!! Continuations from Page 1!! Article 370 abrogation...

to Lal Chowk, celebrating the integration of Jammu and Kashmir into India's

He pointed towards the strong security setup along the country's borders.

"Can any Pakistani dare to infiltrate from across the border and compromise our security? They cannot. If a single cracker gets burst (along the border), Pakistan immediately resorts to clarification that they are not involved in it. They know that they have to face music if any such thing happens," the chief minister said while

addressing a rally in support of BJP candidate and Union minister Jitendra Singh. "India is moving forward on the path of development and progress. This country with 140 crore people has respect and dignity. People of India are getting respect throughout the world," he added.

Jammu and Kashmir has now joined the mainstream of development in India, he said while referring to various development projects in different sectors being undertaken in the Union Territory

Lambasting the previous Congress government for inaction to deal with the probems in Jammu and Kashmir effectively, he said, "Jammu and Kashmir was left unclaimed. It was left to the mercy of God... We are not surprised over the behaviour of Congress as they have taken India to be their private property. They used to run away whenever there was any crisis in the country. Who has not seen the mas-

Adityanath said everyone in the country wants to see Jammu and Kashmir with oride as the crown of India.

"Where Shyama Prasad Mukerjee was martyred, Kashmir is ours. These were the slogans given then. Mukerjee laid down his life for this dream. No government could take a decision on it for 70 long years," he said.

Campaigning for Jitendra Singh, Adityanath pointed out that the Union minister used to bat strongly in the parliament for Article 370 abrogation in a bid to ensure

development of the region. He underscored India's self-reliance compared to Pakistan's dependence on international aid, emphasising India's growing global stature and reinforced border secu-

rity measures. "While India is providing free ration to 80 erore people today, Pakistan, since its eparation from India in 1947, has been moving around with a begging bowl," he

Ravinder Raina, while addressing the cheering crowd, hailed their love for the party and said that with their such enthusiastic support, the BJP will win Udhampur Kathua Doda Parliament Seat and Jammu-Reasi Parliament Seat with thumping majority. He said that Dr Jitendra Singh will work with Prime Minister Narendra Modi after winning the elections with more than 4 lakh votes and work once again for the poor and needy people. He also recounted the mega development projects taken by the BJP MP Dr Jitendra Singh in this Parliamentary constituen-

"Voting will be held on 19th April. It will be a contribution from your side to make Prime Minister Narendra Modi work as the Prime Servant of the country for the third time", said Ravinder Raina, while stressing that the PM Modi ji is working with the vision of Bharat in 2047.

Dr Jitendra Singh led a scathing attack on Congress, saying that due to the nationalist character of Kathua and the participation of Kathua people in nationalist activities, Congress halted the development projects here in Kathua. He said that the vote bank politics of Congress had stopped all the development here. But after 2014, this constituency is among the top most development-infused Parliamentary constituencies and recounted all the works like higher institutions, river Devika projects, cable bridge, industrial biotech park, Vande Bharat, National highways, power projects, water irrigation schemes, and many more, he added.

Polling in Udhampur Lok Sabha constituency will be held in the first of the sevenphase Lok Sabha elections on April 19.

Jitendra Singh had retained the Udhampur Lok Sabha seat in 2019, defeating Congress candidate Vikramaditya Singh, the grandson of erstwhile Maharaja Hari Singh, by a margin of 3,53,272 votes. Lal Singh only got 19,049 votes

In 2014, Jitendra Singh had defeated former Union Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad from the Lok Sabha seat by a margin of 60,976 votes. He was inducted in the Modi government as the Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office.

'No riots, curfews...

for advancing the region's development.

He also described Prime Minister Narendra Modi as a modern-day architect of India's progress and attributed the nation's achievements to his leadership.

"There was anarchy in Uttar Pradesh under the patronage of previous governments and curfews and riots a regular affair. During my tenure of seven years as chief minister of UP, there were no riots or curfews," Adityanath said.

Now, the annual 'Kavad Yatra' takes place in a free atmosphere and "UP is the country's first state where loudspeakers have been removed from religious sites", the chief minister said, adding people want peace and development.

