

Sitaram Kesri, a Dalit, wasn't allowed to complete term as Cong chief: Modi

MAHASAMUND, Nov 18:

Hitting out at the Congress and the Nehru-Gandhi family, Prime Minister Narendra Modi Sunday claimed that Dait leader Sitaram Kesri was not allowed to complete his term as Congress president and was "thrown out of office" to make way for Sonia Gandhi.

Addressing a rally on the last day of campaigning for the second and final phase of the Chhattisgarh Assembly polls, Modi said four generations of a family ruled the country and "benefitted from being in power", but the country did not benefit from their rule.

"The country knows that Sitaram Kesri, a Dalit, was not allowed to complete his five-year-term as the Congress president. He was thrown out of office and to the footpath to make way for Sonia Gandhi as the new party chief," he said.

"Earlier, Delhi had a remote-controlled government. The remote was in the hands of a family, which was afraid of the BJP," Modi said, targeting the Congress and the Gandhis.

He challenged the Congress to select someone "capable" as its president, who did not belong to "that one family".

"Remember the days when four generations of a family ruled the country. What was the fate of the people? They only thought about the welfare of one family but never thought about the welfare of the people. How can we trust them that they will fulfil the aspirations of the people now," Modi said.

He claimed that Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Raman Singh had to face a lot of challenges from the then Congress-led government at the Centre.

"For 10 years, the Centre was ruled by a remote-control government, which never paid attention towards Chhattisgarh," the prime minister said.

He praised the high voter turnout in Bastar in the first phase of the Chhattisgarh polls on November 12 and also in the panchayat election in Jammu and Kashmir and claimed that the people had given a befitting reply to those spreading terror.

"Despite being threatened by Naxals with guns and bombs, a huge voter turnout was recorded in Bastar. The poor tribals have shown faith in democracy and given a befitting reply to bombs

and guns," Modi said.

"Similarly, yesterday, elections were held for the panchayats in Kashmir. Earlier, people

Ladakh region.

Lashing out at the Congress, Modi said. "The doors have been opened for the welfare of



Prime Minister Narendra Modi address an election rally for the second phase of Chhattisgarh Assembly elections.

used to skip conducting polls there. After Governor's Rule was imposed, we decided that the power of Kashmir should rest in the hands of the people of Kashmir.

"Terrorists had given a bandh call in Kashmir, but look at the trust of the people of Kashmir in democracy as a voter turnout of around 60-70 per cent was recorded. They have given a slap on the face of separatism and terrorism. They have shown the strength of democracy," he added.

Jammu and Kashmir recorded 74.1 per cent polling in the first phase of the panchayat polls held Saturday in 47 blocks -- 16 in Kashmir, 21 in Jammu and 10 in the

Kashmir. Who had stopped the Congress from doing this earlier? They played backdoor games with terrorists which will not be allowed anymore. We took courageous steps one by one."

He also targeted Congress chief Rahul Gandhi over farm loan waiver, an issue that has taken centre stage in the Chhattisgarh polls.

"As elections approach, the Congress plays a game of promises. But they cannot mislead the country anymore. They must answer what did they do for the welfare of our farmers when they ruled for four generations."

"They kept the farmers in a pathetic condition during their 50-year rule. Had they strengthened the farmers, fulfilled their

requirements, our farmers would have been prosperous," the prime minister said.

"They are making false promises of loan waiver to the people of Chhattisgarh. The same promise was made to farmers during the Karnataka polls, but even after around a year has passed, the promise is yet to be fulfilled.

"Instead, the (Karnataka) government is issuing warrants and arresting farmers against whom debts are pending," he added.

Praising the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government under Raman Singh in the state, Modi said it had ensured soil health cards for 75 lakh farmers, adding in a sarcastic vein that the Congress had failed to provide health cards to humans.

"Though the Raman Singh government is in power in the state for the last 15 years, it got the actual opportunity to work for the welfare of the state after the NDA government came to power at the Centre in 2014. Raman Singh had to fight for the rights of the state with the Congress government at the

Centre," he told the gathering.

Modi said Singh had sought support from the Centre, when it was under the Congress-led United Progressive Alliance's (UPA) rule, to fight Naxals, but the "remote controlled" government behaved as if Chhattisgarh did not exist.

He added that if the BJP government under Singh remained in power for another 10-15 years, Chhattisgarh would feature among the top three developed states in the country.

"Chhattisgarh has turned 18 now. This is a very crucial phase for the state. Just like parents care for the future of their children when they turn 18, I urge the people of the state to think about the welfare of the state and once again give Raman Singh a chance to serve," the prime minister told the crowd.

The final phase of the Chhattisgarh polls, covering 72 Assembly seats, will be held on November 20. The first phase of polling for 18 seats was held on November 12. The results will be announced on December 11. (PTI)

Hookah bars permanently banned in Punjab as Prez Kovind okays Bill

NEW DELHI, Nov 18:

Hookah bars have been permanently banned in Punjab as President Ram Nath Kovind has given assent to a bill from the state to check use of tobacco.

Punjab is the third state in the country after Gujarat and Maharashtra where hookah bars or lounges were banned through law.

The president has given assent to the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) (Punjab Amendment) Bill, 2018 recently, a Home Ministry official said.

The Punjab assembly had passed the Bill in March.

The objective of bringing the law is to check the use of tobacco in various forms and prevent diseases caused by the use of the tobacco products.

