# 'Publicly declare support to nine demands of PoJK DPs or forget our votes': Chuni warns political parties

**STATE TIMES NEWS** 

RAJOURI: International-An Organization for PoJK Displaced Persons - has asked the political parties and their candidates contesting from newly carved Anantnag - Rajouri parliamentary seat to clear their stand on nine major demands of refugees failing which they should refrain from seeking their support in the current Lok Sabha poll.

Addressing a large gathering of PoJK displaced persons from Rajouri District during "Rajouri Chalo" rally organized to create awareness among refugees about their electoral strength at Dak Bungalow, Rajouri, the S. O. S. International Chairman Rajiv Chuni said it was high time for all political parties and their contesting candidates to publically announce their full support to all major demands of refugees if they are serious to get nearly 1.5 lakh votes of PoJK displaced persons in

Rajouri and Poonch districts. "The political parties and their candidates must cease making lame excuses, suggesting that endorsing the nine major demands would offend a specific segment of society or other. Such claims hold no merit, as the PoJK displaced persons are integral members of Jammu and

Kashmir, sharing common ground and characters with others without any disagreement on pertinent issues. It's imperative for political leaders to publicly declare their support for our demands if they genuinely seek to secure the crucial 1.5 lakh votes of displaced persons, which will prove decisive," stated Chuni.

Chuni, who was authorized by the large gathering to devise a strategy over their role in the current Lok Sabha poll in the region, said that every individual displaced person has a concern that the refugee community has been overlooked and discriminated against by successive regimes while political leaders exploited them for their vote bank only. "This time, we won't tolerate such treatment," he said.

The nine major demands raised by PoJK displaced persons during "Rajouri Chalo" programme include implementation of the PoJK Refugees package passed by the cabinet of the then Jammu and Kashmir government in 2014 in letter and spirit, reservation of eight seats in Jammu and Kashmir assembly for the displaced people from PoJK areas, providing equal facilities to all the refugees displaced from PoJK on the lines of the displaced people



S. O. S. International Chairman Rajiv Chuni addressing gathering at Rajouri.

of Kashmir Valley, inclusion of 5.300 PoJK displaced families settled outside the J&K within the ambit of the package passed for PoJK refugees in October 2014, granting Scheduled Tribe status to the entire PoJK refugee community belonging to Pahari clan, tribe and ethnicity for which the PoJK refugee community is fully eligible, allowing PoJK displaced people to visit their religious places located in PoJK, to get back the cash deposited by PoJK refugees

in Jammu and Kashmir

Bank Mirpur before displace-

ment, formation of Mirpur,

Muzaffarabad, Poonch and

Gilgit scouts to guard the

Line of Control to prevent

infiltration and restoration of

land rights under sections The leader said the PoJK refugees had not been politi-

cally empowered. "We are unfortunate people that the seats reserved for PoJK refugees, from where they got displaced, have been

At least eight seats must be reserved in the J&K Assembly for them, enabling their representatives to vociferously raise their legitimate demands in the legislature. Territorial constituencies, crucial for our people to participate in elections, had been non-existent. It was the government's responsibility to ensure our political empowerment, vet our rights have been unjustly stripped away,"

He further said, "Despite recommendations of several commissions and committees, we have been denied our due share, while Valley Migrants were given two

Reorganisation Bill has proved the last nail in the coffin as it has virtually ceased our existence. Our land rights have been snatched under a conspiracy without legislative approval".

Chuni further said, "We want restoration of land rights under sections 578 and 254C. Both National and Kashmir - based political parties never bothered to raise the genuine issues of PoJK refugees. Our people are also squarely responsible for our plights as they have failed to unite in the fight for our rights".

Earlier, the large gathering passed a unanimous resolution authorizing the S. O. S. International Chairman Rajiv Chuni to take a call with regard to the participation of PoJK displaced persons in the Lok Sabha poll and their support to a particular political party and its candidates, provided that they publicly support their genuine and legitimate demands. Chuni said that nearly 1.5 lakh votes of PoJK displaced persons in Rajouri and Pooneh districts, which are the part of Anantnag -Rajouri parliamentary seat, will prove to be a decisive factor in the victory of any contesting candidate

He expressed his gratitude to all the prominent people from different Mohras and villages of Rajouri district for their participation in "Rajouri Chalo" rally and entrusted him with the responsibility of taking a call on the behalf of PoJK refugees to support a particular candidate or political party in the current Lok Sabha polls.

