

# Dr Jitendra appeals social organisations to join campaign against drugs, illegal mining

## STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Union Minister, Dr Jitendra Singh on Monday made a fervent appeal to socio-religious organisations of J&K to join the ongoing crusade against the social evils of drug addiction, illegal mining and bovine smuggling.

He was addressing a programme organised by Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra Welfare Society here on the auspicious occasion of Raksha Bandhan. "The government has launched a special campaign to wean away the youth from drugs to save their future, and has also taken stern action against illegal miners, crushers and



Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh speaking at an event conducted by Shree Amarnath Ji Yatra Welfare Society at Jammu on Monday.

cattle smugglers in Kathua and its adjoining areas, informed Dr Jitendra Singh. Now, the socio-religious organisations must use their influence in the society to complement the government's efforts towards this end and rid the society of these evils", he urged.

Dr Jitendra Singh also asked socio-religious organisations to create awareness about the government's welfare schemes so that more and more people can benefit from them. "Schemes like PM-Awas yojana and PM Vishwakarma yojana have been rolled out to benefit all

sections of the society, irrespective of their political leanings, religious beliefs, caste and region", he underlined.

Dr Jitendra Singh also appealed to these organisations to organise workshops and create awareness about agri-StartUps so that unemployed youth can start their own businesses, drawing inspiration from the success of Purple Revolution. "J&K's agri entrepreneurs are pioneers of this revolution", Dr Jitendra Singh highlighted, adding that J&K has given a new genre for emulation by the rest of India.

The Union Minister hailed Prime Minister Narendra

Modi for institutionalising grassroot democracy in J&K. "Prime Minister Modi gave actual self-rule and autonomy to J&K by holding successful panchayat elections after 70 years", Dr Jitendra Singh underscored.

said the process of empowerment of PRIs in J&K is ongoing. "Previously, there were mere slogans of self-rule, but Modi government has led by an example by implementing the 74th Amendment to the Constitution, which provides for a basic framework of decentralisation of power to local bodies, including panchayats and municipalities", Dr Singh stated.



# PoJK deputation meets Reddy, Chugh to express gratitude to BJP for land proprietary rights



PoJK refugees delegation meeting with BJP senior leaders.

## STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A massive deputation of PoJK refugees from Ramgarh led by Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal and Ch. Vikram Randhawa visited the BJP headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, and expressed their gratitude to the party especially Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah, and LG Manoj Sinha for the grant of land proprietorship rights.

They met BJP Assembly election Incharge & Union Minister G Kishen Reddy, BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh, J&K BJP President Ravinder Raina, MP Jugal Kishore Sharma, National

Secretary Dr. Narinder Singh, General Secretaries Vibodh Gupta & Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal, former MLA Devender Singh Rana, former MLC Vikram Randhawa, and other senior leaders of party to express their gratitude.

DDC Chairman Keshav Dutt, Darshan Singh Ex BDC Chairperson, DDC Sarbjit Singh Johal, DDC Anita Choudhary, Sarpanch Tejinder Singh, Sarpanch Roop Lal, Sarpanch Shamsher Singh, Sarpanch Ram Pal, Sarpanch Bhushan Lal, Ch Shiv Kumar, Harvinder Singh, Labha Ram Gandhi, senior leader West Pakistani Refugee, Ashok Khajuria, Sarpanch

Prem Pal Choudhary, Rattan Lal Choudhary, Kundan Palhalwan, Vijay Sharma, Sanjiv Khajuria, S Gurdial Singh, Suraj Prakash Bakshi, Govind Raj Sharma, Yash Pal Choudhary, Arvind Soodan were among the prominent present on the occasion.

The refugees danced to the tunes of traditional drums and distributed sweets among themselves.

While celebrating the occasion, the displaced persons said that their displaced population of 1947, 65, and 71, has been granted land ownership rights. They all have been benefitted by this decision.

Senior leaders reciprocated their love and support for the BJP for the public welfare decisions. They said that these decisions attest to the 'Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas' policy of 'BJP'. G Kishen Reddy also assured the displaced that the left-over land-owners cases like local allottees will also be taken on priority after the formation of BJP government in Jammu & Kashmir.

