

Politics of disorientation & false propaganda hallmark of BJP Govt: Bhalla

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JAMMU: Reacting to visit of PM Modi Jammu visit, JKPCC Working President Raman Bhalla said that visit has failed to benefit the people of J&K.

He said that the macabre drama appeared to have been conceptualized as a political fire cracker ahead of the elections by the BJP to whip up hysteria in its favour.

It's a publicity stunt, a pressure tactics, a holy hypocrisy and a survival mantra in the face of fast dissipating credibility of the BJP.

BJP managed PM Modi's



JKPCC Working President Raman Bhalla addressing a gathering.

visit to disseminate its political philosophy at the cost of public exchequer upon a cash starved UT like J&K, regretted Bhalla.

Accusing the BJP leadership of indulging in theatrics and tantrums to woo the voters, Bhalla said that people of J&K could no longer be

seduced by pomp and show of such functions.

"No gimmickry could now beguile them. They were fast realizing that J&K was being used as electoral trump card by party to brighten its prospects in elections across the country. The rural and remote areas were suffering immensely due to deprivation of basic amenities with none to respond to their shrill cries. The development had come to a grinding halt," he said.

Interacting with prominent persons of Khandwali Panchayat part of Raipur Domana constituency,

Bhalla demanded that assembly elections should be held at the earliest after review of the draft delimitation report which, he claimed, was unfair, unjust and unacceptable in its present form.

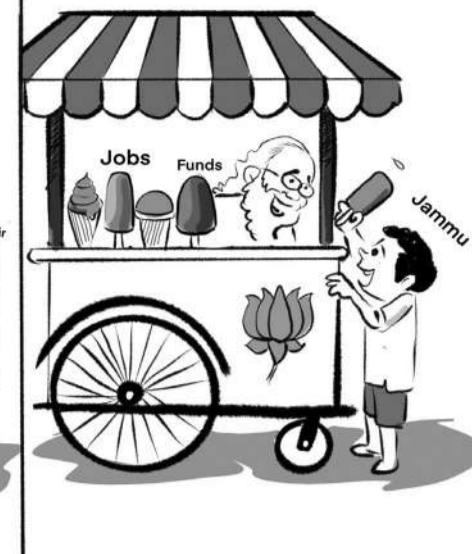
Prominent among those present on the occasion include Amrit Bali Vice Chairman Refugee Cell, Vijay Sharma Chairman Sewa Dal, Pawan Bhagat Gen Secy J&K SC Cell, Raj Kumar Panch, Mangat Ram, Gurbaksh Singh, Ravi, Satpal, Tarsem Lal, Darshan Lal, Panch Sharda Devi beside others.

Then



K. Ray Choudhury

Now



Massive crowd throng Samba as Modi makes first public appearance in J&K post Aug 2019

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PALLI: A sea of people on Sunday turned up to listen to Prime Minister Narendra Modi here, his first public appearance in Jammu and Kashmir after the abrogation of Article 370.

Though Modi had visited the border areas of Rajouri in Jammu to celebrate Diwali with the Army troops twice on October 27, 2019 and November 3 last year his visit to Palli in Samba district, 17 km from Jammu, on the occasion of the national Panchayati Raj Day was marked with massive sloganning in his support.

The organisers made elaborate arrangements in the sprawling fields to accommodate at least one lakh people, who gathered from across the Union Territory.

However, the audience was left disappointed as the people could not hear Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, and ministers Giriraj Singh and Jitendra Singh, due to a



Heavy rush of people standing in queue to attend Prime Minister rally at Palli in Samba.

technical snag.

Modi's speech though was clearly audible, much to the delight of the jam-packed gathering.

He started his over 40-minute speech in Dogri, and called the language and its people sweet.

Among the audience, a group of Pahari-speaking people were seen chanting slogans demanding 'Scheduled Tribe' status to

the community, while many youngsters chanted Modi, Modi.

This is the love of the people from all sections of the society for their prime minister the people love Modi from the core of their heart and have turned up in large numbers to welcome him, the union territory's BJP head Ravinder Raina told PTI.

Naseema, BJP's Pahari activist from Tangdhar in north Kashmir's Kupwara, said the community was hopeful of getting the

Their enthusiasm will be the major factor in the formation of the next government, he said, reiterating that his party will win 50 plus seats in the next Assembly polls to form the government with its own chief minister.

