

J&K needs double-engine government

PM's development policies bringing new smiles on faces of people: Chugh

STATE TIMES NEWS

KISHHTWAR: BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh, who is also the party in charge of J&K, on Thursday said that J&K needed a double-engine government so that the development policies of Prime Minister Narendra Modi could deliver results at the grassroots level.

Addressing a press conference here, Chugh said the people of J&K had been cheated for decades by Abdullahs and Muftis who never allowed development funds to benefit the people.

J&K BJP President Ravinder Raina, party General Secretary Sunil



BJP National General Secretary, Tarun Chugh addressing a press conference at Kishtwar.

Sharma, prominent leader Devender Singh Rana and other senior leaders also accompanied Tarun Chugh in the press conference.

"They made their own ivory

towers but did not do anything for the people's welfare. The two families have only taken care of their vested interests by following the people", he said.

Instead of tourism, they promoted terrorism in the state. Instead of computers and books for children, they gave guns and stones in their hands and never allowed them to

prosper. Chugh said ever since J&K was declared a union territory a large number of administrative reforms have been brought about.

"More than 200 laws which were just in files and had no use for the people have been done away with. Many welfare schemes initiated by the prime minister have been implemented and that has brought a new smile on the face of people", Chugh said.

He clarified that soon the Vidhan Sabha elections would be held and it is time that people voted for the BJP so that a double-engine government could bring in a new era of development in the state.

Tulip Garden witnesses huge tourist footfall, likely to increase in coming days

SHAKEELA ANDRAI

SRINAGAR: Soon after opening of Tulip Garden tourists, thousands of visitors from across the country visited the place in just two days and it is expected that a record number of tourists would visiting the valley to enjoy beautiful visuals of Tulip Garden in coming days.

Having more than 1.5 million tulips of 68 different varieties, the Tulip Garden of Srinagar is spread over an area of 30 hectares at foothills of Zabarwan Hills, overlooking the famous Dal Lake. "With a wide variety of tulips, we have daffodils hyacinths and spring-flowering trees. We have 70 gardeners who work round the year in garden. It takes a lot of hard work to make beds, bulbs sowing, protecting flowers from any disease etc. The initial response is great, and I am sure that it's going to be a great season. We are extremely happy to host people from across the country. Moreover we have been approached by a lot of filmmakers desirous to shoot their films in the garden. We welcome them to shoot their films here," said Dr Inam Ahmad, Incharge Tulip Garden. Pertinent to mention here that Tulip garden in Srinagar was opened in 2007 to promote

tourism. It's always acted as a main attraction for tourists during Spring season. "From a tourism point of view, Tulip Garden is an iconic place and everybody who wants to visit tulip garden is most welcome. We have opened the garden almost a month earlier and are sure to host a lot of people who are impatiently waiting to visit the place. In coming days, we are going to organize a tulip festival, wherein people from across the country will be invited," said Tourism Director.

This year the garden has been made more attractive with many additions. More trees and shrubs have been added, along with an open-air cafeteria. The tourism department is also planning to sell various Kashmiri breads and tea in garden so that tourists can enjoy beautiful visuals with authentic Kashmiri food in garden. "I have always seen these visuals in movies, but now I am here to see the beautiful garden. It is just a dream come true for me," said a tourist from Pune, Maharashtra.

Last year despite COVID restrictions, more than 2.25 lakh tourists visited Tulip Garden and it is hoped that all previous records would break this season.

Pilgrim-centric infrastructure of SMVDSB gets facelift with epitome of fine dining

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

KATRA: Chief Executive Officer, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB), Ramesh Kumar inaugurated pilgrim-centric infrastructural facilities at prestigious transit accommodation of Niharika complex of the Shrine Board located at heart of Katra town near bus stand, the base camp of the pilgrimage to Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine before ensuing Chaitra Navratras, amidst Vedic hymns and rituals. Out of total 90 rooms at Niharika Complex, 44 Deluxe rooms were re-decorated to pilgrims after complete renovation and refurbishments in a short spell of six months whereas the remaining rooms in the Niharika Complex were earlier renovated. Besides, facility of fine dining is also dedicated to

the pilgrims named after the Goddess "Siddhidatri" the incarnation of Mother Durga, worshipped on the 9th day of Navratri, the Goddess of accomplishment.

