

Doda saw return of peace, fast development under Modi Govt: Dr Jitendra

STATE TIMES NEWS

DODA: Union Minister, Dr. Jitendra Singh said here on Monday that the Doda region saw return of peace and fast track development over the last 10 years under the Modi government.

Addressing a series of meetings in the upper reaches of Marmat area in Doda Assembly constituency in support of the BJP candidate Shakti Raj Parihar, Dr Jitendra said, for almost 30 years, Doda was in news headlines mainly for incidents of terrorism and militant encounters. For the first time, he said, there is return of peace in the region and people are able to live their life and attend to their business in a normal manner.

Similarly, said Dr Jitendra, Doda which was traditionally known for communal harmony suffered erosion of its composite cultural ethos because of the divisive politics of Congress and it is for the first time that PM Narendra Modi has introduced a culture of equal share for all. Looking up at the hills, he pointed out to the audience and said, 10 years back, all these hamlets were made of Kucha walls and Kucha houses, whereas today I cannot see a single Kucha house and every single house built on the remotest hills can be seen from a distance as a Pucea house. This, he said, is the miracle of



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh addressing a BJP election meeting in the Marmat area of Doda Assembly constituency on Monday.

PM Awas Yojna which has reached the remotest and the farthest area of every region.

Dr Jitendra said, the assessment of development of the last 10 years can be made from the network of roads which has today connected each and every village in the farthest hilly points. He said, the new National Highway 244 is being constructed through the Marmat area which also includes his native village of Kalota.

He recalled that this is the region where at one point of time, many of the natives would not get to see a motor vehicle all through their lifetime whereas now the new generation will be exposed to the advantages of modern national highways

which will in turn generate business, revenue and employment.

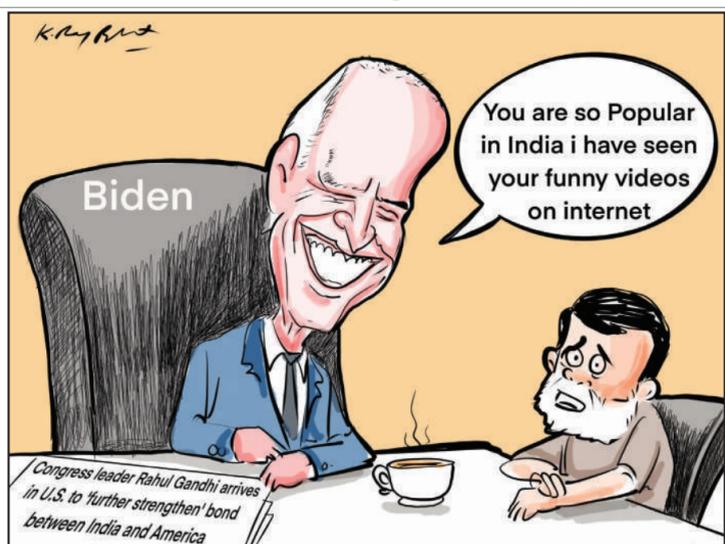
Dr Jitendra said, when BJP is elected in the upcoming Assembly elections in J&K, its government will continue the development journey undertaken by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the Union Territory. He said the BJP's sole agenda is equitable and fast-paced development of all regions of Jammu and Kashmir. "Only BJP can ensure all-round development of J&K, without any discrimination on the basis of caste, creed or region", he stated.

The Minister lashed out at the Opposition, saying they have been pursuing the politics of division, and

they don't have any concrete policies for the development of Jammu and Kashmir. He said, this election will be a fight between the development agenda of BJP and vote bank politics of the Opposition. "These parties have been promoting nepotism and corruption, whereas BJP gave a transparent and merit-based governance", he said.

Dr. Jitendra emphasised the importance of electing capable leaders who can effectively represent the region's interests. He highlighted the BJP's commitment to promoting development, growth, and inclusivity in Jammu and Kashmir. "The people of Doda have consistently shown faith in the BJP's vision for a prosperous and united India," Dr. Jitendra Singh said.

"I urge the voters to once again extend their support to BJP candidate Shakti Raj Parihar, who will work tirelessly to address the region's challenges and opportunities." The Minister also touched upon the various development initiatives undertaken by the central government in Jammu and Kashmir, including infrastructure development, healthcare, and education. He assured the audience that the BJP would continue to work towards the betterment of the region.