# Month-Long Sawan Mahotsav culminates in vibrant display of Jammu's spiritual heritage

Renowned, emerging artists come together to revive age-old temple practices

## STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Panjvaktra Mahadev Mandir successfully concluded its month-long Sawan Mahotsav, a celebration that brought the rich traditions of classical music and dance back to the forefront of the Jammu region's spiritual life. This event series, held every Monday during the auspicious month of Sawan, was a resounding success, drawing devotees and classical art enthusiasts alike.

Jammu, known for its deep spiritual roots and age-old temple traditions, has always been



Participants reciting Bhajan at Panjvaktra Mahadev Mandir.

a hub for classical devotional arts. The Sawan Mahotsav played a vital role in reviving these traditions, providing a platform for both renowned and emerging artists to connect

with the community through their art. Today, on the final evening of the Mahotsav, divine bhajan performances by the renowned classical singers Dr. Mukteshi Sharma and Rajkumar Behrupia brought to life the deep spiritual roots of the region with their melodious voices and mesmerizing performances that left the devotees spellbound. They were joined by the talented Mohit Sharma and Krishna, who infused fresh energy into the classical renditions, highlighting the timelessness of these devotional practices. The event concluded with an enchanting Kathak performance by Dr. Priya Dutta and her disciples from Nriyaujali, who brought the

stories of devotion to life with their expressive dance.

The Sawan Mahotsav was a celebration of Jammu's rich spiritual and cultural heritage. Throughout the month, devotees were treated to a series of performances that highlighted the depth and beauty of classical devotional arts. The temple's sacred atmosphere was amplified by the soulful bhajans of Dev Dildar, Dharmesh Nargotra, Pankaj Pradhan, Guru Pandit Ashutosh Sharma, Dr. Jasmeet Kaur; Dr. Rakesh Kalotra, Dr. Kusha Sharma, Dr. Chhimmi Sharma, Meenakshi Anand, Vasumana Bakshi, and Madhu Rani, along with classical Kathak and Bharatnatyam performances by Kritika Dutt and Anandita Dutt, Pallabi Das Ghosh, and Neetika Aggarwal. The performances, accompanied by the skilled musicians Parshotam Kumar, Dr. Vinay, and Rakesh Jasotra, created a seamless and enchanting musical experience throughout the Mahotsav.

Suresh Kumar Sharma, Receiver of Panjvaktra Mahadev Mandir, expressed his

sincere gratitude to the organizing members, the participating artists, and the devotees who attended. He emphasized the importance of continuing such programs to keep the spiritual and cultural traditions of the Jammu region vibrant and alive. "These events are not just about celebration; they are about preserving our heritage and passing it on to future generations. We will ensure that such programs continue in the future," Suresh Ji remarked.

As the Sawan Mahotsav concluded, it left behind a legacy of devotion and cultural pride, reaffirming the importance of maintaining and nurturing the region's classical traditions.

The success of the Sawan Mahotsav was driven by the dedicated efforts of the Panjvaktra Mahadev Mandir's organizing team, including Deepak Kumar (Founder/Director, Rangyug), Er. Anarjeet Singh, Sanjay Tiekoo, Senior Architect Anil Gupta, and Ashish Sharma, whose commitment to reviving classical traditions was evident throughout the event series.

# Court issues notice on PIL seeking Doordarshan channel in Dogri

## STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh issued notice on a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) petition seeking the launch of a 24 x 7 Dogri language Doordarshan (DD) television channel.

The Bench of Acting Chief Justice Tashi Rabstan and Justice Puneet Gupta also appointed advocate Aseem Sawhney as an Amicus Curiae to assist it in the matter.

Sawhney in turn suggested that the government could examine whether a DD channel that is telecast in the Ladakhi language can also be started.

The Court took the suggestion on record and directed Advocate General DC Raina to seek instructions on this aspect as well.

The petition filed by one Jayesh Kumar calls for the launch of a DD Channel that is telecast in the Dogri language, namely a Duggar TV channel, on the same lines as other DD channels that broadcast content in regional languages, such as DD Kashir, DD Punjabi, DD Odia, DD Bangal, etc.

To implement this, Kumar has urged the Court to direct the Union of India, Director

of Doordarshan and the chairman of the Broadcasting Corporation of India to establish a new regional subsidiary DD channel studio in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.

Kumar submitted that there is a great need for a Duggar (referring to areas of Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab and Himachal Pradesh to which Dogra people are native to) TV channel, not just for an hour or two in the evening hours, but on a sustained 24x7 basis as is the case with DD Kashir and other DD Channels. The matter was taken up on August 12 when the Court issued notice and also allowed the impementment of Prasar Bharti in the case.

