

NPP to welcome central Ministers with black flags

BJP cheated Jammu over holiday on 23rd September: Harsh

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Playing the BJP gov't for disregarding the sentiment of Jammu people with respect to announcement of September 23rd as a State holiday to commemorate Maharaja Hari Singh's birthday, Harsh Dev Chairman-JKNPP and former Minister today said that NPP activists would welcome the central Ministers with black flags in case the announcement for holiday was not made before the said date. He was addressing a press conference in Jammu today.

While speaking to media, Mr. Harsh Dev Singh described Maharaja Hari Singh as one of the greatest nationalists and Indian patriot who had challenged the British Crown in 1931 at Round Table Conference in



Chairman JKNPP, Harsh Dev Singh talking to reporters.

London declaring that, "I am an Indian first and then a Maharaja". He said that the revered Maharaja shall always be remembered for showcasing his nationalistic ethos when he acceded the State of J&K to the Union of India by signing the historic Instrument of Accession of 26th October, 1947. He further maintained that Maharaja Hari Singh was the most progressive ruler of

principely India and declaration of his birthday as State holiday would have been a befitting tribute to the legendary ruler which was long overdue.

Regretting the opposition to the holiday in previous govt despite resolution to the effect having been passed in legislative council, Singh deplored in particular the cowardly posturing of BJP Ministers in coalition govt

who failed to get the same implemented inspite of the said resolution having the backing of legislative authority.

"Maharaja Hari Singh was the icon of secularism and modern democracy who introduced several social reforms in the fields of Judiciary, Education, Revenue, Finance etc. His contribution towards women empowerment, alleviation of racial discrimination on the basis of caste, creed and colour was impeccable and visionary", added Singh.

He called upon the central visiting Ministers to announce holiday for 23rd September if they had any respect for the sentiments of the people of Jammu. If a huge battalion of 70 central Ministers comprising almost the entire union cabinet

could not fulfill a simple demand of the people of the Jammu region, they had no right to approach the people during elections for votes, asserted Singh.

Recalling the historic role of the late ruler, Harsh said it was due to the far sightedness and the administrative capabilities of Maharaja that the nefarious game plan of Pakistan of grabbing J&K was foiled and defeated.

He said that the prudent ruler earned worldwide accolades for his progressive reforms in the fields of Judiciary, Education, Revenue, Finance etc.

Manju Singh (General Secretary - JKNPP), Surinder Chouhan (District President Jammu Rural) and Anita Choudhary were also present in the press conference.

DFSS holds protest against opening of Reliance stores in J&K

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The workers of Dogra Front & Shiv Sena (DFSS) under the leadership of President Ashok Gupta took out a protest rally in Jammu city against the opening of 100 Reliance smart stores in Jammu province as that would affect the shopkeepers of Jammu very badly who are already reeling under the depression due to the Corona Pandemic.

Calling for a decisive fight against opening of Reliance Retail Stores in Jammu, Mr ASHOK GUPTA warned the Jammu and Kashmir Government of strong protest if the Reliance Retail stores are allowed to open in Jammu.

Reliance is opening more than 100 stores in Jammu province. These stores will sell everything from groceries to medicines, Electronics, vegetables and fruits, Gold jewellery, shoes, clothing etc.

Then who will go to the small shopkeepers running the shops in our neighbourhood when these stores are opened.

Gupta further stated that during his tenure as Chief Minister Omar Abdullah



DFSS activists raising slogans during a protest.

inaugurated the Best Price-wholesale store in Jammu which wiped off 75% of business from Kanak Mandi wholesale market and never allowed the store to open in Kashmir.

In the same manner the Big Bazar store opened in Jammu in 2016 which finished 50% of business of the retailers in Jammu city.

The policy of the Kashmir based leaders have always been to suppress Jammu and end the trade.

He further appealed to the Governor not to pass any such prospect for reliance as the consumer of Jammu get everything from our local shops which helps in running the business cycle as one shopkeeper buys from the

second shopkeeper and the 2nd buys from the third which helps in running the business cycle.

Walmart, Big Bazaar, Easy Day and other outlets are selling some products below the wholesale prices to attract customers. In such a situation how can small businessmen run their shops, Gupta at last said that these stores should not be allowed to open in Jammu as the people of Jammu will protest against this opening of stores.

The party people who were present at the time of protest were Abhishek, Ashish, Deepu, Naresh, Dayasagar, Sham, Ram Lal, Surjeet, Kalu, Naresh and various others were present.

Billawaria kick starts construction work of lane & drains



BJP leader, Baldev Singh Billawaria starting development work.

