleged.

The Modi government at the Centre repeatedly questions what Congress has done in 70 years. We say leave the talk of 70 years. Tell us what you have done in seven years? they asked.



Grateful Nation Salutes Gen Rawat

► Time to rein in perverted has come

■ PROF HARI OM

December 8 shocked the whole nation. That day, Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) Gen Bipin Rawat IAF chopper crashed in Tamil Nadu. The CDS, his wife Madhulika Rawat and 11 defence staff, including a Brigadier and Pilot of the IAF helicopter, lost their precious lives. The grateful nation saluted the martyrs. The CDF, who had shown Pakistan and China the place they deserved and who left no stone unturned to modernize the Indian defence machine taking into consideration the new challenges being faced by India, was hailed, and continues to be hailed, as the biggest soldier the nation produced post-1947. Indeed, Gen Rawat will go down in the military history of India post-1947 as a general who provided an effective, skillful and visionary leadership to our defence forces and who preferred the nation over everything else. And the manner in which he was given a send off at Brar Square Crematorium on December 10 spoke for itself.

It must remain a matter of shame that some anti-nationals, insensitive and perverted minds used some social media platforms and tweeted derogative and celebratory messages about the demise of Gen Rawat. It happened in Delhi, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, J&K, West Bengal and in some other states. So atrocious and nasty were some tweets and statements that Government after Government instructed Police to take legal action against such rogues.

Who undermined the institution of Army? Who first used dirty language and invectives against General Rawat? Who led anti-Gen Rawat campaign from the front? Unfortunately, it was none other than the Congress, the so-called grand old party. Not one, but many senior Congress leaders abused Gen Rawat and what they said only emboldened the anti-nationals to not just attack the institution of the Army but also to use filthy language against Gen Rawat. They used the language which even our enemy nations, Pakistan and China, didn't dare to use.

Take, for example, what senior Congress leader and former MP Sandeep Dikshit said about Gen Rawat on June 11, 2017. He called the Gen "sadak ka gunda". Not just this, Congress MPs Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury and Manish Tiwari even entered the domain they should not have to oppose the very appointment of Gen Rawat as the first CDS. They interfered in matters related to appointments on January 2, 2020. It's true that Dikshit apologised for his outrageous remarks and the Congress as a party distanced itself from the remarks made by Leader of Opposition in LS Adhir Ranjan

Chowdhury and Manish Tiwari but the damage had been done. No wonder then that many anti-nationals started using all kinds of epithets and invectives against Gen Rawat and other top-ranking Commanders.

In J&K, the nation had started witnessing tirades against our disciplined and chivalrous armed forces way back in the 1990s with CMs Farooq Abdullah, Mufti Sayeed, Omar Abdullah and Mehbooba Mufti, who headed the Unified Command, using their official position to attack our soldiers and defend terrorists, who would bloody and convulse the state's socio-political scene almost on a daily basis with separation of J&K from India as their ultimate objective. The situation in J&K during their regimes had climaxed to the point that the men and women at the helm of affairs would misuse even the floor of the assembly to abuse our armed forces overlooking the dangerous ramifications of what they had been saying about the security forces.

Things continue to remain the same even after the abrogation of seditious Article 370. The former rulers in general and Mehbooba Mufti in particular leave no opportunity to side with the liquidated terrorists. As and when the security forces eliminate dreaded terrorists belonging to terror outfits, including Lashkar, Jaish and Hizb, the former rulers create a hullabaloo, target our soldiers, call the liquidated terrorists "innocents" and demand action against the security forces.

It's, however, true that things were under complete control in Kashmir between August 4, 2019 and July August 2020. On August 4, 2019, all or nearly all the former rulers were either put behind bars and placed under house arrest and in August 2020, all of them were allowed to walk free. And ever since, they have been indulging in activities they used to indulge in between 1987 and 2019.

The point is that there are elements across India, including J&K, who consider the Indian State a banana republic and miss no opportunity to undermine Indian sovereignty, attack all institutions, including the institution of Army, and promote their sinister agendas at the cost of the nation.

