

Modi introduced culture of equitable delivery, minorities equally benefited: Dr Jitendra

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh said here today that quite in contrast to the appeasement driven practice followed during the Congress or UPA rule, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had introduced a culture of equitable delivery wherein minorities were equally benefited.

Modi had successfully raised the standards of public delivery above vote consideration, based on the principle of justice for all, he said.



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh in an interview with a news magazine.

In an exclusive interview to a monthly magazine, Dr Jitendra said, Modi will always be credited for having introduced a new work culture in India wherein each of the pro-poor and public welfare schemes were designed in such a manner so as to reach the most needy or the last man

in the last queue, regardless of cast, creed, religion or vote consideration.

Dr Singh said, purely objective parameters were followed to meet the requirement, wherever the requirement was not met in the past and to deliver justice wherever justice

Union Minister said, the citizen-centric schemes like PM Awas Yojna, Ujjawala Yojna, Sochalaya, etc., reached every such household where these amenities were found lacking and the authorities never asked as to which religion or caste the family belongs to, or which political party they had voted for in the last election. This new work culture, he said, will become a new norm in Indian politics and the masses will expect every political party to follow the same.

Dr Jitendra said that due to game changer schemes like Gareeb Kalyan Anna Yojana, Jan Dhan, Ujjawala, Sauchalaya, PM Aawas, Har Ghar Jal, Har Ghar Bijli and Ayushman, the people of the country have reposed faith in Modi Government time and

again both at the Centre and in most of the States. He said, people are getting the benefits of welfare schemes without any discrimination, unlike in the past, when appeasement policy was rampant.

The Minister emphasised that these welfare measures brought over 25 crore people out of the clutches of abject poverty and gave them a life of dignity.

Dr Singh also added that these schemes along with other measures like StartUp scheme and rural job scheme have transformed the lives of the poorest of the poor and have helped raise their standard of living to a level of dignity. The Minister also emphasised that full benefits are directly reaching to the needy without any leakages through a transparent and efficient delivery mechanism.



ADGP Jammu Zone greets people on Buddha Purnima

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: On the auspicious occasion of Budh Purnima, Additional Director General of Police Jammu Zone, Jammu, extended his heartfelt greetings and best wishes

to everyone. In his message, he expressed that Budh Purnima, the celebration of Lord Buddha's birth, enlightenment, and mahaparinirvana, is a time for reflection on his teachings of peace,

compassion, and wisdom. May the light of Buddha's wisdom guide us towards a future filled with understanding, unity, and goodwill, he added. Happy Budh Purnima to all.

INDI Alliance will ensure prosperity of all Indians: Bhalla

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The primary objective of the INDI Alliance is to fight collectively and defeat the BJP in order to save the nation, the Constitution, democracy, secularism, and federalism. The country is in multiple crises, 'That is the primary objective of the opposition coming together. This was stated by JKPCC Working President and Congress contesting candidate from Jammu-Reasi parliamentary seat Raman Bhalla while interacting with prominent persons at Press Club Jammu on Thursday. Prominent among those present on the occasion include Rajesh Sadotra, General Secretary JKPCC, Dwarka Choudhary, Secretary JKPCC, Devan Chand SC Cell President Jammu Province, Shamsher Chand AICC member, Balvinder Singh Rinku, Sat Sapolia, Jugul Kishore, Neeraj Kumar, Banarsi Lal, Satnam Singh, Dr T.C Bhagat, Suman Choudhary, Rakesh Kundal, Sushma Choudhary, Choudhary, Bushant Singh, Bushan Kumar, Jeet Raj, Ghar Singh



JKPCC Working President Raman Bhalla speaking at interactive session.

and Teja Singh. Speaking on the occasion, Bhalla dismissed the BJP's question on who will be the face of the INDI Alliance, saying that it is a desperate attempt to divert attention from their failures and misdeeds. He added that the opposition parties are mature enough to decide on their leadership collectively and that it is not an issue for them.

The opposition INDIA bloc will defeat the NDA in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls and the upcoming assembly election in J&K, said Bhalla. He said the people want change and the

INDI Alliance will ensure that change for betterment, prosperity and equal development of all Indians. Bhalla said that Congress Party is an instrument of service to the people, which has remained dedicated to the cause of serving the people. The Congress Party is duty bound to address the urges and aspirations of the people, for the fact, it is the Congress Party alone which has always taken care of the urges and aspirations of the common man. Congress has been pioneer in implementing revolutionary programmes aimed at

improving the conditions of the people, especially those living in remote and backward areas, he said. Bhalla said Congress party believes in strengthening the people and is committed to equitable development of the State.