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: BJP leader, Baldev Singh Billawaria kick started the construction work of lane and drain at Chinar Enclave area of Gandhi Nagar constituency. The works will be constructed under the supervision of JMC at an estimated cost of Rs 6 lakh. Billawaria said that construction of the lane and drain was a long pending demand of the area which has been fulfilled. He directed the officers of the concerned department to complete the

work in a fixed time frame and ensure that the quality of work is done. Addressing the people on the occasion, Billawaria said that on the birthday of Prime Minister Narendra Bhai Modi, BJP has started the "service and dedication" campaign.

AEE Khalid Iqbal, Ranjit Singh, Surjit Kumar, Sunil Sharma, Abhinandan Sharma, Yash Raj, Jugal Kishore, Dev Raj Sharma, Rajinder Choudhary, Aditya Sharma and Swarn Singh were also present on the occasion.

DGP sanctions meritorious scholarships of over Rs. 5.40 lakh

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: With an aim to cultivate a competitive approach among the wards of J&K Police personnel, the Director-General of Police, J&K, Dilbag Singh has sanctioned meritorious scholarships in favour of 104 wards of serving Police personnel. As per the order of Police Headquarters over Rs 5.4 lakh has been sanctioned in favour of 104 wards who have excelled in the annual examination of class 10th during the academic session 2020-21. The amount has been sanctioned out of the Central Police Welfare Fund.

Forty-four wards who have secured 90% and above marks have been given a meritorious scholarship of Rs 6000 each. Similarly, 60 wards who have secured 80% and above marks have been rewarded with the meritorious scholarship of Rs 4000 each. Police Headquarters has been sanctioning meritorious scholarships and DGPs special reward for the wards of martyred, deceased, and serving Police personnel/SPOs for their academic achievements and also assisting financially the wards of martyr/deceased lower subordinates.

PF Commissioner J&K & Ladakh visits EPFO District Office



A participant speaking during a programme.

STATE TIMES NEWS
LEH: Regional Provident Fund Commissioner-I, Rizwan Uddin, on Friday conducted an awareness programme on Employees' Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 and Schemes at Moravian Mission School Leh.

Employees and employers' representative of schools/hotels/contractors of Leh participated in the programme. Rizwan Uddin laid special emphasis on Employees' Pension Scheme 1995 which is applicable to the establishments of the UT of Ladakh from November 1, 2019. Employees of the UT were not getting pensionary benefits before November 1, 2019. Under the EDLI Scheme, quantum of insurance has been raised to Rs 7 lakh which was only Rs 75000 in JKEPFO. Rizwan addressed the questions raised by the employers relating to the three Schemes. Sushil Kumar of Lamdon School Leh raised the query whether the employees will con-

time to be the member of the Scheme if salary becomes more than Rs 15000 on getting increment. PF Commissioner guided that the membership will continue even if salary crossed the threshold of Rs 15000, once the member continues in employment or even if he leaves employment and joins another establishment.

To the question about the contributory service for becoming eligible for member pension raised by the representative of Leh Nutrition Project, PF Commissioner replied that minimum 10 years contributory service is required for an employee becoming eligible for member pension and there is no minimum service bar in case of death pension.

It was advised to all employees to reinit EPF of all eligible employees on time so that social security cover could be extended to all employees.

DB's directives to SDA for implementation of Master Plan 2035

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: A Division Bench of Jammu & Kashmir High Court comprising Chief Justice Panak Mithal and Justice Vinod Chatterji Koul issued directions to Vice Chairman Srinagar Development Authority regarding implementation of Master Plan 2015-2035. In a PIL filed by one Bilal Ahmed Khan, who is Advocate by profession, seeking implementation of Master Plan 2015-2035 and necessary directions to the State respondents to allow construction activities at bypass from Panthachowk to Parimpora via Nowgam, Hyderabad and Bemina as per Master

Plan, the Division Bench observed that Master Plan for the city, as prepared for year 2015-35, is meant for implementation and Court cannot assume on its own that it is not being implemented. DB further observed that the petitioner, for redressal of his grievance, has submitted a representation dated 23rd July, 2021 to Vice Chairman, Srinagar Development Authority, Srinagar; DB disposed of the PIL with directions to Vice Chairman, Development Authority Srinagar to get above representation of the petitioner considered in accordance with the law most expeditiously.

