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INDI Alliance conspiring to amend Constitution: PM Modi

AGENCIES
KOLKATA, MAY 3

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday charged the INDI Alliance with conspiring to amend the Constitution and dared the Opposition to come out in writings to ensure that the OBC quota is not reduced, the SC/ST/OBC reservation not revoked and the Constitution remains unchanged.

Addressing three back-to-back election rallies in Durgapur, Krishnanagar and Bolpur in support



of BJP candidates, Modi said the Constitution prohibits religious-based reservation in India, a

stance endorsed by Dr B R Ambedkar.

However, he criticised the Congress for attempt-

ing to amend the Constitution to provide reservation rights to SC/ST/OBC communities, a move that has faced backlash in Karnataka.

"We need assurances in writing to ensure that the OBC quota is not reduced, the SC/ST/OBC reservation is not revoked, and the Constitution remains unchanged for which the Congress did not respond for the past ten days, and Left and TMC kept silent over the issue," Modi clarified.

"What are these TMC-Left and Congress people doing? They say they break Modi's head with a stick... They say shoot Modi... But I remain resolute. The more they hate me, the more I will serve my countrymen," the PM iterated.

"All of the families involved in the current political game, including the Congress royal family, the TMC family, and the Left family, are tacitly endorsing Modi's vote jihad plea by

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LG Sinha visits Ayodhya, has Darshan at Lord Shri Ram Temple and Shri Hanuman Garhi

JI NEWS SERVICE
AYODHYA (UP), MAY 3

The Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha visited Ayodhya today and had Darshan at the Lord Shri Ram Temple. Subsequently, the Lt Governor visited Hanuman Garhi Temple and performed Darshan and Aarti.

The Lt Governor Tweeted:

Having the divine darshan of Shri Ram Lalla Ji in Ayodhya. The inanimate and animate, all beings are astonished, those who see the Lord,



they see the Lord. The bliss, celebration, joy and contentment of this moment, and the glimpse of Shri Ram's child-like form cannot be bound in words.

Shri Ram is the center of this nation's inner strength and the energy of the people's psyche. He is the ideal personality, the

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SIA Jammu attaches property of absconding terrorist in Rajouri

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, MAY 5

The State Investigation Agency Jammu has attached the property of an absconding terrorist in Manjakote tehsil of Rajouri district under UAPA.

According to a statement, issued to the news agency FIR No. 05/2021 u/s 13, 17, 18, 20, 38, 39 UA(P)A, section 3 of Official Secret Act, 201 IPC of P/S, JIC/SIA Jammu was registered against Abdul Hameed Khan of Panjgrain along with other associates namely Mohd Rafiq Khan and Gural Singh. The statement reads that the terrorist had exfiltrated to Pakistan for arms training along with other youths of Rajouri in 1992 and presently he is operating from Pakistan under LeT outfit.

"He is also instrumental in a number of terrorist attacks in Rajouri. He is responsible for activating the sleeper cells and attracting the gullible youths to join the LeT outfit through OGWs with the motive for waging the war against Republic of India."

It reads that in this case, the charges were framed against all the accused persons including Abdul Hameed Khan. It added that the SIA Jammu has succeeded to attach the immovable property amounting to lakhs of rupees in village Panjgrain.

"The property has been identified by local revenue staff and found recorded in the name of said absconding terrorist. Now said land has been attached by u/s 33 UA(P) Act."

Now, J&K police sets GPS anklet device rolling for drug smugglers

JI NEWS SERVICE
KUPWARA, MAY 3

After successfully using the GPS anklet trackers on terror-accused persons out on bail, the Jammu and Kashmir police Thursday fixed the GPS anklet on an NDPS accused out on bail in the northern district of Kashmir.

The anklet will help track the movements of the person out on bail so that he remains under constant watch of the police. The GPS tracker anklet is a wearable device affixed



around the ankle of the person, aiming to monitor and track the movement of

accused persons on bail. A senior police official while confirming the

development to news agency said that following bail granted to the accused in case FIR No 283/2022 of Police Station Kupwara, ASJ court here in Kupwara ordered for the GPS tracker deployment.

In order to have a better surveillance over movement of bailed out accused, the devices were fitted on Abdul Majid Bhat and Aabid Ali Bhat – the duo accused in NDPS act by ASP GM Bhat, DySP Ameen Bhat and SHO Kupwara Inspector

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J&K Police operationalises AI-Based FR System at Navyuga Tunnel, Banihal

JI NEWS SERVICE
RAMBAN, MAY 5

In a significant stride towards bolstering security measures, district Police Ramban under the Command of Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Ramban Anuj Kumar made functional an advanced AI-Based Facial Recognition System at Navyuga Checking Plaza, Banihal under the jurisdiction of Police Post Jawahar Tunnel Police Station Banihal. A statement

issued to the news agency reads that this technology is designed to identify and track individuals involved in criminal activities, including terrorists, OGWs, absconders, history sheeters, thieves, and drug peddlers.

"The system's implementation marks a pivotal step in the region's commitment to ensuring public safety and combating crime effectively. SSP Ramban emphasized the significance of the

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Crime Branch takes cognizance of complaints by senior women functionaries

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, MAY 3

The Crime Branch has taken cognizance of the complaints lodged by the women functionaries holding public office, stating that baseless, scandal-

ous and derogatory allegations are being circulated with an aim to harm the reputation.

"J&K Police has received a series of complaints from Senior Women Functionaries holding public office along with other supporting material alleging there-

in that for last few days a scurrilous communication is being circulated in various internet based social media (Whatsapp, etc) whereby baseless, scandalous and derogatory allegations aimed at harming the

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Delhi High Court denies parole to JeM terrorist to visit J&K

JI NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MAY 3

The Delhi High Court has denied parole to a convicted terrorist, who has been in jail for more than 20 years and was seeking the relief to go to Jammu and Kashmir, saying there is an apprehension that his presence in the area would be detrimental to the larger security interest.

The convict had sought parole to visit his parents and get married.

