

Pakistan indulged in persecuting natives on Gilgit-Baltistan, PoJK: Masood

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Highlighting the unending plight of the natives of Pakistan occupied Jammu and Kashmir (PoJK) and Gilgit-Baltistan, Jamil Masood, representative of NGO at United Nations Human Rights Councils Geneva on Sunday urged the Indian Government to liberate areas of the erstwhile princely state of Jammu and Kashmir illegally occupied by Pakistan since 1947.

"Without liberation of PoJK and Gilgit Baltistan from the joke of Pakistan, it is impossible to control the menace of terrorism", Masood said while addressing a webinar organized by the Centre for Ladakh & Jammu Kashmir Studies (Jammu Kashmir & Ladakh Chapter) in connection of Sankalp Divas. Topic of today's webinar was "Human Rights Violation and Socio-Economic Status in PoJK". Centre for Ladakh & Jammu Kashmir Studies (Jammu Kashmir & Ladakh Chapter) is organizing a series of lectures on the eve of the Sankalp Divas. Today was



the second lecture of the series.

Jameel Masood and Dr. Yashodhan Agalgoankar International Co-ordinator of Centre for Ladakh and Jammu and Kashmir Studies were the main speakers in the webinar.

Prof Naresh Padha, Dean Academic Affairs, University of Jammu presided over the webinar which was watched by viewers across the globe. In the webinar, speakers were unanimous that Gilgit Baltistan is an integral part of India. They observed that recently India carried out amendments in its constitution to declare Gilgit Baltistan a part of the Union Territory (UT) of Ladakh. This helped to re-establish Gilgit Baltistan's historical link with

Ladakh since Baltistan was part of Ladakh district before the partition of the State of Jammu and Kashmir. Masood pointed out that the Pakistani establishment has been brazenly indulged in persecuting natives on Gilgit-Baltistan on one pretext or the other.

"India must exert pressure on China and Pakistan to end the occupation of Gilgit Baltistan so the locals could enjoy equal citizenship rights like the people of Ladakh and other Indians", he said. He emphasized that the Indian Government must accelerate diplomatic efforts and effectively communicate to the rest of the world how the presence of China and Pakistan in Gilgit-Baltistan is detrimental

to the health of local languages and cultures and a direct attack on local resources. Dr. Yashodhan Agalgoankar International Co-ordinator of Centre for Ladakh and Jammu and Kashmir Studies recounted historical aspects of how Pakistan has forcefully and illegally occupied PoJK and Gilgit-Baltistan. He narrated some historical incidents and highlighted the deceitful tactics of Pakistan to annex these areas which are part of India both constitutionally and legally.

Prof Naresh Padha, in his address, lauded the Centre for Ladakh and Jammu and Kashmir Studies for organizing a series of lectures on the eve of Sankalp Divas. He said that both China and Pakistan have joined hands to undertake genocide against the local people of Gilgit-Baltistan and convert them into a minority.

"Given the situation, the entire world should stand with India to help natives of Gilgit Baltistan save from annihilation. The world should not let Gilgit Baltistan turn into another Xinjiang or Tibet", he said.

Pahari Tribe ST Forum holds convention at JU

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Pahari Tribe ST Forum, a socio cultural organization for welfare of Pahari Tribe, held One Day convention on contemporary issues related to Pahari Tribe at Brigadier Rajinder Singh Auditorium, University of Jammu, Jammu. More than 350 delegates across J&K UT participated and showed solidarity for the welfare of tribe. Prominent leaders and members of Pahari tribe took part in one day convention and raised the concern to work collectively for the upliftment of Culture, literature and other aspects of the down trodden tribe. Also in one voice reiterated demand of due ST status to the Pahari ethnicity.

They said that Pahari ethnicity constitute a tribe well mentioned by the government of India with constitutional amendment and live in hilly, tough terrain of border area lacking the deficiency in all sectors and also are part of seasonal migration every year and fulfills all prerequisite to be given Schedule Tribe status as cleared by all panel reports, Backward



Pahari Tribe ST Forum member speaking at a convention.

Commission Reports and Constitutional Amendments.

The speakers hailed the concern shown by Government of India in recent basic right of Schedule Tribe status that got delayed for such a long time by some quarters with vested interests.

Interacting during the proceedings the members of the ethnicity in one voice raised concerns of their down trodden condition and appealed GOI to furnish their due long pending demand of ST status. Adding claimed that Pahari tribe is the most hit-ten people of 1947 partition and most of people residing

at POJK belongs to Pahari tribe.