"This dining facility of Shrine Board in Niharika Complex for the pilgrims lives upto its name and is an added service for the visiting pilgrims stays in the periphery and those who visits the complex for availing various facilities rendered by the Shrine Board" said the Chief Executive Officer. In the restaurant, the buffet has a variety of North-Indian, South-Indian, Continental, specialties, snacks and desserts to address the taste of all kinds of pilgrims visiting the holy Shrine. The taste of each dish is well-balanced with authentic flavors and the serving portions

are huge and reasonably priced, available from 07:30AM to 11:00PM on all days. Noteworthy, that the Niharika Complex is an important halting place and a common facility centre which includes Enquiry & Reservation Section, Current Helicopter booking Counter, accommodation in shape of dormitory beds, double & four bedded rooms, food and beverage facilities at Annapoorna Bhojanalya besides now an added facility of Buffet outlet for the in-house guest of Niharika. The pilgrims present on the occasion appreciated the initiative of the Shrine Board for establishing this facility at Niharika. Besides, added that the quality of the rooms and food items is best with very reasonable rates under one roof. Among those present on the occasion were Navneet Singh, Addl. CEO, SMVDSB; Amit Bhasin, SP, Katra; Dr. Sunil Sharma and Dr. Jagdish Chander Mehra, Jt. CEOs; Vishavjeet Singh and Chander Parkash, Dy. CEOs; Mahesh Sharma, CAO and other officers and staff of the Shrine Board.

No doubt DC appears taking TASK seriously but more is needed to undo wrongs done over 7 decades

- **J&K Delimitation Commission proposals notified in Govt Gazette in terms of Sec-60(5) of Act34 of 2019**
- **Exercise for Delimitation of Constituencies of 1st Legislative Assembly of UT of J&K still LIVE**
- **DC holds a pious & high level responsibility as its order can't be challenged in any Court**
- **People still hope that wrongs of 1st Legislative Assembly of J&K State will not be repeated in UT of J&K**

DAYA SAGAR

Like the unfair the earlier and the only order by a delimitation commission for J&K LA as was passed in 1995 the draft proposals of the present delimitation commission (though some efforts appear to have been made for applying corrections) too do not pass the test for the reasons / historical facts like (A)The 1951 delimitation of the segments of J&K Constituent Assembly had been done on adhoc basis (over the areas of J&K excluding the areas occupied by Pakistan in 1947-48) taking population as the only factor (40000 souls / seat) with census - 1941 (4051158 for whole princely State of J&K) as reference. The population for the leftover districts of Anantnag and Baramulla in Kashmir valley was wrongly assumed as large as 17,20,000 when population including Muzaffarabad District was just 17,28,686inwhere as for left the then Pooneh Jagir, Chenani Jagir Jammu district, Kathua District, Reasi district, Udhampur district so erroneously for reference was assumed as only 12,00,000 when population including Mirpur District (was 20,10,557) there by distributing 43

seats in Kashmir valley and just 30 seats in areas that now form part of Jammu Region. The Constitution of J&K was finalised in 1957 by the Constituent Assembly and taking the real notice of the extent and needs of different areas of the then J&K State the Constituent Assembly inspite having more members from Kashmir Valley (43 members) under Section-50 constitutionally kept on regional basis more (14) elected seats in the Legislative Council (MLCs) for areas outside Kashmir valley as in Jammu region (that had lesser (30) members in Constituent Assembly) and just 12 elected MLCs for Kashmir Valley. Whereas for the Legislative Assembly the seats were kept on total basis to be adjusted for the extent and boundaries every 10 years. In 1957 J&K Representation of Peoples Act 1957, Act No. IV of 1957 was enacted laying down very clearly the guidelines / parameters {Section- 4, Sub Section -2, Clause a(i) : Population , a (ii) : Geographical Compactness, a (iii) : Nature of Terrain, a (iv) : Facilities of Communication, a (v) : And like considerations } for delimitation of the extent &

boundaries of constituencies of Legislative Assembly. The spirit underlying the Section-4 of RPA 1957 was surely to provide a representative of nearness both in time distance in the legislative assembly to the people represented by keeping focus on the distant/ backward areas & people. It was expected that with J&K Representation of Peoples Act 1957 in place the distribution of constituencies of Legislative Assembly shall be done fairly and like elected MLCs in Legislative Council the MLAs in Legislative Assembly shall also be kept more for Jammu region but instead the governments that followed carried shadows of distribution as was in the erstwhile Constituent Assembly.

