

Modi Govt schemes proved instrumental in enriching people's lives in J&K: Kavinder

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JAMMU: Senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister, Kavinder Gupta on Sunday maintained that the initiatives taken by the Central Government led by PM Narendra Modi remained instrumental in enhancing the prosperity and well-being of the population, contributing significantly to the enrichment of the lives of citizens in J&K.

The BJP stalwart leader was addressing an impressive gathering during the launch of Jan Samvad Abhiyan in Gandhi Nagar constituency.



Senior BJP leader Kavinder Gupta speaking at a programme.

Intensifying the campaign, Kavinder said that the initiative was aimed at familiarizing the people with the welfare schemes, accomplishments and initiatives of the Modi govern-

ment over the past nearly ten years. He said that the Jan Samvad Abhiyan was initiated in the month of October 2023 and the same will continue upto January 14, next year. He said that

this outreach programme has played its vital role in making aware the local population about the public welfare policies and programmes of the central Government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the last nine years.

"Our Party has covered nearly 90 percent booths in Jammu and Kashmir and the party has received overwhelming response from the people. Not only in Jammu even the people of Kashmir province are happy with the pro people policies of Modi government as was assessed by the party cadre active in the Valley", he said, adding that today's Abhiyan covered Ward No's 42, 43, 44, 49 and 52 and Booth No's 129 to 135, 105,108,109, 77, 78, 79, 46, 47, 48, 88, 95 and 96.

The senior BJP leader asserted that Jan Samvad Abhiyan is a successful programme to reach out to people and get authentic feedback besides disseminating information about the achievements of the central government and its policies which are on cards for public welfare.

Others who also addressed the programme included Rekha Mahajan District President, Rajiv Charak, Aseem Gupta, Ankush Gupta, Pushpinder Charak, Amit Sharma, Sushil Kumar, Sarojini Sharma, Rajinder Koul, Diwaker Kohli, Dr Himja Mengi and Akash Chopra. Prominent among others who were present include Yograj, Kamal, Janak Raj, Krishan, Dilbagh Singh, Bharat Bhushan and Kuldeep Thapa.

Congress' politicization of Agniveer Scheme threatens national unity: Jasrotia

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Agniveer scheme, a commendable initiative by the Indian Army aimed at bolstering the nation's defense forces, has unfortunately become entangled in the web of political maneuvering, with the Congress Party at the forefront of attempts to politicize a critical national security endeavour.



its commitment to national security.

The immeasurable debt owed to the motherland is seemingly overshadowed by political posturing, as the Congress party continues to stand against the defense forces, jeopardizing the unity required in times of national significance. The blatant attempts to demoralize the nation's youth by politicizing an initiative designed to strengthen our security apparatus are regrettable.

In defense of the Agniveer scheme, it is crucial to recognize its inherent value in instilling discipline and preparing individuals for contemporary global challenges. However, the Congress party's actions threaten to divert attention from the scheme's fundamental purpose, focusing instead on petty political gains.

As citizens, we must prioritize national unity over political posturing. The politicization of the Agniveer scheme by the Congress party is not just a disservice to the defense forces but a betrayal of the nation's interests. It's time for political parties to rise above their partisan agendas and unite in supporting initiatives that enhance our security and strengthen our resolve as a nation, said Abhijeet Jasrotia spokesperson for BJP.

Christmas carols competition fills Jammu with joy

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a harmonious celebration echoing the anticipation of Christmas, St. Mary's Garrison Church resonated with the enchanting melodies of a Carols Competition organized by the Diocese.

12 choirs from schools and churches showcased their musical prowess, creating a platform to evoke the spirit of Christmas and honor the memory of the late Fr. Raphael Jeykumar.

Fr. Suhail Joseph, in his welcome address, emphasized the significance of carols in heralding the news of Jesus's birth.

Fr. Sebastian Velankanni paid rich tributes to Fr. Raphael Jeykumar, in whose memory the event is organized annually.



Students singing Christmas corals during an event at Jammu on Sunday.

Rt. Rev. Ivan Pereira conveyed a powerful message, describing Jesus as the prince of peace and highlighting the purpose of his birth.

He declared Christmas as a powerful symbol of God's unconditional love, offering a fervent prayer for the well-being of the people of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, invoking

peace and joy in the region.

The event witnessed the esteemed presence of various luminaries, civil society members, and members of the Christian community from nearby churches.

Fr. Shaiju Chacko, the spokesperson of the Diocese

extended congratulations to all participating choirs, expressing delight at the joyful and positive atmosphere.

A panel of esteemed judges, including Jasmeet Kaur, Vishal Sadhotra, and Dennis Khokhar, evaluated the spirited competition. Bishop Ivan pre-

person, standing before the police and the defense".

"We're following a negative criminal justice system, because the system is not concerned to know who has committed the crime, rather the courts wants to know the investigation conducted by the police is right or wrong, as per the mandate of Law" he added.

Sr. Adv. U. K. Jalali said, "Being selected as the Prosecution Officer only marks the beginning of your Journey, and not the end."

sented awards to the winning schools and churches.

