

Movement Kalki raises voice against neglect of athletes

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: With the slogan "Respect for Athletes - Respect for the Nation," Movement Kalki brought attention to the government's neglect of talented athletes in Jammu and Kashmir and the struggles they face due to the absence of financial support and proper infrastructure.

In a press conference was chaired by Movement Kalki's Advisory Board Member Pritam Sharma highlighted that states like Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Manipur, Uttarakhand, and Bihar provide significant support to their sportspersons, including financial incentives, free training, and priority in government jobs under the sports quota. This encouragement has enabled athletes from these states to excel in their careers and bring pride to the nation.

However, in Jammu and Kashmir, athletes receive no such assistance. Despite their talent and hard work, they are left struggling without recognition or financial aid. Many of them are forced to give up their dreams due to the lack of government support.

Sharma expressed deep concern over the fact that while other states nurture and reward their athletes, those from Jammu and Kashmir are expected to succeed without any resources or encouragement. He warned that without proper assistance, many poten-



Movement Kalki's Advisory Board Member Pritam Sharma briefing media.

tial champions would be lost. To address these concerns, Movement Kalki has put forward a list of key demands to ensure that athletes from Jammu and Kashmir receive the respect and support they deserve. The organization is demanding financial incentives of Rs 5,00,000 for Gold medal winners, Rs 3,00,000 for Silver medal winners, and Rs 2,00,000 for Bronze medal winners at the national level. It has also called for financial assistance and official recognition for international medal winners, in line with the guidelines of the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports (MYAS) and the Sports Authority of India (SAI). In addition to financial aid, Movement Kalki is pushing for special training facilities and scholarships for athletes who perform exceptionally well at the state level. It has also urged the government to provide priority in government jobs and welfare schemes for athletes under the sports quota, as is done in other states. Another crucial demand is

the construction of a large sports stadium in North Jammu, which would provide much-needed infrastructure for training and competitions. The organization has also raised the issue of pending sports quota jobs since 2011. Despite promises, no government jobs have been granted under this quota in the last fourteen years. Movement Kalki has demanded immediate restoration of these jobs, with appointment letters issued to deserving athletes without further delay. Furthermore, it has called for the announcement of a special sports scholarship scheme to financially support young and talented athletes. Speaking at the event, Pritam Sharma stressed that neglecting athletes is not just a failure of governance but a social issue. Without financial assistance and recognition, many young people lose interest in sports and, in some cases, fall into drug addiction or other negative influences. If the government provides adequate support to athletes,

youth will be drawn towards sports and will have the opportunity to make the nation proud. One of the major concerns raised was the lack of proper training grounds in Jammu. Athletes do not have access to the necessary facilities for high-level training, which severely limits their ability to compete at national and international levels. Movement Kalki has strongly demanded the construction of a world-class sports stadium in North Jammu, which would serve as a dedicated space for training and competitions. A particularly serious concern raised during the press conference was the complete absence of sports quota jobs in Jammu and Kashmir since 2011. While athletes from other states are rewarded with government positions for their achievements, those from Jammu and Kashmir are left without any employment opportunities.

Pritam Sharma questioned why the government forgets athletes once they have won medals for the country. He demanded that the administration take immediate steps to restore the sports quota jobs and ensure fair treatment for sportspersons who have brought pride to the region. Movement Kalki has issued a strong warning to the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and the Jammu and Kashmir administration. The organization has urged them to take immediate action by implementing a financial incentive scheme for athletes, granting government jobs and official recognition to deserving sportspersons, and announcing a special sports scholarship scheme for young talents. If these demands are not met, Movement Kalki has vowed to launch a massive agitation and continue the movement until athletes receive their rightful due.

The organization made it clear that it will not rest until the sports community in Jammu and Kashmir is treated with dignity and respect. Members present at the press conference included Sapna Hindu, Anuradha Yogi, Sushma Sharma, Dr. Sudesh Kumar, Antu Kotwal, Pawan Sharma, Sunita Kundal, Advocate Sumeshwar Kohli, and Advocate Harneet Singh.

Sat interacts with Nagrota residents, says won't let Constituency suffer in terms of development

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
NAGROTA: The politico-administrative situation in Jammu & Kashmir is volatilized due to directionless politics being pursued by the NC that has resulted in a performance deficit on the governance front. NC is pursuing emotional politics as a diversionary tactic from administrative failure.

