



BNP leaders listening public grievances at party office Jammu on Wednesday.

Sat Sharma, Ashwani listen public grievances

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 22: BJP garnered mass support with its people friendly, nationalist policies, which have benefited all sections of society, stated Sat Sharma, former J&K BJP president and former Minister.

Sat Sharma (CA), accompanied by Ashwani Sharma, former MLA was attending to the public grievances at BJP Headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, here, today. Numerous individuals and deputations from different parts of Jammu & Kashmir visited the party office to represent the issues of their respective areas as well as their individual concerns before the senior party leadership.

Main issues presented in the camp related to the construction of lanes, drains and roads, PM

Relief Fund, water supply, Revenue Department etc.

Listening patiently to the various issues represented by the deputations, Sat Sharma and Ashwani Sharma telephonically talked to the concerned departmental officials and issued letters for the others.

Sat Sharma said that over the years, BJP has garnered mass support with its people friendly and nationalist policies, which have benefited all the sections of society. He said that BJP activists incessantly toil to help people in making their lives easier.

Ashwani Sharma said that the daily grievance camps initiated by the party at its headquarters help people to express their issues comfortably and get them solved at the earliest with the intervention of party leaders.

DC Samba listens public grievances at Mananu

Excelsior Correspondent

SAMBA, Feb 22: Deputy Commissioner Samba, Anuradha Gupta, today held a Public Outreach Camp under "Weekly Block Diwas" at Mananu Panchayat and listened to the issues and development aspirations of public representatives as well as locals.

Among others, BDC Chairman Nud, Sarpanches, Panches, locals raised issues as well as demands for overall development of their area.

The Deputy Commissioner reviewed the implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission, solid waste management, plan formulation under various sectors, saturation in social security schemes, health and aid cards etc.

The DC laid emphasis on ensuring cleanliness and adoption of scientific ways for waste management in the area. She directed the concerned officers to impose penalties on those indulging in littering. She also stressed on

strengthening chowkidars and lambardars for protection of public properties and other assets.

The officers were asked to take requisite action on the public grievances noted in the Block Diwas and laid emphasis upon maintaining close coordination with PRI members for immediate redress of public grievances related to drinking water, power supply and ration supply.

The DC gave a patient hearing to the delegations and passed on the spot directions to the concerned officers for early redressal of their genuine grievances. She assured that the highlighted issues of public importance will be taken up with higher authorities besides all the pendency and public service delivery slackness shall be reviewed thoroughly.

Sh laid emphasis upon effective public services delivery through online mode of revenue services including caste certificates, income certificates, domiciles, fards etc.

Police striving to wipe out drug abuse from Samba district : SSP

Excelsior Correspondent

SAMBA, Feb 22: Senior Superintendent of Police, Samba, Benam Tosh today presided over police public meeting at border village Nandpur which was attended by hundreds of people including Panches, Sarpanches, Lambardars, Ex-Servicemen, noted social activists and other prominent persons of several border villages of Ramgarh sector.

SSP was accompanied by Additional SP, Samba, Surinder Choudhary, SDPO Vijaypur, Priyanka Kumari and SHO Police Station, Ramgarh, Sudesh Kumar.

Those who spoke on the occasion on behalf of the public were Sarpanch Roop Chand, Sarpanch Karnail Singh, Sarpanch, Tirth Singh, Sarpanch, Jagdish Raj Bhatti, Lambardar, Charan Dass and Tahal Singh, Panch, Bachan Choudhary, general secretary, GPC, Jaswant Singh, social activists, Abhimanyu Choudhary, Vijay Choudhary and Som Dutt.

Most of the issues raised by the public were redressed on the spot, whereas directions were issued to the concerned officers to solve all the police-related grievances highlighted by the

people at the police-public meeting.

Speaking on the occasion, SSP Samba, Benam Tosh announced that J&K Police is going to organize free medical camp in the border area of Ramgarh Sector shortly under police Civic Action Programme (CAP).

