

Congress capable enough to defeat fake narratives of BJP: Bhalla

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Sharp price rise and inflation in general and of food articles in particular is now casting a devastating impact on poor household, though Modi Government and so-called economic experts trying to underplay the dire consequences. This was stated by JKPC Working President Raman Bhalla while interacting with people of Bahu constituency.

Prominent among those present on the occasion include Diwan Chand, Gopal Sharma, Sahil Shavotra, Pinku Sagotra, Bunty Pardhan, Sumitra, Raju Metha, Dev Raj, Ram Lal and others.

Speaking on the occasion, Bhalla said BJP Govt is telling the people all sorts of things that it is a global phenomenon, it is due to external factors, and even that the RBI and the Centre are doing their best to address



JKPC Working President Raman Bhalla interacting with people of Bahu constituency.

the situation but ground situation belly their claims.

He said Govt is not bothered about what it means to poor households and how mismanagement of the Indian economy have brought us where we are today.

Bhalla claimed that so far the BJP rule has been of "mismanagement, immense despair and agony" and the country today stands at a stage where the common

people are suffering from the wounds inflicted by the Government.

He said politics of disorientation and false propaganda have become the hallmark of the functioning of the Modi Government.

Bhalla said that the ninth year of the government stands at a stage where the citizens of the country are forced to suffer the countless wounds and ruthless insensitivity inflicted by the

Government.

He lashed out at the Central Government for the unprecedented price hike and record unemployment besides failing to address the grievances of people of J&K on every count after promising massive development post August 5, 2019.

Bhalla said Congress Party is strong enough as it enjoys the full support of the people given its transparent and pro people policies, it

will continue to fight for rights of the people, which are under assault since the BJP Govt assumed power at the Centre.

Bhalla cautioned on the designs and misleading politics of BJP which hurt the emotions of the people especially during elections times, for the fact, they cannot fight in elections on issues given its failure on all fronts.

He exhorted upon the Party workers across J&K to gear up for the challenges ahead and prove their mettle by giving a befitting reply to BJP and others in the upcoming ULB and Panchayat elections.

Former Minister while addressing the convention expressed confidence that Congress Party is capable of delivering and ensuring justice to people of J&K, as the Party feels the pain and anguish among the people since the BJP came into power.

Yuva Sewa Dal organizes 3rd Blood Donation Camp

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Yuva Sewa Dal on Sunday organized the 3rd blood donation camp in the memory of Rohit Kerni, who lost his life during the pandemic period.

The blood donation camp was held under the leadership of Sahil Kerni, President of the organization and brother of Rohit Kerni, at GMC Jammu. During the camp, a total of 18 units of blood were donated by enthusiastic volunteers.

Sahil Kerni, while addressing media persons, expressed that this camp is a way to honor Rohit Kerni's selfless devotion to serving the needs of the poor and underprivileged.

"The camp served as a tribute to Rohit Kerni, who dedicated his life to the welfare of the underprivileged," he added.

Kerni also mentioned that such camps will continue to be organized in the near future, ensuring the availability of life-saving blood for those in need.

"Yuva Sewa Dal aims to continue its efforts in organizing such impactful initiatives that benefit society and contribute to the well-being of those in need," he added.

Among those who were present include



A volunteer donating blood during a camp.

Vicky Mehra, Rahul Kerni, Saajan Kerni, Aashmeet Dogra, Abhinav Sharma, Abhimanyu Sharma, Sourav Manhas, Sahil Kalsi, Labba Ram, Sanjay Kumar, Vicky Pardhan, Shubam Talla, Rohit Suri, Sourab Bhagat, Tanshu Mahajan, Nitish Kerni, Deepak Gupta, and Abhishek Gupta.

Dire need to bring all Saini communities under a single platform: Pritam



Gantantrik Samaj Sangathan members during a meeting on Sunday.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Gantantrik Samaj Sangathan on Sunday conducted a meeting at Dwarka in New Delhi with an aim to promote unity and coordination among various organizations and committees of society.

The meeting was held under the esteemed chairmanship of Hitler Singh.

During the meeting, the Sangathan members laid emphasis upon the importance of uniting various organizations and committees of society under a single platform to enhance mutual coordination. Gantantrik Samaj Sangathan functions as an umbrella organization that represents the interests of all sections of society, they said.

Panchayat Conference welcomes Govt decision of raising ration scale

SRINAGAR: Chairman All Jammu and Kashmir Panchayat Conference, Shafiq Mir has welcomed the government decision of raising ration distribution scale in Jammu and Kashmir.

Shafiq Mir in a statement issued here said that this was the most pressing demand of the people and it has brought a sigh of relief to the general public.

Mir further said that he hopes government will also take some more public friendly steps like reduction in electricity tariff and water taxes because such collections hit common people generally.

Recognizing the need of the hour, Hitler Singh stressed the importance of bringing all the organizations of society together on a single platform. It is anticipated that the positive outcomes of such unification will become visible in the near future. The primary objective of the Sangathan is to work towards building a just and better society, he added.