Ashish Sood releases Election Song of Yudhvir Sethi for Jammu East Assembly Elections. Yudhvir vows to make Jammu East a Model Constituency



Ashish Sood releasing Election Song of Yudhvir Sethi for Jammu East Assembly Elections.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a vibrant show of support and enthusiasm for the upcoming Jammu & Kashmir Assembly Elections, Ashish Sood, BJP Incharge for J&K, on Monday officially released the election song for Yudhvir Sethi, senior BJP leader and contesting candidate from the Jammu East constituency.

The event was held at Pt. Prem Nath Dogra Bhawan, Jammu, with the presence of senior party leaders and key supporters.

Addressing the gathering, Ashish Sood emphasized the importance of the song as a symbol of BJP's vision for a stronger and more developed Jammu under the leadership of Yudhvir Sethi.

He praised Sethi's commitment to the welfare of the

people and his long-standing dedication to the party's ideals, positioning him as a vital force in Assembly Election 2024.

In his remarks, Yudhvir Sethi expressed gratitude to the BJP leadership and his supporters, noting that the election song embodies his vision for Jammu East-focusing on development, youth empowerment, and preserving Jammu's rich cultural heritage.

He reiterated his pledge to transform Jammu East into a model constituency by ensuring better infrastructure, employment opportunities, and addressing the

needs of every section of society.

Senior BJP leaders who attended the event hailed Sethi's leadership, highlighting his contributions to the growth of Jammu East and his deep connection with the people of the region.

They urged voters to rally behind Yudhvir Sethi in the upcoming election, ensuring that the constituency remains in capable hands.

The election song is expected to energize the campaign and connect with the electorate, reflecting Yudhvir Sethi's vision for a prosperous and inclusive future for Jammu East.

Govt to train Finance, Planning Cadres Officers at IIM Jammu

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Government has initiated a major drive for capacity building of 400 officers of Finance and Planning (F&P) cadres with an intention to upskill them in Fiscal Management, Budget Supervision, Taxation, Innovative Revenue Generation, Debt Management, Infrastructure Development, Public Private Partnership (PPP) Projects, Project appraisal and other related aspects of fiscal administration.

The Government has roped into partnership with Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Jammu for this purpose and IIM Jammu has developed training modules for the same purpose. The aim of this unique programme is to upskill the officers of Finance and Planning cadre in improving financial resources from tax and non-tax avenues, encouraging private investments

and appraising risks and costs in projects. The first batch of 50 officers each from Finance Department and Planning Department shall undergo the non-residential training at IIM Jammu from 11th to 13th September 2024. The partnership with IIM Jammu will help the departments enhance expertise and skills of officers in governance and management of finances. Earlier as such partnership was not available, the departments had to depute officers to far-off institutions for training purposes. Through this partnership, the UT government aims to design and implement PPP projects, develop new Tourist destinations in J&K, initiate measures for creation of sustainable jobs, devise strategies for regulation of user fees, develop policies for self-sustenance of PSUs, Universities and design innovative measures for development of Agro and Horticultural industry.

CEO launches 'GreenSVEEP' app to capture plantation drive during elections



CEO J&K UT, Pandurang K Pole launching a new application 'GreenSVEEP'.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a significant stride towards fostering a culture of civic responsibility and environmental stewardship among the electorate, Jammu and Kashmir Election Department on Monday launched a new application 'GreenSVEEP', to capture the plantation drive 2024 that would take place during the forthcoming Assembly Elections at all the polling stations of all the 90 assembly constituencies across the Union Territory.

The application was launched by Pandurang K Pole, Chief Electoral Officer, Jammu and Kashmir UT, in the presence of Akhter Hussain Qazi, Nodal officer-SVEEP; Sapna Kotwal, Nodal Officer -Media; Siddeshwar Bhagat, NIC Scientist; Namisha Abrol, IT Expert and others.

To promote eco-friendly practices among voters and polling officials, and ensure vibrant and active participation of the electorate in the upcoming elections, the office of the CEO J&K UT has set a target of planting over 1 lakh plants across the Union Territory and 'GreenSVEEP' app will take this initiative further. "It is a Geographic Information System (GIS)-based auto-tracking system which would capture pictures and videos of the plantation done by various forest officials during the forthcoming elections," a statement from the

office of the CEO, J&K UT said.

In addition, various SVEEP activities at school, colleges and offices would also be uploaded by the respective nodal officers through this application, added the statement. Additionally, the Block Level Officers will also ensure that video and photographs detailing the plantation drives and ensuring the nine Assured Minimum Facilities (AMFs) at all polling stations are also uploaded on the 'GreenSVEEP' app.