The court, however, directed the jail superintendent here to make a one-time arrangement for a video call for Feroz Ahmed Bhatt, a member of terror outfit Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM), with his parents.

"This may to some extent bring solace to him as a son that he could see his parents

and speak to them, even if virtually," Justice Swarna Kanta Sharma said.

"This court is of the opinion that the factum of the petitioner being convicted in a heinous offence and there being an actual apprehension regarding his presence in the area being detrimental to the larger security interest, coupled with the fact that one of his co-accused had again joined a terrorist organisation after being released on parole and was later neutralised in an encounter, are the factors which would come in the path of the petitioner's application for parole.

"Therefore, considering the aforesaid facts and circumstances, this court does not find it a fit case for grant of parole," the judge said.

Bhatt was arrested

in 2003 in a terror case and was sentenced to life imprisonment for offences under the Prevention of Terrorism Act, Indian Penal Code and Explosive Substances Act.

His counsel submitted that Bhatt, presently about 44 years of age, has been in judicial custody for more than 20 years and wishes to get married. Since his aged parents are looking for a bride for him, the lawyer prayed that he be released on parole.

However, the plea was opposed by the State's counsel, who contended that in cases involving terror activities and waging war against the country, the convicts should not be granted parole.

He said a co-accused in the case

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8-year-old boy drowns to death in water tank in Udhampur

JI NEWS SERVICE
UDHAMPUR, MAY 5

An 8-year-old boy died by drowning in a water tank of a Masjid in Adarsh Colony area of Udhampur city last night, officials

said on Friday. The boy was identified as Muhammad Rizwan Wani, son of Muhammad Rafi Wani of Batote area of Ramban district.

An official told the news agency that the boy

had left his home on his bicycle to offer prayers in Jamia Masjid of Adarsh colony and didn't return.

"After sunset when the boy didn't return, his parents started searching for him and reached

Jamia Masjid where they found his bicycle outside the boundary wall. They kept enquiring from shopkeepers and Masjid administration and found some traces near

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Div Com Jammu visits Pernote Village, meets land subsidence victims

JI NEWS SERVICE
RAMBAN, MAY 3

Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Ramesh Kumar today visited the relief camp set up by the District Administration for Pernote land subsidence victims and interacted with the affected families there.

The Div Com also reviewed the assessment of the damaged property, restoration of road connectivity, public utilities and infrastructure devastated due to the calamity. During his day-long visit to Ramban, the Divisional Commissioner took first hand stock of the damages at



the site of calamity and listened to the people affected by the disaster. He enquired about the measures taken by the different departments for providing relief, temporary accommodation, food and other essential services to the affected families. He directed the concerned to provide all

possible assistance to the affected people.

Listening to the issues and demands of the affected families, the Div Com assured all possible support from the UT administration for their rehabilitation.

He said that all their issues will be addressed by the administration

and the District Administration has already drafted a comprehensive plan to address the issues raised by the victims.

The Div Com said that the compensation as per government norms will be disbursed soon. He said that on the directions of Lieutenant

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CBSE class 10, 12 board examination results expected after May 20

JI NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MAY 3

The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) announced that the results of the 2023-24 Class 10 and 12 board exams, will likely be declared after May 20. A statement to this effect can be found on their website.

Students and parents are advised to monitor the official CBSE website (https://www.cbse.gov.in/) for the latest updates regarding the result declaration date and time.

EC asks states to provide quick no dues certificate to people wanting to contest polls

JI NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MAY 3

The Election Commission on Friday directed states to ensure that those intending to contest polls are provided with 'no dues certificate' within 48 hours of the request as those who do not submit the document while filing nominations face the prospect of their papers being

rejected. If a candidate is not able to provide 'no dues certificate' even after he has cleared all such dues, it goes against his candidature at the time of scrutiny of nominations.

The EC advisory noted that there is "no respite" to the candidate even if he submits 'no dues certificate' after expiry of the statutory period of filing

of nominations in the constituency concerned.

Such instances may cause significant loss not only to the aspiring candidates but also to the political parties and electorate of the constituency concerned and "undermines the principles of participatory electoral democracy", the poll authority said.

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Lok Sabha Elections-2024

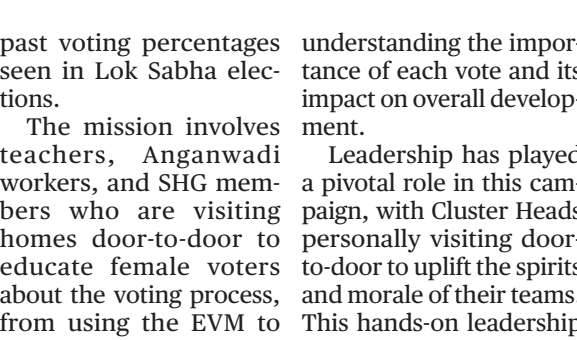
Inspiring SVEEP campaign gains momentum in Ganderbal with exemplary team effort

JINNEWS SERVICE
GANDERBAL, MAY 3

Starting strong on the first four days of the Female Voter Awareness campaign, designated teams made significant headway by visiting 5369 houses and engaging a total of 12206 female voters, thereby setting a solid foundation for continued efforts.

This momentum showcased remarkable inter-departmental coordination, with 745 teams from the Education, ICDS, and NRLM sectors, consisting of 1849 enthusiastic members showcasing exemplary dedication.

As part of the SVEEP programme, this innovative mission aims for 100% awareness among female voters in District Ganderbal, with a goal to surpass



past voting percentages seen in Lok Sabha elections.

The mission involves teachers, Anganwadi workers, and SHG members who are visiting homes door-to-door to educate female voters about the voting process, from using the EVM to

understanding the importance of each vote and its impact on overall development.

Leadership has played a pivotal role in this campaign, with Cluster Heads personally visiting door-to-door to uplift the spirits and morale of their teams. This hands-on leadership

is seen not just as a duty but as a commitment to ensuring that every female voter is informed and ready to participate in the democratic process.

