

## Justice Tashi interacts with children on ill effects of Substance Abuse

### Awareness Programme conducted in DPS Athawajan

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The J&K Legal Services Authority in collaboration with District Legal Services Authority, Srinagar and with the support of Delhi Public School (DPS), Srinagar on Friday organised an impactful awareness program for students on the topic "Substance Abuse: Consequences, Prevention, and Challenges" at DPS, Athawajan, here. The event brought together esteemed dignitaries, experts, and passionate students.

Justice Tashi Rabstan, Senior-most Judge, High Court of J&K and Ladakh and Executive Chairman, J&K Legal Services Authority was the Chief Guest on the occasion.

On his arrival, Justice Tashi accompanied by Anit Kumar Gupta, Member Secretary and Muzamil Hayat Kabli, Under Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority was warmly received by Vijay Dhar, Chairman and Shafiq Afshan, Principal, Delhi Public School, Srinagar as well as Dr. Arshid Hussain, Professor, Psychiatry Department, GMC Srinagar, Dr. Majid Shafi, Psychiatrist, JLN Hospital Srinagar and Jahangir Ahmad Bakshi,



Justice Tashi Rabstan, Senior-most Judge, High Court of J&K and Ladakh interacting with students of DPS Athawajan.

Secretary, DLSA Srinagar.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation of students, faculty members, administrative staff of DPS Srinagar, advocates, law students, staff of J&K Legal Services Authority and DLSA Srinagar as well as Para Legal Volunteers (PLVs).

In his opening address, Vijay Dhar extended a warm welcome to the Chief Guest and expressed gratitude to Justice Tashi for short listing DPS Srinagar for interacting with the students on drug abuse. He further emphasized the significance of conducting such programs which go a long way in raising awareness and diverting the children

towards positive societal change.

Delivering the Presidential address, Justice Tashi highlighted the need to raise awareness regarding ill effects of substance abuse especially among the young adolescents and urged all the stakeholders especially the teachers to come forward and extend a helping hand in eradicating this menace from the society. Justice Tashi further emphasized that a collective and concerted effort is needed both at institution and family level to tackle this evil which is driving our youth towards destruction.

Both the eminent resource persons on the occasion namely Dr. Arshid Hussain and Dr.

Majid Shafi, explained in detail the causes behind the increase in substance abuse especially in Valley and also revealed that the data suggests that the Kashmir valley has surpassed the State of Punjab as far as involvement of young generation in drug abuse is concerned. Dr. Shafi also highlighted the initiatives of UT Government in establishing a 24x7 helpline no. 14416 for the benefit of those affected by substance abuse and need care and counselling. He also informed the gathering that in every hospital a de-addiction center has been established for the benefit of such persons.

Dr. Arshid Hussain narrat-

ed his experiences to the audience to educate them about the ways and means required to be adopted to stay away from drug addiction.

The program was enriched by a compelling skit performed by law students and advocates, illustrating the detrimental effects of substance abuse. In appreciation of their efforts, Justice Rabstan presented certificates to the participants, acknowledging their active involvement and contribution to the success of the event.

Secretary, DLSA Srinagar, Jahangir Ahmad Bakshi proposed the formal vote of thanks and expressed gratitude to the management of DPS Srinagar for extending support in organizing awareness program on such an important issue. He further expressed appreciation to all the contributors for encouraging the Legal Services Institutions to raise voice in fighting the menace of Substance Abuse. The event concluded on a high note, with a commitment to continued education, inspiring action, and nurturing a healthier, safer community on the path towards a substance-free society.



## Gaurav calls on LG Sinha, highlights transformative impact of Govt policies on lives of Valley residents

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Gaurav Gupta, former General Secretary of Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Jammu, held a meeting with Lt Governor Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhawan Jammu.

During the meeting, Gaurav Gupta engaged in constructive dialogue with Lt Governor Sinha, focusing on matters crucial to the growth



Gaurav Gupta, former General Secretary CCI Jammu calling on Lt Governor Manoj Sinha.

and development of Jammu and Kashmir.

