

Congress responsible for J&K turmoil: Rana

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MATHWAR: Blaming the Congress for history's worst type of turmoil in the Valley, Senior BJP leader Devender Singh Rana on Wednesday said the party is responsible for murder of democracy in J&K that created havoc in the lives of the people, especially during the past several decades.

"The Congress is the sole architect of separatistic build-up in connivance with the local political partners, resulting in destruction and death of over 40,000 youth post 1990 turmoil", Devender Rana said while addressing public meetings in ten Panchayats of the Mathwar Block along with Senior BJP leader and former minister Sham Lal Sharma, DDC Chairman Bharat Bhushan, District President Jammu North Omi Khajuria and Ex-MLA Shiv Dev Singh during their two day tour of the Nagrota Assembly Constituency.

He held the Congress responsible for all that happened in the paradise on earth and said that bringing back the Valley on the right track during the past five years, since the abrogation of Article 370, has been a remarkable achievement of the visionary Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He said the effective and the people centric BJP led NDA government has brought about a discernible change in the overall situation and put J&K on fast track development, economic resurgence and opening up of avenues to progress and prosperous every segment of society,



Senior BJP leaders Devender Rana and Sham Lal Sharma addressing public meeting.

irrespective of religion, region and caste as per the cherished agenda of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayas. As a result of path breaking initiatives the people of J&K in general and the Valley in particular have developed huge stakes in peace, by saying good bye to hartal and stone pelting culture, which has positively impacted the economy of the entire Union Territory.

Rana said Jammu and Kashmir is close to the heart of the BJP leadership that has been striving for the socio-economic upliftment of the Union Territory in a big way. He referred to the launch of various projects and schemes, saying this will transform this part of the country economically. He said the industrial and health infra, startups and self help groups besides road work have witnessed special impetus during the past over four years. Equitable share in the funds allocation to all the regions and the sub-regions remains a hallmark of the planning strategy of the double engine government, which is something unheard of during the earlier dispensations, he added.

Devender Rana said, for the first time the element of discrimination and appeasement have been overtaken by fair-play in the governance and every pocket of Jammu and Kashmir is now witnessing transformation.

Addressing the gatherings, Senior BJP leader Sham Lal Sharma said the changing landscape of Jammu and Kashmir under Prime Minister Modi, both in urban and rural areas, has instilled a sense of hope among the people about better days to end the miseries of the past.

Sharma said peace and tranquility are crucially important for development of any place across the world and this fact is being acknowledged by the people of Jammu and Kashmir, which is why they have rejected the cult of violence and culture of instability and supported the governmental efforts in a big way. The shift in the development strategy post 2019 has reassured the people that future of generations is safe in the hands of the BJP, he added.

Prominent among others who were present in these meetings included Bhagwan Dass, Block

President, Sharifan Bibi, Nand Kishore Sharma, Kuldeep Singh Langeh, Ch. Anwar Khan, Sain Khan, Ashwani Kumar, Sanjeev Singh, Neelam Devi, Rekha Langeh, Anjali Sharma, Sohan Singh, Balbir Singh,

Ravinder Singh (Peter), Sham Lal Sharma, Pradeep, Krishan Gopal, Kabla Singh, Pt. Suresh Shrama, Rekha Langeh, Kali Dass Verma, Zorawar Singh Jamwal, Amit Sharma, Parasram, Om Prakash, Swarn Singh, Mohinder Singh, Sham Lal, Rajpal Kesar, Sudershan Singh, Milkhi Ram, Sham Lal(Shamu), Dayal Singh (Lucky), Tejpal Singh, Nelkanth Sharma, Ghulam Nabi, Ajay Singh, Arun Singh, Bua Ditta, Santosh Kumar, Ramesh Chander, Mushtaq Ahmed, Rashmi Kumari, Surinder Singh, Kewal Sharma, Bahadur Singh and others.

Modi Govt streamlined development, realized projects without hassle: Priya Sethi

Says Congress did nothing to prioritize welfare of masses, except looting Govt resources

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JAMMU: Former Minister and BJP National Executive Member Priya Sethi on Wednesday said that central government led by PM Narendra Modi has streamlined development process in J&K by envisaging and realizing projects to ensure equitable progress of all regions.

