Congress holds massive public rally in Khour

AKHNOOR: Former Dy. Chief Minister and Senior Congress leader Tara Chand addressed a largely attended Congress rally in Khour.

Addressing the gathering, former Deputy Chief Minister lambasted the BJP government for harassing the poor in every respect when the common man is unable to meet both ends in the unprecedented price rise and record unemployment.

He said that after abrogation of special status, the lands of poor being snatched, the protection to jobs is gone and there are no jobs in government and private sector.

In this situation the BJP government and UT administration is putting additional burden of all sorts of taxes on poor, he added.

When the people raise their voice, they are booked on frivolous charges and crushed to suppress the voice of people, he said adding that the common masses are up in arms now to fight against the authoritarian



leading protest rally at Khour.

approach of the BJP government.

Tara Chand said that BJP leaders have gone into hibernations after getting huge mandates from Jammu people on false promises and now putting the entire blame on LG administration whereas it is BJP led centre government which is directly running affairs of the UT. "We have taken to the streets against governance deficit, lack of development and failure of the government to deliver on the promises made to the people of the Jammu and Kashmir," Former Dy CM said. "For ending this nightmarish era, the people should seize the opportunity of upcoming ULB elections and give their verdict against BJP misrule", he said and exhorted the people to vote and support Congress.

Former Deputy Chief Minister asked the people to peacefully strengthen the ongoing movement to launch Jan Andolan against the anti people policies of the government and teach lesson to BJP in the forthcoming election of ULB as well as Assembly and Parliamentary elections when held.

Bansi Lal Gupta, Jagattar Singh, Madan Lal Sharma, Jagdish Raj, Santosh Manhas, Hans Raj Bulla, Sham Lal, Radhe Sham, Tarsem Singh, Bachno Devi, Magesh Kumar, Ram Lal Bhagat, Pawan Singh, Jagu Ram, Jameet Ram, Rajni Devi, Rajeev Singh, Pandit Som Nath, Kali Dass, Sanjeev Dubey, Vijay Sharma, Bachan Singh, Sarpanch Avtar Singh, Sarpanch Monu

Verma, Kala Singh, Vipan Lakhotra Parbhat Singh, Deep Bhagat, Chuni Sharma, Kala Sharma and others attended the rally.



Another milestone achieved in Udhampur-Srinagar Rail link Dream project

First trial run on 8.6 km T-74 conducted successfully

MASROOR AHMAD

SRINAGAR: The work on Srinagar Udhampur rail link is near completion, according to railway authorities more than 95 percent work is completed on 111 kmKatra-Banihal rail section, authorities are hopeful that this long awaited dream project will come true by the beginning of next year.

The first trial run on 8.6 km long train tunnel T-74, connecting Banihal Railway Station with Khari Railway Station in Ramban district on the 111-km long Katra-Banihal section Udhampur Srinagar Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) project was successfully conducted on Saturday.

The train service between Banihal and Khari Railway Stations on Katra-Banihal section is expected to begin soon as all the work on track and Railway Station Khari was completed and a trial was also conducted, an officer of the Northern Railways

Deputy Commissioner Ramban, who is monitoring the ongoing works of the National Projects in Ramban district Saturday posted on X that USBRL had made great strides in

Earlier in July, General Manager Northern Railway Shoubhan Chowdary along with other senior officers visited Sangaldan and Banihal and inspected the progress of the ongoing works on the Banihal-Katra section of the USBRL Project. He also inspected the Khari-Banihal section.

The Udhampur-Banihal Rail line is expected to revolutionising transportation and connectivity in the region. This dream project running from Udhampur,33 kilometres north east of Jammu to Baramulla in the Kashmir Valley, Kilometres northwest of Srinagar, the project includes the construction of 38 tunnels with a combined length of 119 Kilometres, according to quality control project head of Afcons Infrastructure Ltd.

