

LG flags-off 'Spring Run for Drug-Free Srinagar' at Dal Lake

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday flagged off 'Spring Run for Drug-Free Srinagar' this morning at Dal Lake.

The Lt Governor appreciated Srinagar District Administration for an excellent initiative like "Mission Wapsi" campaign to wean away youth from drug abuse.

We reaffirm our strong commitment to eliminate the drug menace and achieve the goal of a drug-free society, the Lt Governor said.

"Mission Wapsi" is an endeavour of the District Administration Srinagar to rehabilitate the victims of



Lt Governor Manoj Sinha flagging-off 'Spring Run for Drug-Free Srinagar'.

drug addiction by providing them dignified livelihood through proper handholding and guidance under Government Self-Employment schemes. The

initiative also involves community participation on a large scale.

Around 1500 youth participated in the Spring Run and pledged to eradicate drug menace from the society. The event was a part of IEC activities of the District Administration to spread mass awareness against drug abuse.

Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Pandurang K Pole; IGP Kashmir, Vijay Kumar; Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz, besides senior officers of Youth Services & Sports and District Administration Srinagar were present on the occasion.



Frustrated elements trying to derail Modi's development plank in J&K: Chugh



BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh and senior BJP leaders during a meeting.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh, who is also the party Incharge for J&K, on Wednesday strongly condemned the killing of J&K Police personnel in Saura, near here, and said that it was again a heinous act of terrorists who are feeling frustrated and threatened due to tight security arrangements in the J&K UT.

Chugh said Prime Minister Narendra Modi has scripted a new chapter of peace and development in the UT, but the disruptive

elements supported by Pakistan ISI have been trying to divert people's attention from the development works.

J&K, he said, would become a new development model in the country and the terrorists would be decisively defeated in their nefarious designs.

He said the era of family rule is over in J&K. The state has been ransacked by two families in the past many years. But a new chapter has started which would bring smile to the face of Kahsmiris.

Meanwhile, Tarun Chugh

along with J&K BJP President Ravinder Raina, Vice-Presidents Yudhvir Sethi & Shakti Parihar, senior leader Devender Singh Rana, District President Rajinder Singh Chib and local BJP leaders visited house and condole the demise of party's Booth President Naresh Dutt who lost his precious life in a tragic Gas Cylinder accident at Nagrota.

BJP leaders while paying tributes said that he was a dedicated worker of the party who served in the organization with selfless service.

PIB workshop highlights role of developmental journalism; media fraternity hails efforts

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KUPWARA: Aimed at highlighting the role of media to bring awareness among people about different government sponsored schemes and to inculcate a sense of developmental journalism, Press Information Bureau (PIB) Srinagar organized a one day Media Workshop on Wednesday at Conference Hall DC Office Kupwara.

The workshop focussed on sensitization and capacity building of journalists from Kupwara and Handwara about various Centrally Sponsored Schemes and the role of media in developmental journalism.

The programme was conducted in collaboration with district administration and included about 50 eminent media persons and other administrative officers.

Media persons hailed the efforts of PIB for organising such a program.

In his inaugural address Additional Deputy Commissioner, Ghulam Nabi Bhat laying emphasis on fact



Additional Deputy Commissioner, Ghulam Nabi Bhat chairing a workshop at Kupwara.

checking before reportage said that journalism has historically changed the perspective of people.

He said that there is a need for constructive criticism to bring sociological transformation.

"Negative news spreads at an alarming rate, so it is mandatory for a journalist to check facts properly before reporting," he added.

Addressing the participants Deputy Director, Press Information Bureau, Ghulam Abbas highlighted the role of PIB and presented a detailed overview about aims and objectives of the workshop.

He stressed upon the media

fraternity to highlight developmental initiatives on priority basis.

"Government has schemes and initiatives for all walks of life and it is the responsibility of the media to highlight these initiatives for maximum utilisation," he said.

Abbas congratulated the media fraternity and district administration for working in sync towards the development of the frontier district.

Media and Communications Officer PIB Srinagar, Majid Pandit said that media acts as a direct link between society and administration and there is an urgent need to strengthen this link.

Emphasizing on the need for developmental reporting, he said that the media should play an active role in bringing about awareness for the holistic development of the society.

On the occasion News Editor, All India Radio Ishfaq Shah spoke about the impact of mass media to ensure development through communication.

News Editor Doordashan Kendra Srinagar, Shabir Dar spoke about the need for developing synergy between administration and people during challenging times.

Chief Education Officer, Kupwara A. Hamid Fani presented a detailed overview of

the educational scenario of the District. Senior Journalist Syed Ishfaq spoke about developmental communication through vernacular media to reach out to the grassroots.

Media and Communications Officer PIB Srinagar, Muzafar Wani briefed the participants about media ethics to maintain the standards of objectivity.

The lectures were followed by interactive sessions in which participants put forward their comments and observations with the experts. Media persons expressed their intentions for more such programs in future.

