

Pakistan's Fall-an eye-opener for separatists, a call for national vigilance: Gaurav

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In 1947, two nations were born out of the same partition. Today, one is emerging as a global superpower, while the other is on the brink of further disintegration. As India moves towards becoming a \$5 trillion economy, Pakistan is collapsing under the weight of its own failures-politically unstable, economically bankrupt, and globally isolated.

BJP spokesperson Gaurav Gupta accompanied by spokesperson Balbir Ram Rattan, and Media Incharge Dr. Pardeep Mahotra, was addressing a Press Conference at party headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

BJP spokesperson Gaurav Gupta, in a hard-hitting press conference, strongly backed Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent remarks exposing Pakistan's deep-rooted role in terrorism, particularly in Jammu & Kashmir. He emphasized that for decades, Pakistan has waged a proxy war against India, using terrorism as a tool to destabilize the region. Despite multiple peace overtures by India, Pakistan has only responded



BJP spokesperson Gaurav Gupta briefing media.

with deceit and betrayal, proving its unwillingness for any constructive dialogue.

Gupta stated that Pakistan systematically misled the people of Jammu & Kashmir through false propaganda, separatist funding, and radicalization of the youth, all in an attempt to push its nefarious agenda. However, today, the truth is in front of the world-those who once acted as Pakistan's agents and glorified its so-called "dream nation" must now ask themselves: where is Pakistan today? The very country that fueled separatism in J&K is itself on the verge of collapse.

Pakistan's economic mismanagement, political instability, and military dictatorship have brought it to a state of internal rebellion.

From Balochistan to Sindh, from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to Gilgit-Baltistan, armed resistance against Pakistan's oppressive regime is growing. These regions, once forcibly controlled, are now demanding freedom. Pakistan is crumbling under its own weight-the world must recognize that this failed state is no longer capable of standing on its own, let alone interfering in India's affairs. Gaurav Gupta highlighted that what is happening in Pakistan today is an eye-opener for separatist groups in Jammu & Kashmir. Those who once blindly followed Pakistan's agenda must now see the reality-Pakistan, which they once looked up to, is in ruins, struggling for its survival. The people of J&K have seen

through the lies, and youth who were once misled by Pakistan's propaganda are now choosing careers, education, and success over violence and destruction. "This is New Kashmir-a Kashmir that believes in peace, prosperity, and progress under Prime Minister Modi's visionary leadership. Pakistan's terror ecosystem is being dismantled, its false narratives have been defeated, and its puppets have been exposed," Gupta asserted. Under PM Modi's decisive leadership, India has given a clear message-terrorism will not be tolerated. From surgical strikes to the Balakot airstrike, from the crackdown on separatist funding through agencies like NIA and ED, India has shown zero tolerance for terrorism. Gupta urged the global community to recognize Pakistan's long-standing role as a hub of terrorism. He stated, "The world must act-until Pakistan dismantles its terror infrastructure, diplomatic and financial support to Pakistan must be reconsidered."

He further emphasized that PoJK was never meant to be a part of Pakistan.

Unlike Balochistan, Sindh, and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, which seek independence, PoJK is an integral part of India. As Pakistan collapses, the people of PoJK will naturally gravitate toward India, inspired by the unprecedented development seen in Jammu & Kashmir after Article 370's abrogation. "The day is not far when PoJK returns to its rightful homeland," he declared. As Pakistan stands at the edge of collapse, its last-ditch attempts to create unrest in India-especially in Jammu & Kashmir-will intensify. Gaurav Gupta cautioned that a drowning nation always tries to drag others down with it. "In these crucial times, we must be more vigilant than ever before."

He called upon every citizen to stand united and cooperate fully with India's security forces to thwart any malicious attempts by Pakistan to disrupt peace. Gupta reaffirmed BJP's commitment to PM Modi's vision of a terror-free and developed India. He concluded India wants peace, but we will never compromise on our sovereignty.

BJP magazine strengthens contact with party cadre: Sat



BJP President, Sat Sharma and other senior leaders releasing magazine.

