

## Mayor organises Public Darbar

# ‘Avoid caste candidate, elect educated person for better governance’

### 3 main functions of JMC efficiently performed, says Mayor

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Mayor Jammu, Rajinder Sharma on Wednesday organised a Public Darbar at BJP Headquarters Trikuta Nagar in which more than 300 people attended and raised many issues.

In an unprecedented style of working, the Mayor has well in advance prepared the work estimation for the developmental activities which were to be demanded by the public in Darbar.

The Mayor informed the people in Darbar that estimation of works which remained in their demands has been already done and now those are being forwarded for execution.

The people liked the change in process of work and the Mayor further said that this innovative step was taken to restore confidence of the public on the insti-



Mayor Jammu, Rajinder Sharma listening to public issues at Public Darbar on Wednesday.

tutions for which all of us have to join hands together for more strength.

Mayor Sharma appealed the visiting delegations in the Darbar that as the elections are coming near we should vote for appropriate candidate.

"If they want the administrative machinery to run efficiently, we should keep three things

in mind before voting and that are-we should not support political corruption, caste candidate and we should choose an educated representative," he maintained.

He also said that Indian Constitution says "We the people" that means public is supreme and we are living in a democracy and there are two

things in democracy which are important and that are law of the land and procedure of the law as per which all our works are done.

In federal structure the public asks its representatives for developmental works and they in turn do those works as per law of the land and procedure of law.

"We should keep in mind that we want a democracy and not mobocracy," he said adding, "We should keep in mind that when during COVID when people became strangers even to their blood relations, who got them vaccination, who delivered ration at door steps and who delivered medicines and sanitised homes of infected people."

The Mayor said that some mobs seen today raising slogans were nowhere in the time of trouble like COVID pandemic

He urged to promote democracy and progressive society

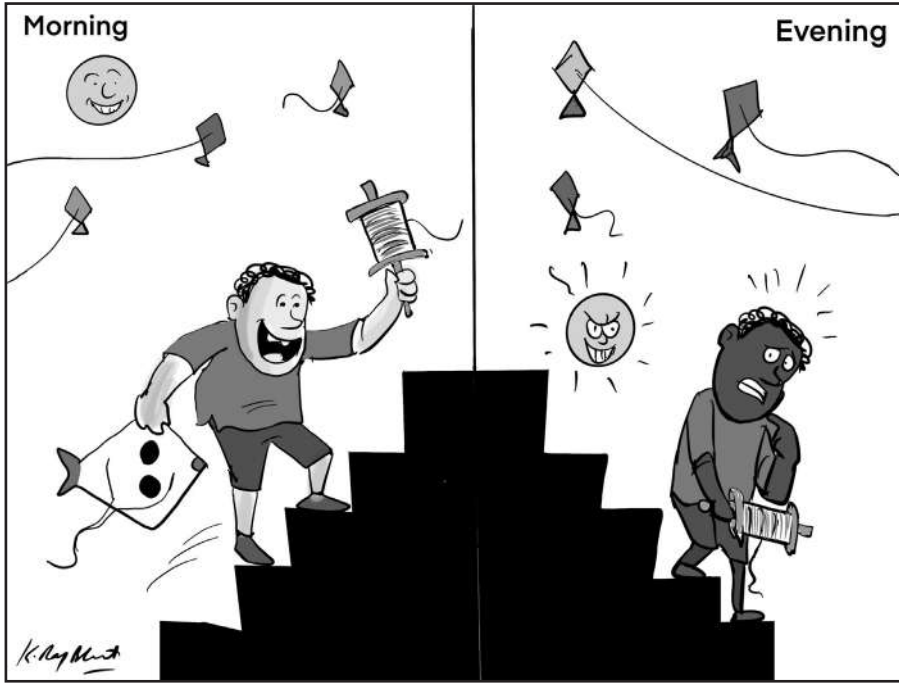
and said that we should avoid emotional blackmailing and we should also avoid forwarding anything as it comes on social media without applying mind.

The visiting delegations were from Wards 60,61, 65, 73, 71, 26, 49, 59, 32, 65 and 60.

The Mayor informed that JMC has four main functions to perform and these are sanitation, construction of lanes, roads and drains, street lighting and water supply. For effective sanitation door to door garbage collection is being done since 2018, and secondly construction of lanes and drains and roads which JMC has made.

He said that what was earlier spent on 75 Wards is now spent on a single Ward and more than 90,000 street lights have illuminated the Jammu now.

The Mayor also said that water supply also has improved now and there was no protest this time against poor water supply.



