

PAGD constituents deceit root cause of people's misery: Rana

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Prominent BJP leader Devender Singh Rana on Thursday described politics of deception and deceit, unleashed by constituents of PAGD over the decades, as root cause of the public unrest in Jammu and Kashmir; saying the tendency of being seen on both sides of the fence has eroded the credibility of the politicians, especially those who tend to be mainstream when rehabilitated to corridors of power and soft-separatists when out of it.

During his interactive session with a cross section of the society here, the BJP leader referred to the rants of restoration of 1953 position to J&K and the self-rule doctrine, saying the proponents conveniently forget these slogans after getting into the cradle of power and use them to mislead and hoodwink the



Prominent BJP leader Devender Singh Rana interacting with people.

people of Kashmir when out of power.

"The proponents of the restoration of the 1953 status ignore the reality of the 1975- Accord and brazenly cast smoke screen over the political realisation that the needles of clock could not be reversed back", Devender Rana said, adding that after becoming the beneficiaries of the accord, they forget the bogey of 1953 status when in power but resort to the beat-

en track again whenever rejected by the people in elections. He asked them to introspect and ponder over the response they are getting in elections.

Rana wondered over the so-called moral grandstanding of some leaders, who keep shedding tears for the people but forget the bruises they kept inflicting upon them in the arrogance of power. They may pretend to forget but the people know how they taunt-

ed innocent children who fell victims to their wrong handling of situations and policies. The people also know how they mocked the victims by asking whether they had gone for fetching toffees while falling prey during violence unleashed by terror sponsored mobs, he added.

"The so-called mainstream leaders keep exploiting the public sentiment for the sake of power and bully New Delhi while finding their hegemony being threatened or challenged", Rana said while advising the self-seeking politicians to learn saying 'no' to contradictions and to shun their tactics for remaining relevant in the politics. Such tendencies might have worked for them in the past and now in the changed political landscape of the country believing that the politics of blackmail will yield dividends is illusory. The people,

both in the Kashmir Valley and in the Jammu division, are sagacious enough to read between the lines and differentiate between the public interest and self interest.

He said the politics of deceit has exposed the politicians with vested interest.

Rana expressed his happiness over the people making sagacious decisions in coming under the umbrella of the BJP, which, he said, stands guarantee to ending the decades long exploitation and discrimination in accordance with the cherished agenda of the Prime Minister 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas'.

He said the clear vision of Narendra Modi is instilling confidence among the people in this part of the country about peace heralding and massive development taking place in Jammu and Kashmir.



Gang selling fake chopper tickets to pilgrims of Mata Vaishno shrine busted; Kingpin among 4 arrested



Fraudsters in police custody at Jammu.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Cyber Police Jammu with assistance of Rajasthan Police has busted a gang of fraudsters offering fake to and fro helicopter tickets to Mata Vaishno Devi pilgrims through fake websites, created and floated by them on Google. During raid, a team of Cyber Police Jammu succeeded in nabbing 4 fraudsters including Kingpin.

As per details, Cyber Police Jammu after receiving complaint regarding cyber fraud from Shri Mata vaishno Devi Shrine Board in respect of heli-service to shrine and others received from pilgrims regarding fake online sites and helicopter ticket fraud, as

fraudster were duping innocent pilgrims on name of providing online helicopter tickets, immediately lodged FIR and started investigation.

During course of investigation, a technical team of Cyber Police obtained information from domain providers GoDaddy about these fake websites. Based on analysis of IP addresses, domain registration and other details of around 40 such fake websites, the police team zeroed in a common IP user and traced out whereabouts of the fraudsters, who were operating from Kota (Rajasthan).

Based on proceedings, a team of 3 Inspectors namely Vikram Sharma, Javid

and Gagandeep Singh along with other officials was constituted by SP Cyber Cell Jammu Naresh Singh and sent to Rajasthan to arrest the fraudsters. Police team with active cooperation of Rajasthan Police succeeded in arresting 4 fraudsters along with kingpin of gang, identified as Sunil Chawla, son of Gopichand, resident of Kota; Deepak, son of Parmanand; Gajanand, son of Duli Chand and Monu Pankaj, son of Amritlal, resident of Kota, Rajasthan. Police team has also seized incriminating material from their possession and after obtaining transit remand brought them to Jammu for further investigation.

