

Jammu region suffered more than Kashmir post 2019, statehood right of people: Karra

Dogras lost identity, dignity, status, jobs, land: Ch Lal Singh

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JKPCC President Shri Tariq Hameed Karra has said that Jammu region suffered more than Kashmir post 2019 and blamed BJP of selling false dreams & hopes to the people especially youths, who are suffering the most nowadays due to lack of job opportunities uncertainty & price escalation

Addressing a largely attended Congress rally at Basohli today, Shri Karra hit out at BJP for befooling the innocent people giving hopes of a better future but now people of Jammu region feel cheated & betrayed from BJP. The crowd responded positively by raising hands, as he asked which region suffered more- Jammu or Kashmir region, the people replied that Jammu region. He asked BJP to explain the benefits of downgrading the historical state into UT and snatching protection to land, jobs and natural resources granted by Maharaja, as he paid rich tributes to Maharaja Hari Singh on his death anniversary today.

Karra reiterated the Charge that BJP wants to rule by proxy, as none of 29 MLAs, MPs of BJP who never cleared their silence about restoration of statehood promised to people by centre government more than six years ago, asserting that Congress will continue its movement "Hamari Riyasat Hamara Haq".

Jkpcc Chief said that Modi government and BJP is destroying the very foundations & values laid down by Mahatma Gandhi, Jawahar Lal Nehru, Sardar



Patel and other stalwarts. He said India was considered Vishvaguru because of its core values of unity in diversity, religious harmony and non violence but it is in great danger.

Terming Modi as the weakest Prime Minister, Karra said that country had strong leadership most of times, which never compromised its dignity and rights like the present times.

Praising Rahul Gandhi for providing strong leadership and playing boldly the role of Opposition against all out authoritarian and vindictive policies of Modi government, the youth of country see hope in the leadership of Rahul Gandhi ji.

He lashed out at the policies of exploitation and falsehood over the issue of women reservation and said that it is Congress party which introduced 1/3rd reservation in PRIs. The women reservation bill was passed unanimously in 2023 but not implemented by Modi government and spreading total lied and falsehood, he added.

The rally by organised by former MP Ch Lal Singh, while Shri Karra was accompanied by Working President Raman Bhalla, Chief Spokesperson Ravin-

der Sharma Former MLC Th Balbir Singh, Ex MLA Kanta Andotra, Former minister Yash Pal Kundal, DCC President Pankaj Dogra IYC Spokespersons Ashwarya, Divya Sharma besides Vijyant Pathania Vijay Chaudhary, Jatin Vashisht MP Singh, Amit Mehra, Rakesh Chaudhary, Zakir Hussain and others.

Working President Raman Bhalla hit out at BJP for pushing the country especially J&K into backwardness by snatching out status of statehood and rights. Despite elected government, BJP's anti democratic policies continue and statehood is not restored.

BJP has disrespected mandate of people of J&K and didn't restore statehood after loosing mandate to rule directly, so decided to rule by proxy.

He said people especially youth are worst sufferers under dual control system for which BJP is squarely responsible.

Former MP Ch Lal Singh lashed out at BJP for spoiling the career of the Dogra youth as the dogras lost identity, dignity, status, rights to land, jobs, resources by snatching the guarantees extended by Maharaja.

BJP asked people to cele-

brate, now people are asking what was gained by them out of this as our jobs are going outside at the cost of our educated youth. Our resources, water, sand, bajri is being looted. Even contractors, transporters are coming from outside, at the cost of local jobless people.

He said highly educated youth of J&K are unemployed and getting frustrated due to policies of BJP. He said government is least worried about the sufferings of the people as the flood affected are still suffering after 11 months of flood devastation as centre government failed to come to the rescue of affected people.

He said Congress has created lot of facilities of education, health, connectivity during its period including vital Atal Setu bridge by Smt Sonia Gandhi in 2011.