Adityanath said Ayodhya, Mathura and Vrindavan are models of how faith needs to be respected and asked people to especially visit Ayodhya -- where a grand Ram Temple was inaugurated by Modi on January 22.

He said there was a "sense of security" among the people of Uttar Pradesh and if anyone does any mischief, the person is immediately taken to task.

Adityanath highlighted the changes that have taken place in the state ever since the BJP-led government came to power and said earlier, Hindus hesitated to embrace their beliefs and heritage but that has changed.

"People used to hesitate to call themselves Hindus. They were afraid to take the me of Avodhya. When I became the chief minister in 2017, people questioned my visit to Ayodhya. I was told that some sections might get angry but we held festivals

Adityanath highlighted the construction of the Ram temple in Ayodhya, contrasting the proactive approach of his government with what he described as the Congress' dismissive stance towards Hinduism.

"If a good government is formed, it ends the long wait of 500 years. Today, a big Ram Mandir has been constructed in Ayodhya. Could the Congress have done it? The Congress used to say there is no Ram, no Krishna. Those who were accidental Hindus used to question the existence of Ram and Krishna. It was the biggest insult to our faith. How they tried to insult our faith by negating our deities," he said.

The chief minister credited the Modi government for "bolstering" national security and propelling India to new heights of development, leading to its emergence as the world's fifth-largest economy

"We have ensured the security of this country and taken it to new heights of development. The entire country knows about the development work taking place. India has surpassed Britain, who occupied us for years, to become the fifth biggest economy in the world " he said.

However, he also cautioned people against falling for "divisive tactics" and urged them to prioritise the nation's future over caste, creed or region.

"It is important to vote in support of Dr Jitendra Singh who is contesting for the third time. Based on the development done during the last 10 years, Modi ii has sought the people's mandate again to make India the third largest economy in the

"The credit for the development of India goes to Modi ji. He is the modern-day architect of India." he said.

He also expressed gratitude towards the people of the country for choosing the

"Ram Mandir has been built in Ayodhya, India has become a big economy, there is a sense of security among the people, development projects are taking place, while schemes for the poor and marginalized have been launched.

"The credit goes to you also because you gave him (Modi) your vote and the command of this country," he said.

Adhere to timelines...

and other concerned departments.

Senior officials of NHAI, NHIDCL and BRO briefed the chair on the status of the major projects including Delhi-Katra-Amritsar Expressway, Semi Ring Road Jammu and Srinagar, Udhampur-Ramban Section, Ramban-Banihal Section, Jammu-Akhnoor road, Chenani-Sudhmahadev-Goha-Khellani road, Z-Morh tunnel, Zojila Tunnel etc. The meeting also discussed the Human Resource Management in view of the merger of JKPCC with the PW (R&B) Department. The Lt Governor asked the officials to explore the possibilities of creating dedicated divisions for Buildings and Bridges in the department.

For Modi Govt...

confidence. Answering a question, he also recalled the controversy over then prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru's apparent reluctance to grab an opportunity to claim a permanent seat at the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) that went to

Referring to what he wrote on the episode in his book 'Why India Matters', Jaishankar said China becoming a permanent UNSC member was an "injustice". "Nothing can be above the country's interest," he said at the press conference

Jaishankar said the impact of every development happening in India is today felt in the entire world.

He said the people have faith in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's guarantee not

only in India but also outside the country. Today's India is full of self-confidence, he added.

"Whatever we have been doing in the last 10 years, today people also see the scale of the work that is being done in India," he said.

He said there was a time when the people used to say that having a democracy is good but progress never happens in it. But today it is a democracy that delivers.

"There was a time when people used to say that it is a good thing to have democracy but progress never happens in democracy. Everything takes time... We keep debating and decisions are not taken. So what we are showing today is democracy that delivers," he said.

Referring to the Ukraine-Russia war, he said India had a problem of evacuating its students and the other challenge was oil. There was pressure from all western countries to not buy oil from Russia.

He said India took the decision keeping the national interest in focus and if it had not done so, then the price of petrol would have increased in the country at that

He said, "Such situations will keep coming. Yesterday it was Russia and oil. We

"I would also like to tell you that even on such issues other countries try to put pressure on us, but they are unsuccessful. That is a different matter," he said.

