

# Dr Jitendra to unveil simplified Pension Application form for retiring employees

## STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: In a pathbreaking step to bring ease of living for elder citizens, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Earth Sciences, MoS PMO, Department of Atomic Energy, Department of Space, Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Dr. Jitendra Singh will unveil new simplified pension application form for its retiring employees tomorrow, according to an official statement.

The Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare (DoPPW) had vide its notification dated July 16, 2024 released the simplified pen-



sion application "Form 6-A", it said.

"This form will be available in Bhavishya/e-HRMS (online modules) to all the central government employees who are going to retire in December 2024 and onwards. The retiring officials, who are on e-HRMS, will fill Form 6-A through e-HRMS (only superan-

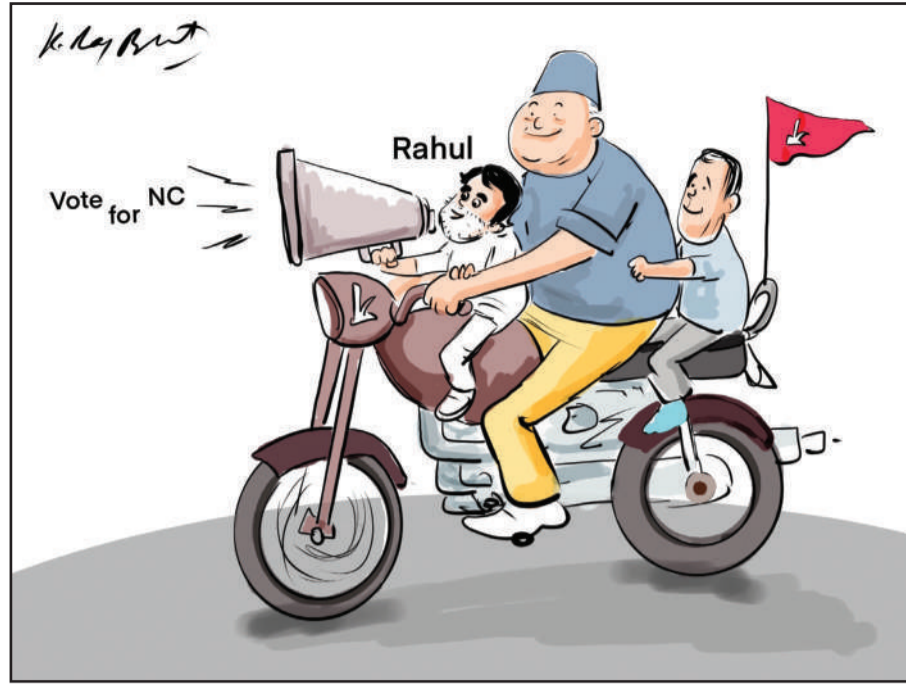
uation cases) and the retiring officials, who are not on e-HRMS, will fill Form 6-A in Bhavishya," the statement issued by the Personnel Ministry on Thursday said. According to the statement, this new form and its integration with Bhavishya/e-HRMS will be launched on August 30, 2024 by Union Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions Jitendra Singh. Form simplification has been an important initiative of the Centre's "maximum governance-minimum government" policy, it said.

In this new form, a total of 9 forms/formats have been merged, the statement said. This new form and related

changes in the business process of Bhavishya will be a game changer as on the one hand it simplifies the pension form submission for the employee through "a single sign only" and on the other hand achieves the end-to-end digitisation of the entire process of pension processing till the start of pension payment after retirement, it added.

"This paves the path towards paperless working in the whole process of pension," the statement said.

It added that with a pensioner-friendly user interface, pensioners no longer need to worry about the forms they have filled out or might have missed.



# Sham Sharma's candidacy energizes Jammu North; BJP's announcement draws strong backing

## STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Bharatiya Janata Party's announcement of Sham Lal Sharma as the official candidate for the Jammu North constituency in the upcoming Jammu and Kashmir Assembly elections has ignited a powerful wave of support and enthusiasm across the region.

From every corner of the Jammu North constituency, including Mandal Raipur Domana, Muthi Paloura, Rajpur Domana, Ghari, Raipur, Thathar, and Bhalwal, citizens turned out in large numbers to express their unwavering support for Sharma.

This decision by the BJP



BJP's candidate Sham Lal Sharma being honoured by supporters and party workers.

has been met with widespread joy and approval, underscoring the deep trust and admiration that the people of Jammu North have for him.

