

Army, public pay tributes to martyrs on Rajouri Day

Excelsior Correspondent

RAJOURI, Apr 13: The Army and the local public from Rajouri area paid floral tributes to the martyrs on Rajouri Day which was observed here today. Pakistani intruders captured



A senior Army officer paying tributes to martyrs to mark Rajouri Day.

the vital town of Rajouri in early 1947. On April 12, 1948, troops of 1st Kumaon along with Tanks of Central India Horse (CIH) and 5 and 30 Mountain Batteries advanced from Chingus for liberation of Rajouri. On April 13, 1948, Rajouri was liberated from the intruders by the heroic action of Indian Armed forces assisted by the brave citizens of Rajouri.

Rajouri Day is celebrated every year to pay homage to the brave military and civilian martyrs who laid down their lives for liberation of Rajouri. On this

day, homage is paid to the heroism of 2nd Lt, RR Rane of 37 Assault Field Company who was responsible for clearing the road from Naushera to Rajouri.

This year too, as tradition dictates, the White Knight Corps celebrated the historic spectacle

of Spades Division was conducted.

The GOC felicitated the next of kin of the martyred soldiers as a part of the noble initiative to dedicate this year's Rajouri Day as the 'Swarnim Vijay Varsh: Commemoration of 50 years of victory in 1971 Pak War' to honour the supreme sacrifice made by their loved ones for Rajouri's liberation. The day had a plethora of support centers lined up including Assistance booths for the Ex-servicemen, a Medical camp and Artificial limb centre.

On April 11, a marathon

* Watch video on www.excelsiornews.com

race of five and 10 Km was organised for the people of Rajouri. The day saw many eminent personalities and Rajouri's young blood full of zeal and enthusiasm, participating in the event making it a grand success.

The Rajouri Day celebrations started with wreath laying by Brig Rahul Thapliyal, Station Commander and other civil and military dignitaries. Sarva Dharma prayers meet were also performed by Pandir, Maulvi, Granthi and Padri affirming the bond of unity in India. Spectacular performances by young children were appreciated by the audience.



Anu Radha wife of CEO SMDVB and Manju Chhibber wife of J&K Bank's CMD RK Chhibber inaugurating special facility for fresh cash currency and note exchange.

JK Bank establishes special facility for fresh cash currency, note exchange for devotees

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Apr 13: In order to facilitate devotees visiting the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine across the length and breadth of the country on eve of Navratras Festival, Jammu and Kashmir Bank today established a special facility for fresh cash currency and note exchange.

The special counter, set up by Business Unit Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Bhawan (SMVDSB), was inaugurated jointly by Anu Radha wife of

CEO SMDVB Romesh Kumar and Manju Chhibber wife of Bank's Chairman and Managing Director RK Chhibber. Both CEO SMVDSB and Bank's CMD were present on the occasion.

Zonal Head Jammu North-II Udhampur Anokh Singh, SDM Katra Naresh Kumar, Tehsildar Dhuni Chand and various officials from the bank were also present on the occasion.

Notably, in addition to the latest facility, J&K Bank has a full-fledged banking network in and around the pilgrimage site containing three business units-Niharika, Adhkuwari and Vaishno Devi Bhawan-and nine ATMs on the Katra enroute to the Shrine from Katra.

CEO SMVDSB said, "J&K Bank has always played a proactive role in providing basic banking facilities to the people and special facilities like cash availability through special counters and ATMs to the pilgrims visiting Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine which has, over the years, resulted in smooth conduct of the pilgrimage. We all pray that J&K Bank continues its march towards prosperity which eventually benefits people of the region."

The Bank's CMD asserted that J&K Bank takes pride in providing easily accessible banking facilities across the pilgrim circuits in J&K and Ladakh.

"Providing comfort and convenience to devotees visiting various holy places has always been prioritized by J&K Bank. It is our humble contribution towards our people whose loyalty and prayers continue to be our strength", he added.

Zonal Head Jammu North-II Udhampur presented vote of thanks.



Newly opened outlet of Belgian Waffle Company at Channi Himmat, Jammu.

Belgian Waffle opens outlet at Channi Himmat

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Apr 13: The Belgian Waffle Company today opened up its outlet at Channi Himmat, Jammu.

The Outlet is a franchisee at Jammu opened by one of the budding young entrepreneur Nabhya Saraf.

