

Cong's ideological fight against BJP, its policies in J&K will be intensified: Patil

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JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir has suffered the most under the BJP regime, senior Congress leader and MP Rajni Patil alleged on Friday, asserting that in run-up to the assembly elections, the Congress will intensify its ideological fight against the saffron party and its policies towards the union territory.

She was addressing workers meeting on Friday at Guru Nanak Nagar organized by Block Congress Committee wherein Chief JKPCGA Mir; Working President JKPCGA Raman Bhalla, General Secretary JKPCGA Manmohan Singh, APRO Sukhwant Brar, Spokespersons Congress Ravinder Sharma, Ex MLA Haji Abdul Rasheed, Distt Jammu President Urban Yogesh Sawhney, Mahila Congress President Indu Pawar, General Secretary, Channi Singh, Treasurer Rajesh Sharma participated. Patil claimed that so far BJP rule has been of "mismanagement, immense despair and agony" and the country today stands at a stage where the common people are suffering from the wounds inflicted by the government whereas Congress has been continuing its efforts to listen to grievances of aggrieved people in various areas of J&K. She said policies of disorientation and false propaganda have become the hallmark of the functioning of the Modi government.



Congress worker presenting memento to AICC leader and MP Rajni Patil.

She lashed out at the Central Govt for the unprecedented price hike and record unemployment besides failing to address the grievances of people of J&K on every count after promising massive development post August 5, 2019.

She said that development process started by UPA Govt in J&K, received a major setback, as the NDA Govt failed to carry forward the massive developments started by UPA.

Every section of the society including farmers, youth, students, employees are up in arms due to wrong policies of BJP, she said. Hitting hard the BJP and its state leadership for cheating the people of Jammu, she said that the BJP has lost the moral right to go to Jammu people after betrayal after betrayal. Stating that Bharatiya Janta Party (BJP) has "cheated" people of Jammu, she accused the Union govern-

ment of reducing status of people of the region to "fourth class citizens" even when they voted the party to power in Assembly and Parliamentary polls.

She criticized the misgovernance of BJP government due to which common masses are feeling cheated. She blamed the government for failing to tackle prices and making life difficult for the common man. There is no doubt that there has been a significant increase in poverty and hunger, she said. She said there is rule of untruth and injustice in the country. Mir in his address observed that governments are elected to ease the burden of people and at the very least, not work directly contrary to their interests. Every citizen is anguished and deeply distressed regarding the spiralling fuel and gas prices.

Raman Bhalla called upon people to teach BJP a lesson of life for issues of

price rise, unemployment, agricultural distress and crony capitalism in the country. He alleged that the BJP was taking the country on the path of destruction. He said all sectors were being handed over gradually to the corporates, while the farmers and small shopkeepers who generated employment were being finished. He said it was the people's responsibility to make the government accountable and pose questions to it. "Whenever the elections come, the BJP leaders mislead the people by talking about China or other countries and raise communal and casteist issues. JKPCGA Working President added BJP government has not done any work in the public interest in J&K. The double engine government of the BJP has harassed every section of society and has not done anything itself but has been appearing in advertisements claiming the works of the Congress party as its own. He gave a clarion call to people in J&K and across the country to root out the BJP government which, according to him, is weakening the rural economy and hereditary trades, and playing havoc with the farm sector only to hand over agriculture sector to the corporates, he said.

Yogesh Sawhney said BJP playing politics of deceit and indulging in rhetoric. He said that not fulfilling the promise of providing 2 crore jobs annually is enough to prove the lies of its leadership.



Women must start pro-active campaigns against drug abuse to prevent children from self-destruction: Zorawar

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JAMMU: Making a fervent appeal to the women folk to come forward and join hands in making drug awareness campaign as mass movement here in Jammu and Kashmir, especially, in Jammu Province, Chairman, Team Jammu, Zorawar Singh Jamwal said that drug mafia is making all attempts to trap younger generation including School and College going students in their evil net there by spoiling the future of nation.

While addressing a large gathering of women during a religious function 'Ramayan Katha in Dogri' organized by Dharam Prachaar Seva Mandal at an oldest Banwaari Temple near Mubarak Mandi, Panjthirthi, Team Jammu chief, Zorawar Singh Jamwal said that its volunteers will leave no stone unturned to take on its fight against drugs to all nook and corner of Jammu region.

"School going children and College youth need to be involved in a big way for spreading the message at the grass root level. And for that, mothers have to take the lead to make aware their wards about the ill and dead effects of drug abuse," highlighted Zorawar Singh Jamwal and

men to join hands and take the responsibilities in their respected localities to strictly counter suspicious activities of drug peddlers.

