

LG releases Mushtaque Barq's books 'Zarf Zargar', 'Exploring Vimal's Rahi'



Lt Governor, Manoj Sinha releasing Mushtaque Barq's book 'Zarf Zargar' at Srinagar on Sunday.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Sunday released "Zarf Zargar" and "Exploring Vimal's Rahi", the translated books of the original works of

prominent poets Ahad Zargar and Rehman Rahi, by Mushtaque B. Barq, at Raj Bhawan.

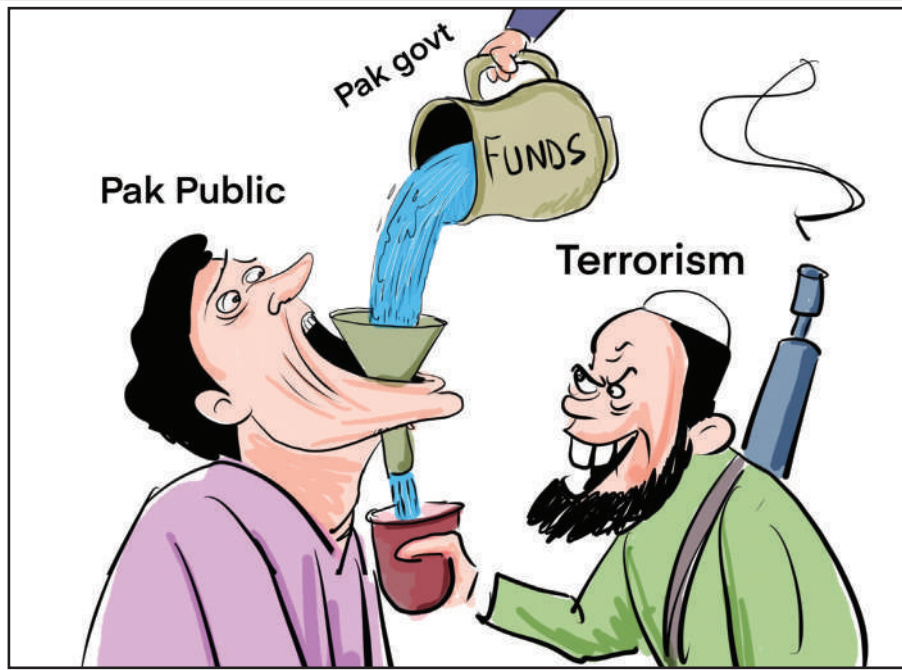
The Lt Governor congratulated Mushtaque Barq and all those associated with the pub-

lications. He lauded the efforts to carry forward the rich legacy of the great poets like Ahad Zargar and Rehman Rahi through translation of their illustrious literary works. The book "Zarf Zargar"

released today by the Lt

Governor is the anthology of selected Sufi poems by prominent poet of Kashmir Ahad Zargar, translated into English by Mushtaque B. Barq. "Exploring Vimal's Rahi" represents the English translation of Jnanpith Award Recipient Rehman Rahi's poems, initially translated into Urdu by Dr Satish Vimal.

Mushtaque B. Barq; Dr Satish Vimal; Khurshid Ahad Zargar, son of the poet Ahad Zargar, and Sheikh Mohammad Waseem, publisher of the anthologies were present on the occasion.



Restore Statehood before Assembly Elections: Tara Chand

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Advocating Statehood for Jammu and Kashmir before Assembly Elections, former Deputy Chief Minister and Senior Congress leader, Tara Chand demanded full-fledged Statehood for J&K with all its rights and legal provisions.

Addressing a gathering in border village Panjtoot of Chaamb Constituency, former Deputy CM said that this was gifted to us by our Dogra ruler Maharaja Bahadur Hari Singh much before independence.

In 2019, Article 370 of the Constitution of India, which gave special Status to Jammu and Kashmir was abrogated, this gave a stunt shock to residents of J&K, who were enjoying Special status in the country with a proud feeling within them, Tara Chand said and reminded the party in power that restoration of statehood is a commitment in the house before the lawmakers.

Appreciating the far sightedness of Maharaja



Senior Congress leader, Tara Chand addressing public meeting at Jammu.

Hari Singh, Tara Chand said then Maharaja made primary education compulsory in the state, introduced the laws prohibiting Child marriage and opened places of worship for all.

Tara Chand, who represented Chaamb Constituency thrice in Assembly, reminded the development era of Congress regime, said the whole border belt of this area was being neglected with no development, rise in unemployment, educated and less educated youth is struggling, need based workers engaged by the previous govts are still

struggling for regularization of their services, most of them are now married and blessed with Children also.

