

**BHOG AND ANTIM ARDAS**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad and peaceful demise of our beloved **S. Jeet Singh (Retd. Medical Department)** R/o Mohalla Radio Station Poonch At present: Upper Gadigarh Near Tube Well Jammu who left for his heavenly abode on 18th March 2024.

**Bhog and Antim Ardas** shall be performed as per the following scheduled programme:-  
**Bhog Shri Akhand Path Sahib** at our residence on Monday (25-03-2024) at 09:00AM  
**Kirtan and Antim Ardas** at Singh Sabha Gurudwara Sahib Mahant Bachter Singh Nagar Upper Gadigarh on Monday from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon followed by Guru Ka Langar

**DEEPLY MOURNED BY FAMILY AND RELATIVES:-**

- Harjeet Kour (Wife)
- Gagandeep Singh (Son) Information Department
- Manpreet Kour (Daughter-in-Law)
- Bavneet Kour (Daughter)
- Gursimran Singh (Son-in-Law)
- Brothers**
- Amrik Singh (Retd. SP)
- Jasbir Singh (Retd. J.E)
- Ranbir Singh
- Brother-in-Laws**
- Prithpal Singh (Retd. Lecturer)
- Jagjit Singh (Inspector)
- Paramjit Singh (Professor)
- Great Grand Childrens**
- EMRIN KOUR
- SEHAR KOUR
- Contact:- 7006175617



S. Jeet Singh (Retd. Medical Department)

**REMEMBRANCE**

**4th Death Anniversary of Peer Ravi Nath Ji** will be performed on 25th March, 2024 at Jamavant Gufa Peerkho Temple Shardhanjali Shamarho organised to remember Peer Ravi Nath Ji on his 4th Death Anniversary.



Peer Ravi Nath Ji

Remembering the Great Soul of Mahant Peer Ravi Nath Ji on his 4th Death Anniversary.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**

- Peer Rattan Nath Ji
- Peer Rajinder Nath Ji
- Yogi Karan Nath Ji (M: 9906229422)
- Yogi Pawan Nath Ji
- Yogi Dharti Nath Ji

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**INDIA bloc intact, will cross 272; PM's corruption pitch 'hollow': Jairam Ramesh**

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

NEW DELHI: The INDIA bloc is intact despite Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's 'somersault' and TMC supremo Mamata Banerjee deciding to be Mamata Banerjee, senior Congress leader Jairam Ramesh said, rejecting as "hollow" Prime Minister Narendra Modi's pitch against the opposition on corruption.

In an interaction with PTI editors at the news agency's headquarters here, Ramesh also said the opposition will unitedly cross the halfway mark of 272 in the elections and oust the BJP from power.

He spoke on a range of issues including electoral bonds, the arrests of Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and JMM leader Hemant Soren, who resigned as Jharkhand CM, and also addressed speculations around Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra potentially contesting the Lok Sabha polls from Amethi and Raebareilly, respectively.

"Look at the way the electoral bonds scheme has worked. Rs 4,000-crore of bonds are directly linked with Rs 4-lakh crore of contracts. There is a clear correlation between the electoral bonds and the award of contracts," Ramesh said, claiming that a BJP MP buys electoral bonds after getting infrastructure contracts. He said they have evidence that bonds worth Rs 4,000 crores purchased by several companies in favour of the BJP are directly linked to the award of contracts and action initiated by central agencies against them, he said.

"To say that Mr Modi is going to take the corruption plank and use Hemant Soren and Arvind Kejriwal as examples that he is fighting corruption is absolutely a bogus argument. Look at the electoral bonds saga, it is a complete case of quid pro quo," the Congress leader said. "There is ample evidence to show that the corruption is a 'khokhla' (hollow) plank' as far as Mr Modi is concerned." On opposition unity, he said all 28 parties were together up to December 19 "but Nitish Kumar did a somersault and Mamata Banerjee decided to be Mamata Banerjee. These are the two things that have happened".

"The fact that Nitish Kumar is not part of the INDIA bloc does not mean that the INDIA bloc has collapsed," Ramesh said, asserting the opposition will certainly cross the halfway mark.

