

## Monarchy continued in J&K even after Maharaja's era ended in 1947: Bukhari

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: Apni Party President, Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari, on Saturday, said that the regional parties and their leaders established their own form of monarchy in Jammu and Kashmir after the end of Maharaja's rule in 1947.

He asserted that those who continued to propagate provocative and misleading slogans like 'Raishumari', 'Autonomy', and 'Self-rule' even after J&K's accession with the country have damaged the interests of the people of this land.

Bukhari made these comments while addressing an event at the party headquarters today. The event was aimed at welcoming the new members including prominent citizens and political workers from Charar-i-Sharief, and Ganderbal, into the party fold.

The new members from Charar-i-Sharief included Advocate Owais Ashraf Shah, Advocate Syed Arslan, Advocate Riyaz



Apni Party President, S.M.A. Bukhari speaking at party workers meeting.

Ahmad, Advocate Shabir Nurani, Advocate Muzaffar Qasim, Rayees Ahmad Sofi, Muzaffar Ahmad Mir, Gulzar Ahmad Musa, and their teams.

The new entrants from the Ganderbal district included Peer Farooq Ahmad Farooqi, Irfan Farooqi, Syed Abdul Rashid Baba, Peerzada Zahoor Ahmad, Mohammad Masroor Farooqi, Mohammad Mumin Farooqi, Farooq Ahmad Kumar, and others.

Party's State Convenor and in-charge of Ganderbal district Haji Parvez Ahmad Bhat had organised this event.

Bukhari, along with other senior party leaders gave a warm welcome to the news members.

Bukhari said, "I wholeheartedly welcome you to the Apni Party. This party's agenda and policies are rooted in the politics of truthfulness and integrity of its leaders. We do not believe in deceptive narratives and fake promises for gaining political advantages."

Taking a dig at the traditional parties he said, "We had the chance to decide the future of Jammu and Kashmir in 1947, and the leadership at that time decided to accede with

India. After this decision, whoever raised emotional slogans like 'Raishumari', 'Autonomy', and 'Self-rule' during the past seventy years were the enemies of the people. Unfortunately, the regional parties and their leaders used innocent people as cannon fodder through such emotional and provocative slogans. For their own political gains, these parties and leaders made our youth scapegoats by misleading them through deceptive narratives."

He went on to say, "These parties and their leaders led our youth down the path of destruction. Over the past three decades, we have tragically lost thousands of our youngsters. Thousands of our young people ended up either in jails or in graveyards."

Besides Bukhari, the prominent party leaders who were present on the occasion included Chairman of the party's Parliamentary Affairs Committee Mohammad Dilawar Mir, Vice President Usman Majid, Media Advisor Farooq Andrabi, Provincial Secretary Kashmir Syed Najeeb Naqvi, Provincial President of the party's ST Wing Rafiq Ahmad Balote, Party in-charge for the Charar-i-Sharief constituency Mushtaq Zuhami, Youth President from the Uri Constituency Shajad Ahmad Sheikh, Bashir Khanday, and others.

## Felicitation ceremony organized by Dogri Bhasha Academy Jammu

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JOURIAN: A felicitation ceremony was organized at Jourian by the literary and cultural organization Dogri Bhasha Academy, Jammu. This program was presided over by the founder of the Academy, the eminent Dogri litterateur Yashpaul Nirmal.

In this program, Romesh Singh Salathia, Principal Higher Secondary School, Jourian and Incharge Zonal Education Officer of Zone Jourian, Madan Lal, Head, Government Girls High School, Jourian and Mrs. Chanchal Jamwal, teacher were felicitated for their teaching skills, especially contribution in the field of Dogri language on their retirement on 30th of April 2024.

All these honoured with a shawl and citation by the Dogri Bhasha Academy for their significant contribu-



Dogri Bhasha Academy, Jammu and others at felicitation function.

tion in the field of development and upliftment of Dogri language. On this occasion, President of Dogri Bhasha Academy, Roshan Bral threw light on the personality and work of Romesh Singh Salathia, Madan Lal and Chanchal Jamwal. Founder of Dogri Language Academy, Yashpaul Nirmal congratulated all of them on the occasion of their retirement and wished them all the

best for the second innings of their lives.