The rally was addressed by Senior leaders and local functionaries including block Presidents of the party.

On this occasion JKPCC Chief alongwith senior leaders and IYC Spokesperson Ashwarya Badre & Divya Sharma launched the digital campaign for the redressal of people's grievances.

VVCHS holds Academic Excellence Ceremony

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Vimal Vidyalay Convent High School, Akalpur, organized its School Council Ceremony cum Academic Excellence Award Ceremony with great enthusiasm and dignity.

The event was graced by Master Divyansh Goswami, Class X Board Topper (Session 2025-26), who secured an outstanding 99% and attended as the Chief Guest.

His achievement brought immense pride to the institution.

During the ceremony, the newly elected student council members were formally inducted and took the oath to uphold the values of the school with sincerity and discipline. Academic Excellence Awards



were also presented to meritorious students in recognition of their outstanding performance.

Sr. Prasan SND, the Principal, congratulated the achievers and appreciated the efforts of teachers and

parents. Fr. Johnson Thomas, the Manager, extended his best wishes and highlighted the importance of holistic education.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks proposed by Sr. Jy-

oti Mary SND, the Vice Principal, expressing gratitude to all for their support and cooperation.

The event was a proud and inspiring moment for the entire school community.

LG Ladakh inspects Igoo-Phey Irrigation Canal, reviews irrigation and hydropower infrastructure

LEH, APRIL 26: The Lieutenant Governor of the Union Territory of Ladakh, Shri Vinai Kumar Saxena, inspected the headworks of the Igoo-Phey Irrigation Canal project at Martselang, a vital infrastructure initiative that supports both irrigation and power generation in the region.

The Igoo-Phey Irrigation Canal, initiated in 1979 and completed in 2005, and spanning approximately 43 km with 30 distributaries, was designed to irrigate nearly 4,500 hectares of land on the left bank of the Indus River. Villages from Igoo to Phey, including Martselang, Changa, Thiksey, Shey, and Chuchot were benefiting from this canal. The canal played a crucial role in enhancing green cover and supporting



agricultural livelihoods in the region. However, due to non-maintenance of the canal for many years, villagers are facing acute water shortage.

During the visit, issues related to maintenance of the canal, including budgetary requirements for repair works, and renovation of the damaged wooden bridge at the headworks, were also reviewed and dis-

cussed with officials and villagers.

The Lieutenant Governor was informed that out of 43 km stretch, only 25 km section from Martselang to Phey has been made operational and the remaining stretch of 18 km has been non-operational for several years.

The Lieutenant Governor directed that the restoration work be speed up on

an 11 km stretch up to Igoo, where water-lift techniques should be adopted to ensure efficient water flow.

The Lieutenant Governor also directed the concerned departments to expedite the completion of the remaining works and ensure timely charging of the canal so that farmers can effectively utilise water for irrigation, thereby, enhancing agricultural productivity and greenery in the region.

In view of the ongoing implementation of Project Him Sarovar across Ladakh, he further directed that the work on digging of ponds be accelerated and completed by May 20, ensuring that the water is made available to villagers for agricultural use at the earliest.

ASTRO ZINDAGI

(Weekly Horoscope April 27- May 2, 2026)

ARIES :

This week, you feel a strong pull toward adventure in love. For singles, you are drawn to someone who offers excitement and challenges, sparking curiosity. However, Mars indicates that restlessness may also set in, making you crave variety and spontaneity. For couples, this is an excellent time to take risks together whether it's a spontaneous trip or trying something new. The key is balancing fun with respect for your partner's emotions, avoiding impulsive decisions. On the financial front, your focus shifts to building long-term stability. Mercury indicates a good week for transparent discussions, and you may receive positive news regarding approvals or confirmations by the weekend. Professionally, take time to reassess your strategies.