"Yes, I'm sure that it will add up to 272." Asked if the INDIA bloc bubble has burst, he said, "No, no. Where has it burst?" The alliance with the Aam Aadmi Party is intact as is the tie-up with the NCP, Shiv Sena, the DMK and JMM, the Congress leader asserted. "Our alliance with CPM and CPI is going to be finalised in West Bengal.

We have an 11-party alliance in Assam and we have an alliance with the Samajwadi Party." "Mamata

Banerjee has said that she is part of the INDIA bloc. She is not seat-sharing with us, but she is very much part of the INDIA bloc," he said.

On how Kejriwal's arrest would impact the opposition, especially as the PM making corruption an issue using the cases of the Delhi CM and Hemant Soren, Ramesh said, "Chanda do, dhandalo (quid pro quo) is becoming obvious, after the electoral bonds issue".

"It is true that Mr Modi will use this Hemant Soren and Kejriwal cases to say that he is cleaning up the system, but he has not cleaned up the system. Evidence shows, this is completely to the contrary," Ramesh asserted.

On opposition parties, including the Congress, also getting donation worth crores of rupees through electoral bonds, he said they do not have central probe agencies and cannot grant central contracts to companies.

"There is clear evidence that we have put out which

shows there are 30 companies against whom ED and CBI was used and Rs 330-crore worth donations came through these 30 companies," he said.

On whether Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra will contest Amethi and Rae Bareilly seats respectively or have they abandoned their family pocket boroughs in Uttar Pradesh, Ramesh said, "Rahul Gandhi had said that he is a loyal soldier of the party and if the CEC asks him to contest, he will do so." He also rejected insinuations that senior Congress leaders are reluctant to contest the Lok Sabha polls. "None of the senior leaders are escaping contesting these Lok Sabha elections.

I don't think there is any leader who has been asked to contest and is not contesting." Asked if the Congress was looking beyond Rahul Gandhi's leadership, Ramesh said the Gandhi seion is there and is leading the organisation and has undertaken the Bharat Jodo Yatra, which no other leader in the country has.

"His politics is a different

type of politics. His politics is the politics of movement. He wants to revitalise and revamp the organisation," he said. Ramesh said Gandhi has been "extraordinarily successful" in infusing new energy in the organisation and all have been forced to look upon him differently after the Bharat Jodo Yatra led by him.

"If you look at the pre-Bharat Jodo Yatra and post-Yatra, it is not yes, but... The commentariat class has been forced to look at him differently," he asserted.

Ramesh also claimed that every opposition leader had joined the Yatra in the states as there was nobody who did not join the Yatra, except Mamata Banerjee, which was due to reasons peculiar to West Bengal.

On the Congress's counter to the BJP's Ram temple issue, Ramesh said, "There cannot be one strategy, there can't be a 'jadu ki chhadhi' (magic wand). We cannot generate a counter." The seven-phase Lok Sabha polls will be held between April 19 and June 1. The results will be announced on June 4. PTI.

**JTC , Soan Kashmir Front J&K highlights issues of Kashmiri Pandit Migrants**

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: A meeting of Jagti Tenement Committee/Soan Kashmir front j&k was held at Jagti township Nagrota Jammu under the Chairmanship of its President Shadi Lal Pandita.

Addressing the members Pandita said that the Kashmiri Pandit migrant relief holders have not yet received the Ration slip books for the year 2024 on which the relief holders can get their monthly ration. Pandita said that due to non-receipt of the slip books the migrant Relief holders could not get the ration for the month of April 2024 due to which the relief holders are in trouble. The worthy Relief Rehabilitation commissioner Migrants is requested to direct the concerned authorities so that the

migrant slip books of the migrant Relief holders can be issued as soon as possible. Pandita also said that the government is treating Kashmiri migrants with stepmothers while migrant pensioners and government employees used to get ration at ration depots which pensioners and government employees used to buy from their own money which has been closed by the government .The Relief Rehabilitation commissioner Migrants is requested to direct the concerned authorities for sending the ration quota of migrant pensioners/ government employees to ration depots so that the pensioners and government employees can buy ration with their own money.

