

Social organizations, Mohalla Committees celebrate Republic Day with gaiety, fervour

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Jan 27: Various social organizations and Mohalla Committees celebrated 74th Republic Day with much fanfare and enthusiasm across J&K yesterday.

Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCI): The 74th Republic Day was celebrated by CCI with great fervor and gaiety yesterday. The Chamber organized an impressive function at Chamber House which started with hoisting of national flag and singing of national Anthem amid salutations to the Tri Colour and the martyrs who laid down their lives while protecting the territorial integrity of the nation.

In his address, Arun Gupta threw light on the martyrdom of freedom fighter who laid down their lives for the cause of the nation and its people as a result we being the citizens of largest democracy of the world are enjoying full freedom and self esteem having earned honour and dignity at the global level.

Dharmarth Trust: The Republic Day was celebrated by Jammu and Kashmir Dharmarth Trust with full patriotic fervour at its Central Office Shalamar road here yesterday. The programme commenced with the unfurling of the National Flag by Ajay Gandotra, president of the Trust along with Trust secretary, Ashok Kumar Sharma in presence of the employees. This was followed by singing of National Anthem. In his address, Ajay Gandotra on this day we have to reiterate our commitment to uphold the nationalistic values for which the freedom fighters sacrificed their lives. He said that preserving rich culture and traditions is the significant part of nationalism.

Bari Brahmana Industrial Association (BBIA): An impressive function was held in connection with celebration of Republic Day by BBIA in its office in presence of its president Lalit Mahajan. All the members of the Association and civil society participated in the function. On the occasion Lalit Mahajan hoisted the National Flag.

Dogri Sanstha Jammu: Republic Day was celebrated by Dogri Sanstha Jammu at a simple but impressive function at Dogri Bhawan, Dogra Sanstha Jammu. On the occasion a poetic symposium was also organized in which prominent Dogri poets presented their poetry. Prof Lalit Magotra president Dogri Sanstha Jammu presided over the function while Prof Veena Gupta vice president of the Sanstha was the guest of honour and Reshwar Singh Raju general secretary of the Sanstha conducted the proceedings.

Lalit Magotra who hoisted the National Flag on the occasion extended greetings of Republic Day to people. He said the day coincides with the Foundation Day of Sanstha also.

Ward 52 JMC: Ajay Gupta former Chairman Social Justice Committee Jammu Municipal Council (JMC) along with Ward members celebrated the Republic Day with great festivity and unfurled the National Flag at Ward 52 Trikuta Nagar.

PHE Employees & Workers Association: The Association celebrated the Republic Day at PHE Station Barriyan, Udhampur in which large number of employees and workers participated. The function was chaired by Som Nath, Senior Trade Union leader and district president Jal Shakti Employees & Workers Association. R K Mahajan Superintending Engineer Hydraulic Udhampur was the chief guest who hoisted the National Flag on the occasion.

Welfare Committee Ward 8 Rehari: On the occasion of Republic Day yesterday a flag hoisting ceremony was organized by the Welfare Committee Ward No 8, Rehari Dogra Hall headed by N D Rajwal and Parshotam Thappa as its chairman and president respectively. The National Flag was unfurled by president of the Ward Parshotam Thappa. This was followed by National Anthem.

Mahasha Sadar Sabha : The National Flag on the occasion of Republic Day was unfurled by Kali Dass Panotra, president of the Sabha yesterday. The flag unfurling was followed by National Anthem. All the members of the Sabha and Guru Naba Dass Ji Trust participated in the programme.

Bharatiya Lok Sangeet Kala Sansthan (BLSKS): In connection with celebration of Republic Day, BLSKS organised a cultural programme with enthusiasm in collaboration with Sangam True Art Production at Durga Bhawan Janipur. The function was inaugurated by Yash Pal Sharma corporator, Ward 35 as chief guest who unfurled the National Flag on the occasion.

State Bank of India (SBI): The Republic Day was celebrated by SBI with great enthusiasm and Vinod Jaiswal, Chief General Manager, SBI Chandigarh Circle unfurled the National Flag in presence of senior officers, staff and their families at local Head Office, Chandigarh.

Balgran: The Republic Day was celebrated in Balgran, a Charitable Home for Destitute Children Channi Rama, Jammu yesterday. B R Sharma, ex Chief Secretary J&K was the chief guest on the occasion and he hoisted the National Flag. The function was attended by distinguished guests, donors, members, ex inmates of Balgran and children Bal Bharti Public School.

Aadarsh Bharatiya Samaj (ABS): The 74th Republic Day was celebrated by ABS with enthusiasm and gaiety yesterday. Sub Major (retd) Kewal Krishan hoisted the National Flag on the behalf of the Samaj. While addressing function he expressed the gratitude towards brave soldiers who fought and sacrificed their lives for national unity.

Welfare Society Guru Nanak Nagar (WSGNN): The Society celebrated the Republic Day with great pomp and show yesterday by unfurling National Flag and singing the National Anthem. On the occasion sweets were also distributed among the public. President of the Society Balwinder Singh Rinku, A S Khera, Chairman and other members of the Society were present on the occasion.

