

Republic Day celebrated across Kashmir amid patriotic fervour

J&K poised to become latest success story among Indian states: Advisor Bhatnagar

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Jan 27: Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, unfurled the National Flag to mark 74th Republic Day celebration at Sher-e-Kashmir (SK) Stadium here. He inspected the parade and took salute from the contingents of JKP, BSF, CRPF, JKAP, SSB,

the occasion. Mayor SMC, Junaid Azim Mattu; Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, P.K Pole; ADGP Kashmir, Vijay Kumar; Administrative Secretaries, DC Srinagar, senior officers of police and civil administration, heads of various departments, Government officials and large number of people and school children were present on the occasion.

institutions also participated in the march-past parade. Deputy Commissioner Budgam, S F Hamid, SSP Budgam Al-Tahir Gilani, DDC/BDC members, ADDC Budgam Dr. Akramullah Tak, ADC Budgam Dr. Nasir Ahmad Lone, ASP, Gowhar Ahmad were present on the occasion. Speaking on the occasion, Chairman DDC in his address appreciated the sincere efforts of each citizen for their selfless contribution and highlighted the development works carried out during the year 2022-23.



DDC Chairman Baramulla taking salute at R-Day parade.

progress and prosperity of the general public. He said that the Budget 2022-2023 has a history of various development works to improve the quality of life of people adding that while preparing the planning of different developmental works at ground level Gram Sabhas, village committee meetings DDC and BDC members were involved for ensuring equal development in all sectors. He highlighted the achievements made by the district under various priority areas including education, healthcare, languishing, back to village, district capex, agriculture and allied sectors, women and youth empowerment, MGNREGA, JIM, water and electricity supply to Anganwadi Centers and schools, rural development, macadamization and road connectivity, social welfare, Nasha Mukht Bharat, industries, self employment and creation of durable and sustainable assets and sports infrastructure.

measures taken by the UT Govt and District Administration for the overall development of the district. In her address, the DDC Chairperson while appreciating District Administration said that district has recorded appreciable achievements on the developmental front under the leadership of District Development Commissioner Shopian.

Regarding the development of the district, she said that the Government is working hard to provide the public better road infrastructure, healthcare facilities, quality education, electricity and water supply besides ensuring social security to aged, physically challenged and widows. She mentioned specific self-employment avenues being provided to the unemployed youth in the district so that the youth can avoid drugs and Come on the right path to make their future better and excel in various fields.

Multicultural programmes by school children and others were also presented which enthralled the audience. On the occasion, the District Administration presented mementos and certificates of commendation to District Officers, others including top and exemplary performances among cultural programmes and March past.

KULGAM: Chairperson, District Development Council (DDC) Kulgam, Mohammad Afzal Parrey unfurled the National Flag and took salute at the march past presented by the contingents of CRPF, JKP, JKP ladies police group, Home guard, fresh recruits, NCC cadets, students etc.

Deputy Commissioner Kulgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat, SSP, Sahil Sarangal, President Municipal Council, DDC members, BDC members, MC Councillors besides officers



Advisor Bhatnagar unfurling National Flag at SK Stadium, Srinagar on Republic Day.

ITBP, IRP, Women Contingent, Forest Protection Force and NCC. Advisor, in his address, remarked that formation of the Republic on 26th January 1950 was the first milestone in our march towards realizing the dreams of our people in the aftermath of Independence. He said, "the Constitution gave expression to the goals, ideals and values that guided our freedom struggle and laid the foundations for the structure of governance and committed to secure for all citizens; justice, liberty and equality as well as dignity".

Highlighting about the ongoing development process occurring across Jammu and Kashmir, Advisor said that from past three years, J&K is witnessing a new dawn, a dawn which promises hope, a dawn which reflects prosperity, progress and development. He added that UT is poised to become the latest success story among Indian states. He added that the Government is committed to build a strong Jammu and Kashmir and continuing its march ahead with Mantra of 4 P's - Peace, Progress, Prosperity and People first.

He asserted that the present Government is determined to ensure that every single citizen of UT enjoys prosperous and peaceful life. He highlighted some of the remarkable achievements of present administration in the health sector and said that Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir has registered tremendous decline in the Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) during last one year and has registered 3 point decline from 20 to 17 in a single year much better than the national average which stands at 28. He added that two new AIIMS with the project Cost of Rs 4000 crore, one each at Jammu and Kashmir divisions are coming up.

