

Congress stages protest march over NEET scam, statehood demand

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, JULY 13

The District Congress Committee, Jammu Urban today organised a strong protest march from Khalsa Chowk to Shivaji Chowk, Nanak Nagar, Jammu. A large number of Congress leaders, workers, Congress activists and local residents participated in the march, carrying placards and raising slogans against the NEET paper leak, demanding the immediate restoration of full statehood to Jammu & Kashmir and highlighting various issues concerning unemployment, inflation and the rights of the people. The protesters raised slogans including "Humari Riyasat Hamara Haq," "NEET Scam ke zimmedaron ko saza do," "Yuva virodhi sarkar murdabad," and "Students ko insaaf do."

The protest was led by Working President Raman Bhalla and Former Minister Yogesh Sawhney District President Jammu Urban Along with Chief Spokesperson Ravinder Sharma, Ex MLC Th. Balbir Singh, Manmohan Singh Ex DCC President, Satish Sharma, Amrit Bali, Sanjeev Panda, Dwarka Choudhary, Sohit Sharma, Jatinder Chib, Bhushan Kumar, Pardeep Bhalla, Latish Sharma, Gurmeet Singh, Ajay Kumar, Jatin Vashist, Sandeep Dogra, Kulbhushan Sharma, Happy Randhawa, Sneha, Sofia, Balwinder Singh Rinku ,Gagan Bral, Parasram Blouria, Sahil Shavotra, Gagandeep lucky ,Pudina Amrish sharma, Anirudh Sawhney, Vinay mahajan ,Satpal Sapolia, Mukul Dalotra, Gopal Sharma Balwinder Singh ,Raj kumar Mehra, Ajay Mehra, Jatin Vashisht , Sanjay Murli, Atul Sharma, Jeet Ram ,Sohan Bhagat, Anuradha sharma, Aamna kalian, Babli kumara, Ra-



jinder Singh, Raj kumar Paramjeet Singh, Gurdeep Singh Kaka, Avatar singh, Chander prabha, Parveen Basotra ,Ashwani Sethi, Suman preet SanjeevK Kattal, Kartar Singh, Mohinder Singh, Deedar Singh, Manjeet Singh Pyara Singh, Gurdeep Singh, Kulwant Singh, Dalbir singh, Balbir Singh, Surinder Singh ,Tajinder Singh, Bittu Singh, Harbhajan Singh, Iqbal Singh , Ravinder Singh, Rashpal singh, Dara Singh Daljeet Singh, Ravinder Singh kaka and others.

Addressing the gathering, Working President PCC Raman Bhalla said the BJP Government has repeatedly failed the youth of the country by allowing scams and irregularities to creep into the education system, destroying the dreams of lakhs of deserving students. He said the repeated paper leaks and examination controversies have eroded public faith in competitive examinations and no accountability has been fixed despite widespread outrage. Demanding the resignation of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, Bhalla said moral responsibility cannot be avoided when the future of an entire generation is at stake.

On the issue of Jammu & Kashmir, Bhalla said the people have been waiting for the restoration of full statehood for nearly two years despite repeated assurances from the Centre.

He said the Congress Party has consistently led the movement for statehood by taking the issue from Parliament to Jantar Mantar and to every district and block across Jammu & Kashmir. He asserted that the people cannot be deprived of their constitutional and democratic rights indefinitely and vowed that the Congress Party would continue its peaceful struggle until full statehood is restored and the rights of the people are fully protected.

Also speaking on the issue, Former Minister J&K and DCC Jammu Urban President Yogesh Sawhney said the Modi Government has completely failed to protect the interests of students, unemployed youth and the people of Jammu & Kashmir. He alleged that repeated examination scams have exposed the collapse of the country's recruitment and examination system, leaving honest and hardworking students frustrated and uncertain about their future. He demanded a transparent, fair and corruption-free examination mechanism along with exemplary punishment for all those involved in the NEET paper leak.

Sawhney further said that the restoration of full statehood is not a favour, but the constitutional right of the people of Jammu & Kashmir. He criticised the continued delay in restoring democratic powers to

the elected representatives and said the Congress Party would continue to intensify its public movement until the Centre fulfils its commitment. He also urged the Government to address growing unemployment, inflation and other public issues instead of diverting attention from the real concerns of the people.

Chief Spokesperson Ravinder Sharma also addressed the gathering. He criticised the Central Government over rising unemployment, inflation, repeated examination scams and the continued delay in restoring statehood to Jammu & Kashmir. He reiterated that the Congress Party would continue to fight democratically for the rights of students, youth and the people of Jammu & Kashmir until justice is delivered and their genuine demands are fulfilled.