Moreover, volleyball/cricket tournaments will also be organized by J&K Police under CAP at Ramgarh and cash rewards with trophies will be given away to the winners of the match. Police will also organize seminars and symposiums to create awareness against drug abuse in the area.

Benam Tosh further said that the main objective of organizing police-public meet was to redress the grievances of the people of border villages at their doorsteps and to create awareness against drug abuse and against anti-social/criminal elements. SSP assured the public that the District Police Samba is striving to wipe out narcotics and drugs supply and sale in Samba district and to provide safe and secure environment to the law abiding people.

He appealed the participants to cooperate with police and share valuable information about drug peddling/other social crime in the area.

Job fair organized at Commerce College

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 22: IQAC and Manodarpan Career Counseling Cell of Govt SPMR College of Commerce under the aegis of BSE (Bombay Stock Exchange) Institute Limited and Mission Youth J&K organized a Mega Job Fair in Banking Financial Services and Insurance (BFSI) Sector for unemployed youth and young women of J&K.

The event was inaugurated in the presence of Gourav Gupta, OSD Mission Youth, Dr Surinder Kumar, Principal of the College, Prof D S Manhas, Dean Placement Cell, Cluster University of Jammu, Rahul Ranadive, Chief Business

Officer for BSE Institute Ltd, Dushyant Singh, Career Counseling Officer, DE&CC Jammu, Sandeep Yadav, Head Skills, BSE Institute Ltd, Irfan Khan, State Head, BSE Institute Ltd, Prof Barbara Kaul, HOD Commerce, Dr Monika Malhotra, IQAC Coordinator and Prof Ashu Manhas, Coordinator Manodarpan Career Counseling Cell.

Gourav Gupta, OSD Mission Youth, in the valedictory function, congratulated the selected candidates. Prof Reeta Menia, Prof Deepshikha Sharma, Dr Jagmeet Kour, Prof Shreya Sharma, Prof Rajni Bala, Dr Deepak Pathania, Prof Apfan Ali and Malik Aijaz were also present in the event.

Secretary Health reviews Universal Screening, Management of NCDs

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 22: Secretary Health & Medical Education, Bhopinder Kumar, today chaired a meeting to review Universal Screening, Management and Continuum of Care of Non Communicable Diseases (NCDs) and Common Cancers at Civil Secretariat.

Dr. Mohammad Shafi Koka, State Nodal Officer, NHM, J&K, gave a detailed presentation highlighting status of NCD screening, management and continuum of care. The key highlights of the presentation were that UT of J&K has enrolled 45.36 Lakh individuals aged 30 years or more into the NCD portal. Of these, more than 41.48 Lakh individuals have been assessed for risk factors for NCDs.

Besides, a total of 30.42 lakh individuals among these have been screened and 4.9 Lakh examined. Till now, 1.75 Lakh have been put under treatment for NCDs, which will be followed up to ensure that they have a controlled disease status. This was followed by district wise status of NCD screening and continuum of care. Key challenges in universal screening, diagnosis and follow up for hypertension, diabetes and

common cancers was also discussed.

Secretary emphasized the need for Universal Screening Management and Continuum of Care of Non Communicable Diseases and Common Cancers especially among 30 Plus population, which is highly vulnerable to it. He stressed upon the team based care approach by way of establishing linkages between specialists, Medical Officers and front line workers for improving quality of screening, identification of persons with NCDs and putting them under control.

Secretary instructed the officers for increased screening management and treatment enabling continuous care for those identified for hypertension, diabetes and other NCDs. Further, the concerned officers were directed to devise mechanisms for enrolment and follow-up of NCD patients undergoing treatment in the private Hospitals.

He asked the Directors, Health Services Jammu and Kashmir and Chief Medical Officers to regularly review status of screening treatment and availability of Drugs & Diagnostics in all Health facilities on weekly basis.



Harsh Dev Singh with JKNPP leaders during formally re-joining the party on Wednesday.

