

MJR-47 seeks adequate political empowerment for PoJK DPs

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Right from constitution of Delimitation Commission, the MJR-47 is pursuing the issue for allocation of assembly seats kept reserved for PoJK residents to DPs of 1947 for ensuring their political empowerment but as per Commission, there is no such provision in law. It was stated by J S Sudan, Convenor, MJR47, Jammu while speaking during a meeting held on Wednesday. Giving further details, Sudan said, "We contested their contention by quoting the clause 14(3) and 14(4) of JK Reorganization Act 2019, governing the issue, clearly defining elected strength of assembly which had been reduced unjustifiable by deducting seats kept reserved for PoJK voters. We presented our case before Commission in July 2021 at Jammu and again in April 2022, an open discussion was

held in Jammu, thereby convincing the Commission to open the law book and look through the articles, after which Chairperson assured us to have a fresh look into the matter. Finally, in its report, the commission recommended 'some' assembly seats for PoJK DPs without specifying exact number."

Sudan further said that ball is now in the court of Government of India and on behalf of all DPs, MJR-47 requests present Government to do justice with DPs by allocating at least 8-10 seats, in proportion to the population of people displaced from PoJK. "DPs were the saviours of J&K and had sacrificed more than 40,000 lives fighting raiders and faced the genocide to thwart the battle to capture J&K. Despite their sacrifices, DPs of 1947 remained deprived of their political rights as guaranteed by the Constitution resulting

in their sufferings during all these years. MJR failed to understand that when valley migrants have their marked constituency segments, then what is the justification to award them two extra assembly seats, and if it is fine, then why not to give specific number of seats to DPs in proportion of their strength to mitigate their grievances," he added.

Urging Government to allocate assembly seats to DPs, in proportion to their population, MJR-47 sought reserving at least 10 assembly seats for DPs of 1947 from PoJK, thereby providing them adequate political reservation, as guaranteed by the Constitution.

Others who were present during the meeting included Suchwant Singh, Padam Dev Raina, K L Sudan, Vinod Sharma, Jaswant Singh, Harjot Singh, Madan Sharma and Vinod Kumar.

Mahajan Sabha fully engaged in serving Amarnath pilgrims

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Jammu Central Mahajan Sabha is fully engaged, these days, in providing Langar facility to the Yatris coming daily in Mahajan Bhawan at Shalamar Road Jammu.

All the pilgrims get breakfast in the morning followed by lunch Prashad throughout the day till they get Yatra cards from the Government Registering Agency established in the main Hall of the Sabha and thereafter proceed to Bhagwati Nagar Yatri Niwas (Base Camp) for onward journey to holy cave of Shri Amarnath.

Today's Langar was sponsored by Chander Mohan Gupta, Mayor Jammu Municipal Corporation along with his family members Kamla Gupta, wife and son.

Romesh Chander Gupta President of the Sabha, Shiv Partap Gupta Senior Vice President and Sanjay Mahajan General Secretary were also present.

C.P. Gupta and Mukesh Mahajan have been looking after the Press related matters and protocol arrangements in the campus. Balbir Gupta and Yash Paul Gupta are the Incharge of the Langar.

Surinder Gupta and Subash Gupta have been assigned important duty of General Supervision over the day's activities. Dr. Mohan Lal Gupta maintains financial account of the day.

The members of the team who performed duty at the Langar counter include Vijay Gupta, Satish Gupta, Dasrshan Gupta, Romesh Gupta (Bartan Wale), Rajneesh Gupta (Pinki), Stresh Gupta, Rajan Gupta, Rajesh Gupta, & Balraj Gupta.

More than 1100 Yatris came today at Mahajan Bhawan. The Langer concluded at 5 PM with a word of thanks from the President, to all the members of the team who jointly made the today's Langar very successful.

Govt imparting quality education, rejuvenating school infra: Kavinder

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister Kavinder Gupta on Wednesday said that the BJP Government at the Centre is doing everything possible to impart quality education and rejuvenate school infrastructure to transform lives by making the generation next nation builder and creating meaningful citizens.

