

'INDI Alliance to face historic debacle'

BJP to cross 400 mark in LS elections, PM Modi to get third term: Khatana

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAMNAGAR: Senior BJP leader and Member of Parliament Rajya Sabha, Gulam Ali Khatana has said that INDI Alliance will face historic debacle and the BJP will win all the five Lok Sabha seats in Jammu and Kashmir and the one in Ladakh Union Territories in the upcoming General Elections in the country.

Addressing a public gathering in Ramnagar area on Tuesday Khatana said that people have welcomed historic developments in J&K and the welfare measures and schemes launched by the PM Modi led government have changed the lives of people here.

"Better roads, good hospitals, medical colleges in almost all the districts,



Member of Parliament Rajya Sabha, Gulam Ali Khatana during poll campaign at Ramnagar.

AIIMS, NIT, IIM, IIT and many more institutions are busy making the youth of J&K properly qualified at par with their counterparts in other States of the country," he said.

The BJP leader said that at present poor people have nothing to worry regarding his health as the revolutionary step of Ayushman Cards is providing treatment upto Rs.

5 lakh free of cost to all.

"Free ration, vaccination during COVID-19 pandemic, free ration, depositing money direct into the accounts of beneficiaries are among other big steps Modi government took for the welfare of our public," he further said.

Taking a dig at Congress, National Conference (NC) and Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), Khatana said that these political parties remained busy in accumulating wealth and did nothing for

the common masses. "All these Abdullahs, Gandhis and Muftis were mothers of terrorism in J&K which inflicted incurable wounds on the very soul of our people as many innocent children were rendered orphans, young brides were made widows and the land of paradise on earth was made mass graveyard by the wrong policies of Congress, NC and PDP," the firebrand BJP leader maintained adding, "Public of J&K will never forget the atrocities meted out to them by the blood thirsty Congress, NC and PDP." The RS MP said that Congress is at the verge of total collapse and will be completely wiped out Indian politics in the upcoming Lok Sabha elections in the country starting from April 19 and BJP will easily cross the mark of 400 seats ushering easy way for PM Modi to have a third term in office.

Doors of ancient Mahakali, Maa Chandi Temple opened for devotees on 1st Navratra

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BHADARWAH: The doors of ancient Mahakali and Maa Chandi Temples were opened for visitors on the auspicious occasion of 1st Chaitra Navratra in Bhaderwah.

The Chaitra Navaratri celebrations began here at the ancient Mahakali and Maa Chandi temple on Tuesday.

Devotees from Bhaderwah and it's peripheral areas started gathering from early morning at the ancient temple located at the hilltop in famous Bhaderwah Fort, to offer special prayers at the inaugural of the celebrations.

On this auspicious occasion, Kalasastapa and hawan rituals followed by Puran-Aahoti and Bhandara (Community food) marked the beginning of the nine-day-long event in traditional way.

Beside several groups of pilgrims from different parts of Bhaderwah Valley and elsewhere, the main Charri(Holly



Devotees paying obeisance at Maa Chandi Temple.

Mace) was taken from Atal Garh led by religious preacher Satya Devi Manhas.

President Sanatan Dharam Sabha Bhaderwah Vrinder Razdan also participated in Navratri festival at Mahakali Temple. He said that Mahakali temple is one of the most visited place during Navratras and huge crowd visited here to get blessings of Goddess Kali.

A devotee, Neeraj Singh Manhas of Atalgarh Bhaderwah said that like every year we participate in Navratra

celebration and took part in Holy mace to take blessings of Mahakali.

"Mahakali temple situated in Bhaderwah fort is one of the most revered and oldest temple of the region build by the then King of Chamba, Himachal Pradesh, as at that time Bhaderwah was not a part of Jammu and Kashmir but was ruled by Chamba dynasty," Manhas informed.

A large number of devotees also thronged Maa Chandi Temple Chinote.

"We have reached here early in the morning to seek the blessings of goddess. Although I am here for the first time but i was mesmerized to see ancient Idol of the holy Diety and my gut feeling is that all our wishes will be answered here today," said a female devotee, Sujata Devi of Bhadarwah.

To control the rush of devotees and to thwart any untoward incident, elaborate security arrangements were made by the Additional District administration Bhaderwah by deploying troops of JKP, JKAP and CRPF.

SP Bhaderwah Vinod Sharma said, "We have deployed adequate security arrangements in and around all the temples where day functions and night Jagrans are being organised during Navratra festival."

