

# Sadhotra expresses concern over growing terror incidents in Jammu region; pays tribute to police brave hearts

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JAMMU: National Conference Additional General Secretary and Former Minister, Ajay Kumar Sadhotra, on Sunday expressed deep concern over the rising terror incidents in the Jammu Region, emphasizing the urgent need for decisive action to eliminate the menace of terrorism and restore lasting peace.

Addressing a public meeting at Lower Roop Nagar in Jammu North Assembly Constituency which was organized by Thakur Manohar Singh Manhas, Sandeep Singh Manhas and Vishwinder Singh Samyal, YNC District Vice President, Sadhotra condemned the Kathua terrorist attack and paid rich tributes to the four brave hearts of the



Additional General Secretary JKN, Ajay Sadhotra with new entrants at lower Roop Nagar in Jammu North Assembly Constituency.

J&K Police for their unparalleled bravery and for taking on the terrorists from the front. He saluted their sacrifices and commitment in ensuring the safety and security of the people, reaffirming that such acts of courage deserve the highest appreciation and sup-

port from the entire nation. Expressing concern over the growing sense of insecurity among the people, Sadhotra said that peace is the cornerstone of development and a pre-requisite for the region's progress. He stressed that without sta-

bility and security, the aspirations of the people and the growth of Jammu and Kashmir would remain hindered. The incidents like Kathua and recently in Reasi are detrimental for peace in the Jammu region, which is most thronged pilgrim destination of northern India in particular and the country in general. These incidents leave a sense of insecurity among the populace and the visiting pilgrims, hindering daily life and impeding economic activities, he added.

He asserted that lasting peace is not just necessary for development but also for promoting harmony and unity among different communities.

He urged the Central Government to take stringent and result-oriented measures to curb the menace of terrorism rather than merely making tall claims of normalcy.

"The reality on the ground demands a realistic and pragmatic approach to counter the ever-evolving challenges posed by terrorism," the National

Conference Additional General Secretary said. On the beginning of the auspicious occasion of Navratras, Sadhotra extended heartfelt greetings to the people, expressing hope that the festival will bring amity, brotherhood, and prosperity to all. He prayed for the well-being of the people and reiterated his party's commitment to working towards a peaceful and progressive Jammu and Kashmir.

Responding to the local issues raised by the residents, Sadhotra assured these will be taken up at appropriate levels for earnest redressal.

Sadhotra welcomed the joining of Manohar Singh Manhas and Sandeep Singh Manhas to the party along with their workers and hoped that their joining and their influence in masses will give fillip to the party and strengthen the hands of Dr Farooq Abdullah and Omar Abdullah.

Prominent among those present on the occasion included S/Sh Mohd Ayub Malik

Provincial Secretary, Chandier Mohan Sharma District President Jammu Urban, Raghubir Singh Manhas, Prashant Rana, Ch. Bagh Ali Zonal Vice President, Subash Chander Bhagat Block President, Gurnam Singh Block President, Ashwani Charak Block President, Sahil Singh Chib YNC District Secretary, Shalju Sharma, Satya Janwal Sr. leader National Conference (Women), Aisha Bhan KP leader, Anju, Priyanka, Asha and Shalju.

# Minority communities benefitted most under Modi Government: Sat

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JAMMU: J&K BJP President Sat Sharma CA, accompanied by MLA RS Pura- Jammu South & BJP National Secretary Dr Narinder Singh, MLA Bahu Ch. Vikram Randhawa, addressed a public program chiefly attended by the participants from minority communities, at Sainik Colony, Jammu.

The programme was organized by the J&K BJP Minority Morcha under the leadership of J&K BJP Minority Morcha President Ranjodh Singh Nalwa. District president Jammu South Naresh Singh Jasrotia, former Deputy Mayor of Jammu Baldev Billawaria, former councilors Narinder Bunt and Gurmeet Randhawa, Ajay Partap Singh, Kamalpreet Singh and Santokh Singh, and others were amongst the prominent present in the programme.

Sat credited the BJP's Minority Morcha for its relentless efforts in taking central welfare schemes to the underprivileged and marginalized sections among the minority communities. He reiterated that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision is crystal clear that every citizen of India must receive equal opportunities for growth and prosperity. He also shared the impact of Modi Government's welfare schemes on the ground.

"The development policies of the Modi government are designed to uplift every sec-



J&K BJP President Sat Sharma CA and others during public meeting at Sainik Colony.

tion of society without any discrimination. Every activist of the party has played a commendable role in bridging the gap between the Government and the people in need. BJP's Minority Morcha has extended the party's reach manifolds to complete the mission," Sharma said.