Harsh Dev formally re-joins JKNPP; all committees to be re-constituted

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 22: Former Minister Harsh Dev Singh, who had recently quit Aam Aadmi Party, today formally re-joined Jammu Kashmir National Panthers Party and claimed that JKNPP alone could deal with ubiquitous challenges being faced by people of the erstwhile State.

For the re-joining of Harsh Dev, JKNPP organized an impressive function adjacent to its erstwhile office at Gandhi Nagar Jammu, which was sealed by the Government on February 20. The enthusiastic NPP activists, led by its President Vilakshan Singh Advocate and Jaya Mala- Founder member and wife of Prof Bhim Singh, gave a rousing reception to Harsh Dev Singh amid drum beats and shouting of slogans. Gagan Pratap Singh, Parshotam Parihar and Sham Choudhary who had resigned from AAP, also joined Panthers Party on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, Harsh Dev Singh said that he was advised by friends, relatives, will wishers and civil society members to revive Panthers Party which was the only recognized regional party of Jammu region. He said that people of the erstwhile State were faced with multiple problems with none of the national parties coming forward to bail them out in times of crisis. The JKNPP alone could deal with such ubiquitous challenges and therefore the revival of the Panthers Party had become

imperative, he added.

Spelling out the priorities of NPP, Mr Singh said that restoration of Statehood and early installation of democratic Govt in J&K were the need of the hour. He said that bureaucratic rule was no answer to the prevalent crisis. "The LG administration has lost connect with the masses. The unemployed, semi-employed and contractual are on the roads with none to even take note of their sufferings and grievances. The NPP would as such address the concerns of various aspirational groups of the UT," he said.

Vilakshan Singh said that re-entry of Harsh Dev had re-ignited the party and boosted the morale of the rank and file of the party. Jaya Mala announced that all NPP committees will be re-constituted and the process needed to be completed before 23rd March which is celebrated as the foundation day of the Party.

Several senior leaders of JKNPP, including Founder Member Sukhdev Singh, Working Committee members, Presidents of Districts besides DDC Dudu Basantgarh Ashri Devi; BDC Chairman Majalta Capt(Rtd) Dina Nath Bhagat; BDC Chairman Ramnagar Des Raj; BDC Chairperson Parly Dhar, Neelam Devi; BDC Chairperson Kulwanta Sushma Devi; BDC Chairman Latti Darshan Kumar, BDC Ex-Chairman Khoon Parkash Chand besides several Sarpanchs/Panches were present on the occasion.

Seminar on 'Ayush for Public Health and Wellness' held

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 22: Govt. Ayurvedic Hospital organized one day seminar 'Ayush for Public Health and Wellness- Opportunities and Challenges' to promote and propagate strengths of Ayush for mainstreaming Ayush medicine, here today.

The seminar was organized under the aegis of Directorate of Ayush J&K, wherein Ayush students, teachers, Ayush Medical Officers, Ayush practitioners across Jammu and Kashmir presented their research and clinical studies as well as posters on various topics.

The program was presided over by Dr Mohan Singh, Director Ayush J&K, while Chand Kishore Sharma Additional Secretary Health and Medical Education was guest of honor.

Principal JIAR Dr. Sharda Srinivas and Dr. Sanjay Singh Additional Director Regional Ayurveda Research Institute, Jammu also graced the occasion as special guests.

The program began with the lamp lighting and Dhanvantari Stotram, followed by a welcome address by Dr. Vandana Dogra, Medical Superintendent Govt. Ayurvedic Hospital, while the keynote address was given by Dr. Aruna Bhat, Deputy Medical Superintendent.

More than 200 people registered online and offline for the participation, while more than 30 Ayush practitioners presented their clinical presentations from various districts and Ayush Institutions.

Dr. Sharda Srinivas welcomed the step of Directorate of Ayush for organizing this event where all the specialties of Ayush systems can deliberate upon making Jammu & Kashmir and India a healthier place.

Dr. Mohan Singh highlighted the need for organizing such seminars where all the stakeholders of Ayush can come together to make a strategy for holistic and integrative health which is the focus area of the Ministry of Ayush and Govt. of India.