The central minister said even today there are some topics, including elections where comments are made about us from abroad, but India should now deal with the world with confidence and patience, whether it is a matter of border or progress or any matter of diplomacy.

Referring to the progress made in the last 10 years in the infrastructure sectors like airports, metro, highways and universities, he said, "Its impact is very deep in the world also. The world also wants India to progress.

"The thinking of some of the countries may differ, but if we have to go on the path towards a developed India, then I would say that first of all we have to decide based on the work of the last 10 years, how do we prepare for the next 25 years," he said. Jaishankar said Modi's one guarantee is inside the country and the other is outside the country.

"Today any citizen of India, be it a labourer, a professional, a tourist, a student, goes out of India with the belief that if any disaster occurs, the Modi government will be with me at all times under any circumstances," he said.

"I cannot tell you the value of this confidence," he added.

At a press conference before this, the external affairs minister said earlier, India used to tolerate terrorism from across the border and that time is over now.

"I can tell you that the last 10 years have been a different time. If you have to compare, then see what was the response to Mumbai (terrorist attacks) and what is the response to Uri and Balakot?" he said.

He added, "Where there is true patriotism, concern for the security of the country, then such people, such leaders, such government, such ideology, will never tolerate He said everybody knows that in this election, the country will show its faith in

Prime Minister Modi's guarantees. "PM Modi's guarantees have set a record in the last 10 years if you look at the

schemes and policies in different sectors. We are confident that the country will support us in carrying forward these guarantees," he said.

Cong creating north...

complete elimination of Left Wing Extremism and terrorism"

The BJP leader also claimed that the Congress and RJD chief Lalu Prasad never wanted Ram Mandir in Avodhya.

"They kept on creating hurdles in the construction of Ram temple in Ayodhya. But, Modi ji made it possible...Now, Lord Rama will celebrate his birthday at Ayodhya temple on April 17 (Ram Navami)," he said.

As far as development works done by the NDA in Bihar are concerned, Shah said the NDA government made Aurangabad and its surrounding areas and districts in Jharkhand Naxal-free in the last five years

"Several ITIs, central and Jawahar schools, mobile towers and bank branches have been opened in Aurangabad and Gaya districts in the last five years," he said.

The electorate of Bihar will ensure that the NDA wins all 40 seats in Bihar, said

He also claimed Congress and RJD leaders never thought of conferring Bharat Ratna to former Bihar chief minister Karpoori Thakur, but Modi did it, said Shah. The union home minister further claimed, "The Congress and its allies, including

RJD, opposed ban on triple talaq, Uniform Civil Code, ban on Popular Front of India, criticised Ramcharitmanas and National Song of India Vande Mataram".

The Congress and RJD leaders are involved in more than 45 corruption cases amounting to Rs 12 lakh crore, he alleged. Shah said the NDA government has decided to pay the invested money to all those

who were duped by the Sahara group. Army Chief inaugurates...

water management through recycling. Beyond medical facilities, the complex includes accommodation for staff, training facilities and welfare amenities, he

Eid-ul-Fitr...

spread love and brotherhood and not create enmity among people," Mufti Ainayatula Qasmi said. Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha extended his greetings to the people on the occasion. "The auspicious day inspires us to dedicate ourselves to the service of humanity. May the holy festival bring good health, happiness and prosperity in everyone's lives," he said.

People reaping peace...

civilization. His name echoes across the length and breadth of our sacred land. Therefore, during the 11-day special ritual I observed, I made a pilgrimage to the places that carry the footprints of Shri Ram. My journey that took me to various corners of the country showed the revered place Shri Ram holds within each of us,' he said.

"The return of Shri Ram to his birthplace marked a historic moment of unity for the nation. It was a culmination of centuries of perseverance and sacrifice. When I was asked to be part of the ceremony, I knew I would be representing the 1.4 billion people of the country, who have waited patiently for centuries to witness Ram Lalla's return." he said.