These include the tunnel Sumber and Arpinchala Stations and the Pir Panjal Tunnel, the longest transportation tunnel in India at 12.75 and 11.2 kilometres respectively. This project has also 932 bridges spanning a combined length of 13 kilometres including the iconic Chenab Rail Bridge, claimed to be the world's highest railway bridge, and the AnjiKhad Bridge, Indian Railways first cable -staved rail bridge

Fawad Ahmad ,a local resident of district Anantnag told State Times that the rail link between Kashmir to Kanyakumari will also boost tourism in the region, with travellers being able to soak in the beauty of the Kashmir Valley by train and the valley's farmers will enjoy greater access to outside markets, freed from their reliance on roads that are slow and are mostly blocked

due to landslide". For some people , the railway link is the hope of economic development, Shahid Ahmad, from Shopian district expressed his view and said that even though our district is not yet connected with rail link ,but in near future it will benefit everyone. He said, "Pulwama district has rail connectivity and that district is just 15 to 20 kilometre from our district headquarter, which is not a

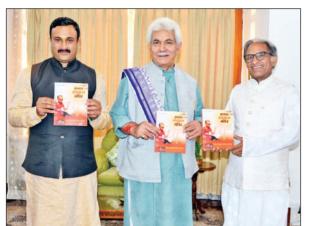
matter of concern now". He said, "This development will boost our horticulture industry as we will be able to transport our fruits including perishable fruits to various fruit Markets of the country on time and without any kind of damage and

LG releases Shri Kailakh Jyotish Vedic Sansthan's publication 'Saral Sanskrit Bodh'

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday released a book titled 'Saral Sanskrit Bodh' published by Shri Kailakh Jyotish and Vedic Sansthan Trust, at Raj Bhawan.

The Lt Governor congratulated Mahant Rohit Shastri, President Shri Kailakh Jyotish and Vedic Sansthan Trust and Prof. Sharat Chandra Sharma, the authors of the book. He appreciated the commitment of Kailakh Jvotish and Vedic Sansthan for the promotion, development and enrichment of Sanskrit.



Lt Governor Manoj Sinha releasing a book titled 'Saral Sanskrit Bodh' published by SKJVS Trust.

SC issues notice to CBI in bail application filed in SI recruitment scam

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A Bench of Supreme Court Comprising Justice J.B Pardiwala and Justice Manoj Misra issued notice to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in much publicized SI recruitment Scam.

The notice was issued to CBI by Apex Court in bail application filed by Yatin Yadav.

Apex Court after hearing both the sides observed that The petitioner came to be arrested in connection with the First Information Report bearing Crime No.RC0042022A0008-CBI/ACB/Jammu for the offence punishable under Section 120-B read with Sections 420, 411, 408 and 201, IPC, 1860.

Apex Court further observed that though there is some discrepancy as regards the exact date of the arrest of the petitioner, yet the senior counsel appearing for the petitioner, upon instructions, submitted that the petitioner was arrested on 17th September, 2022 and was remanded to police custody for a period of two days. Thereafter on 19th September 2022 the petitioner was sent to judicial custody.

The investigating agency filed charge sheet on 12th November, 2022 i.e. well within the statutory time period of 60 days, as provided under Section 167 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973. However, the petitioner preferred an application before the trial Court seeking default bail as according to the petitioner although the charge sheet was filed well within 60 days, yet the same being an incomplete charge sheet, could not have been accepted by the trial Court and no cognizance could have

been taken on such incomplete charge sheet. The argument before the Court of Magistrate was that since on the 61st day of his judicial custody, there was no valid and legal charge sheet on record, he was entitled to

be released on default bail. Such argument did not find favour with the Court and the bail application accordingly came to be rejected.

The petitioner went before the High Court, the High Court also declined to entertain the bail application taking the view that what is contemplated under the scheme of Sub-Section (2) of Section 167 Cr.P.C. is completion of investigation relating to offence against the accused and not investigation of case or filing of charge sheet under Section 173 Cr.P.C. which would be material for the purpose for determining whether the accused is entitled to the grant of statutory bail or not.

The principal contention canvassed by Devadatt Kamat, the learned Senior Counsel appearing for the accused is that a plain reading of Section 173 of the Cr.P.C. shows that every investigation must be completed without unnecessary delay and as soon as it is completed, the Officer-in-charge of the Police Station shall forward a report to the Magistrate in the form prescribed. Therefore, there is no question of sending up of a "police report" within the meaning of Section 173, sub-section (2) of Cr.P.C. until the investigation is completed. Any report sent before the investigation is completed will not be a police report within the meaning of sub-section (2) of Section 173 of the Cr.P.C. read with Section 2(r) of the Cr.P.C. and there is no question of the Magistrate taking cognizance of the offence within the meaning of Section 190(1)(b) of the Cr.P.C. on the basis of an incomplete charge-sheet.

