

Provide constitutional safeguards to protect jobs, lands of locals in J&K: Harsh

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Accusing the BJP government of falling back on its promises of saving the lands and jobs of locals of J&K, Harsh Dev Singh, Chairman-JKNPP & former Minister, said that not only the general public but the educated youth were highly disappointed over the flip flops of the ruling party over the issues.

He said that while the government had failed to bring any law till date so as to save the lands of locals from outsiders, the job policy as enumerated through domicile law had further antagonized the youth of J&K. The move of opening of J&K jobs to all those outsiders who obtained domicile certificates was in total contrast with the assurances of BJP leaders and had invariably antagonized the youth of J&K in particular, said Singh.

He was addressing the media after admitting around 25 youth in Panthers Party today. Speaking to media persons, Harsh said that while the centre appeared to be fully focused on Ladakh, the people of J&K



Newly joined youth expressing solidarity with JKNPP leaders.

continued to feel the heat of some of the adverse fallouts of the latest decisions of the GoI after abolition of Art 370 and the passage of Re-organization Act. He said that people of J&K too wanted the domicile law as enacted during the rule of Maharaja Hari Singh to continue so as to safeguard the interests of the people of this erstwhile princely state.

He said that possibilities of the land sharks usurping the lands of the state subjects and bullying the poor and un-influential land owners of the state could not be ruled out following the abrogation of the laws giving protection to local farmers.

He said that danger of loss of employment opportunities was another very serious issue which was staring the educated

supported the BJP in Parliament and Assembly elections, any disregard for the sentiments of its people could prove counterproductive for the saffron party. Singh said NPP was committed to protection of lands and Jobs of locals and would continue to agitate the issue till it was addressed in right perspective by providing for adequate constitutional safeguards as available to North Eastern State. He further expressed concern over the collapse of erstwhile Dogra state saying that its demotion as UT would spell doom for saffron party in the days to come.

Prominent among those who joined Panthers Party included Pardeep Chopra, Parveen Kumar, Ramesh Kumar, Varun Bhanu, Raghu Sharma, Lovely Kumar, Rajat Kumar, Ramesh Singh, Jasbinder Singh Briz Sharma, Vivek Sharma besides others. Present on the occasion were Surinder Chouhan, District President Jammu (Rural)-JKNPP, Gurdeep Singh@Raju District Secretary Jammu (Rural)-JKNPP & Parth Singh Block President Khour-JKNPP.

Mayor reviews Bahu Fort beautification works



Mayor, Chandar Mohan Gupta reviewing Bahu Fort beautification works.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Mayor, Chandar Mohan Gupta and Dy. Mayor, Adv. Purnima Sharma accompanied by Babila Rakwal, Vice Chairperson, JDA on Monday reviewed Bahu Fort beautification works outside Bahu Fort.

After paying obeisance to Mata Bawewali, each and every work done by JDA was inspected. Mayor also started plantation drive in the Bahu Fort complex by planting Aarika Palm plant.

Plantation was also done by Advocate Purnima Sharma, Dy. Mayor, JMC, Vice Chairperson, JDA, and many more and about 150 plants bearing names Cycas, Phycus Starlight, Eurphorbia etc. were planted.

While briefing the media, Mayor disclosed that during the coming months,

Jammuites will witness many more works as the Housing and Urban Development Deptt is committed to make Jammu, a smart city under the Administrative Secretary, Dheeraj Gupta.

Mayor also enlisted some minor works within and outside the compound of Bahu fort and also issued express instructions to municipal staff to clean the deep covered drains and open drains in the area.

Prominent among others who also accompanied Mayor were Sushil Kumar, Executive Engineer, JDA, Gopal Sharma, AEE, JDA, Adv. Chandar Mohan Sharma, Convenor, Tawi Bachao Aandolan, Rajinder Kumar I/c Sanitation Officer and other field staff of JMC, Bahu fort traders association.

Deputy Mayor starts development works

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Deputy Mayor, Advocate Purnima Sharma, started the developmental work in Ward No. 01 by laying the foundation stone for the construction of channel fencing on both sides of the path from Zalfa Temple till the Bank of the Tawi River.

It was an old requirement of the locals of Ward No. 01 as the path used to get filled with rubbed from the surrounding area due to which people faced problem while travelling through the path.

Taking this in account, efforts were made by the Deputy Mayor and development work worth of Rs 5 lakh was approved for the construction of Channel Fencing on both sides of the path from Zalfa Temple till the Bank of the river Tawi.

Harvinder Singh (CTO JMC), Mukesh Sharma (JE Div. 01 JMC), Gopal Sanotra (Addl Office Secretary Jammu East Mandal BJP), Vijay Sharma (President Booth no. 02, ward no. 01), Shubh Lata Sharma (Jammu District General Secretary Mahila Morcha BJP), Anuradha Sharma, Sunita Wazir (Jammu District Vice President Mahila Morcha BJP), Tarseem, Gopal Magotra, Pooja, Rama, Neelam, Neeti, Santosh, Priya and other prominent citizens of the area also accompanied the Deputy Mayor.