Pritam Singh Saini, National Vice President GSS and President of All J&K Kshatriya Saini Sabha, highlighted the dire need to bring all Saini communities under a single platform. He emphasized

the necessity of remaining vigilant against forces that may attempt to deceive community members for their personal motives.

He said that the Gantantrik Samaj Sangathan remains committed to fostering unity, coordination, and social progress.

It encourages all organizations and committees to come together for the betterment of society, he added.

The meeting was attended by esteemed individuals such as Kamal Singh, Panna Lal, Ranchor Singh, Ashok Kumar, Pritam Singh Saini, and Vijay.

Natrang presents Hindi play 'Sarkari Daftar Ka Ek Din'

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Natrang presented 'Sarkari Daftar Ka Ek Din', a play in Hindi in its weekly theatre series, Sunday Theatre today at its Studio Theatre here in Kachi Chavni, Jammu. The play has been written by Laxmikant Vaishnav and was directed by Neeraj Kant.

The play portrayed a real life situation of a 'Sarkari Daftar' (Government Office) and highlighted the vices in a very intelligent manner. The play was assisted by Sushane Dulloo and the publicity of the play was designed by Vanshika Pandoh.

The play opens in a Government Office where all the employees are shown to working in their own styles. As they have job security, no one bothers to exercise punctuality; on the contrary, they have their own reasons to modify the rules and regulations as per their personal convenience.

The common vices like



Natrang artists performing in Hindi play 'Sarkari Daftar Ka Ek Din'.

red-tapeism, nepotism, favouritism, corruption, absenteeism and sycophancy which are generally associated with such offices are prominently shown in the play in a very genuine manner. The office has a peon who listens to none as no one can remove him from his per-

manent job and moreover no one, even the boss has courage to say anything to him as he has lot of secrets of theirs and thus exploits them at appropriate times. Everyone in the office has his/her weakness and each one is busy exploiting that just to implement personal agenda. The only person

who musters respect from this stubborn peon is an official who is relative of a minister who works fearlessly as being a relative of a Minister, as no one could harm him in any manner. On the top of it, the Head of the Department, who was supposed to maintain integrity and punctuality

of the office himself, shirks from his duties and remains absconding from the office to cater to his personal merry making engagements. But to the dismay of all, a vigilance officer conducts a surprise raid and finds no one in the office without any information and thus orders suspension of all the absconders. But by the time this new situation could establish the faith of good governance, the raid by a vigilance officer turns out to be dream and the fate of working of a Government office continues to be the same.

Natrang young artists who performed in the play included Mihir Gujral, Chirag Anand, Aadesh Dhar, Abhimanyu Choudhary, Sumit Singh Bhandaral and Sheryar Salaria. Lights were operated by Neeraj Kant whereas the music of the play was scored by Sheryar Salaria. The presentations were done by Mahikshit Singh.

Former IGP conducts workshop on 'Public Speaking'



Former IGP, Johnny William addressing a workshop.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A three-day workshop on 'Public Speaking' was conducted by Johnny William (Former IGP) in the Scottish Hall from July 7 to 9, 2023.

William has over the years felt that with technology taking over there remains a daunting need of good communication skills and the need of reaching out to the youth who face these chal-

lenges in job situations or while facing interviews. William has embarked on a mission to help youth harness the power to speak effectively in their own unique way.

style is based on time tested techniques, research, expertise and decades of rich experience in public speaking. The first successful batch had a good number of participants from different fields.

Lecturers' Forum hails ongoing regularisation Demands regularisation of I/c Lecturers including distance mode in Science

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: All J&K +2 Lecturers' Forum, on Sunday hailed the ongoing regularisation process of different officers and officials in School Education Department, the recent being those of almost all Incharge headmasters to Headmasters in one go.

Chairman of the Forum, R.S Salathia and Pardeep Singh Rakwal, President of the Forum, Pardeep Koul, District President Kishtwar and all other District Presidents viz Surinder Madhyal-DP Kathua, Parveen Akhter-DP Jammu (F), Jagjeet Singh-DP Poonch, Khateeb Ahmed-DP Ramban, Yassir Umar-DP Doda, Ashok Kattal-DP Samba, Subash Kumar-DP Reasi, Sohan

Singh-DP Jammu, Ashok Kumar-DP Udhampur, Anwar-ul-Sadat-DP Rajouri, Renu Langae-Vice President Jammu, BK Tickoo, RK Padroo, RK Uppal, in a joint statement have showered praises and admiration over Principal Secretary SED, Alok Kumar, for his positive approach towards the genuine demands of the employees in general.

The statement said that this was a much needed step that Kumar has taken in favour of hundreds of employees who were running from pillar to post to get justice but justice was being denied to them for unknown reasons.

Meanwhile, they requested him to deliver justice to hundreds of I/C Lecturers in various disci-

plines including those holding PG degrees through distance mode in Science stream (who are fulfilling all conditions as laid down by the Govt. from time to time) by regularising their services in one go to end the long stagnation and injustice to them.

