

Sat urges BJP cadre to ensure ground-level implementation of Modi Govt's welfare schemes

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Sat Sharma, President, J&K BJP and former Minister, emphasized the dual responsibility of the party, supporting national security efforts while also being deeply committed to grassroots development and welfare.

Sharma was addressing an organizational meeting of senior party activists at Swarn Vihar, Durga Nagar, Jammu, Nand Kishore BJP District President, Jammu North, Rajiv Pandita, President, Kashmir Displaced District, Chan ji Bhat, senior leader, Ravish Mengi General Secretary, Jammu North, Pankaj Padha, Mandal President, Rohit Ganjool, Mandal President, Kapil Singh Chib, Ex Corporator, Jaideep Sambyal, senior leader and others attended the meeting.



President, J&K BJP Sat Sharma being honoured by party activists at Swarn Vihar, Durga Nagar.

"While the Modi government is working with full might to curb terrorism, neutralize terrorists, and crack down on sympathizers of terrorism to ensure lasting peace in the region, it is the prime duty of the BJP cadre to work for the basic needs of society and the implementation of public welfare schemes at the ground level" said Sat Sharma, while addressing the

meeting. Sat Sharma highlighted the transformational impact of various central government schemes such as PM Awas Yojana, Ujjwala Yojana, Ayushman Bharat, PM Kisan Samman Nidhi, and the Jal Jeevan Mission.

He urged the party cadre to act as a bridge between the administration and the public, ensuring that the benefits of these initiatives reach every

eligible citizen.

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of 'Antyodaya', uplifting the last person in the queue, can only be realized when we, as party workers, remain fully engaged with the people at the grassroots," Sharma stated. "Our responsibility does not end at policy formulation or announce-

ment. We must personally ensure effective delivery and awareness of these welfare measures."

Sharma stressed that it is the moral and political duty of every BJP worker to monitor implementation, assist in beneficiary identification, and report any lapses or delays. He also directed district and Mandal Presidents to conduct awareness drives, camps, and door-to-door outreach programs to inform citizens about available schemes and help them with enrollment processes.

Sharma concluded by reaffirming the BJP's unwavering commitment to both national integrity and social justice, calling on party members to remain vigilant, active, and compassionate in serving the people.

DBPS celebrates Bhagwan Parshuram Janam Utsav

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Durga Brahman Pratinidhi Sabha (DBPS), Chanakya Chowk Parade is organizing week long celebrations of Bhagwan Parshuram Janam Utsav.

Today being the Birthday of Bhagwan Parshuram, Puja Archana and Yagya was performed by the renowned priest's of Jammu for the peace, prosperity of the J&K UT. Five Yajman's performed the Puja on behalf of people of the UT.

Besides Hanuman Chalisa was also recited by all the people present in the Puja. The various Kirtan Mandlis of women in particular recited Bhajanas which kept the people spellbound.

After the Kirtan, large number of people partici-



Members of Sabha performing Puja Archana of Bhagwan Parshuram.

pated in the Puran Ahuti. Bhandara was also organized by the Brahman Sabha in which large number of people including devotees and local people took the Prasad.

Among others the members of Brahman Sabha were also present includ-

ing Ved Prakash Sharma (President DBPS), P.C Sharma, Chander Mohan Sharma, M.L Padha, Soujanya Sharma (Former Municipal Commissioner Jammu), Jagannath Sharma, Pt. Dev Raj Sharma and Shiv Ram Sharma.

Rakesh Jewellers unveils exciting offers on Akshaya Tithiya



■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Rakesh Jewellers, one of Jammu's most trusted names in fine jewellery, has announced exclusive offers to mark the auspicious occasion of Akshaya Tithiya, a day traditionally considered ideal for purchasing gold and precious ornaments. To celebrate this special day, Rakesh

Jewellers has launched its stunning new collection, showcasing exquisite designs in both gold and diamond jewellery. Customers visiting their showrooms at Lakhdatta Bazar and Gandhi Nagar can avail of attractive discounts on a wide range of ornaments.

