

# Patil for early restoration of statehood to J&K; safeguards for land, jobs

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NAGROTA: AICC senior leader and Incharge J&K Affairs Rajni Patil, has demanded the early restoration of statehood and safeguards for land and jobs for the residents of Jammu and Kashmir .  
Addressing of Congress workers at Manwal in Nagrota constituency, along with PCC President Ghulam Ahmed Mir, Working President Raman Bhalla, PCC Spokesperson Deepika Rajawat, Ex PYC president Pranab Shagotra, Rajni Patil said the Centre Government should accede to the popular demand of restoration statehood and reserve jobs and land for locals residents of J&K.  
She said that people of Jammu and Kashmir especially the youth have suffered a lot due to arbitrary and unilateral decisions of BJP government at the centre who want restoration of statehood at the earliest.  
There is demand for the safeguards for the protection of jobs and land for the locals which needs to be considered.  
She said the targetted killings of innocents including minorities is intolerable and against the basic principles of Kashmiriyat and must end



AICC senior leader and Incharge J&K Affairs, Rajni Patil and other senior leaders at a rally in Nagrota.

immediately, while blaming centre government of total failure insecurity front.  
The rally was organised by Balbir Singh Sarpanch Ex General Secretary PYC and block Congress workers led by Th Rimal singh President and others.  
JKPCC President Ghulam Ahmed Mir lashed out at the Central Government for its total failure on law and order front and said that the innocent people are paying the price of the wrong policies and wrong narratives and false propaganda of BJP.  
He said that the government failed to protect the innocents especially

minorities who were not targetted in past so many years and stayed safe there. Amidst claims of normalcy, the targetted killings started in last two years which increased in the recent over six months , but the government has no plan of action to protect them and stop innocent killings.  
The government must stop innocent killings and minorities from Jammu, outside and Kashmir at all costs by all required measures including accepting their demand for posting /placing at safe place where they feel secure, till situation is brought under control.  
Working President, Raman Bhalla lashed out at the BJP and Modi gov-

ernment for celebrating eight years of government amidst killings of innocents and minorities in Kashmir.  
It is shameful for the BJP for being insensitive to the innocents killings and should have suspended all celebrations in the country especially in Jammu and Kashmir and making false claims of normalcy in Kashmir.  
He said BJP failed to protect innocents especially minorities and outside persons and thousands of people and employees have been migrating to Jammu on their own to protect themselves while government has closed the gates of several migrant transit camps Kashmir where migrant employees are staying and want to migrate en mass.  
This situation is witnessed after 1990 only reminding that at that time too it was BJP supported government at the centre when migration of Kashmir Pandits and others took place.  
Others present were Rimal Singh, Soma Devi Sarpanch, Ramesh Sharma Naib Sarpanch, Janak Singh Ex Sarpanch, Latif Mohd, Vijay Kumar Panch, Sushma Devi Panch, Vinod Sharma Panch, Parkash Singh Naib Sarpanch, Shashi Devi Panch and Puran Chand Ex Capt.



## Sadhotra visits Martyr Rajni Bala's residence; expresses solidarity with family

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Former Minister and Senior National Conference Leader Ajay Kumar Sadhotra on Saturday visited the residence of Martyr Rajni Bala's residence at Nanke Chack Baderi in Samba to express solidarity with the family, convey condolences and share grief of grieving members of the family.  
Accompanied by the various other leaders of the National Conference, Sadhotra prayed for peace to the departed soul and strength to the family to bear the irreparable loss.  
Sadhotra condemned the gruesome acts of terror violence against innocent civilians, saying the targeted killings have added new dimension to terrorism aimed at scaring away those contributing to the society and earning their livelihood.  
The former Minister also referred to the recent selective killings and attacks on the non-local work force that led to the death of a Bihari labourer in Budgam district followed by grenade throwing incident in Shopian and hoped the hospitable and peace loving people of the Valley will rise against the dangerous trend of unleashing mayhem which is against the glorious Kashmir ethos. Interacting with the mourners, Sadhotra said the assassination of the young teacher has shocked the people all over the



Former Minister Ajay Kumar Sadhotra visiting house of Martyr Rajni Bala to mourn and share grief with her family at Nanke Chack Baderi in Samba.