BJP Jammu West pays tributes to Arun Jaitley

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: BJP unit of Jammu West paid tributes to former Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley on his Purnima Tithi and remembered the works done by him for the overall development of the country.

The programme was attended by former State President BJP Sat Sharma, District President Munish Khajuria, District Sangathan Mantri Mohan Singh Rana, Former District President Ayodhya Gupta, Corporators Jeet Angral (Chairman), Sanjay Baru and Dinesh Gupta and Mandal President Raveesh Mengi.

District General Secretaries Advocate Rajesh Gupta and Advocate Karan



BJP leaders paying tributes to former Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley.

Sharma conducted the proceedings of the programme. Munish Khajuria said that none other politician in opposition could stand in debate in front of Jaitley when he spoke in Parliament which shows how perfectionist he was in every stream.

Meanwhile, on the day of the first death anniversary of

Satish Anand shares his 'Vision of Theatre' at Natrang's International Talk Show

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Eminent figure of Indian Theatre and Sangeet Natak Akademi Awardee Satish Anand illuminated the fourth day of Natrang's International Theatre Talk Show with his stimulating 'Vision of Theatre' live on Facebook page of Natrang.

Termining this talk show as a boon for theatre enthusiasts, Director Natrang, Balwant Thakur expressed his gratitude towards the ultimate theatre personalities of India and abroad who spare their time to

NSS urges administration to recommence work on Degree College

STATE TIMES NEWS

NAGROTA: Nagrota Sangharsh Samiti (NSS) on Tuesday urged the administration in general and the Department of Higher Education in Particular to recommence the work on the Degree College Complex here, saying the residents are determined in their resolve to continue peaceful Dharna, despite rains and humid environs.

"It is a question of our children, who deserve higher education at their doorsteps to shape their academic career", the protestors said while sitting on Dharna on the 25th consecutive day.

The residents said that despite assurance held out by the responsible officers, no forward movement is taking place with regard to construction of the complex, foundation stone of which had been laid with much fanfare last year in presence of senior officers. The delay has made the people impatient and forced them to take to streets and hold Dharna in the scorching heat and intermittent monsoon rains. They said they will unitedly fight for the righteous cause and foil the machinations of anti-people elements who were creating hurdles in the establishment of the college.



interact and enlighten the global audience with their visionary views about theatre.

Introducing Satish Anand, Rahul Singh informed that after graduation, Satish Anand attended theatre workshop conducted by Eugenio Barba at Bharat Bhavan, Bhopal. In 1980s, he attracted wider attention with his production of Amali (1984) in Patna, based on a story by Hrishikesh Sulabh, and later with Mati Gadi (1986), an adaptation of Shudrak's Mrichhakatikam. He was honoured by the Bihar Lekhak Sangh in 1981, and received the Parishad Samman of Sahitya Kala Parishad, Delhi, in 2003.

Anand started his session with reference to the present

DGP sanctions Rs 1.20 cr spl welfare relief for NoKs of police personnel

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Director General of Police (DGP) Dilbag Singh sanctioned Rs 1.20 crore special welfare relief for the Next of Kin (NoK) of Jammu and Kashmir police personnel who died in harness, a police spokesman said on Monday afternoon.

DGP also sanctioned special relief of Rs 10 lakh for NoKs of Special Police Officers (SPOs), he said.

Spokesman said continuing with its endeavour to provide financial assistance to the families of the Police personnel who passed away in harness, Singh has sanctioned Rs 1.20 crore as Special Welfare Relief in favour of dependents and legal heirs of six such deceased Police personnel.

The special welfare relief of Rs 20 lakh each has been sanctioned in favour

times of corona crisis, this was not even in the distant dream of anyone that such a situation may occur but in one sense, this situation has provided an opportunity for self-analysis to all of us.

This crucial time demands us to evaluate our own selves so that we may become a refined version of ourself and contribute more towards the society, which is always a hallmark of theatre practitioners, he said.

He narrated his eventful journey in theatre, which he started in his early childhood. He also shared his struggle in creating respectability and acceptability for theatre in Patna, Bihar where it was once very difficult to arrange female artists for the plays and even if arranged, the terms and conditions were near to impossible to fulfill.

In a society where there is no acceptance of theatre, a direc-

tor has to act like social reformer and not only cultural activist and he has lived all this.

He also explained his process of creating a new dramaturgy in Bihar called 'Bideshia' which carries five essential components i.e. Sutradhar (Nat/Nati), Vidushak, Nritya Naach, Geet Sangeet and Samaji (Chorus). He also described about the immense importance of theatre in context of New Education Policy but explicitly suggested the youth to go to the audience with full preparation and avoid short-cuts which is dangerous not just for them but also to the cause of theatre.