Notice served to CS in PIL regarding implementation of DV Act 2005

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: In a Public Interest Litigation filed by Mehram Women's Cell Kashmir with respect to ineffective implementation of Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 (herein referred as 'DV Act, 2005') in Union Territory, a Division Bench of Jammu & Kashmir High Court comprising Chief Justice Pankaj Mithal and Justice Sindhu Sharma issued notice to the Chief Secretary to file response before May 13, 2022. In the PIL, it was submitted that establishment of shelter homes, as mandated by the DV Act, 2005 plays a prominent role in the efficacious implementation of the said social welfare legislation. The act was drafted and passed with the object of effectively protecting the rights of the women guaranteed under the Constitution who are victims of violence of any kind occurring within the family and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. However, even after more than a decade UT of J&K failed to execute and implement act properly. The State Government has failed not only to discharge the statutory obligations, but has also equally failed in fulfilling and showing requisite commitment to the constitutional and international duties/obligations with respect to the establishment of 'shelter homes'. Adv Syed Musab, appearing for petitioners, further submitted that the gender discriminatory customs/ practices/ rituals against women continue to institutionalize second class status for women and girls with regard to elections, education, marital rights, employment rights, parental rights, and inheritance and property rights. These forms of discrimination against women are incompatible with their empowerment. Despite adequate protection ensured by the various provisions of DV Act, 2005, the women are still continuing to suffer and bear the agony and trauma caused by their in-laws because of the failure on part of UT Government.

OPD facility starts at Maternity Hospital Gandhi Nagar



Principal GMC Jammu, Dr Shashi Sudan Sharma inaugurating Gynecology & Obstetrics OPD.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Gynecology & Obstetrics OPD started on Thursday at Maternity Hospital Gandhi Nagar; GMC Jammu. The facility was inaugurated by Dr Shashi Sudan Sharma, Principal & Dean, GMC & AHs Jammu in presence of Dr Amita Gupta HoD Deptt of Gynecology & Obstetrics, Dr Ghanshyam Saini HoD Deptt of Pediatrics, Dr Arun Sharma Medical Superintendent Maternity Hospital Gandhi Nagar; consultants, doctors from SMGS and other officials. On the occasion, Dr Shashi Sudan Sharma formally released Computerised OPD slips while consultants from SMGS start-

ed OPD. Maternity Hospital Gandhi Nagar GMC-Jammu is 200-bedded hospital for mothers and children but due to COVID outbreak in 2020, the hospital was converted into a COVID Hospital, where 3 waves of pandemic were handled.

Since May 2020, Maternity hospital was started as a dedicated level-3 COVID care facility which catered 626 patients during 1st wave of COVID. During 2nd wave, it was made level-2 COVID facility and 644 patients were admitted. All Gynae, obstetrics and pediatric COVID Positive requiring ventilator support were admitted and COVID positive surgeries in respect of Jammu division

were done at Maternity Hospital Gandhi Nagar. Further, from April 2021, COVID Operative procedure of GMC and its associated hospitals were started and till date, 167 COVID operative procedures have been done.

Till now, 1,430 COVID & 354 non COVID Chest diseases patients have been admitted in total. Initially only 66 Oxygen beds were available but later on the capacity was increased and at present there are 200 oxygen beds with monitors on all beds and pediatric ventilator support and having 1,150 D-type oxygen cylinders & 3 PSA plants with 1000 lpm capacity were operationalised. With efforts of Dr Yashpal Sharma, MD JKMSCL, the machinery & equipment was supplied from JKMSCL right from start of hospital. Initially, the hospital was without manpower and doctors were deputed from NHM, Security & sanitation was outsourced & nurses & paramedical staff was deputed from SSH Jammu but later staff was recruited from NHM & ECRP.

Orientation and cascading training of AYUSH Health & Wellness Centers' staff culminates

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In order to fully equip the community health officers, pharmacists and support staff of Ayush, health and wellness centers being established in the UT of Jammu and Kashmir by Directorate of Ayush J&K. As per the guidelines of Ministry of Ayush, Govt of India, a 4 day re-orientation and cascading training programme was organized in the Govt. Ayurvedic Hospital, Indira Chowk Jammu under the supervision of Dr. Mohan Singh, Director Ayush, J&K.

In this 4 days training programme, three-member teams from each 10 district of Jammu Division comprising of two Ayush Medical Officers (CHO) and one pharmacist participated wherein the team was given exhaustive sessions about essential components of Ayush Health and Wellness

Centers like Population enumeration, family empanment, community based screening of Non-communicable disorders, propagation of Ayush interventions, local medicinal herbs, development of Nutritional and medicinal garden, School Health Program, Diagnostic Kits and Information technology skills etc.