The powers-that-be at the Centre would do well to establish the authority of the state by producing a moral effect so that no one in the future could dare to attack the Indian State, the Indian Armed forces, including the Army, and make a common cause with terrorists and separatists. Mere warning would not do. Stringent law and stringent action like the one taken against J&K former rulers in August 2019 alone could produce the desired results.

Dogri literature, writers powerful vehicles for accessing youth of Duggar: Zorawar



Senior Journalist and Social Activist of Duggar Pradesh, Zorawar Singh Jamwal speaking at a programme.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Sahitya Akademi New Delhi, the National Academy of Letters convened a prestigious programme titled 'People and Books' with Zorawar Singh Jamwal, a Senior Journalist and Social Activist of Duggar Pradesh as Speaker. The programme in Dogri was organised at Press Club Jammu in collaboration with Team Jammu and was presided over by Darshan Darshi (D K Vaid), Convener Dogri Advisory Board of Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi.

Speaking on the occasion, Zorawar Singh Jamwal informed the audience about his passion for Dogri language, literature and heritage, besides delving on the books which has influenced him greatly and prompted him to work for welfare of youth in particular and common people in general.

While explaining aims and objectives of Team Jammu, which primarily focus on eradicating evil of drug menace amongst youth, he

candidly admitted about his recent realization that Dogri literature and Dogri writers are powerful vehicles for accessing youth of Duggar Pradesh and to train their minds against drugs. 'Books' he said are great influencers; but the writers when available in person could be more effective mind-changers, said Jamwal, expressing gratitude towards Sahitya Akademi for providing him a popular national platform to interact with writers and intellectuals of Dogri in furtherance of mission of Jammu Team. Earlier Darshan Darshi, while introducing speaker on Books and People said that Journalists and Literary writers are almost like twins as both use the 'Word' as powerful tool to express free thought.

"Journalism has often been called 'Literature in haste' and that it is not for nothing that this year's Nobel Peace Prize has been awarded to two journalists. Stressing the need of inculcating reading habit in pub-

lic in general and youth in particular, he said, "Mind is a muscle that must be exercised. What Yoga does to body muscle, reading does to mind muscle. The main purpose of Sahitya Akademi to organize such programmes is to encourage literature reading, as language and literature can make the society more understanding; generating much needed compassion and empathy among the people." The talk was followed by an interactive session where many prominent writers and intellectuals asked questions about issues put forward by Zorawar Singh Jamwal. The speaker not only skillfully explained his ideas about people, books and his social mission; but also acceded to the viewpoints of veterans. The programme was attended by a large number of eminent Dogri writers, Journalists, intellectuals, academicians and members of civil society. A good numbers of youth volunteers of Team Jammu were also present.

Vlth Millennial Conclave organised by JU's LAMP

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Learner's Ability Management Programme in collaboration with Dean, Faculty of Education, and University of Jammu organised Vlth Millennial Conclave on 'Article 370: Its abrogation and the current political situation' in which Advocate Ankur Sharma, Legal Expert was the key Resource Person.

The session was attended by Professors, Educationists, Scholars and Students from various degree colleges and departments of universities.

Dr. Kajal Devi Manhas, Faculty Member from Department of Education, University of Jammu formally welcomed the guests and called this conclave a great success with the presence of participants having illuminating ideas.

Ankur Sharma briefed the participants about the history of Article 370 and the reasons & implications of its revocation.

He said that the revocation of Article 370 extends to a key position added under it, known as Article 35A. This gives special privileges to permanent residents, including state government jobs and the exclusive right to own property in Jammu and Kashmir. It is indeed to

protect the state's distinct demographic character.

He emphasised the delimitation on the basis of new 2021 census and said that New Reorganisation Act needs to be introduced in UT of JK. He asked to make Jammu a state and separate it from Kashmir so as to save it from State sponsored demographic assault.