In a special festive gesture, Rakesh Jewellers is also

offering a free gift with every purchase of gold or diamond jewellery during the Akshaya Tithiya celebrations from April 29 to 30, 2025. All gold items in the showroom are 100% Hallmarked, ensuring the highest standards of purity and quality.

A spokesperson from the brand stated, "Akshaya Tithiya is not just about buying jewellery, it's about investing in tradition, prosperity, and timeless beauty. Our offers and new collection reflect that sentiment."

With its commitment to authenticity, craftsmanship, and customer satisfaction, Rakesh Jewellers continues to be a preferred destination for festive jewellery shopping in Jammu. Shoppers are encouraged to visit early to make the most of these limited-time offers.

Dr. Jasrotia condemns Opposition's "Political Opportunism" amid national mourning over Pahalgam massacre

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a strongly-worded address, senior BJP leader and prominent Kashmiri voice Dr. Abhijeet Jasrotia, along with former MLC Girdhari Lal Raina and media Incharge Dr Pardeep Mahotra today denounced what he described as "shameful political opportunism" by opposition parties in the aftermath of the Pahalgam massacre, where 26 innocent civilians lost their lives in a brutal terrorist attack.

Speaking at a press conference at the BJP Headquarters in Trikuta Nagar, Jammu, Dr. Jasrotia expressed deep anguish over the statements made by leaders from the Congress and National Conference. "While the nation mourns and families struggle to cope with unspeakable loss, some political leaders are irresponsibly attempting to deflect atten-



Senior BJP leader Dr. Abhijeet Jasrotia briefing media.

tion from the tragedy by peddling misplaced narratives," he said.

He strongly criticized calls for dialogue with Pakistan and attempts to rationalize the terror attack. "This is not the time for political games. It is a time for national unity. To suggest that terrorists do not see religion is not only misleading but also an affront to the families who lost their loved ones-be they Hindu pilgrims or Kashmiri workers," Dr. Jasrotia

remarked.

Calling out what he termed as "a betrayal of national sentiment," he urged the opposition to reflect on the pain of the grieving families instead of offering indirect justifications for terrorism. "Go and look into the eyes of the widows of Pahalgam. Tell them their loss is due to political misunderstandings. The people of this country will not accept such insensitivity," he said.

Dr. Jasrotia further stated

that those who once justified the exodus of Kashmiri Pandits are now speaking the language of appeasement towards terrorist forces. "History will not forgive those who play politics with the blood of martyrs. The sacrifice of the victims of Pahalgam must unite us against terrorism and its sympathizers."

Girdhari Lal Raina, in his address said that the barbaric terrorist attack on innocent and unarmed tourists in Pahalgam has reopened our wounds. No words are sufficient to condemn this assault on humanity. The silver lining, if any, is the voluntary expression of grief by even those who hesitated to come out in open earlier. This speaks volumes about change that Jammu Kashmir has undergone in recent years.

Frustrated by this visible change, forces inimical to peace and prosperity and

anti-India echo-system has activated narrative controlling mechanism. Old videos were circulated in a manner to create an impression that students from Kashmir were under threat in different parts of the country. This was to divert attention away from the heinous crime committed against humanity in Pahalgam, said Raina.

"It was repeat of 1990 when Jagnmohan theory was propagated to divert focus from real perpetrators of mass exodus of entire religious minority of Kashmir", said Girdhari Lal Raina.

The press conference concluded with a solemn silence observed in memory of the victims. Dr. Jasrotia reaffirmed BJP's commitment to justice and national security, declaring: "We will not allow their sacrifice to go in vain. India stands united against terror and those who seek to justify it in any form."

World Dance Day celebrations: Balwant glorifies power of dance

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Natrang Jammu in connection with the celebrations of the International Day of Dance organised an event signifying the role of dance as an art form in a multi-cultural region like Jammu & Kashmir.