Team Jammu chief, said, "Time has come for the women who being wife, sister and mother to start pro-active campaigns with a spirit of love and compassion that will surely help in preventing self-destruction of those who have fallen prey to drug-addiction. The time is giving alarming bells to come out from homes and reach out to vulnerable segments in a big way."

Appreciating the office bearers of Dharam Prachaar Seva Mandal including its founder Capt Lalit Sharma, President, Randheer Singh Raipura, Secretary Satpal Raina, Suresh Raina, Manoj Nischant, Varinder

Dogra, Rakesh Sharma and Ramesh Rahi for organizing Ramayan Katha in Dogri language, Chairman Team Jammu, Zorawar Singh Jamwal said that, "Women have to shoulder the responsibility of inculcating the practice of Sanatan in their siblings since childhood, which would enlighten them about good and bad from their tender age and would help them making a bright future."

Corporator, Ward No. 11, Anita Sharma, in her address, expressed her views on the glaring issue of Drug Abuse, which is affecting the youth, both boys and girls and underscored the duty of parents and especially mothers who have a very considerable role in shaping the future of younger generation.



Chairman, Team Jammu, Zorawar Singh Jamwal speaking at a programme.

Div Com inaugurates two-day Garden festival at Bagh-e-Bhour Jammu



Div Com Jammu, Dr. Raghav Langer inaugurating 'Garden Festival' at Bagh-e-Bhour, Jammu.

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JAMMU: Directorate of Tourism, Jammu, in collaboration with J&K Department of Floriculture, is organizing a two day "Garden Festival" at Bagh-e-Bhour, Jammu.

The festival was inaugurated on Friday by Dr. Raghav Langer, Divisional Commissioner, Jammu in presence of M. Raju, Commissioner Secretary, Jal Shakti, Vivekanand Rai, Director Tourism, Jammu, Abhishek Sharma, Mission Director, Swachh Bharat Mission, Urban and Jatinder Singh, Director, Floriculture, Jammu.

Addressing the gathering, the Divisional Commissioner, Jammu appreciated the efforts made by the Tourism Department to make the Festival a grand success. He

said that the two-day Garden Festival is first of its kind to celebrate nature by welcoming the onset of the spring season. He added that with the decrease in the number of COVID-19 cases, the festivities have returned to Jammu City with tourists/locals enjoying the 2 day Garden Festivities. He stated that the Tourism

Department has organized a variety of competitions/events to lure in tourists/locals.

Director Tourism, Jammu, Vivekanand Rai, while welcoming the dignitaries and tourists/locals who participated in the event, stated that to make the festival lively, new cultural activities have been arranged during the two-day Festival to

cater to the intending tourists. Later, the Chief Guest inaugurated "Selfie Point" and "I love Green" signature Board.

As the evening progressed, renowned Singer and Composer Suraj Singh performed along with Juhu, a very talented Singer which enthralls the tourists/locals.

Besides, a magic show has also been organized at the venue by Samrat Shankar Jagduar. The Magic Wand, Magic Words and Distinctive Style of magic tricks performed by the artist kept the audience spellbound.

Further, as part of the Festival, Painting Competition, Rangoli Competition and Garden Prince/Prince Competition was held. The winners of the Painting competition were Abhinandan Sharma (1st Prize), Bhami Uday Dutt (2nd

Prize) and Arnavi Sharma (3rd Prize) while other participants received consolation prizes. In the Rangoli Competition, Team (B) comprising Jagmeet, Sunandini, Shitali secured 1st Prize, Team (C) comprising Anup, Abhinandan, Shruti 2nd Prize and Arnavi secured 3rd Prize. Baby Vani Singh Slathia was crowned as Garden Princess and Master Arnab Singh Slathia as Garden Prince. The Festivities will continue tomorrow also.

Natasha Kalsotra, Joint Director Tourism, Jammu, Sukriti Sambyal, General Manager JKTD, Naresh Kumar, Deputy Director Tourism, Publicity, Jammu, Rahul Mahajan, Accounts Officer and Sheen Sahni, ADT, Publicity were also present during the course of event.

"School going children and College youth need to be involved in a big way for spreading the message at the grass root level. And for that, mothers have to take the lead to make aware their wards about the ill and dead effects of drug abuse," highlighted Zorawar Singh Jamwal and

J&K poised for huge transformation: Rana

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JAMMU: Prominent BJP leader Devender Singh Rana on Friday said Jammu and Kashmir is poised for a huge transformation with the Prime Minister's mission of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Shikshya forming core of the governance to ensure equitable opportunities of growth to all segments and regions, irrespective of caste, creed and religion.

