

Regional politicians have to be held accountable for their involvement in killings of innocent people: Bukhari

'We will ensure they face justice'

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Apni Party President, Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari, on Friday, said that Apni Party, when it comes in power, will hold regional parties and their leaders accountable for their involvement in the killings of innocent people in Jammu and Kashmir. He said that Apni Party's government will ensure that these ruthless leaders face the full force of justice.

He made these remarks while addressing a public rally in the Mujkund area of the Batamallo constituency. This public rally was a part of the party's ongoing poll campaign for the LS elections.

People, men and women, thronged the rally venue despite the rain. They gave a rousing reception to Bukhari and his accompanying leaders upon their arrival at the venue.

Addressing the rally, Bukhari appealed to people to vote for the party's candidate



Apni Party President, S.M.A Bukhari with party workers at a public meeting.

Mohammad Ashraf Mir in the Lok Sabha elections in Srinagar constituency.

He said, "I urge you to support the Apni Party and ensure Ashraf's victory so that, unlike former MPs, he can truly represent the sentiments of the people of Jammu and Kashmir in parliament. I assure you that if you give your mandate to Apni Party, it will not disappoint you."

Lashing out at the traditional political parties and their leaders, Bukhari pledged that "when Apni Party comes to power, it will ensure that the parties and leaders involved in fake encounters face the full

force of justice." He was referring to the recent revelations by the Union Home Minister, who revealed that NC, PDP, and Congress have been involved in killings in fake encounters in the past. He said, "None other than the country's Home Minister has revealed that these parties have been responsible for killings in fake encounters in the past. I promise you that if the Apni Party receives the public mandate, it will ensure justice. Nobody will be spared. We will unearth the facts and hold accountable those involved in such gruesome crimes."

Bukhari said that the Apni Party has a clear vision for a

brighter future of Jammu and Kashmir. He said, "We have both the will and the potential to elevate Jammu and Kashmir to new heights of prosperity and development. The Apni Party will ensure the political and economic empowerment of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. We will get J&K's statehood restored; we will ensure our imprisoned youth are returned to their families; we will create employment

opportunities here to secure the future of our younger generation. I assure you that, unlike traditional parties, our focus will be on fostering peace, prosperity, and well-being for the people of Jammu and Kashmir." Speaking on the occasion, party's Senior Vice President, Ghulam Hassan Mir extended his gratitude to the people for participating in Apni Party's rallies in large numbers.

He said, "Congress hollowed out Article 370 over the decades, and the BJP revoked it once and for all; both are two faces of the same coin when it comes to Article 370."

Mir assured that the Apni Party will ensure the political and economic empowerment of Jammu and Kashmir, as well as a dignified life for its youth.



LS Election: SSP Shopian, CAPF nodal officer visit various camping locations

STATE TIMES NEWS
SHOPIAN: SSP Shopian Tanushree visited various camping locations in district Shopian to take stock of arrangements made with regard to the ongoing Lok Sabha election-2024.

On her visit, she was accompanied by CO of CRPF 14 Bn Bimlash Chandra Jha, Addl SP Shopian, SDPO Zainapora, DySP Hqrs Shopian, DySP DAR Shopian and other officers of Shopian Police and CRPF.

She was briefed by the officers in detail about security arrangements to be put in place to conduct ongoing Lok Sabha Elections-2024 smoothly.

During the visit, security review of all locations enroute and detailed



SSP Shopian Tanushree taking stock of LS Polls arrangement at various camping locations in district.

arrangements was discussed in detail. SSP Shopian also inspected availability of better places and facilities for officers and Jawans deployed for the duties.

SSP Shopian directed the officers to maintain highest level of alertness and ensure proper access control and all necessary facilities at all camping locations across the district.

ECI establishes 109 special polling stations in Jammu PC

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: In a first of its kind move towards inclusivity and environmental consciousness, the Election Commission of India (ECI) established 109 remarkable polling stations of different categories for voters in Jammu Parliamentary Constituency (PC) which went for polling on Friday in the second phase of General Elections to Lok Sabha 2024.

These innovative polling stations viz: women manned, youth manned, PwD manned, Green Polling Stations, Border Polling Stations and Unique Polling Stations were designed to cater specifically to women, youth, Persons with Disabilities (PwDs), promote eco-friendly practices and cater to voters of different kind in the region.

The polling stations were established under specific themes in all four districts of Jammu Parliamentary Constituency.