Three best papers and posters were judged in each category. Dr. Moinia and Dr. Fatima's poster was awarded third prize, Dr. Sangeeta Mahajan got second prize and Dr. Pallavi Gupta won first prize in poster category, while in research paper presentation, best paper award was won by Dr. Shrey Shah, faculty from JIAR, 2nd prize by Dr. Bipan Chand and 3rd best paper prize by Dr. Amardeep Kaur.

All the winners were felicitated by Director Ayush J&K and the program culminated with the national anthem.

Chairperson DDC Ramban visits sinking area at Duksar

Excelsior Correspondent

RAMBAN, Feb 22: District Development Council Ramban, Dr. Shamshad Shan today visited landslide hit village Duksar Dalwah to assess the damages caused to residential houses. She also interacted with the affected families.

The Chairperson was accompanied by Sub-Divisional Magistrate Gool, Tanveer-ul-Majid and other concerned officers and local representatives.

Interacting with the families whose houses were damaged due to sinking of land, the Chairperson appealed to the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha to sanction a colony for the rehabilitation of affected families as soon as possible.

The Chairperson informed that 16 affected families have been shifted to safer places and provided tents, blankets and utensils. She said that the District Red Cross Society shall credit an amount of Rs 10,000 into the

bank account of each affected family. She assured that free six month ration and other essential commodities shall be provided to the affected families with the coordination of district administration.

She said that Deputy Commissioner Ramban visited the area and ordered the concerned departments to complete restoration work, besides providing immediate relief to the affected families. The SDM Tanveer-ul-Majid is personally monitoring the situation, she added.

Dr. Shan said that a team of the Geological Survey of India has visited the spot to ascertain the reasons behind the sinking of land. She also asked the District Administration to maintain Dharam-Salbala road to use it as a temporary alternate route for regulating essential services and supplies to Sub-Divisional headquarter, Gool. She also asked the PDD department for restoration of power supply to affected areas of Sub-Division Gool.

Police organises seminar on drug abuse in Rajouri

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 22: In order to address the menace of drugs and to sensitize the masses about the prevalence and means of prevention of drug abuse, RPHQ Rajouri organized a seminar on the topic "Drug awareness-counter measures to tackle menace" at District Police Lines, Rajouri.

The programme was attended by 125 participants including police officers, students, traders, religious leaders and prominent members of the civil society. During this seminar, guest lectures were delivered by Pallavi Singh, Chairperson JKSPYM, Jammu, Dr Sumit Bakshi, MO Rajouri, Dr Mehmood Bajar

able at District and Block levels and the public must take full advantage of these units. He also highlighted the requisite medicines required for rehabilitation of drug abusers are sufficiently available at Psychiatry department GMC Rajouri.

Advocate Shivangi Kant talked about the legal aspects of drug abuse. Dr. Imran, Psychiatrist GMC Rajouri touched the practical aspects of rehabilitation and focused on adopting a humane approach towards the addicts.

In his closing address, DIG R-P Range Rajouri Dr. Mohd. Haseeb Mughal, thanked all the speakers and requested civil society to come forward and contribute towards



Police officers and others during seminar on drug abuse in Rajouri.

MS GMC Rajouri, Dr Sukrita Sharma of GMC Rajouri, Dr Imran Khan of GMC Rajouri and Adv. Shivangi Kant, Law Officer, Juvenile Justice Board Rajouri.

The speakers presented immersive and thought provoking lectures-presentations on the menace of drug abuse.

Pallavi Singh laid emphasis on negating the impact of peer pressure which is the most common reason for youth indulging in drugs. She also highlighted the importance of parental supervision. Dr. Mehmood Bajar highlighted that drug awareness and rehabilitation centres are avail-

able at District and Block levels and the public must take full advantage of these units. He also highlighted the requisite medicines required for rehabilitation of drug abusers are sufficiently available at Psychiatry department GMC Rajouri.

Few documentaries were shown to the audience about the drug addiction and way forward.