## Over past seven decades, dynastic politics has harmed interests of J&K people to its core: Bukhari



Apni Party President, S.M.A Bukhari posing with party workers and newly joined members.

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

URI: Taking a dig at traditional political parties, particularly those rooted in dynastic legacies, Apni Party President Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari said on Wednesday that "these parties and their leaders have always misled the people through deceptive political maneuvers."

He emphasized that "political families have always believed they were entitled to rule, treating the common populace as their subjects within Jammu and Kashmir".

He expressed pride in not belonging to any political family and thus not being involved in deceiving his own people.

Bukhari made these remarks during an event in north Kashmir's Uri, wherein a number of respectable citizens and notable young activists joined the party in the distinguished presence of the party's president.

Speaking at the event, Bukhari underscored how

dynasties have harmed the interests of the people of J&K through their deceptive politics.

He said, "As the people of Jammu and Kashmir, we have suffered hugely over the past seven decades because our leaders kept us busy with their deceptive political narratives and never told us the truth. Even Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah, the tallest leader of his times, used to change his stances time and again and did not tell the people the truth, despite being privy to the truth, as suggested by his famous Lal Chowk speech; he refrained from openly acknowledging it."

He emphasized the need for transparent and genuine political discourse and said, "The truth is that J&K was destined to be a part of India in 1947, and we should have stuck to this reality. However, unfortunately, our leaders chose to manipulate the emotions of innocent

people in their rallies by often resorting to symbolic gestures like displaying rock salt and green fabric to represent our neighboring nation."

While expressing his goodwill towards the neighboring country, he asserted, "I hold sincere respect for our neighboring nation. However, my firm conviction is that the key to a dignified and prosperous life for the people of Jammu and Kashmir lies within our own nation's boundaries and not elsewhere."

The program was organized by Javed Ahmed Bhat and Waseem Ahmad.

The new entrants who joined the party today included Ghulam Qadir Bhat, Zaffar ul Bhat, Naseer Ahmad Bhat, Farooq Ahmad Bhat, Jamid, Nasir Rashid Bhat, Sonaulah Tantray, Jallal ud Din, Javid Ahmad Bhat and Aijaz Ahmad Budoo.

## Tara Chand cautions people of Jammu against deceiving tactics of present govt



Senior Congress leader, Tara Chand addressing public meeting.

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Senior Congress leader, Former Deputy CM Tara Chand on Wednesday asked the UT administration to revisit its decision of installation of smart meters and putting it on hold.

He said that that the administration should take the Senior departmental officials, elected representatives, heads of various social and political organizations on board to find an amicable way to meet the aspirations of the electricity consumers.

This was stated by Tara Chand while addressing the

public meeting at Jourian in Khour Constituency against installing smart meters.

Jammu is consuming less electricity but generating more revenue but the government has decided to install smart meters in Jammu, which speaks about their discriminatory policies against Jammu.

"It is another gift of government to Jammuities, who have been supporting its decisions since long but in return they have been deceived with repeated denials on account of share in government Jobs, on account of stalled develop-

ment projects," Tara Chand said.

Before holding power, they have been talked about discrimination but it seemed to be only restricted for political gains of getting power for BJP leaders, added Tara Chand.

He emphasized the pressing need for authorities to address their grievances and take their Concerns into serious Consideration.

Former Dy CM Tara Chand said that Congress will create awareness among the general public about the failure of the government and the drawbacks of not having the status of being a state.

He said that Congress party is the only truly secular, democratic and progressive force which can keep Jammu and Kashmir on the path of peace, progress and harmony while the forces of hatred would create wedge in the society and the regions for vote bank politics.

## SOS Children tie Rakhi to ADGP Jammu Zone



ADGP Jammu Zone Mukesh Singh presenting gift to children of SOS Village.

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The children of SOS Children's Village Gole Gujral, Jammu on Wednesday celebrated Raksha Bandhan with Additional Director General of Police (ADGP), Jammu Zone Mukesh Singh in his office chamber at ZIPHQ Complex, Panjirthi, here.

The children got an opportunity to share their smiles

and extend warm greetings with Mukesh Singh, ADGP Jammu. They received gifts from ADGP Jammu Zone.

The ADGP Jammu interacted with the children and expressed his happiness to meet the children of SOS Children village Gole Gujral, Jammu. Children applied Tilak, tied Rakhi on the wrist of ADGP Jammu Zone.