The program was conducted and the vote of thanks was presented by Shri Sanjay Sharma, Press Secretary of the Academy.

On this occasion, Dr. Ritu Gupta, Ravindra Singh, Roshan Bral, Yashpaul Nirmal, Sanjay Sharma and other distinguished teachers, members of Dogri Bhasha Academy and other dignitaries were present.

## NNS appoints RC Sharma as J&K president

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The Namami Narmada Sangh (NNS) has appointed Romesh Chander Sharma as president of Jammu & Kashmir UT in an attempt to expand the organization in North India.

As per the appoint order issued by its national president Pt Harish Uniyal, the new appointment is made for the excellence and development of the organizational work in the north India and he exuded confidence over the new incumbent.

The order further said



that this appointment will remain intact till further order and this appointment signifies Romesh Chander Sharma's high level knowledge, skill and devotion. It is further suggested in the

letter that president will operate all the activities of Namami Narmada Sangh in Jammu & Kashmir, besides help and support the members and to obtain the objectives of the organization.

Whereas to participate in the cleanliness of the rivers and environment at every level.

The newly appointed J&K president is journalist by profession and popularly known as RC Sharma. He is associated with several social, cultural and religious organizations.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Dinesh Gupta, Patron and Chairman (Elected) of the District Red Cross Society, Jammu, expressed grave concern over the non-implementation of the Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS) Rules, 2017 in the region. Despite the passage of these rules by Parliament and their adoption by Jammu & Kashmir, UT for IRCS and its allied units on May 27, 2022, their implementation remains elusive.

The IRCS Rules, 2017 embody the humanitarian mission of the Indian Red Cross Society, aiming to prevent and alleviate suffering without discrimination based on nationality, race, sex, religion, lan-



Dinesh Gupta, Patron District RCS Jammu talking to reporters.

guage, class, or political opinions. Notably, Schedule IV (Rule 13) mandates the election of key positions within the District Branch, including the Chairman/Vice-Chairman and Treasurer, by the District Managing Committee for a term of three years.

Addressing media persons here today, Dinesh Gupta said that in line with

above mentioned rules, elections for the Jammu District Branch Committee of IRCS were conducted on July 20, 2023, resulting in the unopposed election of ten Managing Committee Members. A certificate, duly signed by the then Deputy Commissioner, Jammu, was issued to validate the election results. However, despite these

efforts, the newly elected members have been unable to assume their responsibilities, as the existing practices persist in violation of the established rules. He said that the delay in empowering the newly elected members is unjustified, particularly considering the issuance of a certificate confirming the election results by the Deputy Commissioner nine months ago. It is perplexing that further confirmation is being sought, especially when the rules are explicit in their provisions.

Currently, decision-making authority rests solely with the General Secretary, Rohit Khajuria, contrary to the mandate of the new rules, which emphasize the formation of various com-

mittees for timely and appropriate decision-making. Moreover, the frequency of meetings stipulated by the rules for the Managing Committee, Executive Committee, and Finance Committee is being blatantly disregarded, leading to mismanagement at all levels.

In light of these concerns, Dinesh Gupta urged the Lt. Governor, who also serves as the President of IRCS, Jammu & Kashmir, UT, to intervene personally and direct the Deputy Commissioner, Jammu, to transfer the responsibilities to the lawfully elected Managing Committee of the District Red Cross Society, Jammu, as per the election held on July 20, 2023.

## Ratnuchak-ushering a new era of student excellence



Army Public School Ratnuchak students performing cultural programme.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: In a fervent pursuit of academic excellence, Army Public School Ratnuchak hosted its much-anticipated Parent-Teacher Orientation Program under the theme "Ignite Your Potential" on April 27, 2024 for its Class 12 students and their parents.

