

SRO-43 in electoral politics will push Nagrota's development to backburner: Anil Sharma

JAMMU BULLETIN NEWS
JAMMU, MAR 2:

Sounding the poll bugle for by-election in Nagrota assembly segment, All Jammu and Kashmir Panchayat Conference (AJKPC) president Anil Sharma on Sunday took a strong dig at the political parties for their attempt to implement SRO-43 in electoral politics by favouring the kin of MLAs and MPs.

While launching his campaign for bringing public reforms in Nagrota assembly constituency, Sharma, who also served as Sarpanch of Panchayat Jindrah, addressed a large and enthusiastic gathering of workers and local residents in Dansal town, urging them to carefully consider their electoral future before casting their votes in the upcoming by-election for the Nagrota assembly constituency. "Over 3,600 SRO-43 cases remain pending in Nagrota, yet political leaders maintained a criminal silence on the clearance of these cases. These long-pending issues, which should have been resolved after the abrogation of Article 370, continue to be ignored. However, political parties and their leaders are making all-out efforts to implement political SRO-43 in the constituency to benefit the kin of MLAs and MPs, even posthumously," he regretted.

Sharma pointed out that the families of daily wagers from the Power Development Department (PDD) who lost their lives due to electrocu-



tion while performing their duties, as well as the families of casual drivers of the J&K Road Transport Corporation who were killed in road accidents while driving, are still waiting for justice. "Their files are gathering dust, while political leaders, who should be working for the people, remain silent. These very leaders, however, have no hesitation in acknowledging political SRO-43 to benefit the families of their political cronies," Sharma remarked.

He also expressed deep concern over the trend of sidelining true grassroots leaders and workers in favour of individuals with political influence, money, and connections. "People who have dedicated their lives to the welfare of the masses are being ignored by political parties in favour of those who have political fathers and can wield power or money. This practice needs to end immediately," he said. Sharma added, "Only those who have served

the people with dedication and commitment at grassroots level should be allowed to represent them in the Legislative Assembly as such people will leave no stone unturned to deliver justice to the people."

He further emphasized the urgent need for development in the tourism sector in Nagrota. "Despite having significant religious and tourism destinations like the Kol Kandoli Temple, Surinsar Lake, Mathwar Shrine, and others, the area has remained neglected. No political leader or elected representative has ever worked toward the promotion of tourism in Nagrota. Sites of immense religious and tourism significance are being left to deteriorate," he lamented.

He also pointed out that schools and colleges are understaffed in Nagrota assembly constituency and the education system in disarray. "The only degree college in Jindrah, located in the

Dansal block, continues to function from two rooms in a higher secondary school. The newly constructed building, which developed cracks before its inauguration, remains unused and stands as a symbol of corruption," Sharma said.

He also took a swipe at the leaders for taking people for granted and playing with their sentiments. "The promises made by political leaders, such as the establishment of administrative units like a sub-division in Nagrota and Tehsil status for Jindrah, have remained unfulfilled. These issues have constantly been ignored, with elected representatives continuing to play with the sentiments of the people of Nagrota," he said. "The people of Nagrota have had enough. They have understood the tactics of these political opportunists, and they will teach them a lesson in the upcoming by-election," he said, adding "This is a turning point for

Nagrota. The people will no longer tolerate political opportunism and exploitation. It's time for change, and the people will speak with their votes."

He also exposed the political backing for illegal mining activities in the Nagrota constituency. "There is a mafia operating in the region that is indulging in illegal mining of natural resources like river sand, gravel, stones and other minerals. They are using large machines and JCBs to extract these minerals with impunity. Meanwhile, local people, who have historically earned their livelihood by extracting sand and stones from rivers and streams through horses, have been banned from doing so at the behest of these politically-supported mafia groups," he stated. Sharma called for immediate action to end the exploitation of natural resources and ensure that local people benefit from the resources in their own region.

He stressed that the upcoming by-election provides an opportunity for the people of Nagrota to make their voices heard and put an end to the exploitation they have endured for years. Earlier, a large enthusiastic crowd drawn from different walks of life gathered in Dansal block and gave rousing welcome to AJKPC president for launching a crusade of public reforms by announcing to contest the upcoming by-election in Nagrota assembly constituency.