Addressing the Karykarts during 2-days Karykram here, Devender Rana described the BJP as a mass movement, dedicated to the cause and welfare of the people, which has been re-established and recognized during the recently held elections in four states, with every segment of the inspirational society, rising above caste and religious barriers, reposing their faith in the party at the strength of its performance.

"The fact that the electors of



Prominent BJP leader Devender Singh Rana addressing a gathering.

Deoband stamped their preference for the BJP smashes the malicious propaganda against the party being religious specific", he said, adding that the focus of the governance has been to ensure that the benefits of the welfare schemes and development programmes reach every Indian, no matter the religion, caste of political ideology he or she subscribes to.

He said women empowerment and emancipation in particular has received focused attention of the government.

Rana exuded confidence that Jammu and Kashmir will progress and prosper under the decisive leadership of Mr Narendra Modi, who has emerged as a global leader, with countries across the continent looking towards him in resolving issues concerning them.

With such a dynamism and

clear approach, Jammu and Kashmir is poised for a big

transformation, the beginning of which has taken place the day he took over the reins of this nation in 2014, he added.

Devender Rana said the people of Jammu and Kashmir want change in the stereo-type political management which has thus far remained domain of the selected few and benefited the elite political class alone. The change is the essence of democracy and the electors in this part of the country too want devolution of power to enable them to shape their socio-economic destiny. He reiterated the BJP stands guarantee to equitable opportunities of progress and development to all the regions and the sub-regions, irrespective of caste, creed and religion.

Rana said that a strong BJP is guarantee to ending the decades' long exploitation and discrimination, adding that the party is growing as a dominant

force in Jammu and Kashmir; which needs a strong and decisive government to fulfill the aspirations of the people.

Prominent among those present on the occasion included District President Rajinder Singh Chib, General Secretary Babu Ram Bhagat, Mandal President Nagrota Ajay Sharma, Som Nath Khajuria, Pt. Rameshwar Dutt, Sarpanch Surinsar Bodh Raj, Subash Singh, Nirmala Sharma, Vandana, Pritam Kumar, Gharu Ram, Mohd Sadiq, Girdhari Lal, Tarsem Singh, Mohd Khalil, Bhushan Singh, Kuldeep Singh, Showkat Hussain, Shamsher Hussain, Haji Feroz Din, Master Jagdish Raj, Khajuria, Hassan Din, Balbir Singh, Hans Raj, Mast Ram, Pritam Chand, Mohinder Singh, Kuldeep Raj, Rakesh Kumar, Bantu, Bhuri Dass and others.

J&K Bank signs MoU with SKIMS for digital payment system

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SRINAGAR: As part of its strategic drive towards digitalization of banking services, J&K Bank on Friday signed MoU with the valley's premier healthcare institute SKIMS.

The MoU for starting an online payment system was signed between the Bank and SKIMS during an important event organised to integrate the Hospital Information Systems (HIS) of SKIMS with Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (GoI) - a major step towards providing smooth, digitized and seamless healthcare services to the people of J&K. Additional Chief Secretary, Health & Medical Education, Vivek Bhardwaj was the

Chief Guest and Syed Shafat Hussain Rufai represented the Bank as guest-of-honour at the function attended by the top administration of SKIMS besides senior doctors, paramedics and officers of the Bank. Speaking on the occasion, Vivek Bhardwaj said the integration of SKIMS with Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission will mark a new beginning and the SKIMS will become a role model for the entire country with digitized information management and payment systems. On the occasion, Syed Shafat Hussain Rufai thanked the SKIMS administration for making the agree-

ment signing part of its systemic integration with ABDM. He said, "J&K Bank sincerely values its profound relationship with SKIMS and shall facilitate SKIMS at every step for better patient care delivery while strengthening the institutional bonds between the two premier institutions of public service."

"With our renewed focus on digitalization of services under the guidance of MD & CEO, we will keep moving ahead in this direction to make utility and other payment services convenient and comfortable for our customers and public at large. The process of providing such ease-of-doing-business solutions to our customers especially institutional clients will be expedited in the upcoming financial year", he added. Earlier appreciating J&K Bank for its constant support and excellent services, Director SKIMS Prof. Parvaiz A Koul said that SKIMS will have a fully cashless transaction system in place. "Signing of MoU with the J&K Bank on this platform will be culmination of the process of digitalization of payments at SKIMS," he said. Head Business Unit SKIMS, Syed Irfan signed the MoU on behalf of Bank while as Medical Superintendent Dr. Farooq A. Jan represented the SKIMS on the occasion.