(B) The Jammu Region after 1947 till 1978 comprised of 6 districts (Poonch, Rajouri, Jammu, Kathua, Udhampur, Doda) and Kashmir valley of only 3 districts (Anantnag, Srinagar, Baramulla).

With the awareness about wrong distribution MLAs growing the Government that followed in their attempt to cover the

wrong distribution of MLA seats over areas of J&K and to create illusions increased the districts from 3 to 10 in Kashmir valley and also from 6 to only 10 in Jammu region by 2006.

(C) So far there has been only one order of a regular Delimitation Commission (started work in 1981) passed in April 1995 to did not draw the extents/ boundaries in line with parameters as laid in J&K RPA 1957 to give representative of nearness in time and distance to people instead distributed 46 elected MLAs over areas that had constitutionally just 12 elected MLCs and only 37 MLAs over areas that had more (14) MLCs as per Section -50.

(D) It has been due to there being no due representation in numbers to areas outside Kashmir Valley that in the Legislative Assembly of erstwhile state of J&K (and hence in the Government too) that these areas lacked good road connectivity, had nearly nil for commercial exploitation of the great tourism potential (summer/winter/adventure/health/)

Russia vs Ukraine

Police foils Congress march to Raj Bhawan over price hike, unemployment

Bhalla targets Govt over Delimitation report, withdrawing security of party leaders**STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: The police had a tough time today to foil an attempt by the Congress to take out a protest march towards Raj Bhawan led by JKPPC Working President Raman Bhalla along with senior Congress leaders, a large number of Congress leaders and activists of PCC, DCC Urban & Rural and Frontal Wings including Mahila Congress, Youth Congress, Seva Dal, NSUI and other Cells, carrying congress flags and play cards and raising slogans held as massive protest demonstration at Shaheed Chowk against the record breaking rise in price of petrol, diesel, LPG and other essential commodities due to unprecedented tax terrorism of BJP Govt, besides large scale unemployment and glaring irregularities in the draft report of delimitation commission.

They took out a march towards the Raj Bhawan, a heavy contingent of Police had a tough time to prevent the protesters march at Residency Road.

The senior leadership of the party also prevented the young cadre from forcibly proceeding ahead and peacefully continued their protest for over one hour.



Congress leaders being intercepted by police during protest rally at Jammu.

Led by JPCC Working President Shri Raman Bhalla, a large number of Congress activists including PCC Vice President Kanta Bhan, General Secretaries Yogesh Sawhney (Ex-Minister), Th. Balwan Singh (Ex-MLA), Th. Manmohan Singh, Indu Pawar, Shiv Kumar Sharma , Kuldeep Raj Verma, Krishan Lal Gupta, Pawan Raina, Shashi Sharma, Thomas Khokhar, Satish Sharma, Pranav Shagotra, Uday Bhamu Chib, Sunny Parihar, Vijay Sharma, Dr. Karan Bhagat, Suresh Dogra, Rajveer Singh, Swarn Singh, Gajjan Singh, Sahil Sharma, Ch. Hussain Ali Waffa, Nassir Masih, Corporators Dawarka Choudhary, Ritu Choudhary, Rajinder Singh Jamwal, Rashpal Bhardwaj, Vandana Sharma, Suman Choudhary, Dr. R.K. Khajuria, Pawan Dev Singh, Satish Sharma, Amit Bali, Gurmeet Singh, Sonu Dogra, Sat Pat Spolia, Vijay Singh Chib, Ram Magotra, Jatinder Chib, Anil Kohli, Rakesh Sharma, Atul Sharma, Dwan Chand, Mangat Ram, Sahil Langoh, Anirudh Sawhney, Rahul Tandon, Latish

Sharma, Ajay Sharma, Pawan Singh, Farooq Ahmed, Vrinder Singh, Yash Pal, Surinder Kour, Vijay Khajuria, Vinay Sharma, Gurdeep Singh Kaka beside others.