Natrang stages Hindi play, 'Rehearsal' in Sunday Theatre

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Natrang featured 'Rehearsal', a play in Hindi written by Lakshmi Kant Vaishnav and directed by Neeraj Kant here today at Natrang Studio Theatre Kachi Chawni in its weekly Theatre Series, Sunday Theatre. In the play the writer has very satirically mocked the people who want to do something without its proper knowledge and also without possessing the basic eligibility of the field. The play 'Rehearsal' very interestingly portrays the rehearsal scenario of a play where the cast is all women. Though they (Kitty-mates) want to present a good show, their approach is not good enough and too much immature. The basic ingredients which are required to mount a professional theatre production like discipline, punctuality, team spirit, self-motivation, neutrality of the mind etc were all missing in these ladies and they were instead full of the traits like jealousy, gos-



sip, lack of coordination and egotism. The rehearsal becomes a free for all situation where everyone reveals her mind in a dramatic manner. Though there is a director also but because of her own limitations and lack of mettle, she is not able to control the team. Where these ladies were required to act with compassion towards their fellow artists they had their own whims and fancies, few of them even had proud in their mind as their husbands are at higher posts and they were instead full of the traits like jealousy, gos-

rehearsal which was shown in the play Rehearsal ended up to be a chaos leaving a stern message that we need to be disciplined and committed to create a meaningful work of art. Natrang artists who performed in the play included Kananpreet Kaur, Kartik Kumar, Vandana Thakur, Supria Gorka, Priyank Ashok Gupta, Mehak Chib and Palshin Dutta. The lights of the play were operated by Neeraj Kant. The presentations were done by Aryan Sharma and the show was coordinated by Mohd. Yaseen.

Power outages affecting all aspects of life in both border & rural areas: Kesri



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The smart city project has been a total failure on the part of the government. Despite the installation of smart meters and regular payment of dues, there is no relief for common people, as the issue of prolonged and unscheduled power outages remains stagnant especially border and rural areas. Residents are grappling with daily routines due to inadequate power supply while the authorities remain indifferent towards this issue, as they fail to do their job rightfully.

This was stated by Shiv Sena Hindustan J&K President Pt Rajesh Kesri while addressing media persons in Arnia area on Sunday. Power cuts are a critical issue that needs to be immediately addressed by the authorities, as it is causing a lot of distress to both individuals and businesses. These power outages are affecting all aspects of life, including education, which is a critical concern. Kesri presses for a reliable and efficient power supply system to mitigate the hard-

ships faced by the residents, especially students, in these areas.

Kesri observed that people of Jammu district, particularly in the border areas, are shocked and dismayed by the frequent unscheduled power cuts. These power outages are causing immense hardship and disruption to their daily lives. Power cuts cause disruption of educational activities, affecting students' studies and exams, inconvenience to businesses, hospitals and other essential services.

Kesri further said that unscheduled power cuts also results difficulty in accessing basic necessities like water and communication, increased risk of accidents and security breaches due to lack of lighting besides negative impact on the overall quality of life and economic development of the area. The residents are demanding a reliable and efficient power supply system to address these issues and ensure a better standard of living. Despite the installation of smart meters, the government has failed to deliver on

its promise of providing 22x7 power supply to the residents of Jammu district, particularly in the border areas. The frequent unscheduled power cuts have left the people frustrated and disappointed, added Kesri.

Kesri claimed that installation of smart meters was supposed to bring efficiency and reliability to the power supply system, but it seems that the underlying infrastructure and supply chain issues have not been adequately addressed.

The government's inability to provide a consistent power supply has significant implications for the daily lives of residents, including disruption of businesses and economic activities, impact on healthcare and emergency services, inconvenience to households and daily life and negative impact on education and student productivity.

The residents are demanding that the government take immediate action to address the power supply issues and ensure a reliable and efficient 22x7 power supply, added Kesri.

Hike in KCC limit big boon to farmers: Balbir

JAMMU BULLETIN NEWS
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The Union government has announced an increase in the credit limit under the Kisan Credit Card (KCC) scheme in the 2025 budget. This move is expected to provide much-needed financial support to farmers, helping them meet rising input costs, improve productivity, and enhance their overall income. Balbir Ram Rattan, Spokesperson, Jammu and Kashmir BJP & former Vice Chairperson, said this, while terming this decision of Narendra Modi government as a big boon to farmers.

He said that the enhanced KCC limit will allow farmers to access higher credit at affordable interest rates, ensuring better cash flow for purchasing seeds, fertilizers, machinery, and other essential agricultural inputs. The increase in credit will also

support allied agricultural activities such as dairy, fisheries, and poultry, promoting diversification in rural incomes.

Balbir Ram Rattan said that under the revised scheme, the credit limit for KCC holders has been significantly increased from rupees three lakh to five lakh, addressing the concerns of farmers who face difficulties due to limited access to funds. The decision aims to ease financial stress and reduce dependence on informal lenders who often charge exorbitant interest rates. He stated, "the hike in the KCC limit is an appreciable decision that will empower farmers to invest more in modern farming techniques and enhance productivity. This will not only benefit individual farmers but also contribute to the overall growth of the agricultural sector". The increased credit

facility can now help farmers to meet their input costs, including seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, and irrigation, Balbir said, adding that the farmers can access credit at significantly lower rates compared to informal borrowing.