Furthermore, he also extended his sincere appreciation to Lt Governor Sinha for the commendable voter turnout of 38 per cent witnessed in the Srinagar -2 Parliamentary constituency. Recognizing the significance of this historic milestone, he highlighted the importance of robust civic engagement in shaping the democratic process.

Gaurav also highlighted that the absence of boycotts and strikes during the polling

process in the Kashmir Province, for the first time, is a testament to the positive strides being made towards stability and inclusivity in the region. Gaurav affirmed that Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory is witnessing unprecedented progress and development under the visionary leadership of LG Sinha. He expressed optimism about the future trajectory of the region, emphasizing the transformative impact of government policies on the lives of its residents.

## Shekhawat, Jugal, Rana address election rally

### NDA set to cross 400mark: BJP



Union Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and senior BJP J&K leaders addressing election rally at Dinanagar.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

DINANAGAR: Union Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat on Friday lashed out at the INDI Alliance, particularly the Congress, for dividing the country to further its divisive political agenda, saying all their machinations will fail as they stand exposed before the people of India.

Addressing an election rally at Dinanagar, along with senior BJP leaders Jugal Kishore and Devender Singh Rana, in support of the party candidate Dinesh Singh Babu from Gurdaspur Parliamentary Constituency, Shekhawat exuded confidence that the BJP led National Democratic Alliance will cross the 400 mark in the ongoing general elections.

Shekhawat said the country has achieved enviable milestones in every sphere, be it development, infrastructural upgradation, economic resurgence, growth and stability under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the past one decade. These have been the years of achievement and placing India on the global landscape as an inspiring nation that has made significant headway in facing the challenges and is set to become the third largest economy in the next five years, he added.

Speaking on the occasion, Member Parliament Jugal Kishore Sharma referred to the BJP's commitment of upholding the principles of inclusivity and good governance, saying this will lead to India becoming Vishwa Guru.

Sharma expressed confidence that the third term of Prime Minister Narendra Modi will make the compatriots proud of being the third economy in the next five years and Viksit Bharat by 2047. The world is watching India's growth story under Modi with interest and

attention, he maintained. Speaking on the occasion, Devender Rana said that with a track record of transformative, inclusive, transparent and accountable governance and commitment to progress of the country, the BJP is all set to gain once again the trust of the people on June 4.

"The BJP's vision for a strong, prosperous, and inclusive Bharat resonates deeply with the aspirations of millions of Indians across the country", Rana said, adding that from vibrant global reputation and robust economic reforms to decisive actions on national security, the BJP's agenda reflects its unflinching commitment to serve every segment of Indian society as per cherished agenda of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayas. This mantra has already galvanized the people, with whose blessings, the nation has ushered in a new age of peace, progress and prosperity for the nation, he added.

Devender Rana said that the BJP has been tirelessly working for the welfare of every citizen, irrespective of religion, caste, creed or region and is committed to upholding the values of unity and diversity that forms the bedrock of the unique identity of the nation. This has earned the party immense public goodwill that will surely manifest in achieving the target of 400 plus by the National Democratic Alliance. Surely the BJP is going to touch the 370 mark on its own, he asserted. Prominent among others who were present were former Minister Rajiv Jasrotia, DDC Chairman, Jammu Bharat Bhushan, former MLA Dinanagar Renu Kashyap, DDC Vice Chairman Jammu Suraj Singh, Jai Sharma, Amit Dubey, Ajay Gupta, Sanjay Gupta, Aditya Gupta, Dalbir Singh.

## Lok Sabha results to turn tables in West Bengal: Dr Jitendra



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh addressing a BNP meeting in Serampore Lok Sabha constituency, Kolkata. Also seen is State Gen Secretary (Org) Amitav Chakraborty.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KOLKATA, May 17: Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh said here on Friday that the Lok Sabha results on 4th June will turn the tables in West Bengal and pave the way for BJP majority in the ensuing Assembly elections.

Addressing a strategic meeting of BJP election convenor, co-convenor and important members of the BJP Election Management in Serampore Lok Sabha Constituency here, Dr. Jitendra Singh said, the people of West Bengal have made up their mind to vote for Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led BJP and it is now the responsibility of each one of us as Karyarkatas, to make up our mind once and for all to convert the people's will into votes on the day of polling.

