

CCIJ Delegation calls on Fin Min



TT CORRESPONDENT
JAMMU, DEC. 20 : A delegation of Chamber of Commerce & Industry led by its President Arun Gupta accompanied by Anil Gupta, Sr. Vice President and Rajesh Gupta, Secretary met the Union Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman and Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce & Industry in presence of Dr. Jitendra Singh MOS in Prime Minister's Office. During interaction Arun Gupta apprised the Finance Minister about the problems being faced by the Business Community due to amendment in Income Tax Act u/s 43B(h), making it mandatory to make the payment of purchase bills within 15-45 days. In case the payment of purchase bills is not paid within the prescribed time period, the buyers shall have to pay the interest three times of the bank rates as notified by RBI and compounded at monthly intervals. He said

that earlier, the people were not entering into a written agreement and make payment of purchase bills as per their convenience or as agreed upon mutually. This amendment is not applicable to the medium/large enterprises. Thus traders shall prefer to deal with them which will badly effect the business of Micro & Small enterprises. Arun Gupta also apprised her that during Sales Tax regime as well as VAT regime the Dhabas, Halwaies, Tea Stalls and Bakeries were liable to pay a lump sum sales tax @ Rs. 3000/- P.A during Sales Tax regime and Rs. 12000/- P.A during VAT regime. But after the introduction of GST these traders are paying 5% GST of their total sales even without getting any input credit. These traders are controlled and supervised by the Directorate of food civil supplies and consumer affairs.

He requested to re-examine the whole issue and consider charging of GST at 1% of their sales or charging of a lump sum amount from these traders as was being charged before implementation of GST.

Further the issue relating incentives to the Industry and the matter relating to allotment of land was also discussed. While speaking on the occasion Arun Gupta pointed out that the package of incentives announced by the Prime Minister of India was mainly for the local youth, startup and for those who were derailed from the main stream.

At present no doubt the investment has increased many fold but the local youth are not involved nor given any preference in the Industrial package. Arun Gupta requested the Minister that the announced package should be enhanced from Rs. 28400 crore to Rs. 75000 Crore and the Industries and Commerce Department in J&K should be directed to keep at least 20% capping for local entrepreneurs while allotting the Industrial Land and disbursing the Industrial Incentives.

The Union finance Minister Smt Nirmala Sitharaman assured that the issues raised in the meeting shall receive the preferred attention and she will also take up the issue of payment with the MSME department to resolve the issue.

Piyush Goyal also assured that locals shall be given preference in the new Industrial Package.

Previous Govt neglected far-flung areas of district Doda: Rattan

Asks Party cadre to gear up for Panchayat and Local bodies election.

TT CORRESPONDENT
JAMMU, DEC. 20 : Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President of Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (JKNC) Jammu, lambasted the previous government for neglecting the development of far-flung areas of District Doda. He expressed this while interacting with a delegation of party office bearers from District Doda, led by Zaffar Ullah Rather District President Doda and Dr. Chaman Lal Bhagat former MLA and Zonal Secretary Chenab Valley Zone, at Sher-e-Kashmir Bhawan, Jammu.

The delegation highlighted the pressing issues faced by residents of remote areas such as Dessa, Kastigarh, Gandoh, Chilli, Pingal and others areas. They apprised the senior leaders about the lack of basic amenities and infrastructure in these regions, which have been left unattended for the past decade.

Addressing the delegation, Rattan Lal Gupta emphasized that despite being rich in natural resources and having immense potential for



tourism, the remote areas of District Doda have been left languishing due to poor governance and inadequate attention from successive administrations. He highlighted that the lack of basic infrastructure, including proper roads, healthcare facilities, and educational institutions, has hindered the overall progress of the region and deprived its residents of opportunities for a better quality of life.

The senior NC leader further stated that the apathy of the past government has not only stalled developmental activities but also widened the gap between urban and rural areas.

He accused the Bharatiya Janata Party of making hollow promises during election campaigns but failing to implement meaningful initiatives to uplift the lives of the people in these neglected regions.

