

Rigged 1987 elections in J&K under Rajiv Gandhi responsible for terrorism: Rana

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Senior BJP leader Devender Singh Rana on Monday said the rigged elections to Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly in 1987 during the tenure of the Congress government under Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi led to widespread disillusionment and eventually germination of terrorism.

"The Congress set a stage for Pakistan to take advantage of the situation post rigged elections to unleash terrorism that led to large scale destruction, mayhem and ethnic cleansing of the minuscule but peaceful minority community from their homes and hearths", Devender Rana said while addressing prominent members of Gujjar community of Tehsil Nagrota and Dansal here this evening along with DDC Chairman Bharat Bhushan and District President Jammu North, Oni Khajuria and former MLC Haji Mohammad Hussain.

He said the guns would not have entered into the Valley had the elections not been rigged and the concerns of the then Governor



Senior BJP leader Devender Singh Rana addressing Gujjar community of Tehsil Nagrota.

Jagmohan headed to by the late Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. It was because of the muteness of the Congress government at New Delhi that led to eruption of terrorism, followed by total surrender by the then Union government, which served as a booster for terrorists and separatists to call the shots. Rajiv Gandhi's Congress Government played havoc with democratic ethos and brought Jammu and Kashmir to such a morass that thousands of people got killed and widespread destruction became the norm for nearly three decades, he added.

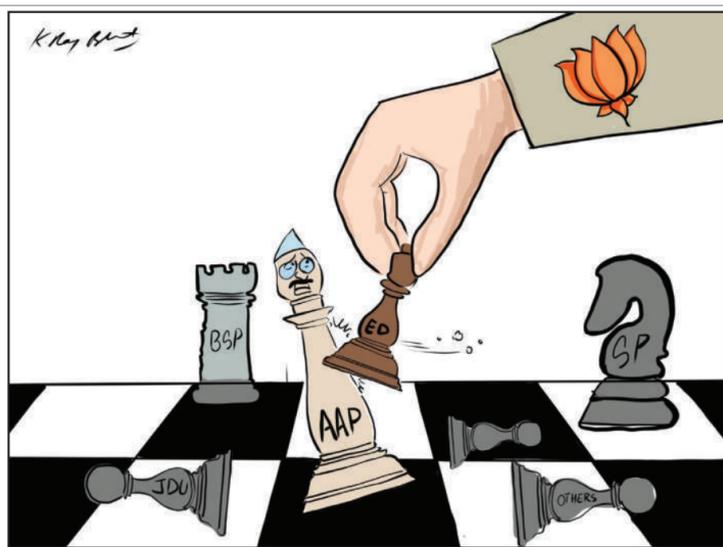
"But for the course correction by the BJP under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra

Modi, the Congress with its lackeys in the political spectrum of Kashmir would have continued with their agenda of allowing political instability and disturbed conditions to bully New Delhi and remain leached to power", Devender Rana said, adding that the meaningful efforts towards restoring trust in the mechanism of governance by the double-engine dispensation has made a huge difference post August 6, 2019. Redressal of grievances has hugely contributed towards fostering peace and stability in the region that has manifested huge transformation on development and economic fronts, he said.

Devender Rana also referred to the path-break-

ing initiatives taken in the past over four years with thrust on transforming Jammu and Kashmir that has unfortunately been sub-

jected to neglect and deprivation by the successive governments. He said the people in this part of the country are for the first time having a feel of being at the centre stage of various schemes aimed at ameliorating their lot. The restoration of peace has paved the way for unprecedented initiatives on infrastructural development and implementation of various schemes. The governmental efforts are seen at ground zero in a big way, as the people are now deriving the dividends of peace, he maintained.



IIM Jammu inaugurates fourth batch of CBP

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu, under the aegis of the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE), Government of India, in collaboration with Dalit Indian Chamber of Commerce (DICCI), commenced the fourth batch of the Capacity Building Program (CBP) on Small Business Development Units (SBDUs).

The inauguration took place at the picturesque IIM Jammu Jagti Campus, heralding a new chapter in entrepreneurial empowerment.

The event was inaugurated by Kumar Rajeev Ranjan, Administrative Secretary, Department of Skill Development, Govt of Jammu and Kashmir.

