

Modi Govt pursuing Ahilya Bai's vision by giving preference to underprivileged: Dr. Alka

BJP holds workshop to commemorate legacy of Ahilyabai Holkar

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu & Kashmir, organized a one-day workshop in honor of Punyashlok Ahilyabai Holkar, the legendary queen of the Holkar dynasty, known for her visionary governance, inclusive leadership, and tireless social reforms. The event aimed to educate party activists and dignitaries about her exemplary life and how her values continue to inspire modern-day governance.

BJP National Secretary Dr. Alka Gurjar, former Deputy Chief Minister Kavinder Gupta, BJP State General Secretary Adv. Vibodh Gupta, former Minister Priya Sethi, State President Mahila Morecha Sanjita Dogra and social worker Ankita Gupta inaugurated the workshop by the traditional lighting of ceremonial lamp.

Dr. Alka Gurjar while denoting AhilyaBai as a one of the greatest social activists, reflected on her people-oriented governance



BJP National Secretary Dr. Alka Gurjar with party workers at workshop.

and leadership. She remarked that Ahilyabai's rule is a golden chapter in Indian history, where development, spirituality, and justice flourished together. She built roads, ghats, temples, and pilgrimage facilities throughout India without discrimination of caste or creed. She emphasized the unparalleled role of Ailya Bai in the education of women and the property and the child adoption rights for the widows.

Alka Gurjar said that the Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been pursuing the vision of Ahilya Bai by giving representation and preference to the neglect-

ed, and the underprivileged. She said that the Modiji's stress on the 'Atma Nirbhar Bharat, Start-Up India, Stand-Up India, the vision to provide good governance minimizing the corruption is the reflection of the Ahilya Bai's ideology.

Priya Sethi delivered a detailed overview of Ahilyabai Holkar's life, stating that she was a rare example of courage, compassion, and character. Despite personal tragedies, she emerged as a powerful administrative leader who built temples, "Dharamshalas' (restrooms free for public), and public utilities across India. Her

reign is still remembered for justice, peace, and prosperity.

Ankita Gupta emphasized Ahilyabai Holkar's contributions as a reformer, noting that she was far ahead of her time in empowering women and uplifting the underprivileged. She personally looked into the needs of widows and the poor and ensured their dignity and security in society.

Adv. Vibodh Gupta presented the outline of upcoming programs based on Ahilyabai Holkar's ideals. He explained that BJP will carry forward her message through social awareness drives, women empowerment programs,

and grassroots initiatives inspired by her service-oriented model of governance.

The program proceedings were conducted by Sanjita Dogra and vote of thanks was presented by Amar Singh, Co-Convenors of the workshop, who kept the session well-organized and engaging.

BJP Secretary & Mahila Morecha Seh-Prabhari Veenu Khanna, former Dy Mayor Purnima Sharma, Secretaries Ayodhya Gupta & Anju Dogra, BJP Mahila Morecha National Secretary Rekha Kumari, Spokesperson Rajni Sethi, OBC President Suni Prajapati, Brahmyot Satti, Morecha General secretary Reema Padha and Neha Mahajan and Morecha district presidents, corporators, and senior party functionaries.

This workshop served as a roadmap to incorporate the values of Seva, Nyaya, and Dharma (service, justice, and righteousness) as demonstrated by Ahilyabai Holkar in upcoming BJP activities and campaigns.

Power crisis worsens in Jammu; Billawaria slams PDD over prolonged cuts



Former Deputy Mayor of Jammu, Baldev Singh Billawaria talking to reporters.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Former Deputy Mayor of Jammu, Baldev Singh Billawaria, strongly criticized the Power Development Department (PDD) for its mishandling of the ongoing power crisis in the region during a press conference held on Saturday. Addressing the media, Billawaria voiced grave concern over extended power cuts amid soaring summer temperatures, affecting several areas including Bishnah, Gangyal, Digiana, Kunjwani, and surrounding localities.

He revealed that the 50 MW Bishnah power grid failed to function properly, resulting in the redirection of load to areas like Gangyal. However, these

localities are unequipped to handle the additional burden, leading to power outages ranging from 16 to 18 hours daily.

"These cuts are severely impacting senior citizens, children, and patients, who are vulnerable to the ongoing heatwave," Billawaria said. He expressed dismay that despite significant central funding for upgrading the region's power infrastructure, poor management by the PDD continues to cause system failures and power distribution issues.

Acknowledging public cooperation in accepting smart electric meters with the promise of 24/7 electricity, he lamented the failure to deliver on that commitment. "The people

of Jammu are paying their electricity bills on time and in good faith. They deserve uninterrupted power supply, especially during the summer months," he stressed.

Calling for urgent intervention, Billawaria urged higher authorities to take strict action against those responsible for the crisis. He emphasized that it is the duty of the administration to provide essential services like electricity and water, and pledged to stand by the public in their fight for basic facilities.

Ex-Corporator Neena Gupta, Purna Nanda, and other local leaders were also present during the press conference, extending their support to the cause.