The speakers also pointed PM Modiji government who is having complete majority and works with full conviction and will definitely address this genuine demand of much deprived tribe.

From time to time different committees and expert panels declared Pahari tribe as the downtrodden ethnicity. Pertinent to mention since 1993 every Governor and Chief Minister of J&K has recommended due ST status to Pahari tribe, added. Moreover in the last three years most of the prerequisite lackings has been rectified

with logical findings. During the programme Ravinder Raina, Pahari leader and BJP UT President acted as the Chief Guest while NC senior leader and former Minister Mushtaq Bukhari presided over the function. Other senior leaders who were present includes Vibodh Gupta, Shah Mohd. Tantray, Raja Manzoor Khan, Mohd. Rashid Qureshi, Sayeed Raffiq Shah, Iqbal Malik, Qyum Mir, Rajinder Sharma, Sohail Malik, Rafiq Ahmed Chisti, Nadeem Khan, Anu Bhasin, Yassir Khan, Arif Jatt, Bharat Vaid, Shazia Mir, Samreen Khan and many more.

Proceedings of the programme was conducted by Vikrant Sharma.

Pahari Tribe ST Forum executive members who interacted includes Adv. Ashan Mirza, Adv. Gurdev Thakur, Sajjad Mirza, Nikhil Gupta, Shakti Sharma, Manir Mirza, Vishal Pahari, Jehangir Alam, Nusrat Shah, Iftqar Bazmi and many more.

Earlier Dr. Nitam Sharma presented welcome address while Dr. Rajinder Charak presented vote of thanks.

NSUI holds symbolic protest outside Jammu University



NSUI members performing Hawan during a protest.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: NSUI Jammu and Kashmir on Sunday held a symbolic protest under the leadership of NSUI J&K President Sunny Parihar, which was attended by a number of students who performed a Yagya, praying for granting wisdom to LG Manoj Sinha and Vice Chancellor Manoj Dhar. Sunny Parihar lambasted Vice Chancellor Jammu University for betraying students.

"University of Jammu earlier notified that all courses and semesters whose classes were conducted online, papers for

those courses and semesters will be held online," he added. He blamed University of Jammu for adopting step-motherly behaviour with selective courses while giving VIP treatment to their favorites. Parihar briefed media that they would not end their agitation until the genuine demand to conduct online examinations for all intermediate semesters will not be fulfilled.

Prominent activists of NSUI who attended the Yagya included Nipun Gandhi, Ankuush Kumar, Parwaz, Himanshu Billowria, Harsh, Gurdeep Singh and Shariq.

SKUAST-J will turn up into innovation, entrepreneurship hub in future: VC

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Startups incubated at SKUAST-Jammu were awarded during the Prize distribution ceremony of first ever I2EDC Pitch Desk competition -2022 held at IIT Jammu.

Prof. J. P. Sharma, Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-Jammu in his message said that SKUAST-Jammu will turn up into innovation and entrepreneurship hub in near future.

He congratulated Ahmer Bashir Shah and Mansi Sharma; incubates of Agri Business incubator; SKUAST-J for bringing laurels to the institute by winning 1st and 3rd position at the 'Startup Competition for Enterprising Teams with Million Dollar Ideas' organized by IIT Jammu's Institute Innovation & Entrepreneurship Centre (I2EDC).

Development of agri entre-



SKUAST-Jammu team receiving award.

preneurship has been one of the core goals of Prof. J P. Sharma, Vice Chancellor and he has been working tirelessly for achieving this goal. The Agri Business Incubator powered by RKVY-RAFTAAR Project of Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Govt. of India has been set up at SKUAST-J under his able guidance and support with an aim to promote agri-entrepreneurship.

Vice Chancellor also congratulated Prof. Jyoti Kachroo, Director P&M and I/c A.B.I,

SKUAST-J and her team for their contribution in training and developing young and budding start-ups in the agriculture sector.

Prof. Jyoti Kachroo expressed her gratitude towards the Vice Chancellor for his guidance, support and personally mentoring and nurturing the budding agri start-ups at the incubator for giving wings to their innovative business dreams and has acted as a pillar of strength for supporting the start-ups in their difficult journey.

Grand Gurmat Samagam organised at Domana

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A grand Gurmat Samagam, in the memory of Sant Gurbaksh Singh Danna, was held on Sunday at Gurdwara Guru Arjun Dev, Akhnoor Road, Domana under the patronage of Sant Tejwant Singh, Dera Mukhi Sant Pura Danna. The programme was organised with active cooperation of Joginder Singh Bali and Updesh Kour Bali, Baldev Singh from CEO Peaks Auto Ltd, Advocate Surinder Singh and Advocate Surinder Kour; S Attar Singh and members of the management Committee SGSD Int. School.