He asked the district

team to stay active on the ground and work tirelessly for the welfare of the people in these neglected areas.

Rattan Lal Gupta also appealed to the present National Conference Government, led by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, to prioritize the development of these far-flung areas. He also asked the delegation to strengthen the hands of Dr. Farooq Abdullah and Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, reinforcing the party's mission to uplift marginalized communities and ensure holistic development.

Reaffirming JKNC's commitment to equitable development, the Provincial President assured that his party would work relentlessly to address the grievances of the people and bring about transformative changes in Doda.

Sheikh Bashir Ahmed, Provincial Secretary, also addressed the gathering and

called upon the party cadre from District Doda to gear up for the upcoming Panchayat elections in Jammu and Kashmir. "The time has come to mobilize the grassroots workers and strengthen the party's base in view of upcoming polls," he remarked.

During the meeting, Zaffar Ullah Rather nominated Mukund Lal Bandral as District Secretary Doda, adding a new chapter to the party's organizational efforts in District Doda.

Among those who were present included. Dr. Chaman Lal Bhagat former MLA and Zonal Secretary Chenab Valley Zone, Arif Mir Provincial Secretary Jammu, Rakesh Singh Raka Vice President Central Zone, Mohd Farooq Qazi Block President Assar, Ch. Salam Din, Raja Arshad Ali Block President Batote, Akther Hussain Zonal Vice President Chenab Valley, Advocate Baggi Rath, Ch. Rafiq, S. Tejinder Singh District President Jammu Urban YNC, Nitish Gowsami Provincial Secretary JNC Jammu, Ashanand Joint Secretary Jammu Urban and others.

Amit Shah's Commitment to a Terror-Free J&K Bolsters Security Forces: Dr Jasrotia

TT CORRESPONDENT
JAMMU, DEC. 20 : In line with the Union Government's ongoing efforts to make Jammu & Kashmir terror-free, Union Home Minister Amit Shah's strong commitment has significantly boosted the morale of our security forces, said Dr Abhijeet Jasrotia.

While the Hon'ble Home Minister was in Delhi formulating a roadmap to eradicate terrorism from the region, the security forces on the ground achieved a major victory by neutralizing five terrorists in Kulgam. This is a remarkable success and underscores the dedication of our forces in securing peace in Jammu & Kashmir.

Dr Jasrotia added that the winter season provides a crucial advantage as snowfall shuts down most infiltration routes for the next three months. During this period, efforts will be concentrated on neutralizing the remaining terrorist elements, with the use of advanced technology and border management strategies. These measures are nearing completion, ensuring that infiltration attempts will be thwarted effectively.

In addition, significant actions have been taken against individuals who promote terrorism and violence in the region. A supplementary charge sheet has recently been filed against Mian Abdul Qayoom, who is accused of being involved in the murder of Advocate Babar Qadri and other terrorist activities. Qayoom is also alleged to have played a key role in the targeted killings of minorities, including prominent figures such as Judge Neelkanth Ganjoo and Tikalal Taploo. The legal actions against Qayoom are a clear message that those aiding terrorism will be held accountable.

Another critical issue that needs immediate attention is the illegal presence of Rohingya immigrants in Jammu. The entry of these immigrants from neighboring countries raises serious concerns regarding security, particularly in sensitive areas like Jammu. The government must hold accountable those responsible for facilitating the settlement of these illegal immigrants.

"Unforgettable Tribute: DGPC Jammu's Homage to Guru Gobind Singh Ji's Sahibzadas"

"Honoring the Martyrdom: DGPC Jammu's Emotional Tribute to the Sahibzadas"



TT CORRESPONDENT
JAMMU, DEC. 20 : In a heartfelt tribute to the supreme sacrifices of the four Sahibzadas of Guru Gobind Singh Ji and to celebrate the martyrdom of Sri Guru Gobind Singh Ji, the District Gurudwara Prabhodhak Committee (DGPC) Jammu organized a deeply moving program at Abhinav Theatre, Jammu. The event drew a large, eager audience, ready to listen to distinguished speakers and witness the emotional "Zafarnama."

