

Cong pays tribute to Rajiv Gandhi on death anniversary

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU/ SRINAGAR, May 21: Congress remembered former Prime Minister Late Rajiv Gandhi on his death anniversary, recalling his great contributions and highlighted his selfless services and achievements in Nation building.

Paying rich tribute to former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on his 32nd martyrdom day in an impressive function held today at Mahajan Hall, Shalamar Road, Jammu, Congress today launched its campaign for the forthcoming Panchayat Raj system in the UT, describing Rajiv Gandhi as the architect of Panchayat Raj in the country.

Hundreds of representatives from Panchayats and Urban

Wani said Late Gandhi was the architect of Panchayat Raj system in the country and giving constitutional status and powers through 73rd and 74th amendments thus ensuring 33 percent reservations to the women and proportional representation to the SCs and STs in all three tiers of the Panchayat Raj system. He transferred the powers to the people at the grass root level.

Launching the party's campaign for the forthcoming Panchayat Raj system in J&K, PCC chief exhorted the Party workers to gear up for the Panchayat and ULB elections, as the winds of change have started in the country from Karnataka following the successful Bharat Jodo Yatra led by Rahul Gandhi.

Committee Member Tariq Hameed Karra, Surinder Singh Channi and others were present and highlighted the great contributions of former Prime Minister in Nation building.

Speaking on the occasion Mir termed the departed leader as architect of Modern India. He said under the able leadership of Rajiv Gandhi, Nation touched the heights in respect of development, education, self-reliance and defence, taking country in the first rank of the Nations in service to the people. The departed leader was a man of patience and development who increased sustenance for science, technology and associated industries and reduced the import quota, taxes and tariffs on technology founded industries particularly airlines, computer, telecommunication including defense ensuring that India entered into digital world and compete with other developed countries.

AICC Member Karra termed the assassination of Rajiv Gandhi as an irreparable loss which could not be replaced by anything. Former PM was instrumental in transforming India into a fast-developing Nation while ensuring development of the people at grassroot by way of the gifting Panchayat Raj system which immensely helped to initiate the developmental process from grass root level.

Senior Congress leaders Surinder Singh Channi, Mohd Iqbal Mir, Farooq Ahmad Bhat, Ali Mohd Mantoo, Gh Hassan Bhat, Shabir Ahmad Dar, Rashid Lone and others were also present on the occasion.

People's Democratic Party (PDP), president, Mehbooba Mufti also paid rich tribute to former PM Rajiv Gandhi on his death anniversary. She described Gandhi as a true visionary leader and a democrat, acknowledging his immense contributions to the nation.

Rajiv Gandhi, the youngest Prime Minister of India, served the country with dedication and passion during his tenure from 1984 to 1989. He played a pivotal role in shaping India's modern trajectory and introducing several significant reforms that transformed various sectors of the nation. She highlighted Gandhi's visionary leadership, emphasising his efforts in promoting technological advancements and his role in ushering in the era of economic liberalisation. She commended his instrumental role in bringing the Information Technology revolution to India.

Former Chairman of JMC and senior Congress leader Satish Sharma paid rich tribute to Late Rajiv Gandhi in a function held at R S Pura. The party members present joined Sharma in paying tribute and lauded the contributions of Late PM. Similar functions were held in other districts across Jammu and Kashmir and UT of Ladakh.

Air Marshal visits Air Force Station Jammu

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, May 21: Air Marshal, K Anantharaman, Air Officer Incharge Administration of IAF visited Air Force Station Jammu, took stock of situation



Air Marshal, K Anantharaman being received by a senior IAF officer at Jammu air base.

and interacted with officers at the forward air base.

He was accompanied by the Director Education (Schools) at Air Headquarters and Dy

BRO camp being relocated from Chumathang hot springs in Ladakh

Excelsior Correspondent

LEH, May 21: A camp of Border Roads Organisation (BRO) is being relocated from Chumathang hot springs as authorities today discussed measures required for the preservation and protection of the natural attraction in Ladakh, officials said.

The meeting, chaired by the administrative secretary, Tourism, Kacho Mehboob Ali Khan, identified various measures for immediate action and long-term planning to ensure sustainable development of the hot springs for the benefit of both locals and tourists, the officials said.

The officials said a Detailed Project Report (DPR) is being prepared for the development and sustainable management of the 'hot springs'.

As an immediate action, they said a sustained cleanliness drive would be launched on Monday, involving the departments of Tourism, BRO, Rural Development, the local panchayat, councillor, Block Development Councillor (BDC) and NGOs' who are working on preservation and development of the 'Rong' area.

The officials said the councillor, LAHDC of Chumathang constituency and BDC have been assigned to identify suitable patches of land downstream for relocation of the BRO establishment from the existing location near the 'Hot Springs'.

The BRO has agreed to the plan, the officials said, adding the concerned officials will be requested for formal allocation of the identified land at the earliest.

Command Education Officer, HQ Western Air Command.

The Air Marshal was received by AOC Jammu and key appointments. On arrival he was briefed on the operational and admin infrastructure and security preparedness of the Station.

The Air Marshal also visited the Air Force School which has come up with a state of the art Wi-Fi enabled campus. He interacted with teachers, topers of class 10th, 12th with their parents and lauded the hard work of the students who excelled in Board exams.

During his visit the Air Marshal also visited various on-going works sites and interacted with young officers of the base. He appreciated the operational and security orientation of the station and complimented the team for setting new benchmarks.

Sinha inaugurates development projects executed by PWD Roadmap laid down to modernize, strengthen rural connectivity: LG

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, May 21: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha today inaugurated development projects executed by Public Works (R&B) department in both Jammu and Kashmir Division.

"Majority of the road infrastructure projects will build a road to prosperity and well being to the citizens in far flung areas," said the Lt Governor.

