

# Watch out, Emergency mindset still alive: Dr Jitendra

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a fiery and fact-rich address at a Youth Parliament organised by BJP Yuva Morcha here, Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh delivered a scathing critique of the Congress Party's historical deceit, elitist origins, and dynastic arrogance, warning the youth to remain vigilant and watch out against the "ever-morphing Emergency mindset" that is still alive and threatens the foundations of Indian democracy.

"Don't Erase the Memory of Emergency - Remember Who Betrayed Democracy" Dr. Jitendra Singh urged the youth not to allow the Emergency era to fade from memory. "Don't be in a hurry to erase it," he warned, "lest you forget who were the elements and ideologies behind it. The Emergency wasn't an aberration - it was the natural culmination of Congress culture."

Revisiting history with precision, Dr. Jitendra Singh declared "The Emergency was not a spontaneous act of power hunger - it was the cumulative outcome of the Congress legacy since its inception in 1885."

He asserted that the Indian National Congress was not born as a freedom movement, but as an elitist club of retired British civil servants and Western-educated Indians.

"From 1885 to 1930, the Congress demanded only Home Rule - not Independence. They wanted British governors to remain, merely replacing white officers with brown sahibs," he said.



Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh addressing the 'Youth Parliament' organised by BJP Yuva Morcha (BJYM) at Jammu on Friday.

Dr. Jitendra Singh contrasted Bhagat Singh's defiance with Congress's calculated caution.

He reminded that it was only after Bhagat Singh's trial and public outrage that the Congress was forced to adopt a resolution demanding full independence - and even then, only in 1931. "They didn't lead the call for freedom. They were dragged into it by a restless India. They feared political irrelevance, not colonialism," he remarked.

Dr Jitendra Singh accused the Congress of condemning revolutionaries like Madan Lal Dhingra in 1901, even as Veer Savarkar stood alone in solidarity during their last moments. "They didn't support his sacrifice - they disowned it. Even Mahatma Gandhi condemned Dhingra's act. History must not forget that," he added.

Taking a sharp jab at the

myth of Congress martyrdom, Dr. Singh said:

"Where were their sacrifices before 1930? Discovery of India was written in a jail library, not in the solitary hell of Andaman (Kala Pani). That was reserved for real freedom fighters like Savarkar and Comrade Dhanwantri from Jammu."

He challenged the Congress to name a single leader of theirs who was sent to Kala Pani. "They glorify their imprisonments post-1931 - after the British had defined 'political prisoner' status under pressure from Bhagat Singh's aftermath," he pointed out.

Highlighting the misuse of Emergency provisions, Dr. Jitendra Singh said "Indira Gandhi used Emergency to extend the term of Parliament from 5 to 6 years and forced this on Jammu & Kashmir too, taking cover under Article 370 - a blatant misuse that contin-

ued till August 5, 2019 when PM Modi rectified it."

He revealed that even when the Morarji Desai government restored 5-year terms nationally, J&K continued with 6 years citing 370. "Emergency and Article 370 were manipulated together to create a fortress of unaccountable power," he said.

Dr. Singh denounced how media, institutions, and even the Constitution were throttled during the Emergency, aims to educate citizens-especially youth-about the perils of political authoritarianism.

Dr. Jitendra Singh also paid homage to freedom fighters at prominent memorials, underlining the sacrifices made by countless patriots to secure the very freedoms that were curtailed under Emergency. "Let us never forget that liberties we take for granted today were earned with immense struggle-and once snatched away in a moment of political insecurity," he said.

Closing his address, Dr.

Jitendra Singh reminded the youth "The Congress did not give us freedom; it bargained for power. From Motilal Nehru to Rahul Gandhi - it was always family first, nation later."

He reiterated PM Modi's vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047, urging the youth to be torchbearers of true democracy, not the distorted legacy of the Emergency era.

"This battle is not over. The names may change, the methods may evolve, but the mindset survives. And that's why we remember Emergency - not just as history, but as a warning. Before joining the Youth Parliament, Dr. Jitendra Singh inaugurated an exhibition curated to mark the 50th anniversary of the Emergency, referred to as the "Black Day" in Indian democratic history. The exhibition, featuring archival footage, resistance literature, and personal accounts of those jailed during the Emergency, aims to educate citizens-especially youth-about the perils of political authoritarianism.