In Jammu district, three

Women manned, three PwD manned, two youth manned, four green, fifty border and three unique polling stations were established. Similarly, three women manned, three PwD manned, three youth manned, three green, twelve border and two unique polling stations were established for ease of voters in Samba district.

Likewise, in Reasi district, three women manned, three PwD manned, three youth manned, four green and one unique polling station was established.

In Rajouri (Sunderbani-Kalakote) district, one Women manned, one PwD manned, one youth manned and one green polling station was established.

The newly established polling stations aim to revolutionize the electoral process by ensuring accessibility and representation for all segments of society. With a special focus on women, youth, and PwD, these stations had been equipped

with amenities tailored to meet their unique needs, fostering an environment conducive to active participation in the democratic process.

Furthermore, the ECI's commitment towards environmental sustainability is showcased through the implementation of green practices at these polling stations. Every aspect is meticulously designed to minimize environmental impact and promote a greener future.

Speaking on this milestone initiative, Chief Electoral Officer, J&K, Pandurang K Pole, said that establishment of these unique polling stations underscores our unwavering dedication towards fostering inclusivity and sustainability in the electoral process. He added that the ECI believes that every citizen should have equal access to exercise their democratic right, and these polling stations represent a significant step towards achieving that goal.

Border villages come alive with enthusiastic voters

STATE TIMES NEWS
RS PURA/SUCHEETGARH/ARNIA/VIJAYPUR: In the sprawling wheat fields of RS Pura and Suchetgarh villages, nestled along the International Border, a vibrant celebration of democracy unfolded. These remote communities, despite enduring challenging weather conditions, ensured an unprecedented voter turnout, emerging as beacons of participation. The journey to polling booths wasn't just a physical one; it was a testament to the unwavering spirit of democracy that runs deep within these communities. First time voter Manish Kumar from Jajowal village of Chakroi in Suchetgarh Assembly Segment, couldn't contain his enthusiasm. "I'm thrilled to cast my first vote," he said while waiting in the queue at the Panchayat Ghar Jajowal polling station. "It empowers us to choose our representative for progress. I've been eagerly waiting for this day!" His excitement echoed the sentiment of many young voters who traveled all the way from Punjab to exercise their franchise in their native villages.

Beyond the impressive numbers lies a powerful narrative of hope and determination. Each ballot cast is a declaration of resilience, a reaffirmation of faith in the democratic process. These villages, standing tall in the face of adversity, exemplify the indomitable spirit of the Indian electorate. Their overwhelming turnout sends a resounding message: democracy is not just a privilege, but a responsibility they wholeheartedly embrace.

Bipin Singh, another first time voter from Sai Kalan village, Suchetgarh, echoed this sentiment. "I'm honored to cast my first vote," he said, standing patiently in a long queue. "It's my power, and I'll use it for my area's development." His message resonated with many young voters, urging them to participate and strengthen the nation's democratic fabric. At polling station Nakawal, situated along the border village of the same name, Presiding Officer Sahil Rattan and his dedicated team ensured a smooth voting experience. Similarly, nonagenarian Mumshi Ram, assisted by his family, cast his vote at 99-Sai Khurd polling station in RS Pura. "Voting makes me happy," he said after exercising his franchise. "It gives me inner peace, irrespective of the winner. I'm content knowing I fulfilled my duty." Meanwhile, located near the renowned Border Out Post Octroi in RS Pura, polling station 61-Abdal reported a significant turnout with over 50% of registered voters casting their ballots by 3 pm.

SKK Divyang shines again

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Samaj Kalyan Kendra (SKK) run Deaf & Dumb Higher Secondary School, Jammu has achieved yet another outstanding result. The School achieved 100 per cent result of Middle class announced by the J&K Board of School Education, last evening.

Out of nine Deaf & Dumb students who appeared in the examination, seven got distinction, while one just missed it by 2 marks.

Four students got A+ grade (above 80 per cent marks) and four got A grade (above 74 per cent marks). Harn

Kuch topped the School with 85.6 per cent marks.

The President, K B Jandial & Samaj Kalyan Kendra fraternity have lauded the outstanding result of Divyang students in BOSE Examination of Middle Class. Conveying congratulations to successful students, their parents & teaching faculty on this grand success of Divyang.

The SKK has instituted Cash Awards for the toppers of all BOSE conducted School Examinations. For the last seven eight years, the School is getting cent percent results in BOSE.



A large number of people including women, senior citizens and first time voters casting their votes at Jammu Parliamentary Seat at various polling booths in Jammu on Friday. Pic by Deepak Yadav