This was stated by Sat Sharma, President, J&K BJP, during his visit to various villages of Nagrota constituency, district Jammu North in which he interacted with the party leaders and the local people to take stock of the problems faced by them.

Accompanied by District President Nand Kishore, Sonmraj Khajuria, Rakesh Sharma ex-panch, he assured the people that the issues of the people will not go unattended in the absence of the popular leader of area, former MLA Nagrota Swargiya Devender Singh Rana. He said that the dream and the vision of tall leader to work for the welfare of people will be pursued by the whole cadre of BJP.

The locals apprised him of the issues like construction and repair of lanes/drains as well as the road connectivity



Sat Sharma, President, J&K BJP, during visit to various villages of Nagrota.

problem. They also raised the issue of the regular drinking water and electricity supply. He was also apprised of the issues like mobile connectivity in certain areas, and certain other issues of public relevance. Sat Sharma, while interacting with the people, stressed that Nagrota holds the privilege of being a first step of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Yatra, and will be given due recognition as an important tourism town. He said that the Prime Minister Narendra Modi led Union government is progressing with the idea of developing tourism circuits to enhance the socio-economic standing of the local people. He said that the BJP will ensure that the people of Nagrota constituency do not feel

ignored in terms of development and other issues of importance. Sat Sharma, while attacking the ruling NC government for its mismanagement of the Jammu & Kashmir affairs, said that the NC government, instead of trying to play with the people's emotions, must streamline its energy for the benefit of the J&K residents through a streamlined governance process. Targeting guns on the lacklustre performance of the ruling dispensation, Sat Sharma rued that marred with the heaviness of inability to fulfil its poll promises, NC leadership is desperately trying to shift the people's attention on the emotional issues that have been buried deep under the ground.

Dy CM's assertion that Maharaja Hari Singh was a dictator is a misrepresentation and insult to his legacy: Pawan

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Pawan Sharma, BJP Senior leader and former state secretary J&K, stated that the Deputy Chief Minister's recent assertion that Maharaja Hari Singh was a dictator grossly misrepresents history and insults the legacy of Maharaja Hari Singh, who played a crucial role in Jammu and Kashmir's accession to India.

According to Sharma, Maharaja Hari Singh was a visionary leader who worked tirelessly for his people's welfare, and his contributions to Jammu and Kashmir's development are unparalleled,

with his commitment to the state's accession to India being a historical fact. He stated that the people of Jammu and Kashmir will firmly reject this misrepresentation of their revered Maharaja, emphasizing that their history will not be distorted by those seeking to serve their own political interests. Pawan Sharma urged the Deputy Chief Minister to reconsider his statement and offer an apology to the people of Jammu and Kashmir, while reaffirming his commitment to honoring the legacy of Maharaja Hari Singh Ji

and working towards a prosperous future for the state. He further stated that the BJP is dedicated to preserving the rich history and cultural heritage of Jammu and Kashmir, and asserted that no individual or entity will be permitted to distort our history or undermine our cultural identity. Pawan Sharma urged the people of Jammu and Kashmir to remain vigilant and united in the face of attempts to distort their history, ensuring the preservation of their legacy and protection of their cultural identity.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: HDFC Bank, India's leading private sector bank, today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Indian Air Force (IAF) acting through the office of the Assistant Chief of Air Staff - Accounts & Air Veterans and CSC Academy. The day marked the launch of Project Hawai Anubhavi Kalyan Kendra (HAKK) - Serving those who have served. Project HAKK is designed to provide support and services to defence pensioners, veterans and their families. Initially, 25 centres have been proposed across the Air Force units, which include New Delhi, Bengaluru, Gurgaon, Pune,

Secunderabad, Guwahati, Jodhpur and Chandigarh among others. HDFC Bank under its Parivartan programme, will engage in building economic inclusiveness for defence service veterans and next of kin. The Bank in association with CSC Academy (promoted by Common Service Centre E-Governance Limited), will provide skill development and training across financial products and services, empowering them to be financially independent. Dignitaries who were present during the signing of the MoU were Air Marshal PK Ghosh AVSM - Air officer in charge Administration, Smita Bhagat, Group Head -