The session was followed by Question-Answer Session in which participants asked varied and interesting questions from the Key Resource Person regarding abrogation of Article 370.

Prof. Renu Nanda, Head and Deau Faculty of Education, Department of Education appreciated Ankur Sharma for highlighting various important issues related to Article 370 and said that his session added to our knowledge about unrevealed facts. Dr. Ana Bali conducted the proceedings of the conclave whereas Avneet Kour presented prayer and Dr. Monica Narang conducted Question-Answer session.

Formal Vote of thanks was presented by Dr. Alka Sharma, Member Counselling Cell Directorate of School Education Jammu.

Elections approaching political leaders 'flood market', shedding crocodile tears 'for' unemployed youth

► Even MBBS/MD Doctors offered Level-9 regular substantive posts without increments & allowances

► So irrationally Level-8 JKAS/KAcctS appointments kept out of S.O 192 in G.O No:1100 -JK(GAD) of 09-12-2020

What to talk of private sector even the Governments are found not lagging behind in exploiting the needy unemployed youth and have even laid down recruitment rules / policies where in the youth are being appointed giving them 'underemployed' status (unfairly reduced wages even against regular vacancies). It has also become a common custom for the political leaders and political activists who are when out of power to cry and express concern for the Unemployed youth / growing unemployment as and when they see some elections to parliament / State legislature / UT legislatures approaching. The position as regards State of J&K had remained no different and is similar in UT of J&K too . Some political leaders who had otherwise always remained out of reach for the unemployed and 'underemployed' segments of the society/ youth in normal course could be seen these days anticipating UT Assembly Elections in 2022 talking high of their concern for the unemployed . In J&K youth has also been the victim of unfair & irrational policies of the Governments providing "under employment" in the name of employment even to those holding professional qualifications (Agri Graduates, Engineers , Doctors) / Post Graduate qualifications (M.Sc./MA/Ph.D. There has been prevailing a practice of employing Teachers / Lecturers in schools/ Colleges (in J&K Universities too) on consolidated contractual basis even against regular grade substantive

vacancies and not filling the posts even for 10 or more years. The practice has kept the employed under mental/ social/ emotional stresses adversely affecting their dedication / capacity towards performance of assigned job. And ofcourse those employed in teaching institutions/ extension services if remain under economic/ unfair social stresses surely indirectly effect the future of the students/ the targeted beneficiaries.

Had the leaders who have been found in December 2021 talking of unemployment in their run for finding some space in the media been truthfully concerned they should have worked in a regular way atleast for the 'underemployed youth' in the past and got undone the unfair practices of continued contractual / reduced wage employments in government .

In J&K the unemployed youth has been inflicted with very serious and humiliating blows continuously since 2011 even where some employment is given against the regular substantive vacancies sanctioned in Government (as genuine requirement in common interest) that too is in the shape of unfair service conditions like that are there in S.O 192 of 17-06-2020 &for that all political leaders and parties come under question mark.

To quote in 2011 practice of employing people against regular posts on unduly reduced/ humiliating wages was started by NC- Congress Government in J&K (New Recruitment Policy videGovt. Order No 257-F of 2011

dated 27-10-2011-modalities for reduced wages for recruitments against non gazetted posts i.e for first 2 years only 50 % basic pay and next 3 years only 75 % of the basic pay , no allowances / increment with fixed medical allowance of Rs.300/pm). With some pressure that was created through media (not by political leaders) and the 2014 Assembly elections approaching the NC- Congress Government withdrew the policy (G.O. 156(F) of 2014 dated 27-06-2014 with retrospective effect from 21-05-2014).The correction did not last long and it was on 30-06-2015 that the PDP-BJP Government also came with J&K Special Recruitment Rules, 2015 vide SRO-202 with almost similar policy but this time also included the option of taking in any Gazetted post where in also employee was to remain on probation for min five years without getting regular annual increment of the grade and allowances like DA/HRA/Child Education Allowance/ Child Hostel Subsidy Allowance/ Transport Allowance / CCA (except medical allowance of Rs.300/pm). So strangely the then government issued employment orders under SRO 202 vide Order No. 4 7 -HME of2019 Dated: 14 .01.2019 even for (921) Medical Officers (Gazetted) ServiceLevel-9 (52700-166700) against regular posts including those lying vacant for many years. Once again the action of the government was



A Look through the Mist

disapproved at social levels but no political party (not even NC/ Congress) worked for pleading before the government that the wrong undone earlier should not be repeated.