SP Bhaderwah also appeal VDGs and locals to be more vigilant in view of General elections and festive season.

DIG JSK Range chairs crime review meeting, reviews security of VVIP visit

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: Dr. Sunil Gupta IPS, the Deputy Inspector General (DIG) of Police JSK (Jammu-Samba-Kathua) Range presided over a comprehensive Law and Order, Crime and security Review meeting at DPL Kathua.

The meeting saw the participation of SSP Kathua, Addl.SP Kathua, DySP DAR, Kathua, All SDPOs and SHOs of the District.

During the session, SSP Kathua Shivdeep Singh briefed the participants about overall current crime and law and order landscape of the district. The DIG JSK Range, in his review, stressed the need for special efforts to expedite the resolution of under-investigation cases including backlog cases, inquest proceedings and firm action against drug peddlers and other anti-social elements.

Addressing the issue of drugs, the DIG urged officers to adopt a mission-oriented approach to eliminate the drug menace.

He called for intensified efforts to identify and dismantle the networks of



Dr. Sunil Gupta DIG JSK Range presiding over a meeting at DPL Kathua on Tuesday.

illicit drug trade, emphasizing the importance of eradicating this societal threat. All SHOs shall must maintain the list of drug addicts and peddlers at Police Station level. They shall also identify the properties of Drug peddlers and Gangsters and must seize the same to break their back bone.

The officers were directed to enhance surveillance by maintaining area domination, strengthening Nakas along with CCTV surveillance.

The DIG JSK Range underscored the importance of vigilance on suspicious persons to thwart the designs of anti-national elements and

maintain a peaceful environment in view of forthcoming Lok Sabha elections.

DIG JSK Range also reviewed the security of forthcoming VVIP visits and necessary guidelines were given to the territorial officers to make fool proof arrangements on their visits during the election campaign. He also took the stock of Lok Sabha Elections preparedness in District Kathua covering all aspects.

Instructions were given to increase the installation of CCTV cameras with proper record-keeping to monitor the activities of miscreants. Attendees were encouraged to engage with local commu-

nities to facilitate the installation of CCTV cameras, which would improve surveillance capabilities and create safer environment.

The meeting also discussed various initiatives, including Operation SANJEEVANI (N O D P S CONTROL), Operation PATHSHALA, Operation KAMDHENU, Operation AVTAR, Operation THIRD EYE & Operation MEGHDOOT.

DIG JSK Range told the officers that ranking will be issued for Police Stations on various important aspects of policing. Top three Police Stations will be rewarded and bottom line up shall be guided specially to improve overall functioning.

The meeting concluded with the issuance of necessary directives to ensure the effective implementation of the discussed strategies for reducing pendency of under investigation cases, time bound disposal of complaints, controlling drug menace, vehicle theft, burglaries and maintaining peaceful atmosphere in the District.

Ex-cop wanted in triple murder, drug trafficking arrested

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A former police constable wanted in a triple murder and drug trafficking has been arrested, officials said on Monday. According to police, Sadeeqe Ali, who is involved in serious crimes in various areas of Jammu region, had been evading arrest after jumping bail during his trial before the Court of the Additional Sessions Judge in Jammu. Ali is a key accused in the triple murder case registered in 2021 in Arnia police station and was also found to be involved in drug trafficking with the charge sheet already submitted to the court, they said. During the trial, Ali was granted interim bail, but he went absconding. Acting on a tip-off, a police team from Arnia police station conducted a raid and arrested him here, they said. Two constables, including Ali and Bhupinder Singh, were involved in a firing incident in which three people -- Sabar Chowdhary, Arif Chowdhary and Bahar Chowdhary, all residents of RS Pura tehsil -- were killed and another injured, the officials said. The reason behind the incident was a dispute over land and cash. Singh among four people have already been arrested in the case, they said.

Two 'trouble creators' booked under PSA

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A former police constable wanted in a triple murder and drug trafficking has been arrested, officials said on Monday. According to police, Sadeeqe Ali, who is involved in serious crimes in various areas of Jammu region, had been evading arrest after jumping bail during his trial before the Court of the Additional Sessions Judge in Jammu. Ali is a key accused in the triple murder case registered in 2021 in Arnia police station and was also found to be involved in drug trafficking with the charge sheet already submitted to the court, they said. During the trial, Ali was granted interim bail, but he went absconding. Acting on a tip-off, a police team from Arnia police station conducted a raid and arrested him here, they said. Two constables, including Ali and Bhupinder Singh, were involved in a firing incident in which three people -- Sabar Chowdhary, Arif Chowdhary and Bahar Chowdhary, all residents of RS Pura tehsil -- were killed and another injured, the officials said. The reason behind the incident was a dispute over land and cash. Singh among four people have already been arrested in the case, they said.