Renowned Ragi Jathas from outside the State who recited Shabad Kirtan there are Bhai Jughraj Singh Hazuri Ragi Sri Darbar Sahib, Bhai Sarabjit Singh & Bhai Harpinder Singh



Sikh devotees participating in Gurmat Samagam.

SGPC Parcharak (JKUT) .

Other Ragi Jathas including Bhai Jagtar Hazuri Ragi Darbar Sahib, Bhai Jagir Singh, Bhai Ranjit Singh, Bhai Rangil Singh, Bhai Ravinder Singh, Bhai Surinder Singh, Bhai Surinder POal Singh, Bhai Dharamvir Singh, Bhai Charanpreet Singh, Bhai Surjit Singh & Bhai Parvinder Singh, Bhai Davinder Singh recited Gurbani Kirtan on the

occasion.

Gulam Nabi Azad urged people to follow the path shown by Guru Granth Sahib for peace and well being of humanity. Ajay Sadotra & S Charanjitjit Singh said that Sant Gurbaksh Singh was a revolutionary soul & spiritual upright personality. J.P Singh who spoke on the occasion threw light on the life of Sant Gurbaksh Singh Danna and

urged the sangat to follow path shown by Sant ji.

Balvinder Singh social activist and President. Sikh Progressive front While addressing the Sangat highlighted the most discriminatory attitude of the PDP -BJP alliance in the year 2017 when with the intention to debar the educated Sikh Youths of Valley from the employment package of special drive for non migrant Kashmiris, by amending SRO 412, vide SRO 425 dated 10.10.2017 and incorporated the Word Kashmiri Migrant "Pandits" in place of Kashmiri Migrants, non inclusion of Punjabi language in the JK UT Official language Bill 2020, Non inclusion of any Sikh members in the recently constituted Public Service Commission.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader and Jammu and Kashmir BJP Vice President, Yudhvir Sethi has asserted that co-curricular activities hold power to transform students' capabilities into special abilities to discover the hidden talent within them. Moreover these augment the efforts towards personality development of a student, he added.

The senior BJP leader stated this while addressing an gathering at a Solo Dance Competition titled "Power of Dance 2K22" organized by Flying Step Dance Studio at Polytechnic College, Bikram Chowk here today. On the occasion, Shreya Rajput, social activist was the Guest of Honour and SDPO North,



BJP J&K Vice President, Yudhvir Sethi receiving a memento.

DySP, Sharad, Devinder Singh, CID Officer and SHO Peer Mitha Zaheer Mushtaq, social activist Varinder were the Special Guests. Yudhvir Sethi, who was the Chief Guest on the occasion, impressed upon the children to simultaneously participate in co-curricular activities while continuing their studies. He said that education is not just confined to attending classroom, doing homework and passing the examinations. "In today's competitive world

it is necessary for every individual to be an all-rounder he said while asserting that it is the co-curricular activities that play a vital role in developing an all-round personality with of course super-specialty in a field or more. Co-curricular activities go hand-in-hand with regular educational activities to augment a child's overall development as co-curriculum as students' capabilities get fully transformed to discover the talent hidden within them,

enhance it and display the same through their versatile performances that receives applause and recognition from the society. Yudhvir Sethi lauded the participants of the Solo Dance Competition saying that every one of them has displayed mesmerizing performance due to which assessing them would really be a tough job for the judges. While congratulating the Flying Step Dance Studio for organizing such a wonderful event, Sethi expressed the hope that it would continue its endeavour with more enthusiasm in future too so that the hidden talent of children in the City of Temples is discovered at the early age and enhanced to bring laurels through participation in the national and global level competitions. Among others who were present include Gulshan Prajapati, Subash Sanotra and Manik.

Shiv Sena demands Women Commission offices at district level

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Shiv Sena Jammu and Kashmir unit has expressed resentment against functioning of J&K Government as the present dispensation is not showing serious to address burning issues raised by party in Jammu and Kashmir from time to time.

Addressing media persons on Sunday, Manish Sahni, President J&K Shiv Sena said that party has raised several issues related to women and unemployed youth of Jammu and Kashmir with regard to reorganization of State Women's Commission and unemployment allowance for educated youth but it is unfortunate that the both the issues have not been addressed in letter and spirit, terming it as fuzzy and full of ambiguity. Sahni appreciated the government for showing serious concern towards issues raised by the party but the same needs reforms and clarity in the government directives. He said that the formation of Women's

Commission was announced by the government but no information was provided about its office and office bearers for its functioning.

