

Impressive Rath Yatra of Lord Jagannath taken out

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Amidst rains, thousands of devotees drawn from all walks of life participated in the impressive Rath Yatra of Lord Shree Jagannath Ji, which was taken out here on Saturday.

The Yatra, which started from Shiv Dham, Canal Road, was organized by ISKCON Dream City Muthi, Jammu.

Thousands of people drawn from different parts of Jammu participated in the Rath Yatra.

Under the direction of His Holiness Navayogendra Maharaj ji devotees performed the Aarti ceremony for the pleasure of the Lord of the Universe.

With the blowing of conch shells and loud roar of Hare Krishna Sankirtan their



Devotees taking out impressive Rath Yatra of Lord Shree Jagannath at Jammu.

Lordships happily proceeded for the procession which included various kirtan parties. The people enroute

served sweet water and fruits to devotees who participated in the Yatra.

The Yatra started from Shiv

Dham Canal Road in the afternoon today and passed through Pacc Gharat, Gole Puli, Talab Tillo, Gole Gujral Camp crossing, Poonch House and culminated at Kashmir Hills Resort, Patta Bohri, Jammu late in the evening. The devotees' enroute were chanting bhajans and singing songs in praise of Lord Jagannath.

"The pulling of Rath (Cart) during the Rath Yatra procession by the devotees symbolized the attempt of the residents of Vrindavan to bring Krishna, Balarama and Subdhara back to Vrindavan from Kurukshetra. The devotees of ISKCON believe that pulling the rope of the Chariot also signifies trying to bring Krishna (the supreme Lord) back to their heart"

"This Jagannath Rath

Jammu has been celebrated for thousands of years in the Holy abode of Shri Jagannath Puri, Odisha. King Indradymna had constructed the giant temple two thousand years back and A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada (prophesied senapati of Lord Chaitanya Mahaprabhu) spread this legacy to the Western world and established International Society For Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) in New York in 1966. His message to the world was Vasudeva Lutumbakam, meaning: The Whole World is one family of The Lord, so we are supposed to live in harmony by treating everyone as a part and parcel of that Supreme Lord", informed by ISKCON Dream City, Muthi Jammu.

Kavinder flags-off Mata Rudra Ganga Yatra

Says need to bring unexplored destinations on tourist map



Senior BJP leader Kavinder Gupta and others flagging-off Mata Rudra Ganga Yatra from Jammu.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader and former Deputy Chief Minister, Kavinder Gupta along with 1008 Mahant Rameshwar Dass and Vijay Mohan Thakur (Yatra-Incharge) flagged off Mata Rudra Ganga Yatra for Dessa in Doda here today.

In his address before flagging off the Yatra, Kavinder said that there are several

types of religious destinations and holy places in Jammu and Kashmir which need to be promoted not only as attractive pilgrim tourist destinations, but as attractive destinations for all types of tourists. He said that the government should bring all such religious places on the tourism map of this Union Territory and hold extensive programmes across the nation and abroad to make the people aware about the

charming natural beauty of this region. This would undoubtedly have a substantial impact in attracting more tourists to J&K and boosting the economy of the Union Territory, he asserted. The senior BJP leader said that Jammu and Kashmir has been blessed with the bounty of natural beauty and there are numerous unexplored and serene destinations that have the potential of beating the records of the already famous tourist destinations, but this would be possible only by developing these destinations with proper infrastructure especially in terms of connectivity and facilities to tourists.

Others present were Baldev Singh; Rakesh Sharma; Satish Wazir; Mahant Balkrishan Nath, Advocate Joginder Thakur and Sukhdeep Singh Bandral.

Cong seeks answers from BJP over 'terror links', demands high-level probe



AICC representative Sukhpal Singh Khera talking to reporters.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Hitting out at the ruling BJP for its alleged terror connections, Congress on Saturday sought answers from the saffron party over its links with a LeT terrorist arrested in Jammu and Kashmir and demanded a high level probe into it. AICC representative Sukhpal Singh Khera told reporters here on Saturday that the Congress does not believe in playing politics over serious national issues like terrorism. JKPPC Chief Spokesperson Ravinder Sharma, senior leaders of PCC including General Secretary Th Balwan Singh, Yogesh Sawhney, Manmohan Singh, Gurdarshan Singh, Neeraj Gupta, Gajan Singh, Kapil