country including in the Valley. He blamed the government for lowering the guard and undermining the gains of the past two decades that has plunged the Valley in a piquant situation. The people in general and those working in various departments and pursuing the other avocations are feeling sense of insecurity, he said adding that the atmosphere of unease and uncertainty is detrimental to the peace of Jammu and Kashmir. This new phenomenon is to be reversed in the interest of amity, harmony and brotherhood for which this part of the country is known for, he added.  
Sadhotra said words fail to express pain, hurt and distress over the recent killings. He also expressed concern over the plight of the employees from the Jammu Division, who are posted in various parts of the Valley and impressed upon the

Government to listen to their concerns for taking steps to instill sense of security and confidence in them. "It is sad and unfortunate that these employees and their families are forced to take to streets in these scorching summer days to give vent to their anguish on the face of imminent threat", he said while expressing solidarity with them. Prominent among those accompanying the former Minister included are Satwant Kour Provincial President Women Wing Jammu National Conference, Rajni Sharma Chairman BDC Bari Brahmna, Chander Mohan Sharma District President Urban, Naresh Kumar Bitu District President Jammu Rural, Sodagar Gupta District President Samba, Senior Leader Chander Udeh Singh, Randhir Singh Chib, Seva Ram Block Presidents of District Samba.

## BSF 16 Bn organises Civic Action Programme Sukhnandan appreciates role of BSF in effectively guarding borders

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The Border Security Force (BSF) 16 Bn organised a Civic Action Programme at villages Abdullian, Bera, Begha, Bidhipur, Liyan etc in R S Pura sub division of Jammu district, as part of series of efforts made to assist and build a close bond with border population.  
In the programme, seven tricycles, 19 hearing aids and 27 walking sticks were distributed among the specially-abled persons of the area.



Commandant 16 Bn BSF Sanjay Sharma handing-over hearing aid to an aged woman.

despite challenges on the border, the BSF remain alert to control any misadventures by Pakistan in the border area.  
On behalf of the civic population of the border area, he appreciated the assistance rendered by BSF during the time of need and also requested the BSF to continue organizing such events.

Commandant 16 Bn BSF Sanjay Sharma, SDPO R S Pura Sunder, SIO R S Pura Rajesh Sharma, Sarpanch Bachno Devi, Sarpanch Balkar Singh, Sarpanch Vinay Sharma, Ex Sarpanch Bachan Singh, Capt. Soudagar Singh, Mohan Lal and civil dignitaries were also present on the occasion.

## Govt resolute on restoring peace in Valley soon: Kavinder

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Senior BJP leader and former deputy chief minister Kavinder Gupta on Saturday asserted that government is firm on restoring normalcy soon in Kashmir as already steps in this direction have been taken. In a statement issued to media persons, Kavinder said that Home Minister Amit Shah has issued directions to fortify the security edifice in a more effective manner in the Valley to ensure that elements inimical to peace fail to carry out any more acts of violence. He however asked the Kashmiri Pandit employees to keep faith in the Centre and follow the directions by remaining confined to the places meant for their dwelling as government has made elaborate arrangements for their security and safety.



Kavinder said that the KP employees should drop the idea of leaving the Valley at the moment because the same will create more problems for the government to provide security and this could lead to some untoward incidents as well.  
The senior BJP leader said that Union Government is taking out of the box steps to counter the targeted killings as the Home Minister has reviewed the security scenario during the meeting with top security brass of the country and LG Manoj Sinha. He said that already 350 companies have been deputed to further augment security in the Valley and the Home Ministry has even advanced the deployment schedule looking into the exigency. The former Deputy Chief Minister said that people should cooperate with the government as HM Shah has envisaged a plan to defeat the entities inimical to peace in the region and it is the matter of few days when there will be complete peace and normalcy in Valley and elsewhere in the Union Territory.

## J&K Bank conducts Customer Meet in Pahalgam Yasha Mudgal educates people about Cooperative schemes

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: With customer convenience as the cornerstone of our approach to business, J&K Bank remain fully committed to enhance the value of all stakeholders for, we believe, we are just the custodians of this institution that actually belongs to the people. And we see our progress mainly linked to the growth of businesses in J&K and excellence of our services.  
J&K Bank MD & CEO Baldev Prakash stated this on Saturday while chairing the meeting to get first-hand stock of issues faced by the customers at Pahalgam. Bank's General Managers Syed Rais Maqbool and Syed Shafat Hussain Rufai, Zonal Head Anantnag Shabir Ahmad, Branch Head Mudasir Beigh and senior officials of the bank were present at the meet. Prominent customers from business community and civil society included