Modi's birthday celebrations commence with inauguration of exhibition

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: J&K BJP President Ravinder Raina along with BJP National Sanghatak V. Satish, MP Lok Sabha Jugal Kishore Sharma, National Secretary Dr. Narinder Singh, J&K BJP Seh-Prabhari Ashish Sood, former Dy. CM Kavinder Gupta and other senior leaders inaugurated an exhibition on the life and achievements of Prime Minister Narendra Modi on his birthday.

Various stalls of different departments displaying their products and detailed activities were also set up besides cultural activities by Dogra artists.

Earlier Ravinder Raina and other senior leaders also undertook plantation drive in Gandhi Nagar. Organ donation pledge forms arranged by OBC Moreha were also filled by BJP activists on the occasion.

Ravinder Raina said that world's most popular and strong leader Narendra Modi has taken the Nation to new heights of development people's welfare and earned global honour for India by his work as PM.

He said that from childhood to the post of PM, Modi devoted his every second of life to strengthen social fabric, gave befitting reply to forces posing threat to the Unity and Integrity of India, adding that surgical strikes in PoJK and Balakote displayed PM's strong leadership which can go to any extent when it



J&K BJP leaders during celebration of PM's Birthday.

comes on the security and safety of the Nation and its people.

Jugal Kishore Sharma said that PM Modi as one of the longest serving Prime Minister of India with longest list of achievements in post Independence India, has revolutionized Nation by transforming India in modernization, industrialization and made the Nation self reliant.

Ashish Sood said that PM Modi has transformed Political culture and working in India while serving as Pradhan Sewak. His government has not discriminated in grant of funds and schemes for the people on the basis of caste, creed, gender or region. Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas has been practically adopted while following Antodaya philosophy. He also spoke on one and half year period of COVID 19 where Modi government has emerged as world supplier of Medicine.

Kavinder Gupta said that celebrating birthday of the tallest leader of the country is not merely a ritual but an occasion to highlight his

achievements and educate the people as to what Modi promised and did on ground, instead of making false claims like earlier governments at the Centre.

Former MP Rajya Sabha Shamsheer Singh Manhas, Mayor Chander Mohan Gupta, Vice-Presidents S. Varinderjit Singh, Yudhvir Sethi, former Minister Sat Sharma, General Secretary (Org.) Ashok Kaul, General Secretaries Adv. Vibodh Gupta, Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal, Dy. Mayor Purnima Sharma, Secretaries Arvind Gupta, Ch. Vikram Randhawa, Venu Khanna, Rekha Mahajan, Anju Dogra, Chief Spokesperson Adv. Sunil Sethi, Balbir Ram Rattan, Sanjita dogra, Arun Prabhat, Brahmjot Satti and other senior leaders were present in the programme.

Proceedings were conducted by Programme Incharge Priya Sethi.

On the same line BJP District Units will also celebrate the PM birthday by organizing exhibitions and other "Sewa aur Samarpan Abhiyaan" programmes.

Chairman PHDCCI Sahai attends 51st J&K RBI Empowered Committee meeting

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: PHDCCI-J&K represented by Rahul Sahai



Chairman PHDCCI Jammu along with Regional Director Iqbal Fayaz Jan and Convenor Industrial Affairs-Kashmir Bilal Ahmad Kawoosa attended the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Jammu, 51st Empowered Committee Meeting on MSMEs for the UTs of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh on Friday through digital mode.

The meeting was chaired by Kamal P Patnaik, Regional Director, RBI J&K and Ladakh, and was also attended by Sandeep Mittal, General Manager, RBI, senior officers of major public and private sector banks in the State; Director Industries and Commerce, Jammu, Anoo Malhotra, Tazayun Mukhtar Kawos, Joint Director, Industries and Commerce, Kashmir, and representatives from SIDBI, PNB, SBI, J&K Bank, etc.

Rahul Sahai apprised Regional Director RBI about sufferings of MSME's particularly about awareness of various schemes. He suggested joint awareness sessions with banks to make MSMEs aware about the

various schemes available. Sahai also suggested about passing MSME's benefits to

traders as per new definition of MSMEs/ He suggested opening of specialised SME branch by Banks for CGTMSE Scheme.

Regional Director hailed suggestions made by PHDCCI and assured early action.

The Meeting also took review of NPAs in MSME sector in the UTs of J&K and Ladakh, implementation of "Framework for Revival and Rehabilitation of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), Position of collateral free loans to MSEs, ECLGS, PMEGP Scheme, Dedicated SME branches for CGTMSE and Progress in providing banking facilities to the MSME clusters.