Singh, Sahil Sharma, Chander Shekhar and others were also present in the press conference. Launching a scathing attack on BJP for various incidents of terror connections in past, which is quite serious and unfortunate, as saffron party leaders take nationalism high on its agenda for vote bank politics, he questioned nationalist credentials of others who had sacrificed lives for the nation but then why the presence of terrorists in their cadre goes unexplained by BJP? Referring to the issue of Talib Hussain Shah, a dreaded LeT terrorist prominent leader of IT Cell of BJP in J&K, who was spotted in the photograph with even Home Minister, Khera said how a simple denial by BJP is

sufficient without a fair probe. Similarly Mohd Riyaz Attari, who was linked to BJP in Rajasthan especially with top BJP leader and leader of opposition Gulab Chand Kataria, was also found indulged in sensational murder of Kaniya Lal in Udaipur, which sent shock waves in the country. He referred to various other incidents in the past where terrorists were found linked with BJP or its senior leaders, raising questions about ruling party, for which only a fair probe and an answer to nation is needed. "Indian National Congress does not believe in playing politics over serious national issues like terrorism. However, multiple revelations of close links between the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and individuals caught in terror activities force us to ask some straight questions of a ruling party that loses no opportunity to preach to Indians about nationalism," he added. Earlier, the Congress leader expressed shock and grief over recent tragedy at Shri Amarnath Shrine and expressed sympathies with bereaved families.

Almost half of the academic session is over, but the

Shakeela Andrabi

SRINAGAR: Government of Jammu & Kashmir has introduced major changes in education sector with path-breaking decisions to ensure quality, equity, accessibility, accountability and affordability in the system. Department of School Education has also claimed that they have achieved landmark strides so far by effectively implementing all schemes and projects, thereby envisaging a notable improvement in existing curriculum besides embarking upon various innovative new projects and works. Over last two years, SED also claimed to have registered around new admissions of 1 lakh students in various Government schools, as Government is providing free textbooks, free uniform and MDM for kids in schools.

Project Director Samagra Shiksha claimed that infrastructure in schools witnessed tremendous upgradation and improvement. According to the official figures, around 1164 construction works under Samagra

Often parents are heard saying 'Aajkal Bachchon Ki Padhayee Ke Kharche Bahut Badh Gaye Hain, why?

Why not have Indian School Education Services / State Education Services like we have Indian Forest Service ?

DAYA SAGAR

Government School are if made to deliver the supposedly delegated teaching services many parents would be relieved of un necessary additional expenditure atleast on the school education of their children thereby freeing them of the need to compromise on some of their social and public responsibilities.

Some people ask why do all government servants are not made to send their children to government schools where the teachers are better qualified and are paid (a Jr School Teacher of scale 25500- 81100 may be getting on date around Rs.40908/ (including DA 34% wef 01012022) plus Child Education allowance plus Child Hostel subsidy Allowance) much better than most of the private school teachers? Some people ask when a Director School Education / a Commissioner Secretary School Education does not send his/her children to Government School / a Head Master of a Government school does not recommend his school to his family/ friends/ and a Deputy Commissioner does not send

his/her ward to a government school then why should other government employees be forced to send their children to government schools ? Some say that in case the government officers / Senior officers feel it below dignity / status to send their children to government schools they why are they paid dearness allowance, they are not they 'rich' people ?

And above all even many labourers are found compromising with their basic needs while looking for some private academy / private tuition for their child even when they have a government school nearby with more qualified teachers.

In earlier days the government employee segment was one segment that used to get disturbed when the cost of living used to increase. But these days it appears that the government employees, though they at occasion do make some demands like that for a new pay commissions, are not that much under pressing economic pressures since they are covered by regular pay commissions after every 10 yrs, allowances like DA (Rs.600-8700 @34% presently for jr

school teacher), HRA (4000-4100 Jr school teacher , Child Education Allowance (presently Rs.2250 to 4500/pm), Child Hostel Subsidy allowance (Rs.6750 to Rs.13500/pm), Transport allowance (may be around Rs.2300-2400 Jr school teacher). So strangely when government spends so much money on government schools still government employees are paid Child education allowance of Rs.2250 per child per pm upto 2 children ? Employees of education department too are paid these allowances. What justification the government has ?

Allahabad (now Prayagraj) bench of UP High Court had in 2015 (Judgement Court 34 of Hon'ble Sudhir Agarwal, J. Delivered on 18.08.2015) had directed the Chief Secretary UP Government at para 90 " to take appropriate action in the matter in consultation with other Officials, responsible in this regard to ensure that the children/wards of Government servants, semi-Government servants, local bodies, representatives of people, judiciary and

all such persons who receive any perk, benefit or salary etc. from State exchequer or public fund, send

their child/children/wards who are in age of receiving primary education, to Primary Schools run by Board. He shall also ensure to make penal provisions for those who violate this condition; for example, if a child is sent to a Primary School not maintained by Board, the amount of fee etc. paid in such privately managed Primary School, an equal amount shall be deposited in the Government funds, every month, so long as such education in other kind of Primary School is continued, is amount collected can be utilised for betterment of schools of Board. Besides, such person, if in service, should also be made to suffer other benefits like increment, promotional avenues for certain period, as the case may be. This is only illustrative. The appropriate provisions can be made by Government so as to ensure that ward(s)/child/children of persons, as detailed above, are compelled necessarily to receive primary education in