While glorifying the power of dance, the director of Natrang Padamshiri Balwant Thakur who took the dances of Jammu & Kashmir to global audiences dwelt in detail about the significant role local dances have played in integrating this region.

Jammu & Kashmir boasts of a remarkable diversity in its languages and cultural expressions. The variegated variety of different colors, rhythms, costumes, design patterns of Jammu & Kashmir are unique in the world. But it was only through the dances of Jammu & Kashmir we have been demonstrating the amazing cultural diversity to the world.

On the occasion to mark the world dance day celebrations, a presentation of the dances of Jammu & Kashmir entitled



Natrang artists performing dance form.

'Celebrating Diversity' was also showcased which Natrang has been presenting world over.

Fact remains that the outside world is not aware about this unique feature of Jammu & Kashmir and it was only through this special presentation of Natrang that the world was exposed to this rarest fact.

Be it 'Asia Pacific Festival' Germany, 'Days of India' at Russia, 'Diwali Festival' at Trafalgar Square in London, 'Kashmir Festival' in Kyrgyzstan, 'J&K Festival' in Dubai, 'Festival of India' in South Africa or G20

Celebrations in Kashmir, Natrang in a very artistic and innovative manner designed and presented the electrifying vibrancy of unique cultural diversity of Jammu & Kashmir.

Fact remains that on no occasion all diverse cultures 'Kashmiri', 'Dogri', 'Gojri', 'Pahari', and 'Bhadarwahi' of Jammu & Kashmir have got this kind of recognition. Never before the initiative of Natrang, the different ethnic groups got the opportunity to come-together on one stage and celebrate its unparalleled diversity.

Balwant Thakur firmly

believes that for the integration of different cultural regions of Jammu & Kashmir, the dances have played a cementing role in bringing them together, appreciating each other's culture and unique artistic significances.

Speaking about the purpose of World Dance Day Celebrations Balwant Thakur said that the core objective of the celebrations of this day is to raise public awareness of dance as an art form. Dance is a means of cultural expression and an important educational tool.

Despite being an important part of human life, it lacks

official recognition and patronage worldwide. This is also an occasion, a wakeup call for the governments, politicians and the members of the civil society to realise the value of this art form which has been highly instrumental in shaping societies since ages.

"This world day has been celebrated since 1982 when the dance committee of International Theatre Institute which works under the aegis of UNESCO, recognised this day to celebrate dance as an art form and promote its significance worldwide" Balwant Thakur concluded.

Randhawa starts blacktopping work commences in Ward 43

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a significant development for local infrastructure, the long-awaited blacktopping work in Ward No. 43, Nanak Nagar was formally inaugurated by MLA Ch. Vikram Randhawa.

The initiative, taken up in collaboration with the Public Works Department (PWD), aims to improve road conditions and facilitate smoother traffic movement in the area.

The inauguration ceremony witnessed the presence of senior officials from the PWD and an array of prominent local leaders and community representatives. Among the dignitaries present were Rahul Kumar (Mandal President), Surjeet Choudhary (Ex-Corporator), Bhushan Verma, Mohan Lal, Narinder Koki, Satvir Singh, Aman Rajesh Sharma, Vijay Verma, and others who have been actively advocating for developmental works in the region.

Speaking at the occasion, MLA Ch. Vikram Randhawa



MLA Ch. Vikram Randhawa starting road work.

reaffirmed his commitment to the welfare of the people and emphasized the importance of quality infrastructure in boosting local development.

"This is not just road work; it is a step toward transforming Nanak Nagar into a better, more connected neighborhood," he said. He also highlighted that similar projects are in the pipeline for adjoining areas and assured continuous monitoring to ensure timely completion.

Residents of the area

expressed gratitude for the commencement of the work, calling it a long-pending demand finally met. The improved roads are expected to benefit daily commuters, shopkeepers, schoolchildren, and elderly residents alike.

The event also served as a platform for public interaction, where concerns related to drainage, street lighting, and sanitation were heard and noted by the officials for prompt action.