Sat also reflected upon Prime Minister Narendra Modi's latest edition of the 'Mann Ki Baat' programme, where he stressed the strength of India's unity in diversity.

He remarked that under PM Modi's leadership, the country has maintained a resolute stand against terrorism and remains unwavering in its determination to thwart any nefarious designs by Pakistan.

Earlier, a special telecast of the 'Mann Ki Baat' programme was organized, which was attended by senior BJP leaders and party workers, who listened to the Prime Minister's address with keen interest.

Dr. Narinder Singh said that the religious Minorities which were earlier used as the vote bank by different politi-

cal parties, received true recognition and benefit from various schemes of the Modi government, including those for providing housing, health benefits and pertaining to the welfare of farmers.

Randhawa counted upon the welfare measures and the unprecedented development in Jammu & Kashmir by the Modi government.

Nalwa reiterated the party's commitment to public service over political gain. He stated that the BJP is not a power-hungry entity but a party dedicated to the welfare of the people. "Our mission is not merely to govern but to serve the public with sincerity and dedication. That is why the BJP has successfully broken the traditional political cycle and transformed anti-incumbency into pro-incumbency," Nalwa asserted.

Naresh Singh Jasrotia, while thanking the senior leadership of party and the participants, said that BJP's cadre is dedicatedly serving the society and the needy population. Ajay Partap Singh conducted the stage proceedings and Kamalpreet Singh presented the note of thanks.

# Natrang presents Stanley Houghton's play 'The Dear Departed'



Artists performing during the play.

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JAMMU: Natrang presented an experimental performance of Stanley Houghton's popular play 'The Dear Departed' which is a social play on the condition of the elderly people who are being abandoned and neglected by their own children. The play is optimistic that even elderly people may choose to live merrily, despite their old age.

The play was directed by Neeraj Kant who very intelligently accommodated a number of actors in the play without changing its texture and pace. In the beginning of the play, 'Mrs. Slater' goes to offer something to grandfather 'Abel Merryweather' and finds him quite cold and motionless. She declares that the grandfather is no more. Accordingly, her sister

and her husband, the 'Jordans' are informed about the sudden demise of the grandfather. 'Mrs. Slater' and her husband are busy making arrangements for the mourning. They are expecting the Jordans to join them. They start using the various materials used by the grandfather. 'Victoria', daughter of Mrs. Slater does not like all these but reluctantly she is helping her parents in these matters. Mrs. Slater is not willing to share everything of her father's belongings with Mrs. Jordan. When all these arrangements are being done, the Jordans arrive to join them. The family members start detailed conversation on the deeds of the grandfather, planning the details of the obituary announcement in

the papers and the insurance premium payment. They start discussion over the distribution of grandfather's belongings among them. Amid these discussions and debates, to everybody's surprise, grandfather (who was actually alive) is seen coming downstairs. He is surprised to find the Jordans. No one dares to tell him that he has been declared 'dead'. While taking tea, the truth comes out and the grandfather gets to know how his daughters have been in a hurry to divide his possessions among them. On knowing the harsh reality, the grandfather decides not to live with any of his daughters. He even expresses his final intention to change his Will. He declares that he is going to give everything to 'Mrs. Shorrocks' whom he will marry. He feels that by marrying he will have someone to look after him wholeheartedly without considering him to be a burden.

Natrang's young actors who performed in the play included Kananpreet Kaur, Brijesh Avtar Sharma, Vandana Thakur, Aryan Sharma, Adaksh Bagal and Priyal Ashok Gupta.

Lights were operated by Neeraj Kant whereas the sound was rendered by Kartik Kumar.

The show was coordinated by Mohd. Yaseen.

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JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir BJP Spokesperson, Balbir Ram Ratan, along with Shakti Kendra Pramukh Onkar Singh Boss, Ward President Rakesh Kumar and local party activists leaders listened to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 120th episode of the popular monthly radio programme "Mann Ki Baat." in Ward Number 16.

The programme, which has become a hallmark of direct communication between the Prime Minister and the people of India, continues to inspire and unite citizens across the nation.

Balbir Ram Ratan, while speaking to party

activists of Ward 16, after the broadcast, expressed his appreciation for the Prime Minister's continued efforts to connect with people at the grassroots level.

"Mann Ki Baat has always been a source of inspiration and guidance for millions. It's remarkable how the Prime Minister addresses issues that concern common citizens and motivates us to contribute towards the betterment of society," he stated.

Balbir emphasized the importance of understanding and implementing these messages at the local level to ensure inclusive growth.