Pandita said that we the Kashmiri pandits have been

forced to live in exile for past 34 years after all how long will this exile of Kashmiri pandits last which is raising a question mark on the state and the centre government of India.

Pandita criticized the government and said that the government should answer that how long will the Kashmiri pandits live in exile. Pandita said that government should solve the issues of Kashmiri pandits immediately with out any delay which are as below.

The Jagti Tenement committee/ Soan Kashmir front J&k are demanding that the Kashmiri Pandits to be resettled in Kashmir valley in three settle townships of Kashmir valley at Baramulla, Srinagar and Anantnag for which one township should be built in

between Baramulla and Srinagar for those Kashmiri Pandits who are hailing from Districts of Kupwara, Baramulla and Bandipora. 2nd township should be built in between Districts of Srinagar and Ganderbal for those Kashmiri Pandits who are hailing from Districts of Badgam, Srinagar and Ganderbal at one township.

3rd township to be built in between Srinagar and Anantnag for those Kashmiri Pandits who are hailing from Districts of Pulwama, Kulgam, Shopian and Anantnag.

Enhancement of monthly cash relief of relief holders from Rs 13,000 to Rs 25,000 . A new package of 20,000 jobs should be given for the unemployed educated youth of Kashmiri Pandits.

**Relatives of Jaipur factory fire victims block NH; demand owner's arrest, compensation**

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAIPUR: Locals and relatives of the six men who died in a chemical factory fire in Jaipur's Bassi blocked the Jaipur-Agra National Highway on Sunday, demanding compensation for the family members and action against the factory owner.

The deadlock ended this evening when officials assured them of action on their demands in accordance with the rules, Deputy Commissioner Of Police (DCP) East Kavendra Sagar said.

The bodies of the victims were handed over to family members after post-

mortem, the police said.

The protesters had earlier refused to allow the police to shift the bodies to the mortuary.

Six men were killed and one was injured in the fire that broke out late on Saturday after an explosion in the factory boiler. While five men died on the spot, one succumbed at Sawai Man Singh Hospital.

Another injured person is undergoing treatment at the hospital.

People gathered on the highway in the morning and blocked the Jaipur-Agra national highway. PTIA.

**CPI(M) calls for 'bold and united' struggle against BJP in LS polls**

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Senior CPI(M) leader M Y Tarigami on Sunday requested the secular parties in Jammu and Kashmir to come together for a "bold and united" struggle against the BJP in the upcoming Lok Sabha elections.

Tarigami, a former legislator, claimed that attempts are being made to politicise the armed forces and said "such a thing is not good for the country".

"We appeal to all secular parties, social groups and even individuals having some influence in Jammu and Kashmir to join hands for a bold and united struggle to show the door to the BJP, which has snatched our constitutional and democratic rights and downgraded the historic state," he told reporters here. Tarigami said a message needs to be conveyed that what the BJP has

done is not "acceptable to us." "We have to overcome our differences and unite and make the BJP pay for its deeds. The BJP has not done justice with us and they deserve no confidence," the CPI(M) leader said, adding the secular opposition parties should understand that this is an "existential fight to save democracy".

Asking the people to take a cue from the ongoing agitation in Ladakh where both Leh and Kargil districts came on the same page for their four-point demand, including statehood and sixth schedule of the Constitution, he said "the people of Jammu and Kashmir divisions also need to raise united voice in a democratic way for safeguarding our rights, the future and the identity".

Welcoming the setting up of the opposition alliance INDIA bloc despite vast

diversity, political ambitions and ideological differences, Tarigami said the unity of the people can save the country from the misrule of the present dispensation.

"The BJP is desperately trying to make opposition parties dysfunctional by brazenly using agencies like the ED, CBI, IT and falsely implicating them in different cases. They are organising defection in the opposition parties and arresting indiscriminately even the chief ministers and deputy chief ministers of the opposition parties," he said.

The CPI(M) leader said corruption is a major issue before the country as the electoral bond scheme introduced by the BJP in 2017 was the "biggest scam" in the country.