Balbair greets Adarsh Jathiar on being elected General Secretary of Guru Ravidas Sabha



■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Balbir Ram Rattan extended heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to Adarsh Jathiar on being unanimously elected as the General Secretary of Guru Ravidas Sabha, Upper Gumat, Jammu.

Balbir Ram Rattan, who himself is the National General Secretary of the Guru Ravidas Vishwa Mahapeeth, General Secretary of the Indian branch of the British Ravidasia Heritage Foundation, and a member of the Begumpura Vishwa Mahasabha, stated that the election of Adarsh Jathiar to

the Sabha reflects the immense trust and respect he commands among members of the community.

He expressed confidence that under Jathiar's capable leadership, the Sabha will continue to advance in its mission of service and spiritual upliftment. He also appreciated the democratic values and spirit of unity demonstrated during the election, calling it a symbol of collective commitment to the values and teachings of Guru Ravidas Ji.

Balbair said, "Adarsh Jathiar is a dedicated and visionary individual who has long been associated with social service and the promotion of Guru Ravidas Ji's teachings. His unanimous election is a recognition of his sincere efforts and leadership qualities. I am fully confident that he will serve the Sabha with utmost dedication and uphold the ideals of equality, justice, and spiritual harmony as shown by Guru Ravidas Ji."

Balbair appealed to the community to fully support Adarsh Jathiar in his new role and to embrace a spirit of collective responsibility in achieving the Sabha's mission. He also reiterated his own unwavering commitment and support for this mission.

Balbair wished Adarshu Jathiar a successful tenure and called for unity, progress, and devotion to the principles of Guru Ravidas Ji.

Annual Rank-cum-Felicitation Ceremony of NCC Naval Wing held at MAM College

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Maulana Azad Memorial (MAM) College, Jammu, hosted its Rank Cum Felicitation Ceremony for the session 2025-26, celebrating the achievements of its NCC Naval Wing Cadets.

The event was a vibrant celebration of discipline, leadership, and dedication displayed by the NCC cadets wherein Dr. Sheikh Aijaz Bashir, Director Colleges, Higher Education Department, J&K was the Chief Guest, and Commander Tej Ram Sharma graced the occasion as Guest of Honour.

In her inaugural address, Prof Archana Kaul, the Principal of the College, lauded the NCC cadets for their commendable achievements and contribution to the institution whileas Tej Ram Sharma, (Commanding Officer 1



Management along with meritorious NCC cadets.

J&K Naval Wing Srinagar), addressed the cadets, congratulating the rank holders and meritorious cadets for their outstanding achievements. He expressed his appreciation for the event, noting the exemplary performance of the cadets from MAM College and their contribution to the

NCC. Later on the annual report was presented through a comprehensive PowerPoint presentation by SCC Neha Sharma, showcasing the college's NCC Naval Wing activities and achievements over the past year.

Following this, cadets who had demonstrated excep-

tional performance were felicitated. New rank of Senior Cadet Captain Rank was conferred to Sourav Singh Sombria, Cadet Captain Rank to Simran Sharma and Dimple Singh, Petty Officer Rank was conferred to Pooja Mandal and Rishant Satti where as Leading Cadet Rank was

awarded to Omesh Singh Boughal, Prince Singh, Neha Devi and Deepika Bali.

Dr. Sheikh congratulated the newly appointed rank holders and extended his best wishes to the outgoing cadets. He highlighted the importance of NCC in student life and motivated the cadets to continue their dedicated service.

Dr. Bashir also commended the Principal for organizing a well-coordinated and impactful event and urged the cadets to uphold the values of the NCC.

In his concluding remarks, Mohd Ashraf, CTO of the Naval Wing, expressed his gratitude to Dr. Sheikh Aijaz Bashir, Tej Ram Sharma, faculty members, non-teaching staff, support staff, and cadets for their support and participation, which contributed to the grand success of the event.