It is mentioned that the Bank has been expressing publicly his first intimate concern for the cause of the economically poor/underprivileged/under represented masses and the unemployed / under employed youth. He has refurbished, conceived & launched over 200 programmes & schemes for his people in the form of short term as well as long term props irrespective of caste/creed/sex/age segment/region so as to give his people a respectable living & settlement with more of immediate focus on the women, unemployed youth, the senior citizens, the destitute and all round economic, physical & emotional development of his fellow countrymen. As far as the financial inputs to be sanctioned, released and ordered directly or indirectly by the government the Prime Minister at his level has been moving with extra pace but as far as the qual-

ity & achievements of physical/social benefits are concerned has 'his team' been able to keep pace with him is a question that needs introspection since we may find some analysts opining that the money use efficiency of the resources flowing out of the public exchequer and element of good governance reaching the common man is not commensurate to the efforts being made by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

May be 'his' people are not providing time to time real achievements on ground and Prime Minister gets carried with the thinking that no improvements / modifications are needed in the schemes and the guidelines for implementation & evaluation. To quoted Jan Aushadi Drug Store programme was started with opening of 1st retail Jan Aushadi Drug Store in November 2008 in Amritsar, the scheme was conceived by Lt Shri Ram Vilas Paswan the then Petroleum and Chemicals Minister with Bureau of Pharma PSUs of India (BPPI) as the nodal agency to

promote the prescription writing, use and supply of allopathic drugs by chemical name / generic name & ensure that the drugs are sold labelled with genuine MRP so as to dislodge the prevailing unfair system of marking the drugs with unreasonably inflated MRPs which could be noticed at occasions even 5 to 6 times more than the genuine price. But the progress was very dismal even after 7 years which could be well seen from the total revenue receipts of the Bureau of Pharma PSUs of India (BPPI) that was given the job for promotion of Jan Aushadi Store (Kendra) where supplies to JAS(K) has been just of Rs. 11 Cr (Rs.11,05,39329.91) in one year (2015-16) on all India basis in a country as large as India (janaushadhi.gov.in/brochure.html).

Prime Minister Narendra Modi had taken personal notice of that and he is in a way very intimately working to promote the programme just like 'his private' mission, the programme has been

renamed as Pradhan Mantri Jan Aushadi Pariyojana (PMJAY) and handling body BPPI too has been renamed as

Pharmaceuticals and Medical devices Bureau of India (PMBI) and even now since 2019 the 7th March is being observed as Jan Aushadi Divas. As per the information released by PMBI as on 31st March 2020 there were only 6306 retail outlets in India and the annual sales at MRP was just INR 433.60 Cr in 739 districts of India, no doubt the number has significantly grown after 2015 but in a country of about 6.5 Lakh villages (638365 villages- Census-2001) the number of retail shops after 14 years of start is too less and as per balance sheet of (PMBI) ending 31-03-2020 total revenue from operations has been just Rs.278 cr (Rs.278,01,49235) which includes accessories and surgical appliances also where as the total Annual Turnover of Pharmaceuticals was Rs. 2,89,998 crore for the year 2019-2020

in India.

The drugs and appliances sold through the Jan Aushadi Stores under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Aushadi Pariyojana (PMJAY) under chemical / generic name can cover the needs of more than 95 % of the sick/ailing people and are labelled with genuine prices(MRP) which could be as low as atleast one third to one fifth of the MRP of the same drug being sold under different brand names by Pharma companies with the help of prescription writers. The programme was conceived about 13 years back but still there are only a few thousand shops in the country, very less people know about these stores and not many people have come forward to open these shops when on face of it there should be huge rush on these shops since people can save very large expenditure on drugs, should not the government of India / States / UTs have investigated into that ?

One of the prime reasons for fall back of the programme (inspite of Modi taking personal interest) has been that even

the government doctors do not write prescription by chemical name / generic name. In the year 2018 J&K government had even ordered creation of prescription audit cells in government hospitals but that too has remained only a formal order. Modi has interacted with some consumers and the JA store owners on 07-03-2022 but I do not find from any report in the media that any one has given such like feed back to Modi. Hope when such feedback reaches Modi he would surely express his unhappiness to those who 'simply' write success stories for such @functions. Imagine how many lakhs of crores of genuinely earned common man money has been unfairly taken away by pharma companies and their associates even after 2008 due to the reason that those assigned the job of promotion of Jan Aushadi Drug Outlets and prescription writing by chemical name having not performed their duty truthfully.

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