

Speaker interacts with residents of Arampora, reaffirms govt commitment to development



HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, JULY 26

Speaker, Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly, Abdul Rahim Rather, today visited Arampora and Nambalhar areas of the Charar-e-Sharief Assembly Constituency, where he held an extensive public interaction with the local residents to listen to their grievances, developmental aspirations and suggestions for overall progress of the area.

During his visit, the Speaker paid obeisance at the revered shrine of the renowned Sufi saint Hazrat Abdul Samad Mir (RA) at Nambalhar, where the annual Urs Mubarak is being observed. He offered prayers and paid rich tributes to the saint, praying for

lasting peace, communal harmony and prosperity across Jammu and Kashmir.

The Speaker addressed a huge gathering and interacted with the local residents at Arampora.

During the interaction, the residents apprised the Speaker of several long-pending developmental issues requiring immediate attention. Prominent among their demands was construction of a bridge over Nallah Shaliganga to connect Tehsil Khansahib with Tehsil Chadoora.

The people also highlighted the need for improved road connectivity, augmentation of drinking water supply, strengthening of power infrastructure and upgradation of other essential public amenities.

The Speaker gave a pa-

tient hearing to every representation and assured the people that all their genuine demands would be taken up with the concerned departments for appropriate action. He said that developmental priorities would be pursued in a phased and planned manner, ensuring that projects of public importance receive due attention and are implemented without unnecessary delay.

The Speaker emphasized that the bridge over Shaliganga would serve as a vital link, significantly improving the inter-tehsil connectivity, facilitating the transportation of agricultural produce to markets, reducing travel time and creating new economic opportunities for the farmers and traders. He said that the bridge would immensely benefit thousands of resi-

dents living on both sides of the nallah.

The Speaker said that the present government is committed to ensure equitable and balanced development across Jammu and Kashmir, with special emphasis on strengthening infrastructure and improving the quality of life in rural and far-flung areas. He said that sustained efforts are being made to expand road connectivity, improve healthcare and educational facilities, augment drinking water supply, strengthen power infrastructure, and create durable public assets that directly benefit the people.

He further said that development is the cornerstone of progress and can only be achieved through close coordination between the government and the people. He stressed that every developmental initiative is aimed at improving the public welfare, generating employment opportunities, boosting economic activity and creating better prospects for future generations. The Speaker urged the people not to pay any heed to rumours or misinformation, saying that such elements only obstruct the pace of development and create unnecessary confusion among the public. He appealed to the residents to remain united and extend their wholehearted cooperation in implementation of developmental programmes for the larger interest of the region.

The Speaker said that public outreach and direct interaction with the people remain essential for understanding grassroots issues and ensuring that development is driven by the genuine needs and aspirations of the people. He assured the gathering that every sincere effort would be made to resolve their concerns in a transparent and time-bound manner.

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An urgent meeting of Laghu Udyog Bharati (J&K) was convened by Parveen Pargal, National Working Committee Member and Prabhari J&K, to discuss important concerns related to the upcoming new industrial policy.

The meeting was attended by Aagam Jain, State General Secretary; Ishant Gupta, State Treasurer; Rajinder Sadotra, State Joint Treasurer; along with other members.

The main agenda of the meeting was to discuss the proposed freight subsidy exemption and continuation of turnover incentive under the new industrial policy.

Addressing the members, Parveen Pargal said that an earlier meeting was held at Udyog Bhawan, Jammu, which was chaired by the Finance Secretary and Industry Secretary and attended by various industrial associations. In that



meeting, a proposal was discussed to grant freight subsidy exemption up to 1000 kilometres, which is acceptable. He also stated that if freight subsidy exemption is given on interstate sales without any distance restriction, it is also acceptable.

However, Parveen Pargal expressed concern that it is being widely heard from industrialists that the

government is now planning to implement freight subsidy exemption only beyond 1000 kilometres. He strongly stated that this proposal is not acceptable at any cost, as it will benefit only about 2% of industries while nearly 98% of industries will be left out.