The PHDCCI-J&K Chairman mentioned in the meeting that need is felt that there should be proper capacity building of Branches and it was decided and announced by RBI Regional Director that all banks will provide the dedicated helpline number for MSME's and that will be disseminated through PHDCCI among stakeholders and borrowers of banks.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Under the supervision of President, Arya Pratinidhi Sabha Jammu and Kashmir; Arun Chowdhary, an event was convened at Master Devi Chand Park, Rehari Colony on the eve of the birthday of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Vedic Hawan by chanting special birthday mantras was performed with all the rituals and wishes were bestowed for long and healthy life of PM Modi.

The ardent work undertaken by PM Modi and the achievements of India on the international level were highlighted.

"Under Modi's able leadership, we all citizens hope to contribute towards the develop-

PNB offers pre-approved analytical based Retail Loans

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Punjab National Bank (PNB) offers pre approved analytical based Retail Loans giving Philip to digitization with changing customers expectations for a faster, more secure and seamless borrowing experience in the direction of growth on Indian economy along with MSME and Non MSME segment.

Yatender Kumar, Circle Head of PNB informed that bank is offering special scheme for borrowers who are New To Bank (NTB) wishing to avail business loan facility above Rs. 20 lakh with Interest rates starting at low as 6.80% for MSME borrowers and 7.00 per cent for non-MSME borrowers.

There are relaxations also in processing and upfront fees by 50% and as a special feature the ROI applied will be applicable even after the expiry of this offer, he said. "We urge every business entity, including borrowers dealing with other banks to utilize this opportunity that can be availed up to December 31, 2021," he said. Punjab National Bank has taken another initiative to drive



Circle Head of PNB, Yatender Kumar speaking in a meeting.

growth of retail assets portfolio as a key strategic priority i.e pre approved analytic based offers to identify the existing customers of the bank at H/O level on the basis of available data base to offer them pre-approved loans under various retail loan schemes and customers are informed through the digital mode such as SMS, email, and outbound call from call centres.

PNB is offering HOME Loan at an attractive rate of interest which starts at 6.80% for all fresh and takeover Home Loans of Rs. 50 Lakh and above for customers having good credit history, he said.

Further, bank is also offering Fresh Top Up Loan to their existing home loan borrowers with outstanding of Rs. 25.00

laks & above in shape or Term Loan and Overdraft facility with HOI of 7.15% and 8.15% respectively for borrowers with satisfactory credit record.

"This offer is also applicable to new home loan borrowers who wish to apply for home loan facility from PNB for more than Rs.25 Lakh.

The scheme will be valid till March 31, 2022 so that more and more customers can avail the benefits Branches will attend such customers on priority for the logical conclusion of these offers.

Yatender Kumar further informed that new schemes will be very helpful in promotion of MSME and Non-MSME and housing sector in the UT of Jammu & Kashmir.

ANTF nabs drug smuggler with 24.207 Kg Charas in Jammu

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A team Anti Narcotics Task Force on Friday arrested two drug peddlers with contraband of cannabis (charas) worth crores at Transport Yard here.

JAMMU: The Anti Narcotic Task Force (ANTF) of Jammu and Kashmir police, specialized unit to check rising menace of drugs, achieved another success on Friday after it foiled a bid to smuggle Charas worth lakhs of rupees.

SSP ANTF Vinay Kumar said that the specialised unit of the force, to check rising menace of drugs peddling in Jammu and Kashmir, achieved another success after it foiled a bid to smuggle Charas from Kashmir to outside J&K UT and nabbed one smug-

gler alongwith 24 Kg and 207 grams of Charas worth crore.

"We received a specific information that a drugs smuggling bid is being attempted in a truck bearing registration no. JK15A-5238 driven by Mohd Ashraf Wani, son of Abdul Khaliq Wani, resident of Wachi, Shopian who have come from Kashmir and are carrying consignment to outside J&K UT," the SSP further said.

He stated that on receiving this information, a case FIR 11/2021 under Section 8/20 NDPS Act was registered at Police Station ANTF Jammu and team swung into action and laid Naka near Greater Kailash Chowk near Shiv Shakti Marbles, here. "The aforementioned

truck loaded with fresh fruit boxes was stopped by the ANTF team and during search of the cabin of the truck, team recovered 24 Kg and 207 grams of Charas from the cabin," he said adding that driver of the truck was arrested in the instant case and truck was seized.

Initial investigation has revealed that this consignment was carried from J and K to Rajasthan, Vinay said. "Anti Narcotics Task Force is investigating further links of this Interstate drug Cartel. More arrests are expected," he said and appealed general public to share information regarding such drug dealers so that appropriate legal actions are taken against them and this menace is uprooted from our society.