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JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir B-JP President, Sat Sharma along with party General Secretary (organisation) Ashok Koul, former Deputy Chief Minister Kavinder Gupta, Editor Rajnish Jain, editorial team members Pawan Sharma and S. Varinderjeet Singh, released the first edition of the year 2025 internal magazine of the party titled "Kamal Paigam".

Speaking on the occasion, Sat Sharma, highlighted the importance of an internal publication in a dynamic political party like the B-JP.

He said that it serves as a vital mean to communicate the party's vision, policies, and organizational activities directly to the party activists. It acts as a bridge between the leadership and the grassroots

activists, ensuring that every karyakarta remains informed, inspired, and aligned with the party's programmes and policies.

Sat Sharma said that the magazine carries articles, interviews with senior leaders, and reports on key events. It also serves to counter misinformation and present the party's perspectives on crucial national and regional issues. Through this initiative, B-JP creates a well-informed and motivated cadre that can effectively communicate the party's message at the grassroots level.

Ashok Koul said that the magazine empowers party workers with knowledge and clarity. It helps them stay connected with the party's evolving strategies and contribute more effectively to our collec-

tive goals. It also underscores BJP's commitment to internal democracy and effective communication, ensuring that every member, from the national leadership to the booth-level worker, remains an integral part of the party's journey.

Rajnish Jain said that "Kamal Paigam" is published after every two months and is circulated to the party cadre across the UT. It serves to provide accurate and authentic information to party activists on important issues.

Party leaders Tilak Raj Gupta, Balbir Ram Rattan, Prof. Kulbushan Mohtra, Praduman Singh, Gurdeep Singh Khalsa, Bharat Bhushan, Ishant Mahajan, Sanjay Bakshi, Ravi Kumar, were prominent among those present on the occasion.

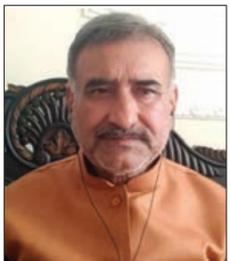
End exploitation of daily wagers, their families: SSP

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Col S S Pathania, President Sainik Samaj Party (SSP) J&K UT expressed his concern and anguish on the exploitation of 66,000 daily wagers and their families by successive governments over a period of more than 16 years or so.

He said concept of a welfare state does not permit exploitation of its own people by the government and give them peanuts for services rendered by them.

A daily wagers earning per month is approximately Rs 9500 only and is grossly inadequate for a person to fulfill social, family obligations and give average education to his children, he said adding that numerous protests and Dharnas have been held by daily wagers but no



justice has been provided to them.

Their peaceful agitation has been resorted by the brutality and lathicharges by police forces.

When the issue was raised in the assembly session, NC led government has ordered a bureaucratic committee, which will give its report within 6 months.

"This is the sixth committee which has been formed since 2009 and likely to

face the same fate, which last 5 committees have met. This attitude of government amply demonstrates non seriousness of the government towards resolving of a sensitive and important issue related with empowerment and welfare of daily wagers and their families," he said.

There is a huge difference between the monthly wages of Delhi and Ladakh UTs when compared with JKUT daily wagers and needs to bring at par to ensure justice.

Pathania urged LG and CM to show compassion and empathy and regularise daily wagers at the earliest. Availability of funds with government is not an issue as colossal amount of money is being wasted in doling out freebies for the game of power.

Panel Discussion on 'Economic Policies of Donald Trump: India's Strategic Options' organized by DSRS, JU

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Department of Strategic and Regional Studies (DSRS), University of Jammu, (JU) organized a panel discussion on 'Economic Policies of Donald Trump: India's Strategic Options' in the seminar hall of the department. The session was chaired by Prof. Suman Janwal, Dean, Social Sciences, JU.

The keynote speakers included Prof. Dipankar Sengupta, Dept. of Economics, JU, an authority in international trade and economic policy, and Prof. Ravij Seth, IIM Jammu, an expert on global financial strategies and business economics.

Prof. Virender Koundal, Director DSRS, welcomed the panellists and other dignitaries and introduced the theme of the panel discussion.

Prof. Dipankar Sengupta provided an in-depth analysis



Key note speakers and others during the programme.

of the US-India trade relations during the Trump administration, discussing key policy measures such as the role of US Dollar as a reserve currency, the impact of tariff impositions, and the broader implications of Trump's "America First" approach.