Speaking on the occasion Raman Bhalla attacked the LG Govt and the central government, saying regular hikes in the prices of petrol and diesel add to the "sky-rocketing expenses" of households. "The Modi government at the Centre and the LG government in J&K were revelling at the misery of the people, without taking any corrective measures, as they were making enormous profits from fuel price hikes," Bhalla said. The Congress leader questioned BJP Govt on the steps taken to control the price hike.

"Why is it not reducing VAT on oil prices to provide relief to people of J&K? If the Centre does not reduce Excise Duty, J&K can reduce VAT, which will help reduce the prices of petrol and diesel in the J&K, to provide relief to the people," he argued.

"The government is profiteering at the expense of the people, it is an example of extorting money from people," he added.

‘Seven high-end procedures done by Deptt of Cardiology, SSH Jammu in a day’

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The prevalence of HF is increasing, although its incidence has been stabilized, mainly because of the population aging. The survival of patients with HF is overall worse than those with cancer. In addition, HF failure is the most common reason for hospitalization in the elderly, while hospitalization for HF is followed by adverse prognosis and represents the main contributor to the huge financial expenditure caused by the syndrome. Outcome of HF patients and thus its medical and socio-economic burden may be improved by the more efficient in-hospital management of patients, the enhancement of adherence to guideline-recommended therapies, the identification and treatment of comorbid conditions and the introduction of more effective medical therapies. It was stated in a press statement issued here on Thursday. The statement further reads, CRT is a clinically



Cardiologist Dr Sushil Sharma performing a surgery at SSH Jammu.

proven treatment option for some individuals with heart failure. A CRT device sends small electrical impulses to both lower chambers of the heart to help them beat together in a more synchronized pattern. This may improve the heart's ability to pump blood and oxygen to your body. There are two types of CRT Devices. Depending on heart failure condition, a Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy Pacemaker (CRT-P) or a Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy Defibrillator (CRT-D) may be indicated. While functioning like a normal pacemaker to treat slow heart rhythms, a CRT-P device also delivers small electrical impulses to the left and right ventricles to help them contract at the same time. This will help your heart pump more efficiently. With implementation of Ayushman Bharat scheme there has been tremendous help to those patients with cardiovascular diseases who were in dire need of such devices because of the cost factor associated with such devices. Although department of cardiology SSH Jammu under able guidance of Dr Sushil Sharma has been actively and routinely performing such procedures with minimal morbidity and complications but today Dr Sushil Sharma along with Dr Paramdeep Singh Sandhu, Dr Nasir Ali Choudhary and whole team of Cardiac Cath Lab SSH Jammu, comprising lab technicians and paramedical staff have achieved a milestone by performing Seven complex procedures of

CRT-D and CRT-P insertion in a single day. It is perhaps for the first time in Country that such complex procedures have been performed in a Govt institute, that too in a single day under Ayushman Bharat scheme. This will go a long way in providing affordable and quality healthcare to the needy and poor patients and serve as example to others to work on same lines.

All the patients have been doing well post procedure and will be discharged in a couple of days.

Dr Sushil Sharma and his team deserve applause for taking initiative and performing complex cardiac procedures and in such numbers in a single day.

Already the department of cardiology under supervision of Dr Sushil Sharma has been performing complex coronary procedures under Ayushman Bharat scheme free of cost and with this milestone they have added another feather to the cap.

other delimitation exercise that might have been done before March 2020 in Independent India after the related codes / parameters were laid down for deciding the individual segments in a Legislative Assembly through the Acts of Parliament / Legislative Assembly of erstwhile state of J&K as per Constitution of India / J&K Constitution particularly for the historical reasons as briefed here in before. But for territories that are now included in UT of J&K had 83 MLAs in the LA of J&K State Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act of 2019, Act no 34 has laid down that these areas now in UT will be divided into 90 constituencies keeping in view almost the similar parameters for delimitation but the proposals of present Delimitation Commission too have lesser MLAs for areas out side Kashmir valley. Hence the need for suggesting and requesting the Delimitation Commission to reconsider the proposals for an intimate and meaningful review.

To be continued

(The author is Sr Journalist & leading scribe J&K affairs dayasagar45@yahoo.com)