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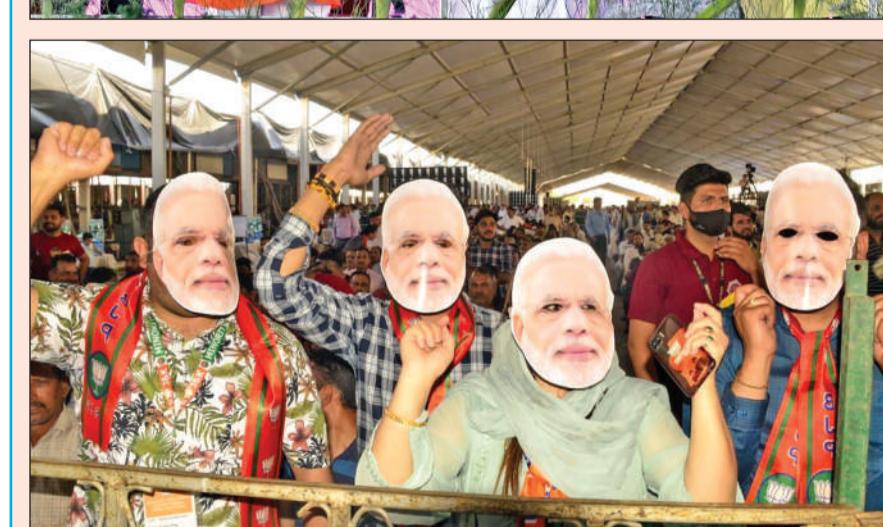
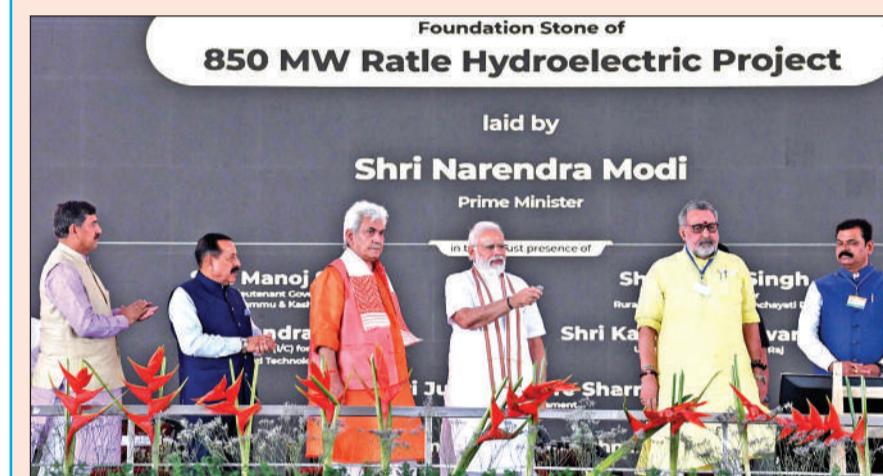
Scheduled Tribe status under the Modi government, along with the early construction of the Sadna tunnel to facilitate round-the-year traffic to the border town.

We also want the government to turn the border villages into model villages. The roads on the other side of the border are in good condition compared to ours...a message needs to be conveyed to Pakistan by constructing better roads, Sartaj, a panch from Tangdhar said.

Poonch district development committee member Choudhary Afzal Gani said the government needed to do more to fully empower Panchayati Raj Institutions.

Ashok Kumar Parihar, another DDC member from Daramshala in Kishtwar district, said Modi was well aware of the issues in the union territory and added, "We are hopeful that he will take Jammu and Kashmir to newer heights of development as promised."

PRIME MINISTER'S JAMMU VISIT



Jammu roads in shambles; courtesy mismanagement by JMC, PWD

Macadamization during rainy season, winter not durable

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JAMMU: It is a stark reality that despite tall claims by the concerned authorities, roads infrastructure in and around Jammu city is in a pathetic state and people are facing many problems due to pothole-ridden roads. The poor condition of roads can be attributed to the lethargy of authorities as fiscal begins in April but the inordinate delay in tendering process and other formalities linger on the work on ground level as best months for laying bitumen are May, June and part of July, well before the onset of Monsoon but delay and sloppy attitude of JMC and PWD in completing the tendering work and other formalities result into delay in the start of work which often deferred until the arrival of winters and roads thus constructed are not long lasting and of poor quality.