The event, graced by esteemed dignitaries and education luminaries,

aimed to steer students towards a trajectory of success in higher education and future career endeavors. Dr. Alka Sharma, a renowned educational expert, spearheaded the first session with an insightful discourse on "Mind Alteration Practices", providing attendees with valuable perspectives on academic expectations, career pathways, and personal devel-

opment strategies.

The interactive sessions further delved into academic rigors, effective study techniques, and subject-specific insights tailored to excel in CBSE Board exams, facilitated by the school's proficient educators.

Highlighting the power of resilience and determination, Rajat Sambyal, JKPSK 2023 qualifier shared his inspiring jour-

ney from "Failure to Success", igniting motivation and ambition among the student body.

Chairman of Army Public School Ratnuchak graced the occasion and expressed his commendation for the successful execution of the Orientation Program, acknowledging the pivotal role of expert guidance in nurturing students' interests, strengths, and aspirations. He envisaged these sessions to serve as catalysts in shaping students' unique talents and paving the way for their future career pathways.

The Parent-Teacher Orientation Program at APS Ratnuchak marks a significant milestone in the institution's commitment to fostering holistic student development and academic excellence.

## Sharda Institute of Computer Education celebrates foundation day

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: The foundation day of the Sharda Institute of Computer Education (SICE) was celebrated on Saturday at Sanjeevani Sharda Kendra (SSK), Anand Nagar, Bohri, here. Since its foundation in the year 2002, every year, this occasion is celebrated with fervor and gaiety.

The programme started with lighting of lamp and Sharda Vandana. Prof. Sunil Dhar from Central University of Jammu was the Chief Guest and Dr. M. K. Bharat, Chairman, SSK presided over the function. The SICE is running diploma and certificated courses in computer education at Jammu and Jagti centres and has also started one centre in Kashmir.

In his address, the Chief Guest congratulated the students who completed their



Sharda Institute of Computer Education students and faculty at foundation day celebration.

diploma in computers and were awarded certificates.

While narrating a story of fire in a jungle and role of small bird in helping to put off the inferno, he highlighted the role of SICE in contributing its bit for the growth and development of the young students.

He emphasised on the need for providing skill based education to make the youth of the

country as job providers instead of job seekers. In his welcome address Dr. M. K. Bharat enumerated various programmes being run by SSK for various social, academic and cultural activities. Rattan Lal Ganjoo, Administrator SICE provided an insight about the evolution of the institute and lighted its achievements.

On this occasion, a colourful

cultural programme was presented by the students of the SICE which was prepared under the guidance of Rattan Lal Ganjoo and Seema Pandita. The vote of thanks was presented by Prof. Sundeeep Pandita, Director SICE and the programme was conducted by Sneha Koul and Tarika Jain students of the institute.

## DAH-J celebrates World Veterinary Day



Dr. Waheeda Parveen, Director Animal Husbandry Jammu speaking at a programme.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Department of Animal Husbandry (DAH), Jammu on Saturday celebrated World Veterinary Day-2024 at Kisan Kendra, Talab Tillo here. To commemorate the day, a seminar on role played by veterinarians through promotion of animal health and welfare for sustainable livestock production was held. This year's theme is 'Veterinarians are Essential Health Workers'. The event was graced by Dr. Waheeda Parveen, Director Animal Husbandry Jammu as the chief guest. The expert officers from the Animal Husbandry Department delivered lectures highlighting the

significant contributions made by veterinarians towards animal health and well-being, public health and environment protection with emphasis on one health concept and zoonotic diseases like Rabies, Bird flu etc. Speaking on the occasion, DAH Jammu underscored the importance of veterinarians in the society. The World Veterinary Day is celebrated every year on the last Saturday of April month since year 2000 to highlight the contribution of the veterinary professionals around the world in public health, quarantine, clinical practice, animal welfare and environmental protection. She further applauded the choice of this

year's theme which promotes the concept of veterinarians being an integral and essential component of global health workforce very much in line with One Health concept.