the Primary Schools run by Board. And at Para -91 With regard to directions contained in Para 90, effective steps shall be taken by Chief Secretary within six months so as to make the aforesaid directions effective from the next academic session of Primary Schools, and, a compliance report shall be submitted to this Court by way of affidavit immediately after expiry of period of six months." It was reported by PTI in Oct 2018 that a plea was also filed by advocate Shiv Kumar Tripathi before Apex Court challenging the Allahabad High Court's order refusing to initiate contempt proceedings against the state government for not complying with the earlier judgment that had directed that kids of government servants, local bodies' representatives, judicial officers, who receive perks and salary from the state exchequer, should study in schools run by the Uttar Pradesh Board the present status of that could not be retrieved at the time of writing this story. Anyhow surely the order of 2015 has not been implemented in letter and spirit till date.

But no proportionate action worth relief to common man and saving people of the expenditure they unnecessarily make on sending children to private schools appears to have been taken by UP Government what to talk of other State Government / Centre government.

In case no one prefers to send child to a government school then why should government pay so much to government teachers? In case majority of the government schools do not carry the faith of the common man (even government teachers) as regards the education of one's children then why question thousands of school teachers, why not question only the Director School Education / Commissioner Education who are responsible for supervision/administration ?

In case Directors/ Commissioners presently come from different services why not have Indian School Education Services / State Education Services like we have Indian Forest Service.

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K. Ray Bhagat



Musical tribute 'Yeh Duniya Agar Mil Bhi Jaye Toh Kya Hai' paid to Guru Dutt on 97th Birth Anniversary



Dignitaries releasing 'Yeh Duniya Agar Mil Bhi Jaye Toh Kya Hai' song.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: "Yeh Duniya Agar Mil Bhi Jaye Toh Kya Hai" sung, acted and recreated by Narinder Sharma was released in a ceremony on the occasion of his 97th Birth Anniversary of the legendary filmmaker and actor Guru Dutt at Press Club Jammu in an event managed by Nirvana Entertainment and Panch Sitar.

Bhardwaj said that music and the law, two disciplines about as far afield from one another still music has been a favorite pastime of many lawyers but to me it seems to be a young advocate's passion for music.

It is not only remarkable but also exemplary, he said adding that there seems to be magical beauty in the manner in which frames moves and capture moods and characters on screen,

Yeh Duniya Agar Mil Bhi Jaaye" which kept the essence of the song intact without exploiting the song.

In his musical tribute, he

Painted each frame in his mind with the touch of perfection and then carved it out effortlessly in each scene of his video on Guru Dutt.

Others who spoke on the life and achievement of legendary actor included Sidarath Arora and Dr Vaidher Sharma.

The artists who acted and contributed in the musical video includes Riya Jamwal (female Lead), Umesh Sharma and Ravinder Pandita (Co-Actors), Ankush Saproo (DOP) and Rajat Nakalia (Music Guide), Riya Manhas and Rajni Sharma anchored the event.

Advocate Umesh Sharma Convener of the event presented vote of thanks.



Arun Gupta, President CCI Jammu chairing a meeting.

after concluding their sojourn in J&K they will carry back memories as our ambassadors to their respective states thus not only promoting communal harmony and brotherhood but also further strengthening the secular fabric of the nation.

Shiksha comprising of School Buildings, additional accommodation, toilets, boundary walls and teachers' quarters have been completed with a financial implication of around Rs 95 crore, besides other construction works under UT/District CAPEX budget and JKIDFC. In April, STATE TIMES carried a detailed report regarding poor conditions of Government schools in the Valley. There are still numerous examples in Valley where most of the Government schools in remote areas are deprived of proper classrooms and adequate staff, at a time when Government is making tall claims of imparting quality education and having equipped schools with other facilities.

According to latest reports Aadoo Pahalgam High school in District Anantnag has only 5 teachers with 100 students. Earlier it was reported that schools in

Gurez are teacher-deficient as around 33 posts of lecturers

are vacant in higher secondary schools across Gurez Education Zone. Further, the Government has failed to provide adequate accommodation to students in rural schools forcing them to attend classes under open sky. At times, students of more than one class are made to sit in a room by teachers leaving no scope for students to grasp what they are being taught. In reality, Government schools are deprived of proper classrooms and adequate staff, at a time when Government is making tall claims of imparting quality education and having equipped schools with other facilities.

Even though there are growth figures, the ground situation of government run schools is not satisfactory.

The acute shortage of teaching staff in government-run schools has triggered a 'crisis-like' situation across J&K. According to reports, "256 posts of masters against total 437 and 43 of headmasters out of 59 also lying vacant in district Ramtan."

The officials of education department and the teachers convince parents to discharge their kids from private schools and get them enrolled in government schools where they can get free and compulsory education up to elementary level, but parents are worried because Government teachers are not dedicated to their profession and if they would enroll their wards in government schools, it would be quite detrimental to their children's future.