The CEO also emphasized on transparency measures for home voting for the elderly and Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) and issued directions for uploading high-definition photographs and video on the 'GreenSVEEP' app. It may be mentioned that the mega plantation drive is a concerted effort towards environmental sustainability and community engagement through collaborative efforts with locals, youth and volunteers, along with polling officials.

"The plantation drive is a testament to our commitment not only to promote voter awareness and participation but also to address pressing environmental challenges. By integrating tree planting activities into our SVEEP program, we are leveraging the power of collective action to create a positive impact on both the electoral process and the environment," the CEO, J&K UT said.

Tarun Chugh, Ram Madhav, other BJP leaders to launch 'Har Ghar Bhajapa Campaign' from today

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Intensifying its campaign right upto grass roots level for the Assembly elections, the BJP will start 'Har Ghar Bhajapa Campaign' from tomorrow i.e 10th of September to connect to the people and make them aware about party's programmes and achievements.

The massive door to door campaign will be led by J&K Incharge, Tarun Chugh in Kishtwar, Padder-Nagseni segment

Ram Madhav will lead the campaign in Kathua and Hiranagar along with large number of party workers.

At Bhaderwah, the campaign will be led by Trilok Jamwal, MLA of IIP and Rajya Sabha MP, Gulam Ali Khatna, will lead the campaign in Ramban and Banihal.

In Udhampur West, the

BJP's campaign would be led by Dhan Singh Rawat (Minister, Government of Uttarakhand), while in Udhampur East, Dhan Singh Rawat will also lead eh campaign.

In Chenani, the Union Minister, Dr. Jitendra Singh will head the campaign. He will also lead the campaign in Billawar, Basohli and Jasrota.

In Rannagar, the campaign will be held under the leadership Shamsheer Singh Manhas, former Rajya Sabha member.

The campaign at Bani would be led by Ashwani Sharma (MLA Pathankot). MP Jugal Kishore Sharma will lead party's campaign in Gulabgarh, Reasi and Shri Mata Vaishno Devi segments.

Sat Sharma will lead BJP's campaign in Rangarh and Samba, while in Vijaypur, the

campaign will be led by Shrikant Sharma (MLA Uttar Pradesh).

In Bishnah, also Shrikant Sharma will lead the campaign. At Suchetgarh, Vikramjeet Singh Cheema will lead the campaign.

Ashish Sood will also lead party's campaign in Bahu and Jammu East, while G Krishna Reddy will head BJP campaign in Jammu West.

In Nagrota and Jammu North, the campaign will be led by Ashok Koul, while G Krishna Reddy will head BJP campaign in Marh.

In Akhnoor and Chhamb, Madan Kaushik (MLA Uttarakhand) will lead the campaign, while in Kalakote - Sunderbani,

Rajeev Bhardwaj (MP, Himachal Pradesh), will lead the party's 'Har Ghar Bhajapa Campaign'.

Neha Jalali takes over as Dir PIB Jammu, IIMC

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Senior Indian Information Service (IIS) officer, Neha Jalali assumed the charge of Director of Press Information Bureau (PIB), Jammu, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, here on Monday.

In her previous stint, she served as the Director, Publications Division (DPD: New Delhi), a premier publishing house of the Government of India, enriching the national knowledge repository of books and journals highlighting subjects of national importance and the country's rich cultural heritage.

Jalali, a 2011-batch IIS officer has worked in various domains related to the media, communication and publicity in New Delhi, J&K



Senior IIS officer, Neha Jalali assuming charge of Director PIB Jammu.

and Dehradun.

Earlier, the officer worked in CBC Jammu, PIB Jammu, DD News Jammu, AIR News Jammu, CBC Dehradun and Social Media Cell of the Ministry of I&B and NSD, AIR, New Delhi.

After assuming the charge of PIB, Jammu, Neha Jalali chaired a meeting with the officers and staff of the media unit. She was given a detailed briefing on the publicity activities conducted by

PIB in the last one year. She also held an interaction with the officials and staff. Speaking on the occasion, the officer stressed the importance of communicating to the media information about the government's schemes and programmes in a seamless and speedy manner. Later, Neha Jalali also assumed the charge of IIMC, Jammu Campus. She was apprised of the working of the institute and various

activities organised in the recent past. On the occasion, Jalali interacted with the faculty and students.

IIMC Jammu is one of the four Regional Centres of New Delhi-based Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC), a premier educational institution for Journalism and Mass Communication, and Training Academy for Indian Information Service (IIS) officers.

