

BJP holds workshop on "One Nation, One Election" campaign

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: To reach the people and educate them about the electoral reforms, Jammu and Kashmir BJP held one day workshop ahead of its awareness campaign for "One Nation, One Election".

It was inaugurated by party president Sat Sharma, along with General Secretary (organisation) Ashok Koul, former minister Priya Sethi, senior leader & Convenor for the campaign CA Rajeev Gupta, Co Convenor Arun Prabhat Singh and spokesperson Altaf Thakur.

The BJP district Convenors and Co Convenors were the invitees in this workshop. A power-point presentation was also presented in the workshop.

Sat, while speaking on the importance of 'One Nation One Election', said that the



BJP President Sat Sharma, along with General Secretary (organisation) Ashok Koul and others during the workshop.

campaign aims to highlight key advantages of one election, including cost savings, improved governance, and reduced election-related disruptions with elections currently held at different times across states and the centre, administrative and financial burdens on the government are significant.

Holding them simultaneously could streamline resources, minimize policy paralysis, and enhance gov-

ernance efficiency.

Sat further said "One Nation, One Election" is a transformative idea that could redefine India's electoral landscape. Through this initiative, we want to ensure that every citizen understands the impact of this proposal and actively contributes to the national discussion. Democracy thrives when people are well informed and engaged.

Ashok Koul said that the

awareness campaign is designed to encourage citizen participation and informed discussions on this crucial electoral reform. By organizing different programmes like discussions with youth, constitutional experts, political analysts, and prominent business communities, the campaign aims to create a balanced debate on the benefits of implementing One Nation, One Election.

Priya Sethi said that the time has changed, the life

has become fast and we need to move with time. It is the right time to accept the electoral reform and contribute in moving with the country's march towards progress and prosperity

CA Rajeev Gupta said that the initiative is garnering support from people, who are collaborating to present diverse perspectives on the subject. Media houses and digital platforms are also playing a crucial role in spreading awareness, ensuring the campaign reaches every corner of the country. A power point presentation was also shown to all the attendees for this program for awareness of masses.

Arun Prabhat Singh said that the youth can play an important role in reaching the people to educate them about the significance of this electoral reform and expressed hope that the Indian citizens would wholeheartedly embrace this.

Balbir presents portrait of Guru Ravidas to Anurag Thakur



BJP leader Balbir Ram Rattan presenting portrait of Guru Ravidas to MP Anurag Thakur.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: In a heartfelt gesture honouring the legacy of Guru Ravidas, Balbir Ram Rattan, presented a portrait of the revered saint Guru Ravidas to MP and former Union Minister Anurag Thakur, in presence of Jammu and Kashmir BJP President Sat Sharma.

Balbir Ram Rattan, Guru Ravidass Vishwa Mahapeeth General Secretary, also Indian Chapter General Secretary of British Ravidasia Heritage Foundation and Member, Begampura Vishwa Mahasabha, while presenting the portrait to Anurag Thakur, shared his association with various social organisations of the country and abroad,

which are working to spread the teachings of Guru Ravidas. Anurag Thakur, on the occasion, said that the lives of great Indian saints teach us equality, brotherhood and respect for all faiths and sections.

He expressed his deep respect for Guru Ravidas and appreciated the effort to prepare and present the portrait. He also highlighted the importance of preserving and promoting the values championed by Guru Ravidas.

Sat Sharma said that Guru Ravidas was a social reformer whose message of equality and humanity continues to inspire millions. He advocated for a casteless, harmonious society. His teachings emphasized love, unity, and devotion to God, making him a guiding force for people seeking spiritual and social upliftment, wisdom and compassion, symbolizing his enduring influence on society.

Balbir said that the portrait presented to the MP captures the essence of Guru Ravidas' wisdom and compassion, symbolizing his enduring influence on society.

Balbir stated that Guru Ravidas' philosophy has always been a guiding light in his life, and this portrait was a token of his devotion and respect. Through this portrait, I paid homage to Guru Ravidas and ensure that his teachings continue to reach people," he said.

Yudhvir, Priya Sethi pay obeisance at Peer Kho Temple on Maha Shivratri



MLA Yudhvir Sethi along with BJP leader Priya Sethi paying obeisance at Peer Kho Temple.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Senior BJP leader and MLA Jammu East Constituency, Yudhvir Sethi, along with former Minister and senior BJP leader Priya Sethi on Wednesday paid obeisance at the ancient Peer Kho Temple on the auspicious occasion of Maha Shivratri.

The duo participated in the special prayers and sought blessings from Lord Shiva

Kho, which serve as pillars of faith and devotion for countless devotees.

Priya Sethi, while addressing the gathering, extended her heartfelt greetings to the people on Maha Shivratri and stressed the need to uphold the values of unity, devotion, and righteousness. She acknowledged the efforts of the temple management in organizing the grand celebrations and ensuring smooth arrangements for the devotees.