Those who are coordinating the online event include Anil Tickoo, Neeraj Kant, Suresh Kumar, Sanjeev Gupta, Vikrant Sharma, Sumeet Sharma, Aarushi Thakur Rana, Rahul Singh, Mohd Yaseen and Gauri Thakur.

Advisor Khan to meet people at Church Lane today

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Farooq Khan will meet the people at Lieutenant Governor's Grievance Cell at Church Lane Sonawar here on August 25 (Tuesday) from 11:00 AM onwards. It is further informed that the deputations, delegations, individuals or other people who want to meet the Advisor have to seek a prior appointment from his office on phone numbers: 7006166569, 9622749350.

All such people who will be visiting LG Grievance Cell are requested to follow all health guidelines and protocols and the deputations should not exceed more than 3 members in order to contain the spread of COVID-19 pandemic.

Also, people, individuals or deputations who have already registered themselves with the Advisor's office can meet him at the venue.

'Radha Ashtami to be celebrated on Aug 26'



Maharaj Ganga Dhar addressing a press conference.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The festival of Radhashtami is going to be celebrated on August 26, 2020 at Pavitar Samadhi Sthal Sohanjana wherein the renowned saints are coming to attend this pious festival and deliver their religious discourses. Giving details of festival, Maharaj Ganga Dhar, while addressing the media, said that all are invited to attend the festival but those who are not physically well are humbly requested to offer their prayers at home.

Referring to government

directions and SOPs, Maharaj Ganga Dhar urged upon the general masses and those who are desirous to attend the ceremony, must wear masks and use sanitizers during the prayers. Maharaj Ganga Dhar further appealed the devotees to maintain and streamlining social distancing as far as coronavirus virus is concerned.

"Noted in the interest of general public and government instructions, entry in the Pandal without mask and sanitizer is strictly prohibited," Maharaj Ganga Dhar cautioned.

The vote of thanks was presented by Dr. Vikas Sharma, Professor, Division of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry.

Postpone scheduled NEET-JEE exam: JKAP

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Apni Party (JKAP) leader Rameez Ahmed Khan on Monday demanded postponement of NEET-JEE examination in view COVID-19 pandemic.

In a statement to the press, the JKAP youth leader said that the government should take a final call on the postponement of the NEET-JEE examinations in Jammu and Kashmir which is passing through a tough situation.

"It is not possible for the students to appear in the examinations when there is no transport facility. The students living in rural areas will also not be able to appear in the examination," said Khan.

He appealed the government to review their decision in the interest of the students' community.

"At a time, when people are being advised to not assemble at a place to avoid COVID

spread, the government's decision has led to the mental stress among the students," he said citing anxious calls he was receiving from the students.

He suggested that the examination dates should be announced when the COVID situation improves in Jammu and Kashmir.

At national level, he said, the students are not in favour of the scheduled examination with a fear that the lives of the students will be put to risk by holding examinations.

He said that the social media is also abuzz with the demand to defer the examinations.

"Some students live in containment zones, some live in far-off areas and it would not be able for them to appear in the examination. Instead of making the students appear in the examination, the Government should review the decision," he demanded.

Mesmerising performances witnessed at SaMaPa Digital Baithak

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Sopori Academy of Music And Performing Arts (SaMaPa) Digital Baithak witnessed mesmerizing recitals by young generation musicians in the 8th week of its ongoing series being presented by the legendary musician Pandit Bhajan Sopori and music maestro Abhay Rustum Sopori.

The first programme of the 8th week featured Sarangi Solo recital by Gouri Banerjee accompanied on the Tabla by her father and Guru Pt. Kishore Banerjee.

An 'A' grade artist of All India Radio, she presented Raga Madhuvanti, a melodious evening raga also



Mohan brothers, Gouri & Kishore Banerjee performing at SaMaPa Digital Baithak.

known as Madhubanti. She commenced her recital with melodious Aalap followed by Gat in Vilambit Ektaal and Dhrutlaya Teentaal.

The introduction to the recital was presented by renowned vocalist and Vidushi Sumitra Guha who explained the raga by singing a self composed Tarana. The other programme featured another

young duo from Maihar tradition, the Mohan brothers. Lakshay Mohan on Sitar and Aayush Mohan on Sarod presented Raga Hem Lalit, a rare raga which is a fusion of Hemant and Lalit.

The Mohan brothers commenced their recital with detailed Aalap and concluded their recital with a Gat in Dhamar Taal showcasing

the beauty of their tradition.

The eminent Mohan Veena exponent Pt. Vishwamohan Bhatt, a Padma Bhushan & Grammy awardee, presented the introduction with a detailed description of the raga.

The Baithaks were compered by well-known broadcaster and anchor Sadhna Shrivastav.