All J&K Kissan Union (AJKKU): Chairman of AJKKU and former MLA, Ashok Sharma hoisted the National Flag on Republic Day yesterday. He also congratulated the people on the occasion and prayed for peace and prosperity of this part of the country.

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Marg: The 74th Republic Day was celebrated by the Arya Samaj at City Chowk Jammu in which its general secretary, Balwan Singh unfurled the National Flag after performance of the Hawan Yagya by Prohit, Mukesh Shastri.

All State Kashmiri Pandit Conference (ASKPC): On the occasion of Republic Day a grand function was held at ASKPC Bhawan, Durga Nagar yesterday. The National Flag on the occasion was hoisted by the president of ASKPC, R K Wangnoo who highlighted the significance of the Day. All the members of the organization attended the function.

Durga Nag Trust (DNT), Barnai: The Republic Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm at DNT Barnai in which senior Trustee Prof. B L Zutshi hoisted the National Flag.

The function was attended by other Trustees including Kuldeep Raina, M L Koul Gulabi, Manager, M L Bhat and Vijay Kumari.

Jasrotia Welfare Society (JWS): On the occasion of Republic Day yesterday a flag hoisting ceremony was held near Suryavanshi Park, opposite Police Station Janipur, near here under the presidentship of B S Jasrotia in which the residents of Buta Nagar and Paloura participated. On the occasion National Flag was hoisted by the Society members.

Sulabh International (SI): The Republic Day was celebrated by Sulabh International Social Service Organization J&K at its Headquarter Trikuta Nagar, here, yesterday. On the occasion, the National Flag was hoisted by Sahil Kumar who has been conferred the best social worker Award for his valuable contribution to the organization.

Dogra Sadar Sabha (DSS) Bishnah: The Republic Day was celebrated by Bishnah Unit of the Sabha at its office yesterday in which former Minister and president, DSS, Gulchian Singh Charak unfurled the National Flag which was followed by reciting of National Anthem. The gathering pledged to protect the national integrity and sovereignty.

Welfare Committee Durga Nagar: The Republic Day was celebrated by Durga Nagar Welfare Committees in Sector 1 and 2. In Sector One, Roshan Lal Raina president of the Committee, hoisted the National Flag while in Sector 2 Sanjay Ganjoo, president of Sector 2 unfurled the Tricolour in presence of the prominent people of the area.

Jammu Municipal Front (JMF) and Muslim Development Forum (MDF) celebrated the Republic Day at Talab Khatikan, Jama Masjid Jammu by holding an impressive function. The National Flag was unfurled by Syed Shabir Ahmed Shah president MDF in presence of senior vice president BJP, Yudhvir Sethi and Gopal Gupta corporator Ward 5.

Swaran Vihar Welfare Committee (SVWC): On the occasion of Republic Day a grand function was organised at Swaran Vihar near, here by SVWC in which president of the Committee, S N Raina hoisted the National Flag in presence of prominent people of the area. This was followed by recitation of National Anthem.

Tawi Welfare Society (TWS): The Republic Day was celebrated at Anpanv Sure Chak by TWS with great enthusiasm. Lata Rajput Panch of the village was the chief guest on the occasion who hoisted the National Flag which was followed by singing of National Anthem.

All J&K Scheduled Castes Welfare Association (AJKSCWA), Jammu: The Association celebrated the Republic Day at its head office, Janipur here with full enthusiasm. Jagdish Bhagat president of the Association unfurled the National Flag on the occasion in presence of office bearers and members of the Association. The flag hoisting was followed by reciting of National Anthem.

The speakers highlighted the significance of Republic Day on the occasion and gathering took a solemn pledge to protect the unity of the country and defeat the designs of the forces inimical to peace in the UT.

Sadguru Kabir Sabha (SKS): The National Flag on the occasion of Republic Day was unfurled by SKS at Bishnah town and at village Kotli Charkan. The prominent people including Sarpanches and Panches attended the function. The youth took out a motorcycle procession up to the venue of the function. Surinder Singh, ex Sarpanch and Shamsher Singh, Naib Sarpanch were also present in the function.

Traders Association Ward 35: A grand function was organized

by Traders Association Ward No 35, Janipur in connection with celebration of Republic Day yesterday. Councilor of the Ward, Yash Pal Sharma hoisted the National Flag which was followed by reciting of National Anthem. The vice president of the Janipur Traders Association, Arun Bamzai, chairman of the Association, Charanjeet Singh and others were present on the occasion.

Retirees Police League (RTL) district Jammu: A function was organized by the League at its Office, Gandhi Nagar yesterday in which besides hoisting of the National Flag National Anthem was also recited by the members.

Bike Rally: On the occasion of Republic Day yesterday under the leadership of Social activist, Kunwar Tej Partap Singh a flag hoisting ceremony and a car-bike rally was taken out from Main Stop, Janipur in which large number of youth participated. On the occasion Surinder Sharma corporator and Kunwar Tej Partap Singh threw light on ill effects of drugs and narcotics.