The Lt Governor reiterated the commitment of the J&K administration to boost tourism potential and to connect important commercial centres.

"Our policy on infrastructure aims to create quality assets, make the facilities user friendly and get rural areas more and more integrated into the mainstream economy. Roadmap laid down to modernize and strengthen rural connectivity, is being implemented at a

fast pace," said the Lt Governor.

He also shared the efforts to bring new momentum to the socio-economic growth of the UT of J&K. It is also being ensured that the benefits of all the government schemes reach the last person in the queue, he added.

Raj Institutions and ULBs, the Lt Governor further added.

The Lt Governor congratulated the entire team of PW(R&B) Department and everyone associated with the projects.

The 75 development projects worth Rs 186.14 crores inaugurated today include road



LG chairing a meeting.

We are moving ahead with the right intent and citizen centric policies to fulfil the dreams and aspirations of all the citizens and take Jammu Kashmir to new heights of glory, said the Lt Governor.

In the last few years, there has been phenomenal progress in the implementation of schemes in rural and urban areas and the credit for this goes to the officers, the people of J&K and all elected public representatives of Panchayati

connectivity projects in Reasi, Udhampur, Doda, Samba, Kathua, Kulgam and Baramulla. Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary; Shailendra Kumar, Principal Secretary, Public Works (R&B); Dr Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lt Governor and other senior officers were present.

PRI representatives and Deputy Commissioners of the Districts were also present through virtual mode.

DIG Traffic reviews highway arrangements

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, May 21: DIG Traffic Jammu Shridhar Patil today reviewed traffic arrangements on National Highway on Udhampur-Ramban stretch and asked Traffic police to act tough against wrong lane driving, overloading and vehicles without fitness certificate.

He appreciated police personnel for working day-night in tough conditions for smooth traffic flow.

Patil visited the districts and held meetings with police officers and general public of the area.

During whirlwind tour, he assessed on spot conditions of the road stretches and other issues causing congestion on NHW. He was appraised by people and officers about issues faced by commuters as well as difficulties faced by police personnel while performing duties.

During interaction, he stressed upon officers to streamline the system and act tough on those who indulge in wrong lane driving and overloading causing thereby traffic jams. Vehicles if plying without proper fitness certificate should particularly be focused upon in order to prevent traffic jam due to breakdown of such vehicles, he emphasised. He insisted that safe and pleasant travel experience of commuters shall be kept top-most priority.

The officers/officials who were doing duties in highly dedicated manner were appreciated with reward.



Cong leaders & other functionaries paying tribute to Rajiv Gandhi on his death anniversary in Jammu. — Excelsior/Rakesh

Bodies and all senior leaders of the party including former ministers, former Legislators, DCC presidents, Corporators, Councillors, DDCs and BDCs, Frontal Wings, Blocks and Wards Presidents attended the function which was chaired by president JKPC Vikar Rasool Wani, and attended by working president Raman Bhalla, former Dy CM Tara Chand, former PCC president Peerzada Mohd Sayeed, former minister Mula Ram, GN Monga (EX-MLC), TS Bajwa (EX-MP), Kanta Bhan, Yogesh Sawhney (EX-Minister, Ravinder Sharma (EX-MLC), Mannohan Singh, Rajnish Sharma, Th. Balbir Singh (EX-MLC), Shabir A Khan (EX-Minister), Gurbachan Kumari Rana (EX-Minister), Indu Pawar (EX-MLA), Vinod Sharma, Shameema Raina, MK Bhardwaj, DCC presidents - Krishan Chander Bhagat (EX-MLA), Ashok Dogra EX-MLA, Hari Singh Chib, Pankaj Dogra, Dina Nath Bhagat (EX-MLA), Pankaj Dogra and others.

Addressing the gathering PCC chief Vikar Rasool Wani recalled the services of Rajiv Gandhi as the youngest Prime Minister who gave the vision to the youth of the Country of the challenges of the 21st Century and brought IT and Telecom revolution, lowered the voting age to 18 years to empower the youths.

DB dismisses appeal filed by Sr Manager Jammu Airport

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, May 21: A Division Bench of the J&K and Ladakh High Court comprising Justice Tashi Rabstan and Justice Puneet Gupta has dismissed the appeal filed by Senior Manager Jammu Airport Nitin Banthia as his name as respondent in the contempt petition has already been removed from the memo.

When the appeal filed by Senior Manager Jammu Airport through Advocate Inderjeet Gupta and Advocate Yatin Mahajan came up for the hearing, Navneet Dubey, counsel appearing on behalf of Inder Singh and others produced a copy of order dated 02.02.2023 passed by Single Judge in contempt petition titled Inder Singh Vs Ashok Mehta, Chief Secretary and others.

In the order, Single Judge had observed, "counsel for the petitioner submits that respondent No. 6 in the present contempt petition be deleted. The situation which has led to the counsel for the petitioner in making this statement is on account of appearance of Inderjeet Gupta counsel for the respondent No. 6, who has come forward with Government Order No. 66-JK(Rev) of 2021 dated 08.10.2021 in terms whereof besides other khasra Numbers, land in khasra No. 182 as being State land has come to be transferred in favour of the Airport Authority of India (AAI) free of cost and in the present contempt petition, the allegation of alleged violation of status quo direction passed by the writ court on 03.11.2021 in pending WPC) No. 2405/2021 is referable to land measuring 05 kanals 19½ marlas in khasra No. 182. Respondent No. 6 is, hereby deleted".

"In view of the order dated 02.02.2023 passed by Single Judge, nothing survives in this appeal to adjudicate on the ground that the appellant arrayed as respondent No.6 in the contempt petition, has been deleted from the memo of the contempt petition", the DB said while dismissing the appeal being infructuous.

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