Any how it was again that with limited resources some pressure was generated through media and the then UT government under President Rule made some relaxations by granting some relief to the already employed (under SRO 202) through S.O 194 of 17-06-2020 (reducing probation period to 2 years) and for new employments in the shape of S.O 192 of 17-06-2020 (Jammu and Kashmir Probationer (Condition of Service, Pay and Allowances) and Fixation of Tenure Rules, 2020) reducing the probation period without allowances and increments to 2 years but in the new policy all new employments to be made under the Government were included (both Gazetted and Non gazetted) as general rule with option to exclude any post from the conditions of S.O.192 (of course what particularly mattered was allowances and increments). Government again initiated a recruitment process for about 950 medical officer on 10-06-2020 vide letter HME/HRM/162/2018 addressed to PSC and process of appointments was started with G.O No. 938 - JK(HME) of 2020 of 31-12-2020 for 459 medical officers with terms of appointment as in S.O.192 of 17-06-2020 .

Even S.O 192 of 17-06-2021 has been

implemented in a more irrational, 'neglectful', 'arrogant', very unfair, discriminatory, and rather beyond meaningful bureaucratic wisdom by those at the helm of affairs by appointing Medical Officers (Gazetted Service Level-9, 52700-166700) for which only qualified doctors could apply in regular manner under S.O 192 of 17-06-2020 vide G.O No. 938 - JK(HME) of 2020 of 31-12-2020 where as employing those for General Gazetted services for which any graduate can apply i.e like Jr JKAS, JKPS, JKAS (Level 8,Rs. 47600- 15110)vide G.O No:1100 - JK(GAD) of 2020,of 09-12-2020 outside the S.O 192 conditions of service i.e. by not applying (using rule-9) to them the condition of no increments and no allowances during probation period of min 2 years.

In spite of the fact that representations were made to government by some candidates and it was also projected through media (once again not by the political leaders) the 'bureaucratic' government did not catch any indicator for the unfair & bad rules/ policy contained in S.O 192 from the fact that a number of posts had remained unfilled against the much needed vacancies in 2018 and 2020, the UT government has once again initiated another recruitment process on 18-11-2021 (vide HD- Gazd/Gen/ 47/2021 dated 18-11-2021 addressed to PSC for 705 medical officers (including 258 backlog posts) under SRO 192.It has been mere exploitation even by government of those needing jobs as well as

keeping the basic health services deficient both in quality (since (i) the 'under employed' person would be under socio-economic stresses thereby affecting his/ her sincerity (ii) some not joining due to bad employment terms compelling the recruitment agency to lower the selection merit thereby affecting quality of services) and quantity (some vacancies even remaining vacant) . Had the political leaders who are so vocal in December 2021 trumpeting their 'false concern' for the unemployed youth been really sincere to their word they should have atleast raised the voice atleast in June 2020 when policies like S.O 192 were ordered by the Government and seen that atleast the government does not exploit the unemployed by giving them a status of under employed (unfair wages even against the regular substantive posts) .

Even Ghulam Nabi Azad has in 'recent' rallies accused the present administration for the growing unemployment. Better leaders like Ghulam Nabi Azad start working on regular basis to get atleast the culture of unfair employment policies in the shape of S.O 192 , the practice of going with contractual / adhoc appointments beyond one year against the regular vacancies in government and lay the promise that will keep on working for that even if their party does not come in power after 2022 elections (if held).

(Daya Sagar is Sr Journalist & analyst of J&K affairs dayasagr45@yahoo.com).