Senior Congress leader Th. Manmohan Singh also condemned the government stating that this government is creating more problems for the public than it is solving. The students, the poor, the middle class are all in distress due to incompetence and corruption prevalent in the incumbent government at the center. They are ignoring major issues like the NEET examination issue, or the statehood issue and Congress will not sit quiet until the public's demands are met.

SGRDS Khour felicitates meritorious students, promotes education through library initiative

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Shri Guru Ravi Dass Sabha, Khour, in collaboration with the All J&K Guru Ravi Dass Sabha (Regd.), Krishna Nagar, Jammu, organised a grand felicitation ceremony to honour meritorious students of Class 10 and Class 12 who secured more than 80 per cent marks in the recently declared board examinations.

The programme celebrated academic excellence while reiterating the Sabha's commitment to promoting education and social empowerment within the community.

Students honoured during the function included Vishakha, Tanav Kumar, Parimal Dalia, Ashish Kalsi, Souray Dalia, Gourav Dalia, Radhika Dalia, Ayush Laoch, Nancy Devi, Sameer Bangotra, Diksha Bangotra, Arun Dalia, Mansi Bangotra, Suraksha, Ayana Bangotra and Abhinav.

Each student was presented with trophies and medals in recognition of their outstanding academic performance, which ranged from 80 to 98 per cent. The gathering applauded the students for their hard work and also congratulated their parents and teachers for their support and guidance.

On the occasion, the All J&K Guru Ravi Dass Sabha (Regd.), Krishna Nagar, Jammu, further strengthened its educational outreach by donating a com-



puter set for the Ambedkar-Phule-Shahu Library located within the premises of Gurudwara Shri Guru Ravi Dass Sabha, Khour. In addition, a collection of 22 books authored by Bharat Ratna Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, Kalsi, Souray Dalia, Gourav Dalia, Radhika Dalia, Ayush Laoch, Nancy Devi, Sameer Bangotra, Diksha Bangotra, Arun Dalia, Mansi Bangotra, Suraksha, Ayana Bangotra and Abhinav.

Addressing the gathering, Er. Ramesh Bhasin, President of the All J&K Guru Ravi Dass Sabha (Regd.), Krishna Nagar, appreciated the efforts of Shri Guru Ravi Dass Sabha, Khour, for bringing the community together through the recitation of the sacred Amritvani of Shri Guru Ravi Dass Ji Maharaj on the second Sunday of every month. He highlighted the various initiatives undertaken by the Sabha to Krishna Nagar, including the establishment of a Free OPD at Gurudwara Shri Guru Ravi Dass

Ji Maharaj. He informed that a modern library equipped with 50 study cabins has already been established and that a computer centre and online classes would commence shortly. He said the organisation is placing special emphasis on the sectors of education and healthcare, believing them to be the key pillars for social progress.

Prof. C.L. Shivgotra, Chief Spokesperson, Tarsem Laoch, General Secretary, Surjeet Singh Heer, and Sham Lal also addressed the gathering and appreciated the educational initiatives being undertaken by the Sabha. They encouraged students to continue striving for excellence and make meaningful contributions to society through knowledge and hard work.

Speaking on the occasion, Sham Lal Basson, President of the All J&K Dalit Chetna Manch, lauded the office bearers of

the All J&K Guru Ravi Dass Sabha (Regd.), Krishna Nagar, for their dedicated efforts towards the welfare of the Bahun community and the Ravidasia Samaj in particular. He also appreciated the work of Shri Guru Ravi Dass Sabha, Khour, in promoting unity within the community and congratulated the meritorious students and their families for their remarkable achievements.

Vikram Singh, President of Shri Guru Ravi Dass Sabha, Khour, expressed gratitude to the All J&K Guru Ravi Dass Sabha (Regd.), Krishna Nagar, for donating the computer set to the library. Congratulating the students who secured between 80 and 98 per cent marks, he urged them to make full use of the library and educational facilities being created for their benefit. He also reaffirmed the Sabha's commitment to supporting education and youth development.

8th BRTC batch commences at STC Talwara

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Training of the 18th BRTC Batch commenced at STC Talwara, marking the induction of newly recruited Constables into service.

The programme began with an introduction of the outdoor and indoor staff by Assistant Principal (Outdoor) Vishal Manhas, followed by the formal inaugural function by Principal STC Talwara MY Kichloo.