President Hotelier Association Dildar Ahmad Khan, owner Hotel Pine-N-Peak Mohd Asif Burza and Chairman Municipal Committee Pahalgam Owais Ahmad.  
While putting forth their issues and demands, the customers appreciated Bank's workforce for extending good customer services.  
Reiterating Bank's commitment to ensure inclusiveness in its approach towards the society, MD & CEO told the participants, "We are here to get a firsthand account of your problems and issues. We are partners and like a family we have forged strong relationships with each other. As our success hinges on each other's progress, it is our primary duty as an institution to meet all your genuine expectations." Earlier, stating that every economic success story in this part of world has Bank's hand in it, the participants exhorted

upon the Bank management to upgrade its infrastructure in terms of premises and more touch points. "Bank's compassionate nature in dealing with its clientele stands out and that is what makes it premier bank in J&K. Pahalgam is a famous tourist destination and requires more attention from J&K Bank in terms of infrastructure, touch points and CSR intervention in education sector," the participants demanded.  
In response, MD Baldev Prakash said, "The branch premises will be given a suitable face-lift till we set up an entirely new premises here. We will also explore possibilities of having more touch points like recyclers in the area," he said. With Pahalgam being famed tourist destination besides enroute Shri Amarnath Ji Cave, he said, the Bank is determined to provide state-of-the-art banking facilities to the customers, tourists and pilgrims visiting the place.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Secretary, Co-operative Department, Yasha Mudgal, on Saturday visited Treva village of Arnia block, Jammu and inaugurated an awareness camp organized by Women Credit Cooperative Limited. Secretary appreciated the women of the village for organizing this informative event which will further expand the reach of Cooperative sector in the area. She said that participation and contribution of women is extremely important for growth and development of a society. She elaborated that how women can earn their livelihood by coming under the ambit of Cooperatives and reap



Secretary Co-operatives Department, Yasha Mudgal speaking at an awareness programme.

benefits from various schemes of the department. She explained in detail various schemes which are being implemented for welfare of the people of JKUT especially women folk in the Cooperative sector. Secretary urged upon the Chairman of Women Credit Cooperative Limited for establishment of micro finance institutions at village level. She also asked the Deputy Registrar (Agriculture) Jammu for holding such awareness camps in coming days where on-spot registration of Cooperatives can be done. Chairman, Women Credit Cooperative Limited, Sanjita Dogra, requested the Secretary to issue necessary instructions to

departmental officers to work at ground level for ensuring that maximum women get engaged with Cooperative Department.

Among others Chief Advisor, Women Credit Cooperative Limited, Kailash Verma and Sarpanch Treva, Balbir Kour besides locals were present during the camp.

## First batch of 145 Hajjis to depart from Srinagar Int'l Airport today

■ **SHAKEELA ANDRABI**

SRINAGAR: 'First Hajj-2022 flight' from J&K after a gap of almost two years will take off from Srinagar International Airport today on June 5, with 145 pilgrims. This year, SpiceJet will operate 37 special flights between India and Saudi Arabia till July 31 for Indian Hajj pilgrims. "The special flights from Srinagar will take-off for Jeddah between June 5 to June 20 while the return flights from Jeddah to Srinagar, are scheduled from July 15 to July 31," a statement issued by airlines informed.  
According to press release issued by Executive Officer, Jammu and Kashmir Hajj Committee, "Hajj flights from Srinagar Embarkation Point for Hajj 2022 shall operate from June 5, 2022. Reporting time for pilgrims at Hajj House Srinagar for first flight on June 5 will be 5.30 AM while for June 6, 7 and 9,

reporting time will be 7 AM and for June 8, reporting time will be 8 AM. The pilgrims are advised to report in time at Haj House, Bemina. It may be noted that only standard baggage without any banned item shall be accepted as check-in luggage by Airlines at Hajj House, Srinagar." Jammu Kashmir Hajj Committee is working on a war-footing to finalise all preparations for annual pilgrimage. Director Airport Authority of India, Srinagar Kuldeep Singh informed, "From June 5 to June 9 there will be a single flight daily but on June 10 there will be two flights while from June 11 to June 20, there will be three flights every day." This year, as per Saudi Government, one million Muslims from across the globe will perform Hajj amid strict adherence to COVID SoPs while from India, 83,000 Muslims and from J&K almost 6,000 Muslims will perform Hajj, including 1850 women.