He elaborated on how these policies affected India's export competitiveness and supply chain dynamics. However, he stressed on signing Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with USA as it will provide an opportunity for India as well as USA.

Prof. Ravij Seth examined

the economic and financial ramifications of Trump's policies on India's global trade strategies.

He highlighted the lessons India could learn from U.S. economic nationalism and discussed potential avenues for India to strengthen its self-reliance in critical sectors such as manufacturing, technology, and energy security.

He also underscored the need for India to diversify its trade partnerships and reduce dependency on traditional markets. Prof. Seth argued that there is no need to panic as in

present context global economies are interdependent and it will cripple global economies and USA will also be affected.

In her presidential remarks, Prof. Suman Janwal, emphasized that understanding these current economic policies is crucial for shaping India's economic and strategic decisions in the evolving geopolitical landscape.

She stressed on the need for a proactive and adaptive economic strategy for India in light of global economic uncertainties. Prof. Janwal called

for a balanced approach that leverages India's strengths while mitigating potential risks arising from changing U.S. economic policies.

The panel discussion was followed by the question-answer session. This event was hosted by Vanshika and Prachi, students M.A. Semester II, DSRS. The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Mohd. Monir Alam. The discussion served as an important academic initiative to analyze global economic trends and formulate strategic options for India in an era of evolving international relations.

This program was attended by the department faculty Dr. Surinder Mohan, Dr. Ganesh Malhotra and Dr. Ranjan Sharma, members of civil society, faculty from other departments of the university, Research Scholars and Postgraduate students.

Samvedna Society organizes Eye, General Health Check-up Camp

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JAMMU: Samvedna Society Chairman Keshav Chopra organized 95th Free Eye Screening and General Health Check Up camp for the devotees, Pujaris and Sewadars of Mata Bawe Wali Temple Bahu Fort.

The Camp was inaugurated by Superintendent of Police Jammu South Ajay Sharma accompanying Shagun Manchanda District Incharge Mission Shakti (SWD), Sandhya Gupta State President RPI J&K, Station House Officer Bahu Fort Inspector Vijay Verma, Nidhi Gupta Abrol Founder of Gracious Givers Trust Jammu, Incharge Police Post Bahu Fort Mandir S.I Lekh



SP Jammu South Ajay Sharma inaugurating camp.

Raj and others. The camp was organized with the collaboration of KD Multispeciality Hospital headed by Dr J.P Singh & Dr Sumit Sharma.

A total of 105 Patients were provided free of cost treatment including Refraction, NCT, AR Check Up, Vision

Check Up and General Health Check Up by a team of experts. Free medicines were also given to the patients.

Ajay Sharma emphasized on the need of regular check-ups, preventive tests and compliance to medicines prescribed by doctors. He asked

the Samvedna team to make the people aware about "Eye Donation".

Ajay Sharma also lauded the efforts of the Samvedna team and assured full support and cooperation to the Society.

Keshav Chopra said that our primary goal is to bridge gaps in healthcare accessibility and ensure that Best Medical facilities should reach to every individual no matter where they are from. Keshav also said that his team is committed to organize such camps in the coming future also so that maximum people can take benefits of it.

Dr Bhavuk Kapoor, Dr Palak Koundal, Dr Neha Sharma, Dr Adil, Harsh

Bindra, Deepak Kumar, Rohit Gupta, Rajeev Salotra, Manohar Lal, Rahul Dutta, Dr Rohit Koul, Sunil Sharma, Anju Chopra, Rahul Nargotra, Abhishek Sharma, Vikas Kumar, Ashish Kumar, Manoj Tandon, Karan Banotra, Sushil Gupta, Sourav Gupta and others were also present.

Revival of SHG of Engineers scheme is under consideration of government

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The revival of Self Help Group (SHG) of Engineers scheme which was aimed at providing livelihood opportunities to unemployed engineers.

This was stated in a written reply by the government to question raised by Waheed Reham Para in the Legislative Assembly 2025.

The Self Help Group of Engineers scheme was first introduced in 2003 by the Labour and Employment Department to help unemployed engineers earn a livelihood.