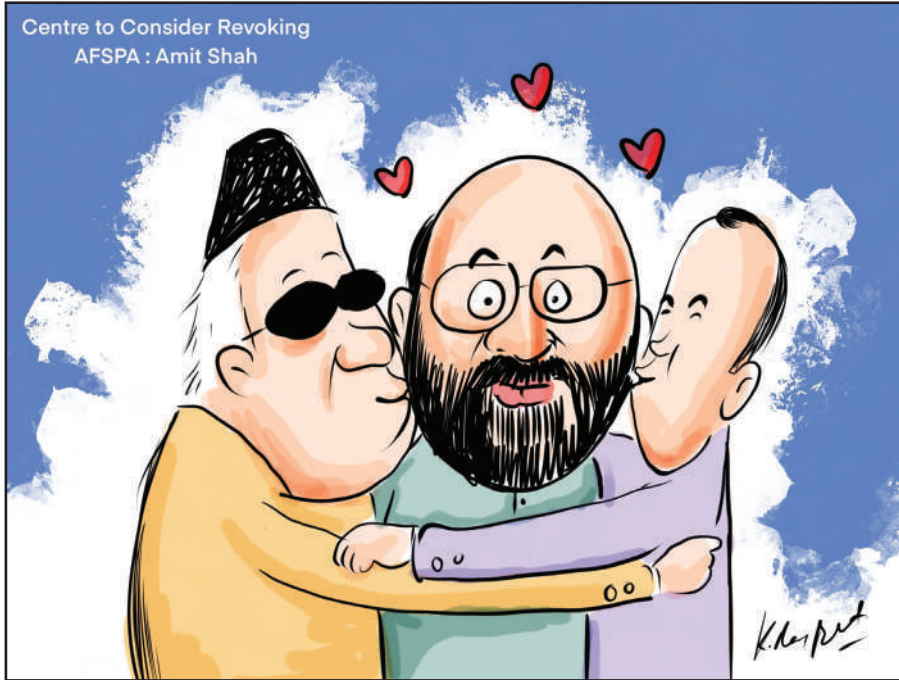
While chairing an Election Management Committee of Bahu Constituency here on Wednesday, the senior BJP functionary said that unlike the terms of successive regimes headed by Congress and other regional political parties whereby people had to fight for their genuine demands including development projects, the Modi government has established a system ensuring satiation of people's aspirations in pre-



BJP NEM Priya Sethi chairing an Election Management Committee meeting of Bahu Constituency.

cisely perfect manner as in the case of AIIMS, IIT, ring roads, IIM, holding G20 summit in Srinagar and many more accomplishments which became a reality without any hassle or unnecessary tussle between the government and the people.

Priya Sethi vehemently criticized the Congress party,



exploitation and disregard for the populace.

The former minister emphasized that Modi Government has not only acted as being a harbinger of peace and development, rather it has ensured equitable development of the entire UT with no traces of prejudice or partiality on the basis or regions, religions or linguistic variations.

"Unlike other political entities like Congress that ruled the country in the past by creating fissures among different sections of the society, the Modi government has plugged in wedges through fair justice delivery by tailoring welfare schemes for one and all, without any exceptions, making it amply clear that the BJP Government has no match when it comes

to make the country a better place to live", she added.

Priya Sethi asserted that people should think hundred times before casting their votes in the upcoming polls because their vote in BJP's favour can increase the pace of development manifold times but on the contrary a wrong decision in this matter can prove disastrous for India.

Rekha Mahajan, President BJP South Constituency, in her address, emphasized the transformative impact of the Modi government's policies in fostering inclusive development across the region.

She urged voters to unite behind the BJP's vision for a prosperous and harmonious India, underscoring the party's dedication to advancing the welfare of all citizens.

Viksit Bharat Ambassador Meet Up Jammu: Anurag Thakur addresses students at IIM Jammu

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JAMMU: The Viksit Bharat Ambassador Meet Up Jammu witnessed a momentous occasion as Anurag Singh Thakur, Minister of Information, Broadcasting, Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, graced the event with his presence at the IIM Jammu Jagti Campus.

The event aimed to shed light on India's epochal journey towards becoming a developed nation, under the visionary leadership of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The event commenced with Kritika Padode introducing the audience to the Viksit Bharat Ambassador Program, followed by the arrival of Anurag Singh Thakur, Minister of Information, Broadcasting, Youth Affairs and Sports,



Director of IIM Jammu, Prof. B.S. Sahay felicitating Union Minister Anurag Thakur.