When Modi talks of UCC he is for fulfilling obligations of Govt as enshrined in Art- 44 of Constitution of India

Better place the draft UCC Bill in public domain so that specific suggestions could be made by all stake holders

DAYA SAGAR

Very often the subject of Uniform Civil Code (UCC) / Common Civil Code (CCC) for Indian citizens becomes live for discussions and debates. The subject has been becoming more live more particularly when the times for general elections to Lok Sabha or Legislative Assemblies/ Assembly are approaching / are there. The debates become hot and more so to be brief some people project the discussions looking something like making changes in the civil laws /codes applicable to 'only Muslims and that too according to 'Hindu' traditions/ codes whereas which is surely not the case. The UNIFORM Civil Code would be covering all the religions /sects in India and surely the civil laws /codes applicable presently to Hindu too. But the debates / discussions remain in air only for a few weeks or so where in the social / emotional peace remain disturbed since the socio-political leaderships talk more as critics than solution finders which they

should otherwise feel duty bound in terms of Directive Principles laid down in Constitution of India in Part IV Article - 44 which says <, "The State shall endeavor to secure for the citizens a uniform civil code throughout the territory of India.">. No doubt at the same time Art-37 says that the provisions contained in directive principles shall not be enforceable by any court, but the principles therein laid down are nevertheless fundamental in the governance of the country and it shall be the duty of the State to apply these principles in making laws (Art-37 < Art- 37. Application of the principles contained in this Part.-The provisions contained in this Part shall not be enforceable by any court, but the principles therein laid down are nevertheless fundamental in the governance of the country and it shall be the duty of the State to apply these principles in making laws.>}. So raising questions on the intentions of Union Government, presently with BJP as lead unit and

Narendra Modi as the Prime Minister, whenever they talk of or make suggestions for securing to the Indian Citizens a Uniform Civil Code throughout the country, is not fair. Instead all should work to ensure that the subject of UCC is not allowed to be dragged into communal controversies (particularly Hindu- Muslim) and work should be started by conveying to the common man that UCC will fairly affect/ effect the prevailing traditions/social codes/ community codes /prevailing civil codes of all Indian citizens may it be from Hindu, Muslim, Christian, Jain, Parsi, etc and will be drawn out with fair consensus.

No doubt the subject of UCC or Common Civil Code (CCC) has been in discussions before 2014 also but it has been more in discussions after 2014 when Government headed by Narendra Modi appeared taking more intimate notice of the duty of the government

enshrined in Art-44 of the Constitution. Recently during the 2024 Lok Sabha elections too and in the Parliament also the BJP lead NDA Government have expressed 'humble' intentions for carrying through the UCC proposals that may be with the government.

The 22nd Law Commission of India (L C I) had through Public Notice dated 14th June, 2023 again solicited the views & ideas of the public at large and recognized religious organizations (who may be willing) about the Uniform Civil Code with in 30 days from 14 June 2023 so as to reach Member Secretary LCI (Commission of India, 4th Floor, Lok Nayak Bhawan, Khan Market, New Delhi- 110 003 -membersecretary-lci@gov.in) in the form of consultation/ discussion/ working papers on any of the issues pertaining to the Uniform Civil

Code. Contents of the public notice issued by LCI did reflect that the Commission was "very serious" about the subject, particularly seeing into the text of the notice where it says "If need be, Commission may call upon any individual or organization for a personal hearing or discussion."

Similar exercise was initiated by 21st Law Commission during n 2016 to 2018 where after it was said that LCI though received overwhelming responses had not prepared any draft /sketch document on Uniform Civil Code but had only issued a "consultation paper" on "Reforms of Family Law". More than five years had lapsed since the 21st Law Commission had issued to the government a "consultation paper" on "Reforms of Family Law"and 22nd Law Commission had in 2023 considered to deliberate a fresh.

Whenever BJP or Narendra Modi talks of UCC immediately hard anti reactions start coming from political

leaders /thinkers like Asaduddin Salahuddin Owaisi (President of the All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen - AIMIM) and prominent constitutional lawyers like Kapil Sibal who among other things too suggest that government should first place in the public domain the draft UCC Bill that government might have got prepared / is in the process of preparing so that specific nods/suggestions could made. But such a draft bill has yet to be placed in public domain. So ,why not place the draft UCC Bill that Narendra Modi Government is working on in public domain so that the occasional discussions / debates on the subject are stopped and this subject is no where allowed in future to provide opportunity to any one for disturbing even a bit of social peace and communal harmony and the subject is taken away from Hindu- Muslim controversies.

To be continued... (The writer is a Sr Journalist Social activist & analyst of J&K Affairs)