Under this scheme engineers were grouped together and given 30% of construction projects from various government departments and agencies.

The administrative council in its meeting on August 4, 2020 approved the decision and a formal order (Government order no 752 JK(GAD) of 2020) was issued on August 10, 2020 ending the reservation of projects for SHGs.

The reply said government is considering a review and re-installment of the Self Help Group of Engineers scheme, given its proven success in promoting self-employment and generating jobs in Jammu Kashmir and the steps being taken to address the concerns of the effected engineers to provide them with sustainable employment opportunities.

Election Commission will take action as per Article 326, RP act, 1950 and relevant SC judgements, for linking EPIC with Aadhaar

Technical consultations between UIDAI and experts of ECI are to begin soon



CEC Gyanesh Kumar along with ECs Dr. Sukhbir Singh Sandhu and Dr. Vivek Joshi chairing a meeting at New Delhi.

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NEW DELHI: The Election Commission of India led by CEC Gyanesh Kumar along with ECs Dr. Sukhbir Singh Sandhu and Dr. Vivek Joshi held a meeting with the Union Home Secretary, Secretary Legislative Department, Secretary MeitY and CEO, UIDAI and technical experts of the ECI in Nirvaahan Sadan, New Delhi on Tuesday.

During the discussions, it was emphasized that as per the Article 326 of the constitution of India, voting right can

only be given to a citizen of India; and Aadhaar card only establishes the identity of a person.

Therefore, it was decided that the linking of EPIC with Aadhaar will be done only as per the provisions of Article 326 of the constitution, Section 23(4), 23(5) and 23(6) of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and in line with the Supreme Court judgement in WP(civil) No. 177/2023.

Accordingly, technical consultations between UIDAI and the technical experts of ECI are to begin soon.

Satish delivers lecture at Mega Awareness camp for PM Surya Ghar Yojana organized by JPDCL

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Cabinet Minister Satish Sharma attended a Mega Awareness Camp organized by JPDCL at Bahu Plaza on Tuesday to discuss the benefits and objectives of the PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana.

The scheme, launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, aims to promote rooftop solar installations across India, providing up to 300 units of free electricity every month to one crore households.

Minister Sharma emphasized the importance of renewable energy and the role that PM Surya Ghar will play in reducing electricity bills and promoting sustainable energy practices.

He also highlighted the Government's efforts to provide subsidies and incentives to encourage households to adopt solar energy.

He appreciated the efforts of JPDCL to create awareness about the scheme and said that since the UT of J&K is reeling under huge AT&C Losses, the future of the UT shall depend



Cabinet Minister Satish Sharma presenting certificate to a participant.

on such schemes. He encouraged the youth to participate in huge numbers and avail the benefits of the scheme.

The event was attended by MD JPDCL, Chief Engineer, Superintendent Engineers, Executive Engineers, Assistant Engineers, local residents, vendors, and stakeholders, who showed keen interest in the scheme.

MD JPDCL M Yasin Choudhary answered questions and addressed concerns, providing clarity on the application

process, eligibility criteria, and benefits of the scheme.

MD JPDCL Yasin Choudhary urged for more installations of solar rooftop systems in the coming weeks, emphasizing the importance of availing maximum subsidies for consumers. This push is part of the PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana, which aims to provide up to 300 units of free electricity every month to one crore households across Jammu.

To achieve this goal, the Government is offering subsidies of 60% of the solar unit cost for systems up to 2kW

capacity and 40% of additional system cost for systems between 2 to 3kW capacity. This initiative not only benefits consumers by reducing their electricity bills but also promotes sustainable energy practices and contributes to the national Green Energy Mission.

With MD JPDCL Yasin Choudhary's emphasis on increasing installations, as it is likely that the region will see significant progress in adopting solar energy solutions. The event was hosted by Vanshika Salathia (anchor) and marked by nukad natak, Songs, and certificate distribution to vendors, Superintending Engineers, Executive Engineers.

The PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana has already achieved significant milestones, with over 1500 mark installations with approx 5 MW within nine months of its launch. The Government aims to reach 39500 rooftop solar installations in the residential sector by 2027.