Government of India who was welcomed by Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director of IIM Jammu.

A walk around the campus and a plantation ceremony added a symbolic touch to the occasion, culminating in the planting of a Rudraksh sapling at the IIM Jammu Campus.

In his address to the students, Anurag Thakur

highlighted India's remarkable progress over the past decade, emphasizing its emergence as the third-largest startup ecosystem globally.

"From sports to space, infrastructure development, manufacturing and science to startups, it is India's decade," He stressed on the exceptional performance of the Indian youth in the last ten years.

He emphasized how we

have come far from the fragile five to the leading five economies across the globe. He urged the youth to contribute towards India's upward trajectory, envisioning a prosperous 'Viksit Bharat' (Developed India). The minister underscored the importance of skilling India's youth population and praised initiatives like the Jal Jeevan Mission for positively impacting millions of households.

Acknowledging the role of technology and Agri-tech startups in modernizing agriculture, Anurag Thakur highlighted initiatives which empower entrepreneurs and boost economic growth.

He lauded India's strides in infrastructure development, public sector project execution, and tax reduction to attract foreign investment. The success of initiatives like the Khelo India Initiative and India's

progress in gender equality were also celebrated during his address.

Prof. Sahay, delivered the welcome address on the Viksit Bharat Ambassador meet up.

He welcomed Anurag Singh Thakur and commended the exponential progress of the nation in all fields including but not exclusive to infrastructure development, education, energy, women empowerment, and healthcare including focus on environmental sustainability, economic development. He reiterated the commitment of the Hon'ble Prime Minister to transforming India into a developed nation by 2047.

The event also featured a Q&A session with Anurag Thakur, providing an opportunity for students to engage directly with the Minister of Information, Broadcasting, Youth Affairs and Sports.

General Elections 2024 DEO reviews poll preparedness in Akhnoor, Khour areas of Jammu district; interacts with BLOs



DEO Jammu, Sachin Kumar Vaishya interacting with BLOs in Akhnoor.

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JAMMU: In run up to General Elections 2024, District Election Officer (DEO), Sachin Kumar Vaishya, on Wednesday toured Akhnoor and Khour areas of district to ensure that all preparations are in place.

During the tour, the DEO inspected strong rooms and reviewed facilities available at various polling stations.

Later, in Akhnoor, he

convened a briefing meeting with over two hundred Booth Level Officers (BLOs) who are deployed in Akhnoor and Khour.

Underscoring the pivotal role BLOs play in the electoral process, the DEO urged them to carry out their duties with utmost dedication and sincerity.

"To enhance voter participation, it is important that you educate and encourage citizens to par-

ticipate in the upcoming elections, particularly women, third gender, new voters, senior citizens, and Divyang individuals," he said.

The DEO emphasized that the campaign 'Chunav ka Parv, Desh ka Garv', and the message 'Nothing like Voting, I Vote for Sure' by the Election Commission of India, should ring loud throughout their respective areas.

LIC of India ranked 1st amongst Strongest Insurance Brands 2024 in World

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JAMMU: The Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) on Wednesday said it has been ranked the first amongst the strongest Insurance Brands 2024 in the world by Brand Finance Insurance 2024. "The LIC is grateful to all its policyholders and stakeholders who have reposed their faith in LIC for almost seven decades," said Chairperson, LIC of India, Siddhartha Mohanty. "We are conscious of the needs of our customers and are continuously developing new products to meet their needs of Insurance and Investments. We continue to focus sharply on customer servicing and create value enhancement for all our stakeholders. We are humbled by being ranked 1st in the list of Strongest Insurance Brands 2024 by Brand Finance Insurance 2024 (www.brandirectory.com/Insurance) which is a reflection of their trust placed in us," he added.

Peace procession taken out ahead of Good Friday

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JAMMU: A Peace procession was organised by the Jammu and Kashmir Joint Churches Fellowship on the eve of Good Friday and Easter.

Good Friday, to be observed on March 29, 2024, is the day when Jesus Christ offered himself on the cross as Sacrifice for the Sins of Mankind and Easter (Sunday 31-03-2024) is the day when Jesus Christ rose again from the dead.

Different Churches of



Peace procession taking out in Jammu.