Adv Ankur Sharma addresses public meetings in Samba

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: Ekam Sanatan Party's National President and MP Candidate for Jammu Lok Sabha, Advocate Ankur Sharma, along with his team members, conducted a series of public meetings in several villages including Thapyal, Nichala, Rattanpur Surala, Odh, Gurara Jattan, Gaghwal, and Raghu Chak.

During these gatherings, Advocate Ankur Sharma emphasized the significance of the party's election symbol, the Bansuri (Flute), urging the electorate to associate it with the promise of empowerment and honor for Jammu Province. He reiterated his commitment to breaking the longstanding understanding between Delhi and Kashmiri political classes, which has often marginalized Jammu as a



Ekam Sanatan Party's National President Advocate Ankur Sharma during public meeting at Samba.

secondary entity. Addressing the enthusiastic crowds, Advocate Ankur Sharma recounted his relentless efforts towards the betterment of Jammu Province, highlighting significant milestones such as his role in exposing the Rs 25,000 crore Land Scam and advocating for a CBI investigation, his legal and political endeavours in the Rassana Case, and his advocacy for

minority rights in J&K. Advocate Ankur Sharma urged the people of Jammu Lok Sabha constituency, particularly in Samba, to vote for him by pressing the "Bansuri" button on the EVM. He emphasized that every vote cast in his favor would contribute to Jammu's empowerment and signify a commitment to addressing the fundamental questions of survival and existence faced by

Jammu and Dogras. The public, showing great enthusiasm and confidence in Advocate Ankur Sharma's leadership, expressed their support for his vision of a stronger and more empowered Jammu Province.

They acknowledged his dedication to various causes, including his efforts against Article 370/35-A, his advocacy for the protection of Hindu religious institutions, and his unwavering commitment to cow protection and combating Hindu genocide. Advocate Ankur Sharma concluded by urging the electorate to consider the upcoming election as an opportunity to vote for Jammu's political empowerment and a catalyst for meaningful change. He emphasized that by electing him, the people would be choosing a path towards a brighter future for Jammu and its people.

Saroori slams NC, Congress for splitting secular votes, calls for unity

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BUNJWAN: G.M. Saroori DPAP candidate for Udhampur- Doda Lok Sabha seat on Tuesday while addressing a public meeting Bunjwan, slammed the Congress and National Conference (NC) for allegedly dividing secular votes to favour the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). Saroori criticized their focus on attacking Chairman DPAP, Ghulam Nabi Azad and their party instead of addressing the BJP and its candidate.

He expressed dismay over the divisive tactics employed by the Congress and NC, emphasizing the need for unity among secular forces to counter the BJP's divisive agenda effectively.



G.M. Saroori DPAP candidate for Udhampur- Doda Lok Sabha seat addressing gathering at Bunjwan.

"Why don't they speak against the BJP and its candidate? They seem to be solely focused on attacking Ghulam Nabi Azad," he stated. Saroori also promised to fight for the restoration of statehood and the protection of land and job rights for the people of the region. Understanding the signifi-

cance of statehood, Saroori pledges to advocate tirelessly for the reinstatement of Jammu and Kashmir's statehood, ensuring that the voices of the people are heard and respected in the corridors of power.

Moreover, he has vowed to be a staunch advocate for the protection of land and job

rights, which are crucial for the socio-economic development of the region. He slammed regional parties for deceiving the people with false issues.

Saroori said, Ghulam Nabi Azad was the sole leader in Parliament who ardently fought for Article 370 and statehood. I promise to uphold his legacy and continue fighting for the people with the same fervor.

He emphasized the need to transcend voting along religious lines and prioritize progress, peace, and development. Amidst prevailing hardships, he stressed the importance of uplifting all, irrespective of religion or caste, for the collective welfare of society.

BJP granted political reservation to STs: Jugal

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SUNDERBANI: Greeting the people for getting Pahari status, Jugal Kishore Sharma, the BJP candidate for Jammu -Reasi parliamentary constituency, said that the Modi government has also granted political reservation to the STs, who had been discriminated for decades together by the Congress and NC.