"I am fortunate and grateful that I have been given a big responsibility to take a call on deciding the PoJK displaced persons' support to a particular political party or candidate provided that they publicly declare their support to all our legitimate demands. I want to assure all the people of my community that I would not breach your trust and will come up to your expectations," Mr Chuni said. Others who addressed the gathering are Kewal Ram, V K Datta, Ved Raj Bali, Capt Ravinder Raina, Sharda Devi, Rajinder Sharma, Jyoti Swaroop, Sharma, Ashok Susheel Sharma, Subash Sharma, Jagjit Singh, Vijay Guru, Daleep Singh Chib, Balbir Pritam Sharma, Singh, Dheeraj Sharma, Pt. Satish Sharma, Khem Raj, Satinder Dev Gupta, Ved, Gurdeep Kumar, Pt. Sita Ram, Sanjay Choudharv and others

## KVK Reasi promotes scientific pulses production



KVK scientist during field visit.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

REASI: Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Reasi under the administrative control of Shere-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology-Jammu (SKUAST-J) is promoting the scientific cultivation of pulses in Reasi district of J&K under the dynamic stewardship of Vice Chancellor, Prof.BN Tripathi and able guidance of Director Extension, Prof.Amrish Vaid of SKUAST-J. According to Sr. Scientist &Head of KVK, Reasi, Dr. Banarsi Lal there is need to enhance the pulses production in the district so as to increase the income and employment among the farmers. He said that Reasi district has huge potential in pulses production and farmers can increase their pulses production by adopting the latest agricultural innovations in pulses production. He further said that farmers need to adopt the scientific cultivation of pulses

which includes the use of quality seed, Integrated Nutrient Management, Integrated Weed Management and Integrated Pest and Disease Management practices in the pulse crops. He expressed that in order to increase the income of the farmers' pulses can play a significant role. He also informed that pulses help to increase the fertility of the soil as pulses plants helps in nitrogen fixation. He emphasised on the timely plant protection measures in pulses so as to obtain the maximum yield. He narrated that pulses production will not only increase the income of the farmers but also enhances the nutritional level of the people as pulses are rich in proteins. KVK, Reasi has laid Front Demonstrations (CFLDs) on chickpea of improved varieties in different locations of Reasi improved technologies to the

### Mission 400 plus to pave way for realizing vision of Viksit Bharat: Slathia

**STATE TIMES NEWS** 

SAMBA: Former minister and Vice President Pradesh BJP Surject Singh Slathia said the NDA's mission 400 plus in the upcoming general elections to Lok Sabha will further strengthen the resolve of realizing the Prime Minister's vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047.

Addressing a series of Behrain, Samlah, Plai, Talot, Sumb, Odha. Jalapur. Sandhi and Naran Muthi in Samba, Slathia said the people of this great nation are standing on the brink of a historic milestone in the journey of India's development and progress to become Vishwa guru.

Slathia said the overwhelming support of the people underscores the BJP's unwavering commitment to building a stronger, prosperous India under the visionary leadership of Yashasvi Narendra Modi. During the past



Vice President Pradesh BJP Surjeet Singh Slathia addressing gathering at Samba.

progress and transformainfrastructure development to economic reforms, from social welfare initiatives to diplomatic endeavors, the BJP has left no stone unturned in its quest to create a Viksit Bharat, he

Referring to the transformation having taken place in Jammu and Kashmir since the abrogation Article 370 in 2019, Slathia said the bold step facilitated the implementation of all the central schemes and legislations for all segments of the

population in this part of the country, thereby equitably empowering all irrespective of gender, caste, creed, religion or region. "Having remained deprived of various schemes and legislations for nearly seven decades, the Union Territory is now enjoying full benefits and all the rights available to compatriots in rest of the country", Slathia said, adding that "the constitutional integration of Jammu and Kashmir with rest of the strengthened the national

the obstacles in extending the benefits of all the schemes to the citizens, ending the era of political uncertainty being perpetrated by vested interests as per their whims and political conveniences. He said this fact has now instilled a sense of confidence among the people to be part of the country's growth story. Slathia urged the people to vote and support the BJP candidate in the ensuing elections to further strengthen the hands of Prime Minister Modiji with mega mandate.

