

'An epitome of public life'

Amit Sharma

We may have heard about simplicity, patience, self-respect, Amit Sharma divinity or truthfulness but the same if found in a human being these days, we can term him or her as a living legend.

Such are the attributes which I had always discovered in my late father Shri Baldev Sharma ji whose 90th birth anniversary falls today i.e. 27th July 2024. While expressing gratitude to my creator, it is indeed my honour and great fortune to find my biggest inspiration of life within the four walls of my home boundaries only. Whenever somebody is asked about inspiration in life, he or she talks either about a world leader or some iconic figure, but since childhood, I was fortunate to find same in my father itself. And the biggest thing is that he is not only my ideal but an ideal to many successful people who equally attribute their success, name and fame towards following the foot-steps of my father, either directly or indirectly.

A man of indomitable will, strength of character, life full of principles, charismatic personality, always willing to help even till the last day of his life (irrespective of personal health conditions), sharing sorrows and joys of everybody around, an example of socialization even in today's materialistic world, support, guide and philosopher for many; really, it is almost impossible to find a replica of my father in the present era.

Although this world is full of criticism and competitors who always try to undermine others goodness or want to prove that all are wrong except for themselves, yet, I always learnt this lesson from my father that before criticizing others, see your own faults first and then raise fingers on others. This lesson of life I have learnt from him since my childhood and he does not even spare me telling the same thing if ever I dare to talk negative about anybody else at home.

The word honesty and integrity flows like a river when we talk about him. Numerous examples and highest standards of honesty he has set which are really difficult for anybody to follow in today's world. I myself saw few things since childhood in his character like returning gifts back, selfless efforts for getting jobs to numerous people, never accepting any nominations to highest seats of power, strictly following the law of the land, choosing democratic elections as the sole medium, sermonizing only those attributes which he himself follows and practices, etc.

He got through many rough phases of life like many people, in terms of betrayals or sabotages from so called 'friends' or people around, be it public life or otherwise, but he never gave-up, never kept a feeling of revenge, never ever found him talking ill about them but simply keeps

treading his pathways of life, simply believing in the ultimate philosophy of Shreemad Bhagvad Gita and acting like a true 'Karmath Yogi'. He always believes in the theory that Truth always prevails and never gives-up fighting for it with the belief that ultimately, the success will touch feet one day provided one does give-up till the last. He hardly believes in preaching or quoting his own examples but he sets examples by his real-time actions for others to follow if they can.

An epitome of success in public life, my father Shri Baldev Sharma started his career as a young student leader who rose to serve as Member of Legislative Assembly even before I was born, saw him contributing a co-operative man since childhood, being a globe-trotter, big contributor for Red Cross activities, exchanging cross-cultural attributes, raising and founding lot of successful co-operative sector models of the present day, heading and chairing apex co-operative bodies, representing a lone director from state in apex cooperative body i.e., NAFED for consecutively 15 long years, he touched almost all kinds of social contribution peaks since his early years of life without any influence, lobbying or support of anybody, I believe, it is almost impossible to find a success story like this if we talk of the present era.

What gives me biggest pride is visible in the fact that he never vouched to support even a single thing regarding me nor went to use any kind of his influence to help me ever. At the same time, he neither stopped me from experiencing anything or taking my independent decisions nor did he force anything upon me, be it in terms of career building or education or travel or exposure to outside world. And whatever or wherever I have reached today, it is all attributed his open-ended approach towards me and my decision-making.

In nutshell, I would sum up with this words that it's a real privilege and honour to have a father like Late Shri Baldev Sharma ji whose 90th birthday we are celebrating today with unlimited prayers from all his well-wishers to bless his revered inspiring soul which keeps spreading prosperity and happiness so that his eternal blessings can always keep showering upon us in times to come. Lastly, I wish if all of us can imitate his divine qualities, temperament, simplicity, honesty and integrity in today's world when we have to play roles of father at different stages. We all pray that his soul rests in peace and I always keep expressing unlimited gratitude towards Almighty for giving me the 'Best Father' in the World!

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Div Com & ADGP review arrangements for Shri Buddha Amarnathji Yatra

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, JULY 26

Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Ramesh Kumar, and Additional Director General of Police, Anand Jain today chaired a meeting and reviewed arrangements for Shri Buddha Amarnathji Yatra 2024.

Director Tourism Jammu, Deputy Commissioners and SSPs of Jammu, Poonch, Rajouri, Reasi, SSP Security, SSP Traffic Jammu, SSP Traffic Rural, Director ULB, Director Health Services, Chief Engineer JPDC, CE Jal Shakti, representatives of Baba Yatri Niwas, Vishwa Hindu Parishad, and other concerned officers were present.