Many practical sessions on Prakriti Parikshan (Temperament), Diagnostic kits handling, biomedical waste management were also organized by the organizing committee of the training programme.

The training was organized under the coordination of Medical Superintendent Govt. Dr. Vandana Dogra and Divisional Nodal Officer AHWC, Jammu Division Dr. Aftab Iqbal Mir.

Till date out of 571 more

than 300 centers have been upgraded to Ayush Health and Wellness centers. Total 30 participants were participated in the training.

In the valedictory function, Dr. Mohan Singh Director Ayush J&K, motivated the participants to implement all the components of Ayush Health and Wellness centers at their respective AHWCs and cascade the training among the other CHO's and Ayush support staff in their districts.

He also highlighted that such trainings will be the regular feature and will go a long way in the effective operationalization of the Ayush Health and Wellness centers. He also urged the CHO's and support staff to provide holistic health and wellness to the communities, propagate and promote the Ayush interventions in Comprehensive Primary Health Care.

Mayor for collective efforts towards making Jammu cleanest city of India

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Mayor of Jammu, Chander Mohan Gupta, on Thursday emphasized the need for collective efforts towards making Jammu the cleanest city of India.

He was speaking at the culmination function of anti-polythene drive carried out by the Department of Social Forestry, Jammu, from Kunjwani Chowk to Sidhra here at Eco Park, Raika.

Gupta said that the traits of cleanliness were espoused by Gandhiji long back and has now been embraced by our PM himself by taking a broom in his hand at Valmiki Colony, Delhi. He maintained that Jammu city is fast changing for good saying that the ranking of Jammu in nation-wide Swachh Survekshan index has jumped over from 329th in 2019 to 169th position in 2021.

Deputy Mayor, Purnima Sharma, exhorted upon all to be ambassador of 'Swachhta Mission' kick started by the



Mayor, Chander Mohan Gupta flagging off drive.

Prime Minister. She enjoined upon all especially the students to inculcate in them the habit of keeping their surroundings clean and hygienic. She said that by saying 'No to Plastic' we can transfer the safe, healthy and sustainable environment to our next generations.

Commissioner Secretary, Forest, Sanjeev Verma, in his address, stated that it is the leadership and people who actually make these initiatives successful. He stated that he has given the target of planting more than 5 lakh saplings in the city to social forestry

department before the onset of Van Mohatsav this year.

Verma further enunciated that 'Sab ka Saath; Sab ka Prayas' is essential in making our environment plausible in every respect. He called upon the youngsters and students to spread the message of avoiding single-use plastic everywhere. He encouraged everybody to use natural materials only for packaging and carrying purposes and urged upon the Municipal Corporation to help people by providing them the alternate material instead of this hazardous item for day to day

use. PCCF/Director, Social Forestry, Roshan Jaggi, lauded all the volunteers including students, NYKs, employees and NGOs for taking part in this initiative. He informed that today's cleanliness drive though was confined to 20 km stretch of National Highway yet it carries a greater significance as such societal problems can be resolved through community participation and behavioral change.

He stated that the department is entrusted to play its role in conservation of environment, pollution abatement and climate change mitigation efforts. He said that it would continue engaging society by promoting such community-based actions. He disclosed that such drives shall be taken up regularly in various Gram Panchayats/towns in coming months by involving PRI representatives and

other stakeholders.

Chairperson, Health and Sanitation, JMC, stated that soon Jammu would be made a 'Plastic Mukti' city saying that polythene ban should be strictly enforced by all for the betterment of our mother earth.

Earlier, a cleanliness drive was carried out on the stretch of National Highway from Kunjwani Chowk to Sidhra in which large number of students from government schools and colleges including village panchayat representatives, volunteers from NYK, civil society members, and NGOs participated.

The initiative had been taken in the backdrop of directions issued by the Chief Secretary given to various departments to make concerted efforts against the increasing plastic pollution in the UT.

Conduct DPC or be ready to face agitation: JKMEF tells Govt

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu Kashmir Medical Employees Federation (JKMEF) under the President ship of Sushil Sudan highlighted the grievances of health employees particularly ignoring the DPC of health employees. "Many health employees have been superannuated without getting the benefit of promotion. DPC is pending from the last 5 years," Sushil Sudan told reporters here. After district wise Dharna of federation, he said, the administration called the federation on table on August 6, 2021 and negotiated that DPC will be conducted within 15 days.