Bhalla said that people who want to contribute to the political discourse and development of the state must become part of the Congress's growth story.

"The doors are open for the people who want to contribute in the party's efforts to see the state out of the present mess," he said.

For safety, well-being of children, ensure dynastic parties never return to power in J&K: Bukhari urges people

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Apni Party President, Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari, on Thursday, led a vibrant roadshow in several areas of Anantnag.

He addressed several public gatherings during this impressive activity, which was part of the party's campaign for the LS polls in the Rajouri-Anantnag parliamentary constituency scheduled for Saturday. Throughout this vibrant activity, he was accompanied by senior leader and the party's Additional General Secretary, Hilal Ahmad Shah, as well as a number of leaders and senior workers. The roadshow started from Lal Chowk in Anantnag and went through areas across Achabal, Dialgam, and others. The party also held a public rally in the Dialgam area of the district. Addressing these occasions, Bukhari urged people not to vote for the dynastic parties in Jammu and Kashmir. He said, "For the safety and well-being of your children, you must ensure that the Khandani Parties, like NC and PDP,



Apni Party President, S.M.A Bukhari leading roadshow.

never return to power in Jammu and Kashmir."

He added, "You must never forget that these parties and their leaders are responsible for the deaths, bloodshed, and destruction that occurred in Jammu and Kashmir over the years and decades.

They misled people, provoked them to resort to violence, and, in the meantime, they created empires for themselves and established their family rule here. Thus, it is important for the safety and well-being of the people that these parties and their leaders are kept away from attaining power in the future." Taking a dig at the PDP leader for her emotional

sloganeering, Bukhari said, "These days, the leader of the PDP frequently chants the slogan, 'Jis Kashmir ko khoon se sencha, woh Kashmir hamara hai'. Someone must ask her, which blood is she referring to? Is it the blood of the innocent children who were gunned down in 2016 while she was in power in Jammu and Kashmir, or is it the blood spilled in the massacres at places like Bijbehara, Hawal, and Gawakadal in the 1990s when her late father was Home Minister at the centre?"

He also blamed NC for its political gimmicks, and said, "NC's leadership was hand in glove with the leaders in Delhi

long before 1947. That is why they were handed the government in Jammu and Kashmir post-47, even without a public mandate. However, in later years, NC leadership indulged in political gimmickry to pressure Delhi. They chanted slogans like "Raishumari" and "Autonomy" here time and again, just to maintain their hold on power and strengthen their family rule here. They made people scapegoats by raising such emotionally charged slogans here."

While urging people to support Apni Party and vote for Zaffar Iqbal Manhas, the party candidate for the Lok Sabha polls in the Rajouri-Anantnag constituency, Altaf Bukhari said, "Apni Party will do everything to ensure a dignified life for our youth."

"I request your support for the Apni Party to enable it to implement its pro-people agenda here. At this time, I urge you to vote for Zaffar Sahib in these parliamentary polls in the Rajouri-Anantnag constituency," he added.

Achan dumping site stench dangerous for human life

NGT constituted panel to probe, seek solutions

■ MASROOR AHMAD

SRINAGAR: Achan, the Srinagar city's only garbage dumping site, has been in the news for decades. Residents of the vicinity, including those in the downtown area of Srinagar, have complained about the "unscientific" dumping of waste in the former wetland. This dumping has resulted in a persistent foul smell emanating from the site, causing several health issues, but the government remained silent on every voice raised by the people. The SMC, which is the key stakeholder in the matter, never pays solid attention to the issue that is why people are suffering. Now finally this matter landed in the National Green Tribunal

(NGT), which has constituted a high-profile committee headed by Secretary Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) to ascertain the "correct factual situation" in Achan dumping site in Srinagar city.

The Srinagar city generates around 600 metric tons of garbage, which is collected by the Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) and deposited at Achan.