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## PIB Jammu sensitizes journalists about unverified content through digital media

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KISHTWAR: Press Information Bureau (PIB), Jammu under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting organised a Rural Media Workshop "Vartalap" in District Kishtwar on Friday on the theme of 11 years of governance. The workshop highlighted the achievements of the government during the period.

Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar, Pankaj Kumar Sharma; Director Press Information Bureau Jammu, Neha Jalali, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Pawan Kotwal and other senior officers of the district administration were present on the occasion.

Addressing the gathering, the Deputy Commissioner emphasized the importance of coordination with the media for highlighting the initiatives and other public welfare programs of the government. He added that the media is an important pillar of democracy which brings to the notice of the administration any shortcomings in the implementation of the government schemes and assessment of work done at the ground level.

Director Press Information Bureau Jammu touched upon misinformation, disinformation and propaganda and urged the media to counter these malpractices. She said that fake news is the main concern in today's world and the media has an important role to provide the public with truthful and credible information. The director spoke in detail about the fact checking mechanism run by PIB and requested the media persons to use the service to bust fake news.

Additional Deputy Commissioner in his address highlighted the role of PIB in



DC Kishtwar, Pankaj Kumar Sharma; Director PIB Jammu, Neha Jalali at the workshop.

disseminating information to the print and electronic media on government policies, programs and achievements. Additionally, he underscored the significance of media in generating awareness about various Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) including public debates, discussions and ushering accountability in bureaucracy. He added that the government has introduced an electronic file system (e-office) for greater transparency and steps are being taken to take it to the block level.

Other senior officers of the district administration also spoke on the occasion. Chief Education Officer Kishtwar, Masood Hussain Qazi presented the salient features of the National Education Policy 2020. He said the department is focussed on inculcation of moral values in children and imparting vocational training to the youth in line with the roadmap laid down in the policy.

Chief Agriculture Officer Kishtwar, Koushal Chandel highlighted the initiatives taken for enhancing food security, water harvesting, organic farming and empowering marginal farmers. He said that drone technology is being harnessed and real time monitoring and geotagging of agricultural land is also undertaken for better management and monitoring of agriculture initiatives.

Horticulture Development Officer Kishtwar, Raja Aadil Sheikh; Field Officer, Khadi and Village Industries Board, Shah Mohammad; District Information Officer, Kuldeep Kumar also addressed the gathering. Media and Communication Officer PIB Jammu Muzafar Wani spoke on the role of media in responsible journalism with evolving technology. The proceedings of the program were conducted by Media and Communication Officer, PIB Jammu, Zakir Nazeeb.

Over 50 local media persons participated in the workshop. Vartalap is a medium to set up bridges between government and media in order to reach out to the people at the grass-roots. The media fraternity appreciated and thanked PIB for organising the workshop in the remote area of Jammu division. Responding to the demand of media persons for the Press Club in Kishtwar, the Deputy Commissioner assured that the matter will be taken in the best possible way.

During the media interaction, the journalists brought to the notice of the district administration difficulties being faced by them. The district administration offered suggestions for better coordination between media and the government for sharing information in a seamless manner.

## Sham Sharma initiates Rs 3.78 Cr Sewerage Projects to strengthen civic sanitation in Jammu North

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a major push to upgrade urban infrastructure and improve sanitation, comprehensive sewerage and drainage development works have commenced in the Jammu North constituency under the leadership of Sham Lal Sharma, MLA Jammu North.

The projects aim to provide long-term solutions to wastewater disposal, rainwater channeling, and public health protection.

The two projects, sanctioned under the Jammu Municipal Corporation and executed by the Urban Environmental Engineering Department (UEED), cover Ward No. 37 (Janipur Colony, Shivpuri) and Ward No. 59 (Top Paloura, Mandlik Nagar), with a combined investment of Rs 3.78 crore- Rs 1.96 crore allocated for Ward 37 and Rs 1.82 crore for Ward 59.

Speaking on the occasion, Sham Lal Sharma said, "These projects are a critical intervention in addressing the sanitation and infrastructure



Sham Lal Sharma, MLA Jammu North inaugurating development work.

issues faced by the people of Janipur and Top Paloura. The commencement of these works will lead to better civic services, enhance quality of life, and ensure a cleaner, safer environment for the residents."