The programme was initiated by District Election Officer Ganderbal, Shyambir and facilitated by Deputy DEO, Abid Iqbal Malik; Nodal Officer SVEEP, along with CDPOs of Lar, Ganderbal, Kangan, and Coordinators of NRLM.

As Ganderbal continues on this path, the dedication of its citizens and leaders paints a hopeful picture of democratic engagement and empowerment across the region.

This initiative stands as a shining example of how unity and collective effort can bring about significant change in voter participation and awareness.

DC Doda reviews preparations for World Red Cross Day

JINNEWS SERVICE
DODA, MAY 3

Deputy Commissioner Doda, Harvinder Singh, who is also the President of the District Red Cross Society, on Friday chaired a meeting in the Mini Conference Hall of the DC Office Complex to review the arrangements for the celebration of World Red Cross Day scheduled on 8th May 2024.

The meeting focused on a wide range of arrangements to ensure successful celebration of the event.

During the meeting, the stakeholders were informed about the activities planned for the day, including painting competition, symposium, awareness rallies, blood donation camps, first aid camps, cultural events, etc.

The DC urged stakeholders to collect maximum funds for the Red Cross to serve humanity better. He also designated an assistant for the Red Cross from the Health Department to oversee the arrangements.

The Deputy Commissioner directed the Chief Education Officer to ensure maximum participation of students,



especially those from the National Cadet Corps (NCC) and the National Service Scheme (NSS).

The DC also encouraged the starting of classes for orphans and physically disabled children in schools. He emphasized the importance of installing water coolers and creating donation sites for blankets and clothes in the town to assist those

in need. Additionally, the DC informed the attendees that the theme for the upcoming celebration is "Keeping Humanity Alive."

The stakeholders were further asked to put up banners at public places to promote World Red Cross Day and generate awareness about the importance of the event.

They also interacted with the stakeholder

officers virtually and directed them to display banners promoting World Red Cross Day in their jurisdictions. ADC Doda, Assistant Commissioner Revenue (ACR) Doda, stakeholders from concerned departments and personnel from the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) also attended the meeting to discuss their roles in the upcoming celebration.

Lok Sabha Elections-2024: General & Police Observers for Srinagar PC visit Shopian

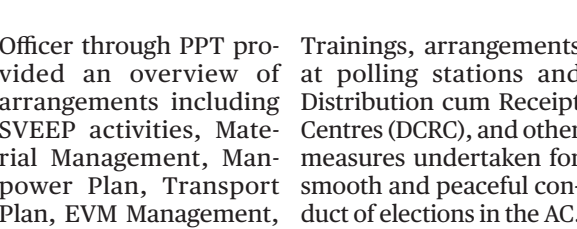
JINNEWS SERVICE
SHOPIAN, MAY 3

The General Observer for Srinagar Parliamentary Constituency (PC), Mukul Kumar and Police Observer, Sandeep Singh Chauhan today visited Shopian, where they reviewed the preparations of the administration for the conduct of elections to Srinagar Parliamentary Constituency.

At the outset, Observers held a joint meeting with the Nodal Officers to take review of the preparedness for Lok Sabha Elections-2024 in the district wherein threadbare discussion on vital matters was held.

The meeting was attended by District Election Officer, Faz Lul Haseeb; SSP, Tanushree; ADDC, Dr.Nasir Ahmad Lone, ARO Shopian and other Nodal Officers.

The District Election



Interacting with the Nodal Officers, the Observers stressed for taking measures for increasing voter turnout and to ensure incident free and smooth conduct of the Lok Sabha Elections in the district.

It was informed that as many as 99,245 electorates are exercising their franchise in 122 Polling stations of the Shopian Assembly Constituency on May, 13.

Furthermore, the Observers also supervised the 2nd Randomization of Polling Staff.

The Observers also thoroughly reviewed the arrangements at the Dispatch cum Receipt Centres (DCRC). The Nodal Officer briefed the Observers about the arrangements and action plan for dispatching poll parties and election materials to the polling stations.

Officer through PPT provided an overview of arrangements including SVEEP activities, Material Management, Manpower Plan, Transport Plan, EVM Management,

Trainings, arrangements at polling stations and Distribution cum Receipt Centres (DCRC), and other measures undertaken for smooth and peaceful conduct of elections in the AC.

Lok Sabha Elections-2024: CEO visits Kupwara; reviews preparations for Lok Sabha Polls

JINNEWS SERVICE
KUPWARA, MAY 3

Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), Jammu and Kashmir, P K Pole, on Friday conducted a comprehensive review of preparations being put in place by the district administration for the Lok Sabha Elections 2024.

The CEO was accompanied by Police Observer, Baramulla Lok Sabha constituency, Ravi Shankar and other concerned officers.

The CEO chaired a meeting of Nodal Officers and AROs, wherein District Election Officer (DEO), Ayushi Sudan, presented the detailed plan of major components of election preparedness through a PowerPoint Presentation. She informed that all arrangements for ensuring free and fair general elections in the district have been made.

Ayushi Sudan said that a contingency and emergency evacuation and communication plan has been prepared for the 75 polling stations of the district which are located at high altitude areas close to LOC.

The CEO had a detailed constituency wise review of critical components of the ongoing election process including AMF's at



Polling stations, plantation, dispatch and reception centers, Transport plan, training and arrangements for polling staff, material management, manpower, SVEEP, MCC, material management, Special Polling Stations and media monitoring.

Highlighting the significance of Adequate Minimum Facilities (AMF) at polling stations, the CEO emphasized the need for creating a conducive environment for voters to exercise their democratic rights freely and fairly. He asked for massive plantation drives at polling stations and open spaces by roping in the Forest department and social forestry. He also emphasized to provide requisite basic facilities in all polling stations on the poll day.

The CEO, while reviewing the status of activities being conducted under SVEEP, directed the concerned Nodal Officer to conduct robust voter

awareness campaigns across the district so as to ensure high voter turnout in the district.