This workshop was conducted in collaboration with the National Academy of Medical Sciences (NAMS).

The course featured Prof Narinder Kumar Mehra (Former Dean of AIIMS New Delhi & Emeritus scientist of ICMR), Dr Babu Rao Vundinti (Scientist G, National Institute of Immunohaematology, ICMR Mumbai), and Dr Usha Dutta, PhD, FTAS, Diagnostic Division, Centre for DNA Fingerprinting and

# AIIMS Jammu conducts workshop on 'Genetic Counselling and Prenatal Diagnosis'

## STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a significant stride towards Prenatal diagnosis and genetic counselling, AIIMS Jammu hosted the "First Workshop on Genetic Counselling and Prenatal Diagnosis" on 17th-18th August, 2024.

The course featured Prof Narinder Kumar Mehra (Former Dean of AIIMS New Delhi & Emeritus scientist of ICMR), Dr Babu Rao Vundinti (Scientist G, National Institute of Immunohaematology, ICMR Mumbai), and Dr Usha Dutta, PhD, FTAS, Diagnostic Division, Centre for DNA Fingerprinting and

Diagnostics, Hyderabad. Cytogenetic diagnostics involves the study of chromosomes, the thread-like structures containing genetic material whereas Prenatal diagnostics (window into the womb) encompasses various tests conducted during pregnancy to detect potential health issues of the unborn baby.

The workshop was conducted under the visionary leadership of Prof (Dr) Shakti Kumar Gupta, the Executive Director & CEO of AIIMS Jammu. The workshop was inaugurated by a lamp-lighting ceremony, followed by the Saraswati Vandana, which set a reverent tone for the event.

In his inaugural address, Prof (Dr) Shakti Gupta highlighted the role of AIIMS Jammu as a leader in medical



Prof (Dr) S.K Gupta, CEO of AIIMS Jammu posing with others dignitaries.

education and research, emphasizing the Institution's commitment to providing cutting-edge training and fostering an environment of continuous learning. He lauded the collaborative efforts of the Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology and the Department of Anatomy.

He further stressed the necessity of such future workshops in equipping the medical professionals throughout the

entire Union territory of Jammu & Kashmir to equip them with the skills required to manage complex genetic disorders.

Over 50 faculty members and residents from various Medical Colleges of different States participated in the Workshop. It featured a series of in-depth sessions, each designed to provide participants with a robust understanding of genetic disorders,

their diagnosis, and the intricacies of genetic counselling.

Participants engaged in practical exercises under expert supervision to refine their skills in taking detailed family histories-a critical component of effective genetic counselling. Dr Babu Rao provided a comprehensive guide on the infrastructure, equipment, and personnel needed for an effective lab setup, along with essential quality control

measures to ensure the accuracy and reliability of genetic tests. The fusion of cytogenetic and prenatal diagnostics heralds a new era in reproductive healthcare, offering expectant parents unparalleled insights into their child's health. By embracing these innovations, families can make informed choices, fostering a future where every individual receives the best possible start in life. By bringing together leading experts and fostering hands-on learning, the event significantly enhanced participants' proficiency in genetic counselling and prenatal diagnosis. AIIMS Jammu remains dedicated to supporting the development of medical professionals and advancing healthcare through innovative training initiatives.

# Randhawa highlights comprehensive, equitable development initiatives undertaken by BJP

Youngsters join party fold by getting inspired with PM's vision

## STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir is witnessing the unprecedented development, which has encouraged people to come in support of Narendra Modi led government to continue the spree of development.

This was stated by former Legislator and senior Bharatiya Janata Party leader Vikram Randhawa while interacting with people especially youngsters during Public Outreach Programme at Hakkal Panchayat of RS Pura Jammu South Assembly Segment.

Former Legislator visited the said area on the call of the youngsters, who wanted to share their some issues with him.

On the occasion, a large numbers of youngsters joined the BJP in presence of Former Legislator Vikram Randhawa and other party leaders.

While welcoming them to the party fold, Randhawa emphatically stated that popular and mass leaders are joining the BJP inspired by the vision of the Prime Minister, and the idea of a Congress Muk



Former Legislator Vikram Randhawa interacting with people during Public Outreach Programme.