Thanked the people of area for casting their votes in the last parliamentary Elections, Tara Chand said during Lok Sabha elections people showed their trust in Congress, everyone irre-

spective of caste, region poured votes in favour of Indian National Congress. He hoped that voters will also trust the leadership of Rahul Gandhi, Mallikarjun Kharge and Congress in the ensuing Assembly too unitedly. Prominent among those present on the occasion include Narinder Sharma General

Secretary PCC, Sahil Sharma Secretary PCC, Madan Lal Sharma Senior VP DCC rural, Santosh Manhas, Bharat Priye, Jagdish Raj Sharma Block President Samwah, Rajkumar Block President kharrah Balli, Tarsem Singh Working President Khour, Gafoor Ahmad Working President Maira Mandrian, Yashpal Sharma, Devinder Singh Bittu, Bodh Raj Sharma, Somraj Sharma, Capt Romesh, Sham Lal State President Barwala Biradri, Hansraj Bhagat Block President SC Morecha, Suraj Singh Retired Principal, Bishan Dass Bawa, Bharat Priye, Capt Parshotam Singh, Capt Parbat Singh, Anudeep Sharma, Vipin Iachotra General Secretary SC Morecha, Deep Bhagat and others.

Dr Andrabi, Khatana felicitate human rights contributors at Srinagar

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Chairperson J&K Waqf Board, Dr Syed Darakhshan Andrabi on Sunday attended the National Felicitation Ceremony by Global Human Rights Trust, a reputed human rights organization as the Chief Guest.

This event was held at Tagore Hall Srinagar in which Engineer G A Khatana, Member of Parliament also graced by ceremony as the Guest of Honour.

Awardees from whole of India got the honours for their exemplary contribution in different spheres of life.

Keynote and welcome address was given by the Chairman of the Trust Dr H R Rehman while the proceedings were by the Executive of the Trust Paramjeet Singh.



Chairperson JKWB, Dr Syed Darakhshan Andrabi and MP Er G A Khatana presenting award.

Er Khatana congratulated the award winners and lauded their contribution.

In her presidential address Dr Darakhshan Andrabi thanked GHRT for choosing Kashmir for their investiture ceremony this year.

"I have myself witnessed the working of this organization at the national spectrum for some years now and I happy that they are making impressive

contribution in protection, facilitation and promotion of human rights throughout the country. Together we all can make a just society where human rights and human dignity stands ensured", said Dr Andrabi.

She said that she was pleased to learn that this organization of repute will be enhancing its activities in J&K manifolds in the days to come.

Insults to Sanatan Dharma won't be tolerated: Rana

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NAGROTA: Taking strong exception to unabated bashing of Sanatan Dharma and Sanatanis to appease vote-bank and divide the extended Hindu society, Senior BJP leader Devender Singh Rana on Sunday asserted that such insults won't be tolerated.

"If the evils of this era think that they can get away with taunts and insults to the oldest and greatest civilization of the universe they better know that the Hindu Samaj is resilient enough but it can bounce back in true spirit of Bhagwad Gita that teaches fight till last for Dharma", Devender Rana said while speaking at a huge congregation held to commemorate Bhagwat Gita Saptah at Pangali in Nagrota.

He said the Sanatan bashers are actually ignorant about the divine phi-



Senior BJP leader Devender Singh Rana and others at Guru Purnima programme.

losophy of Dharma that is a way of life evolving around Karma.

Those undermining the time tested values of Sanatan Dharma rather contemptuously deserve pity and forgiveness for their evil deeds, he said, adding that this civilization has withstood the onslaught during the eras of Mughals and Britons. Repetition of the trend of foreign invaders by the Congress and its ilk from east to west and north to south will make them lick the dust and the day is

not too far, he maintained. Devender Rana said that spreading canards against Sanatan Dharma and dividing Hindus on caste basis is a deep rooted game-plan of decades with Jaichands across the country taking centre stage in furthering the radical and left-liberals global agenda. This nefarious and sinister conspiracy to weaken India is destined to explode very soon, he said, adding that the political dwarfs promoting anti-Sanatan narra-

tives will certainly face the Waterloo. Sanatan Dharma has been, is and will remain till eternity to guide humanity and strengthen the peace and harmony in the true spirit of Vasudeva Kutumbakam. "Karma will return to take the toll of the Sanatan abusers", Rana said and urged the devout not to lose patience but to work towards betterment of the society, irrespective of religion, region, caste or continent.

He cautioned those tar-

geting Sanatan and said the more they indulge in Hindu bashing, the more Dharma will flourish with its pristine glory.

He said the history is replete with instances of how the persecutors of Hinduism perished.

Several other speakers in their discourse dwelt upon the rich ethos of Sanatan Dharma, emphasizing this stands for universal brotherhood, peace and amity.

Later, Rana also attended Guru Purnima celebrations at Jagdebay Temple (Jagti) and ancient Ram Temple Purani Mandi, Jammu.

Prominent among others who were present on these occasions included Maha Mandleshwar Mahant Rameshwar Dass ji Maharaj, Dr Satya Narayanji, Jeevan Shastri Ji, Som Nath Khajuria, Harsh Sharma, KD Singh, Sumit Singh, Raju Sharma, Kaushal Sharma.