"During the 11 days leading up to this auspicious event, I carried with me the aspirations of countless devotees, eagerly anticipating this day. The ceremony itself brought the nation together into a celebration, akin to a second Diwali. Every home was illuminated by the light of Ram Jyoti. I see it as a divine blessing that I could experience the consecration ceremony as a representative of 1.4 billion Indians," he

On the upcoming Lok Sabha polls, Modi said his government has an excellent track record of fulfilling promises.

"By the end of the second term, even the most popular governments start losing support. Discontent toward governments has also increased in the last few years in the world. India stands out as an exception, where popular support for our government is increasing," he asserted.

Hailing India as "the mother of democracy", Modi said that as the largest democracy in the world, over 600 million people voted in the General Elections in 2019 and in a few months from now, over 970 million eligible voters will exercise their fran-

"More than one million polling stations would be set up across India. Constantly increasing voter participation is a big certificate for the people's faith in Indian democracy. A democracy like India is able to move ahead and function only because there is a vibrant feedback mechanism. And our media plays an important role in this regard. We have around 1.5 lakh (150,000) registered media publications and hundreds of news channels," he said.

BJP changed public...

said the perception of India has improved under Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He claimed that Modi "halted" the war between Russia and Ukraine to ensure safe passage for Indian students stuck in the war-torn country.

"In Qatar, retired Navy personnel awarded capital punishment were released after being pardoned by the government there. This shows the stature of India in the world," he added.

Qatar released eight jailed former Indian Navy personnel 46 days after their death sentences, handed out last October, were commuted to jail terms of varying dura-

Under Modi's leadership, India -- once an importer of defence technology -- is now exporting those, Singh said.

The defence minister also praised Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath for improving

the state's law and order. Hitting out at the Samajwadi Party and the Congress, the senior BJP leader said, "In 2017 (assembly elections), the Samajwadi Party and the Congress ran a narra

tive that the backward classes were angry with the BJP. In 2019 (Lok Sabha elec tions), they ran a narrative that the Brahmins were angry. During the 2022 assembly elections, they ran a narrative that the Jats were angry. Now, they are claiming that the Rajputs are angry.'

"They are not ready to accept that be it the Congress or the Samajwadi Party, the entire Uttar Pradesh is angry with them," Singh claimed.

The Samajwadi Party is in such a state that it is changing candidates every day and the Congress is not even getting people to contest the elections, he said.

The Congress and the Samajwadi Party are contesting the Lok Sabha elections in an alliance in Uttar Pradesh.

During another rally in Bulandshahr, Singh lashed out at the Congress, claiming the party and corruption are "made for each other"

He alleged that terror attacks were common during Congress governments but "no

one can dare to commit such an attack today". Campaigning for the BJP's Bulandshahr candidate Bhola Singh, the defence \min ister said the opposition parties used to ridicule the BJP for promising to construc

a grand temple for Lord Ram in Ayodhya. "We fulfilled that promise on January 22," Singh said.

The Lukenow MP also said the BJP cannot compromise on the rights of women He further said, "Earlier, people around the world used to take India lightly but everyone today listens patiently to what India says." Both Saharanpur and Bulandshahr go to the polls during the first phase on April 19.

Army's command hospital achieves milestone with special hearing implant procedures

NEW DELHI: A seven-year old boy suffering from congenital external and middle ear anomalies with severe degree of hearing loss has received a new lease of ife after undergoing a successful implant surgery at the army's command hosoital in Pune

The defence ministry in a statement on Wednesday claimed that the hospital had become the "first government hospital" across the country to procure and conduct the successful 'piezoelectric bone conduction' hearing implant proce-

The department of ear, nose and throat (ENT) at Command Hospital Southern Command) in Pune has conducted two piezoelectric bone conduction nearing implants (BCI) in a seven-year old boy suffering from congenital external and middle ear anomalies with severe degree of hearing loss; and one adult with single-sided deafness (SSD), the ministry said.

Active piezoelectric bone conduction hearing implant system is an implantable nedical electronic device for hearing impaired patients, (conductive loss ncluding aural atresia -- mixed hearing loss and single sided deafness). The cost of the equipment has always been a concern, making its reach limited, the state

The ENT department of the Command Hospital, Pune is a designated neuroology centre of the AFMS (Armed Forces Medical Services)

The department has been providing implantable hearing solutions to depend nt clientele for a number of years, the statement said.

