

# JU, Yuva Hindi Lekhak Sang Jammu organize paper reading programme

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Centre for Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy (CSSEIP), University of Jammu (JU), and Yuva Hindi Lekhak Sang, Jammu jointly organized a paper reading programme on Sunday.

The speaker Dr. Ashok Kumar presented a paper on the topic "Different Aspects of Women in Dogri Writings in the present context."

The event was organized to promote the critical evaluation of Dogri writings in the present context.

Dr. Ashok Kumar made a critical analysis of the cultural restrictions and treatment given to the women by the royals which has adversely impacted the life of common women as well.

Jagdeep Dubey also appreciated the evaluative analysis of his short stories and complemented Dr. Ashok for presenting the real context of his short



Dr. Ashok Kumar and others at paper reading programme.

stories.

The function was presided over by Darshan Darshi, former Director, School Education. He appreciated the attempt made by the presenter and also suggested encouraging such attempts to generate bonding among different languages in general and local languages in particular.

Earlier, Prof. Jasbir Singh, Director, CSSEIP, University of Jammu welcomed the guests and appreciated the efforts of

Yuva Hindi Lekhak Sang for promoting local languages and dialectics.

The vote of Thanks was presented by Dr. Parshotam Kumar. Padma Shri Mohan Singh, Dr. Arvinder Singh Aman, Khalid Hussain, Parkash Premi, Sanjeev Bhasin, Sushil Begana, Nirmal Vinod, Dr. Sandeep Dubey, and scholars and students of Dogri and Hindi Department of the JU participated in the interaction.

## Modi's 'mazboot' govt replaced 'majboor' UPA: Nadda

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

ARRAH/JEHANABAD : BJP president JP Nadda on Sunday credited his party with providing a "mazboot" (strong) government, under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, which was capable of penetrating Pakistan's borders to destroy terrorist hideouts.

In contrast, the former Union minister charged, the Congress-led UPA government that got voted out in 2014 was "majboor, kamzor aur apang" (helpless, weak and crippled).

Addressing back-to-back election rallies in Bihar's Arrah and Jehanabad constituencies, Nadda mocked the UPA for having sent "dossiers to Pakistan when the nation was rattled by terrorist attacks sponsored from across the border".

"When Modi took over, and Uri and Pulwama happened, our troops penetrated Pakistan's borders to conduct surgical strikes and Balakot air strikes and beat the terrorists inside their homes," he said.

Nadda also praised the government for scrapping Article 370, claiming it "liberated people of Jammu and Kashmir, who had been held hostage by a handful of political families for years".

"In the ongoing elections, Jammu and Kashmir is witnessing a record turnout. The enthusiasm of voters is a testimony to the liberating effect of abrogation of Article 370," he claimed.

Training his guns at the RJD, a Congress ally that is also the BJP's principal challenger in Bihar, Nadda said the party stood for "rish-watkhoori" (corruption), was "rashtra virodhi" (anti-national), promoted 'jungle raj' (lawlessness) whenever in power, and was comparable to 'dal dal' (marshland).

Underscoring the improvements in the living standards of people with Modi at the helm, Nadda said "today almost every household has



electricity. A giant leap from the situation 10 years ago when 2.5 crore had no access to power and only 18,000 villages were electrified".

"Ten years ago, almost every handset owned by Indians used to be made in China, Taiwan, Japan or Korea. Today, most of your mobile phones are made in India. We are manufacturing 97 per cent of the mobile phones we use. This is an example of the positive changes," he said.

Nadda said PM Modi has not simply ruled but has brought a fundamental change in the country's political culture.

"The common people, who had become used to a state of indifference, are now resolutely with Modi to take forward the pledge of 'Viksit Bharat' (developed India)," he said.

Nadda claimed that in the six phases of general elections that have passed, the NDA was ahead in enough number of seats to be well past the majority mark and "we are on course to achieving the target of 400-plus".