Jugal Kishore Sharma, the BJP candidate for Jammu -Reasi parliamentary constituency addressing public meeting.

Jugal was addressing public meetings in Dharamsal, Solki, Pajnada, Bali, Kalakote, Mogla, Taryath, Devak, in Sunderbani-Kalakote assembly segment in Jammu Lok Sabha seat, along with parliamentary constituency Co-Convenor and DDC Suresh Sharma, senior leader and District Prabhari Sanjay Baru, District President Neena Sharma and other leaders.

Jugal said that the BJP has, time and again, made it clear that it treats all the regions and sections equal and believes in taking all together while working on the line of 'sabka saath-sabka vikas-sabka vishwas-sabka paryas'. He said that the BJP after forming its government at the Centre under PM Narendra Modi, took serious note of the plight and miseries of the neglected and discrimi-

nated sections in Jammu and Kashmir and took bold, historic decisions for the betterment of the STs, Paharis, the refugees, the displaced persons. "The Modi government has granted political reservation to the Scheduled Castes (STs) and also Pahari status to the people, with the sole objective of bringing them out of the poverty, backwardness and improve their social life," Jugal said and added that numerous mega projects of development and welfare of masses has been launched by the Modi government, which too have reached the people of Sunderbani-Kalakote.

Extending greetings of Varsh Pratipada, the Hindu New year-2081 and the Navratras, Jugal appealed to the people to vote BJP and be part of the party's journey towards splendid victory in the Lok Sabha elections.

Parliamentary Constituency

Co-convenor and DDC, Suresh Sharma said that granting political reservation to STs is a very highly appreciable decision of the Modi government.

BJP senior leader and district Prabhari, Sanjay Baru said that the Pahari community has, finally, got justice from the Modi government. He also asked people to vote BJP candidate.

A large number of people, including the prominent activists of Congress and NC also joined BJP and expressed their unconditional desire to serve the party and work for strengthening it in their respective areas.

The MP was also accompanied by senior leader Th. Randhir Singh, District General Secretary Pritam Sharma, Mahila Morcha District Prabhari Anu Manhas and DDC Rajinder Sharma.

DEO assures free, fair, transparent and inclusive elections in Ramban

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAMBAN: District Election Cell Ramban is all set to conduct smooth and fair General Elections in the twin assembly segments of AC-54 Ramban and AC-55 Banihal of the district, said District Election Officer, (Deputy Commissioner), Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary, while addressing the media persons at District Election Control Room here on Tuesday. Extending warm wishes to the public on festive season, Chaudhary urged citizens to actively participate in the world's largest festival of democracy, GEIS 2024, by exercising their voting rights on the polling day scheduled for April 19, 2024 in Parliamentary Constituency 04-Udhampur: Emphasizing the significance of voters participation, he highlighted the District Administration's efforts, including Special Voters' Enrollment and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) activities aimed at sensitizing first-time voters, women, persons with disabilities (PwD), and elderly voters about their voting rights. Briefing about SVEEP activities, he said the District Administration is targeting all 2,19,000 registered voters of the district, especially First Time, Women, PwD and Elderly voters to sensitize them about their Right to Vote.

The DEO urged the political parties contesting

candidates, Media persons and all other stakeholders to strictly adhere to the Model Code of Conduct guidelines issued by the Election Commission of India.

"To ensure free, fair, elections and level playing field for all, the District Election Department has ensured strict implementation of Model Code of Conduct, functioning of 24x7 Election Control Room having toll free number 1950 and landline numbers 01998-295500, 266790, Statical Surveillance Teams, Video Viewing Teams, Paid News Cell, Expenditure Monitoring Cell, Flying Squad Teams, Postal Ballot Cell, Video Surveillance Teams, Accounting Teams, Media Certification and Monitoring Committee and Grievances Cell etc are effectively managed by the dedicated teams headed by the respective Nodal Officers. The DEO said that out of total 348 polling booths 12 have been developed as Model Polling Stations which include polling stations managed by PwDs, Women, and Youth. Green Polling Stations are also created as Model Polling Stations. He informed that special arrangements like ramps, wheelchairs and transport arrangements have been made for People with Disabilities to facilitate them to exercise their right to franchise conveniently.

DISCLAIMER

"STATE TIMES"

does not take responsibility for the contents of the advertisements

(Display/Classified)

carried in this

newspaper. The paper does not endorse the same. Readers are requested to verify the contents on their own before acting there upon."