

Hate speech in Rajouri mosque a conspiracy, will not be tolerated at any cost: Kavinder

Holds series of meetings at several Wards in Jammu

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Former Deputy Chief Minister and senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader, Kavinder Gupta has strongly condemned the Muslim Cleric for his atrocious and obnoxious speech at a mosque in Rajouri while commenting on the film 'The Kashmir Files'.

It is pertinent to mention here that the video of the Cleric's so called sermon has gone viral on the social media. The so called Maulana while demanding ban on screening of 'The Kashmir Files' states in the video that being descendants of Mughals who ruled India for 800 years only those reciting 'Kalina' will live in India for all times to come while those who ruled India for just 70 years will get decimated rather vanished.

Kavinder Gupta asserted that the very idea of propagating such hate speeches aimed at communal divide that too at



Former Dy CM, Kavinder Gupta addressing public meeting.

places of worship is highly condemnable. He said that there is a deep rooted conspiracy to create communal tension in J&K so as to initiate law and order problems for the administration and it would not be tolerated at any cost.

He warned that those who consider themselves to be Mughal descendants and have hatred for the aborigines of India deserve to be sent to the land of Mughals and Turks' from where these invaders

came to India. Meanwhile, Kavinder Gupta visited areas of Gandhi Nagar constituency where he addressed a series of meetings today. He was accompanied by Vinay Gupta District President BJP, Ankush Gupta General Secretary, Neeraj Puri Mandal President, Nayan Gupta and Surjeet Singh Somu both General Secretaries and Raj Kumar Chairman Health and Sanitation Committee JMC; Corporators namely Neena Gupta of Ward No: 50,

Sharda Kumari of Ward No: 47, Ajay Gupta of Ward No: 52, Jyoti Devi of Ward No: 53, Sharda of Ward No: 47 and Rahul Kumar of Ward No: 52.

While addressing meetings, the former Dy CM reiterated BJP Govt's commitment to the welfare of the common people and overall development of every nook and corner of Jammu and Kashmir especially its remote and far flung areas.

While appreciating the relentless efforts of the party workers and activists at the grass roots level, Kavinder asked them to further intensify their efforts by reaching out to the common masses and serve them selflessly. He asked them to assess their problems and issues and address the same while treating their welfare as top priority. Last but not the least, he asked the workers to gear up fully for the coming J&K Assembly elections.

CISF conducts multi-agency counter-terrorist mock drill at Delhi Metro Station



CISF personnel during a mock drill.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: A multi-agency counter-terrorist mock drill was conducted by the CISF at Delhi Metro's Dilli Haat INA station on Sunday to check the preparedness and response of various agencies.

Under the mock drill which commenced around 12.30 AM at the station on Delhi Metro's yellow line, a situation of IED (improvised explosive device) blast, indiscriminate firing on passengers, metro staff and CISF personnel as well as taking of hostage by terrorists was created, a Central Industrial Security Force spokesperson said.

As the situation "warranted" response from various agencies, the CISF alerted them as per the national disaster management protocol, he said.

More than 640 personnel drawn from the national disaster response force (NDRF), Delhi police SWAT (special weapons and tactics), Delhi metro rail police, national security guard (NSG), Delhi disaster management authority, fire department, civil defence, traffic police, district police and health services reached the spot and conducted a joint operation with the CISF for about three hours.

VLT Dealers Association flays transporters for misleading people over installation of tracking devices

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: VLT Dealers Association J&K, Jammu has expressed concern over misleading information being spread by some transporters regarding installation of tracking devices in vehicles. While addressing a press conference in Jammu on Sunday, the President of the Association, Javed Bhat said VLT Dealers Association J&K is an association of Distributor/Dealers of Vehicle Location Tracking (VLT) devices in J&K, focusing towards effective implementation of initiative of Government of India and Transport Department, UT of J&K for mandatory fitment of AIS 140 compliant VLT devices in public-service vehicles and goods carriers. "Centre Government on November 28, 2016 issued a Notification numbered GSR 1095(E), amending Central Motor Vehicle Rules 1989 by introducing Rule 125-H making fitment of VLT devices with 'Emergency Panic Button' mandatory for all public service vehicles and goods



VLT Dealers Association J&K, Jammu members talking to reporters.