The fourth batch comprised 25 participants hailing from various parts of the country, including individuals from the Union Territory



IIM Jammu faculty posing with participants of fourth batch of CBP on Monday.

of Jammu and Kashmir. Among the notable attendees were Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean Academics, IIM Jammu, Sudershan Kumar, Director Skill Development, Government of Jammu and Kashmir, Dr. Mahesh Gadekar, Chairperson of the Centre for Small Business Development, IIM Jammu, Dr. Vivek Sharma, Chief Innovation Officer (CIO) at the Centre for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, IIM Jammu, and Naren Karunakaran, Consultant at the Centre for Diversity Cell and Inclusion,

IIM Jammu. Dr. Mahesh Gadekar, Chairperson of the Centre for Small Business Development, IIM Jammu in his welcome address, provided an overview of the program, setting the stage for an enriching journey of learning and growth.

Kumar Rajeev Ranjan presented a roadmap titled "Roadmap to Accelerate Employment Avenues through Entrepreneurship (Opportunity and Strategy)."

He shed light on various schemes by the Government

of India aimed at this objective and discussed the four pillars for building a supportive ecosystem.

Additionally, he engaged with participants, gathering their suggestions and feedback regarding the creation of a suitable entrepreneurial ecosystem.

He assured all participants of his full support and mentioned plans for close collaboration with IIM Jammu in the future to further develop and scale up the entrepreneurial ecosystem in the U.T of Jammu and Kashmir

In his address, Prof. Jabir

Ali, emphasized the institute's commitment to fostering innovation and inclusivity while highlighting the necessity of establishing a robust entrepreneurial ecosystem in the region.

Through this project, he mentioned that a handholding mechanism will be provided for local small businesses and aspiring entrepreneurs in the vicinity of the Union Territories of Jammu, Kashmir, and Ladakh, with 20 SBDUs slated for establishment in Jammu & Kashmir and 2 in Ladakh.

He urged participants to become ambassadors for the program and expressed confidence that the five-day module would not only sensitize them about management but also initiate a new life-long relationship.

The vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. Mahesh Gadekar. The event concluded with the rendition of the national anthem, symbolizing unity, and collective aspirations.

Jammu Police available for women in distress on 24x7 dedicated helpline number

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu Police on the eve of last International Women's Day had launched a dedicated helpline for women in distress in order to cater to the needs of women in distress. The women helpline for Jammu is: 9906310101.

This helpline number was

dedicated to public by ADG Jammu Zone Anand Jain along with DIG JSK Dr. Sunil Gupta and SSP Jammu Dr. Vinod Kumar.

Till date many aggrieved ladies had contacted the police on this helpline number and they had been helped out or rescued safely, police spokesperson said.

Jammu Police had once again urged the people of the Jammu District to make maximum use of this helpline number and spread this number as much as possible so that the best possible assistance can be given by the Police Department to the women in distress.

There is no platform for women in Congress party: Priya Sethi

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Former Minister, NEM Priya Sethi on Monday said that programmes and policies of Narendra Modi government implemented in their right earnest have empowered women to the extent that our daughters, sisters and mothers are getting attracted towards BJP and joining the party to strengthen party and build a strong India.

Having given women equal rights in J&K, built toilets across the length and breadth of country, ensured voting rights to refugees and Valmiki Samaj besides ended Triple Talaq are some of the achievements that are enabling women join BJP in large numbers.

Priya Sethi was speaking at a function where State Secretary, Women Wing



Former Minister, NEM Priya Sethi with newly joined members.

Geeta Dogra alongwith her team from Congress Party Joined Bhartiya Janata Party in the presence of Priya Sethi accompanied by District Jammu South President Rekha Mahajan, General Secretary Mahila Morcha Neha Mahajan and Reema Padha.

Priya Sethi said that it's because of Narendra Modi that women are using cook-

ing gas, having electricity and tapped water in their homes in far-off places and are also having their bank accounts where they get their subsidies and benefits directly credited into their accounts.

This has ended middle men and their corrupt system which was prolonged and promoted by Congress and it's allies for the past over 70

years. During the Joining Program, Priya Sethi welcomed and congratulated the new entrants on joining the largest Political Party and said that everyone is joining the BJP for Social service and not for self-interest. Especially, Former Minister focused on the Women schemes launched by Modi Government and added that

for some political parties, Women Empowerment is a political agenda but for BJP, it is not.