Bharat is not just a slogan but a firm determination embraced by the people of India today. He stated that the last 10 years were just a trailer for development and the roadmap for the next 25 years has been prepared to make India Vishwa Guru.

He congratulated the new entrants for making the decision to serve the nation and society as a BJP worker.

He said that BJP is working tirelessly for the welfare of the people irrespective of their regions or religions. He asked the new entrants to work tirelessly in the coming days to secure the maximum votes for the BJP in the forthcoming

Assembly election.

Former Legislator said that the BJP believes in the core ideology of "Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas" which represents the "Vasudeva Kutumbakam" thought of Bharat Bhumi. He said that the Modi government has worked for the welfare of all, which is acknowledged by people from diverse backgrounds.

Randhawa said that the party is led by the strong leadership of PM Modi, who has received worldwide appreciation for his endeavours to promote development, peace and progress.

He gave the examples of Express-way, Vande Bharat

Train, highest bridge in Reasi, increased road connectivity.

He said that the Modi government gave justice to every section, including youth, women, poor, needy and the farmers. He also counted the numerous schemes, like Golden Health Card etc.

He asked the new entrants to approach every community and tell them that Modi government has delivered them their rights.

He said that today, road has reached to almost every area of Jammu and Kashmir in the short span of 10 years. The people from far-off villages have experienced the transformation and witnessed an era of development in their lives due to the Modi government.

He credited the whole BJP cadre and the local leadership, who under the leadership of PM Modi has left no stone unturned to meet the aspirations of local people.

Former Legislator highlighted the comprehensive and equitable development initiatives undertaken by the BJP, stressing that the party's development model is the only viable path for ensuring bal-

anced progress across Jammu and Kashmir.

"Only BJP can ensure equitable development in J&K. Our commitment to inclusive growth and infrastructural advancement has transformed the landscape of this region," he remarked.

The senior BJP leader elaborated on the significant milestones achieved under the BJP's governance, including infrastructural projects, educational reforms, healthcare improvements, and enhanced connectivity. He underscored the party's dedication to addressing the needs of all communities, fostering a sense of unity and progress.

"The BJP Government at the Centre has initiated numerous welfare schemes that have uplifted the socio-economic status of J&K people. From healthcare to education, from road connectivity to digital infrastructure, BJP have left no stone unturned to bring about positive change," he stated. Randhawa asserted that BJP will emerge victorious in the upcoming Assembly polls in J&K as by now the people have got the idea that it

is only BJP which can provide stability and progress unlike the other parties which change colours like chameleon to satiate their vested interests and seldom care about the welfare of the people.

The senior BJP leader said that the performance card of the government led by PM Modi stands testimony to the commitment of BJP to steer J&K to pinnacles of development and heralding a new era of peace and normalcy.

He urged the people of Jammu and Kashmir to recognize the tangible benefits brought about by the BJP and to support the Party in the upcoming Assembly elections.

He stressed that a vote for the BJP is a vote for continued progress, stability, and prosperity in Jammu and Kashmir. Avtar Singh Naib Sarpanch, Ravinder Babu Charak, Bachno Devi, Sushel Sharma Panchs, Sudesh kumar, Ved Parkash, Santosh Kumari, Ashu Gupta, Bhushan Kumar, Yashpal Singh, Ashwani Sharma, Happy Choudhary, Chiman Choudhary and many others were present on the occasion.

# BJP terms NC manifesto as misleading, heap of lies



Jugal Kishore Sharma, MP (Lok Sabha), and BJP Chief Spokesperson Adv Sunil Sethi talking to reporters.

## STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jugal Kishore Sharma, MP (Lok Sabha), who is also the chairman of the State Election campaign Committee for Assembly Elections 2024, accompanied by BJP Chief Spokesperson Adv Sunil Sethi termed the NC election manifesto as misleading and heap of lies, that is compiled only to mislead the voters of Jammu & Kashmir.

Senior BJP leaders also said that the promises of NC like repeal of PSA, stoppage of frisking on highways and mass

amnesty to the prisoners reflects their anti-people, anti-nationalist mindset and vicious agenda.

He said that their promises are just a hoax that has been compiled without any thought on their practical socio-economic implications.

This is a manifesto with no vision, BJP leaders said. They also said that in some of the points, their manifesto challenges the law of the land and asked if the NC leaders are considering themselves above the Constitution, Law and the Supreme Court.