He further demanded that the turnover incentive, which is currently being

provided under the old industrial policy from 2021 to 2026, should be continued and extended for another five years in the new industrial policy, as it is very important for the growth and stability of MSMEs.

All members present supported these views and urged the government to take necessary steps in the interest of MSMEs and local industries.

27th Kargil Vijay Diwas Celebrated with Patriotic Zeal at Khour

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The 27th Kargil Vijay Diwas was observed with great patriotic fervour and enthusiasm at Khour under the leadership of Narinder Singh Bhau, who paid rich tributes to the brave soldiers of the Indian Armed Forces who laid down their lives during the Kargil War of 1999 in defence of the nation's sovereignty and integrity.

Addressing the gathering, Narinder Singh Bhau said that Kargil Vijay Diwas is a symbol of the unmatched courage, sacrifice, and unwavering commitment of the Indian Army. He stated that the victory achieved by the Armed Forces in the Kargil conflict continues to inspire every Indian and reminds the nation of the supreme sacrifices made by its brave soldiers in protecting the country's borders under the most challenging circumstances.

Bhau highlighted the immense contribution of the people of the border belt, especially the Khour and Chhamb region, whose



families have consistently served the nation with pride in the Armed Forces. He urged the younger generation to draw inspiration from the heroic deeds of the Kargil martyrs and dedicate themselves to the service of the nation.

Floral tributes were offered to the martyrs, and a two-minute silence was observed in their honour. Patriotic slogans echoed throughout the programme as participants expressed their gratitude towards the

bravehearts who ensured India's victory in Operation Vijay.

Prominent persons present on the occasion included Ex. Corporator Deepak Singh, Panch Jyoti Singh, Khour Mandal BJP Vice President Davinder Sharma, Retd. Subedar Bodh Raj Bhagat, Retd. Captain Karpal Singh, Sweetie Narinder Singh Bhau, Suman Sharma, Rekha Kumari, Jyoti, Sarika Kumari, Suman Kumari, Radha, Rohini

Devi, Veena, Rakesh Singh, Rakesh Sharma, Pawan Singh, Ashok Kumar, Sunil Sharma, Ravi Singh, Deepak Kumar, Naresh Gupta, Kuldeep Singh, Baldev Raj, along with local residents, ex-servicemen, youth, and social workers.

The programme concluded with a pledge to uphold the ideals of patriotism, national unity, and respect for the brave soldiers whose sacrifices continue to safeguard the nation's freedom.

Kargil Vijay Diwas reminds of unmatched courage, patriotism, supreme sacrifice of soldiers: Sat

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J&K BJP commemorated Kargil Vijay Diwas across the Union Territory by organizing programmes at various memorials, statues and public places to pay homage to the brave soldiers who laid down their lives in the 1999 Kargil War.

BJP J&K President and Rajya Sabha MP Sat Sharma (CA), accompanied by MLA Ch. Vikram Randhawa and former Councillor Surjit Pappu Choudhary, felicitated Honorary Subedar Major Kamal Singh, son of Subedar Parmatam Singh (13th Battalion, JAK Rifles), for his exceptional bravery during the Kargil War.

BJP leaders recalled that, Hony. Sub Maj Kamal Singh was a leading member of the assault team that captured the strategically important



Tololing Peak during the operations of 12-13 June 1999 in Drass. He again led the attacking team during the successful assault on Point 5140 on 19 June 1999. The leaders also acknowledged the remarkable service of his father, Subedar Parmatam Singh, who fought in the 1962 and 1971 wars. Sat Sharma, speaking on the occasion, said that

Kargil Vijay Diwas is not merely a day of remembrance but a solemn pledge to uphold the ideals for which India's brave soldiers made the supreme sacrifice. He said the victory at Kargil reflected the indomitable spirit, discipline and patriotism of the Indian Armed Forces, who defended every inch of the nation's territory despite extremely challeng-

ing conditions. He added that the courage of heroes like Hony. Sub Maj Kamal Singh serves as an inspiration for every Indian and that the nation will forever remain indebted to its soldiers and their families. He also said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the welfare, dignity and empowerment of the Armed Forces and ex-servicemen have remained a national priority.