Hookah bars are establishments where people share 'sheesha' from a 'hookah' which is placed at each table or a bar.

The hookah has a long pipe for smoking that passes smoke through a container of water to cool it.

There were complaints of use of drugs in these bars in Punjab, an official said.

The official said as per available data, an hour's average of hookah smoking contains 20-200 puffs, which can deliver 50 litres of smoke, containing harmful and carcinogenic chemicals.

Smoking of hookah increases health risks includes exposure to toxic chemicals that are not filtered out by the water, and also the risk of infectious disease like tuberculosis resulting from sharing a hookah, another official said.

Punjab Health Minister Brahm Mohindra, who had moved the Bill in the assembly, had said there was a new trend of 'hookah-sheesha' smoking

and it has been increasing day-by-day in Punjab.

These bars are being opened in restaurants, hotels, and clubs and hookahs are even served at marriages venues.

The youth, including girls, are using hard and soft drugs in hookah and 'sheesha' bars, Mohindra had said.

"Hookah/sheesha bars are just like drug consumption rooms and they are a new threat to our youth. The owners of such cafes are providing every facility to our youth for soft drug addiction in a very comfortable and friendly atmosphere.

"The most harmful ingredient in hookah is nicotine, which is known to be carcinogenic," he had said. (PTI)

used to skip conducting polls there. After Governor's Rule was imposed, we decided that the power of Kashmir should rest in the hands of the people of Kashmir.

"Terrorists had given a bandh call in Kashmir, but look at the trust of the people of Kashmir in democracy as a voter turnout of around 60-70 per cent was recorded. They have given a slap on the face of separatism and terrorism. They have shown the strength of democracy," he added.

Jammu and Kashmir recorded 74.1 per cent polling in the first phase of the panchayat polls held Saturday in 47 blocks -- 16 in Kashmir, 21 in Jammu and 10 in the

Kashmir. Who had stopped the Congress from doing this earlier? They played backdoor games with terrorists which will not be allowed anymore. We took courageous steps one by one."

"They kept the farmers in a pathetic condition during their 50-year rule. Had they strengthened the farmers, fulfilled their

JEE | NEET | AIIMS | Pre-Foundation

Achieve your Dream with Kota's

BEST

Faculty Team
Academic System
Personal Care

Admission Announcement

COMPACT COURSE

3 Months Course for
JEE | NEET (11th & 12th) | 9th & 10th

Ph: 94192-20222 | jammu1@cpil.in

CAREER POINT, KOTA

JAMMU BRANCH

171, Opp Telephone Exchange, Exchange Road, Kachi Chawni (Jammu)-180001

Bulls Eye

www.hitbullseye.com

Announces Exclusive Batches for

J&K Bank PO / Associates

CLAT / LAW Entrance

JUET / KUET / CUET

CAT / MAT / CMAT

KACHI CHAWNANI : 2562121 • GANDHI NAGAR : 9419212121

NEET

Fresh batch starting 22nd NOV.

NCC

NATIONAL

COLLEGE OF COMPETITIONS

01912520145

11th/12th academic cum entrance

Now no Need to Go to Delhi !!!

The Civils

Only Institute which caters for Quality Under the Guidance of KESBANK

Jammu Centre : 23A/C Gandhi Nagar, Opp Women's College

NAIB TEHSILDAR INTERVIEW

BATCH AVAILABLE FROM MON 19th NOV

TIME : 10.30 AM - 12.30 PM

Day Schedule for Interview Batches

1. Interview Ethics, Personality Development by Mr. K. Bashar
2. Global/National Economic Issues with focus on current budget.
3. Economic profile & historical creation of J&K, its merger & relevant facts.
4. J&K Profile / Issues by Experts
5. Political Structure of State & Contemporary Changes.
6. Special lecture on body languages By Psycho analyst
7. Special lecture on current social issues.
8. Special lecture on political issues.
9. Miscellaneous issues.

Followed by 3 Mock Interviews

OUR FACULTY WILL INCLUDE IAS/IPS/KAS/KPS OFFICERS, PSYCHOANALYST, JOURNALIST & FORMER PSC MEMBERS

Way of Life!

THE FESTIVE DELIGHT CONTINUES.

BURGMAN STREET **Access 125** **GIXXER SF** **INTRUDER**

LOAN AMOUNT UP TO 100%* ON SCOOTERS AND MOTORCYCLES

CORPORATE OFFER - FOR ALL GOVT., PSU AND SELECTED CORPORATE EMPLOYEES - UP TO ₹3,000/-



paytm OFFER - BENEFIT UP TO ₹8,000/-

Disclaimer: • Images used are for illustration purposes only. • Accessories shown in the pictures are not a part of the standard product and may vary from variant to variant. • Fuel efficiency as certified by ICAT under rule 115 of CMVR, 1989. • Finance at sole discretion of the finance company. • Ride safe. Wear a helmet.

For further information call Suzuki Motorcycle India Private Limited (toll-free): 1800 - 121 - 7996 or write to us at: customer.queries@suzukimotorcycle.in

Jammu & Srinagar: Jammu: Star Suzuki, BC Road, Rehari Chungi, Ph: 0191-2520033, 9419220072, Srinagar: Alfa Suzuki, Saheed Gunj, New Secretariat Road, Ph: 0194-2471637, 9070118054