Interacting with the nodal officers, the CEO reiterated the importance of strict adherence to ECI guidelines and robust media monitoring to uphold the sanctity of the electoral process. He directed the officers to exhibit exemplary commitment and sincerity while discharging their election duties, recognizing their pivotal role in facilitating free, fair and peaceful elections. He directed to earmark a Sector Officer for polling stations located at remote areas where travel time is more.

The CEO visited election control room and Media Certification, Monitoring Committee (MCMC) and enquired about their functioning and activities as well.

Later, the CEO visited the Strong Room and

undertook inspection of the arrangements being put in place for safety, surveillance and security of EVMs.

Earlier, the CEO accompanied by DEO Kupwara, Ayshi Sudan, inaugurated a mega live Art Exhibition held under SVEEP at TRC Kupwara. He inspected the live painting, calligraphy, Mehandi, embroidery and sculpture making stalls in an effort to promote awareness and education among the voters for their active participation in Lok Sabha elections.

The CEO also interacted with the young voters and urged upon them to motivate their relatives and friends to participate in these elections to elect representative of their choice.

Among others the meeting was attended by SSPs Kupwara and Handwara, ADDC Kupwara, ADC Handwara, AROs, Election Nodal Officers and other concerned officers.

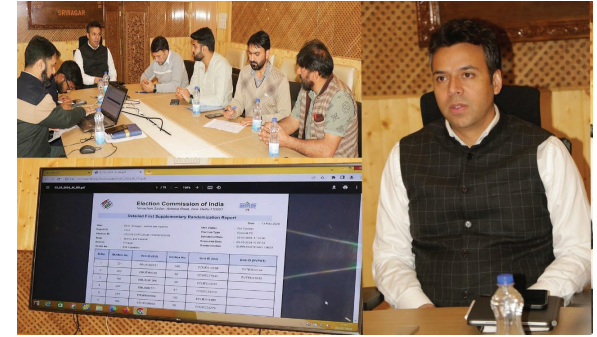
Lok Sabha Elections-2024

Supplementary first Randomisation of EVMs, VVPATs conducted in Srinagar

JINNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, MAY 3

In connection with General Lok Sabha Elections-2024, a Supplementary first Randomisation of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) for all the (08) Eight Assembly Segments of Srinagar District was conducted in accordance with the guidelines of Election Commission of India (ECI) on Friday at Meeting Hall of the DC Office Complex, here.

The Supplementary Randomization process was held under the supervision of District Election Officer (DEO) Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat in presence of the candidates and representatives of other Candidates contesting from O2-Srinagar Parliamentary Constituency, Deputy DEO, Nodal Officer ETBPS, Nodal Officer EVMs and other Officers of District Election Authority Srinagar.



During the process, Supplementary Randomisation of Ballot Units, Control Units and VVPATs for Eight (08) Assembly Segments of Srinagar District were carried out through dedicated software. Each Assembly segment was allocated an additional required number of EVMs for use during the upcoming polls, as the number of contesting candidates in Srinagar PC is more than 16 candidates.

The additional Assembly segment-wise allocation of EVMs for the conduct of Lok Sabha

Elections includes 146 EVMs for 19-Hazratbal, 157 for 20-Khanar, 160 for 21-Habbakadal, 171 for 22-LalChowk, similarly, 114 EVMs for 23-Chanapora, 179 for 24-Zadibal, 92 for 25-Eidgah and 141 EVMs for 26-Central Shalteng Assembly segments.

Pertinent to mention that, Randomization of 1298 EMVs was conducted successfully during the first EVM Randomization held for Srinagar District on March 21, 2024.

Prior to the supplementary Randomisation process, the DEO

Srinagar, who is also the Returning Officer (RO) for O2-Srinagar PC briefed the representatives of the Political parties about the Supplementary first Randomisation of EVMs ensuring their confidence in the uprightness of the process and encouraging that all requisite measures have been enacted to uphold the sanctity of the polls in free, fair and transparent manner as per the guidelines of Election Commission of India.

All the representatives of contesting candidates/political parties expressed their satisfaction over the entire randomisation process. During the randomization, the copies of lists of randomized CUs/BSUs and VVPATs were handed over to the representatives of the political parties and contesting candidates present in the meeting. The entire process was video recorded as per ECI guidelines.

Chief Secretary assesses issues of Cluster Universities Jammu, Srinagar

JINNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, MAY 3

Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, today deliberated on addressing key challenges and strategize effective solutions to enhance the functioning of Cluster Universities of Jammu and Srinagar transforming them into beacons of educational innovation and excellence. The Chief Secretary, while chairing a meeting held here at Civil Secretariat to assess the issues concerning both the Cluster Universities, emphasized that the goal for these institutions is to emerge as paragons of excellence, not only within the region but also as models to be replicated across the country.

Principal Secretary, Higher Education Department, Alok Kumar, Vice Chancellors of Cluster



University Jammu, Professor Bechan Lal and Cluster University Srinagar, Professor Qayyum Hussain, Director General Budget, Director Colleges and other concerned attended the meeting.

Addressing the meeting, the Chief Secretary reiterated government's unwavering commitment towards extending comprehensive support to the cluster universities.

Atal Dulloo had detailed review of several issues concerning working of the Universities which inter alia included creation of posts, formulation of rules for the deputation of staff from Higher Education Department, and other administrative concerns.

Both Vice Chancellors elaborated on the challenges they face, encompassing the creation of

teaching and non-teaching positions, resource allocation, and introduction of new academic programs.

During the deliberations, VC CUS emphasized the imperative need for the universities to adhere to the guidelines set forth by the University Grants Commission (UGC) and elevate the higher education landscape in Jammu and Kashmir.

Mandeep Kaur visits uptown areas of Srinagar, assesses functioning of dewatering stations

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, MAY 3

Commissioner Secretary, Housing and Urban Development department (HUDD), Mandeep Kaur, today conducted an extensive tour of several uptown areas of Srinagar to review functioning of dewatering stations established at various locations.