Also, she said that Congress ruled for over five decades. Yet, there are no toilets and Women suffered the most due to this. There was no piped water. Who suffered the most? The mothers in every household.

Moreover, the day Modi became the Prime Minister, there were 70 crore people who are not having bank accounts. Modi ji started "Jan Dhan Yojana". Crores of accounts were opened in the name of women head of the family.

Lastly, 33% Reservation to Women in both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha will end a long battle for women's rights. Now, the Women of India will have a role to play in policy making.

PM Modi to head world's largest democracy for third time: Khatana

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Senior BJP leader and Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha), Gulam Ali Khatana has said that the upcoming Lok Sabha elections in the country will see BJP emerging as the single largest party with more than 400 seats and a consecutive third term for PM Modi to head the world's largest democracy.

He said that the seven phase general elections in the country starting from April 19 have left the opposition parties especially the Congress frustrated and unmoved. "The 'Save Democracy' rally by the opposition in New Delhi was a clear sign of hopelessness among the opposition parties after witnessing a massive public support for the BJP," Khatana said. He further said that top Congress leaders now have left their stronghold constituencies like Amethi and are looking for the places where they can easily win a seat by befooling the innocent public to remain relevant in politics. "This clearly shows that even the Congress has endorsed that the public has rejected them for their anti-public policies," the firebrand BJP leader maintained adding: "Now the public has shifted their favour towards BJP due to the

welfare measures ushered by PM Modi led regime in the country for the last 10 years." Khatana also said that before talking of democracy the Congress should know that it was Indra Gandhi who during her rule clamped emergency in the country and strangled freedom of public. "Only corrupt and anti-national elements are put in jails while no opposition leader has been touched by PM Modi led government even though the opposition abuses badly to the PM every now and then," the BJP leader said advising the opposition to shun the habit of protest for the sake of protest and support developments started by PM Modi in the country.

He further said that in the last 10 years J&K has seen large scale developments with the abrogation of Article 370 as a historic one.

"The people of J&K are now leaving a peaceful and progressive life and they are going to strengthen the hands of BJP in upcoming Lok Sabha elections by excessively voting in favour of BJP candidate and the party will easily win all the five Lok Sabha seats from J&K and the one from Ladakh Union Territory," he continued.

Well-established Cardiovascular Thoracic Surgery Department, no need to go outside: SKIMS

SHAKEELA ANDRABI

SRRINAGAR: Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS), Soura on Monday warned against misleading appeals, saying that the institute has a well-established Cardiovascular Thoracic Surgery Department.

Public Relations Officer SKIMS has issued a public notice and stated that some organizations collect donations in the name of patients to be treated outside Jammu and Kashmir for various heart diseases like VSD and other cardiac procedures, having referrals from SKIMS.

"The general public is made aware that these procedures are regularly done in the Department of Cardio Vascular Thoracic Surgery (CVTS) SKIMS. In case any patient needs referral letter, it is given after thorough consultation by the concerned department," the PRO said. The premier institute has said that it has a well-established Cardiovascular Thoracic Surgery Department which conducts these cardiac procedures regularly. "Any organization helping poor patients can coordinate with the Department of CVTS SKIMS for these procedures rather than sending them outside," SKIMS said.

The PRO said sending these patients outside J&K for treatment after collecting donations sets the wrong precedence and undermines public health institutions.

The SKIMS officials also stated that the Department of Cardiovascular Thoracic Surgery has witnessed tremendous change over the years. The mortality rate has also declined thus improving the patient care services.

Last year, officials of the Sheri Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences Soura Srinagar had warned the public against scammers, who use the institute's patient records to raise money.

In a statement, officials had clarified, that a small number of scammers reportedly use patient reports of CT scans, PET scans, and the like produced by several SKIMS departments as a means of raising money for patients. "These reports in no way imply SKIMS support for a fund-raising effort. Every certificate that SKIMS issues attesting to a patient's financial obligations for his or her investigations or treatment is always countersigned by the Director of SKIMS and signed by the head of the corresponding department, it was stated.

Court rejects bail plea of couple involved in NDPS

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Additional Sessions Judge Doda Amarjeet Singh Langeh on Monday rejected the bail applications of wife Shafia Tabassum and her Junaid Qayoom husband involved in NDPS case.