He added that the farmers of Jammu and Kashmir are taking due benefit of various farmer centric initiatives like PM-Kisan, Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchay Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, Soil health cards, Jan Dhan Yojana and Kisan Credit Cards, all of which are changing the face of India's agriculture. He added that the claims of around Rs. 55.94 crore have been disbursed covering 43000 farmers under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana.

With regard to empowerment of youth, Advisor remarked that present LG led administration is working tirelessly for catering the needs of youth of Jammu and Kashmir and several interventions have been made for channelizing the enormous potential of our youth and ensuring their participation in the process of governance. "4,500 youth clubs have been set up covering all Panchayats and Urban Local Bodies in the UT through which 63,000 youths have been connected. Playfields have been set up in 4000 Panchayats", he said.

On the occasion, colourful cultural programme was also presented by the artists of J&K Academy of Art Culture and Languages in the form of traditional Rouf, Bandpather and Dambali which mesmerised the audiences. Also, awards were presented to winners of Best March Past and Best cultural programme. The winners of online competition in the categories of Best Paintings, Best essay and Best seminars were also awarded on

A N A N T - N A G : The Republic Day was celebrated with great fervor and enthusiasm at GDC Khanabal (Boys) where Chairman District Development Council (DDC) Anantnag, Mohamad Yousuf Gorsri unfurled the National Flag and took salute at the parade. The contingents of CRPF, J&K Police, IRP, NCC among others took part in the march-past.

Speaking on the occasion, DDC Chairman said that the nation is paying rich tributes to the leaders, freedom fighters and martyrs who made countless sacrifices for the freedom of the country. Glorifying their contributions, he said that it is the result of their supreme efforts that we are living in a free country.

Gorsi highlighted the achievements made by the district under various priority areas including education, healthcare, languishing, back to village, district capex, agriculture and allied sectors, women and youth empowerment, MGNREGA, JIM, water and electricity supply to Anganwadi Centers and schools, rural development, macadamization and road connectivity, social welfare, Nasha Mukht Bharat, industries, self employment and creation of durable and sustainable assets.

On the occasion, colourful cultural programmes on patriotic themes were presented by students and artists of the district. The ceremony concluded with prize distribution for march past and cultural practices. Employees from various departments were also felicitated for exemplary public service.

B A R A M U L L A : Chairperson, District Development Council (DDC) Baramulla, Safena Beigh unfurled the Tricolor, inspected the parade and took salute at the march past at District Police Lines Baramulla. The march past was presented by the contingents of J&K Police, CRPF, Home guards, Fire and Emergency services, NCC and students from different schools. Chairperson said that Baramulla district has shown inclusive growth in all the fronts and the need of the hour is to make involvement of all stakeholders in the progress of the district by utilizing their potential.

DIG North Kashmir, Vivik Gupta, Deputy Commissioner Baramulla, Dr. Syed Schrish Asgar, SSP Baramulla, Amod Ashok Nagpure, MCB President, Touseef Raina, DDC members, BDC Chairpersons, Officers of Judicial administration, Officers of Army and Police, District and sectoral officers, heads of different departments were present at the event besides a huge gathering of people and students also showed their enthusiastic participation. While giving an overview of the achievements made by the district, the Chairperson said that the district has shown a remarkable achievement in all sectors under various priority areas including education, healthcare, agriculture and allied sectors, women and youth empowerment, MGNREGA, JIM, rural development, macadamization and road connectivity, Social Welfare, Nasha Mukht Bharat and self-employment.

Highlighting the progress achieved under different indicators of Aspirational District Programme, At the conclusion of the function, a prize distribution ceremony was held during which various functionaries were felicitated for showing exemplary and extraordinary services in their respective fields.

BUDGAM: The Chairman, District Development Council (DDC) Budgam, Nazir Ahmad Khan unfurled the National Flag and took salute at the march-past during the main function held at Sports Stadium Budgam. On the occasion, various contingents from JKP, JKAP, CRPF, Home guards, NCC Cadets besides Contingents of education

and school children were present on the occasion. Speaking on the occasion, Chairman DDC in his address appreciated the sincere efforts of each citizen for their selfless contribution and highlighted the development works carried out during the year 2022-23.