"The CPI(M) not only opposed the scheme but also knocked on the door of

the Supreme Court. We welcome its judgment as it took off the veil on how agencies were used to arm twist the companies to pay money. We are on record as having said that the scheme was meant to legalize corruption and we have not received any electoral bond while the ruling party got thousands of crores of rupees," he said, adding the government owes an explanation where the money had gone.

Tarigami said the country is run by democracy which speaks about transparency, accountability, level playing field and equality but "we have one party getting the lion's share of electoral bonds, weakening the electoral process as opposition parties have got a very small amount". The CPI(M) leader also expressed concern over attempts to politicise the army by roping the force

for organising a seminar on a "very sensitive and controversial issue of the Uniform Civil Code".

The seminar, scheduled for March 26 in Srinagar, was cancelled by the army after facing backlash from the political parties. The army, however, said that it had nothing to do with the topic of the seminar and was only providing administrative help to its organisers.

"The attempt to organise a seminar on a very sensitive and controversial issue of the Uniform Civil Code is highly unfortunate. The military should not be politicised and its professionalism and secular ethos should not be undermined," Tarigami said.

He said any attempt to politicise the army will weaken and adversely impact its professionalism and solidarity in its ranks. PTI.

**Former HP CM Shanta Kumar rues state of politics, asks BJP to heed Lord Ram's principles**

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

SHIMLA: BJP leader and two-time Himachal Pradesh chief minister Shanta Kumar has expressed his anguish at the state of politics in the country saying his party too has swept in the wave.

"We built Ram Mandir but simply constructing the Ram temple will not help, we must also follow his principles," he told reporters recently.

Kumar's remarks come in the wake of a political turmoil in the state, with six Congress members breaking away and joining the BJP, an act which the Congress termed as part of a conspiracy by the BJP to topple the state government.

"I am surprised. The politics of enslaved India was for the country, but the politics of free India is for

the chair. And I am pained that my party is also swept in the wave," said Shanta Kumar, who has also been a Member of Parliament from Kangra seat four times.

"Politics of principle is the need of the hour and I pray that the leaders of my country follow their values and standard of politics improves in the country," he added.

The six Congress rebels joined the BJP in New Delhi on Saturday, along with three independents. The nine had voted in favour of the BJP in the last month's Rajya Sabha polls.

Deputy Chief Whip and Congress MLA Keval Singh Pathania on Sunday through a statement asked the BJP to think over their colleague's advice.

He also said that with the Congress rebels' switching sides, it has become clear that they were instigated by the BJP to topple the elected government.

The six former Congress MLAs, who were disqualified for defying a whip to be present in the assembly and vote in favour of the government during the cut motions and budget, were Sudhir Sharma (Dharamshala), Ravi Thakur (Lahaul and Spiti), Rajinder Rana (Sujanpur), Inder Dutt Lakhnupal (Barsar), Chetanya Sharma (Gagret) and Devinder Kumar Bhutto (Kutlehar). The three independents are Ashish Sharma (Hamirpur constituency), Hoshiyar Singh (Dehra) and K L Thakur (Nalagarh). PTI.

**Delhi Police beefs up security ahead of AAP's protest**

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

NEW DELHI: Ahead of a planned protest by AAP leaders and workers in the national capital on Sunday, the Delhi Police has ramped up security measures, officials said.

This comes after AAP decided to take out a candle march and burn the effigy of the BJP government against the arrest of party supremo and Delhi

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal by Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Thursday.

"We got information that workers and leaders of AAP will hold protest. To ensure law and order situation, we have stepped up security in the national capital.

We will ensure deployment of paramilitary forces along with Delhi

Police personnel.

"Senior officers will continue to monitor the entire situation in their districts. Directions have been issued to the SHO's to keep a strict vigil in their area and to inform their senior officers immediately, if they get to know about any protest," a senior police officer said.

Heavy personnel deployment and multi-layer bar-

ricading have already been put in place on roads leading to the BJP headquarters, ITO, and in front of the ED office where AAP members are expected to gather to protest against the arrest of Chief Minister Kejriwal.