SSP Rajouri Mohd. Aslam, JKPS, ASP Hqrs Rajouri Vivek Shekhar, JKPS and other officers of the District Police Rajouri also participated in the seminar.

Participants particularly the students were given Participation Certificates.



Aspirants of Fire & Emergency Services during a protest in Srinagar on Wednesday.

F&ES dropout aspirants stage protest, seek probe

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Feb 22: The dropped-out aspirants of Fire & Emergency Services today staged a protest, seeking the report of the committee, which was constituted to look into the alleged bungling in the recruitment which was carried out 2 years ago, to be made public.

Several aggrieved aspirants appeared in the Press Enclave and were seen raising slogans in favour of their demands while urging the authorities to ensure that discrepancies are identified and justice is done the aspirants.

"We appeared in an exam in 2013, then there were reports of corruption and the list was quashed; in 2018, we in the exam and again, the list was quashed because there was corruption; but the exam which we gave in 2020, despite knowing that there were discrepancies, the list was not quashed; because those who were involved in the corrupt practices, were the people from the system,"

said Khurshed Ahmad, one of the aspirants.

The aspirants said that they protested for two years and after remaining continuously on the roads for several months, the LG took note of the matter and a committee was formed to brobe the allegations.

"The authorities are playing with our lives; reaching here to protest is not an easy task for us as we have to spend money to reach here. We have families to take care of, but nobody is listening to us," the aspirants said.

They said that in December 2022, under the directives of LG, the committee was formed which was tasked to submit its report within one month. "But, so far, more than 2 months have passed and the report has not been submitted."

The aspirants appealed to the authorities, especially LG Manoj Sinha to look into the matter and ensure that the committee submits its report without any further delay.

Hold CBI probe in Wazir murder case: BKNSS

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 22: Bhai Kanhaiya Nishkam Seva Society (BKNSS) has demanded a CBI probe in the murder of prominent Sikh leader and former National Conference MLC, T S Wazir.

Dheeraj Singh, general secretary and Mohinder Singh, chief organizer of the Society while talking to media-persons here claimed that Chairman Sikh United Front, Sudershan Singh Wazir, former DGP secretary Harjinder Singh Raina and Jaggal Singh Member DGP Jammu have been falsely implicated in this case. They demanded narco and brain mapping tests of all the accused persons in the case.

They alleged that conspirators seems to be misleading the investigating agency. They strongly demanded a CBI probe into the murder case of TS Wazir so that truth could come out.

J&K witnessing unprecedented development: Kavinder

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 22: Senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader and former Dy Chief Minister, Kavinder Gupta today asserted that J&K has been witnessing unprecedented development in every sector since PM Narendra Modi took over the reins at Centre.

He said that earlier people of Jammu region were subjected to discrimination due to which Jammu remained neglected in terms of development. He said that people are now witnessing equitable development that stands proved by the development works in every nook and corner of the Union Territory.

The former Deputy Chief Minister expressed this while addressing a gathering during the special grievances redressal camp held at Ward No 52 Nagar, Trikuta Nagar Jammu. The camp was organized by Ajay Gupta, Councillor Ward No 52, Jammu, in which officials of Department of Food, Consumer Affairs and Civil Supplies and Social Welfare Department and local BJP leaders participated.

The people of the Ward apprised the senior BJP leader about non-availability of ration cards and pension besides, vari-

ous issues related to power transformers, electric poles, street lights, repair of lanes/ roads, job, etc.

Kavinder resolved most of the issues instantaneously by talking to the authorities concerned on phone. He assured to take up the rest of their issues with the concerned authorities and get the same resolved at the earliest.

Expressing concern over the issue of pension and non-availability of ration, Kavinder said that Government has changed the criteria with an aim to provide benefit to the deserving persons without any loophole. He asked people to have faith on Government and very soon all the system will be streamlined so that deserving people may not feel inconvenience in near future while getting the benefit of Government schemes.