Balbir further said that the move encourages investment in dairy, fisheries, and poultry, ensuring additional income sources for rural households. Now the farmers can avoid high-interest private loans and adopt advanced agricultural techniques, improving efficiency and yields. This enhanced KCC limit aligns with the government's vision of doubling farmers' income and strengthening the rural economy. By ensuring timely credit access, the scheme will play a crucial role in boosting agricultural output and improving the livelihood of millions of farmers.

Pt. Abhay Sopori awarded Swar Shri Samman 2025

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Santoor maestro and composer Pandit Abhay Rustum Sopori has been conferred with the Swar Shri Samman 2025 by Sargam Mandir during its 61st year celebrations in Delhi recognizing Pt. Abhay Sopori's path breaking works and contributions in the field of music at Triveni Kala Sangam, New Delhi. Sargam Mandir is a well-known cultural organization of Delhi which was founded in 1964 by late Pt. Jagdish Mohan, an eminent vocalist of Kirana Gharana. Dr. Deepak Sharma, Secretary of Sargam Mandir congratulated Pt. Sopori while presenting the award. Pandit Abhay Rustum Sopori is the present custodian of the age-old Santoor tradition and the Shaivite - Sufi musical tradition of Kashmir. A scion of the fabled Sopori - Sufiana Gharana of Kashmir, he represents the 3 centuries old Santoor legacy. Taking forward the legacy of great masters like Pandit Shamboo Nath Sopori ji and Pandit Bhajan Sopori ji, Pt. Abhay Sopori dedicated the award to his Gurus, his father and grandfather, and thanked Sargam Mandir organization for bestowing the honour upon him. Post award function Pt. Abhay Sopori presented his Santoor recital accompanied by Pandit Ram Kumar Mishra on Tabla. Pt. Sopori presented Aalap, Jod and Gats in Vilambit and Drutlaya Teental in Raga Bageshree highlighting his 'Sopori Baaj' style of Santoor with variations of Meend, Gamak, Laya, Chhand and Bol patterns and his Gayaki and Tantrakari aspects receiving a long standing ovation from the music connoisseurs.

ABVP Kashmir submits memorandum to JKBOSE; demands immediate action

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Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad Kashmir met with officials of the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education (JKBOSE) today and submitted a memorandum highlighting two critical issues affecting students in the ongoing board examinations. The memorandum demands Re-Examination for Weather-Affected Students: Many students were unable to reach their exam centers due to severe weather conditions. ABVP has urged JKBOSE to conduct a re-examination or implement an alternative assessment method to prevent academic loss. Grace Marks for Out-of-Syllabus Questions: Students have reported out-of-syllabus questions in Class 10 and 11 exams. ABVP demands grace marks for affected students to ensure fairness. JKBOSE authorities have assured ABVP Kashmir that they will review the matter and take appropriate action soon. However, ABVP Kashmir makes it clear that words alone are not enough. Speaking on the issue, Akeel Ahmad Tantray, National Executive Council Member, ABVP, stated: "ABVP will not rest until these issues are fully resolved. If JKBOSE fails to take immediate action, we will take to the streets in the interest of students' welfare." He further said that ABVP remains committed to protecting students' academic rights and will intensify its movement if JKBOSE fails to redress the matter urgently.

NMOPS delegation meets MP Khatana, demands restoration of old pension scheme

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On the call of NMOPS National leaderships, a high-level delegation of the National Movement for Old Pension Scheme (NMOPS), led by J&K UT President Mohammad Ashraf Sheikh, met with Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) Er. Ghulam Ali Khatana in Jammu to press for the reinstatement of the Old Pension Scheme (OPS) for government employees. During the meeting, President Mohammad Ashraf Sheikh articulated the concerns of government employees, emphasizing the inadequacies of the New Pension Scheme (NPS) and Unified Pension Scheme (UPS). He urged the Hon'ble MP to take up the matter with Prime Minister Narendra Modi Ji and advocate for restoring OPS, which ensures financial security and dignity for retired employees. The Old Pension Scheme is not just a demand but a necessity to uphold the social security of government employees who dedicate their lives to public service. We appeal to the government to reinstate OPS to provide a stable and secure future for the workforce," said NMOPS President Mohammad Ashraf Sheikh. Khatana gave a patient hearing and assured the delegation that he would take up the matter with the highest authorities, including the Prime Minister. A formal memorandum outlining the employees' concerns and seeking government intervention was submitted during the meeting.

Sant Nirankari Mission organizes voluntarily blood donation camp at Muthi Rakwalan

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Under the Guidance of Satguru Mata Sudiksha Ji Maharaj, The Sant Nirankari Mission has organized hundreds of voluntary blood donation camps across India and Abroad in a Year. In this regard Sant Nirankari Mission's Branch Muthi Rakwalan Organised a voluntarily Blood Donation Camp at Sant Nirankari Satsang Bhawan Muthi Rakwalan. Devotees from Branch Hariachak, Dayalchak and Marheen also participated in this camp. A total of 122 Units of blood donated in this camp.