Ch. Vikram Randhawa said that the sacrifices of Kargil heroes can never be repaid and must continue to inspire the younger generation to place the nation above everything else. He urged the youth to serve the nation with dedication, discipline and patriotism while always respecting the sacrifices made by the Armed Forces.

LUCKNOW, JULY 25:

A two-day National Media Workshop jointly organised by the Akhil Bharatiya Rashtriya Shaikshik Mahasangh (ABRSM) and Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University (BBAU), Lucknow commenced today with an inspiring inaugural session, bringing together teachers, media coordinators, and educationists from across the country to deliberate on the transformative role of media in education and nation-building.

Senior journalist and former Editor, DD News, Shri Ashok Shrivastava, who graced the occasion as the Chief Guest, emphasized that teachers constitute the most influential section of society and possess the unique ability to shape the future of the nation. Addressing the gathering, he said that the youth of today must be transformed into "Generation V"—a visionary generation capable of leading India towards global excellence. He urged teachers to think "out of the box and even out of the classroom", stressing that meaningful education ex-



tends beyond textbooks and conventional teaching methods.

Referring to the recent success of India's private space sector and the achievements of Skyroot Aerospace, Shri Shrivastava encouraged teachers to inspire students to dream big, innovate fearlessly, and contribute positively to society and the nation.

He remarked that the aspirations of young India should be aligned with scientific temper, innovation, entrepreneurship, and national development.

Presiding over the inaugural session, Prof. R. K. Mittal, Vice-Chancellor, Babasaheb Bhimrao

Ambedkar University, observed that teachers have the responsibility of enlightening students with knowledge, values, and entrepreneurial qualities. He stated that nurturing innovation, self-reliance, and leadership among the youth would accelerate India's journey towards becoming a Viksit Bharat, even before the targeted deadline.

Earlier, welcoming the participants, Prof. Narayan Lal Gupta, National President of ABRSM, outlined the objectives of the two-day workshop and highlighted the growing significance of media in strengthening educational and social outreach. He

emphasized that education must be rooted in "Naitikta" (ethical and moral values), asserting that teachers should guide the younger generation with integrity, character, and a sense of national responsibility. He noted that the workshop has been designed to equip educators with modern media skills so that they can effectively communicate positive educational initiatives and inspire society.

Prof. Geeta Bhat, National General Secretary of ABRSM, also addressed the gathering and underlined the importance of responsible communication in strengthening the education sector and promoting constructive social discourse.

Among the distinguished dignitaries present were Shri Mahender Kapoor, National Organising Secretary, ABRSM; Shri G. Lakshman, Deputy Organising Secretary, ABRSM; and Shri Manander Kumar, Senior Vice-President, ABRSM, along with representatives from various states and Union Territories.

Natrang stages Hindi play 'Reed-Rahit'

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Natrang presented a well-designed performance of "Reed-Rahit", a play based on Russian writer Anton Chekhov's "Nincompoo" adapted in Hindi by Satyendra Sharat here today at its Studio Theatre in Sunday Theatre Series. The play was directed by Neeraj Kant. The play is an inspiration for all those who do not have courage to stand for their rights.

The play opens in the house of one landlord who wanted to settle down his account with Julia, the instructor of his children who also works as domestic help, she has not been paid the salary for the last two



months. In the play the Landlord tries to teach a lesson of self-respect and dignity of labour to Julia. In this context, he created a drama in reality and he started debating on the amount to be paid to Julia, he tells him that he has to

pay him Rs.1,100/- only, after ridiculously forged deductions, against the expected amount of Rs.8,000/-. Very gullible by the nature, Julia just sits there, without saying a word in support of her genuine payment she

accepts the money with gratitude. Aggravated by such kind of nincompoo/spine less behavior of Julia, landlord bursts into an indignant rage and tells her that she should speak up for her rights and shall not allow anyone to exploit her, if we remain silent, no one will come to our support, thus we have to speak boldly and fight righteously for our rights. At the end, the landlord pays her Rs.8,000/-, putting an end to his human experiment in humiliation. Thus, a lesson was given to all those who are too submissive to stand for themselves and allow other to take benefit of the same.