Apex Court further observed that whether the aforesaid understanding of the High Court as reflected in para 27 of the impugned order is a correct statement of law, needs to be determined by this Court and issued notice to the CBI returnable within two weeks.

Notorious conman sent to jail for duping crore's in cheque bounce case

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Principal Session and District Judge, Jawad Ahmed cancelled the bail of an accused namely Naseer Ahmed Sheikh (alias Naseer Puj), son of Mohd Sidique Sheikh, resident of Gadoora, Ganderbal by modifying its interim order dated Auguust 8, 2023 in a conviction appeal filed by the accused against the decision of Trial Court in Cheque Bounce case titled as Syed Mohsin Ali vs Naseer Ahmed Sheikh.

The accused was convicted by the Chief Judicial Magistrate, Srinagar on July 24, 2023 where the accused on record admitted the liability twice and was directed to pay the cheque amount along with a fine upto the tune of Rupees 2,00,00,000 (Two Crores) and to serve Imprisonment for 18 months.

After hearing the arguments of the counsel Advocate S. Nishter Ahmad for the respondent in the Criminal Revision, the Session Court observed that the accused was served over 35 Non-Bailable warrants through $_{\mathrm{SHO}}$

Ganderbal by the trial court and bail bonds of the accused were forfeited thrice and still the accused did not turn up in the trial

Courtfurther The observed that the conduct $_{
m the}$ accused had remained extremely unsatisfactory and the convicted person was taking the court for a ride due to which the proceedings got delayed and as such the Principal Session and District Judge, Jawad Ahmed directed the accused to deposit 25 per cent or Bank Guarantee of the fine for hearing the

The cases related to cheque bounce are increasing with each passing days & so it is imperative upon the courts to take coercive measures in order to curb such offences. Furthermore, it's incumbent upon the law enforcement agencies to abide and enforce the orders of the Courts in letter and spirit so that the burden on the judiciary regarding cheque bounce cases under Section 138 of Negotiable Instruments Act is lessened.

Jammu all set to celebrate Raksha Bandhan

MALU SHARMA

he city of Temple is all geared up to celebrate Raksha Bandhan on Thursday. Sisters dressed in their best will adorn their brothers hand with colourful threads, which represent a gion of their love and togetherness. Sweets and gifts will be distributed among each other and loads of delicious food will be prepared on this day.

Many makeshift shops have been set up in different localities, including Purani Mandi, Old City, Trikuta Nagar, Gandhi Nagar, Channi himmat, Greater Kailash etc. Beautiful Rakhis are being displayed at these shops. Different types of rakhis with embroidery work, sandalwood rakhis, and attractive rakhis decorated with rice grains are being sold.

The markets are displaying different varieties of Rakhis for the tiny tots as well. Rakhi's featuring



Superman, Krrish, Bal Hanuman, Chhota Bheem and even Doreamon are major attractions for kids this

"While choosing rakhi customers

usually go with the colour and design of their preference and girls having a younger brother want to buy a rakhi of their favourite cartoon character," says Gourav, a shopkeeper in Pacca Danga market. The rates of such rakhis start from `50 to 300.

Battery-operated glowing Rakhi, Rakhis featuring teddy-bear, car mobile and mouse rakhis are a major pick-up among children this year. Some of the rakhis have been made of resham and zari threads and are dec orated with different items like pearls, beads, stones, gems or imitation jewellery material.

"These rakhis are a bit expensive and starts from Rs 200 and goes upto Rs 500. But people with an ethnic choise choose such rakhis as they even look beautiful," shares another shopkeeper Samar.

"I want to buy the best Rakhi for my younger brother and I am so excited that what gift I would get from him on this Rakha Bandan. This is my favourite festival, " shared Siya, who was running eagerly at every shop to find the best Rakhi for her brother.