The BJP president was on a whirlwind tour of the state, where eight seats were going to polls on June 1 in the final phase. He was scheduled to wind up his tour with a rally in Nalanda Lok Sabha constituency, named after the eponymous home district of ally Nitish Kumar, the Bihar CM and JD(U) president.

## Naxal problem will be over in next 2-3 years, says Amit Shah

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI : Union Home Minister Amit Shah has said the Naxal problem in the country will end in the next two-to-three years, and except for a small pocket in Chhattisgarh the whole country is now free from the menace.

In an interview with PTI late Saturday, Shah also said that there is no presence of the Maoists in the so-called Naxal corridor - from Pashupatinath to Tirupati.

"Naxals were eliminated from all over the country. Once some people used to say about the Naxal corridor from Pashupatinath to Tirupati. Now, Jharkhand is completely free from Naxals. Bihar is completely free. Odisha, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh are also completely free. Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh are also free," he said.

Shah said the Naxals were still operating in some pockets of Chhattisgarh and could not be eliminated there so far as there was a Congress government in the state in the last five years.

He said since a BJP government has assumed power in the state five months ago, work to free Chhattisgarh from the Naxals has started.

"After our government assumed charge (in Chhattisgarh), about 125 Naxals were killed, over 352 were arrested and about 175 surrendered - if you count today's (May 25) figure too. Here I am talk-

ing about the figures of just last five months.

"I can tell you that in the next two to three years -- I am giving you an outer limit -- the country will be free from the Naxal problems," he said.

On April 16, security personnel gunned down 29 Naxals, including some senior cadres, in Kanker district in Chhattisgarh in the biggest encounter ever.

This was the highest fatalities suffered by the red ultras in a single encounter in the history of the state's fight against left wing extremism.

According to the union home ministry data, the incidents of left wing extremism have reduced from 14,862 in the decade 2004-14 to 7,128 in 2014-23.

The number of deaths of security forces due to left wing extremism has declined by 72 per cent from 1750 in 2004-14 to 485 during 2014-23 and the number of civilian deaths has declined by 68 per cent from 4285 to 1383 in the said period.

The number of districts with violence was 96 in 2010, which declined by 53 percent to 45 in 2022.

Along with this, the number of police stations reporting violence decreased from 465 in 2010 to 176 in 2022.

In the last five years, over 5,000 post offices were set up in 90 districts which have Maoists presence or where the ultras have presence in the past.

As many as 1,298 banks

branches were opened, 1,348 ATMs were made operational in 30 most-affected districts, officials said.

A total of 4,885 mobile towers were constructed at a cost of Rs 2,690 crore in Naxal-hit areas and 9,356 km roads were constructed at a cost of Rs 10,718 crore.

Local youths are being engaged by setting up 121 Eklavya residential schools, 43 ITIs and 38 skill development centres in Naxal affected areas, officials said.

## SP, Cong families turned Purvanchal into region of mafia, poverty, helplessness: Pm Modi

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

MAU (UP): Prime Minister Narendra Modi Sunday accused the Samajwadi Party and the Congress of neglecting Purvanchal and turning it into a "region of mafia, poverty and helplessness".

Addressing a public meeting in Ghosi here, the PM claimed the Congress declared educational establishments as minority institutions and gave reservation to Muslims there. The INDIA bloc wants to turn the majority community into the country's second-class citizens, Modi alleged.

He also said those associated with the Samajwadi Party kept Purvanchal backward under a conspiracy and the people of the region will continue to punish them for this.

"The families of SP and

# DDC reviews operational effectiveness of Katra, Reasi Municipalities

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

REASI: District Development Commissioner Reasi, Vishesh Mahajan today convened a meeting to review the operational effectiveness of the Katra and Reasi municipalities.

Executive Officers from both municipalities presented detailed reports covering administrative and operational issues. Discussions focused on staffing adequacy, income generation strategies, and the progress of ongoing projects. Plans for the



District Development Commissioner Reasi, Vishesh Mahajan convening a meeting.