## Jammu Bar holds protest against recent Kashmir incidents

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: J&K High Court Bar Association, Jammu under the leadership of its President Senior Advocate M.K. Bhardwaj, held a protest in the District Court Complex, Janipur, Jammu against recently developing situation in Kashmir Valley.  
The protest was attended by all the office bearers namely Mohinder Pal Singh Pali, Vice President, Surjeet Singh Andotra, General Secretary, Aditya Sharma, Joint Secretary & Amandeep Singh, Treasurer, Rohit Sharma (YLA President), Gagandeep Singh Lucky (YLA Vice President), Yaseer Farooq Khan (YLA General Secretary), Karanjeet Singh Johal Joint Secretary (YLA), Naresh Kumar Treasurer (YLA), and many learned senior and young members of the Bar Association participated.  
Speaking on the occasion, Bhardwaj said that recently developing situation in Kashmir striking with a new strategy waylay soft targets for isolated pointed killing of innocents and hapless citizen particularly employees is a



Jammu Bar members raising slogans during a protest at Jammu.

matter of serious concern. Condemning the recent incidents of killings of Rahul Bhat, Rajni Bala, Vijay Kumar, Bhardwaj, said that these incidents have created an atmosphere of fear and uncertainty in general and more of these employees and those having come from outside Kashmir to earn their livelihood.  
"It is incumbent of all sections of the society to rise above religion and caste lines to criticize these highly deplorable acts aimed disturbing the communal harmony, derailing all efforts of bringing peace in the UT of Jammu & Kashmir," he said.

Bhardwaj further said that the Government has a prime duty to restore confidence among these people and work towards a unified response to the situation not only by the security forces who had been doing a commendable job at all levels in the Valley.  
It is necessary that the government should seriously review its Kashmir policy particularly with regard to employees from Jammu and other areas serving in Kashmir and displaced Kashmiri Pandits employed under Central Rehabilitation Plan.  
The J&K High Court Bar

Association, Jammu condemns these acts of terrorism and offers whole heartedly support to the families of those who have lost their lives and demand adequate compensation for their families like employment of at least one of their family person in the Government departments and monetary relief.  
Bhardwaj expressed their anguish that despite repeated attacks on minorities in the valley the Government / authorities have not learnt any lesson and completely failed to provide appropriate necessary safety and security to its innocent

Government employees / citizens and nationalist persons. Bhardwaj strongly condemned Pakistan for carrying on the policy of enmity against India and harboring terrorists on its soil and using them to threaten life of the innocent people & targeting minorities / security personnel in UT of Jammu & Kashmir.  
"Pakistan, who has failed to provide democracy and development to its people, has no business to disturb our peace in the U.T of Jammu & Kashmir," he said.  
The members participated in the protest Dharma includes : S/Sh. B. Kaw, Raghu Mehta, K.S. Puri, Sudershan Sharma, Babu Ram Sharma, Bal Krishan Bhat, Arun Kundroo, P.S. Parmar, Hitesh Koul, Rakesh Kher, Rajesh Khah, Yuvraj Bushan, Kulbushan Sajgotra, Abhishek Wazir, Rohan Nanda, Narinder Sharma, Umesh Sharma, Sukhvinder Singh, Surinder Singh Bunt, Prem Sadotra, Monish Chopra, Neeraj Kumar, Arjun Singh Salaria, Manjeet Singh Sarkaria, Ranjodh Singh, Parmveer Singh Sudan, Chetan Misri,

Anuj Malhotra, Vikram Thakur, Gagan Kohli, Kamal Mangotra, Atul Raina, Arjun Singh Manhas, Manjeet Partap Singh, Sanpreet Singh, Dilbagh Singh, Bhavishya Sudan , Harmeet Mehta, Varun Kotwal, Amit Manhas, Bindusar Abrol, Sarita Kumari, Suhail Bharti, Jagjeet Singh ( JJ), Amarvir Manhas, Sushant Samnotra, Jattin Gill, Pankaj Bastor, Meenal Mahajan, Smiley Gupta, Gajal Arora, Surbhi Sharma, Supriya Gandotra, Savneet Kour, Rushali Sharma, Vaishali Sharma, Mamta Chib, Navleen Koul, Manav Sharma, Amandeep Singh, Susheel Chandel, Shanum Gupta, Prithvi Dhorara, Manhar Mahajan, Shray Bakshi, Natwar Singh Dhorara, Sahil Sharma, Aprajita Sharma, Achyut Dubey, R.D. Singh Bandral, Pardeep Gupta, Nitin Sambyal, Rohit Gupta, Rohan Singh, Varun Gupta, Rahul Verma, Rajdeep Singh Thakur, Sumit Moza, Amit Sharma, Raj Dogra, G.S. Chib, Sunandini Jamwal, Rahul Sadotra and Akshya Sadotra.