Sharma highlighted the importance of timely preparedness. "We are actively strengthening the Environmental Sanitation and Control (ESC) mechanism to prevent stagnation of waste and rainwater. Dedicated field teams have been deployed for pre-monsoon inspections, cleaning

operations, and rapid response in case of local flooding or sewer overflow," he stated.

Focusing on public health, Sham Lal emphasized that improved sewerage and drainage systems will significantly reduce the risk of water-borne diseases such as typhoid, cholera, and hepatitis. "Our goal is not limited to infrastructure development, but extends to building a healthier and more hygienic society," he said.

Further, Sham Lal Sharma appealed to the public to act as

responsible custodians of public assets, including government buildings, schools, parks, electric infrastructure, and other civic utilities.

He remarked, "These public properties belong to all of us. Their care and protection are essential if we are to realize the dream of Viksit Bharat @2047-a developed and self-reliant India powered by active citizen engagement." He emphasized that this national vision is being personally guided and monitored by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, whose unwavering com-

mitment to cleanliness and nation-building continues to inspire millions across the country.

He also called upon citizens to actively participate in the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, stating, "Cleanliness cannot be achieved by the government alone. Every citizen must take ownership of their surroundings. I urge all residents to become Brand Ambassadors of Swachhita, adopt clean habits, and contribute to the shared vision of a clean and dignified city."

The commencement event was attended by former Councillors Sunita Gupta, Ashok Singh Manhas, Uttam Singh Chib, BJP District General Secretary Ravish Magi, Mandal Presidents Sahil Gupta (Janipur) and Pankaj Pada (Muthi Paloura), former Mandal President Suresh Khajuria, Manohar Lal Babbar, Shakti Kendra Pramukh Joginder Singh Chib, Executive Engineer UEED Ashwani Khajuria, ABE Sunil Thapa, and other senior officials.

## Crime Branch files charge-sheet in cheating case

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Special Crime Wing of the Crime Branch, Jammu, has on Friday filed a charge-sheet in FIR No. 38/2023, registered under Section 420 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) at Police Station Special Crime Wing, Jammu.

The case pertains to a fraudulent land deal involving the accused, Rishi Kumar, son of Parshotam Dass, resident of H. No. P-9, Lane No. 25, Greater Kailash, Jammu; currently residing at H. No. 362, Sector No. 4, Channi Himmat, Jammu, an official said.

The investigation, official added, led by Inspector Deepak Bharti under the overall supervision of Sanjay Parihar, Senior Superintendent of Police, Special Crime Wing, Crime Branch Jammu, culminated in the submission of the chargesheet before the Electricity Court, Jammu.

The official said, "The case originated from a written complaint filed by a government employee posted in Jammu, who was in search of a residential plot to ease his daily commute from Kathua to Janipur. During this time, the accused, Rishi Kumar, falsely presented himself as the lawful owner of a 7-marla plot located at Khasra No. 326, Chak Lala, Bishnah, and offered to sell it at the rate of Rs 2.40 lakhs per marla. Trusting the accused, the complainant paid an advance

amount of Rs 8.90 lakhs over several dates."

However, official added, when the complainant requested execution and registration of the sale deed, the accused began avoiding him.

Subsequent inquiries revealed that Rishi Kumar had no ownership or legal claim over the said land.

The investigation confirmed that the accused had acted with fraudulent intent from the outset and deliberately misled the complainant, thereby inducing him to part with a substantial sum of money.

Preliminary Verification (PV) established that the accused knowingly misrepresented facts to cheat the complainant for wrongful personal gain. As a result, FIR No. 38/2023 under Section 420 IPC was registered at Police Station Special Crime Wing, Jammu.

Upon completion of a thorough investigation, official said, the allegation of cheating was found to be fully substantiated. Accordingly, the chargesheet was presented in court today, and the accused, Rishi Kumar, was produced before the Court for further judicial proceedings.

The Special Crime Wing, Crime Branch Jammu, reiterates its commitment to conducting fair, professional, and transparent investigations in the pursuit of justice and accountability.

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## BUREAU OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY

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