

Opposition manufacturing false narrative about CAA: Dr Jitendra

STATE TIMES NEWS
KOLKATA: Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh said here on Thursday that the opposition, particularly the Mamata Banerjee-led TMC, is manufacturing false narrative about the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) and called upon the BJP Karyakartas, particularly in the State of West Bengal, to vociferously and consistently refute this false propaganda, which is an attempt by the TMC to mislead the innocent voters at a time when the election process is going on and the 5th phase polling is just three days away.

Dr. Jitendra was addressing a joint meeting of the Election Core groups of all the West Bengal Lok Sabha constituencies going to polls in the 5th phase on the 20th of this month. Also present in the meeting were National General Secretary Sunil Bansal, West Bengal State BJP President Dr. Sukanta Majumdar, State



Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh addressing joint meeting of 5th phase Lok Sabha constituencies at Kolkata.

General Secretary (Organisation) Amitabh Chakraborty, National Secretary BJP Arvind Menon and all the other important National and State office bearers associated with the West Bengal election.

At the outset, said Dr. Jitendra, it needs to be emphasised loud and clear that CAA will not take away the citizenship of anybody but on the other hand, it will confer citizenship to those who deserve it but have so far been deprived of it. He also refuted Mamata Banerjee's contention that she will not allow the CAA to be implemented in West Bengal and said that the State government can never stop CAA implementation because the matter is under the purview of the Central Government and the Union Home Ministry.

Dr. Jitendra Singh further informed that on the 11th of March, the Union Ministry of Home Affairs had notified the rules for the CAA where the people seeking citizenship under the Act can apply through a Portal.

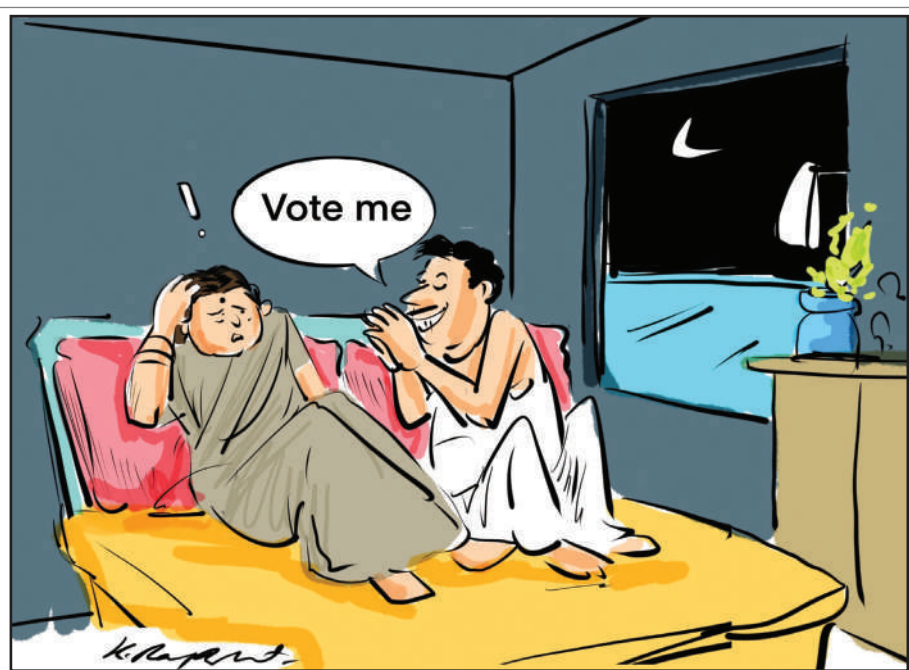
Refuting TMC's false propaganda that anyone applying for Citizenship under the CAA will face problems, Dr. Jitendra said, "the BJP Karyakartas should go out and assure the people that no one will face any trouble", and further said that only yesterday the first lot of 14 people have been handed over the Citizenship Certificates

under the CAA by the Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla.

As a part of TMC's appeasement policy and the Party's effort to woo a certain section of vote bank on religious lines, Dr. Jitendra alleged that the West Bengal Chief Minister and her colleagues are ready to make every compromise for electoral gains even if it ends up in injustice and discrimination against a large number of citizens.

He said, CAA is intended to confer citizenship and a status of respect to those who faced religious persecution in Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan, and were forced to take refuge in India.

With the next three phases of polling left in West Bengal, Dr. Jitendra Singh called upon the BJP Karyakartas to initiate a sustained campaign to defy the myth of falsehood which is being spread by the TMC leaders and its workers at every platform with a mischievous design.