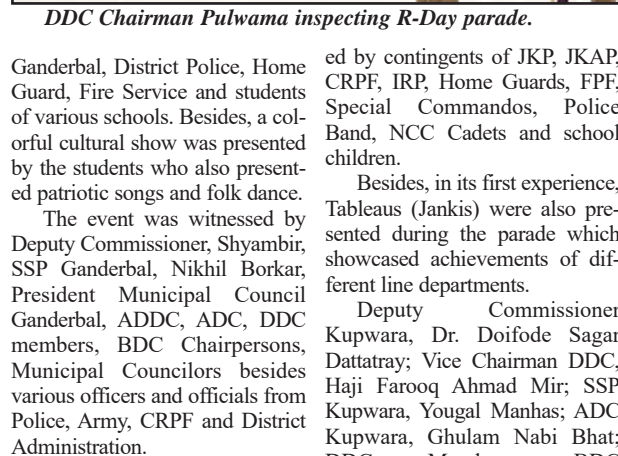
Chairman also deliberated on the ongoing development scenario of the district and said that the district Budgam is touching new heights with active participation of people in government initiatives. On the occasion, various artists and school children presented various colourful cultural programs including Chakri, Rouf, Ladishah, patriotic songs, Bangda, enthralling the audience, present there.

The main event was witnessed by a good gathering of locals, appreciating performances at March past and cultural programmes.

The prize distribution ceremony was also held wherein various officers and officials from different departments were awarded for their meritorious work.

GANDERBAL: The main function was held at Qamaria ground Ganderbal where District Development Council (DDC) Chairperson Ganderbal, Nuzhat Ishfaq unfurled the National Flag and took salute at the parade.

The march-past was presented by the contingents of JKP, JKAP, CRPF, SSB, PTS Manigam, Forest Protection Force, SPO



DDC Chairman Pulwama inspecting R-Day parade.

Ganderbal, District Police, Home Guard, Fire Service and students of various schools. Besides, a colorful cultural show was presented by the students who also presented patriotic songs and folk dance. The event was witnessed by Deputy Commissioner, Shyambir, SSP Ganderbal, Nikhil Borkar, President Municipal Council Ganderbal, ADDC, ADC, DDC members, BDC Chairpersons, Municipal Councilors besides various officers and officials from Police, Army, CRPF and District Administration.

In her address, DDC Chairperson lauded the importance of Republic Day and said that the constitution of India distinguishes the country from other countries, the spirit of which provides equal rights to every resident of the country without discrimination of religion, nationality, color, race and caste, she added. Highlighting the developmental scenario in the district, the DDC Chairperson said that a new era of development has begun in the district and new chapters of all-round development are emerging and new paths are being carved. The priorities of the district administration include ensuring the safety of the people, providing all facilities, women's empowerment, improving public health, finding new avenues for social welfare, she added.

The function concluded with distribution of prizes among students and contingents who participated in March past and cultural programs. Several officers/officials were also felicitated on the occasion for their exemplary work.

PULWAMA: Chairman, District Development Council (DDC), Syed Abdul Bari Indrabir unfurled the National Flag and took salute at the march past. The march past was presented by the Contingents of JKP, CRPF, IRP, JKP Women Contingent, Home Guards, NCC, SPO's, Fire & Emergency Services and school children.

District Development Commissioner Baseer ul Haq Choudhary, SSP Pulwama Gh Jeelani, Additional Deputy Commissioner Pulwama, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Assistant Commissioner Development, Civil and Police officers besides DDC Members, BDC Members, PRI members and a large number of people attended the function.

Speaking on the occasion, DDC Chairman highlighted the importance of the Republic Day celebrations and deliberated on various development initiatives undertaken in the district for the

ed by contingents of JKP, JKAP, CRPF, IRP, Home Guards, FPF, Special Commandos, Police Band, NCC Cadets and school children. Besides, in its first experience, Tableaus (Jankis) were also presented during the parade which showcased achievements of different line departments.

Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Dr. Doifode Sagar Dattatray; Vice Chairman DDC, Haji Farooq Ahmad Mir; SSP Kupwara, Yougal Manhas; ADC Kupwara, Ghulam Nabi Bhat; DDC Members, BDC Chairpersons, Sarpanchs, besides, Police, Army and District officers and officials of all departments were present on the occasion. Speaking on the occasion, Chairman DDC highlighted the historical background of the Republic Day with special reference to the Constitution of India. He also remembered the martyrs of the Independence of India.