Commissioner SMC, Dr. Owais Ahmed, Superintendent Engineer Drainage SMC, Executive Engineer Drainage SMC and other concerned officials accompanied the Commissioner Secretary.

The Commissioner Secretary visited Alamar colony, Madina colony Humhama and took stock of perma-



nent dewatering stations established there. She also inspected mobile auto prime dewatering unit at Alkareem colony and dewatering mobile unit at Towheed bagh Humhama besides Nadru permanent dewatering station Peerbagh.

Interacting with the officers, the Commissioner Secretary emphasized the importance of swift and effective dewatering

measures in safeguarding the public safety, facilitating transportation and mitigating potential disruptions to essential services. She called upon the officers to remain vigilant at areas having maximum chances of inundation and deploy sufficient number of dewatering pumps at such spots.

She asked the officers to keep close coordination with meteorological

department so that timely response can be taken in case of any adverse weather advisory. The Commissioner Secretary commended the dedicated efforts of SMC frontline warriors, local authorities and emergency response teams for working diligently towards ensuring timely and efficient dewatering of waterlogged areas in the uptown areas.

Lok Sabha Elections-2024 General Observer, Baramulla PC conducts thorough inspection of Control Room & MCMC

JI NEWS SERVICE
BARAMULLA, MAY 3

The General Observer for I-Baramulla Parliamentary Constituency (PC), Deependra Singh Kushwah accompanied by the Returning Officer for the I-Baramulla PC, Minga Sherpa today conducted a comprehensive inspection of the Control Room and the Media Certification and Monitoring Committee (MCMC) facilities.

During the inspection, Deependra Singh checked the log books, paper cuttings and other material pertaining to the media monitoring and was comprehensively briefed by the team members about the day to day operations.

Earlier, the General Observer, accompanied by Nodal Officer MCC,



Syed Qamar Sajad and Dy District Election Officer, Ab Rehman Bhat today flagged-off a cycle rally to ensure greater participation in the General Elections to Lok Sabha 2024.

The rally, initiated under the SVEEP (Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation) program from the DC office, garnered significant participation from stu-

dents, a collective effort aimed to inspire new voters to actively engage in the upcoming Lok Sabha elections.

This initiative is part of a series of voter outreach programs organized by the District Administration under the SVEEP program, designed to educate and motivate voters to take part in the electoral process.

Lok Sabha Elections-2024 CEO inspects arrangements at Counting Center for Baramulla PC

JI NEWS SERVICE
BARAMULLA, MAY 3

Chief Electoral Officer, Jammu & Kashmir, Pandurang K Pole, today visited Baramulla and conducted a thorough inspection of the Counting Center and Strong Rooms designated for Baramulla Parliamentary Constituency at indoor sports stadium, Baramulla.

The visit aimed to ensure seamless arrangements for the Lok Sabha Elections 2024.

The CEO was accompanied by Returning Officer, I-Baramulla Parliamentary Constituency, Minga Sherpa, Superintendent of Police, Baramulla, Amod Ashok Nagapure, Nodal Officer, Model Code of Conduct (MCC), Syed Qamar Sajad, Assistant Returning Officer, Sopore, Shabir Ahmad Raina,



Deputy District Election Officer, Ab Rehman Bhat and other concerned officers.

During the inspection, the CEO reviewed the facilities and arrangements being put in place at the counting center and the strong room to guarantee a smooth and transparent counting process. He also assessed security measures in place to maintain

integrity and sanctity of the electoral process.

The CEO was briefed by the RO regarding the arrangements being made to ensure a smooth electoral process while informing that the district administration is diligently implementing all necessary measures in compliance with the guidelines of Election Commission of India.

Hanste Hanste- Voter Awareness Kashmiri Folk Theatre- Band Peathar & Ladishah bring voter awareness to every nook & corner of Kulgam



JI NEWS SERVICE
KULGAM, MAY 3

In a remarkable initiative aimed at fostering voter awareness and engagement, the District Administration Kulgam through an innovative approach utilizing traditional Kashmiri Folk Theatre, specifically the renowned forms of Band Peathar and Ladishah today reached out to the electors across the district.

Under the banner of 'Hanste Hanste- Voter Awareness,' this initiative has successfully permeated every nook and corner of Kulgam District, bringing crucial information and awareness to the populace.

The District Election Officer (DEO) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan highlighting the significance of the programme said that to raise awareness and increase voter turnout, multifarious activities were carried out across

the district under SVEEP. He said since Kashmiri Folk Theatre - Band Peathar and Ladishah is well connected to the people, they utilized this medium extensively to disseminate voter awareness.

By integrating local artists and performers into the outreach program, the initiative not only captivated the audience but also ensured that the message resonated deeply within the community, added the DEO Kulgam.

Through a series of captivating performances and engaging narratives, the Folk Theatre initiative has succeeded in transcending barriers and reaching diverse demographics, including remote and marginalized communities.

The DEO added that moving forward, such innovative approaches will continue to be explored and implemented to promote active citizenship and democratic values in Kulgam District.

Lok Sabha Elections-2024 Special Training for Poll staff of Home Voting, Postal Voting Counters held at Bandipora



JI NEWS SERVICE
BANDIPORA, MAY 3

The District Administration Bandipora on Friday organised a special training programme for poll staff to be deployed for Postal Ballot/ Home Voting and postal voting

counters in three assembly Segment of Bandipora viz. 14-Sonawari, 15-Bandipora and 16-Gurez.

Poll staff of Bandipora and Sonawari assembly segments attended the training programme at conference Hall Mini Secretariat Bandipora and employees of Assembly Segment 16-Gurez attended the training programme in virtual mode.

The training programme presided over by Nodal Officer Postal Ballot Mehraj Wani (Sales Tax Officer) was attended by Presiding Officers, P1, Micro Observers, Flying Squad, Videographers and special messengers

engaged for postal ballot /Home Voting and Postal voting Centre.