Natrang presents Hindi play 'Poorav Aur Paschim'

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Natrang presented a Hindi play 'Poorav Aur Paschim' written by famous film comedian I.S. Johar and directed by' Neeraj Kant in Natrang's weekly theatre series, Sunday Theatre. The situational comedy and its appropriate presentation by the artists generated ample laughter amongst the audience.

The play 'Poorav Aur Paschim' showcased the contrast of beliefs between the east and the west world. Lala Ram Bharose and his wife are highly superstitious and on the contrary their married son and daughters believe in the reasoning, logics and scientific way of leading the life.

A firm believer of horoscopes, stars and numbers, Ram Bharose is always surrounded by the palmists, fortune tellers and priests. Confusion starts in the fam-



A scene from play 'Poorav Aur Paschim' directed by Neeraj Kant, presented in Natrang's weekly show Sunday Theatre.

ily when a horoscope reader based on wrong information predicts the early death of Ram Bharose.

He goes to the extent of telling him that his killer will come from the east side and will give him some substance of white color. In

defence Ram Bharose blocks all east entries to the house and starts suspecting even his family members offering him anything in white. This behavior of his creates an unhealthy environment in the family and life becomes hell for everyone. Despite all

efforts of convincing him with scientific reasons and logics, he is not ready to buy anyone's arguments in the family. One after the other incident creates high tension and Ram Bharose goes to the extent of beating and thrashing his family members.

This funny drama attains anti-climax when horoscope reader visits the family again apologizing for telling him the fortune of someone else as he was mistaken by assessing some other date of birth.

Finally the fortune teller is treated with a big thrash by all the family members of Ram Bharose.

Natrang actors who performed in the play included Aryan Sharma, Adaksh Bagal, Purna Sharma, Kartik Kumar and Simran Bhagat. The lights of the play were executed by Neeraj Kant.

The play was coordinated by Mohd. Yaseen and the presentations were done by Amit Rana.

Saints of J&K pay solemn tribute to martyred soldiers of Operation Sindoor

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a deeply emotional and patriotic gathering, saints and spiritual leaders from across Jammu and Kashmir came together at Jeevan Nagar Ashram to honor the brave Indian soldiers and civilians who laid down their lives during the recent India-Pakistan conflict that followed Operation Sindoor. The tribute ceremony was led by Swami Hridayanand Giri and attended by numerous prominent saints and spiritual dignitaries.

The event commenced with the national anthem, followed by a two-minute silence in remembrance of the martyrs. The ceremony, steeped in reverence, was coordinated by Mahant Rajesh Bittu, who ensured that the spirit of national pride and solemnity remained throughout the gathering. Addressing the media, Swami Hridayanand Giri lauded the Indian Army's precision and bravery during Operation Sindoor, which resulted in the destruction of enemy installations across the border. He noted that the sacrifices of soldiers who attained martyrdom will never be forgotten, and this tribute was a gesture of unwavering gratitude from the saint community. He further emphasized that saints are not just spiritual guides but also guardians of national unity, ready to sacrifice their own lives for the country's defense.



Saints and spiritual leaders at a programme.

"The entire saint community stands firmly with the Indian Army and the government," he declared. Mahant Rajesh Bittu added that tricolor rallies are being led by saints throughout Jammu and Kashmir, with saints holding the national flag at the forefront. "When the nation calls, saints are not behind. We are ready to offer our blood for Bharat," he said.

Mahant Rameshwar Das praised India's defense forces-Army, Navy, and Air Force-calling them the pride of the nation. He remarked that Operation Sindoor has set an example of decisive action, showcasing India's strength and resolve against any aggression.

Among the distinguished attendees were

Mahamandleshwar Rameshwardas Maharaj, Mahant Dutt Giri Maharaj, Mahant Rameshwar Giri, Dr. Satya Narayan, Ramsumiradas Radhey Das, Kusum Hindi, Mahant Shanti Giri, Vijay Krishna Parashar, Mahant Mohan Bharti, Mahant Ram Narayan Shastri and Mahant Gopalanand Maharaj.

All leaders present condemned Pakistan's support of extremism in Kashmir and reaffirmed their commitment to national integrity. The event was a powerful symbol of unity between spiritual and defense communities, echoing the message that India's saints stand shoulder to shoulder with its soldiers in the fight to protect the motherland.

Randhawa inaugurates development works in Narwal Bala



MLA Ch. Vikram Randhawa inaugurating infrastructure project at Jammu on Sunday.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a significant step toward rural development and public welfare, MLA Ch. Vikram Randhawa on Sunday inaugurated key infrastructure projects in Ward No. 2 and Ward No. 4 of Narwal Bala, Mohalla Kasturi.

The projects include the construction of a lane and drain in Ward No. 2 and the installation of a water

cooler in Ward No. 4, aimed at improving sanitation and access to clean drinking water for local residents.

The inauguration was conducted in the presence of RDD officials, including BDO Satwari Sandeep Gupta and Panchayat Secretary Rohit Sharma. Local residents and prominent dignitaries, including Amit Gupta, Tarun Sharma, Ajay

Sharma, Dharampal Sharma, Kuldeep, Ramesh Kumar Sharma, and others, warmly welcomed the initiative.