The Camp was inaugurated by Sh. Rajeev Jasrotia MLA Jasrota Constituency District Kathua, while speaking on the occasion he said Today, I feel truly honored to be a part of this noble initiative organized by the Sant Nirankari Mission. Their unwavering commitment to the cause of humanity, especially in the field of blood donation, is truly commendable. The Sant Nirankari Mission has been at the forefront of this noble



cause for decades, organizing blood donation camps across the country and ensuring that no life is lost due to a shortage of blood. This is a tremendous contribution to society, and I wholeheartedly congratulate the Mission for its dedicated efforts. I would also like to extend my sincere appreciation to the organizers of today's camp, who have worked tirelessly to make this event a great success.

Ajit Singh Zonal Incharge Sant Nirankari Mission Jammu said that this initiative reflects the Mission's

belief that "Blood should flow in veins, not in drains." Blood donation is one of the greatest acts of service to mankind. It knows no boundaries of caste, religion, or status—it is a gift of life that strengthens the bonds of humanity. The followers of the Mission believe that serving humanity is the true worship of God, and donating blood is one of the purest forms of service. Tarsem Lal Mukhi Muthi Rakwalan welcome the Chief Guest and Donors presented on the occasion.

IDPS Ghou Manhasan hosts Marathon and Cyclothon to celebrate International Women's Day

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IDPS School Ghou Manhasan celebrated International Women's Day with a spirited "Wings on Her Feet" marathon and cyclothon event, promoting women's empowerment, health, fitness, and community engagement. Participants of all ages and genders embarked on a 3-kilometer journey from the school to Ring Road, Jammu. The event featured inspiring addresses from Chief Guest Ms. Priya Sethi, Former Minister, and other esteemed personalities, including Mr. Rajesh

Padha, Ms. Anissa Nabi, Ms. Ruchita Bakshi, and members of the Jammu Cyclist Group. The event was supported by generous sponsors and opened with a welcome by Principal Ms. Sahrish Ismaily, closing with a Vote of Thanks by Vice Principal Ms. Mubeen Butt. Managing Director Ms. Siya Singh and Academic Director Ms. Vandana Sharma praised the event's success, highlighting its role in promoting equality, health, and community service. The school extends gratitude to all participants, guests, and sponsors for making the event a success.

MLA Vikram Randhawa, Ritika Trehan assure swift action on Bahu Constituency Issues



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In a proactive outreach effort, BJP Mahila Morcha J&K UT Chief Spokesperson Ritika Trehan, accompanied by MLA Vikram Randhawa, District President Naresh Singh Jasrotia, Mandal President Rahul, Kumar & other BJP Leaders toured Ward 20 Green Belt Park to engage with residents and address their concerns.

During the visit, locals raised pressing issues such as irregular water and electricity supply, poor road conditions,

faulty streetlights, clogged drainage systems, and tangled cable wires. Acknowledging their grievances, Ritika Trehan assured the people that she would escalate the matter to the relevant authorities and work towards a swift resolution.

MLA Vikram Randhawa, while addressing the gathering, reaffirmed the BJP government's commitment to efficient governance and public welfare. "Our priority is to ensure that the basic amenities reach every household without delay. We are

fully committed to improving the infrastructure, enhancing public services, and ensuring a better quality of life for the residents of Bahu constituency," he stated. He further assured that immediate steps would be taken to address the water and electricity issues, emphasizing that sustainable solutions were being planned for long-term relief.

Ritika Trehan, known for her hands-on approach, also stressed the importance of a clean and well-maintained neighborhood, highlighting BJP's vision for a modern and livable constituency. "We are here not just to listen but to act. Every issue raised today will be taken up seriously, and we will work tirelessly to bring positive change," she said.

Residents appreciated the leaders' direct engagement and expressed hope that their concerns would soon be addressed. With the BJP's strong focus on inclusive development, Bahu constituency is poised for much-needed improvements in the near future.

Kaith Biradari to honour Sr Journalist Sansar Singh, music director V Kaith on March 9

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The Kaith Biradari Members are all set to visit Meer, Udhampur on March 9, 2025 to pay visual obeisance to their tutelary deity: Sankri Devta. R.L. Kaith said, During the course of visit, Biradari Members will honour

RTI India News Senior Journalist Sansar Singh Motan for fearlessly reporting about the ground reality and problems of ordinary people. They will also felicitate Kaith Music Factory's Director V Kaith for his unwavering support in promoting the devotional songs on Sankri Devta, Kaith added.