Jammu city and around participated in the rally with

trolleys depicting the Crucifixion and Resurrection

of Jesus Christ. Choirs from churches sang song about the life, death and rising again from the dead.

Scenes of Jesus Christ carrying the Cross and being beaten by the Roman soldiers were the main attraction of the procession.

The market associations welcomed the rally at many places and provided refreshment to the participants.

The procession was organised under the chairmanship of Rev. Shoukat Peter, Pastor

Musraf Bhatti, Rev. Robin Bhatti, Rev. Rohil Mattoo, Pastor Younas Masih, Pastor Novamanikam, Pastor George Kutti, Pastor Stonius, Pastor Anthony Teji, Pastor John Roques Bhatti, Pastor Raju Masih, Pastor Anthony Poras, Pastor Lovvy, Pastor Paulos, Pastor Lans, Pastor Thomas Paul, Pastor Rahul, Pastor Zion, Pastor Daud and Pastor Tarsem Masih, Pastor Hazar and Arun, Pastor Anoo Gill, Pastor Vicky

Khonja, Pastor Stephen Gill, Pastor Dapinder, Rev. Victor Nowab, Pastor Joginder, Mr. Asif Gill,, Nasir Masih Camres David and Mr. Titus Gill

At the end, the President of JKJCF expressed thanks on behalf of the Christian community to the administration, Police Department, Traffic Police, Market associations, General Public, JMC Jammu and specially media person for cooperation and coverage.

DB holds courts cannot encourage appointments which are made outside the constitutional scheme

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A Division Bench of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court Comprising Justice Tashi Rabstan and Justice Puneet Gupta holds that courts cannot encourage appointments which are made outside the constitutional scheme and it is improper for the courts to give any direction for regularization of a person who has not been appointed by following the procedure laid down in Articles 14 and 16 of the Constitution.

This order has been

passed in a LPA filed by appellants praying setting aside of the judgment passed in SWP No.315/2003 dated April 9, 2019 in case titled 'Lal Hussain and others v. State and others', whereby the Single Judge had dismissed the writ petition filed by the petitioners being bereft of any merit.

The case set up in the writ petition by the writ petitioners briefly was that they were working as Gang Coolies/Daily Wagers and had completed more than 9 years con-

tinuous service. According to the petitioners, they were engaged prior to the year 1994. It is on record that petitioners had moved an application before the Chief Engineer, PWD(R&B), Poonch, that since they were working in the Department for the last 10 years, but they had not been declared as permanent employees in terms of government order governing the field; that every casual labourer who has completed 07 years of service must be confirmed.

DB after hearing both the sides observed that the respondents in the writ petition have taken a specific stand that the writ petitioners were engaged as special laborers on different works against the sanctioned estimates for specific period. They have alleged that the writ petitioners were engaged as special laborers that too after the year 1994, so they were discharged/disengaged in terms of Government order No. 144-GAD of 2001 dated February 2, 2001. It is submitted by

the respondents that this appeal is sans merit and be dismissed out rightly with heavy costs.

DB further observed that it is apparent that the petitioners were engaged for sometime as Special Labourers pursuant to which they were issued identity cards. There is no documentary proof or otherwise from the record to show that they have been engaged prior to 1994 and have been continuously working on the said post to entitle them for any confirmation. The documents

produced before the learned Single Judge by the writ petitioners/appellants itself show that they were without date and dispatch number and which show no proof of having worked in the department prior to the year 1994.

The appellants, in support of their case, placed reliance on application MP No. 01/2018, which accordingly to them, escaped notice of Single Judge. A perusal of the aforesaid MP would show that it contains muster roll showing working of the appellants in the year

2002 and in 2004, which in the considered opinion of this court cannot be taken to prove that the appellants were continuously working prior to the year 1994.

DB further observed that admittedly, the appellant/writ petitioners are not working with the department at present. In that view of the matter, this court cannot direct their consideration for regularization.

DB further observed that courts cannot encourage appointments which are made outside the con-

stitutional scheme and it is improper for the courts to give any direction for regularization of a person who has not been appointed by following the procedure laid down in Articles 14 and 16 of the Constitution. With these observations, DB observed that the impugned judgment does not call for any interference as the impugned judgment is a well reasoned judgment which cannot be find fault with viewing from any angle. The impugned judgment is thus upheld.