Threadbare discussions were held on timely dispatching of the Yatra Convoys from Jammu, cut off timings, haltage points, and registration of the Yatris. It was stressed that the Yatris undertake the Yatra as per the guidelines issued by the administration and use only the designated route for the holy Yatra.

It was impressed for the convenience of the Yatris that no Yatri without registration should enter



Poonch for taking part in the annual holy pilgrimage to Shri Buddha Amarnathji Yatra. During the meeting, the Divisional Commissioner took stock of the necessary arrangements made for the yatris of Shri Buddha Amarnathji in Jammu, Rajouri, Poonch and Reasi. He reviewed various arrangements, including transport facilities for pilgrims, adequate security measures, provision for lingers, medical facilities, sanitation, water and power supply, traffic management, and lodging, boarding facilities for the pilgrims. The ADGP issued directives to SSPs to implement comprehensive security measures. He instructed the SSPs for deploying an adequate number of police personnel along the route, fortifying security checkpoints, and maintaining strict vigilance at all times.

Deputy Commissioner Poonch shared details about the identified locations for the stay of pilgrims in the district. The Div Com instructed the DC Poonch to ensure that all necessary facilities like accommodation, food, water, Power, medical, sanitation and other necessary arrangements are in place to provide a safe and comfortable stay for the Yatris.

Deputy Commissioner Rajouri was directed to ensure proper arrangements for the Yatra at different haltage points in Rajouri. Regarding the further journey of Shri Buda Amarnath pilgrims to the revered Shiv Khori Shrine, the Div Com instructed the Deputy Commissioner Reasi to make all necessary arrangements for this segment of the Yatra. Director Tourism was asked to provide wide publicity to Shri Buddha Amarnathji yatra 2024. Members from Baba Amarnath and Buddha Amarnathji Yatri Niwas also shared their inputs for the successful conduct of the holy pilgrimage.

Ritu Singh elevates Jammu's Traditional Culture to National Prominence

Royal Fables' First Ever Wedding Edit Held in New Delhi

NEW DELHI, JULY 26: In a significant move to put Jammu on the national cultural map, Kuwarani Ritu Singh, founder and chairperson of The Runway Diaries, collaborated with Royal Fables as the Crafts Partner for the prestigious Wedding Edit event held at the Andaz Hotel, Aerocity, New Delhi. Partnering with Anshu Khanna and Charu Singh, the event marked a historic moment for Jammu's cultural representation.

Alongside her core team members, Ankita Bansal and Vanita Thakur, Kuwarani Ritu Singh brought Jammu to the forefront of the national scene. The team, along with 11 specially selected entrepreneurs, showcased an impressive array of the region's traditional culture. Union Minister of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Mr. Dushyant Chaudhry, served as the chief guest, inaugurating



the event amidst an assembly of distinguished personalities. This event attracted a prestigious gathering of media houses, buyers, dignitaries, and members of royal families from across India and the world. Featuring 11 renowned designers from Jammu, including Simi Gulati, Pooja Khurana, Neetu Bali, Sumeet Reen, Monika Bhatia, Chandrika Salathia, Shivani Gupta, Deepali Handa, Esha Modi and Pragya Aggarwal, the event highlighted the rich Dogra culture through their exquisite creations. Reformary Toys by Adishree and Akshat also captivated the audience with their unique offerings.

Speaking on the occasion, Kuwarani Ritu Singh expressed, "I am proud to have taken this initiative to bring Jammu's culture to the global stage. We have worked tirelessly to showcase our rich cultural heritage to the world."

Kuwarani Ritu Singh presented her vision to the Hon'ble Union Minister and gifted him a Radha Krishna Basohli Art painting

by National Awardee Sohan Billoria, which was deeply appreciated. She also curated a gallery showcasing her personal vintage collection of Dogri costumes and photographs of the royal family, along with the history of the region, which garnered immense attention from all present at the show.

She emphasized outreach efforts for artisans, the importance of availing PM schemes, and the significant role of royal families' patronage and contribution to the country.

On the second day of the exhibition, His Highness Dr. Karan Singh ji, royalty of Jammu and Kashmir, graced the event with his presence. He spoke eloquently about the rich cultural heritage of his region, and his words of appreciation for the designers' efforts to preserve and promote Jammu's cultural legacy were met with thunderous applause.

"ICONS DON'T LEAVE, THEY REMAIN HERE FOREVER"
90th Birthday Anniversary Remembrances

A special tribute today on 27th July (90th Janam Divas) to our param poojaniya swargwasi Shri Baldev Sharma ji, Ex - MLA Samba, Director NAFED, Chairman Jammu Central Co-operative Bank, Founder Chairman, J&K Housing Federation, Vijaypur Marketing Co-operative Society and many other positions, being an epitome of simplicity, success and principled life!