carriers with national permit in the country. It is really a matter of concern that few transport associations of J&K are making unlawful and falsified representations for their self-vested interests to do away with this mandate of Ministry of Road Transport & Highways, Government of India as well as J&K Transport Department," said Bhat. He further added that these unions have been misleading people without knowing facts behind notification of Rule 125H as it is focused towards safety and security of women and children at time of distress. Without quality implementation

and 100 per cent compliance to the national governing standard of AIS 140 in true spirit, the noble initiative may not be able to achieve desired results, he added. Welcoming Transport department's decision to adopt a single unified backend of BSNL which is certified in accordance with governing standard of AIS-140 from authorized testing agencies as specified in Rule 126 of the CMV Rules 1989, Bhat urged the Department to neither encourage nor support such unlawful and illegitimate demands of these transporters, for ensuring safety of commuters.

MSK Jammu organises seminar on legal rights of women



ADC Jammu Satish Sharma flagging-off awareness rally.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Mahila Shakti Kendra (MSK) Jammu organised a seminar on legal rights of women at Govt Girls Higher Secondary School Shastri Nagar.

ADC Jammu Satish Sharma and Samriti Khajuria were the Chief Guest whereas District Social Welfare Officer Jammu Ajay Salaan, Principal GGHSS Geetu Bangotra, Women Welfare Officer Shagun Manchanda, Resource persons from DLSA, District Coordinators and Women achievers were also present on the occasion.

Besides, legal awareness seminar, various other activi-

ties were also held during the event including plantation drive, cultural items, distribution of ration among women etc.

Satish Sharma and Samriti Khajuria also planted plants and distributed ration to the women. They also felicitated women achievers on the occasion.

Students of the school presented cultural extravaganza which was applauded by one and all.

Afterwards, a awareness rally was carried out by the students of school in order to create awareness among the people especially women regarding their legal rights.

MIMC to distribute prosthetic aids among differently-abled persons

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

LEH: Mahabodhi International Meditation Centre (MIMC), Ladakh, with support from Ratna Nidhi Charitable Trust, Mumbai, will be conducting mobility camps in the month of April to screen differently-abled persons in Ladakh who require prosthetic limbs, crutches, hearing aids, calipers and wheelchairs. Distribution of aids will take place in the month of June.

Founder-President, MIMC, Bhikkhu Sanghasena said this at a press conference in Leh.

He informed that mobility camps in different places of Ladakh will be organised from April 9 to 18, 2022 and requested the administration of UT of Ladakh, health department, LAHDC councillors of different constituencies of Leh and Kargil, village representatives including Sarpanches and NGOs in



Bhikkhu Sanghasena addressing media in Leh.

Ladakh to help bring differently abled, who are in need of artificial limbs/prosthetic aids, to the screening centres.

"All gifts will be distributed totally free of cost. Experts will be coming from Mumbai to examine and for screening. There cannot be greater compassion than making the dependent independent," Bhikkhu Sangasena said.

He hoped that with support from all stakeholders, deserving beneficiaries from inaccessible and remotest areas of Ladakh region will be able to get

benefits from these charitable mobility camps.

The screening camps will take place at Mahabodhi Campus on 9th April, at Sub District Hospital Diskit Nubra on 11th April, at Tangtse Primary Health Centre on 13th April, at Nyoma Primary Health Centre on 15th and at Kargil on 17th & 18th April.

Artificial limbs and prosthetic aids including calipers, crutches, wheel chairs, Jaipur foot, prosthetic hands and hearing aids will be distributed for the needy persons.

Open Air Theatre inaugurated by Nrityanjali Classical Dance Academy

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: An Open Air Theatre was inaugurated by Nrityanjali Classical Dance Academy, Hazuri Bagh, Jammu on Sunday. On the occasion, Sheetal Nanda, Commissioner Secretary, Social Welfare Department was the Chief Guest whereas Dr Ravi Kumar Sharma, Director School Education Board was the Guest of Honour. Sanjeev Rana, Additional Secretary (C) JKAACL, Dr Arvinder Singh Amn, Additional Secretary JKAACL and Sanjay Kumar Barni, Councilor JMC were the special guests during the programme which was attended by a number of artists, art-lovers and eminent citizens. A report on activities and achieve-



Artists presenting Kathak during a programme.

ments of Classical Dance Academy was presented by Dr Priya Dutta, Director of Nrityanjali. Earlier, Raj Kumar Behrupia welcomed the dignitaries and guests. A cultural programme based on Kathak dance performances by the young and senior artists was also presented on this occasion. The artists who performed in the programme

included Shivani Kapoor, Saba Majid, Ritik, Siddhi, Akshay, Shivam, Umesh, Kritika Dutt, Anandita Dutt, Aadya Kapoor, Swara Sharma, Adisha Kapoor, Ojasvi, Spriha, Riddha Sharma, Nanyia, Prisha Dutta and Anaya.