Welcoming the trainees, the Principal congratulated them on joining the Police Department and urged them to uphold discipline, integrity and professionalism throughout their careers. He highlighted the



importance of teamwork, leadership, continuous learning and public service in shaping capable police personnel.

The trainees were briefed on the training schedule, institutional values and

programme objectives, and received an awareness session on cybercrime, covering cyber hygiene, digital responsibility and protection against emerging cyber threats.

Among those present

were Assistant Principal (Indoor) Shahid Mustafa, Dy SP Estates & Security Sanjeev Kumar, Assistant Principal (Outdoor) Vishal Manhas and Assistant Principal (Administration) Khudmukhtar Dev.

ALC Kishtwar convenes meeting with power project officials for effective implementation of Labour Codes

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Assistant Labour Commissioner (ALC) Kishtwar Mamta Sudershan today convened a meeting with representatives of power projects and establishments operating in the district, under the directions of Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar Pankaj Kumar Sharma, to ensure effective implementation of the Four Labour Codes: Code on Wages 2019, Industrial Relations Code 2020, Code on Social Security 2020 and Occupational Safety, Health & Working Conditions Code 2020.

Power project authorities and other establishments were directed to furnish exact details of workers en-



gaged by them, including company employees and PRW workers, to facilitate implementation of labour welfare provisions. The ALC instructed all establishments to designate a nodal officer for each power project and establishment to ensure coordination with the Labour Department and timely compliance with the Codes.

Mamta Sudershan briefed participants on key

features and objectives of the Four Labour Codes, which aim to simplify labour laws, ensure wage security, strengthen social security coverage, enhance occupational safety and provide better working conditions for workers.

A Google Form along with a QR code has been shared by the Office of the Assistant Labour Commissioner, Kishtwar, the meeting was informed, and es-

tablishments were asked to scan the code, access the form and submit the required details after completing the awareness process. The office is also preparing a micro plan for a month-long awareness and implementation campaign, under which a schedule has been prepared to cover construction workers, shopkeepers and workers in unorganised sectors across the district.

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In the wake of the recent cloudburst that affected several areas of Thathri, the Health Department, Doda has intensified public health measures to prevent outbreak of water-borne and vector-borne diseases.

As part of these efforts, the Doda Malaria Team conducted a field visit to the affected locality of Ward No 3, Masjid Mohalla, Thathri.

During the visit, the team undertook anti-larval operations, spraying larvicides in stagnant water bodies and other potential mosquito breeding sites to prevent the spread of malaria, dengue and other vector-borne diseases. The team also conducted an environmental assessment to identify public health risks and areas requiring immediate intervention.

To enhance community awareness, an Information, Education and Communication (IEC) campaign was



organised. Residents were sensitised about the importance of drinking safe water, maintaining hygiene and sanitation, preventing water stagnation around

homes, and promptly reporting symptoms such as fever, diarrhoea or vomiting to the nearest health facility.

The activity was carried

out under the supervision of District Malaria Officer Ilam-ud-Din in coordination with Block Medical Officer Thathri Dr Shakeel Ahmed Kichloo.

DC Kathua reviews performance of ICDS sector

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Deputy Commissioner Kathua Rajesh Sharma today chaired a meeting to review performance of the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) sector in the district and assess progress under various flagship schemes.

Programme Officer ICDS Mohammed Syed Khan presented the district profile and an overview of the department's functioning. The district has 1,641 Anganwadi Centres spread across 19 CD Blocks under eight ICDS Projects, providing nutrition, health and early childhood care services, the meeting was informed.

The meeting was informed that 40,328 benefi-



ciaries are covered under the Supplementary Nutrition Programme (SNP), while 1,266 beneficiaries have been registered so far this financial year under the Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PM-MVY), against a target of 5,200. Reviewing welfare schemes, the meeting was informed that 682 cases have been sanctioned un-

der the Ladli Beti Yojana this financial year, 25 Anganwadi Centres have been upgraded with LED screens, Alexa-enabled learning facilities and other amenities, and six Anganwadi Centres have been equipped with crèche facilities for working mothers.

On Aadhaar enrolment, the meeting was informed that Aadhaar has been gen-

erated or updated for 7,781 children aged zero to five years, while 11,998 children above five years have also been covered.

The Deputy Commissioner reviewed nutrition-related interventions and discussed measures for identification, adoption and management of children with Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) and Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM), stressing regular monitoring and timely intervention to improve children's nutritional status. The meeting also discussed preparations for Poshan Pakhwada, awareness activities under the Nasha Mukt Jammu Kashmir Abhiyan and greater convergence among stakeholder departments for child welfare and nutrition programmes.