On ongoing ATD, the forum expressed satisfaction over the way it has gone so far but have requested the Principal Secretary, Alok Kumar to speed up process of issuing orders of transfers of lecturers and Principals so that staff is in place before the culmination of Summer break in both the zones of the Jammu and Kashmir so as to start the academic session on a good note after the break.

Modi Govt uplifting poor, homeless through PMAY: Sham

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Sham Langer, Convener BJP Trade Cell, J&K said that the BJP government under PM Narendra Modi's dynamic leadership is committed to uplift the poor and homeless by providing land and homes to all the deserving beneficiaries.

In a statement issued to media persons, the BJP leader in a hard hitting rejoinder to opposition parties including PDP and NC said that those outfits which never worked for the downtrodden and underprivileged are again creating bottlenecks in the way of providing land chunks to the deserving lot under PM Awas Yojana conceived and crafted by PM Modi. He said that the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana has been devised in line with the Government's commitment to provide 'Housing for All'.

"The scheme aims at providing a Pucca house with basic

amenities to all houseless households living in kutcha and dilapidated houses. To ensure that the PMAY provides assistance to those who are genuinely deprived and that the selection is objective and verifiable, it selects beneficiaries using housing deprivation parameters in the Socio Economic and Caste Census (SECC) 2011 data. The SECC data captures specific deprivation related to housing among households. Using the data, households that are houseless can be segregated and targeted.

The Permanent Wait list generated also ensures that states have a ready list of households to be covered under the scheme in coming years (through Annual Select Lists) leading to better planning of implementation", Sham Langer said, adding that those raising unnecessary questions are blocking the poor strata from leading a dignified life.

Two day National Tribal Festival concludes at Gulmarg Preserving, promoting tribal cultures an integral part of our nation's cultural fabric: Dr Shahid

STATE TIMES NEWS

GULMARG: Two days 'National Tribal Festival' concluded on Sunday at world famous tourist resort Gulmarg.

The concluding ceremony of the grand event was attended by Joint Secretary, Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Dr. Naval Jit Kapoor; Secretary Tribal Affairs J&K, Dr. Shahid Iqbal Choudhary, senior officers of Tribal Welfare departments from various states of the country, officers and officials of TRIFED besides large number of locals also participated in the event.

In his concluding remarks at the event, Dr. Shahid Iqbal Choudhary expressed his gratitude to all the participating tribes, volunteers, and participants for their enthusiastic participation and support for the festival. He



Secretary Tribal Affairs J&K, Dr. Shahid Iqbal Choudhary and others witnessing cultural programme.

emphasized on the significance of preserving and promoting tribal cultures as an integral part of our nation's cultural fabric. "It serves as a reminder of the richness and diversity that exists within our country's tribal landscape", Dr. Shahid said.

The two day festival witnessed bunch of the tribal talents from different states of the country with involvement of local artists, displaying

their skills in front of huge crowd. Troupes comprising of various tribal artists and dancers mesmerized the audience with the thrilling performances.

The festival witnessed a grand celebration of cultural diversity and heritage that captivated attendees from all walks of life. The event also showcased the vibrant tapestry of tribal traditions, arts, music, and culinary delights.

With the support of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, the National Tribal Festival had brought together more than 10 States/UTs from across the country, creating a platform for indigenous communities to share their rich cultural heritage. The festival aimed to foster understanding, appreciation, and respect for tribal customs and ways of life.

Throughout the festival,

visitors were immersed in a colourful mosaic of tribal artistry. Traditional dance performances, mesmerizing music, and captivating performances transported attendees into the enchanting world of the participating tribes.

Artisans and craftsmen of TRIFED from various States and UTs including Arunachal Pradesh, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Ladakh,

Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh etc, showcased their intricate handicraft, offering visitors a chance to witness and purchase unique, culturally significant creations.

During the festival, TRIFED also undertook a massive drive to empanel the artisans of Jammu & Kashmir who also attended the exhibition and displayed their products.

The main highlight of the National Tribal Festival was the cultural exchange programme, where attendees had the chance to engage directly with the tribal representatives. These sessions provided valuable insights into the tribes' customs, beliefs, and rituals, fostering cross-cultural understanding and appreciation.

Ramesh Sudan re-elected Peerkho Akhara Association president



President Peerkho Akhara Association, Ramesh Chander Sudan with other members.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Ramesh Chander Sudan was once again re-elected as the president of Peerkho Akhara Association on Sunday.

A meeting of Peerkho Akhara Association was held here at Peerkho Akhara, Jammu, in which Ramesh Chander Sudan (Kaka Pradhan) was once again elected as the president. Ramesh Chandra Sudan (Kaka Pradhan) was made the head with the consensus of all the members of the association present in the meeting. Mahesh Manchanda, Sanjay Padha, Narendra Sahni, Pritivi Mehra, Raju Pahalwan, Ratan Lal, Raji, Charandeep Singh, Pardeep Sharma (Deepu), and other members of the association were also present on the occasion. Ramesh Chander Sudan once again expressed his gratitude to all the members of the association for electing him as the President and assured that he would do the best for Peerkho Akhara and work for the betterment of the members.