# Best year yet for Indian filmmakers with three wins at Cannes 2024

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

CANNES : It was a triple feat for Indian talent at the 2024 Cannes Film Festival with Payal Kapadia's "All We Imagine As Light", "Sunflowers Were the First Ones to Know" by FTII student Chidananda S Naik, and Anasuya Sengupta of "The Shameless" fame winning major awards in each of the three competitive sections of the prestigious gala.

The 77th edition of Cannes, which concluded on Saturday, was undoubtedly the best year for the country which found space at the fest through eight Indian, or India-themed, films.

Kapadia, an alumna of the Film & Television Institute of India (FTII), charted history by becoming the first Indian filmmaker to win the Grand Prix award for "All We Imagine as Light".

"Thank you, Cannes Film Festival for having our film here. Please don't wait 30 years to have another Indian film," she said in her speech.

The movie earned the honour, the second-most prestigious prize of the gala after the Palme d'Or, which went to American director Sean Baker for "Anora".

"All We Imagine as Light", a Malayalam-Hindi feature starring Kani Kusruti, Divya Prabha and Chhaya Kadam, revolves around three women in Mumbai who go on a road trip to a beach town.

Kapadia's movie, her feature directorial debut, is the first Indian film in 30 years and first ever by an Indian female director to be showcased in main competition, last being Shaji N

Karun's "Swaham" (1994).

That "All We Imagine As Light" will win an award became almost certain when it received glowing reviews following its premiere, with some international critics describing it as a "portrait of urban connection" and "poetic meditation" as well as comparing Kapadia's work to that of masters like Satyajit Ray and Wong Kar Wai.

Though the second most prestigious prize at Cannes, Grand Prix has a storied history with prominent titles including this year's Oscar winner "The Zone of Interest" and Park Chan-wook's revenge drama "Oldboy" as part of the list.

"All We Imagine as Light" has already found distributors for its North America release, but it's unclear when the film will be screened in India.

Writer-lyricist Varun Grover said it was an "unbelievable day" for Indian cinema.

"Dissent, in art and in life, is a tough path to choose. But sometimes it does create magic," he wrote on X.

Kapadia, who led a student protest against the appointment of actor-politician Gajendra Chauhan as FTII chairman, had won the Oeil d'or (Golden Eye) award at Cannes for acclaimed documentary "A Night of Knowing Nothing" which premiered under Director's Fortnight section in 2021.

Her 2017 short film "Afternoon Clouds" opened at Cannes under Cinefondation category, dedicated to supporting the next generation of

talented filmmakers.

Actor Richa Chadha called Kapadia's win historic.

"Wow!! What an incredible achievement for Indian cinema! Take a bow," said Malayalam star Tovino Thomas.

That's not all.

Production designer Sengupta, who starred in a key featuring role in Bulgarian director Konstantin Bojanov's "The Shameless", became the first Indian to win the best actress prize in Un Certain Regard.

"The Shameless" explores a dark world of exploitation and misery in which two sex workers forge a bond.

Sengupta dedicated her win "to the queer community and other marginalised communities".

"You don't have to be queer to fight for equality, you don't have to be colonised to know that colonising is pathetic - we just need to be decent human beings," she said.

Actor Tillotama Shome shared Sengupta's speech on Instagram.

"She brought it HOME. Listen to her words. Till the end. The quality of her voice. Ink this in your hearts. For all the dreamers..."

British-Indian director Sandhya Suri's "Santosh", also part of Un Certain Regard, didn't win any award but being featured at Cannes is an achievement in itself.

Neeraj Ghaywan's "Masaan" previously won two awards-FIPRESCI, International Jury of Film Critics prize and Promising Future prize in the section.

Naik's "Sunflowers Were the First Ones to Know...", which won the La

upcoming fiscal year were also deliberated.

DDC issued specific directives emphasizing the identification and initiation of projects in public interest, maintenance and enhancement of sanitation standards, strict enforcement of building regulations and proactive removal of encroachments.