Advisor Bhatnagar visits Chandanwari, reviews arrangements for ongoing Amarnathji Yatra

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

PAHALGAM: Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar on Sunday visited Chandanwari Base camp to oversee the arrangements for the ongoing holy Shri Amarnathji Yatra.

During the visit, Advisor Bhatnagar took comprehensive review of all facilities and infrastructure in place to ensure a safe and smooth pilgrimage experience for devotees.

The Advisor reviewed the arrangements for accommodation, sanitation, water supply and security, directing the concerned officials to maintain highest standards. He emphasized on the importance of ensuring the safety and well-being of the devotees.

The Advisor lauded the efforts of all stakeholders involved in organizing the Yatra and reiterated the administration's unwavering commitment to providing a memorable and spiritually enriching experience for all devotees visiting the revered Shri Amarnathji shrine.



Advisor, Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar visiting Chandanwari Base camp on Sunday.

Advisor Bhatnagar also interacted with senior officials from Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board, Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), and J&K Police, reviewing the security arrangements and contingency plans in place. He commended the efforts of the officials and personnel involved in the Yatra management.

Meanwhile, Advisor Bhatnagar also inspected the Base Camp Hospital Chandanwari and took stock of medical facilities available for the devotees. During inspection, the

Advisor assessed the medical facilities available for pilgrims and also took stock of emergency medicines available there. He also interacted with medical staff and took stock of medical equipments to ensure adequate preparedness for any emergencies that may arise during the Yatra.

He directed the staff available at hospital to keep extra stock of medical supplies and other emergency equipments available at the hospital to meet any kind of eventuality.

Regular traffic jams in Jammu! What are viable ways for prevention?



Ankit, Tour & Travel Agent

The Amarnath Yatra presents significant challenges, particularly with issues like vehicle congestion, causing inconvenience for pilgrims. It's crucial for the government to address these concerns promptly. One potential solution could involve better planning and management of traffic flow, possibly through designated timings for vehicle movement or improved infrastructure along the route. Engaging with local authorities and community stakeholders to discuss these issues constructively might also yield practical solutions.



Khalid Choudhary, Trader

The worsening traffic situation in Jammu has become a significant concern, compounded by arbitrary stops and harassment despite possessing all required documents. This situation is unjust and requires immediate attention and reform. It is crucial for authorities to implement fair and transparent traffic management policies that prioritize smooth commuting for residents. This could involve better enforcement of traffic rules, investment in infrastructure, improvements, and ensuring that law enforcement acts responsibly and respectfully towards citizens. Additionally, fostering open communication channels between the community and government officials can facilitate constructive dialogue and collaborative solutions.



Rajan Gupta, General Secretary Trader Welfare Association Bus Stand

I call for improved traffic management, including better synchronization of lights and possibly introducing alternate routes or public transport options that could alleviate some of these issues. Regarding helping elderly people or others in emergencies, ensuring clear emergency lanes or designated stopping points could be beneficial. Engaging with local authorities and community organizations to discuss these concerns and propose solutions could also bring about positive changes. By working together towards practical and inclusive transportation solutions, Jammu can address these challenges and enhance the quality of life for its residents.



Ramesh Kumar Tak, Businessman

It is understandable that despite Jammu's advancements, traffic congestion remains a significant concern, exacerbated by perceived unfair enforcement practices. It is crucial for the government and traffic authorities to prioritize effective traffic management strategies that ensure smooth flow and safety for all commuters. Efforts should focus on implementing fair and transparent enforcement of traffic rules, ensuring that fines or challans are issued based on clear violations rather than arbitrary reasons. By working together, residents and officials can strive towards a more efficient and equitable traffic system in Jammu, enhancing the overall quality of life for everyone.



Manik Upal, Chairperson Stand with Humanity Foundation

It is evident that while efforts are being made to transform Jammu into a smart city, challenges like traffic congestion and inadequate parking facilities persist. The issue of multiple vehicles per family contributing to traffic congestion underscores the need for comprehensive urban planning and transportation management strategies.

To address these concerns effectively, the government should prioritize the development of sufficient parking infrastructure. Strict enforcement of traffic rules, including penalties for violations, is essential to ensure compliance and maintain smooth traffic flow. Additionally, investing in public transportation options and promoting sustainable modes of travel could help reduce the reliance on private vehicles.



Ricki Dalotra, Businessman

The proper functioning signal lights and designated stopping areas for Metadors, e-buses, and other commercial vehicles in Jammu is crucial for improving traffic flow and reducing congestion. It is essential that local authorities such as the SSP Jammu, RTO Jammu, and Traffic Department address these issues promptly. Functional signal lights not only regulate traffic but also enhance safety at intersections, preventing chaotic conditions that contribute to traffic jams. Designated stops for commercial vehicles can streamline their movements, preventing them from halting arbitrarily and causing disruptions. By advocating for these improvements collectively, residents and officials can work towards creating a more efficient and orderly traffic system in Jammu, benefiting everyone in the community.