In this context, Councilor Ward-2, Jagdish Kumar Sharma has raised issue of inefficient tender-



ing system by aforesaid agencies of J&K government which led to delays and damages. He said that in his ward, a blacktopping work was pending since last year but due to an erratic tendering system, the work has not started till date. He demanded that all the tendering works of roads should be completed well within stipulated time and contractors should

be asked to follow timelines consistently to ensure quality work.

Corporator of Ward-46, Dwarika Nath Chowdhary, alleged that JMC has become den of corruption. He said that blacktopping of roads is delayed due to casual approach of officers sitting at the helm of affair. He said that after receiving funds, the tender allotment works should be completed

in a fixed timeframe so that the road macadamization work gets completed within the set period of time. "Generally it has been seen that two to three months got wasted every year after start of financial year. The government should look into the matter and fix the responsibility for better construction of roads as well as proper utilization of funds," he said adding that the phlegmatic attitude of JMC and PWD officials need to be rectified to remove the aforesaid lacunae as soon as possible.

Corporator Ward-59 Ashok Singh said that delay in release of funds snarls the development works whether it is road construction or any other. He said that by streamlining the issue, things could be improved considerably. He demanded that the road works must be completed before onset of rainy season as the macadamization work during rainy season and winter are not long-lasting.

No mention of statehood, assembly polls in Modi's J-K speech: Cong

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PALLI (JK): The Congress on Sunday claimed the people of Jammu and Kashmir were disappointed with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's speech as it did not have any mention of statehood or assembly polls, while the BJP said it reflected the government's commitment to the union territory's overall development.

"He did not mention a word about restoration of statehood and possibility of holding early assembly elections. Jammu and Kashmir is going to complete four years under governor's rule in June after the last elected government collapsed in 2018, the Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) said in a statement.

But the speech has proved that the BJP does not bother about the people's aspirations and hardships under the bureaucratic regime, not accountable to the people, the JKPCC alleged.

The BJP is running a proxy government through the lieutenant governor's administration and is

delaying assembly elections on one pretext or the other, it said.

Jammu and Kashmir BJP chief Ravinder Raina said the region is on the path of unprecedented development under Modi's leadership.

Modi's speech is a reflection of the BJP's commitment to overall development and restoration of peace and dignity in Jammu and Kashmir, he said, urging party members to work hard to reach out to the people to solve their problems.

Senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister Nirmal Singh said the assurance of the prime minister to the youth is a testimony of the BJP's resolve to eradicate Pakistan-sponsored terrorism from Jammu and Kashmir.

The prime minister, in

his speech, addressed the youth and said friends, believe my words, both in Jammu and the (Kashmir) Valley, the difficulties faced by your parents and grandparents, you will not face these problems. This I will accomplish and I have come to assure you of that. Referring to the laying of foundation stones of various developmental projects, including two

power projects, and strengthening of the Panchayati Raj System in the UT, BJP leader and former deputy chief minister, Kavinder Gupta, said good results will be known to the people in the coming years.

Former legislator Devender Singh Rana said Jammu and Kashmir is on the road of transformation with avenues of progress and prosperity.

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On PM's visit, KPs sit on Dharna demanding panel to probe exodus

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JAMMU: Demanding that a commission be setup to investigate the exodus of Kashmiri Pandits from the Valley, members of the community sat on dharnas on Sunday to draw the attention of Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his visit to the union territory.

Kashmiri Pandit Volunteers (KPV), led by Sandeep Mawa, have been sitting on a fast-unto-death for the past four

days in Srinagar pressing for their demand.

Another group of KPV members, led by Vikram Kaul, sat on a dharna near the Press Club here, prompting the police to vacate them in wake of Modi's visit to the region.

At least 200 more members of the KPV sat on a dharna at Muthi Ghat here demanding a probe, also into the killings and destruction of temples dur-

ing the emergence of terrorism in Kashmir in 1990s. Mawa has threatened to set himself on fire if his demands are not fulfilled in the next few days.

He has also been demanding stern action against Farooq Ahmad Dar alias Bitta, who had allegedly admitted to have killed dozens of Pandits during the 90s. The Kashmiri Pandits also said they wanted an administration devoid of tainted, anti-national and cor-

rupt bureaucrats. Divisional commissioner of Kashmir province Pandurang K Pole visited Mawa and asked him to end his fast.

We, the displaced Kashmiri Pandits, have come in his (Mawa's) support and demand that these three demands be conceded, and Dr Sandeep Mawa be saved from self immolation. We stand by him, Kaul, who led the dharna in Jammu, said.