Delegations from various groups, including the Ex-

Servicemen Association Raipur Domana, Rajput Sabha Raipur Domana, BJYM Jammu North, Mahila Moreha Jammu North, along with former BDCs, ex-Sarpanchs, and ex-Panechs, were among those

who personally congratulated Sharma on this significant milestone.

Their overwhelming presence and heartfelt congratulations underscore the strong bond between Sharma and the constituents he is committed to represent.

Visibly moved by the outpouring of support, Sham Lal Sharma expressed his deep gratitude to all those who came forward to celebrate this momentous occasion. He reaffirmed his dedication to working tirelessly for the betterment of the Jammu North constituency, vowing to honor the trust and faith that the people have placed in him.

# Yudhvir slams Cong-NC Alliance, accuses Congress of compromising National Unity for lust of Power

## STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Senior BJP leader and contesting candidate from East Constituency, Yudhvir Sethi, strongly condemned the Congress party for compromising national unity and security in its pursuit of power by aligning with the National Conference (NC) for upcoming Assembly polls in J&K. He accused the Congress of once again prioritizing political gain over the country's integrity by supporting a party that advocates for the restoration of Article 370 and other divisive policies.

Addressing the party workers at Pt Prem Nath Bhawan here today, "The Congress, which has been out of power for a decade, is now showing its true colors. By allying with the Abdullah family's National Conference, the Congress has exposed its intention to play with the unity and

security of India. People have every right to question Congress' stand on the promises made in the NC's manifesto."

The NC's manifesto, which includes controversial pledges such as the restoration of Article 370, Jammu and Kashmir's statehood, and the implementation of the autonomy resolution passed in 2000.

Yudhvir questioned whether the Congress endorses NC's demand for a Separate Flag for Jammu and Kashmir and if it intends to drag the Union Territory back into an era of instability by reviving Article 370 and Article 35A. "Does the Congress wish to see Shankaracharya Parvat renamed as Takht-e-Suliman and Hari Parvat as Koh-e-Maran? These are questions that the people of Jammu and Kashmir deserve answers to," he asserted.

The senior BJP leader emphasized the BJP's historic achievement in putting an end to nearly 70 years of dynasty politics in Jammu and Kashmir, which he credited to the bold and decisive step taken by the Modi government in abrogating Article 370. He noted that the abrogation restored the people's faith in a unified India, free from divisive politics and focused on progress and stability for all.

Earlier, Yudhvir Sethi received a warm welcome from hundreds of supporters and party workers during a programme held at Pt Prem Nath Bhawan Jammu. The overwhelming support was a testament to the growing momentum behind the BJP.

Prominent among those who were present included Priya Sethi ex Minister, Surinder Sharma Election incharge, Varinder Singh

Vistarak, Anju Dogra State Secretary, Sakeena Bano, Kuldeep Kandhari, Sanjojak, Ramesh Gupta Seh sanjojak, corporators Anil Masoom, Suneet Raina, Dr Akshay and Nidhi Magotra, Mandal Pradhans Parveen Kermi, Raman Sharma, Ajay Sharma and Savita Anand, Mehmood St Vice President, State District President, Abdul Hussain Ali, members of Bazar Associations and Biradari's Pradhans.

Yudhvir asserted that the BJP has received overwhelming support during the Lok Sabha elections, and hoped that the people will continue to show the same enthusiasm and support in the upcoming Assembly elections. He urged people of East constituency to cast their ballots for the BJP to secure a strong, united, and prosperous future for Jammu and Kashmir.

# Reddy, Chugh, Dr. Jitendra, Raina inaugurate Media War Room

## STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a significant move, aimed at enhancing communication and outreach during assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Thursday inaugurated a Media War Room in Jammu.

The event, held at the Ritz Hotel in Channi, was graced by several prominent leaders including G Kishan Reddy, Union Minister & Election Incharge J&K BJP, Tarun Chugh, BJP National General Secretary and Prabhari J&K BJP, Ravinder Raina President J&K BJP, Dr. Jitendra Singh, Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), Jugal Kishore Sharma MP (Lok Sabha), RP Singh, National Spokesperson, Shazia Ilti, National Spokesperson and Sat Sharma, former Minister.

Other senior leaders of the party were also present to mark the occasion.

"The Media War Room is envisioned as a strategic hub to strengthen the party's connection with the public through the media, during assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir," said Tarun Chugh.

He emphasized the importance of this initiative in bridging the gap between the party and the people.

Chugh noted that the pri-



BJP senior leaders inaugurating media war room in Jammu.

mary purpose of setting up the Media War Room is to ensure that the party's voice reaches the public efficiently and effectively through various media channels.