HDFC Bank, Sanjay Rakesh, Chairman, CSC Academy and other senior officials from the Indian Air Force, HDFC Bank and CSC e Governance. The MoU was signed by Satyen Modi, Executive Vice President and Business Head, Alternate Banking Channels & Partnerships - HDFC Bank, Air Vice Marshal Updesh Sharma VSM - Assistant Chief of the Air Staff (Accounts & Air Veterans) and Pravin Chandekar, CEO-CSC Academy. Speaking at the occasion, Smita Bhagat said, "This MoU underscores our commitment to the welfare of the Indian Air Force veterans and their families. HDFC Bank

deeply respects the contribution of the Armed Forces towards the country and through these centres, we aim to offer essential banking services to ex-servicemen and the families of both ex-servicemen and martyrs." Sanjay Rakesh said, "We are honoured to be of assistance to those who served us by bringing G2C and SPARSH pension services to the doorsteps of our Air Force veterans, their families and next of kin, we reinforce our commitment to their welfare". Defence servicemen / ex-servicemen and their families will be able to avail more than 500 G2C and B2C services including Aadhaar service, NPS,

PAN Card, passport, bill collection, etc. HDFC Bank will set up service centres to assist the pensioners / next of kin for pension / settlement related issues. Further, they will also get access to HDFC Bank's suite of products and services along with digital banking products, offering them convenience and easy access. As a part of this MoU, HDFC Bank will play a key role in facilitating and engaging with the defence employees / veterans and their families across the country. The individuals managing the service centres will be trained by CSC Academy and a monthly monetary grant will be paid to them for the first year.

Tejinder Pal highlights NC Govt's commitment to youth empowerment

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: In a significant boost to the Youth National Conference (YNC), Pt Abhishek Sharma, a prominent social worker from Nagrota, along with his supporters, joined the party fold in a function held at Sher-e-Kashmir Bhawan Jammu. The Joining programme was organized by Mohinder Kumar Rana Joint Secretary Central Zone. The induction took place under the leadership of Tejinder Pal Singh Aman, Provincial President of Youth National Conference Jammu. Welcoming Pt Abhishek Sharma and his supporters into the party, Tejinder Pal Singh emphasized that their decision reflects the growing faith of the youth in the National Conference's vision for a prosperous and progressive Jammu and Kashmir. He stated that the Youth National Conference remains steadfast in its mission to provide a robust platform for young leaders committed to serving the people selflessly. Tejinder Pal Singh took the opportunity to



Tejinder Pal Singh Aman, Provincial President YNC Jammu along with new entrants.

highlight the unwavering commitment of the present NC Government, led by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, towards the empowerment of youth in the Union Territory. He mentioned various initiatives undertaken by the government to enhance educational and employment opportunities, skill development, and entrepreneurship for the younger generation. "The National Conference has always believed that the future of Jammu and Kashmir lies in the hands of its youth. Under the Young and dynamic leadership of

Omar Abdullah, our government would introduce youth-centric policies in the upcoming Budget to harness their potential and addressing their concerns effectively," Tejinder Pal Singh said. Tejinder Pal Singh further asserted that the party's focus on creating sustainable job opportunities, improving infrastructure in educational institutions, and launching skill development programs has received widespread appreciation from the youth across the Union Territory. He urged the new entrants to work dedicatedly at the grassroots level to

strengthen the party's base and uphold its vision of equitable development for all regions. Expressing his gratitude, Pt Abhishek Sharma said that he was inspired by the National Conference's people-centric policies and the leadership of Omar Abdullah. He assured that he and his supporters would work tirelessly to further the party's mission of peace, progress, and unity in Jammu and Kashmir. Among those who joined the party fold namely Sanjeev Sharma, Abhimanu Sharma, Gopal Mehra, Sanjeev Kumar and others. The event concluded with slogans in support of the National Conference, reflecting the enthusiasm and optimism of the new members towards their political journey under the party's banner. Those who were present on this occasion included Zamir Quershri, Nitish Gowsami, Sahil Kerni, Rajesh Sharma, Amit Sharma, Attal Singh Vishal Parihar, Gourav Bhagat, Rajeshwar Singh and others.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Yuva Rajput Sabha (YRS) held a protest against derogatory remarks of Deputy Chief Minister against Maharaja Sahib and also burnt effigy of Dy CM Surinder Choudhary. The protest was led by Founder members & Core Committee members Yuva Rajput Sabha Surinder Singh Gilli, Dharminder Singh, Shamsheer Singh, Komal Singh and Ballu Singh. Gilli during talking with media persons stated that Maharaja Hari Singh rule was counted to be as the best rule in the history of Jammu and Kashmir. As Maharaja Hari Singh made many reforms during his tenure and major reforms like allowing lower caste to enter into temples, construction of High Court for proper justice, J&K Bank, uplifting of lower economic peoples of different castes and many others. Dharminder Singh stated that National Conference after 1949 works just like a dictator and if we want to give an example of



YRS members staging protest in Jammu.