## Teenage girls, pregnant women are falling in drug addiction

#### ■ SHAKEELA ANDRABI

SRINAGAR: Drug abuse has become a major concern and is giving a toughest time to the people of Jammu and Kashmir as hundreds and thousands of young boys and girls are falling prey to drugs, resulting in about 1.4 lakh people currently addicted to various narcotics including heroin, according to official figures. Over the past few years, this number has been increasing. According to the official data the registration of people in Jammu and Kashmir seeking treatment for substance addiction has multiplied many times. After facing three decades of terrorism, the health experts as well as people of Kashmir are now in a dilemma as to how we can overcome of this most difficult situation? Because with every passing day, the numbers are increasing.

A leading Gynaecologist (Associate Professor) of the Valley revealed some shocking data. While speaking to the STATE TIMES, in an exclusive talk show, she said, that recently we received an information about a pregnant women from drug de-addiction centre. She was nine month

pregnant. On one hand she was on medication and other hand we had to operate her to deliver the baby. It was really a critical time for the mother; the baby and medical team, but by the grace of Almighty she gave birth to a healthy baby.

The doctor said, this was the first step but the next step was more critical and important as our aim was to protect the new born baby from the side effects of the drugs that the mother had taken during pregnancy and we succeeded in that too.

According to a study, the level of opioid abuse in Jammu and Kashmir is among the highest in the country. It is the easy access to drugs of all kinds in the valley that is pushing youngsters down this abyss. "Initially it was believed that college going girls are abusing substances, especially toluene, a common thinner, glue sniffing because the chemical is readily widespread and is found in paints, petrol, varnishes, lacquers, paint thinners adhesives, glues, rubber cement and shoe polish. But whole scenario has changed school going teen age girls and married women are using heroin

and we seeing teen age girls and women using heroin through IV because of its easily availability", she added.

"Now we are fail to understand that if the majority of girls are using heroin like substance, how are they are affording huge amount of money. I recently read an article with statistics, which reads that every drug addict is spending 88 thousand per week. Within 12 minutes, an addict is walking the corridors of SMHS Hospital's addiction treatment centres for treatment. Because recently I read an article, in which a data was clearly shown that a drug addict person is spending 88 thousand Rupees per week and after every 12 minute a drug addict is walking in SMHS hospital's drug de-addiction centres corridor for treatment", she further added. "There is no doubt that drug de-addiction centres are working tirelessly but we are receiving reports of some patients falling back into drug abuse after recovering from bad company. Many girls make full recovery, but after some time they can't hold their breath without it", doctor said.

#### ■ MASROOR AHMAD

BUDGAM: The Director Agriculture Kashmir, Chowdhury Mohammad Iqbal on Wednesday inaugurated Hi-tech Polyhouses under vegetable clusters at Narkara Budgam.

On his visit, the Director monitored the Mushroom unit at Mamat, Shogapora Budgam where the first fully automatic Mushroom hi-tech unit in the Kashmir division was established with the capacity of 1800 bags in seven steps.

During his visit to the sub-division, he took stock of the agriculture scenario in the area, Soil Conservation Wing Potwan Budgam and inaugurated borewell.

Speaking to the farmers of different areas of the sub-division, Director Agriculture said that the department is working on an ambitious plan of providing farmers with round the year availability of seedlings of different vegetable crops and to achieve this goal, the department has estab-



lished hi-tech poly houses in all the districts of Kashmir division.

Director Agriculture highlighted the importance of integrated farming and asked the farmers to diversify their agriculture operations.

The Director asked the farmers that the department would provide all the technical assistance to them in comprehensively performing their agriculture activities.

It is important to mention here, during the last financial year, 14 hi-tech poly green houses and 110 mushroom units were set up in the district. Moreover, five vegetable clusters growing organic, exotic and conventional vegetables have been established and all these efforts have been resulted in the export of 43,000 MT of vegetables, 53 MT of LalMirch/Red chillies and 200 MT of sweet corn from the district during 2022-23.

# Roots of J&K Constitution lied in Constitution of India which is surely placed at ‘Higher Pedestal’

#### ■ DAYA SAGAR

Like some other people expressing opinions about the Indian state of J&K which have been more of myths than truthful constitutional facts it was on 25th November 2013 that as per reports based on an official handout the then J&K Chief Minister had opined on the issues related to Indian state of J&K and the India Democratic Republic even while talking to a European Delegation led by Ambassador and Head of the Delegation of the European Union to India, Joao Cravinho which had called on him at Srinagar where in among other references the then J&K Chief Minister had also opined like ( quote : "While all the states acceded to Union of India and then merged with it, JK only acceded and did not merge. That is why we have a special status, our own constitution and the state flag." ). But the opinions and inferences like that have not been suitably replied or addressed to or refuted even by the people who represented GOI ( even before that ). Indian Home Minister was expected to immediately attend to the questions and claims