Prominent among those present in these meetings included Vice President BJP Samba Mohan Lal Singh Sharma, Vijay President, Mandal Balvinder Singh, Naresh Upydhaya General Secretary BJP Samba. Naresh Sharma, Rajeshwar Singh Sports Cell Incharge Samba Sarpanch Suraj Parkash Verma, Baldev Singh Jashir Sing Chand DDC, Suresh Kumar

## 'Politically bankrupt' Congress lacks welfare, development agenda: Jugal

**STATE TIMES NEWS** REASI/KATRA: The BJP

candidate from Jammu-Reasi seat Jugal Kishore Sharma launched a frontal attack on the Congress party by describing it as "politically bankrupt" having no agenda for the welfare of masses and development of the nation Addressing a series of the public meetings at Katra Mandal and Baba Dhansar Mandal, besides holding a road show from From Shalimar Park To Bus Stand (Shridhar Chowk) in Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra assembly segment, Sharma said the Congress leadership and its allies always practiced the policies of appeasement and discrimination against various sections of the society that hampered the overall growth and development. "Congress leadership was responsible for under-development in Jammu and Kashmir during the last six decades. It only encouraged secessionism and separatism over six decades for petty political gains. instead of finding a tangible



BJP candidate from Jammu-Reasi seat Jugal Kishore

Sharma along with others during poll campaign at Reasi. trend, however, has been rectified by the Prime Minister-led BJP government at the Centre. Transparency and accountability are the cornerstones of the Modi government's governance," Sharma said. Congress party subjected the people of Jammu and Kashmir to uncounted miseries by depriving them of the real development and the avenues of socio-economic upliftment for decades. The Congress leadership owes an explanation to the people of Jammu region as to by it failed to raise infrastructure over the past six decades

ment has been able to establish in just 10 years," he said. The BJP candidate further said, "The transformative vision set forth by Prime Minister Narendra Modi since 2014 has paved the way for the establishment of effective governance and a people-centric administration," he said. Sharma said the remote and far-off areas of Jammu and Kashmir have experienced a novel approach to public welfare schemes for the first time after Independence. He cited examples such as the Hijawala Scheme where the allocation of resources like gas cylinders was based solely on at the occasion.

religious or political affiliations. Highlighting the success of initiatives like the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY), the BJP candidate said that even households which hadn't traditionally supported the BJP witnessed improvements in their living conditions, with entire colonies being transformed into pucca (cemented) houses. Earlier, he also visit Thandi Khui Radha Sowami Ashram and paid his obeisance there. Prominent party leaders who accompanied Jugal Kishore Sharma included Minister Former Nanda, Former Mla Baldev Sharma, District President Reasi Rohit Dubey, District Prabhari Arvind Gupta, Ex-Chairman Muncipal Committee Katra Constituency Convenor Shashi Gupta, Mandal President Katra And DDC Panthal Rajinder Mengi, DDC Nirmala Devi, Mandal President Baba Dhansar Ramesh Sharma, Senior Leader Shiv Kuma Sharma and others also present

need, without consideration of

# Impressive Nagar Kirtan taken out

Sanchar'

youths of Nowshera and

Poonch which was main

public attraction of the

A large number of Sikh

community people from

adjoining villages of

Thanda Pani, Marchola,

Tanda, Benigala and other

areas thronged Gurudwara

Singh Sabha. The Nagar

Kirtan was started after

'Ardas' by Granthi of

Gurudwara Sahib S.

Tarlochan Singh in pres-

ence of president of

'Amrit

Sangat.

programme.



in connection of birth of

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SUNDERBANI: In connection with birth of 'Khalsa Panth', the Sikh community today took out an impressive Nagar-Kirtan from village Tanda to Sunderbani town here today.

The impressive Nagar Kirtan was taken out from Gurudwara Singh Sabha, Tanda to Gurudwara Singh Sabha, Sunderbani

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newspaper. The paper does no requested to verify the contents or secretary Gurnam Singh, cashier Balwant Singh, former panch Bachan Kour and former Sarpanch Mohan Singh, Kirtan Singh, and social worker Joginder Bushey. While president of NGO

Anmol Cultural Club Zorawar Singh Khalsa along with his team also served fruits, juice and cold water bottle to all devotees.

Gurdwara Singh Sabha Tanda Inderjeet Singh,

the 'Khalsa Panth'. It was A highly decorated chariot was created by using on 13 April 1699 that open vehicle where the was administered by Tenth Holy Guru Granth Sahib Guru, Shri Guru Gobind was placed. It was fitted Singh Ji to the Panj with loud speakers and Payares (The warriors). several religious personalities of the Sikh community A large number of devotees joined the religious were leading the Nagar procession Shri Guru Kirtan and reciting Granth Sahib was placed Gurbani Shabad Kirtan. on a decorated vehicle and In front of the vehicle. 'Panj Payare' attired in a Ragi Jathas were accompanying, followed by Sikh traditional dress of warriors carrying swords in The Sikh youth displayed hands, were leading the martial art led by the procession.

Meanwhile in Kalideh chowk, Roop market Banpuri and firing line near BSF campus people hold a different stalls such as colddrink, icecream, fruit, bread neutry and cold water.

Station house officer (SHO) Sunderbani SD Singh, former BDC chairman Arun Kumar Sharma, Sarpanch Lok Nath Sudan, and others also joined the religious procession.