There are certain group of patients with "conductive or mixed hearing loss" or patients with single-sided deafness, who cannot undergo cochlear implantation and do not benefit with hearing aids or middle ear surgery. To reduce the asso ciated disability, it is imperative to provide hearing augmentation for better aca lemic outcome in children and social life in adults, it said.

Bone conduction implantation is the definitive hearing solution in such groups of patients to rehabilitate them, and the Armed Forces Medical Services were uick to realise this, the statement added.

Rahul, Priyanka to campaign in Assam next week STATE TIMES NEWS

JORHAT: Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vandra will visit ssam next week to campaign for opposition candidates.

Addressing a press conference here on Wednesday, Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh said Vadra will address public meetings in Assam's Jorhat and Tripura on April 16.

In the Jorhat constituency, Congress has nominated its deputy leader in Lok Sabha Gaurav Gogoi, who will take on incumbent MP Topon Kumar Gogoi of the

State party leader Bedabrat Bora said Rahul Gandhi will visit the state on April 7 and will address two public meetings -- one at Jorhat for Gaurav Gogoi and the other in Dibrugarh for Congress-backed Assam Jatiya Parishad candidate Jurinjyoti Gogoi.

Polling in Jorhat and Dibrugarh constituencies will take place in the first phase

PMLA Authority upholds ED's 2023 attachment of assets of Cong-promoted National Herald

NEW DELHI: The PMLA Adjudicating Authority on Wednesday upheld the Enforcement Directorate's attachment of about Rs 752-crore worth assets of Congress-promoted National Herald newspaper and companies linked to it in a noney laundering case

shares that were attached by the ED are proceeds of crime and linked to the offence The central agency had attached these properties in November last year by issu ing a provisional attachment order under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act

The authority said in its order that it believes that the movable assets and equity

(PMLA) against Associated Journals Ltd. (AJL) and Young Indian (YI). The National Herald is published by AJL and owned by Young Indian Private Limited. Congress leaders Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi are majority sharehold

ers of Young Indian with 38 per cent shares held by each one of them. **Bhartiva Yog Sansthan celebrates** 58th Sthapana Devis



Members of Sansthan during the event in Jammu on Wednesday.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Bhartiya Yog Sansthan, Devak Zone, celebrated 58th Sthapana Devis Samaroh on Wednesday at Shree Shiv Shakti Mandir, Shivalik Puram, Janipur Colony, here under the guidance of Vinod Kumar, President, Devak Zone in which nore than 75 Sadhaks and Sadhikas participated.

I.D. Soni, born on April 18, 1928, was the Chief Guest and Ramesh Chander Sharma, Chairman, Shree Shiv Sliakti Mandir, Shivalik Puram was the Guest of Honour who retired from Finance Department as Audit Officer. Soni was retired from Education Department as Dy. Director in 1983.

After retirement, Soni has worked in various Organisations as Administrator, Commissioner, President, Chief Advisor, Chief Patron and has made a significant

ontribution. He has been awarded Best Teacher award, Dr. Radha Krishan Teacher Award and Best Social Worker award besides he has written many books.

The proceedings of the programme was carried by Ashok Kumar Malhotra (Retd Director Agriculture, Jammu), a Senior Adhikari of Devak Zone who welcomed the Chief Guest, Guest of Honour, Yog Shikshaks and Sadaks.

During the proceedings, various Yogic Kriyas, Pranayam, Dhiyan, Bhajan Sarswati Vandhana and Shantipath was performed. Anil Sharma, Organising Secretary of BYS, J&K and Tara Chand Sharma

President, Baba Jitto District made a surprise visit of the Centre and appreciated the way of programme has been organised.

Neelam Sharma, Bachan Lal, Jagdish Raj and others

Anil Sharma emphasised on why Yogasans, their importance and principles. The Senior Adhikaries who participated in the programme were Jeevan Lal Sharma, Lokesh Bali, C.L. Chandan, Ashok Koul, Ashok Gupta, Anita Arora

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