Always getting inspired by his pious revered soul and in Deep Prayers for him:
 • Mrs Santosh Sharma (Wife) # 9419102220
 • Amit Sharma, IAS (Son) # 7006514723
 • All Nears & Dears

POWERGRID celebrates 25th Kargil Vijay Diwas by felicitating Kargil Heroes

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, JULY 26

25th Kargil Vijay Diwas 2024 was celebrated across the country today to pay tribute to the bravery and valor of the Indian soldiers who made the ultimate sacrifice for the country during the Kargil War in 1999. The day commemorates the victory of Operation Vijay, which was a significant military victory over Pakistan during the Kargil War in 1999.

To commemorate this day of National Importance in Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID), organized various functions across its Northern Region-II. At its Leh Substation Executive Director Northern Region-II, Sh. Rajesh Kumar along with Senior officers and employees participated in this program. Homage was paid to Indian soldiers' staunch bravery and sacrifices during the intense three-month-long war.

Kargil War Heroes who had fought Kargil war while serving in Ladakh Scouts Regiment of Indian Army and are currently giving their services in the security contract of POWERGRID were felicitated on this occasion.

Sh. Dorjay a security staff recalled how motivated he felt when



he was ordered to march towards forward post, despite losing his fellow soldiers he kept on marching and helped army in capturing the post. Another security guard Sh. Tashi who was deployed as porter for maintaining essential supplies, played his important role in victory of India. Sh. Anil Sharma, Chief General Manager (I/C) Pang-Kaithal Project, Sh. Arindam Chakraborty, CGM (Projects) NR-II, Mrs. Sangeeta Kumar, Patron Shrishti Mahila Samiti, Northern Region-II AND Senior officers were present on this occasion.

In his brief address, Sh. Rajesh Kumar highlighted the role of Indian Armed forces in making our lives comfortable. He emphasized that Kargil war was one of the difficult wars that India has fought and victory in this war is of great significance for all Indians. He appreciated the exemplary courage, perseverance, and loyalty shown by the soldiers during Kargil War. He reiterated that we as Indians shall always be indebted to Kargil war heroes for their sacrifices and service. He asserted that on simi-

lar lines POWERGRID has been entrusted to build Power infrastructure for border posts of Indian Army under RDSS, so as to connect far border posts with National Grid on the lines of One Nation One Grid motto of POWERGRID.

Similar Functions were organized in other establishments also including Regional Head Quarters, Jammu where General Manager (HR), Sh. Vinod P Baxla, felicitated the Kargil War Heroes rendering their services in the present Security Contract.

Bhupinder, Abid hold review on Bone & Joint Hospital Sgr

Srinagar, July 26:

Secretary Public Works Department (Roads & Building) Bhupinder Kumar and Secretary Health & Medical Education, Dr Syed Abid Rasheed Shah today convened a joint meeting to oversee the timelines for the completion of the additional block at Bone & Joint Hospital Srinagar, funded under the World Bank's Jhelum-Tawi Flood Recovery Project (JTFRP).

The new unit is a vital component of the JTFRP aimed at bolstering healthcare infrastructure and services in the region. The meeting was attended by Principal & Dean of Government Medical College Srinagar Prof. Dr. Iffat Hassan, Managing Director JK Medical Supplies Corporation Ltd. Kapil Sharma, Director Finance H&ME, Director Technical/Safeguards J&K ERA/JTFRP, Director ERA, Administrator Associated Hospitals GMC Srinagar, Mohamamd Ashraf Hakak, Head of Department Or-



thopedics B&J GMC Srinagar, Medical Superintendent B&J Hospital Srinagar, NPCC Ltd., among others.

Principal & Dean GMC Srinagar, Dr Iffat Hassan, in her presentation, provided an update on the current status of the project, highlighting that the originally planned 120-bed block has been expanded to accommodate 160 beds, including a 6-bed ICU and two private wards.

The facility will also feature advanced amenities such as 12-bed pre-op and post-op rooms, 3 modular OTs, radiology, physiotherapy, faculty rooms, earthquake protection using dampers, pneumatic tube transfer system, hospital information and management system, and mini-

mum IBGC Gold Certification. The meeting conducted a comprehensive review of the project's physical and financial statuses, revealing that between 85% to 100% of physical works have been completed. Financially, the revised project cost stands at Rs 116.38 crore, with Rs 75.2 crore already expended and Rs 4.7 crore as mobilization advance. Civil works have achieved 96% completion, with overall project completion nearing 90%. Secretary PWD, Bhupinder Kumar, emphasized the need for expedited efforts from executive agencies to ensure timely completion of all pending tasks, underscoring the importance of delivering a state-of-the-art medical facility to the public.