Paramilitary personnel, equipped with anti-riot gear, have also been stationed to ensure law and order.

The police officer further said that they have asked the traffic police to ensure smooth flow of traffic in Delhi and to arrange diversions immediately if AAP workers and leaders take out protest march.

As part of the heightened security measures, roads leading to both the BJP headquarters and the ED office in central Delhi have been closed. PTI.

**Punjab hooch tragedy: CM Mann meets families of victims in Sangrur district**

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

CHANDIGARH: Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann on Sunday visited the Gujran village in the Sangrur district to meet the families of those who died due to suspected consumption of spurious liquor here. Mann said police have registered a murder case in the incident. "FIR under Section 302 (of the IPC) has been registered against 10 accused. Killing somebody by giving poison is a murder," he said.

The chief minister added that those involved in selling spurious liquor will be nabbed.

"We are trying to find out if these accused have more links in Punjab.

If there are more gangs selling spurious liquor, they will also be arrested and booked under Section 302," Mann said. He added that some youths have informed him that 'chitta' (synthetic drugs) was also distributed in the village. The CM said that action will be taken against those found involved in such illegal activities. The Mann-led Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government in Punjab has been under fire from the Opposition over the hooch tragedy, which claimed 20 lives in his home district Sangrur.

BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh on Saturday alleged that the tragedy was the result of a "liquor scam" that has been going on in the state under the patronage of the AAP government. The Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) have also sought

the resignation of Excise Minister Harpal Singh Cheema over the incident. Cheema also visited Sangrur on Sunday to meet the families of the victims. "We stand by these families. Whatever support they require, we will provide," he said.

The minister added that those involved in the incident will be given exemplary punishment. A four-member special investigation team (SIT), led by Additional Director General of Police Gurinder Singh Dhillon, was set up on Saturday to probe the incident.

Addressing the media in Chandigarh on Saturday, Dhillon said the police have invoked section 61-A of the Excise Act in all three FIRs lodged in connection with the case at Dirba, City Sunam and Cheema police stations.

Section 61-A is punishable with imprisonment for life or the death penalty, Dhillon said.

The police have arrested eight out of 10 identified accused in connection with the tragedy, he told the media. Alcohol containing methanol content was used for making spurious liquor, the ADGP said on Saturday.

Eleven people are undergoing treatment at Patiala's Rajindra Hospital and six at the Civil Hospital in Sangrur after the suspected consumption of spurious liquor, officials said.

They added that the 20 casualties were reported from Gujran, Tibbi Ravidas Pura, and Dhandoli Khurd villages in Dirba and Sunam blocks in the Sangrur district.

**Assam Rifles committed to modernise equipment profile, says director general**

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

SHILLONG: Assam Rifles Director General Lt Gen Pradeep Chandran Nair on Sunday asserted that the force is committed to modernise its equipment profile and upskill manpower.

Nair also lauded the Assam Rifles personnel for their contribution in counter-insurgency operations in the region and in Kashmir.

"The force remains committed to modernise its equipment profile in terms of acquisition of state-of-the-art weapons, surveillance and protective equipment," he said here during an address on the 189th Raising Day of the Assam Rifles. Nair said the Assam Rifles is making efforts to safeguard its networks from cyber intrusions, and

has also signed a MoU with universities to upskill manpower and accredit the academic and training programmes.

"The force continued to prove its mettle during 2023-24. During the past year, three battalions received the 'Chief of the Army Staff Unit Citation' and five battalions received the 'General Officer

Commanding-in-Chief Unit Citation," he said.

The Assam Rifles has contributed immensely in bringing peace in the northeast states, the DG said.

It was originally formed as 'Cachar Levy', established by the British in 1835 as a police force to protect settlements against tribal raids.

Delivering a video message on Saturday on the eve of the 189th Raising Day, Nair had said: "I wish to assure our countrymen that Assam Rifles shall leave no stone unturned to act in the interest of our country, no matter what challenges lie ahead of us. We are and shall eternally remain friends of the northeast." PTI.