Speaking further, she said that celebrations like these also provide us an opportunity to recall that without letting any scope for complacency, the veterinarians should continue their endeavours in order to bring prosperity to our farming community through growth and development of animal husbandry sector.

Similar events marking World Veterinary Day celebrations were also held at all district headquarters of Jammu division.

## Independent candidate Anantnag PC Pandita releases manifesto

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Dilip Kumar Pandita, an independent candidate contesting in the Anantnag Rajouri Parliamentary Constituency, on Saturday released an election manifesto with several key points aimed at addressing various issues in the region.

He in his manifesto, highlights many points including promoting dialogue for the reunion of Kashmiris, tackling unemployment through special packages, advocating for general reservations in education and employment, promoting self-employment opportunities, empowering local governance, improving civic amenities, and safeguarding the rights of state subjects in terms of employment and land ownership. Additionally, he emphasized restoring statehood to Jammu & Kashmir, addressing the needs of PM package employees, and focusing on eco-friendly schemes to uplift the state's economy while preserving its natural beauty.

He urged the voters especially Kashmiri Pandits community to vote and support him and press the button of his symbol 'Tubelight' to fulfill his assurance.

## GMC Baramulla initiates vaccination drive for Haj Pilgrim

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

BARAMULLA: Associated Hospital GMC Baramulla on Saturday commenced the much-anticipated vaccination drive for Haj pilgrims of 2024. The initiative, conducted at the hospital's premises, will continue on April 29, 2024. Dedicated teams comprising medical professionals, vaccination experts, security personnel, and sanitation staff are deployed to ensure a seamless vaccination process for all pilgrims. The teams include doctors, vaccinators, nursing staff, and an Adverse Events Following Immunization (AEFI) squad. In line with the schedule, approximately 150 pilgrims from Block Sheeri and Baramulla town are set to receive vaccinations at the facility. Notably, the successful execution of the vaccination drive has been bolstered by manpower support from Block Sheeri. The Medical Superintendent of Associated Hospital GMC Baramulla, Dr. Parvaiz Masoodi visited the venue to oversee the vaccination drive and expressed satisfaction with the ongoing efforts.

## EO reviews enforcement of ECI regulations on election expenditure



Expenditure Observer for Anantnag-Rajouri PC, Shyam Manohar Singh chairing a meeting.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

RAJOURI: Expenditure Observer for Anantnag-Rajouri, Parliamentary Constituency (PC), Shyam Manohar Singh on Saturday undertook a comprehensive review of ECI regulations regarding election expenditure here at a meeting with enforcement teams.

The meeting was attended by Assistant Expenditure Observers (AEOs), Video Surveillance Teams (VSTs), Video Viewing Teams (VVTs), Static Surveillance Team (SST), Flying Squad Team (FSTs), Media Monitoring Team and Accounting Team.

At the outset, the Observer took stock of functioning of teams wherein each team provided detailed

briefings on their respective roles and responsibilities.

The Observer underscored the importance of adhering to ECI guidelines, emphasizing the crucial role of each stakeholder in safeguarding the democratic process and conducting free, fair and peaceful elections. He called for a collective commitment towards upholding democratic values and maintaining transparency in electoral expenditures, thus upholding the integrity of electoral process

The Observer underscored the significance of harmonized coordination among concerned teams in executing their respective duties. He meticulously reviewed the ongoing activities and emphasized the need for syn-

chronized action to uphold the integrity of the electoral process.

Recognizing the pivotal role of meticulous planning and flawless execution, he stressed on maintaining close vigil and strict adherence to electoral guidelines.

Among the others, District Election Officer, Om Prakash Bhagat; SSP, Amrit Pal Singh; ADDC, Raj Kumar Thapa; Dy DEO, Shakeel Mir; DIO, Mohd Nawaz Choudhary and DTO, Mohammad Bashir attended the meeting.

Later, the Observer also visited Media Certification and Monitoring Committee Cell established in Dak Banglow where he interacted with the staff and took stock of its functioning.