J&K on developmental spree fulfilling dreams of PM Modi: Sharma

Former Mayor says honest-upright leadership in J&K working miracles

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Senior BJP leader and former Mayor of Jammu, Rajinder Sharma has stated that the newly formed Union Territory (UT) of Jammu and Kashmir is on developmental spree as per the resolve of PM Modi.



Former Mayor Jammu, Rajinder Sharma and others at a programme.

Addressing a gathering at Senior Citizens Rejuvenation Centre-an organisation with 250 elite members including retired Chief Engineers, top businessmen and other bigwigs in Trikuta Nagar area on Thursday, Sharma said that PM Modi has changed the life of J&K people and made historic developments possible at this northern most region of the country.

"Things which never thought of like abrogation of Article 370 and 35-A from J&K were made to happen and the chronic stone pelting over the security forces has now become a thing of the past while the dreaded terrorist organisations were finished with their heads despatched to hell," Sharma said. Further counting achievements he said that reservation to Paharis, political reservations to KPs, refugees, Gujjars and increasing the number of seats in Legislative Assembly to 90 were historic achievements under the leadership of PM Modi.

"At social level pensions directly in bank accounts of beneficiaries, PHH ration 60 lakh people, social schemes, Ayushman Cards

to all the people in J&K, tap water in all the houses with 16.4 lakh people newly beneficiaries of this, every house getting electricity, road to remote places, infrastructure development like bridges, buildings etc," former Mayor maintained adding, "In online services Tamil Nadu was at top earlier but now J&K has acquired this place and as far as e-tendering is concerned again J&K is at the top."

The senior BJP leader said, earlier in Srinagar no processions were possible but now religious as well as other processions with Tricolour were held in Srinagar while earlier one of the politician had threatened that none would be there to hold the Tricolour.

"On political, social as well as religious front, we should take J&K politics and leadership honestly to the top in integral and transparent manner respecting the sentiment of all," he continued expressing, "Jan Sushasan Abhiyan is all this with good people, good thoughts, good and honest deeds and collec-

JU AC approves Ph.D Programme in Engineering & Technology

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Academic Council (AC), University of Jammu, at its meeting presided over by Prof Umesh Rai, Vice Chancellor, on Thursday approved the proposal for Ph. D in Engineering and Technology. The Academic Council discussed a number of important initiatives aimed at advancing academic excellence and institutional growth.

During the meeting, Prof Rahul Gupta, Registrar, JU placed 21 agenda items along with the Action Taken Report on the minutes of the previous meeting before the AC.

To augment the research initiative of the University, for the first time in the faculty of Engineering and Technology, the proposal submitted by the Office of Dean Research Studies with respect to the introduction of Ph.D Programme in Engineering & Technology at GCET/MIET (Autonomous College/Institute)/UIET was unanimously endorsed by the Academic Council. For this purpose a separate BORS in Engineering & Technology shall be constituted by the University. The Academic Council endorsed in principle the scheme for graduation and post graduation courses in Disaster Management for Instructors at High Altitude Warfare School (HAWS),



Vice Chancellor, Prof Umesh Rai chairing Academic Council meeting of University of Jammu.

Gulmarg. This scheme is designed for serving army instructors with specialized skills and well prepared individuals capable of leading and cooperating effective disaster response efforts in challenging environments.

The University of Jammu and High Altitude Warfare School of Army at Gulmarg have entered into MOU for technical advancement and progression of army personnel, University students and faculty members specifically in the disciplines of high altitude studies and disaster management in mountainous regions.

The item with regard to the institution of Late S.D. Rohmetra Memorial Gold Medal, one for male and one for female topper in the Dept. of Journalism and Mass Communication, with effect from the first passing out batch was endorsed by the Academic Council. It also approved a touch and smell garden for visually impaired students at the Botanical Garden at the University, an initiative of the Department of Botany.

During the meeting, the revival of one year PG diploma in Sanskrit in the Post Graduate Department of Sanskrit for syndicate was also endorsed. The item with regard to grant of maternity leave/child care leave to the students pursuing the teacher education courses i.e. B.Ed, M.Ed, B.P.Ed., M.P.Ed. B.A.B.Ed from the academic session 2024-2025 onwards as per NCTE norms was also endorsed by the Academic Council. The Academic Council also gave nod to devising/formulating selection criteria of engagement of contractual faculty in order to make the process more objective and to have rigorous qualification assessment. Besides, the Academic Council also endorsed the items with regard to increase/decrease of intake capacity, fees of self-enhancing, change of eligibility criteria and the open courses of various PG programmes, revision of guidelines for the admission of International Students in the University, adoption of Guidelines on Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Programme (MMTTP) in the JU, along with many other items.