Kavinder informed that the Government has launched Sakhi scheme with an aim to help women who are battling with any form of violence. At the Centre, the Government will provide medical help, psychological help, police help or any other legal help free of cost to women who are facing or have faced any form of violence, he added.



An officer of CRPF felicitating a boy during a function in Jammu on Wednesday.

Organised by CRPF, 23rd Rashtra Katha Shivir Yatra culminates

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 22: The 23rd Rashtra Katha Shivir Yatra organized by 76 Bn CRPF culminated today.

The Yatra was organized and conducted successfully under Civic Action programme of CRPF under supervision of P S Ranpise, IGP, Jammu Sector and Rakesh Sethi, DIGP Range, Jammu.

Ashok Samyal, DIGP (Ops) Jammu Sector was chief guest.

The 38, 72, 76 and 160 battalions of CRPF Jammu Sector have sent 100 children from their areas of responsibility in Jammu for this Yatra.

Shri Vedic Mission Trust organized the 23rd Rashtra Katha Camp at Rajkot Gujarat from February 11 to 19, 2023 in which 25 students each from Government Higher Secondary School Ismailpur Samba, Government Higher Secondary School Sunderbani, Government Higher Secondary School of Bhour Camp and Higher Secondary School Channi Himmat participated.

The programme started with the presentation of sapling to

chief guest and welcome speech by T.H Khan, Commandant 76 Bn.

After this, chief guest, Ashok Samyal, DIGP addressed the children and briefed them regarding the importance of the Camp for awakening national spirit.

During the camp Indian Army, Indian Navy, Indian Coast Guards, BSF, CRPF, NDRF, SSB and ITBP presented their weapons and equipments through exhibition, march-past and educated the students about various types of innovations and modern equipments and arms for national security.

Kamal Sisodiya, 2-I/C, 76 Bn presented the vote of thanks and conducted the programme.

The programme culminated when the chief guest declared the 23rd Rashtra Katha Camp formally closed. CRPF officers Dhirendra Varma, Commandant 38 Bn; Hariom Khare, Commandant 160 Bn; S.R Meena, Commandant 72 Bn; Mahendra Singh, Second-In-Command; Praveen Kumar and Rayees Ahmed, Assistant Commandant 76 Bn contributed to make the event successful.

TAVR performed at SSH Jammu in high risk, co-morbid patient

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 22 : With the aim of continuing the mission of providing affordable healthcare to all Dr Sushil Sharma and Dr Arvind Kohli along with Dr Prashant Dwivedi completed another milestone of performing one of the complex procedures for implantation of aortic valve called transaortic valve replacement (TAVR) at Super Speciality

Once the new valve is expanded, it pushes the old valve leaflets out of the way and the tissue in the replacement valve takes over the job of regulating blood flow, he added.

This procedure is available for people with symptomatic severe aortic stenosis at low, intermediate or high risk for standard valve replacement surgery.

Patient namely Ramesh Chander Sharma, resident of



TAVR being performed on a patient at SSH Jammu on Wednesday.

Hospital Jammu in a high risk and comorbid patient. This procedure is performed in only some of the best cardiac centres in India.

During this minimally invasive procedure a new valve is inserted without removing the old, damaged valve. The new valve is placed inside the diseased valve. The surgery may be called a transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR) or transcatheter aortic valve implantation (TAVI). Somewhat similar to placing a stent in an artery, the TAVR approach delivers a fully collapsible replacement valve to the valve site through a catheter. Dr Sushil Sharma said.

Domana Jammu was suffering from severe Aortic Valve Stenosis. He had already undergone CABG operation and due to the associated comorbid conditions of patient, he was in dire need of this High end procedure for saving his life and he couldn't travel to another institute for getting this procedure done but once again Dr Sushil Sharma, Dr Arvind Kohli and Dr Prashant Dwivedi along with the team of resident doctors, CTVA team cardiac cath lab technicians and paramedical staff achieved this feat possible and provided a sigh of relief to the patient by performing TAVR and now he is doing well and will be discharged in a day or two.