Sachin and Komal steered the competition as the masters of ceremonies. Fr. Peter Paul extended gratitude to all participating teams and event sponsors. The enthralling competition, organized by the Diocese of Jammu-Srinagar, was made possible under the leadership of Fr. S Joseph, Principal of St. Peter's School, B.C Road, Jammu, who served as the Chief Organizer. The event concluded with the sharing of season's greetings, creating an atmosphere of heightened jubilation as Christmas Day approached.

Abrogation of Article 370 a finality paving way for a Naya J&K : Rana

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Senior BJP leader Devender Singh Rana today said abrogation of Article 370 is a finality and those attempting to betray this fact should comprehend the significance of this transformative decision that is not only historic but path breaking as far as the development and progress is concerned and has paved the way for Naya Jammu & Kashmir.

"A positive change is already discernible," Rana said while interacting with media persons at the sidelines of the inauguration of City Clinic and Diagnostic Centre at Maheshpura in Jammu City, promoted by a first generation entrepreneur Kewal Singh. .

He was flanked by the President Bhartiya Yuva Janta Moreha Arun Parbhat Singh, Surinder Singh Bunt, Sanjay Gupta, Ajay Gupta besides other party activists and prominent citizens



Senior BJP leader Devender Singh Rana inaugurating City Clinic and Diagnostic Centre at Maheshpura, Jammu.

scaling new heights and politico-economic empowerment of every segment of society has infused a sense of confidence among the people during the past four years.

Strongly denouncing the hoax created by exploitative politicians on Article 370 for over seven decades to mislead the people of Jammu and Kashmir by fostering misinformation for their vested political interests, Devender Singh Rana on Sunday emphasised the need for factual discourse and responsible response in the larger public good.

"Now that the Supreme Court has upheld the legality and validity of the political decisions and J&K Reorganisation Bill 2019, repealing the temporary constitutional provision, the myopic political class across the country in general and Jammu and Kashmir in particular should come to terms with the reality", he added.

Devender Rana counselled the negative political class to learn to sail along the tide and think about betterment of the people they claim to be leading. For their welfare and progress they should

shun the negativity that has taken huge toll, especially during the past over three decades. He said the self centric politicians have only rehabilitated graveyards and made hell of the heaven that was known the world over for its ethos, cultural heritage and ambience.

"At this historic moment, we must strive for unity, overcoming the legacy of deception for a brighter future of generations",Rana said, adding that this is the vision of the Yashasvi Prime Minister Narendra Modi for Naya Jammu and Kashmir and its diverse populations. The PM has been emphatic in his unwavering pledge to fulfilling the dreams of the people and determination to ensure that the fruits of progress not only reach all but also extend their benefits to the most vulnerable and marginalised sections of the society who suffered due to Article 370, he maintained.

Earlier, inaugurating the Clinic and Diagonastie

Centre, Rana hoped that the facility will serve the people of the area and the surrounding in a better way. The purpose of such initiatives should be more than doing business as these facilities directly involve the health of the community, he added.

Rana said the Modi led government has flagged health sector a priority with Health For All a mission. In this context, he referred to the Ayushman Bharat Scheme which has come as a hope for the suffering people. The importance of this scheme is so important for Jammu and Kashmir that the entire population, irrespective of economic status, has been brought under it. This speaks of the concern of the Centre for the people in this part of the country, he said.

He wished Kewal Singh all the best in his endeavours, hoping that poor and needy will get special dispensation at the Centre.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Vice-President BJP J&K UT and former Minister, Sham Lal Sharma has said that games and sports have become an integral element of present day education.

Sham Lal Sharma, as the Chief Guest, addressing the Annual Sports Day celebration of RMG International School, here on Sunday.

K D Bhagat, DySP Dar was the Guest of Honour and Joginder Singh SHO Gharota was the Special Guest.

Speaking on the occasion, Sham Sharma said that games and sports teach students the qualities of discipline, sportsmanship, team spirit and leadership.

"Games and sports also enhance the physical and mental development of children," he added.

Earlier, Chairman Rohit Gupta and Director Mona Gupta of RMG International School welcome to all the guests. Principal, Anil Pathania and Vice-Principal,



Vice-President BJP J&K UT and former Minister, Sham Lal Sharma and others at a function.

Indu Kapoor also present.

Program started by hoisting of School Flag and declaration of the sports meet open by releasing white pigeons followed by the lighting of the flame by the School's Sports Captain Vivek Langh. The shining stars of Grade VI presented a drill, enchanting everyone with their rhythmic movements. Skaters have shown some magical moves on wheels which left the audience spellbound. All participants mesmerised the audience with their energetic performances.

The Chief Guest awarded the medals to the winners of the various sports events. Also the Cock House Trophy was

given to the winning house of various Inter house competitions. Meenal Rathore, Housemistress, Alexandria House along with House Captain and Vice Captain received the trophy.

Emphasising the importance of sports in a child's life, Sham Lal said, "It is not important to win it is participation that makes all the difference." He was delighted to see girls participating in almost all the sports events.

He also applauded the School Management for the school's outstanding achievements. Vote of Thanks was presented by CCA coordinator Anuradha Manhas.