Prosecution has filed formal objections to this application and opposed the same on grounds

amongst other that petitioners are involved in F.I.R No. 51/2024 for offences under sections 8/21/22/29 of NDPS Act registered with Police Station Doda; that during search by DySP Headquarter Doda, 34 grams of heroin was recovered from the possession of petitioners. Additional Sessions

Judge Doda Amarjeet Singh Langeh after hearing both the sides observed that the quantity of contraband allegedly seized from possession of petitioners comes in "intermediate quantity".

Investigation also reveals that petitioner No. 2 is also involved in two more FIRs for the same offences under the NDPS Act. One

FIR is registered with Police Station Bahufort, Jammu while as another had been registered with Police Station Doda.

The cases arising out of these two FIRs are said to be sub-judice. The alleged recovery of heroin (Chitta) in question along with cash only gives a prima facie indication that the two petitioners do indulge in

peddling and sale of contraband. This is the more disconcerting feature of case in hand. Unmindful of fear of law, the act of peddling contraband like heroin and selling the same to youth, not only scales-up gravity of offences alleged but its pernicious consequences are more than visible to anyone willing to gauge and see. Investigation further shows that petitioner No. 2 being an addict, also remained in rehabilitation center. Be that as it may, alleged addicts, cannot be allowed to become peddlers to secure cash flow and fulfil prospects for quick money at the cost of horrible suffering of youth at large. Above apart, the investigation is at initial stage and wider dimensions of linkages of petitioners facilitating them in procurement of contraband in question - are still under investigation. In the case law cited by Ld.

Counsel for petitioners, the petitioners therein remained in custody for months together. Here however is a case where investigation has yet to be completed. It is required to be noted that even though rigors of Section 37 of NDPS Act are not attracted in the case in hand, yet limitations provided for grant of bail in heinous and non-bailable offences indeed are squarely attracted in the case in hand. Thus, having regard to character of evidence collected during the investigation till date and considering the gravity and seriousness of offences alleged and the societal impact of the crime alleged in question, I am of the considered opinion that no case for grant of bail -- on facts - is made out by petitioners at this stage. This application is therefore has no merit and same is therefore dismissed.

Several political activists, leaders from traditional parties join Apni Party

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRRINAGAR: Several political activists and leaders from the National Conference (NC) and the People's Democratic Party (PDP) joined the Apni Party on Monday during an event organized at the party headquarters in Srinagar. The new entrants include NC's former Provincial Secretary and district Vice President, Abdul Ahad Tantray from Pulwama, former Sarpanch Dawood Ahmad Beigh from PDP, Altaf Ahmad Reshi, Advocate Arshid, and a large number of their supporters.

The party organized an event at its headquarters in M2 Chereh Lance, Srinagar, to give a warm welcome to the new members.

The senior party leaders who were present on the



JKAP Chief S.M.A Bukhari welcoming newly joined members.

occasion included the Party Chief Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari, Senior Vice President Ghulam Hassan Mir, Vice President Zaffar Iqbal Manhas, General Secretary Rafi Ahmad Mir, Provincial President Mohammad Ashraf Mir, Chief Spokesperson, State Secretary and District President Budgam Muntazir Mohiuddin, Media Advisor Farooq Andrabi, State

Convenor and District In-Charge Ganderbal Haji Parvez Ahmad, District President Srinagar Noor Mohammad Sheikh, District President Kupwara Raja Manzoor, District President Pulwama Ghulam Mohammad Mir, Provincial Secretary Javid Mirchal, General Secretary of the party's Youth Wing and Spokesperson Muzaffar

Reshi, General Secretary of the party's ST Wing Khalid Badana, Provincial Coordinator Javid Ahmad Mir, District Organizer Budgam Prof. G M Paul, Media Coordinator Dr. Nageeb Raja, Youth President Pulwama Syed Tajalal Andrabi, Dr. Talat Majid Alaie, Former Sarpanch from Tehsil Pulwama Daizy Raina, and others.

Power shutdown

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Chief Engineer (Distribution) JPDCL, Jammu has informed that the power supply to Upper Barnai, Lower Muthi, Paloura, JK Colony, Chandan Vihar, Muthi Matador Stand, PHRE, Roop Nagar, MES Rajouri lines BSF Paloura, Patoli and adjoining areas will remain affected on April 03 from 7 am to 12 noon.