ADDC Sukhdev Singh Samyal, Joint Director Chief Planning officer Narinder Kumar, EO KDA Gopal Singh, EO Municipal Committees Reasi and Katra were present.

Cinef first prize (film school fiction or animated films), was another feather in FTII's cap.

Based on a Kannada folktale, the movie follows an old woman who steals a rooster following which the sun stops rising in the village.

The third La Cinef prize went to India-born Mansi Maheshwari's animation film "Bunnyhood".

Previously, Indian films to be selected for the Cannes Competition segment include Mrinal Sen's "Kharij" (1983), M S Sathya's "Garm Hava" (1974), Satyajit Ray's "Parash Pathar" (1958), Raj Kapoor's "Awaara" (1953), V Shantaram's "Amar Bhoopali" (1952) and Chetan Anand's "Neecha Nagar" (1946).

This year, India's presence at Cannes also saw the restored version of Shyam Benegal's 1976 crowd-funded film "Manthan" in Cannes Classics. Karan Kandhari's "Sister Midnight" appeared in Directors' Fortnight and Maisam Ali's "In Retreat" was picked for ACID Cannes. "Maya: The Birth of a Superhero", a virtual reality title with an India connect, was also selected.

In 2013, Indian cinema sent five films to various sections - "Monsoon Shootout" (Midnight Screening), "Bombay Talkies" (a Special Screening to mark 100 years since Dada Saheb Phalke's "Raja Harishchandra"), "Ugly" (Directors' Fortnight), "The Lunchbox" (Critics' Week) and "Charulata" (Cannes Classics).

# Under Modi's leadership, people witnessing emergence of new India: Adityanath

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

MIRZAPUR : People are witnessing the emergence of a new India under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and it is on the path of becoming a superpower, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Sunday.

At a poll meeting for Mirzapur Lok Sabha candidate Anupriya Patel and Robertsganj parliamentary seat nominee Rinki Kol, the BJP leader said that in the past 10 years, India has secured its borders and achieved new milestones of development.

"Welfare schemes for the poor have been implemented with the motto of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas'. PM



Modi treats 140 crore Indians as his family and strives to bring prosperity in every citizen's life," he said.

"Under PM Modi's leadership, people are witnessing the emergence of a new India which is going to become a superpower," Adityanath said.

About development in the

area, he said medical colleges have been built in Mirzapur and Sonbhadra while a university will soon be established in the region.

"Previous governments had a narrow mindset and that is why they did not think about development. Modi has provided houses to over one lakh poor people in Mirzapur

under the PM Awas Yojana. Members of the Kol, Gaud, Chero, Tharu, and Musahar communities in Mirzapur and Sonbhadra also got houses," Adityanath said.

Claimed that people here struggled for every drop of water before 2014, he said in the last 10 years every house has been provided clean drinking water under the 'Har Ghar Nal Yojana'.

Adityanath alleged the region came under the grip of Naxalism due to the policies of the Samajwadi Party and the Congress.


"They (opposition) deprived you of development works and allowed gangsters to take control over mining and other resources here. Now, it is time for you to make them

yearn for every single vote," he added.

Referring to the redevelopment of the Kashi Vishwanath temple corridor in Varanasi, the chief minister said the place is now attracting global attention in a new way.

"After 500 years, Lord Ram has been enshrined in his temple in Ayodhya and the Vindhyavasini Dham corridor project is nearing completion. Now, no Shravan Kumar will have to carry elderly parents on his shoulders for 'darshan' as the ropeway is ready," he said.

Shravan Kumar, a character in the Ramayana, carried his blind and elderly parents on his shoulders and took them on pilgrimage.



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29<sup>th</sup> May 2024

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1<sup>st</sup> June 2024 & 11 am – 12:30 pm

Reporting Time for Entrance Examination

10 am

Venue of Entrance Examination

Dept. of Mathematics, University of Jammu

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