TAURUS :

This week, Venus, brings a calm and steady pace to your relationships. Whether you are in a relationship or single, you are more open about expressing your needs, creating deeper connections. In committed relationships, sharing everyday tasks like planning or discussing home life brings you closer. For singles, reconnecting with someone from your past or feeling a spark with someone new is possible. Take your time and let things develop naturally. In your finances, Mercury encourages long-term planning. Focus on savings, renegotiating deals, or finding steady ways to earn money that align with your values. Avoid get-rich-quick schemes, and trust in your ability to build wealth gradually and securely.

GEMINI :

This week, emotional clarity takes center stage, supported by Mercury's influence on communication. In love, you may feel more confident about what you need from a relationship and what you will not tolerate. If you are in a relationship, an honest conversation could strengthen your bond. Singles may connect with someone who shares similar values, leading to slow but steady growth. The South Node's influence may bring up old emotional patterns, offering a chance to break free and move forward with honesty and patience. Financially, focus on practicality.

CANCER :

This week, a light and refreshing energy flows into your love life, thanks to the supportive influence of Venus and the movement of Mercury. If you are in a relationship, shared laughter and easy communication help lift any recent tension. It's a great time to reconnect through fun, simple moments. If single, you may attract someone in a casual or social setting, just by being your natural self. Financially, your intuition sharpens under the influence of the Moon aligning with Uranus. This is a great time to reassess your goals and take a practical look at your spending. Avoid big purchases for now, and consider redirecting unexpected gains toward long-term savings.

LEO :

At the beginning of the week, your natural charm shines brightly in romance. Whether single or committed, your warmth and boldness attract positive energy, encourage fun, laughter, and genuine connections. Venus supports playful and heartfelt moments, reminding you that love flows best when shared. Moving into mid-week, the focus shifts to finances under Mercury's influence. Unexpected expenses may appear, but careful planning and clear communication help you stay steady. Avoid impulsive decisions and seek advice when needed to maintain financial balance. In the latter half of the week, creativity and mental sharpness reach a peak with the help of the Sun and Mars.

VIRGO :

The week begins on a joyful note as Venus brings a spark of fresh energy to your love life. Whether you are in a relationship or single, your openness and playfulness shine through. Couples can reignite their bond through spontaneous moments, while singles may find exciting connections through social or creative settings. Let go of overthinking, being present and sincere makes your charm irresistible. By midweek, Mercury urges you to strengthen your financial footing. Focus on reducing small debts, resist new liabilities, and organize your budget. You will gain clarity and confidence through simple, disciplined steps. Professionally, Saturn supports critical reflection and careful adjustments.

LIBRA :

Your love life feels comforting and supportive under the gentle influence of Venus. Couples may enjoy a peaceful, trusting connection with plans that feel more secure. Singles are likely to be drawn to someone steady and emotionally grounded, valuing safety over excitement. Midweek, financial decisions require careful thought, especially those involving others. Saturn advises you to avoid risks unless fully informed and emotionally balanced. Patience is key if you face delays, and revisiting your goals will protect your progress. A slow, methodical approach strengthens your foundation.

SCORPIO :

This week begins with the Venus, urging emotional clarity in love. Whether you are committed or single, you are called to reassess if your relationships reflect your true emotional needs. For couples, this can be a turning point either healing distance or reaffirming deeper commitment. For singles, the South Node may trigger release of lingering attachments, freeing you for more fulfilling connections. Financially, Mercury can bring surprise expenses or sudden shifts in contracts. Stay grounded and read the fine print before committing. Collaborative efforts may pay off if handled with diplomacy. Keep focus on long-term planning rather than short-term gain. Career-wise, the Sun harmonizes with Mars, boosting your confidence and influence.