The locals allege that solid waste is not being treated in a scientific way. However, the SMC claimed to have taken several measures including spraying anti-odour chemicals at the dumping site to control the smell. A petition has been filed by noted RTI activist Dr. Raja Muzaffar Bhat, seeking directions from the authorities to take necessary measures so that the people of Srinagar get some relief from the Achan Landfill site. The NGT in its order has



directed the committee to ascertain the correct ground position and the extent of pollution caused by the illegal dumping at the landfill site in question, consequential health hazard created by it. The court also directed them to suggest remedial measures including setting up of waste processing facilities to zero down landfill and submit the report before the Tribunal within eight weeks. The committee comprises representatives from the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), the National Wetland Committee of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), the Deputy Commissioner of Srinagar, and the Member Secretary of the

J&K Pollution Control Committee (JKPCC). The Deputy Commissioner of Srinagar will serve as the nodal agency, as per the order. In his petition, Dr. Bhat, has raised the grievance against "illegal and unscientific" dumping of municipal solid, bio-medical and plastic waste at the Achan landfill site. As per the disclosure, the said landfill site is the only dumping ground in the city of Srinagar and adjoining area. "It has been pointed out by the learned counsel for the applicant that a canal passes by the side of landfill and it joins the Achan lake which ultimately forms part of the Dal Lake," Bhat submitted. He further pleaded that almost 450 metric tons of waste is

dumped every day at landfill site, which is spread over an area of 75 acres and which is located in close proximity to human habitation. Bhat claims that dumping of waste at the landfill site is done in violation of Solid Waste Management Rule, 2016, the timeline set in the Action Plan for Municipal Solid Waste Management, Jammu and Kashmir, 2018, the Bio-Medical Waste Management Rules, 2016, and the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016. Notably, as per Bhat, NGT has passed several orders earlier in 2015 and 2017 but they weren't implemented in letter and spirit. The next date of hearing has been set for 30 August 2024.

Valley has during 2024 polls for 18th Lok Sabha surely sent encouraging signals of returning peace & stability

Have the "distancing" ideologies built in 'Self Rule' & 'Achievable Nationhood' too been shed by their 'Carriers' ?

Hope soon clear line will be drawn between mainstream & separatist ideologies by the Political Leadership of India

■ DAYA SAGAR

Government of India had taken up after 2014 the so far considered impossible task of removing the myths, 'removing the cultivated' distancing symbols & expressions related to the events after passage of Indian Independence Act in relation to the erstwhile princely state of J&K and misrepresentation of constitutional provisions like Art-35A & Art-370 as far as their use for the good of the people Indian State of J&K was concerned and have been able to make some meaningful in roads. As been utmost need for derecognizing in simple words any ideologies or documents that depicted even a bit of distancing indicators or concepts that professed directly or indirectly anything like J&K not being an 'India' state like UP or Punjab / there was some left over agenda related to Accession -1947. To be brief a very clear line and opinion has to be expressed by GOI for taking note, by one and all, of which is mainstream and which is Separatist ideology since the culture of deferring remedial measures for such corrections in earlier times had surely made the innocent subjects of J&K to get carried in their subconscious minds with the myths related to 'relationship' with India since the policies so far have kept people confused in relations to drawing a line between mainstream & separatist (from nationalist point of view) ideologies like the viewpoints

expressed in PDP Self Rule Framework for Resolution (2008) and J&K Peoples Conference vision "Achievable Nationhood 2006" with mainstream label unless the promoters come up with re articulated documents publicly.

Taking self away from Autonomy of J&K National conference Jammu & Kashmir- The Self-Rule Framework for Resolution (Srinagar October, 2008) at Para 58 says < What sets apart "self-rule" from "autonomy" is the political context in which they are conceived and operate. Self-rule refers to autonomy from the nation-state of India, whereas autonomy connotes relative autonomy from the Government of India. The two are vastly different in substance and style. The change -- from "autonomy" to "self-rule" -- means is a fundamental shift in the terrain of political discourse and the existing status of the Kashmir issue. Also see for more elaboration 59 . Autonomy refers to empowerment of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir vis-a-vis the Government of India. As such it becomes a part of the centre-state debate in the Indian federal set up. Self-rule on the other hand refers to the empowerment of the people of Jammu and Kashmir, vis-a-vis the nation of India. 60. Further, autonomy



A Look through the Mist

is for an institution of governance, self-rule is for a region, or geography. Therefore, while autonomy doesn't have a territorial element to it, the concept of self-rule has an element of territoriality to it. Para 62> professing Autonomy of J&K State from Indian Nation State. And this 'mantra' (Self Rule) surely diluted the totalness of the 1947 accession of J&K with India thereby finding better acceptability amongst some innocent people as compared to Greater Autonomy of National Conference that called for just autonomy for govt. of the state from the central govt.