The Academic Council unanimously nominated Prof. Rajeev Rattan, Director Colleges Development Council, to work on the Syndicate for the remaining triennial period of 2024-27 of the University Syndicate of the JU in pursuance of section 23 (1) (VIII) of Kashmir and Jammu Universities Act, 1969.

At the outset Prof. Rai, welcomed the members of the Academic Council, acknowledging their invaluable contributions and also expressed gratitude to the outgoing members.

He commended the collaborative efforts of the Office of the Dean Academic Affairs and all the heads of the teaching departments in streamlining the academic calendar of the University. He also lauded the efforts of the Directorate of Internal Quality Assurance and the steering committee for their diligent preparations towards

the NAAC accreditation. He also lauded the Examination Wing for its commendable work in enrolling students in the Academic Bank of Credit and creating more than three thousand accounts.

Prof. Rai applauded the Department of Botany for its innovative endeavours of installing QR Code on every tree on the University Campus, and also commended the IT Cell of the University for e-governance initiative, and other initiatives. The Vice Chancellor also informed the house that a corpus of Rs 2 crore has been sanctioned to various clubs under Utsah and Rs 50 lakhs for Litzin Magazine.

Earlier, Prof. Anju Bhasin, Dean Academic Affairs, delivered a formal welcome address.

The Academic Council meeting was attended by Prof. Meena Sharma, Dean Planning and Development, Prof. Neelu Rohmetra, Dean Research Studies, Deans of various Faculties, Rectors of Off-Site Campuses, Directors and Heads of the Departments, Conveners of Boards of Studies, senior officers, and other officials of the University.

The proceedings of the meeting were conducted by Prof. Rahul Gupta, Registrar, University of Jammu, and Dr Sumita Sharma, Deputy Registrar DAA, presented a formal vote of thanks.

NC, Congress exploited Gujjars, Paharis for years together, did nothing for their welfare: Priya

Says Modi Govt provided ST status to Paharis, did justice to OBCs



Priya Sethi, NEM BJP interacting with people of Nowshera.

STATE TIMES NEWS
NOWSHERA: Successive governments headed by National Conference, Congress and PDP in the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir had exploited the nomadic tribes for years together and used them for their political motives.

This was stated by Priya Sethi, National Executive Member BJP and former Minister while interacting with people of Nowshera.

Sarpanch Anil Kumar, Mandal Adyakhsh Ravinder and DDC Rajender Sharma were also present. Priya Sethi highlighted the historical exploitation endured by nomadic tribes under the regimes of the National Conference (NC), Congress, and the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP).

She emphasized that these political entities had utilized the nomadic tribes solely for their own political gains, disregarding their welfare and well-being.

The former minister said that votes of nomadic tribes will never be polled in NC's favour because this party's successive governments exploited them for years together. She reiterated that several promises were made with the nomadic people during election campaigns but were never fulfilled once the votes were secured. This cycle of exploitation, promising

change but failing to deliver, had left the nomadic tribes disillusioned and disenfranchised.

Priya Sethi said that the BJP on the contrary provided avenues to the people of J&K especially the Gujjars and Bakerwals and other underprivileged sections including ST status to Paharis, which was their long pending demand, to live a life full of dignity and pride. The senior BJP leader said that the Bharatiya Janata Party has decided to extend support to like-minded parties contesting in the Kashmir Valley as she also cautioned people to stay away from such parties which are doing politics just to fill their own pockets.

She asserted that the Bharatiya Janata Party is working on the principles of Sab Ka Saath Sab Ka Vikas and Sab ka Vishwa.

She said the BJP Government at the Centre has prioritized delivering justice to the Gujjar and Bakerwal communities by safeguarding their reservation rights and extending support through various benefits via centrally sponsored schemes. She said this proactive approach has posed challenges for the NC party, as it is increasingly evident that members of the Gujjar and Bakerwal communities, alongside Paharis, are unlikely to

PM Modi's visionary abrogation of Art 370 transforms J&K : Rana

STATE TIMES NEWS
BEHRAMPUR: Senior BJP leader Devender Singh Rana on Thursday said that Jammu and Kashmir stands holistically transformed post abrogation of Article 370 during the past nearly five years with remarkable turnaround discernible in the overall situation, infrastructural development and implementation of the various welfare schemes.



Senior BJP leader Devender Singh Rana addressing public meeting at Behrampur.