Now after the lapse of eight months nothing concrete has been done till date, he said adding that good governance is merely becomes a slogan and doing nothing to redress the issue of health employees, who remained in forefront during Covid 19 pandemic. JKMEF urged the government to conduct DPC at the earliest in the best interest of health employees and public. If failed to conduct DPC within 30 days, the federation will be compelled to launch massive protest/Kam chor hartal with full mighty force, Sudan said. Other who participated in the press conference include Parulal Singh Gen. Sec. JKMEF, Ch. Jarnail Singh Working President J&K Govt. Pharmacists Association, Neelam Kumari President J&K Female Multipurpose Welfare Association, Mohd. Nadeem President J&K Sanitary Inspector Employees Association, Pawan singh Jamwal President J&K Basic Health Employees Association, Harpal singh President J&K X-ray Tech Employees Association, Ch. Aslam Bhai President J&K Lab. Tech. Employees Association, S Jasvinder singh President J&K O.T Employees Association, Sanjay khajuria President J&K Dental Employees Association, Mohd. Saleem President J&K Clerical Emp. Association Kulraj President J&K N.O Employees Association, Dharminder Singh, Kamaljeet Sawhney, R.P.Singh and B.B.Bhagat.

DB's directives to CS in PIL regarding establishing online RTI portal

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: In a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) filed regarding establishment of an online RTI request portal so that citizens can file online applications for collecting information from any Government department, a Division Bench of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court comprising Chief Justice Pankaj Mithal and Justice Sindhu Sharma dispose of PIL with directions to Chief Secretary J&K to take a call on the representation of petitioners and to pass a speaking order on it, most expeditiously, preferably, within a period of three months from the date a copy of the order is produced before him.

DB further said that it

will be open for petitioners to make a fresh comprehensive representation in line with representation already made so as to request the Chief Secretary for providing facility of online RTI Portal.

In the PIL, petitioners alleged that the Central Government has already requested all the States/Union Territory Governments to enable facilities so that citizens can file online applications for collecting information from various departments under RTI Act.

The petitioners have made various representations in this regard but no action has been taken and online RTI Portal facility is not being made available to citizens.

BJP cannot absolve itself over continued violence, targeted killings in J&K: Cong

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Attacking the BJP over its support to the makers of "The Kashmir Files", the J-K Congress on Thursday said the ruling party has failed to take any major initiative for return and rehabilitation of Kashmiri Pandits despite being in power for over seven years.

The recently-released film is based on the exodus of Kashmiri Pandits from the Valley in the 1990s.

"The BJP-led government at the Centre cannot absolve itself of the sin of sufferings and killings of the displaced Kashmiri Pandit community. Unfortunately, the present government is in office for over seven years but has failed to take any major initiative for their return and rehabilitation," J-K Pradesh Congress Committee chief spokesperson Ravinder Sharma said.

He said all schemes and packages for the community were given by the Mamohan Singh-led UPA government and these are being carried forward by the present dispensation at a very slow pace.

There is nothing new for them (displaced Pandits) except crocodile tears for gaining sympathy of erores of countrymen with an eye on votes, Sharma said.

He said the BJP-led government also cannot escape the responsibility of the continued violence and targeted killings of minority community members and pro-India forces in Kashmir.

The government needs to take firm result-oriented steps for the return of Kashmiri Pandits and their rehabilitation and settlement in an atmosphere of security and harmony by bridging the gaps rather than further viti-

ating the atmosphere by promoting hatred and division, Sharma said.

He said Jammu and Congress unit of the Congress considers that it is time to heal old painful wounds instead of bleeding them, and isolate fundamentalist and radical forces to defeat the Pakistani designs on Kashmir.

There is no denial that what happened in 1990 with the Kashmiri Pandits is very shocking, painful and a blot. It was a crime against humanity, Sharma said.

The Congress leader said nothing can heal their wounds and no amount of money can compensate them, which is understood by everyone especially those who underwent the much worst destruction and deaths in the "holocaust of 1947".

Being a displaced person from Pakistan-occupied

Jammu and Kashmir myself, I too realise the pain and sufferings of displaced people but the world has moved further and we have to bring the upcoming generations out of the trauma and shock in order to prepare them to face the new challenges, he said.

Sharma said knowing history is alright but learning lessons from history is rather more important.

"The nefarious designs and conspiracy of Pakistan and radicals has not succeeded so far and it has to be fully defeated at all costs by bridging the gap and rebuilding the broken relationships," he said.

Sharma said the fact is that thousands of other Hindus, Sikhs and a large number of Muslims also became victims of this senseless and endless violence and even at present, are becoming targets of selective killings.