The BJP stalwart leader was speaking after inaugurating the construction work of Government High School Cantonment Board Ward No.5 Raipur Satwari. The former MLA Gandhi Nagar constituency was accompanied by BJP District President Vinay Kumar Gupta, Vice Chairman and Satwari Mandal President. Bharat Bhushan and District Secretary Narendra Gupta (Koki) and other party activists besides locals were also present in the occasion.

The former Deputy Chief



Senior BJP leader, Kavinder Gupta inaugurating development work.

Minister said that the successive governments in the past have neglected educational infrastructure as can be seen and gauged by merely visiting any of the government schools but soon after the BJP government's dynamic decision of making Article 370 null and void, things have started changing and today under the dynamic leadership of PM Modi the school edifice in government sector is shining with stakeholders becoming accountable and corruption becoming the matter of the past.

After the launch of construc-

tion of the aforesaid school, Kavinder also started lane and drain work at Ward No 6 in Jammu Cantonment worth Rs 10 lakh. He said that BJP Government at the Centre is doing a commendable job in Jammu and Kashmir as far as raising the public infra is concerned but it is imperative that soon after the Assembly elections there should be BJP Government in J&K as well so that the double engine government can provide the much needed succor to the people suffering since last over 70 years for the want of even basic amenities.

GST on essential commodities 'ill-thought-out & arbitrary': Dr Gagan

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Dr. Gagan Bhagat, Dy. Chief Spokesperson of J&K National Conference & former MLA, in a press statement issued to the Media on Wednesday lambasted at the BJP Union Government and demanded immediate rollback of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) on milk, rice, wheat, pulses, curd, butter milk and Cheese by the GST Council to hike tax rates which came into effect from Monday.

On one hand the middle and poor class of this country is struggling with back-breaking inflation and on the other, the BJP Union Government under Modi has imposed GST on essential commodities, making them far more expensive," he said adding that even non-branded items such as wheat flour and rice above 25 kg will attract a 5 percent GST if they are pre-packaged and

labelled.

Unbranded versions of grains and pulses which are sold in small quantities through retail shops are set to become dearer as the ceiling of above 25 kg was dropped when the notification amending the GST provisions were issued on July 13, Gagan said.

Ironically the tax to be charged for rice is going to be higher than the tax charged for unpacked Chicken, he added.

Earlier only products like branded rice were slapped with tax.

When the GST was introduced in the country five years ago, essential items such as rice, wheat, pulses, egg, meat, chicken and fish were excluded from the GST regime, he said.

The Jammu and Kashmir National Conference demanded the immediate withdrawal of the GST imposed on the food items.

He described the move as

Chuni writes to Amit Shah seeking nomination of 8 PoJK DPs to J&K Assembly

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Reiterating the demand for political empowerment of the PoJK Displaced Persons, Chairman of SOS International, Rajiv Chuni has written to Union Home Minister Amit Shah asking the Central Government to defreeze at least eight out of 24 Assembly seats, which are reserved for the community.

Gandotra requested the Director School Education to take a humanitarian decision on this vital issue in the interest of the affected students.

It is pertinent to mention here that Shree Raghunath Pathshala Jammu is situated in the premises of Shree Raghunathji Temple Jammu.

The Director School Education gave a patient hearing to the facts and figures narrated by the Dharmarth Trust President, Principal and parents and assured them that this very sensitive issue of the students brought to his notice by them shall be addressed in the right earnest within a week.

"For the PoJK Displaced Persons, the Central Government should defreeze at least eight seats, out of 24

Assembly seats, which are reserved for the community.

In a letter to Amit Shah, Chuni drew attention towards the reports that Union Cabinet

is going to take a call on proposed nomination of two or three PoJK Displaced Persons

to the J&K Legislative Assembly and said that this nominal reservation would be another injustice with the PoJK DPs, who have been deprived of their due share in power for the last 75 years.

"Since the ball is in the court of BJP-led Central Government and the Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs

has already recommended defreezing of eight Assembly seats for the PoJK Displaced Persons in J&K, we strongly believe that there should be no confusion over the number of seats to be reserved for the community and the same should be done immediately," said Chuni.

Further, Chuni added, reservation of eight seats for PoJK DPs is not only a demand of the community settled here but even the Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs

regarding 'Problems being faced by PoJK Displaced Persons in J&K' in its final report presented to Lok Sabha and tabled in

the Lok Sabha.

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