He highlighted that direct contact and communication with the people is crucial in ensuring that the party's policies, achievements, and future plans are well understood by the masses.

Launching a scathing attack on the National Conference, Chugh questioned their stance on the restoration of Article 370.

He said that during the BJP's tenure, Jammu and Kashmir witnessed a period of peace and prosperity, in contrast to the difficulties faced by the people under the governance of the National Conference.

Chugh pointed out that during the NC's rule, the region was mired in challenges, whereas the BJP, through various beneficiary schemes and steps, has

worked tirelessly to improve the lives of the people in Jammu and Kashmir.

Chugh warned that the National Conference aims to bring back the dark days of the 1990s, a time marked by terrorism and sectarianism.

He presented statistics to illustrate the improvements made in Jammu and Kashmir during the BJP's tenure, citing a significant decrease in infiltration and terrorist attacks, and an overall improvement in the security situation.

Chugh asserted that the BJP has successfully brought about a positive transformation in the region, and this progress would be at risk if the National Conference were to regain power. In a bold move, Chugh challenged National Conference Vice President Omar Abdullah to a debate on the current situation in Jammu and Kashmir and the improvements made by the BJP.

He expressed confidence that such a debate would clearly demonstrate the strides made under BJP rule, which has brought peace and stability to the region.

Chugh reiterated the BJP's commitment to the security and well-being of the people of Jammu and Kashmir, stating that their safety has always been the party's top priority. He accused the National Conference of spreading falsehoods about Articles 370 and 35A, and of making misleading promises about restoring these provisions if they return to power.

Chugh also referred to recent remarks by National Conference MP from Srinagar, who suggested that the situation of the 1990s could return to Jammu and Kashmir if Article 370 is not restored.

Chugh criticized this stance, asserting that it reflects the NC's desire to bring back the era of chaos and violence.

Tarun Chugh further warned that the National Conference seeks to free individuals who were responsible for creating turmoil in Jammu and Kashmir; individuals who are currently behind bars for their actions.

He urged the people to recognize the progress made under the BJP and to reject any attempts to return to the dark days of the past.

# Div Com reviews election preparedness in Doda

## STATE TIMES NEWS

DODA: Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Ramesh Kumar, on Thursday chaired a high-level meeting in the conference hall of DC Office Doda to assess the district's preparedness for the upcoming General Election to Legislative Assembly-2024.

At the outset, the Divisional Commissioner emphasized the importance of meticulous planning and coordination among all stakeholders to ensure the smooth conduct of the elections.

The Divisional Commissioner sought a detailed overview of the transport plan for polling staff, the mobilization of election machinery, and the secure dispatch and reception of EVMs in designated strong rooms post-polling and other important aspects regarding election preparedness in the District.

During the meeting, District Election Officer (DEO) Harvinder Singh, presented a detailed overview of the district's election preparedness. The presentation covered key areas such as the arrangements at polling stations, the dispatch of polling parties, the collection of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) post-polling, monitoring of the Model Code of Conduct, and the status of Electoral Photo Identity Card (EPIC) printing and delivery.

The DEO Doda informed the chair on the coverage of assured minimum facilities at polling stations, the establishment of model polling stations, the divi-



Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Ramesh Kumar chairing a meeting at Doda.

sion of zones and sectors, and the logistics concerning EVMs and Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trails (VVPATs).

The discussion also took place on the strong room and security plans, as well as the arrangements for the dispatch, collection, and counting centres.

The Div Com examined the arrangements for the dispatch of poll parties, setting up collection centres, and the provision of vehicles and other logistics to ensure a seamless conduct of the polling process.

The Divisional Commissioner urged all Nodal officers and officials to remain vigilant and proactive in addressing any challenges that may arise during the election process.

The Divisional Commissioner directed the officers to ensure that all prepara-

tions are completed well in advance, calling for careful planning and coordination among the departments involved in the electoral process. He also reviewed the law and order situation and security arrangements in the district.

The meeting was attended by the General Observer of AC 51-Bhaderwah, Dr A Mallikarjuna, General Observer of AC 52- Doda & 53-Doda west, Aditya Negi, Police Observer, Dharamvir, DIG DKR, Shridhar Patil, District Election Officer (DEO) Doda, Harvinder Singh, SSP Doda, Mohd Aslam, Nodal Officer MCC, Pran Singh, Deputy District Election Officer, Om Parkash, Returning Officers, all District-level Nodal officers, and all Assembly-level Nodal officers for AC-51 Bhaderwah, AC-52 Doda, and AC-53 Doda West.