SAGITTARIUS :

The week starts with the steady influence of the Sun boosting your emotional confidence. You no longer second-guess your feelings and stand firmly by what you want. In relationships, this deepens bonds through shared stability, while singles attract partners who appreciate their emotional growth rather than old patterns. Venus encourages breaking cycles and rewriting your love story with honesty. Financially, Saturn urges you to focus on long-term security and build sustainable routines. It's a good time to explore learning tools for money management or investing, and to follow up assertively on pending job offers or payments. Risk-taking isn't favored now; persistence and clarity bring steady growth. Midweek, Uranus inspires innovative energy—new projects or business ideas may emerge, with unexpected support from unlikely sources.

CAPRICORN :

The week starts with the influence of Moon and South Node, inviting emotional healing in love. If you are in a relationship, past tensions may resurface to deepen understanding. Patience builds trust now. Singles might reconnect with someone from the past, prompting clarity rather than reunion. Your emotional growth protects you, emphasizing reflection over action. Financially, Mercury energizes communication and short-term opportunities like freelance or extra hours. Be cautious of quick gains with hidden conditions—review details carefully. It's a good time to renegotiate terms but hold off on upgrades unless necessary. Aquarius : At the start of the week, you will focus on reviewing your progress and planning carefully for the future. The influence of Mars encourages you to be practical and organized, especially with finances. You might face some small expenses or decisions about loans, so prioritize wisely and avoid mixing money with friendships. Midweek brings a sense of emotional stability in love—whether single or partnered, loyalty and trust take center stage. Conversations about long-term goals strengthen your bonds, creating a safe and grounded connection.

PISCES :

This week begins with emotional healing as Venus encouraging forgiveness and deeper connection. Vulnerability becomes your strength—honest talks dissolve tension for couples, while singles may find calming, unexpected connections. Old romantic wounds resurface to heal, inviting you into authentic love received with ease. Financially, the Sun and Mars boost momentum, bringing responses to projects or support requests. Watch for Mercury's hidden fine print. Creative talents might quietly generate income—don't dismiss unconventional paths. Near the weekend, choose substance over impulsive treats. Professionally, reassess commitments as some roles or clients may no longer align. North Node urges releasing what drains you.

LG Saxena approves new identity framework for Ladakh Fire & Rescue Service

LEH, APRIL 26: In a significant step towards strengthening institutional identity and enhancing professionalism, the Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Shri Vinai Kumar Saxena, has given approval to the official emblem, flag, logo, and various insignia of the Fire and Rescue Service Department.

The approval comes in pursuance of a proposal submitted by the Fire and Rescue Service Department to establish a distinct and unified identity for the department in line with national standards while reflecting Ladakh's unique cultural and geographical character.

After detailed examination, the LG accorded approval for the notification of the Ladakh Fire & Rescue Service Emblem, Flag, Logo, Cap Badge, Shoulder Badge, and Belt Badge. These identity elements are designed to bring uniformity, discipline, and a strong sense of institutional pride among personnel, while also improving public recognition and trust.

"The approval of a comprehensive identity framework for the Fire and Rescue Service reflects the Administration's continued commitment to building efficient, responsive, and culturally rooted institutions in the Union Territory. The integration of

cultural elements into the logo and insignia not only instills pride among personnel but also symbolises the department's deep connection with the land and its people. A professional, well-recognised force is crucial for ensuring efficient emergency response and building public trust," said Lieutenant Governor Shri Saxena.

The newly approved logo is a harmonious blend of national symbolism and Ladakh's cultural identity. At its core, it features the National Emblem, representing authority, integrity, and service. Traditional firefighting symbols such as flames, crossed axes, and rescue motifs signify courage, prepared-

ness, and the department's unwavering commitment to safeguarding lives and property.

Significantly, the design also incorporates elements inspired by Ladakh's unique landscape and heritage.

Motifs reflecting the region's mountainous terrain symbolise resilience and adaptability in challenging conditions, while subtle influences of traditional Ladakhi art underscore the rich cultural legacy of the region. The colour scheme further reinforces this identity by combining vibrant tones representing bravery and action with earthy hues that reflect Ladakh's natural environment.