All Jammu Kashmir Panchayat Conference (AJKPC): Gurdip Singh Saini State general secretary, AJKPC and Sarpanch Gandli Panchayat of R S Pura block hoisted National Flag in village Gandli and at the Martyr's Memorial in the Panchayat Bhawan yesterday.

Corporator Ward 20: National Flag on the occasion of Republic Day was hoisted by corporator Ward 20, Gandhi Nagar, Rahul Kumar in the Ward yesterday in presence of BJP Mandal general secretary, Rachit Khosla and Ward president Satbir Singh. This was followed by reciting of national Anthem.

Rashtriya Hindu Vahini (RHV): The 74th Republic Day as celebrated with full enthusiasm and patriotic fervor by RHV at Ambhalla yesterday. The programme commenced with the unfurling of the National Flag in presence of RHV president, Rajinder Hindu, Gaushala president, Rajkumar Gupta and general secretary and president Disciplinary Committee, Sapna Hindu and others. They all congratulated the people on the occasion of Republic Day.

All India Migrant Camp Coordination Committee (AIMCCC): Republic Day was celebrated by AIMCCC at Jagti township yesterday in which chairman of the organization, B K Raina, BJP leader and former MLA, Balwant Singh Mankotia, Justice (retd) Sumil Hali, P K Raina and other members of the organisation hoisted the National Flag. A large number of camp inmates attended the function. The flag hoisting was followed by reciting of National Anthem. The leaders spoke on the significance of the day on the occasion.

Central Mahajan Sabha (CMS): The 74th Republic Day was celebrated by Central Mahajan Sabha under the chairmanship of its president, Ramesh Chander Gupta at Mahajan Bhawan Shalamar road with great enthusiasm and national spirit. On the occasion flag hoisting ceremony was held and Gupta highlighted the significance of the Republic Day. Sanjay Mahajan conducted the proceedings of the programme.

Vasudhaiva Kutumbkam Welfare Society (VKES): The flag hoisting ceremony was organised by VKES on the occasion of 74th Republic Day yesterday in which its president, Rashmi Sharma who was the chief guest unfurled the National Flag. The other office bearers of the organization participated in the programme. The School children took part in march past, presented skit and various other dance and cultural items.

Christian Sabha delegation calls on DC Jammu

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Jan 27: A delegation of All J&K Christian Sabha met Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Avny Lavasa here on Friday, a press statement said.

It said the Sabha President, Ashu Peter Matoo, discussed with the DC Jammu issues related to the shortage of land for a Christian graveyard in Jammu.

He further told the DC Jammu that the JKSEBCC Commission has been delaying the grant of OBC criteria to the Christian community by attaching them with a particular SC caste, which according to him,

is an injustice towards the community. He also asked the DC Jammu to rehabilitate the underprivileged minority community members under the PMAY and to regularise the existing Christian colonies of the urban area.

As per the press statement, DC Jammu, Avny Lavasa gave a patient hearing to the Christian Sabha members and assured them to resolve their issues on a priority basis.

Others who were part of the delegation were Sunny Khokhar, General Secretary; Kashmiri Masih, Raju Kumar and Ketan Mooman.

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JAMMU, Jan 27: The second set of staff quarters at Kashmir University's Mirza Bagh campus have not been constructed for the past 30 years since the contractor abandoned the project in the middle of it.

Beginning in the early 1990s, the construction of a dozen staff quarters at the Mirza Bagh was started with the goal of accommodating extra staff members in addition to the 100 sets that are already in place.

"The initial phase of the construction went without a hitch, but there were several delays as it almost reached the first story. However, when the brickwork for the first story was finished, construction work ceased and has never resumed," a Faculty member said.

An official from Kashmir University said that 120 teaching and non-teaching staff members had been waiting for accommodation for the past ten years, underscoring the significance of these flats. He added that the Varsity has advertised approxi-

mately 180 openings, including those for assistant professors, associate professors, and professors, and these positions will be filled over the course of the next year. "They would also need accommodation, which the institution does not offer, so they would also have to rely on private housing," he said.

The inmates of the quarters complained that every time a visitor approaches the campus, he is met by the awful scene of these decaying buildings. "The structures have become an eyesore as a result of the plants and grass that have grown over it," a faculty member said.

He expressed concern over their safety due to antisocial individuals, such as drug addicts, frequenting the vacant buildings. "This is not just a problem of safety for our family, but it also raises the prospect of our children being exposed to bad company," the Faculty member said.

Nissar Ahmad, the Registrar of Kashmir University, told the Excelsior that the structures had been abandoned by the contractor in the early 1990s and had remained that way ever since. "We have repeatedly requested the contractor to resume the work on the flats, but he has moved to court over some issues, and the matter is currently in court," he said.

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3 decades on, under-construction staff quarters left to rot at KU

Suhail Bhat

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JMC organises Awareness cum Capacity Building program for city dairy farmers

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Jan 27: Jammu Municipal Corporation today organized Awareness cum Capacity Building program for dairy farmers operating within Jammu Municipal Corporation limits.

The event was held in MVO Office, Bhagwati Nagar, regarding environmental management

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