Pushpendra Kulshresht advocates for repeal of Waqf Act



Thinker and speaker Pushpendra Kulshresht speaking at a seminar in Jammu.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Namah Jain Sthanak on Sunday organized a function at Bahu Plaza, Gandhi Nagar, featuring nationalist thinker and speaker Pushpendra Kulshresht, focused on instilling patriotism and raising awareness among the youth about issues related to previous government policies. The event was organized under the aegis of S.S. Jain Sabha Jammu & Kashmir in association with Jain Taruni Mandal and Jain Yuvak Sangh.

The main objective of the program was to encourage youth to actively participate in addressing issues and creating pressure on the present government to change laws that might be perceived as biased towards a particular community.

Pushpendra Kulshresht discussed various topics, including the Waqf Act, which he

described as a law allowing the takeover of any property by the Waqf board. He advocated for the repeal of such laws.

Kulshresht also highlighted the efforts of Vishnu Jain in addressing the issues related to the Gyan Vapi mosque.

He urged people not to solely rely on the government or administration and emphasized the role of ordinary individuals in bringing about positive change.

He encouraged the youth to raise awareness about national issues and take active steps to understand and communicate the problems facing the nation. Many social religious and business organisation representatives attended the meet.

The programme started with a cultural programme where members of Jain Taruni Mandal presented Saraswati Vandana and patriotic song.

Programme was conducted jointly by Jain Yuvak Sangh Vice President Neerav Jain and Jain Taruni Mandal General Secretary Monika Jain. President S.S. Jain Sabha, Pankaj Jain, Vice President Rajiv Jain, President Jain Istri Sabha Neelam Jain were present, along with presidents of all the organisations of Jain Sabha.

During the program, issues such as the requirement of a No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the Waqf Board to sell property in the old city area of Jammu were discussed. Sandeep Jain (Sunny), the General Secretary of Jain Sabha, raised concerns about the hardship faced by common people due to this requirement and questioned the necessity of involving a religious body in the process of selling personal property.

2-Day workshop for Judicial Officers concludes at Judicial Academy

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The two day workshop for Judicial Officers, which was inaugurated yesterday by Justice N. Kotiwar Singh, Chief Justice, High Court of J&K and Ladakh and Patron-in-Chief J&K Judicial Academy, concluded on Sunday at J&K Judicial Academy, Jammu.

The second day of the programme was marked by two absorbing technical sessions.

The first session was held on the topic "Court Management & Docket Management", wherein, Justice Rahul Bharti, Judge, High Court of J&K and Ladakh was the resource person.

While addressing the participants, Justice Rahul Bharti shared his real-life experiences and observed that a Judge is known by his/her court craft. Time management can lead to court management because court time is public time and that is why it must be invested for the benefit of public, he maintained.

Justice Bharti, while quoting Order XVII, Rule 1 of the Code of Civil Procedure 1908 and section 309 Criminal Procedure Code 1973, underlined that these provisions do allow the court to grant adjournment but there has to



Justice Rahul Bharti speaking at a workshop.

be sufficient cause for doing so otherwise the party in distress would be in the receiving end and therefore a duty is cast upon the court to record invariably the reasons for adjournment and make realistic orders as to the costs occasioned by such adjournment. In every such case, the endeavor of the Presiding Officer must be to ensure that the case remains in the state of motion and progresses step by step on each and every date towards the final hearing. A judge should deal a case with conviction and should see to it is not delay unnecessarily, he asserted.

The second session was conducted on the topic "Holistic health: Science of Stress and its Management through Yoga", wherein, Dr. T. R. Raina Professor and Head of

the Department of Blood Bank (Retd.), GMCH Jammu was the resource person.

During the course of his deliberations, the resource person through power point presentation, discussions and practical insights, enlightened and emphasized the participants to adopt the yogic techniques, which are scientifically proven, to explore the connection between holistic well-being for overcoming the stress and strain of day-to-day life.

Dr. Raina's expertise and guidance provided valuable insights and tools for managing stress and maintaining overall health in the demanding field of judiciary.

The workshop was concluded with vote of thanks by Yash Paul Bourney, Director, J&K Judicial Academy.

EJCC delegation meets MP Khatana, lists demands

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: A delegation of the Employees Joint Consultative Committee (EJCC), led by Ajaz Ahmad Khan, Chairman met BJP MP Rajya Sabha Er. Gulam Ali Khatana to apprise him of the longstanding concerns faced by employees in the region and seek collaborative solutions to address these issues.

MP Khatana commended the dedicated efforts of the employ-

Ensuring financial security for employees post-retirement was highlighted as a paramount concern.

They further demanded increase in Medical Allowance up to 3000 Per Month; reorganizing various Departments that have not undergone restructuring for an extended period. The delegation underscored the importance of adapting to changing requirements and ensuring the efficiency of government functions; implementation of Five Days a Week Working; increase in House Rent Allowance (HRA) and regularization of Daily Wagers, Need-Based Contractual Workers, Anganwadi Workers.

MP Khatana assured Employees Joint Consultative Committee to address the highlighted concerns and facilitate positive changes for the employees in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.



EJCC delegation during meeting with MP Gulam Ali Khatana.