The decor is quintessential Belgian Waffle - Insta-worthy bright yellow walls, the quirky waffle doodles and the cute

wooden furniture seating. The outlet is definitely having the best ambiance to lure young as well the senior crowd.

The Outlet is serving the freshly baked Hot & Crispy Waffles with a line of flavours as well add-ons. The dark chocolate waffles out here are a must try for everyone. The Classic Chocolate overloaded original Waffwich as well the blueberry cheesecake waffles are also the specialties of this newly opened outlet.

Contractor arrested for opening fire on protestors

Excelsior Correspondent

RAMBAN, Apr 13: A railway tunnel construction subcontractor has been arrested for allegedly opening fire on the protestors demanding payment of wages.

As per police sources, a railway tunnel construction subcontractor identified as Mohammad Saleem Bhat was arrested by Banihal Police for allegedly opening fire on men and women, who were protesting and demanding payment of wages.

The incident took place in Taatnihalla area of Banihal yesterday evening when members of one Abdul Gani's family were joined by some people, in their protest, demanding the payment of wages, police sources said, adding Mohammad Saleem Bhat opened fire from a licensed pistol at the protestors but nobody was hurt.

A case under FIR Number 55/2021 under Sections 307 IPC

and 3/25 Arms Act has been registered against railway tunnel contractor at Police Station Banihal and investigation started.

However, accused contractor, who is also a BJP leader alleged that the attack was conspiracy hatched by Congress party and he has nothing to do with family which stopped the ongoing works inside railway tunnel.

He said he fired in air only to save his life after some locals attacked his vehicle and smashed glasses and pelted stones on him, officers and workers inside and outside Tunnel Number 74. He said an application has been moved to police regarding attack.

Meanwhile, railway construction company ABCI has also forwarded a written complaint against a local family of Abdul Gani for attacking and pelting stones on officers, workers and contractors and disrupting construction works inside railway tunnel.



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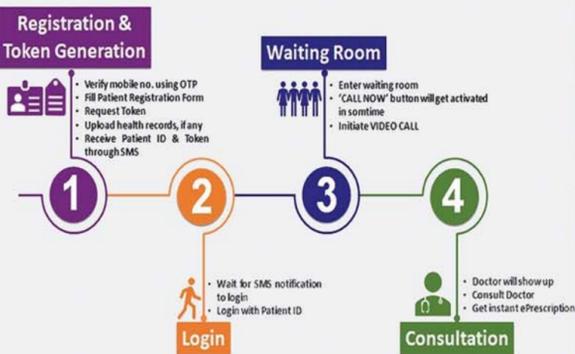
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Issued in Public Interest by: **Health and Medical Education Department, J&K**

Modi Govt gave fair deal without vote bank considerations: Dr Jitendra

Excelsior Correspondent

SERCHHIP (MIZORAM), APRIL 13 : Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr. Jitendra Singh said today that the Modi Govt gave fair deal to every region and State, including Mizoram which is a small State of one million population, without vote bank considerations.

Addressing the Town Hall election meeting in support of BJP candidate in the Assembly by-election here, Dr Jitendra Singh said, the entire region of Northeast, particularly the State of Mizoram, had been neglected by the successive Congress governments at the Centre because it did not fit into their vote bank politics. Even though the State of Mizoram has a population of just 10 Lakh and only one Member of Parliament is sent to the Lok Sabha, it was the instruction of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to make up for the injustice of the past and to put the State on the fast-track development at par with other developed States.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, it is not a small happening that the Indian subcontinent's first-ever specialised Citrus Food Park and Centre of Excellence was set up in the small State of Mizoram with Israeli collaboration. He said, it is the Modi-led BJP government that had preferred Mizoram for such a mega project in the State without votebank considerations though there were other States and constituencies which could have been preferred for this mega establishment.

Prime Minister Modi himself visited Mizoram several times and during one of his visits launched various mega power projects, which made the State power-surplus. Similarly, he said, the first lot of Venture Fund cheques prepared by the Ministry of DoNER was also distributed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his visit to Aizawl.

Enumerating other development projects, Dr Jitendra Singh also referred to Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project and Akyaa Sea Port on Bay of Bengal.