He called upon the BJP workers to maintain a focussed approach for the next three days till the polling for phase 5 is over.

Referring to his responsibility with regard to the phase 5 Lok Sabha elections in West Bengal, Dr. Jitendra Singh said, last time we had won three out of these seven seats but this time with a little perseverance and determination, we are in a position to win all the seven and in any case minimum six out of seven by all means. He said, Bongaon, Barrackpore and Hooghly are the three seats which the BJP had won in 2019 also and this time out of the other four, we are in a winning position in Howrah with a new candidate, in Arambagh which we lost last time with an extremely narrow margin of just 1,000 votes and Serampore where the incumbent TMC MP is facing huge anti-incumbency and it is up to us to convert this into a positive vote for BJP.

Dr. Jitendra Singh, along with the West Bengal State General Secretary (Organisation)

Amitav Chakraborty received a detailed reporting about smaller details before the campaign comes to an end tomorrow. The office bearers present in the meeting gave inputs about the election kits having been delivered along with the Voter slips and also the logistic arrangements made for the day of polling.

Dr. Jitendra Singh called upon the BJP Karyarkatas to approach the day of polling with a high morale and sense of confidence. He said, let us not forget that in the earlier four phases of polling in West Bengal, there has not been a single incident of violence and the same trend is expected to continue in the subsequent three phases also.

The TMC workers, said Dr. Jitendra Singh, have been trained by their leaders to indulge in all kinds of wrong practices but the BJP Karyarkatas this time are fully committed while observing all the norms and ethics of the election process. He expressed confidence that by the end of polling on May 20th, the message would have gone loud and clear to the TMC leadership that the ground is slipping under their feet and the beginning of the end of TMC dominance has started which will culminate with BJP victory in the ensuing State Assembly elections.

## Social organizations for collective preservation, promotion of Dogra Culture & heritage



Chairman Team Jammu, Zorawar Singh Jamwal talking to reporters.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: It is very unfortunate that ancient Dogra culture is eroding and the days are not far when it will just remain in chapters of history of Jammu and Kashmir; if the people of Jammu region fails to take a collective call on the issue.

This was expressed by members of Team Jammu, Parmeshwari Care & Cure Charitable Trust, Senior Citizens Support Service Club and representatives of several other social organizations while addressing a joint press conference at Press Club of Jammu, here on Friday.

The speakers including Zorawar Singh Jamwal, Chairman, Team Jammu, Prof. (Dr) Kulbushan Mohtra, Managing Director, Parmeshwari Care & Cure Charitable Trust, Major General Shiv Kumar Sharma, C.M. Seth (retd IFS), Ramesh Khajuria, Chairman, Wool & Woollens Export Council & Chairman CEPC, Ministry of Textile and Retd. Dy. Director Vijay Gupta dwelt at length that there is dire need to start

a vigorous campaign guiding younger generation to follow their roots by speaking mother tongue Dogri, wearing Dogra dresses and preparing delicious Dogra cuisine at least once a week in their respective homes.

Stressing upon the elders in the families to come forward and educate their dear ones about the Dogra culture and heritage, its values and rituals, the speakers said that the Dogras have history of bravery, supreme sacrifices and splendid contribution in the social equality, progress and prosperity of their motherland and this all should not remain in books but be shared with others and make them adopt the Dogra rituals, dress, food and festivals in lives. They argued that there is no doubt that younger generation can't be bereft of learning other languages including English but not at the cost of completing leaving mother tongue Dogri.

The speakers demanded that as the Dogri language has been recognized as state's one of the official languages, so it must be introduced in all the schools from Primary level.

They also appealed the private school institutions owned by Dogras to take the lead and introduce Dogri as subject up till Primary level in their respective institutions.

They further appealed to all the social and community organizations including Dogra Sadar Sabha, Shri Amar Khastriya Rajput Sabha, Brahman Pratinidhi Sabha, Mahajan Sabha, Yuva Rajput Sabha, Guru Ravidass Sabha, Vishwakarma Sabha, Kabir Sabha, Valmiki Sabha, Saryara Biradari, Guru Nabha Dass Sabha, and others to come forward and collectively contribute in the noble cause by becoming a strong voice to promote Dogri and Dogra culture.