The program was thoughtfully divided into two sessions. The morning session began with a warm welcome by Sdn Harvinder Kour JKAS, Secretary of J&K Academy of Art Culture and Languages.

This was followed by an introductory address by S. Balvinder Singh, Vice President DGPC, who not only introduced the speakers but also passionately voiced his concerns about the neglect of the Punjabi language in various fields. He earnestly urged the Commissioner Secretary of Culture, present as the Chief Guest, to take proactive steps in promoting

Punjabi through national seminars and Mushairas. The keynote address by Dr. Harshinder Kour of Patiala, a celebrated Punjabi writer, was a poignant recounting of the martyrdom of the Sahibzadas. Her powerful words deeply moved the audience, who repeatedly resonated with spirited cries of "Bole So Nihal." The Chief Guest, Sh. Suresh Kumar Gupta IFS, Commissioner Secretary Education with additional charge of Culture, illuminated the unparalleled sacrifices of Baba Fateh Singh, aged 6, and Baba Zorawar Singh, aged 9, who were martyred at Sirhind by being bricked alive. He also addressed the issues raised by Balvinder Singh regarding the neglect of the Punjabi language, expressing his readiness to collaborate with DGPC in organizing future programs and seminars. He assured the audience that he had already been directed by the LG and Chief Minister to fill the vacant positions of Punjabi faculties in schools and colleges.

Following him, Dr. Harsimran Singh, a research scholar from the Punjabi Department, delivered an insightful presentation based on his meticulous research. The Presidential address was given by Dr. Jaspal Singh, former Vice Chancellor of Punjabi University Patiala and ex-Indian High Commissioner to Mozambique and Swaziland, whose words resonated deeply with all present. The highlight of the event was the soul-stirring Natak "Zafarnama," presented by the Punjabi Lok Manch of California, USA. Written and directed by Surinder Singh Dhanoa, the play vividly depicted the harrowing story of the martyrdom of the Chaar Sahibzadas of Sri Guru Gobind Singh Ji and the brutal tyranny of the Mughal era. The performance left a profound impact on the audience, bringing tears to many eyes.

The entire event was a fitting tribute to the unparalleled sacrifices of Guru Gobind Singh Ji's beloved sons and a celebration of his enduring legacy. The stage was gracefully conducted by S. Surjeet Singh, General Secretary DGPC Jammu. S. Ranjeet Singh Tohra President DGPC Jammu, in his address, thanked Chief Guest Sh. Suresh Kumar Gupta IFS, Sdn Harvinder Kour Sec JKAA-CL, S. Bhupinder Singh Paras, and other staff and officers of J&K Academy of Art Culture and Languages for their cooperation. He extended heartfelt congratulations to the team of S. Surinder Singh Dhanoa for presenting the Natak "Zafarnama" and expressed gratitude to the Sikh Sangat, who participated in large numbers, many standing as all seats were fully occupied.

All DGPC members were present at the program.

CII Hosts J&K International Apple Conclave 'Restart, Grow, Aspire'

TT CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, DEC. 20 : The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) successfully hosted the inaugural CII J&K International Apple Conclave today at Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST), Shalimar, Srinagar. The event, themed 'Restart, Grow, Aspire', brought together a distinguished group of experts, industry leaders, and stakeholders from the apple cultivation sector to discuss critical challenges and innovative solutions aimed at enhancing the sustainability and global competitiveness of the apple industry in Jammu & Kashmir.

The Conclave was built on the success of previous editions in Himachal Pradesh and Srinagar, offering a unique platform for knowledge exchange and collaboration among farmers, policymakers, researchers, and agri-tech innovators. Discussions focused on key areas such as orchard rejuvenation, climate resilience, post-harvest management, linking farmers to e-markets, and leveraging technology for smart, data-driven orchard practices.