Speaking on the occasion, Nodal Officer Postal Ballot Mehraj Wani deliberated on various aspects of Home Voting and Postal Voting Counters.

He highlighted the procedure of Home Voting, eligibility criteria, material required and other aspects of Home Voting and Postal Voting counters.

Mehraj Wani on the occasion also deliberated on the role and duties of POs, P1, Micro observers and other staff deployed for Home Voting besides highlighted guidelines of Election Commission of India regarding postal voting and postal voting counters.

On the occasion, DLMT, Mohammad Iqbal Samoon also threw light on voting procedures and roles and responsibilities of poll staff.

Advisor Bhatnagar visits Sanasar, reviews education, health infrastructure

JI NEWS SERVICE
RAMBAN, MAY 3

Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, today visited Sanasar area of Ramban district to review the status of educational and health infrastructure of the area.

The Advisor inspected Government Upper Primary School Chouri Sanasar and took stock of functioning of the institution. He had round of different sections of the school assessing the facilities being made available there for the students. He interacted with the teachers and school management seeking the current status of education being imparted in the school. He also interacted with the school children and assessed their learning outcomes.

Later, Advisor Bhatnagar inspected NTPHC Sanasar and took stock of healthcare facilities available there for the ailing. He also interacted with the staff of the Centre and enquired from them about their issues and concerns.

While interacting with the staff, the Advisor asked them about the gaps in healthcare owing to remoteness of the area so that the same could be sorted out. He impressed upon them to dedicate themselves towards serving the people of such far off area in the most efficient manner. Later, the Advisor had an interactive session with the local police and civil officers to assess functioning of their respective fields.

GDC Ganderbal organizes Panel Discussion & Signature Campaign under SVEEP

JI NEWS SERVICE
GANDERBAL, MAY 3

Under the SVEEP Action plan, the Debates Committee of the Government Degree College (GDC) Ganderbal in collaboration with the Department of Political Science today organized a Panel Discussion on the topic 'Vote for Power, Vote for Progress: The Route Ahead'.

The discussion started with a deliberation on the importance of vote and the process of voting by Dr. Wasia, Convener Debates Committee.

An extensive presentation was given by Prof. Nazneen, Head Department of Political Science.

Principal of the College, Prof. Fouzia Fatima initiated the panel discussion and expressed her positive opinions regarding the theme.

Various staff members and students of the College participated in the discussion and highlighted the importance and need of the voting process.

The panel discussion served as an important platform for the exchange of enthusiastic views and ideas, thereby, setting out the route ahead for progress and success.

CS reviews progress of Jhelum & Tawi Flood Recovery Project



JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, MAY 3

Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today chaired a review meeting here at Civil Secretariat to assess the progress on World Bank-funded Jhelum and Tawi Flood Recovery Project (JTFRP).

Chief Executive Officer, Economic Reconstruction Agency (ERA), Dr. Sherrish Asgar, presented a detailed report highlighting significant milestones achieved, so far.

During the meeting, it was informed that the proposals for additional works from six line departments were submitted to the World Bank, with four proposals receiving approval from the World Bank. Besides, the discussions focused on expediting completion of the Bone and Joint Hospital and other crucial projects.

The Chief Secretary emphasized the need for an expedited procurement process for these new projects within given timelines. He also urged upon the concerned to pursue the Lalla Ded Hospital project approval with the World Bank at the earliest so that the same would be taken up further.

The meeting also reviewed the progress on upgrading 49 dewatering stations, advancing Lalla Ded Hospital project documentation, completing the State Emergency Operation Center structure and ongoing electro-mechanical component procurement.

Besides, implementation of Integrated Operational Forecasting System (IOFS), Digital Risk Database (DRDB) and Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) systems was reviewed in detail.

Notably, it was informed that the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) project has connected 72 out of 80 dewatering stations and are ready to be operated remotely by the Srinagar Municipal Corporation.

DC Baramulla Plants Saplings & flags-off Hoopers for Cleaner & Greener Elections in District Baramulla

JI NEWS SERVICE
BARAMULLA, MAY 3

To ensure sanitation and clean environment in suburban areas of the district, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, Minga Sherpa today flagged-off garbage vans on their journey to 10 blocks of district.

The primary objective of this initiative is to effi-



ciently collect garbage from households, ensuring a clean and garbage-free environment.

The DC was accompanied by the Additional Deputy Commissioner Baramulla, Syed Qamar Sajad; Chief Planning Officer Baramulla, Javaid Ahmad and other officers during the flagging-off ceremony.

75 Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-Tender Notice

Sr. DEE/G/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders (www.irops.gov.in) against below titled Tenders. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only.

Tender No.	Name of work	App. Cost. (In Rs.)	Earnest Money (In Rs.)	Completion period	Opening of tender after 15:00 Hrs.	Website Particulars
251-Elect-T-07-2024-25	Provision of electrical work in C/w Lowering and lifting of submersible pumps and rewinding/repairing of defective submersible pumps motors of Amritsar, Firozpur, Ludhiana, Jalandhar, Pathankot Zones and provision of GSM based automation for protection of pumps control system of Firozpur division for two years.	65,98,435.24	1,32,000.00	24 Months	23.05.2024 after 15:00 Hrs.	www.irops.gov.in

251-Elect/T/Notice No. 05-Elect/2024-25 Dated : 03.05.2024

1339/2024

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

Two days visit to Kupwara, Raina presided meeting with workers ahead Lok Sabha



JJ NEWS SERVICE
KUPWARA, MAY 3

Ahead Lok Sabha Elections, State BJP Chief Ravinder Raina Held a Meeting with BJP Kupwara attended by District President Javid Qureshi, District Office Bearers, All Morcha Presidents, Constituency Presidents, Sector Incharges and Booth Presidents of BJP Kupwara.

During the session, Raina addressing party workers, underscored the importance of fortifying the BJP's grassroots presence. He emphasized the promotion of Prime Minister Modi's agenda for equitable development, outreach to marginalized communities, and the expansion of the party's engagement with the youth. The meeting con-

cluded with a collective commitment to bolster the BJP's standing in Kupwara contributing significantly to the overall development of the region.