The team of accompanists included Purshotam Kumar (Pakhawaz), Vijay Kumar (Tabla), Akshay (Violin), Raj Kumar Behrupia (Harmonium) and Dr Priya Dutta (Padhant). The function culminated with formal vote of thanks by Prof Sohaib Inayat Malik.

Ladakh to develop hand-holding system for women SHGs: LG

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

LEH: Lieutenant Governor R K Mathur on Sunday said efforts would be made to develop a hand-holding system for the benefit of women self-help groups (SHG) in Ladakh.

Interacting with villagers and SHG members in Shang, he also suggested that SHGs can diversify their product chain, open souvenir shops and showrooms, and put their products on display in homestays for tourists and trekkers for better income. SHGs such as those from Nagdang, Gandey and Chokdo raised their issues, including providing support in designing and marketing of carpets, according to an official spokesman.

Executive Councillor of the

Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC), Leh, Stanzin Choshpel, requested for providing guidance and hand-holding support to women SHGs after completion of their training module, he said.

The Ladakh lieutenant governor (L-G) stressed on the need for basic facilities such as power, road and water for the development of a village.

"Homestays can be a source of income for the people of Shang village due to the footfall of tourists and trekkers," Mathur said and assured to address the issues of the people of Shang village, including completion of a road leading to the village under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana

(PMGSY).

Earlier, the Nambardar of Shang village, Tsewang Tundup, raised various issues including installation of mobile towers with high-speed internet connectivity, blacktopping of the main road leading to the village, repairing and maintaining electricity poles and installing chain-link fencing to protect their crop from wild animals.

Shang village's panch, Tsewang Nurboo, requested for the delimitation of the Martselang constituency for proper distribution of funds among villages, the spokesman said.

He added that Nurboo also requested for sanctioning a health centre with proper medical facilities.

Prof Suresh Kumar Gupta Memorial Library inaugurated

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Prof Suresh Kumar Gupta Memorial Library was inaugurated in premises of Trikuta Nagar Welfare Society (TNWS), by Director, Libraries & Research J&K UT, Mohammad Rafi, along with Society's President Rajinder Parshad Kakkar, nominee in books purchasing committee of J&K UT Prof Kulbhushan Mohtra, Sabhita Rani, Chief Librarian SES Library Jammu in presence of a number of people from different walks of life. The reading facility was dedicated to Prof Suresh Gupta on his 10th death anniversary by his son Suneel Mahajan and other family members.

Speaking on the occasion, Mohammad Rafi highlighted importance of a library for people, particularly those students, who can't afford required books for their preparations to excel



TNWS members and others during inauguration of Prof Suresh Kumar Gupta Memorial Library.

in various competitive exams. He also congratulated TNWS for opening a big library housing a number of valuable books on different subjects.

Prof Kulbhushan Mohtra shared his experience on management of a library and making choice to purchase books of dire necessity instead of compiling heaps of unnecessary books. Sabhita Rani also expressed her views on various aspects related to make library a place of attraction for read-

ers. Ramesh Sabbarwal, one of the colleagues of Prof Suresh Kumar Gupta, described him a multifaceted personality having distinction of serving the society in different capacities right from young age till his last breathe. He shared that Prof Gupta was an academician and earned mass respect as a prominent social figure while working with various organisations. He further mentioned that Prof Gupta was

long associated with Sanatan Dharma Sabha, Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad, Arya Samaj Trikuta Nagar etc. "Not only this, Prof Gupta served two tenures in Bharat Vikas Parishad as President and later rendered services as Zonal President BVP," he told, adding that later he had also served as National Secretary BVP. Prof Gupta will always be remembered as a man with zeal to serve society selflessly, he asserted. Ran Vijay Shastri, President Arya Samaj Trikuta Nagar; Bharat Bhushan, D P Arora, President BVP Bahu Branch and Vijay Arora also spoke on the occasion.