The significance of



"Mann Ki Baat" lies in its ability to bridge the gap between the government and the people. With top-

ics ranging from cultural heritage and environmental conservation to technological advancements and social welfare, the programme has continued to be a platform that amplifies the voices of ordinary citizens and their extraordinary contributions.

Balbir Ram Ratan said that the programme has reached its 120th episode, demonstrating the power of communication. It also reaffirmed the government's commitment to transparency and inclusivity by directly engaging with citizens across the country.

The party activists and the residents of Ward 16 expressed their enthusiasm for continuing to participate in future episodes of "Mann Ki Baat" and implementing the valuable insights shared by the Prime Minister.

Later, Balbir participated in online quiz on today's "Mann ki Baat" on NaMo App and also received Certificate of Participation.

# Balbir listens to PM's 120th 'Mann Ki Baat' in Ward 16

# Shiv Sena Hindustan celebrates party's 22nd Foundation Day



President Pt Rajesh Kesri and others during the programme.

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JAMMU: J&K Unit of Shiv Sena Hindustan under the leadership of J&K President Pt Rajesh Kesri today celebrated the party's 22nd Foundation Day in Arnia with great enthusiasm. The event included feeding green fodder to cows, distributing fruits among children, and organizing a langar. Several prominent members, including Sanjeev Kumar Sharma, Captain Garu Ram, Dharam Singh and others, were present at the event, which concluded with chants of "Jai Hind Jai Bharat".

Speaking on the occasion, Kesri said that National President Pawan Gupta founded the party on March 3, 2003, and it has since expanded to 18 states. Kesri addressing the gathering emphasized the need to protect the youth from drug abuse. He urged everyone to come forward and work together with the police and administration to achieve this goal.

He said youth are the backbone of our country, and it's our collective responsibility to ensure they're equipped to serve the nation with full

strength. A healthy India is, without a doubt, a prerequisite for a prosperous and developed India.

Kesri said by keeping our youth away from drugs, we can unlock their full potential and talent, foster a generation of healthy, productive, and responsible citizens, build a stronger, more resilient nation and ensure a brighter future for ourselves and future generations.

Let's work together to create a supportive environment that encourages our youth to make informed choices, prioritize their well-being, and strive for excellence, said Kesri.

Kesri maintained that creating employment opportunities for youth is a vital step in keeping them positive and empowered. He suggested ways to achieve this including implementing training programs that equip youth with skills in demand, such as technology, healthcare, and renewable energy.

He urged Govt to encourage businesses to offer apprenticeships, providing youth with hands-on experience and a pathway to employment. Offer resources, mentorship, and funding to young entrepre-

neurs, enabling them to start their own businesses.

Kesri demanded organizing job fairs, bringing together employers and job seekers, and providing a platform for youth to explore career opportunities.

He demanded offering youth internships, allowing youth to gain work experience and build their professional networks. Establish mentorship programs, pairing experienced professionals with young individuals, providing guidance and support.

He suggested conducting workshops, teaching youth essential skills, such as resume writing, interview preparation, and time management, providing career counseling services, helping youth identify their strengths, interests, and career goals.

Kesri maintained that the need of the hour is to offer volunteer opportunities, enabling youth to gain experience, build their networks, and develop a sense of purpose. By implementing these initiatives, we can create a supportive ecosystem that fosters youth employment, positivity, and empowerment, added Kesri.

# IIPA organizes 11th Shri Ram Sahai Memorial Lecture

Kathua, another Ghaziabad in 5 yrs: Dr. Arun Manhas

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JAMMU: The Indian Institute of Public Administration, Jammu and Kashmir Regional Branch, (IIPA J&K RB) organized the 11th Shri Ram Sahai Memorial Lecture. Dr. Arun Manhas, Director of Industries and Commerce, Jammu, delivered the Memorial Lecture on "Benefits of Industrialization under New Central Sector Scheme (NCSS) to Local Populace."

Late Ram Sahai was one of the founder members of IIPA J&K RB and was involved in its growth till his death and in recognition of his vast contributions the IIPA J&K RB decided to institute a memorial lecture in his name.

B.R. Sharma, State Election Commissioner and Chairman of IIPA J&K RB presided over while Dr Ashok Bhan Patron was the Chief Guest.

In his insightful presentation on the fast-changing industrial scenario in Jammu, Dr. Arun Manhas, said that the new industrial policy of J&K has received tremendous response from the investors. Industrial proposals of over Rs 14000 cr have been received under the new initiative out of which Rs 9000 cr proposals are for Kathua. He disclosed that as many as 194 new units in Jammu-Kathua have started production, generating employment for 44000 persons. Seventy more units are in the pipeline for production in near future, he added.