Speaking on the occasion, MLA Ch. Vikram Randhawa said, "The development of rural infrastructure is a top priority of our government. These projects reflect our commitment to fulfilling the basic needs of the people and uplifting every corner of our constituency. I assure the residents that further works will be taken up soon to ensure overall growth and development."

Randhawa praised the collaborative efforts of the RDD officials, Panchayat functionaries, and local community members for making these initiatives a success.

The event concluded with appreciation from the public, who expressed gratitude for the MLA's consistent efforts in addressing grassroots issues and delivering on development promises.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Annual Investiture Ceremony of Regional Research Laboratory (RRL) High School, Jammu for the current academic session was held here on Sunday with great pomp and gaiety dignity in a special programme organized in the Auditorium of CSIR-IIIM, Jammu to give the deserving students a feel of functioning of the administrative body and the responsibility of leading the school from front.

The event was presided over by Anju Bala, I/C Principal of School while Dr. Zabeer Ahmed, Director, CSIR-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine who is also ex-officio, Chief Patron of Col. R.N.Chopra School Society, was the chief guest.

He alongwith Anju Bala I/C Principal and Upasana Sharma, I/C CCA conferred the badges and sashes to the newly elected students' cabinet of the School. The Investiture ceremony signifies the confidence that the



Dr. Zabeer Ahmed, Director, CSIR-IIIM posing with students and faculty of RRL.

school consigns in the newly invested office bearers.

In a press handout, it was stated that the School is divided into four houses i.e. Raman House, Kalam House, Sir Col. R.N. Chopra House and Aryabhata House, named after the great Indian Scientists Sir Chandrasekhara Venkata Raman, Avul Pakir Jainulabdeen Abdul Kalam, Sir Ram Nath Chopra, Indian pharmacologist, Father of Indian Pharmacology and Aryabhata, an astronomer

and the Indian Mathematician respectively.

The newly elected students cabinet members were Radhu Sharma and Rajan Jolly as School Captain & Vice-Captain, Anvi Sharma as School Co-ordinator and Vinayak Bhagat was elected as Sports Captain. Manya Sharma and Afreen Nasir as Captain & Vice Captain of Raman House, Nandani Bhagat and Rohini Yugal Sharma are Captain and Vice-Captain of Kalam House, Drishti Bhatti and Sana Dhiman are Captain

and Vice-Captain of Sir Col. R.N. Chopra House while Swati and Ananya Gupta are Captain and Vice-Captain of Aryabhata House.

Among School teachers who made the In-Charges of Houses were Neha Gupta of Raman House, Sonia Kapoor of Kalam House, Apoorva Gupta of Sir Col. R.N. Chopra House and Sakshita of Aryabhata House respectively.

Dr. Zabeer Ahmed the chief guest of the function while congratulating the newly elected students' council of

Madhuparamhans Ji Maharaj enlightens devotees on Supreme Power of True Naam

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a soul-stirring discourse today at Rakhbandhu, Sadguru of Sahib Bandagi, Madhuparamhans Ji Maharaj, revealed the profound mystery of the "True Naam" (Divine Name), asserting that liberation of the soul lies not in rituals or ordinary chants but in realizing the power of the secret name imparted by the Saint Sadguru.

Addressing the congregation, Sadguru Ji emphasized that while many people

across the world chant various names of God, true liberation is not achieved through any of them. "Crores of names exist, but only one secret name has the power to release the soul from bondage," he said. This name, he explained, is beyond comprehension, cannot be written or read, and only a few blessed souls realize its essence through the grace of a true Sadguru.

He elaborated on the six bodies and the multiple realms such as Devlok, Pitrulok, and Brahmalo,



Madhuparamhans Ji Maharaj addressing religious gathering at Jammu.

stating that none offer true happiness. "Even these divine realms are tainted by sorrow

and the fire of worldly attachments," he said. He further explained that both

sin and virtue are chains, and even good karma binds the soul. Only by transcending

the 14 senses and dissolving the mind's control can one move towards true spiritual freedom.

Highlighting the insights from scriptures and saints, he stated that while Goswami Tulsidas in the Ramayana and Lord Krishna in the Gita have praised the glory of Naam, the True Naam remains a divine mystery, known only to those graced by Sadguru. "The chanting name, Ajapa, and Anhad tunes are all perishable," he said. "But when the Surati (consciousness) merges with

the True Word (Naam), it transcends death and time."

In a powerful philosophical moment, Sadguru Ji also challenged conventional logic by discussing the nature of the soul and karma. "If karma binds the soul, then karma is greater than the soul?" he questioned. "But our soul, being pure consciousness, has no real connection with karma."

As science begins to acknowledge that the universe originated from dark matter, Sadguru Ji pointed out that spiritual ignorance

too stems from darkness, and only the divine light of the True Naam can liberate the soul.

The discourse ended with a powerful declaration, "Crores of salutations to the Sadguru who bestows the True Naam. Only through him can the soul attain eternal bliss."

The congregation left the event deeply moved, reflecting on the profound wisdom shared and the eternal call to seek the True Name through the grace of a realized Sadguru.