Group of Interlocutors for J&K Final Report 2011 (A new compact with the people of Jammu & Kashmir) on page 40 para 2.1. Centre-State Relations compares J&K Peoples Conference vision document 2006 Achievable Nationhood prepared by Sajjad Ahmad Lone with National Conference Autonomy saying "The National Conference wants to revert to the original Article under which the State ceded to the Centre powers related to Defence, External Affairs, Communications and certain ancillary subjects a The People's Democratic Party wants to build on it by retaining certain features introduced in the pristine Article after 1953 and adding to it a 'Greater Kashmir' dimension de

facto if not de jure.

Sajjad Lone, in "Achievable Nationhood", focuses on the ethnic aspirations of the majority group in a particular region, seeks administrative autonomy for districts and wants the choice to 'opt-out' of the State in case its majority feels that its interests are better served that way." >

In J&K Peoples Conference vision document 2006 Achievable Nationhood prepared by Sajjad Ahmad laid a concept of unification of the two parts of Kashmir by producing a "single economic entity" out of "two distinct geographical and political sub-entities" with separate sovereignty linkages with India and Pakistan, as Lone appears saying in the document.

J&K PDP just in 3 years from 1999 to 2002 threw challenges on National Conference that Congress had not been able to press in till then . At page 44 point 14 the Interlocutors Report 2011 report says there are two major divergences between the NC and PDP proposals of which the "The first" is that the PDP envisages a solution that will apply on both sides of the LOC while the NC is focused on relations with India. PDP's mantra against NC was the Self Rule vision (though was put in black and while in public domain on 25 Oct 2008 only) .

And the mantra was of SELF RULE Framework (SRDoc) in simple terms professed of something like (i) naming the Pakistan Occupied areas of J&K as

Pakistan 'Administered J&K and the remaining part as Indian Administered Jammu & Kashmir (ii) joint control of India & Pakistan on some affairs concerning the State of Jammu & Kashmir PARA 78 of SR Doc . The Regional Council of Greater Jammu and Kashmir (iii) New Political Superstructure: Para 75 (Towards this end, the Legislative Council will be restructured to form the Regional Council of Greater Jammu and Kashmir. It will be a kind of a regional senate, Para 77. The Regional Council of Greater Jammu and Kashmir will have 50 members. The respective state assemblies of J&K and Pakistan Administered Kashmir shall elect 40 members. The remaining 10 members will be nominated, five each, by the Governments of India and Pakistan. Council for Greater Jammu and Kashmir having 5 members each as nominated by India and Pakistan (iv) Para 7 < Economic Integration: . & Para 8 Stage II would be to make GJAK a regional free trade area, with no tariffs or barriers between with GJAK, while maintaining their own external tariff on imports from the rest of the world, including India and Pakistan. GJAK will set a common external tariff on imports from India and Pakistan.> .(v) Para 9 Validity of currencies of both India and Pakistan in two parts of J&K , (vi) Setting the stage for Resolution: Demilitarisation Para 31< If this is the basic premise,

then a decisive move has to be made to reduce not only the physical presence of the armed forces in the state but also their influence in the decision making at a political and administrative level. Even in the sphere of operational matters of security, the armed forces should be a part of the J&K police hierarchy rather than being a parallel institution of power. This entire change is what we refer to under the rubric of "demilitarization">(vii) Para 59 . Autonomy refers to empowerment of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir vis-a-vis the Government of India. As such it becomes a part of the centre-state debate in the Indian federal set up. Self-rule on the other hand refers to the empowerment of the people of Jammu and Kashmir, vis-a-vis the nation of India. 60. Further, autonomy is for an institution of governance, self-rule is for a region, or geography. Therefore, while autonomy doesn't have a territorial element to it, the concept of self-rule has an element of territoriality to it.

Ideologies like expressed in PDP Self Rule Framework for Resolution (2008) and J&K Peoples Conference vision "Achievable Nationhood 2006" with mainstream would surely keep on confusing the innocent minds unless the promoters have come up with re articulated documents publicly.

(The writer is a Sr Journalist & a known analyst of J&K affairs)