Inaugurating the session, Syed Junaid Altaf, Chairman CII J&K, and Executive Director - FIL Industries Private Limited reiterated the fact that all key stakeholders of the apple industry including the growers, industry leaders, and the government must unite to enhance the apple industry of the region. He was hopeful that the coming together of these key stakeholders will be critical in taking the apples of Kashmir to the international market.

Prof. Nazir Ahmad Ganai, Vice Chancellor of SKUAST-Kashmir, speaking at the event, emphasized, "This Conclave marks a significant step towards



rejuvenating the apple industry in Jammu & Kashmir. By embracing innovation and sustainable practices, we can secure the future of apple cultivation and enhance the livelihoods of farmers while making our apples competitive in global markets." Zahoore Ahmad Bhat, Director of Horticulture for J&K, highlighted the government's commitment to apple growers, stating, "The government is dedicated to the development of the horticulture sector, especially apple cultivation. Our policies aim to boost productivity, improve post-harvest management, and connect our farmers to global markets. Events like this Conclave are crucial to ensuring the sector's growth and sustainability."

The event featured a distinguished lineup of speakers, including Dr. Rahul Mirchandani, Chairman and Managing Director of Aries Agro Ltd., Mr. Anil Arora, Manager (Lubes) M&P, IOCL, Mr. Dawar Mir, Founder & Managing Director, Ziraat Agro LLP, and Dr. Tariq Rasool Rather, Professor of Plant Pathology at SKUAST-Kashmir.

Prof. Nazir Ahmad Ganai, the Chief Guest, congratulated CII for organizing the Conclave and praised their efforts to empower farmers. He said, "We must focus on new technologies to boost productivity. Our goal is to increase the economic output of the horticulture sector and posi-

tion our apples in global markets. To achieve this, we must move beyond traditional methods and embrace science and technology." Dr. Rahul Mirchandani, Chairman and Managing Director of Aries Agro Ltd., expressed his admiration for the enthusiasm and curiosity of the farmers, saying, "It is inspiring to see the eagerness of the farmers here today. Their willingness to adopt new techniques and practices is key to advancing the apple industry."

Dr. Mirchandani further added, "The Kashmiri apple brand has immense potential to reach global markets. With the support of CII and initiatives like this Conclave, we can turn this vision into a reality." The event featured multiple panel discussions and facilitated B2B and B2G meetings, fostering collaboration between the private sector and government agencies. Key topics included sustainable pest management, soil health, climate change mitigation, and precision orchard management.

By bringing together farmers, policymakers, researchers, and agri-tech innovators, the CII J&K Apple Conclave aims to shape a sustainable future for apple cultivation in the region. The conclave emphasized the adoption of modern technology, building global market linkages, and empowering stakeholders through actionable insights.

Dalit, OBC, Minority Adivasis Confederation, Adivasi protested against Amit Shah against insult of Baba Sahib Dr Ambedkar



TT CORRESPONDENT
JAMMU, DEC. 20 : Dalit, OBC, Minorities and Adivasi (DOMA) Parisangh organized a demonstration at Ambedkar Chowk against the insult of Baba Saheb, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar by Amit Shah on the floor of the Parliament, in which hundreds of Dalit Parisangh officials and others participated and raised the slogans "Home Minister Amit Shah isteepha den aur desh se maafee maangen, Dr Ambedkar ke sammaan main bahujan sangathan maidaan main, Baba Sahib ka apmaan nahii sahega Bharat". R K Kalsotra, State President Dalit, OBC, Minorities and Adivasi (DOMA) Parisangh, while

addressing the demonstration said that the country will not tolerate the insult of Baba Saheb, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar by Home Minister, Amit Shah on the floor of the Parliament. Amit Shah has not said this in anger or emotionally, but years of hatred is revealed behind it. On 12th December 1949, the RSS and Hindu Mahasabha had burnt the effigy of Dr. Ambedkar and a copy of the Constitution. Kalsotra further said the hateful statement by Amit Shah came because the first constitutional amendment was made for Dalits, tribals and the poor. If the Zamindari system had not been abolished, the landless Dalits, tribals and the poor