Raina Briefed Party Workers to strengthen the Party Sangathan at Grass-root Level. He Directed All Workers to Visit every Booth of the District and Meet with Beneficiaries of the Modi Led Central Government and Ensure Mass Awareness of the Schemes.

Meeting was Also Attended By Former MLC Syed Mohd Rafiq Shah, State Vice President Kisan Morcha Javid Mir, ST Morcha State VP Choudhary Fareed, ST Morcha Spokesman Saleem Choudhary, District Gen Secretary Adv Sajad Ahmad Ganie, District Vice Presidents Including,

Mumtaz Ahmad, Malik Gulzar, Hafizulla Bakshi, Gh Hassan Bhat, District Media Head Sheikh Mohammad Iqbal, District Spokesperson Syed Basharat, Former District President Ab Rashid Zargar, Nazir Ahmad Khan, IT Cell Incharge Aamir Riyaz, Distt Publicity Secretary Mir Basharat, Distt Secretary Manzoor Wani, Social Media Incharge Pir Shabir, Distt President Kissan Morcha Nazeer Ahmad Bhat, Yuva Morcha Shah Iqbal and Minority Morcha Distt President Showkat Mir, OBC Morcha Distt President Gh Mohd Hajam, ST Morcha Distt President Mohd Sideeq Gujjar, Mahila Leaders Including Shameema Bano, Sha-keela Akhtar, Muneera Akhtar, Dilshada Begum, Nusrat, Rajni, and Other's.

Premier League: Fight for title, Europe, and relegation intertwined in dramatic weekend

AGENCIES
LONDON, MAY 3

Three teams are still involved in the race to win the Premier League this weekend, while three more continue their struggle to avoid relegation in a round of games with a lot to say about who will play in the European competition next season.

Arsenal and Manchester City are the two favourites in the title race, with Liverpool five points behind Arsenal and four behind City, reported Xinhua.

League leaders Arsenal are at home on Saturday lunchtime to Andoni Iraola's Bournemouth, who have already beaten their record for Premier League points tally.

Bournemouth usually press high and like to attack in numbers, which could leave them exposed to Arsenal's mobility in attack, and with Bukayo Saka and Kai Havertz in excellent form, a home win looks the most likely result.

Three points for Arsenal would put pressure on Manchester City in their Saturday evening match at home to Wolverhampton Wolves. Gary O'Neil has done an excellent job with the Wolves this season, but their campaign looks to be ending in mid-table after a brief flirtation with European qualification.

The Wolves beat City 2-1 in September, but Pep Guardiola's side was without the suspended Rodri for that game, and he will be in the engine room on Saturday.

With just one point separating Arsenal and City going into the weekend,



goal difference could be a deciding factor. Arsenal are currently seven better than their closest rivals, there will be no taking the foot off the gas even if a win has been sealed.

Liverpool's title hopes look to have vanished amid poor recent results and stories of bad-feeling between Jurgen Klopp and Mohamed Salah. It has to hope the top two drop points and beat Tottenham, who travel to Anfield after three consecutive defeats look to have spoiled their chances of overtaking Aston Villa and climbing up to fourth. Villa travel to face Brighton, whose season is in freefall with no wins and only two goals scored in their last six matches, as rumours continue over possible future destinations for coach Roberto De Zerbi.

Avoiding relegation and hopes of a place in Europe go head-to-head when Burnley entertain Newcastle United, with the home side now only two points behind 17th-placed Nottingham Forest after a run of just one defeat in eight games.

Confidence is high at Burnley after drawing away to Manchester United, but Newcastle will be a tough rival as they look to move into sixth place, with top scorer Alexander Isak in frightening form with seven goals

in his last six games.

United have a difficult away game against a Crystal Palace side with ten points from the last 12 under new coach Oliver Glasner, and Palace's pacy attack could have fun against United's sometimes slapstick defending.

Chelsea's 2-0 win at home to Tottenham on Thursday gives them a slight chance of qualifying for Europe, but first, they have to navigate an always-feisty London derby at home to West Ham.

Luton will move out of the bottom three if they win at home to Everton on Friday night. Everton have nearly ensured their survival after three consecutive wins, but off-pitch financial issues continue to cloud their future, with rumours of possible administration on the horizon.

If Luton win, that would lift them above Nottingham Forest ahead of Forest's must-win visit to already-relegated Sheffield United, with the home side captained by 20-year-old Oliver Arblaster, the only bright spot in an otherwise grim season for the Blades.

The remaining game this weekend is a south-west London derby between Brentford and Fulham, who have only local pride to play for.

Stolen scooty theft case solved by JKP in Domana area of district Jammu



JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 3

Today on 03.05.2024 Police Station Domana, Jammu made recovery in a theft case FIR No. 56/2024 U/s 379 IPC by recovering the stolen property.

On 15-03-2024, a complaint was registered at Police Station Domana about the theft of Scooty bearing registration number JK02-CK-1275 from Dayal House, Muthi Jammu under the Jurisdiction of PS Domana.

Taking cognizance of the matter, a special team led by PSI Younis Khanda under the guidance of SHO PS Domana was formulated to solve the case and nab the culprits. During the investigation

several suspects were rounded up by the police and lastly one suspect namely Rohit Singh S/o Padam Singh R/o Gurha Salathia, Rakh Bharotian Vijaypur Samba on questioning confessed his involvement in the crime. On the confession of the said accused person, the stolen scooty has been recovered by the police.

The investigation is still going on and further arrests and recovery is likely to be made. The accused namely Rohit Singh @Shallu is habitual thief and has been previously involved in multiple theft/snatching cases in Jammu/Samba District.

General public have appreciated the swift action of Domana Police.

FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

INDI Alliance conspiring...

remaining silent," the PM said.

"As you (opposition) keep on attacking me, my spirit to serve the countrymen embolden further as I have nothing to be threatened barring my 140 crore people across India," Modi asserted.