IIM-J hosts 'G20 University Connect' lecture series

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu on Monday hosted the G20 University Connect Engaging Young Minds lecture series, surrounding the G20 Indian Presidency on its Jagti Campus

This is an initiative of the Research and Innovation System (RIS) for Developing Countries and the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA). The event brought together distinguished figures from various disciplines to discuss the themes, opportunities, and goals of India's G20 Presidency. The day began with a lively ceremonial lighting of the luminary, signalling the start of the formal proceedings and setting the tone for a day full of insightful talks.

The theme, "One Earth, One Family, One Future," "Vasudhaiya reflected Kutumbakam's" ageless wisdom, "The World is One Family." An official video captivated attendees by

introducing the overarching theme of India's G20 Presidency for 2023 and laid the foundation for in-depth discussions.

Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean of Academics, IIM Jammu provided a comprehensive overview of the event, giving attendees a tantalizing preview of the event's illuminating content and stimulating discussions. He mentioned that students need to stay informed about India's G20 presidency. This occasion will give them valuable perspectives on fostering business success and effectively positioning India globally.

Prof. B.S. Sahay, the Director, extended a cordial welcome to the distinguished gathering and emphasized the event's significance in nurturing profound dialogues. Prof. Sahay noted that India's G20 presidency serves as a global stage for us Indians to showcase the wealth of our diverse cultures, fostering understanding and unity on an interna-



Director IIM Jammu Prof. B.S. Sahay posing with other dignitaries on Monday.

tional scale. He acknowledged JK Tripathi, Former Ambassador, Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India for his presence and emphasized on the "One Earth, One Family, One Future" theme.

Ambassador J.K. Tripathi, Former Ambassador of the Ministry of External Affairs of India, then delivered a unique address on the Indian Presidency of the G20 that provided significant perspectives and insights. He also

provided a concise history of the G20, noting that it is the only international organization that includes members of the G7, BRICS, and other bodies, allowing it to serve as a bridge between affluent and developing nations.

Interactive sessions with the audience added substance and diverse perspectives to the discussions revolving around the topic, "Engaging Young Minds for Presidency Beyond", facilitating a robust

exchange of ideas.The keynote speakers and panellists discussed Enhancing G20 Collaboration, Digital Transformation, Global Business and Recovery, and University Connect in Higher Education during the captivating panel discussions. Engaging youthful minds

the G20 throughout Presidency and Beyond: A panel of diverse experts, moderated by Dr. Ashish Chairperson, Kumar.

Student Affairs, Jammu, engaged in an edifying discussion regarding the participation of youthful minds in the G20 Presidency

and its broader implications. Prof. (Dr.) Shakti Kumar Gupta, ED & CEO, AHMS Jammu, highlighted that in order to give students a comprehensive educational experience, we all must collectively assume leadership positions at our various institutions and every university must adopt at least one school in rural India.

Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu urged everyone present to comprehend the theme, "One Earth, One Family, One Future". He further added, students as the country's future, should contribute to this voyage by adding value to society and serving the nation in its truest sense. Furthermore, he insisted that students contribute to this cause, signifying that students have the power to transform the world.

Chancellor, University, Jammu, stated that students wield the power to bridge gaps through research and collaboration in a world marked by divides. Diverse perspectives lead to innovative solutions, uniting minds across disciplines for a better tomorrow. Prof. Anurag Mishra, IIT

Prof. Bechan Lal, Vice-

Jammu, effectively conveyed that we as a nation have gradually moved to a stage from where we can impress upon the world our capabilities. We are close to becoming a prominent power that is respected across the globe.

Prof. R.K. Samnotra, Director of Research, Shere-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST), Jammu, acknowledged the plethora of opportunities available in the agricultural sector and urged the students to take those up for our nation's overall better-

ment. Dr. Bijoy Rakshit, CoCommunications Programme Coordinator for G20 University Connect IIM Jammu provided a comprehensive report on preevent activities followed by the distribution of certificates to the award winners of essay, debate and poster making competitions held as part of G20 University Connect.

Dr. Archana Sharma, Chairperson, EMBA, IIM Jammu delivered the vote of thanks at the conclusion of the day's events, recognizing the collective effort that led to the successful implementation of the event.

The playing of the national anthem marked the conclusion of the day's events. The event served as a platform for initiating meaningful dialogues and insights into India's G20 Presidency, engaging diverse perspectives, and addressing shared challenges in the realm of education and research on a global scale.