A large number of devotees thronged the Peer Kho Temple to offer prayers and perform Rudra Abhishek on this pious occasion. The temple premises reverberated with chants of 'Har Har Mahadev' and 'Om Namah Shivaya' as devotees immersed themselves in religious fervor.

Both leaders reiterated their commitment to promoting the spiritual and cultural legacy of Jammu and appreciated the administration for facilitating seamless arrangements at religious places during the festival.

Dr. Farooq joins Maha Shivratri celebrations, calls for communal harmony in J&K

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (JKNC) President and former Chief Minister Dr. Farooq Abdullah on Wednesday joined the Maha Shivratri celebrations in Jammu, emphasizing the importance of maintaining communal harmony in Jammu and Kashmir.



JKNC President Dr. Farooq Abdullah participating in Mahashivratri celebrations in Jammu.

He emphasized the importance of upholding the region's rich tradition of brotherhood and coexistence, highlighting that festivals like Maha Shivratri symbolize unity and shared cultural heritage.

The former Chief Minister was speaking at Shiv Mandir, Bhagwati Nagar, where he inaugurated a Langar organized to mark the sacred occasion.

He also paid obeisance at the temple and distributed Bhandara among devotees, reinforcing the spirit of service and unity.

Accompanying him were

several senior party leaders, including Provincial President Rattan Lal Gupta, MLA Pahalgam Altaf Kaloo, MLA Haveli Ajaz Jan, former Minister Babu Rampal, Ankush Abrol, and others.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Farooq Abdullah said, "Religious and cultural festivities serve as a unifying force, fostering brotherhood and strengthening our deep-rooted traditions of mutual respect. The National Conference has always

upheld the principles of secularism, and we remain steadfast in our commitment to building a society where people of all faiths live with dignity and harmony."

Dr. Abdullah also interacted with devotees and lauded the organizers for their commitment to community service through such spiritual initiatives. He extended his heartfelt wishes on Maha Shivratri, praying for peace, prosperity, and communal harmony across Jammu and Kashmir.

Later, Dr. Abdullah visited several Kashmiri Pandit families to personally extend his Maha Shivratri greetings. Recognizing their cultural and spiritual significance, he remarked, "Maha Shivratri is a celebration of our shared heritage. Kashmiri Pandits have always been an integral part of our composite culture, and their well-being remains a top priority. It is our collective duty to foster an atmosphere of respect, inclusivity, and togetherness in Jammu and Kashmir."

Speaking on the significance of the 'Herath Poshte' in Kashmiri tradition, he

Maha Shivratri Bhandara, free medical camp organized in Smailpur



Dr Anil K.Sharma Cardiologist, Dr Kanii Bhardwaj along with Vijay Bhardwaj and team during the camp at Shiv Mandir Smailpur.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SMAILPUR: Like every year in celebration of the auspicious festival of Maha Shivratri, a grand Bhandara and free medical camp were organized at Village Smailpur, near CRPF Camp, Taali Morh by Vijay Bhardwaj and his family, aimed to serve the community by offering free meals and medical services to all attendees.

The Bhandara, which is a sacred tradition of offering food to devotees and the needy, took place from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM, where hundreds of people gathered to seek blessings and partake in the Prasad.

Devotees engaged in Havan and Pooja rituals from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM, offering prayers to Lord Shiva for peace, prosperity, and well-being.

A significant highlight of the event was the free medical camp, held from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM, where renowned doctors from Jammu provided medical check-ups and consultations.

Dr. Anil Kumar Sharma (Gold Medalist, MD Medicine, DM Cardiology, SKIMS) and Dr. Kanit Bhardwaj (MBBS, General Physician) led the medical

services, ensuring free healthcare support for the attendees.

Speaking on the occasion, Vijay Bhardwaj emphasized the importance of community service and devotion, stating that such events strengthen the spiritual and social fabric of society.

The event witnessed an overwhelming response, with people from nearby areas participating with great enthusiasm. The organizers expressed their gratitude to all the volunteers, doctors, and attendees for making the Maha Shivratri celebration a success.

People in Kashmir inspired by Modi's peace initiatives: Sat

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir BJP President, Sat Sharma, on Wednesday said that the people of Kashmir in particular are inspired by the peace initiatives, development, and stability under PM Narendra Modi.

Sat Sharma said this while welcoming Mohammed Ashraf Palpori into the party fold, along with General Secretary (organization) Ashok Koul, former minister Priya Sethi, Spokesperson Altaf Thakur, BJYM President Arun Prabhat Singh, senior leader CA Rajeev Gupta and other leaders.



BJP President, Sat Sharma welcoming Mohammed Ashraf Palpori into party fold.

Mohammed Ashraf Palpori is a prominent leader from Kashmir, who was associated with the Apni party in the past as its Youth wing General Secretary. He has the distinction of serving the people as Corporator in

Srinagar Municipal Corporation, besides having contested assembly elections from Eidgah constituency.