"There is no clarity about the Commission's office whether it will be functional at the divisional or district level. Along with this, unemployment allowance for the youth seems nowhere as the same like eumin in the mouth of a camel. The instructions regarding relaxation of age limit for recruitment to the canceled reference posts are also misleading, he added.

Manish Sahni said that the government has accepted the demands raised by Shiv Sena but decisions were taken in haste without any roadmap. He asserted that monthly allowance of Rs 600 to 1000 is not acceptable to the party nor youth of the Jammu and Kashmir. The application fee for non-gazetted and other posts including Class-IV is Rs 200-500. At the same time, the cost of books of subjects for the preparation of written

examination ranges from 1000-2000, he emphasized.

Sahni urged the Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha to establish women Commission's office at the districts level for welfare of women without any further delay. Besides, unemployment allowance for J&K Youth should be minimum of Rs 3,000 to 5,000 on monthly basis and government should also clarify the relaxation in age-limit of J&K youth while applying for government jobs. Among others who were present in the press conference include president Mahila wing Meenakshi Chibber; Chairman Rakesh Gupta, Nagina Khan and Naveen Bali.

Meanwhile, Shiv Sena also staged a strong protest against rising cyber crimes and criminal cases in UT J&K. A large number of Shiv Sainiks gathered under the leadership of UT President, Manish Sahni demanding effective measures to curb cyber crimes, fix accountability besides making Cyber Cell of Police hi-tech.

DFSS holds protest rally against Hijab row



DFSS activists raising slogans during a protest.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A number of workers of Dogra Front & Shiv Sena (DFSS) led by its President Ashok Gupta took out a protest rally in Jammu on Sunday against Hijab row in an educational institute. Raising slogans 'Na Geeta Na Quran Sirf Chahiye Uniform', the activists condemned those political leaders, who are trying to politicize the issue for their benefits.

Speaking on the occasion, Ashok Gupta said that Article 30 of constitution clearly allows setting-up of religious schools and if anybody wants to wear his or her religious outfit, can join same. "Purpose of uniform is to maintain Uniformity as it symbolises equality. Some people are trying to find new ways to block rights and development of muslim women in India. Schools are only for education and not for flaunting one's religion, schools teach us equality and are a place where one goes to learn and enhance skills and not to preach religion," he added.

Those who participated in protest included Abhishek, Nizam, Mohd, Abdullah, Rasheed, Fatima, Fowzia, Sehar, Rahul, Bantu, Rampal, Kalu, Prem, Naresh, Vikram, Dwassi and Anuj.

Jats feel cheated over plan to reserve seats from Kathua to Mendhar: Ch Manmohan

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Ch Manmohan Singh, President All India Jat Maha Sabha (AIJMS) and former Mayor Jammu, on Sunday said that Jat Community feels that it has been cheated over proposal to reserve all the constituencies from Kathua to Mendhar in draft report prepared by Delimitation Commission and accused the incumbent government of being discriminatory against the nationalist people. In a statement issued to media persons, AIJMS President expressed dismay over Delimitation Commission's interim report that has proposed to reserve all the seats having Jat majority as the move will snatch the genuine right of the community to have representation in the government in Jammu and Kashmir. He raised serious concern over the issue and blamed the Election

Commission of India for deliberately muzzling the voice of Jats who have a thick population in the constituencies which have been proposed for reservation. The former Mayor said that the Jat community played a vital role in guarding the nation but the Election Commission has ignored their sentiments in the interim proposal meant for justice to all. Ch Manmohan said that instead of ensuring justice the draft report by the Delimitation Commission seems to have worked to pinch-off whatever little the Jat community was having in the aforesaid constituencies.

The Jat leader said that like other communities, Jats also have the right to represent the government by electing their members into the Assembly but the proposed draft prepared by ECI on the behalf of ruling government has taken away this

privilege which the earlier governments have promised to the nationalist community which had played a significant role in guarding the borders in both peace and war times.

AIJMS President urged the Election Commission of India not to take the rights of Jats for granted and revisit the decision so that Jats do not feel dejected. Raising another vital issue, Ch Manmohan Singh demanded restoration of Suchetgarh Constituency, claiming that the end of this constituency is a cruel joke with the Jat community as the same is the strong bastion of Jats and the draft proposal if implemented without rectification will demoralize the community which is not good at all. He said that the ECI should respect the sentiments of Jat community and rescind the proposal to annul Suchetgarh's status as a constituency.