The speakers further said that that the Dogra or Dogri is not a religion or a separate class but it is a beautiful bunch of the vast community living in harmony and cordial atmosphere since very long times. He said that the Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs and many other communities are part of Dogra culture and hence they all must work towards making it the first choice of young generations.

They suggested the Dogra families to devote at least one day in a week towards promotion of Dogri and Dogra culture. The males should wear Dogra pagri, females should wear Dogra dress once a week. Dogra food/dishes should be cooked and everyone should talk in Dogri with others.

## Wave of change is evident across J&K: Bukhari

### Applauds Jamaat-e-Islami's decision to embrace democracy



Apni Party President Syed Mohammad Atif Bukhari addressing public meeting.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Apni Party President Syed Mohammad Atif Bukhari, on Friday, said a wave of change is apparent in terms of people placing their trust in the democratic process in Jammu and Kashmir.

He said that the "a significant number of voter turnouts in the Lok Sabha polls in the Srinagar constituency indicates that people have realised how powerful their vote is."

The Apni Party president made these remarks on Friday while addressing a public rally in Yaripora of south Kashmir's Kulgam district.

On this occasion, prominent political and social activists Engineer Mohammad Aaqib Dar, and Abdul Rehman Bhat joined Apni Party along with their associates. Bukhari gave a warm welcome to the new entrants into the party fold.

Bukhari expressed hope that people will reject the traditional parties through the power of their vote in the ongoing parliamentary elections.

He said, "I can assure you that a wave of change is apparent in Jammu and Kashmir, and I am sure people will put an end to the dynastic politics here through the power of their vote."

"I request people to break the chains and rid themselves of the decades-long exploitation by the traditional political parties," he added.

He urged people to vote for Zaffar Iqbal Manhas, Apni Party's candidate for the LS polls in Rajouri-Anantnag constituency.

He said, "I assure you that Apni Party will never disappoint you or let you down. We have a clear vision and roadmap to ensure prosperity and the well-being of the people in J&K. If you elect Zaffar Sahib, he will represent people's sentiments in the parliament." "Also, we have to ensure that statehood is restored to Jammu and Kashmir, and draconian laws are revoked here. I request you to strengthen the Apni Party to enable it to implement its pro-people agenda," he said.

## World Hypertension Day celebrated at IGGDC Jammu

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Indra Gandhi Govt. Dental College (IGGDC) Jammu celebrated World Hypertension Day on Friday which is celebrated globally on May 17 every year.

The day is celebrated worldwide under the theme-

Chairperson Academics welcomed the gathering of students, faculty, paramedical, nursing and other staff of the institute.

Dr Fayaz Wani delivered a lecture signifying the role of hypertension in relation to dentistry. He emphasized that BP is a major risk fac-

the Day that this day is an attempt to bridge the knowledge gap as this disease of often asymptomatic and encouraged the measures to control hypertension.

The Guests were felicitated. The program was well organised by the Academic Committee Dr Shamim, Dr



IGGDC Jammu doctors during celebration of World Hypertension Day on Friday.

'Measure your Blood Pressure accurately, control it and live longer'.

The day is dedicated to increase awareness about the prevention, detection and measures to control the high Blood Pressure with a focus on accurate Blood pressure measurement methods and effective management strategies.

At the outset, Dr. Reecha Gupta Prof. & Head, Dept of Prosthodontics &

tor for cardiovascular diseases and premature deaths globally, so we should follow measures to control it.

Dr. Anil Mahajan explained that poor lifestyle choices, unhealthy diets and a lack of physical activity are among the primary causes of hypertension.

Dr. Parveen Akhtar Lone, Principal & Dean IGGDC Jammu, who is an Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon, also stressed the importance of

Rachna and Dr Roopav Nargotra.

The program ended with vote of thanks by Dr Vineet Kotwal. The program was attended by Dr Akshay Gupta, Dr. Azhar Malik, Dr. Reecha Gupta, Dr. Satvinder Singh and Dr. Iqbal Singh and Deputy Medical Superintendent Dr. Wasik. Faculty, Dental surgeons, Paramedical Staff including Nurses and students with enthusiasm.