would not have been able to get land, this is the main reason for their hatred. Since 2014, they have been continuously ending reservation. Recruitment in government jobs has almost been stopped. When this also did not end reservation, they found the way of lateral entry and reservations were denied to SC, ST and OBC. They have been conspiring to end reservation by selling airports, ports, PSUs to Adani and big capitalists. Reservation was also ended through outsourcing and contractual system. Looking at all this, is there any doubt that the hatred expressed by Amit Shah is the words of the heart which has come to the tongue. If the slogan of 400 plus had come true, then by now they would have probably changed the Constitution. One nation - one election is a conspiracy to weaken the Constitution. They hate Nehru ji and Gandhi ji because they gave Baba Saheb Dr. Ambedkar the opportunity to become the Chairman of the Making Constitution Committee.

Five day course on "Investigation of Cyber Crime," concludes

TT CORRESPONDENT
JAMMU, DEC. 20 : A five-day course on "Investigation of Cyber Crime," which commenced on 16th December 2024 at S.K. Police Academy, Udhampur, concluded today. The course was attended by 11 officers from J&K Police.

A valedictory function was held to mark the conclusion of the course. Sh. Rajinder Kumar Gupta, IPS, SSP, Deputy Director (Indoor) at SKPA Udhampur, was the chief guest. In his address, he emphasized the importance of staying updated with modern techniques for handling cybercrimes. He encouraged the participants, as first responders, to be well-prepared to act promptly and effectively when cybercrimes are reported. The program was designed to equip participants with a comprehensive understanding of the fundamentals of cybercrime investigation. It covered a wide array of topics, including: Cybercrime Overview: History, evolution, types,

and methods used in cybercrimes such as malicious codes, computer viruses, worms, trojans, and web hacking. Networking and Internet Concepts: Types of networks, network devices, internet services (email, web browsing, file transfer, e-banking, and e-commerce), and an overview of websites and email systems.

Cybercrime and Cyber Frauds: Topics included hacking, phishing, email bombing, hijacking, web defacement, fake profiles, salami attacks, pornography, URL spoofing, identity theft, cyberstalking, and cyberbullying. Emerging Trends: Use of technology by criminals for identity theft, financial frauds, and spying, as well as the role of information technology in cybercrime detection. The course featured lectures delivered by distinguished guest faculty from academia and J&K Police, ensuring participants received insights from experienced professionals in the field.

NC-Cong Alliances since 1947 brought utter disaster in J&K: Arun Gupta

TT CORRESPONDENT
JAMMU, DEC. 20 : Arun Gupta, Spokesperson, J&K BJP accompanied by Balbir Ram Rattan, Spokesperson and Dr. Pardeep Mahotra, Media Secretary was addressing a press conference at party headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

Arun Gupta, while addressing the media persons, said that the time has come for the J&K citizens to evaluate the opportunistic alliance and its disastrous effects on the lives of the residents of the UT. He said that the present alliance is once again moving towards failure, as had been since 1947. He stressed that the Farooq Abdullah has said that alliance is the need of the hour to fight powerful enemy, and the question arises who is the enemy of NC, whether it is Congress or common citizens. While elaborating on the history of failed alliances of NC and Congress, he said that in 1947-48, the then Prime Minister Jawahar Lal



Nehru, made Sheikh as the Prime Minister of Jammu & Kashmir, while removing Maharaja Hari Singh ji from the state. Then in 1953, Sheikh Abdullah was removed and arrested. In 1975, Sheikh was brought back in accordance with the Indira-Sheikh Accord. In 1977, NC was revived again. Then Congress removed NC and allied with GM Shah. Then he elaborated on the historic episodes of 1984-1986-1987 forming

alliances and separating. Arun Gupta stressed that NC and Congress are opportunist friends and form friendship bond when it suits individualism. He insisted that the power should not become disguise for the citizens which otherwise proves to be an utter disaster. He further stated that the time has come to start a public debate by all the sections of society that if the opportunistic alliances are good for the society, state and the future generations.