Dictatorship Govt. then National Conference is the best example, as Sheikh Abdullah under the shelter of Article 370 misuse the resources of Jammu and Kashmir and after that Farooq Abdullah and now Omar Abdullah misuse Article 370 for their personal benefits and to gave set back to peoples of Jammu region and leaders of NC done several seams under the shelter of Article 370. Shamsheer Singh further stated that Surinder Choudhary is a

puppet of National Conference and now after abrogation of Article 370, NC and PDP both gets depressed because now they have to survive with their pay only because they have nothing in their hands. And this is the reason they are giving statements like this. Gilli further stated that statement given by Surinder Choudhary is a big setback for the peoples of Jammu and Kashmir who have their faith in Maharaja Sahab and if National Conference didn't take any action against Surinder Choudhary and Surinder Choudhary didn't apologies for his mistake

then it seems that National Conference intentionally with the help of Surinder Choudhary made this statement in assembly. He further added that Yuva Rajput Sabha and peoples of Jammu region wants apology from National Conference and Dy CM Surinder Choudhary otherwise National Conference would suffer in future. Others present were Dalbir Singh, Bachan Singh, Bikram Singh, Pardeep Singh, Surinder Singh, Vishal, Shan, Udhay Singh, Mohit Singh, Vishal Choudhary, Shubam, Arvveer, Shan and Bhupinder.

Shiv Sena, Sainik Samaj Party decide to fight unitedly on issues of Jammu division

Demand for special financial package to boost economy, tourism religious places

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: In the discussion meeting organized by Shiv Sena (UBT) and Sainik Samaj Party on "Future of Jammu Division", it was unanimously decided to form a non-political joint front, along with this to know public sentiments through signature campaign on the demand of Jammu a separate state and Article 371. In the meeting held at Jammu Press Club. Members of various political and social organizations and intellectuals put forth their views on the future of Jammu division during the discussion.



Participants during the meeting in Jammu.

Addressing the media jointly, Shiv Sena (UBT) state chief Manish Sahni and Col. SS Pathania said that suggestions were given to declare Jammu as a separate state or

Jammu as the permanent capital, to start the Darbar Move process, give impetus to the economy of Jammu, to increase adequate employment opportunities, to devel-

op tourism and religious places along with making Shri Mata Vaishnodevi Yatra Circuit. Sahni said that it has been decided to form a 'united

front' to jointly raise voice on all the above suggestions. Along with this, a joint decision has been taken to take the opinion of the public through a Janbhava Abhiyan on the suggestions to give the status of a separate state to Jammu division. He said that in order to curb the growing drug addiction, worrying increase in drug consumption and smuggling and criminal incidents in Jammu division, opinion was expressed on cooperating with the police administration and putting pressure on them to fix accountability. In this meeting Jugal

Kishore Gupta, Santosh Kashmiri, Mohan Lal Raina, Anoop Sharma, ID Khajuria, Santosh Khajuria, Brigadier Vijay Sagar, Major General Sunita Kapoor, Colonel Dr. Varinder Sahi, Brigadier VS Salathia, Ramesh Singh, Romesh Chib, Narendra Singh Khalsa, Sunny Kant Chimb, Satish Punchi, Pawan Sharma, Nirmal Mahana, Saffir Chaudhary, Sumit Sharma, Captain Sanjeev, Narendra Khajuria, Vikas Bakshi, Meenakshi, Sanjeev Kohli, Bharat Mahajan, Subhash Mehta etc. gave their suggestions and registered their presence.

BMS appeals for opening CGIT-cum-Labour Court in Jammu

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Bhartiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS) Jammu Kashmir has submitted representation and have appealed to Dr. Jitendra Singh, Minister for Personnel, Public Grievance and Pensions, Govt. of India for opening of camp Court office of Central Govt Industrial Tribunal cum Labour Court (CGIT&LC) in Jammu which have its permanent court at

Chandigarh. They said that more than 200 cases of industrial workers are laying with CGIT&LC and poor workers under compelled circumstances goes to Chandigarh for attending their cases of meagre amount and workers are unable to attend court proceedings due to financial constraints and their cases are dismissed on account of non appearing before the court.