Kashmiri Pandits pay tributes to Nadimarg massacre victims

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Displaced Kashmiri Pandits on Wednesday paid rich tributes to 24 community members who were killed by Lashkar-e-Taiba terrorists at Nadimarg village in Pulwama district in 2003.

They also demanded setting up of a commission of inquiry to probe the killings and exodus of the Pandit community from Kashmir in 1990.

"We demand setting up of a commission to probe the killings of Kashmiri Pandits in 1990 and their exodus.

The probe should also include investigation into three massacres of Pandits who had preferred to sit back in the valley," president of Muthi Kashmiri Migrant camp Anil Bhan told reporters here at a function to

observe the 19th anniversary of the Nadimarg massacre.

The probe should also include circumstances, political involvement, administrative and police failure, creation of environment of terror and burning of properties and encroachments of lands of Pandits that led to the exodus of the community, he said.

"We hope Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the BJP will order a probe and provide us justice. We are seeking justice for the past 32 years," Bhan said.

Kashmiri Pandit community has been commemorating the day every year and this time a function was held by Ard Nadeshwar Trust at Geeta Bhawan here in which heads of many associations, prominent persons and political leaders

offered floral tributes to the martyrs of the Nadimarg massacre.

A shradhanjali' programme was organised and tributes were paid to the victims amid recitation of hymns led by Bhushan Lal Bhat.

Bhat, who belongs to Nadimarg, narrated the story of the March 23 massacre.

Youth leader of Jagti migrant camp Sahil Pandita urged the government to ensure that justice is provided to the community.

"We hope people of this country will support us in our battle for reversal of our genocide and exodus from Kashmir.

We hope Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah will ensure our return and rehabilitation in Kashmir, he said.

ADGP Lohia takes-over charge of Commandant General Home Guards/CD & SDRF J&K



H.K Lohia chairing meeting after assuming the charge of Commandant General Home Guards /Civil Defence & SDRF J&K.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: H.K Lohia-IPS, assumed the charge of Commandant General Home Guards /Civil Defence & SDRF J&K relieving Danesh Rana of the additional charge.

An introductory presentation was made to the Lohia, to give an overview of Home Guards /CD & SDRF in J&K where Vikas Gupta, Director HG Jammu, Randheer Singh, SSP, Staff Officer (Trainings), G. L. Sharma, JKPS, SSP, Staff Officer (Admn) and Aijaz Ali, DySP(S) Private Secretary to Commandant General, were present.

During the presentation, the Commandant General HG/CD & SDRF J&K took stock of the availability of manpower, equipment and other logistics and the deployment thereof. The Commandant General stressed upon the officers to bring "synergy" for further improvement of the organization, being first responder, so that "vibrancy" is achieved, keeping in view the Mandate and Expectations, from the organization.

Martyrs' sacrifices are inspirations for future generations: Sham Lal

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

AKHNOOR: Vice President Jammu and Kashmir Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Sham Lal Sharma, while paying rich tributes to freedom fighters Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Sukhdev, asserted that their sacrifices will be remembered by the country forever.

He said that their sacrifices are inspirations for generations to come who have to carry forward the glowing heritage and legacy of the nation and its civilization forward to the progeny.

The BJP leader stated this while addressing a gathering as Chief Guest during a function organized by Umeed Charitable Trust Akhnoor at Mahajan Hall here to pay tributes to the great revolutionary freedom fighters Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev and Rajguru.

While remembering the martyrs and paying rich tributes to them, various public beneficial programmes were organised on the occasion. These includ-



J&K BJP Vice President Sham Lal Sharma paying tributes to freedom fighters.

ed blood donation camp, free medical check-up camp, distribution of e-Shram cards, Ayushman Bharat health card camp, etc.

The former minister urged the citizens of this UT to devote themselves for the welfare of the people so that the law makers feel it as augmentative measure towards setting the highest standards through their behaviour and conduct.

He also stressed upon the need for youth to get proactively involved in philanthropic activities and serve the needy sections of the society.

Asserting that this is an inseparable part of the rich Indian culture, he said it is the responsibility of the youth to preserve and carry forward this rich Indian ethos for future generations.

Among others present on the occasion were Chairman Tam Jammu Zorawar Singh, SDM Akhnoor Akhil Sadotra, SDPO Akhnoor Varun Jandyal, DSP (DAR) KD Bhagat, SHO Akhnoor Hiral Azhar, President Umeed Charitable Trust Anav Langar and all his team members including the senior citizens.