"In the wake of unwavering dedication and strategic initiatives taken by visionary Prime Minister Yashasvi Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah, the Union Territory has ushered in an era of stability, development, and unity", Devender Rana said while addressing a public meeting as part of the election campaign for the BJP candidate from Gurdaspur Punjab parliamentary Constituency Dinesh Singh Babbu along with former Minister Rajiv Jasrotia, DDC Vice Chairman Jammu Suraj Singh and Surinder Singh Gilli.

He said the BJP's commitment to inclusive governance as per Prime Minister's Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayas has fostered a sense of belonging with

renewed spirit of confidence among people. So much so that the political entities believing in separatism have also now realized the futility of their misadventure and shown intent to join the mainstream.

This is a huge shift in the political landscape, all because of the firm leadership at the Centre and unflinching support of the people of Jammu and Kashmir to the initiatives for bringing lasting peace in once trouble torn state, he said, adding that the people are for the first time having a feel of being at the centre stage of various schemes aimed at ameliorating their lot.

He said the past decade has witnessed the Modi Government surmounting

numerous challenges on domestic and global fronts, and the next five years are going to be an unprecedented era of holistic development, economic growth and social harmony, leading the Nation to become Vishvaguru.

Rana also made a mention of path breaking initiatives taken across Jammu and Kashmir with an avowed objective of ensuring development, creating infrastructural facilities, strengthening utility services and giving fillip to growth as a result of massive investments.

He said the investments are going to manifest in industrialization on a mega scale thus opening vistas of opportunities for economic empowerment and generation of jobs for professionals, technocrats, educat-

ed unemployed besides skilled and unskilled workforce.

He said the Union Territory is at the threshold of a new era of peace and progress as per Naya Jammu Kashmir vision of the Prime Minister with tourism booming, gardens blooming, stone pelting becoming nightmare of the past and new hope emerging among the people about next five years focusing on sustaining the gains of the peace with development and economic prosperity getting new wings, he asserted.

Devender Rana said that encouraging turnaround in the Kashmir situation in particular post August 2019 has led to unprecedented tourist footfall in both the regions of Jammu and Kashmir. The people have

now realized the futility of alien gun culture and developed stakes in peace for development, progress, and prosperity. This has turned turtle the apple cart of those banking on boiling Kashmir and thriving on instability and unrest to further their nefarious political agenda for decades. But, seeing the peoples' preference for peace over disturbances and economic activity over shut-down syndrome, a new era of hope and promise is discernible across the Union Territory.

He said the Prime Minister's mission of Naya Jammu and Kashmir is being carried forward in missionary mode.

Seeking votes for the BJP nominee for Gurdaspur constituency, Rana said this will support the Prime Minister's vision of taking India to the highest pinnacles of progress and development. This will also strengthen his resolve to make Viksit Bharat by 2047, he maintained.

Among others who were present included Ashok Singh Manhas, Sanjay Gupta, Ajay Gupta, Aditya Gupta, Balbir Singh, Sangram Singh and Ajay Singh.

Horticulture Dept field functionaries updated on HADP



Director Horticulture Jammu C.L Sharma chairing an event.

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: One day Capacity Building/Training Program on Holistic Agriculture Development Program (HADP) was organised by the Department Horticulture Jammu here on Thursday.

Director Horticulture Jammu Chaman Lal Sharma chaired the event attended by Chief Horticulture Officer Ashwani Sharma, District Level Subject Matter Specialist Ponnology Sandeep Gupta, Horticulture Development Officers, besides

could adopt for the betterment of the farmers and removing the bottlenecks in the implementation of departmental schemes.

Stressing the need to promote Horticulture Profession, he said there was an immediate need to shift from Traditional Horticulture to Smart Horticulture by adopting the latest innovations like Modified High Density Plantation, Strawberry cultivation, Micro-irrigation technologies, Protected Cultivation techniques, Organic farming and Mechanization. The Director instructed the officers to organize awareness camps, Kissan Goshtis, etc. to ensure effective implementation of departmental schemes for the ultimate benefit of the fruit growers.

With its multifaceted approach encompassing technological interventions, crop diversification, market linkages and farmer capacity building, the plan underscores a paradigm shift towards modernized and resilient agricultural practices.

Earlier, the Chief Horticulture

Officer Jammu Ashwani Sharma briefed the chair about the status of different ongoing Horticulture developmental schemes for the upliftment of the farming community.

Several queries were raised by the HDOs and other field functionaries regarding the better implementation of HADP in the field. The chair addressed all the queries of the field functionaries very effectively on the spot. DLSMS Sandeep Gupta carried out the proceedings of the programme.