Sat, on this occasion, said that under Narendra Modi's leadership, the union government has prioritized security and development in Kashmir. There has been a significant decline in violence and incidents of terrorism have dropped drastically, leading to an improved security environment.

'Kashmir's tourism sector, once hampered by instability, is now witnessing a resurgence and the Modi government's efforts to promote the region as a premier travel destination have led to record-breaking tourist arrivals" Sat Sharma said, adding that it could be possible only as the people across the globe have recognized that peace has been restored in Kashmir. It has provided a significant boost to the local economy. Infrastructure improvements, including new roads, railway projects, and better connectivity, have

further enhanced accessibility. Ashok Koul, while speaking on the occasion, said that the past narrative in Kashmir has changed now and the people are showering praises on PM Modi for remarkable outcomes of his peace initiatives. A sense of security is prevailing among the people in Kashmir today.

Events such as the G-20 Summit in Srinagar displayed Kashmir's potential on a global stage, reinforcing the message of peace and progress.

Mohammed Ashraf Palpori said that he is convinced that Kashmir can progress and prosper provided there is peace and normalcy and the Modi government has done a lot in this direction and the days of insecurity, uncertainty, fear and terror are gone now.

IGGDC Jammu celebrates Oral Pathologist Day with enthusiasm



Officials of IGGDC Jammu during the event.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology, Indira Gandhi Government Dental College (IGGDC), Jammu, celebrated Oral Pathologist Day with great zeal, emphasizing the crucial role of oral pathology in early disease detection and patient care.

The event commenced with a ribbon-cutting ceremony by Dr. Parveen Akhtar Lone, Principal & Dean, and Dr. Sanjay Sharma, Medical Superintendent, IGGDC, Jammu, marking the formal inauguration of the celebrations. The event, led by Dr. Rubena Anjum, Professor & Head of the Department, featured var-

ious activities, including an awareness talk and screening of patients at the Home for Aged & Infirm, Amphalla, a historangoli competition for undergraduate students, and a photo-micrograph competition for postgraduate students

A special tribute was paid to Late Dr. H. M. Dholakia, a pioneer in oral pathology, for his immense contributions to the field. His legacy continues to inspire future generations of oral pathologists in shaping the future of diagnostic pathology and patient care.

The celebration concluded with a felicitation ceremony for the Principal, Dean, winners, and organ-

izers, followed by a cake-cutting ceremony. Additionally, a plantation drive was conducted to promote environmental sustainability, symbolizing growth in both nature and the field of oral pathology.

The event saw active participation from undergraduate and postgraduate students, as well as faculty members, including Dr. Mandeep Kaur (Assistant Professor), Dr. Nidhi Khajuria (Lecturer on A/A), Dr. Ettishree, and Dr. Namita Sepolia.

The celebrations reinforced the department's commitment to education, research, and community service, fostering awareness and excellence in oral healthcare.

NDF&DC offers concessional Home, Vehicle loan scheme to PwD govt employees

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: The National Divyangjan Finance and Development Corporation (NDF&DC) an organization under the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs/Divyangjan), Ministry of Justice & Empowerment, GoI provides concessional financial assistance up to Rs 50 Lakh to persons with disabilities to support their economic rehabilitation.

NDFC extends loan for home & vehicular purchases to PwD government employees at nominal interest rates. The loans are available through network of implementing agencies.

The details of the scheme can be accessed on the website www.nhfdc.nic.in.

IIM Jammu concludes Authors Workshop



IIM officials along with participants during the workshop.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu, along with Dr. Purnendu from Bharatiya Bhasha Samiti, New Delhi. The workshop featured sessions on NEP 2020 insights, textbook writing principles, quality assurance, terminology standardization, interdisciplinary development, and a panel discussion on future action plans.

Dr. Garima Saini, Assistant Professor, IIM Jammu invited feedback from participants and discussed the roadmap for moving forward, emphasizing the

importance of collaborative efforts in strengthening academic writing in Bharatiya languages.

Purnendu Debnath, Bharatiya Bhasha Samiti, New Delhi, interacted with participants and encouraged them to share their requirements, ensuring they could be effectively addressed and put forward.

The workshop concluded with a valedictory ceremony followed by certificate distribution recognizing participants' contributions, marking a significant step in promoting Bharatiya languages in academic writing,

research, and higher education.

The workshop includes sessions on insights from NEP 2020, textbook writing principles, quality assurance, terminology standardization, interdisciplinary textbook development, and a panel discussion on future action plans.

The workshop aimed at promoting academic writing in Dogri and strengthening higher education in Indian languages.

Experts and scholars engaged in insightful discussions and hands-on sessions to enhance academic writing skills.

The initiative aligns with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, emphasizing the promotion of regional languages in higher education.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation, reflecting a strong commitment to fostering linguistic diversity and academic excellence.