The Chairman enlisted the developmental achievements of the district and said that the district is marching ahead socio-economically in the UT of J&K. He also counted various flagship programmes being implemented in the district including construction of Baramulla-Kupwara-Chowkibal-Chemkote national highway, construction of Industrial Biotechnology Park at Handwara, 315 MVA Grid Station at Wahipora Langate, construction of District Hospital Handwara and two Degree Colleges at Vilgam and Kralpora.

Later, an award ceremony was held during which awards were given to the best performers in the March Past, Tableaus and cultural programmes. Awards were also given to various Officers and officials of the administration for their good work.

SHOPIAN: The Republic Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm and patriotic fervour at District Police Lines Shopian where District Development Council (DDC) Chairperson, Bilques Jan unfurled the Tricolour, took salute at the March Past and inspected the parade consisting of contingents of CRPF, JKP, IRP, Fire and Emergency, Forest Protection Force, Homeguards, NCC and School Children of various Educational Institutions.

Speaking on the occasion, DDC Chairperson appealed to people to work together for promoting national integration, communal harmony and peace in the district. She highlighted various

LG addresses 'Akhil Bhartiya' Kavi Sammelan

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Jan 27: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha addressed 'Akhil Bhartiya' Kavi Sammelan today at General Zorawar Singh Auditorium, University of Jammu.

The event was organized by J&K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages to celebrate the 74th Republic Day.

On the occasion, the Lt

invaluable contributions of Rabindranath Tagore, Ramdhari Singh Dinkar, Padma Sachdev, Kalhan, Lal Ded, Bhawanidas Kachru, Habba Khatoon, Nund Rishi, Master Zinda Kaul, Dinanath Nadim and Laxman Bhatt, towards strengthening the foundation of rich, intense and diverse civilization. The Lt Governor said that the endeavours like 'Akhil Bhartiya' Kavi Sammelan as part of Azadi



Lt Governor Manoj Sinha addressing Kavi Sammelan in Jammu.

Governor said, literary heritage and creative expression of India is unique and rich.

"Poetry explores and expresses diversity of our linguistic heritage. It brings us close to the roots of our culture and tradition. It has the immense power to stir the inner consciousness. Our country has been blessed with outstanding poets and they are integral part of our history, culture and continue to inspire the society," the Lt Governor said.

Sinha observed that the Poets through their creation and experiences give continuity to our ever-evolving culture. "I consider poetry to be a bridge between the visible and the invisible. In our journey, we come across many creative expressions and among those Poetry has a different time and space", said the Lt Governor. He also remembered the

Ka Amrit Mahotsav will strengthen the spirit of patriotism and essence of 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat'. Bharat Singh Manhas, Secretary, J&K Academy of Art Culture & Languages gave a brief overview of the literary festival.

The audience enthusiastically relished the enthralling poem recited by Gajendra Singh Solanki, Hari Narayan Harish, Dr Vishnu Saxena, Dinesh Bawra, Sudeep Bhola, Dr Ruchi Chaturvedi, Mohan Muntazir, Upendra Pandey, Shweta Singh, Tarun Jain, Sumit Mishra and other renowned poets.

Prof Umesh Rai, Vice Chancellor, Jammu University; Prof Bechan Lal, VC, Cluster University Jammu; prominent and renowned artists, and senior officers of Civil Administration attended the evening.

Grenade found near ex MLA's house

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Jan 27: A grenade was found near the house of former legislator Choudhary Mohammad Akram in Surankote area of Poonch district last evening.

Last week, an explosion was reported at his house in Lassana village of Surankote tehsil. His family had a narrow escape as splinters pierced the ceiling of several rooms.

"I had gone for a condolence meet when I received a call from home that a grenade was found near the house. It was close to our

boundary wall," Showkat, the son of former Surankote MLA and prominent Gujjar leader Choudhary Mohammad Akram, told reporters.

Police and Army personnel have cordoned off the area and a search is underway, he said. Expressing fear, Showkat also questioned the security measures being enforced in the area.

"Why is this happening to us? This is the second such incident," he said while expressing faith in the security forces.

Security guards have been increased at our house and floodlights installed, Showkat added.

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