### Mahan highlights significant improvements in Basohli constituency since 2014



DDC Chairman Kathua Col Mahan Singh along with locals during election campiagn at Basohli.

**STATE TIMES NEWS** 

BASOHLI: DDC Chairman Kathua Col Mahan Singh, senior BJP leader and prabhari of Basohli Assembly, conducted a campaign for Dr Jitendra Singh, the BJP candidate for the Kathua Udhampur Lok Sabha constituency. The campaign targeted the remote areas of Sialg, Bhikkad, and Nangali panchayats, where they were joined by Yuvkaran Singh, Joginder Singh, Hans Raj, Shankar Singh, and other prominent figures of the

Basohli constituency. During the campaign, Col Mahan Singh highlighted the exemplary work of the Modi government and Dr Jitendra Singh in transforming these remote areas. He emphasized the significant improvements in Basohli constituency since 2014, including the development of road infrastructure under schemes such as PMGSY and NABAD. He also mentioned the successful implementation of PMAY Shulabh and schemes

Shochalayas under the Swachh Bharat Mission, which have benefitted every individual deserving Additionally, he praised the Ujjwala Yojna for providing gas cylinders to every woman and commended Modi for ensuring justice for the Pahadi and Gujjar communities through political reservation and ST status, respectively. However, Col Mahan Singh

that Modi stands for the peo-

ple's welfare and will always

work in their favor.

welfare. did not shy away from criticizing Choudhary Lal Singh, highlighting his 25-year rule without significant development for the people. He accused Lal Singh of switching parties opportunistically, from Congress to BJP and then forming his own party, only to return to Congress after the DDC election results. Col Mahan Singh urged the people to not waste their votes on leaders like Lal Singh and remembered. instead support Dr Jitendra Singh in the uncoming Lok Sabha elections, emphasizing

# Ajatshatru Singh, Ranvijay inspect ongoing works at Jio Pota Ghat

STATE TIMES NEWS

AKHNOOR: Ajatshatru Singh, former minister along with Rajkumar Ranvijay Singh. Trustees of J&K Dharmarth Trust visited the historic Jio Pota Ghat in Akhnoor today to review the progress of ongoing works ahead of the 202nd Raj Tilak Divas of Maharaja Gulab Singh scheduled for June 17.

Pertinent to mention here that on June 17, 1822, Maharaja Ranjit Singh presided over the coronation ceremony of Maharaja Gulab Singh, marking a significant moment in history as Maharaja Gulab Singh ascended to become the first King of the erstwhile Jammu and Kashmir State. His reign was marked by substantial contributions to the development of the region and a steadfast commitment to public

During the inspection, Ajatshatru Singh and Rajkumar Ranvijay Singh assessed the status of ongoing restoration works aimed at preserving the cultural heritage and historical significance of Jio Pota Ghat. They emphasized the importance of commemorating the legacy of Maharaja Gulab Singh and ensuring that his contributions continue to be honored and

Expressing his thoughts on the occasion, Ajatshatru Singh stated, "Maharaja Gulab Singh's reign symbolizes a period of progress and prosperity for the region. It is essential for



M.K Ajatshatru Singh, former minister during visit to top Jia Potha Ghat at Akhnoor.

us to preserve and celebrate his legacy, as it serves as a reminder of our rich history and cultural heritage."

Ranvijay Singh added, "As we approach the 202nd Raj Tilak Divas of Maharaja Gulab Singh, it is crucial to ensure that the preparations are in full swing. We are committed to organizing a memorable event that pays homage to his visionary leadership and enduring legacy."

The visit to Jio Pota Ghat underscores the commitment of Aiatshatru Singh and Rajkumar Ranvijay Singh to uphold the historical significance of Maharaja Gulab Singh's coronation and to continue working towards the development and prosperity of the region.

Varinder Singh Jamwal, Additional Secretary of J&K Dharmarth Trust also accompanied the Trustees.

#### Swachhta Abhiyan for Healthy Life held **STATE TIMES NEWS**

POONCH: Army organised Swachhta Abhiyan for Healthy Life at Kandiyal Kote village in Naili and Govt High School, Behramgala. An awareness lecture too was conducted to increase awareness amongst children, youth and resident populace residing in remote areas regarding various diseases and their symptoms alongwith pro-active measures to stem the tide and emphasize on the importance of good eating habits. balanced diet plan and maintaining personal hygiene and sanitation to increase happiness quotient amongst the gathering. On this occasion, all personnel also took pledge to ensure cleanliness of their homes, workplace and surrounding areas. The event witnessed huge participation with volunteers from all sections of society including school children, women and renowned social activists.