➡ DC holds a pious & high level responsibility a sits order can't be challenged in any Court ⚡
➡ Delimitation Commission proposals notified in Govt Gazette in terms of Sec-92(5) of Act 34 of 2019 ⚡

No doubt Delimitation Commission has taken the TASK seriously but some more reworking is needed

■ DAYA SAGAR

The Delimitation Commission for UT of J&K (DC) has under public notice No.282/J&K/2022 (Vol.II) Dated : 14th March 2022 23, Phalguna, 1943 (Saka) invited objections and suggestions in relation to its proposals for the delimitation of Parliamentary and Assembly Constituencies in the UT of Jammu & Kashmir for the purpose of elections to the House of People and the Legislative Assembly for the Union Territory as have been published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary and in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir Gazette, both dated 14th March, 2022 so as to reach the Secretary, Delimitation Commission (Ashoka Hotel, 50-B, Niti Marg, Chankyapuri, New Delhi-110021)on or before 1700 hrs on 21st March, 2022 Monday).Commission has given only 7 days time for filing objections and making suggestions. To be brief the Order - 1 Refers to have determined the number of constituencies for House of People (Lok Sabha) from UT of J&K& the number of constituencies

for the Legislative Assembly of UT (although these numbers have already been laid down the Reorganisation of J&K Act No 34 of 2019 as 5 & 90 respectively) and determined the number of constituencies to be reserved for SC & ST as 7 & 9 respectively in proportion to the population as laid in the Act 34 taking reference to Census-2011 data. There is no scope for any objections and suggestions as regards the numbers contained herein.

As regards deciding the extents and limits of constituencies , particularly that of Legislative Assembly of UT of J&K , there is scope for making observations.

India, that is Bharat, a Democratic Republic, has adopted Parliamentary System of Governance (LOK Sabha /House of People and Rajay Sabha / Upper House). States too have a Legislature with a Legislative Assembly (constituted through direct election) and of states of A.P, Bihar, Karnataka, Maharashtra, UP, Telangana (and ofcourse erstwhile J&K also) also have a Legislative Council (constituted through

indirect election). Chief Minister of State/ UT is power head of the Government and who has to be a member of Legislature from the political party/ group that has majority in the Legislative Assembly (ministers appointed with the choice of Chief Minister too have to be members of legislature).Governor/ LG is just a nominal head of State who has to go with the advice of the council of Ministers. So the preferences on plans / decisions regarding administrative, economic, developmental and like needs/ requirements of the people/ a region/ segment do directly or indirectly get influenced with the level of representation of people of class/ segment/ region in the Legislative Assembly.

Since there has not been fairly due representation in numbers to the distant/ backward/ bad terrain area people in the Legislative Assembly of erstwhile state of J&K (and hence in the Government too) right since 1957 these areas/ people had not received due attention for good road connectivity, for commercial exploitation



A Look through the Mist

of the great tourism potential (summer/ winter/ adventure/health/ that existed there ,for promotion of Agriculture/ Horticulture/ not even pulses like Rajmas & did not get due share in superior government services and most of the areas lie in the districts of Kishtwar; Doda, Reasi , Kathua, Rajouri, Poonch ,Ramban, Udhampur; Samba and to some extent Bandipora/ Baramulla.

So, the marking of the individual Constituencies of a Legislative Assembly for direct election of MLA segments (single member segments) of a Legislative Assembly is of great significance for the people in a state which too was very well the spirit underlying Section-4 of J&K Representation of the People Act 1957 that laid the parameters for a delimitation commission to work with for deciding the extent of the boundaries of the constituencies for the legislative Assembly of the J&K State ; and now similar parameters have been laid down for deciding the extent of the boundaries of the constituencies for the

legislative Assembly of a the UT of J&K vide Sub Section(2) of Section-60 of Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act of 2019, Act no 34 (In determining the matters referred to in clauses (b) and (c) of sub-section (1), the Election Commission shall have regard to the following provisions, namely:- (a) all the constituencies shall be single-member constituencies; (b) all constituencies shall, as far as practicable, be geographically compact areas, and in delimiting them, regard shall be had to physical features, existing boundaries of administrative units, facilities of communication and conveniences to the public). So first need is to look into the Delimitation Commission proposals as regards Legislative Assembly.

The Notification in "Proposals" refer to the territorial constituencies into which the UT of J&K shall be divided for the purposes of elections to the Legislative Assembly of UT (Table-A) and particular constituencies that are to be reserved for ST and SC. As regards the extent (boundaries) of the individual constituencies of Legislative

Assembly are concerned there appears enough scope for filing suggestions and objections before the Delimitation Commission keeping in view that the Commission in its proposed order is deciding to allocate only 43 Constituencies of Legislative Assembly for the areas of UT outside Kashmir Valley and 47 Constituencies of the Legislative Assembly for areas falling in Kashmir Valley which does not 'technically' fit with the in parameters constitutionally laid down for delimitation of constituencies of a legislative assembly since 4 out of 5 of the parameters other than population (2011 census) favour the distant/bad/ backward area people most of which are outside Kashmir valley which surely qualify for atleast 4 more MLAs in terms constitutionally laid down parameters on the overall basis even on the basis of 2011 census for rightful voice in the Legislative Assembly/ Government.

To be continued
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