President TNWS, Rajinder Parshad Kakkar appreciated efforts of family members of Prof Suresh Gupta for such a noble cause and assured people that team TNWS will make all possible efforts to manage and run the library

smoothly. Ajay Gupta, Jyoti Devi, Neeraj Lucky Puri, Corporators were also present during the function and shared their views.

Suneel Mahajan, son of Prof Suresh Gupta, said, "We will convert this reading facility into e-library in coming days and will regularly update it as per requirement of children. He thanked President TNWS Rajinder Kakkar, Patron Ashok Kumar Arora, Vice President S N Koul, General Secretary Harshvardhan Gupta, Secretary Vijay Gupta, Treasurer Sandeep Sharma, Ajay Sabbarwal, Rohit Mahajan, Parshotam Gupta, Dr T R Gupta, Krishan Lal Gupta, Anil Sharma, Varinder Kumar Suri, S.N Nanda, Chander Prakash Darnath, Ravinder Rekhi, N K Bali, Nitish Mahajan besides other members of Arya Samaj and residents for their presence.

Bukhari calls for end to political alienation among youth

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: In a major drill at Shopian, Apni Party President Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari discussed about the various linechpins that need to be held firmly towards forming a strong leadership all across the region. Bukhari stressed on the end of political exploitation of the people of Jammu and Kashmir who has been used as vote bank till date by various traditional political parties. "To proceed with the aim of development in the region, we need to treat the people of Kashmir as equal stakeholders and not merely for the purpose of gaining votes. We need to make sure that their demands and rights are fulfilled with dignity and honesty all across the region," he said.

Taking into consideration the employment avenues, he also sort measures for putting an end to the corruption in the region and ensure transparency in the field of employment.

BJP Govt's development Mantra-based on strong pedestals of transparency, accountability: Langar

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Convenor Industries and Trade Cell BJP, Sham Lal Langer on Sunday said that BJP government's development Mantra is based on strong pedestals of transparency and accountability, and this is the reason behind progress as never before in the UT of J&K. In a press handout issued here, the BJP leader said that his party is striving hard to transform people's dreams into reality by initiating remarkable measures under corruption free environment to give the much awaited respite to people who were lurching for even the basic amenities for the last over 70 years. He said that BJP's central leadership has toiled hard to bring in transparency and accountability in the functioning of the government leading to development in the country especially J&K which earlier was considered to be 'impossible'.

He said that BJP has fulfilled its commitment of giving a transparent dispensation to the country by ensuring transparency and accountability at all levels of administration and eliminating corruption fully. He said that corrupt in the UT of J&K are on run and the massive development projects including huge foreign investment are on cards giving a boost to industry, trade and above all the local economy, which earlier used to confront number of bottlenecks including unwillingness of those sitting at helm.

The senior BJP leader said that the steps which the Modi government has taken in the UT are unprecedented and have transformed the region from a sordid and disturbed territory into a place which is the most happening one in the country as development as never before is being witnessed here without any discrimination which earlier people confronted on day to day basis.

Black-topping works inaugurated at Gadigarh



Councilor Prof Youshvir Singh inaugurating black-topping works in Bhaur, Ward-1 of Gadigarh.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Fulfilling a long pending demand of residents, the black-topping works in Bhaur, Ward-1 of Gadigarh, was inaugurated by Councilor Prof Youshvir Singh on Sunday in presence of a number of local and officials.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof Youshvir Singh said that with black-topping in

various parts of the backward ward, to be done at an estimated cost of Rs 1.40 crore, the area will get a major facelift. Thanking people for keeping patience for such a long time, he expressed gratitude towards Mayor Chander Mohan Gupta for providing required funds for developmental works. He also thanked S K Langer,

Executive Engineer JMC, Div-IV for his efforts to finalise the projects and wished him a happy and healthy post-retirement life, in advance, as the officer in retiring on superannuation on March 31, 2022.

Expressing gratitude toward Councilor Prof Youshvir Singh, on behalf of residents, for his relentless efforts in ensuring development of area, Balbir Singh said that the demand has been fulfilled after lapse of more than a decade.

Prominent among others present on the occasion included Balbinder Singh, Inder Singh, Hardev Singh, Charanjit Singh, Prem Kumar Digra and Chaman Singh.