Sharing his optimism, he said that in next five years, Kathua would be another Ghaziabad and impressed upon fulfilling pre-requisites like infrastructure for producing skilled workers for enhancing employ-



A section of dignitaries during the event.

ability of local youth. He said that as Jammu is embarking upon a leap forward on industrialisation, it is incumbent to establish proper Labour Serais for the labour to be engaged in the coming up industry. He said that for the first time, the Govt has earmarked Rs 50 Cr in the budget for construction of Labour Serais in Jammu which is a welcome step.

Referring to the importance of NCSS, Dr. Manhas said that it played a vital role in employment generation, boosting industrial development and promoting sustainable development in the region. Its key objectives included generation of employment opportunities, encouragement to new investments, substantial expansions, and nurturing existing industries, taking industrial development to the block level in J&K, first-of-its-kind initiative in any Industrial Incentive Scheme of the Central Govt. By providing incentives, such as capital investment subsidies, interest subvention, and GST linked incentives, the scheme aimed to attract new investments and promote industrial growth. He said that only manufacturing can provide a sustainable and long-term employment besides adding to India's GDP. It focuses on enhancing the skill of the youth and their capacities to make them employable and market ready.

Dr Ashok Bhan in his address, described late Ram Sahai as an iconic personality, doyen of Industry, visionary, and promoter of societal causes. He referred to the presentation of Dr Manhas on NCSS, and said that it would boost the industrial sector and make it an investor friendly destination. Besides incentives to investment under the NCSS, he said that a right and red-tape free environment is a prerequisite for investment and growth. Unless there is peace and a secure environment Corporates would hesitate to invest here. He said that while the Govt is doing its best to root out terrorism and separatism, the people too have to ensure social and communal harmony, and for that, strong fraternal ties between social and religious groups need to be promoted. Quoting Baba Sahib Anbedkar, he said that fraternity has the power of integrating the nation.

In his presidential address, Sharma paid glorious tributes to late Ram Sahai, acknowledging his legacy as a visionary entrepreneur with a remarkable ability to network and negotiate for the greater good of Jammu and Kashmir. He acknowledged the huge response of industrialists, businessmen, academia & civil society to today's memorial lecture including presence of women

and said that women too have an important role in industrialisation of Jammu & Kashmir and announced that IIPA J&K RB would hold next Ram Sahai Memorial Lecture on Women Empowerment (in Industry) for Viksit Bharat. He hoped that most of the issues flagged by the industrialists would find a solution in the forthcoming NCSS-2.0.

Prof. Alka Sharma, Honorary Secretary, paid glowing tributes to the late Ram Sahai, recognizing his pioneering role in the industrial landscape of Jammu and Kashmir. Earlier, Er M.M. Gupta, Director Seminars, presented the welcome Address and said that he would never allow his adverse relations to influence his decisions for the benefit of businessmen.

In the vote of thanks, Rahul Sahai, son of Late Ram Sahai and chairman of Indian Chamber of Commerce Jammu, expressed deep gratitude to the dignitaries, including Chairman, Patron IIPA B R Sharma IAS (Retd) Dr. Ashok Bhan, retired IPS officer Kuldeep Khoda, Rattan Lal Gupta NC Provincial president, BJP leader Miss Deviyani Rana, and representatives from various trade, industry, and social organisations.

He thanked and appreciated Esteemed speaker Dr Arun

Manhas Director Industries & Commerce Jammu for his insightful lecture on the topic. He highlighted the importance of industrialisation not merely as an economic driver but as a means to uplift lives, create employment, and build an inclusive society. Rahul Sahai emphasised his father's vision of industry as a tool for social development and urged collective action from chambers, IIPA, and stakeholders to ensure industrial progress benefits all. He extended special appreciation to IIPA J&K for sustaining this meaningful lecture series and acknowledged the continued love and respect Ram Sahai commands, even 16 years after his passing. The event concluded with a heartfelt tribute to Ram Sahai's legacy, underscoring the importance of service, integrity, and sustained efforts toward industrial and social progress. The proceedings were conducted by Manoj Kumar Pandith, Joint Director (Seminars).

The event brought together over a hundred eminent citizens, members of IIPA, prominent industrialists, government officials, and the family members of the late Ram Sahai, who continue to honour his entrepreneurial spirit and vision. This annual lecture serves as a tribute to Ram Sahai's outstanding contributions to the region's entrepreneurship and industrial growth, aiming to foster meaningful discussions on the key issues facing the local industry and economy. The event concluded with a heartfelt tribute to Ram Sahai's legacy, underscoring the importance of service, integrity, and sustained efforts toward industrial and social progress.