made by J&K Chief Minister on 25th September 2013 where he had gone to the extent of discussing the issues of international importance with foreigners (in a way trespassing the limits within what a State of the Union can work). If not all the issues mentioned, atleast subjects like flag, constitution, merger needed to be responded immediately. So, in case the common man of J&K, even some Indian 'decorated' social activists (like the Group of Interlocutors on J&K 2010 - Dileep Padgaonkar, Radha Kumar and M M Ansari - who submitted a hurriedly prepared report to the Indian Home Minister on 12th Oct 2012 ) and people beyond Indian borders get carried by such like uncontested claims made even by 'mainstream' leaders that should not surprise anyone. Quotes like J&K having a separate flag and a separate constitution w.r.t Union of India surely do not stand to any constitutional facts but since such references have been taken very lightly by Indian leaderships they have surely been able to cultivate some unwanted myths amongst some people. As regards the status of the state flag

that has been discussed in earlier parts of this writeup and let us take the subject ( myth of 'separate' constitution

here. J&K 'has' a separate Constitution like Constitution of India is a well cultivated 'anomaly' and Omar Abdullah too has made that. It could be One's own understanding over the years but cannot be quoted as a Law point. For explanation purpose it could be said that The Constitution of J&K was the "term" used under the circumstances / requirements prevailing at that time for laying down the constitutional procedures as regards the Subjects that would fall in the "Shadow State List" for J&K and other subjects in the respective Union list like were the chapters drawn in Constitution of India for Part- A and Part- B states.

The Constitution of India is the Mother of J&K Constitution which could be well sensed from the objective before the Constituent Assembly of J&K that well reflects from the from preamble of J&K Constitution (Preamble: "We, the people of the State of Jammu and Kashmir; hav-



A Look through the Mist

ing solemnly resolved, in pursuance of the accession of this State to India which took place on the twenty sixth day of October, 1947,

to further define the existing relationship of the State with the Union of India as an integral part thereof, and to secure to ourselves.....". Whereas the Preamble of Constitution of India said " We the people of India, having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a Sovereign Democratic Republic and to secure to all its citizens....."

It clearly emerges from the Preamble that the J&K Constitution Assembly was not to draw a Constitution for a Sovereign State but it had to only draw out the working methods / procedures for the local operations within the State jurisdictions and with exceptions to the jurisdictions of Central Government/ Union Parliament. The Constituent Assembly was not to draw a Constitution that had to be outside the arena of Indian Nation State. So the roots of J&K Constitution lie in Constitution of Sovereign Democratic republic of India

which is surely placed on higher pedestal than constitution of J&K State and no way J&K 'has' a separate Constitution of her own. In common man language it could be said that J&K Constitution is extension ( a chapter/ part ) of Constitution of India that contains the constitutional leads concerning the subjects that particularly lie within the executive and constitutional jurisdictions of Indian state Legislature of J&K.

Although a preamble does not form an integral part ( legally ) of a constitution and is merely an introduction without legal significance but the preamble is surely a statement of purposes, though not a grant of jurisdiction. From the two texts of preambles mentioned above it is very clear that the J&K Constitution cannot be placed parallel to Constitution of India since the purpose resting in the framing of Constitution of India was to constitute India into a Sovereign Democratic Republic ..... whereas the purpose behind drafting the J&K Constitution was after having solemnly resolved, in pursuance of the accession of this State to India which took place on

the twenty sixth day of October, 1947, to further define the existing relationship of the State with the Union of India as an integral part thereof, ... ( Note : As was pointed in the leading case of Jacobson v. Mass. (1905) 197 U. S. 11, the preamble is not a part of the constitution but "walks before it." ).

Yeh Kaha Jaa Sakta Hai Ki Jis Tarah Se Bharat Ke Sambhiddhan Mein Alag Alag Bhag Hain Aur Bhag VI (The States) Aur Bhag-XI- (relationship between the union and the states) Anay Rajoon Se Sambandit Hai Esee Tarah Jammu Kashmir Sambhiddhan Bharat Ke Sambhiddhan Ka Ek Hissa Hai Jisae Bas Alag Dang Se Rakha Geyaa Hai .

So, the procedural provisions to further define the relationship of the State with the Union of India as an integral part, thereof, kept in the form of Constitution of J&K cannot be quoted as a symbol of J&K having an identity outside Indian Constitution or Indian Nation State in the form of a separate constitution.

(The author is Sr Journalist, social activist and analyst J&K affairs dayasagr45@yahoo.com).