Appealing for vote in support of the BJP candidate Lahriatrenga Chhangte, Dr Jitendra Singh said, the by-elec-



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh addressing a public rally at Serchhip, Mizoram on Tuesday.

tion in Serchhip has been necessitated because the ruling party misused its authority and got the sitting MLA disqualified through manipulation. He said, therefore, a vote in support of BJP will also be a vote in support of restoration of democracy and a befitting rejoinder to misuse of power by the ruling Party.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, even though the government in Mizoram is headed by another

political Party, the Central Government headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has always been in forefront in supporting the State. Only recently, he said, a natural catastrophe of forest fire was immediately addressed by the Union Home Ministry. He regretted that in spite of this, the ruling party members had never spared an opportunity to harass the BJP leaders in the State.

Improved situation to pave way for return of Kashmiri Pandits: Koul

Irfan Tramboo

SRINAGAR, Apr 13: Stating that the security situation in Kashmir has improved manifold, Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP) today said that Kashmiri Pandits have started returning to Kashmir as scores of them were today seen participating in the religious rituals across various temples in Srinagar.

BJP's General Secretary (Organisation), Ashok Koul while talking to media persons said that there are no security concerns related to the return of Kashmiri Pandits in the Valley as the situation has improved and that the people of Kashmir have to come out and own the Kashmiri Pandits.

"I don't think there are any security concerns related to returning of Kashmiri Pandits to the Valley, neither can the Government facilitate their return, it is the people of Kashmir-the Kashmir society-which has to come out and own them," Koul said.

He said that on the eve of Navreh, Sheetal Nath Mandir was re-opened after a long time and the Havan was carried out where several Kashmiri Pandits who are living in Kashmir including those who reached here especially for the day, were

seen participating. "I visited several temples in Srinagar; I saw a large number of Pandits who had migrated from the Valley, participating in the religious rituals including Hawans. While I spoke with many of them, I could sense that the process of their return to Kashmir has begun," he said.

Koul said the reopening of the temples in Kashmir that were locked for years is a good start and that he is hopeful that the golden days will return to Kashmir.

"It will pave a way for the return of Kashmiri Pandits as they have participated in several rituals across several temples in Srinagar. It is a good start and I feel that golden days will return to Kashmir," he said.

About the encroachments of temples in Srinagar, Koul said that there are several temples where encroachment has taken place by some people and Government and they should act against the violators.

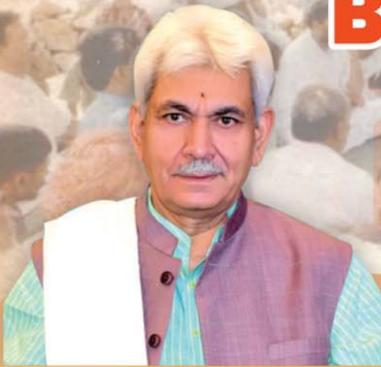
"Several people as well the Government are involved in the encroachment at various temples in Srinagar as well as in Kashmir; the Government must take measures to end that and act against the violators and make sure that the encroachments are removed," he said.

A Unique Initiative by the Government of Jammu & Kashmir

Block Diwas

on every Wednesday

at Locations Specified Below
Speedy disposal of public grievances
on spot at grassroots level.



Shri Manoj Sinha
Lieutenant Governor

All are invited to participate

District wise Locations for Block Diwas

01 Poonch DC Office Complex Tehsil Complex Mandi SDM Office Mendhar SDM Office Surankote	02 Kishtwar District HQ Block HQ Drabshalla TRC Mughal Maidan Block HQ Marwah	03 Doda Bhaderwah Doda (Ghat) Gandoh Thathri Assar	04 Samba Ghagwal Samba Bari Brahmana	05 Rajouri District HQ Nowshera Sunderbani Kalakote Koteranka Near BDO Office Thanamandi
06 Udhampur Ramnagar Dudu Chenani DC Office Complex Majalta	07 Reasi Katra Reasi Arnas Mahore	08 Jammu Akhnoor RS Pura Bhalwal Nagrota	09 Kathua Kathua Hira Nagar Billawar Basholi Bani	10 Ramban Banihal Ukhral Sangaldan Batote District HQ

DC, SSP & District Level Officers to remain available by turn at every Location every Wednesday. All Departmental functionaries to remain available for resolving grievances.



Government of Jammu & Kashmir

DIP/J-344/21 Dt: 13.04.2021