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# Why Mufti Mohd Sayeed decided in 1999 to launch J&K PDP as a 'mainstream' political party: tells Mehbooba Ji

### PDP President offers unconditional support to NC & Congress but also seeks support for PDP-Agenda: Will They ?

## DAYA SAGAR

GOI, all Indian political parties and opinion makers need to closely look into the Contents of PDP Self Rule Framework 2008 & what PDP President Mehbooba Mufti has said in her Press Conference on 24-08-2024 while releasing the PDP Manifesto for 2024 Elections to J&K Legislative Assembly particularly to find that does PDP's Self Rule Framework fall within the provisions of constitution of India (with erstwhile princely state of J&K having acceded to India as integral part of Union of India J&K) as professed by Mehbooba Mufti ? Answer to this Question should have been found immediately after 2008 when Self Rule Framework Document was released on 25 Oct 2008 , any how it must be done now GOI/ Indian leadership/ the people who wish to see permanent peace and stability in J&K .

PDP President tells why Mufti Mohd Sayeed felt the need for launching J&K PDP as a 'mainstream' political party. She said while releasing the

election manifesto for 2024 Legislative Assembly Elections for UT of J&K :: "jeh ek maksad se bani hui hai .. kyon ki Jammu Kashmir kisi aam riyasat ki tarah nahin hai ... hum ne PDP ki 1999 mein buniyaad rakhi .... Is bajah se ki hum chate the ki jo mainstream.... kyon ki hum chahte the ... ke jo... hum chahte the ki.. jo main stream parties .....abhi tak toe esa hai, aaj bhi hai ki masla e Kashmir ke hal ke habale se aam tor par b parties awaaj uthati hain jo mainstream mein nahin hoti hain , isiliye Mufti sahib ka tajurba .. jo Home Minister bhi rahe the hai.... ne jeh socha ki jo main stream party jo Hindustan ke aeen mein jakeenrakhti hai oosi party ko jammu Kashmir ke masle ke hal ke hawale se pesh kash karni hogi"

A few of the references from SELF RULE Frame Doc worth taking immediate note are :-

(i). Surely the reference of Autonomy in the PDP SELF Rule Doc is in the context of National Conference Autonomy where Para 59 says .

"Autonomy refers to empowerment of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir vis-a-vis the Government of India. As such it becomes a part of the centre-state debate in the Indian federal set up. Self-rule on the other hand refers to the empowerment of the people of Jammu and Kashmir, vis-a-vis the nation of India." And 60 says " Further, autonomy is for an institution of governance, self-rule is for a region, or geographical area. Therefore, while autonomy does not have a territorial element to it, the concept of self-rule has an element of territoriality to it."

(ii) SELF RULE Framework ( SRDoc) in simple terms appears professing something like (a)naming the Pakistan Occupied areas of J&K as Pakistan Administered J&K and the remaining part as Indian Administered Jammu & Kashmir ( b ) joint control of India & Pakistan on

some affairs concerning the State of Jammu & Kashmir. PARA 78 of SR Doc . The Regional Council of Greater Jammu and Kashmir (c) New Political Superstructure: Para 75 :Towards this end, the Legislative Council will be restructured to form the Regional Council of Greater Jammu and Kashmir (GJAK) . It will be a kind of a regional senate. Para 77. The Regional Council of Greater Jammu and Kashmir will have 50 members. The respective state assemblies of J&K and Pakistan Administered Kashmir shall elect 40 members. The remaining 10 members will be nominated, five each, by the Governments of India and Pakistan. Council for Greater Jammu and Kashmir having 5 members each as nominated by India and Pakistan (

(iii) Self Rule Framework suggests at Para 7 < Economic Integration > . (iv) Self Rule framework at Para 8



A Look through the Mist PART-II

surely help to find answer to the question whether agendas/ proposals referred are with in the provisions of India .

It is not out of place to mention here that both Congress ( formed government along with PDP 2002-2008) and BJP ( has formed government with PDP on 1st March 2015 ) appear to have found PDP Self Rule concept no way falling outside mainstream . And hence in some uncontested separatist culture prevailing in some pockets could inflict some damages on National Conference too.

Ideologies like as expressed in PDP Self Rule Framework for Resolution (2008) and J&K Peoples Conference vision "Achievable Nationhood 2006" fall in mainstream political considerations has to be examined otherwise unanswered questions would keep on confusing the innocent minds unless the promoters come up with articulated documents publicly.

(The writer is a Sr Journalist & a known analyst of J&K affairs)