"I am incredibly blessed, beyond what I could have imagined. If my aim was merely to hold the position of Prime Minister, to enjoy its perks, I could have achieved that in just one month. But I am here with a singular resolve—to serve you, to serve our nation," PM Modi added.

"My life's purpose is to fulfill your dreams. I am here to serve each and everyone of you, every citizen of our country. Your children are not just your future, they are the future of our nation, and I am committed to shaping that future, together with you," he averred.

Modi claimed that the Congress leaders will be conducting X-rays of homes, shops, farms, and jewellery to confiscate earnings and distribute them to their vote bank.

"Even the TMC and Left haven't opposed them, as this aligns with their agenda," PM Modi revealed.

Modi said Bengal exemplified the Congress' divisive politics based on religion. His government's enactment of CAA, however, promises protection to minorities such as Hindus, Buddhists, Jains, and Christians, including a significant number of oppressed Dalit, Naamshudra, and Santhal families, those arrived after going through religious persecution in other countries, he added.

However, the Congress, TMC-Left, and INDI Alliance have announced plans to abolish the CAA, which the BJP cannot allow to do, Modi said.

Modi pointed at the surging attendance of the people, especially from the women of the society, the results are visible on June 4 after the seven-phase polling.

He said the experts are still speculating about the election outcome, but there's no need for opinion or exit polls.

"The result is clear. I predicted that their big leader would opt for the Rajya Sabha due to fear of defeat, and it happened. Similarly, I said Shahzada would seek another seat due to fear of losing in Wayanad. Now, he's fled Amethi to Rae Bareilly. Congress will have fewer seats this time. It's becoming evident that they're contesting just to win and divide the country," PM Modi said.

Modi said Congress is doubtful about making 50 and TMC will be at 15 after the 2024 Lok Sabha poll.

Issuing a stern warning against the TMC over the teachers' recruitment scam, PM Modi said, "I know how many lives of the victims of the teachers' recruitment scam have been ruined. Due to the scam, the lives of these innocent people have been surrounded by difficulties. The BJP will provide legal assistance to such candidates and will work with full force to ensure justice for them. And you have Modi's guarantee."

'TMC's goons will not be allowed to run amok. TMC's

thuggery won't be tolerated anymore, only Modi's guarantee. Every loot, every scam will be investigated."

Modi said the sanctity of the education system was destroyed in Bengal and the future of the coming generation was thrown into uncertainty in various scams across all sectors of the society.

"The TMC culture is visible with the recovery of unaccounted money from the ministers' houses and they are now in jails," Modi pointed out.

Modi said votes for Dilip Ghosh at Bardhaman-Durgapur, Ashim Sarkar at Purba Bardhaman, Rajmata Amrita Roy for Krishnanagar, Jagannath Sarkar for Ranaghat, Priya Saha for Bolpur, Debanu Bhattacharya for Birbhum and Nirmal Saha for Baharampur will strengthen the Modi government to root out the corrupt regime in Bengal.

LG Sinha visits Ayodhya...

embodiment of human values, the symbol of India's culture, traditions and civilization. May Lord Ram's grace remain upon all and may Jammu and Kashmir progress further.

Now, J&K police sets...

Ishfaq, a team of Kupwara police, who complied the court order.

It's worth to mention that, Kupwara police in Kashmir region have marked it's first to use the technology on the accused out on bail. Earlier in the year 2023, the device was used to track the terror accused in UAPA act after a special NIA court in Jammu passed an order directing the police to affix a GPS tracker anklet.

Sources in the police said that GPS anklets fitted on the terror accused or drug smugglers out on train helps keep a close watch on the person out on bail. "It helps to see whether the person continues to indulge in the wrongdoings or whether he has mended his ways," sources said, adding that the device has been so helpful in curbing the crime be it terror related or for that matter drug smuggling etc—(KNO)

J&K Police operationalises...

AI-based facial recognition system in swiftly detecting and apprehending individuals with a criminal record. The technology's ability to identify a range of threats, from terrorism to local crime, is expected to play a crucial role in maintaining law and order within the community."

The AI-Based Facial Recognition System is an integral part of smart policing initiatives. By leveraging this advanced technology, law enforcement agencies aim to not only track down criminals more effectively but also contribute to the broader framework of intelligent and proactive policing. This move aligns with the commitment to employing innovative solutions for ensuring public safety and upholding the principles of

smart, technology-driven law enforcement, the statement reads—(KNO)

Crime Branch takes...

reputation and integrity of not only these lady public figures, but the public institutions and government organizations," a statement issued to the news agency reads

Authorship of the communication purportedly made in the name of "Manish Sharma" of Pir Panjal Times. Crime Branch of J&K Police has taken cognizance of the complaints lodged by the women functionaries and has registered a case FIR No. 04/2024 U/S 467, 471, 500, 509 IPC, 66C IT Act and has taken up the investigation, police said—(KNO)

8-year-old boy drowns...

the water tank," said a relative of the boy.

As per the Imam of the Masjid, the child's father found his sleepers around Isha (late night) prayers inside the water tank, following which search was intensified. "The boy's father and other locals found him inside the tank and after hectic efforts he was brought outside" the Imam said.

The officials said that the boy was immediately taken to Government Medical College (GMC) Udhampur where doctors declared him dead on arrival. Originally hailing from Batote area of Ramban, the boy's family was staying in a rented accommodation in Adarsh colony for the last few years. The boy's mortal remains were taken to his native village for last rites—(KNO)

Delhi High Court denies...

absconded and joined a terrorist organisation after being granted parole.

The court noted that according to Rule 1211 of the Delhi Prison Rules, those convicted for sedition and terrorist activities should not be granted parole except in discretion of the competent authority and in special circumstances.

It pointed out that co-accused Noor Mohammad Tantry was released on parole and instead of returning to jail, he joined a terror outfit again and was neutralised in an encounter with security forces in 2017.

The court said a report received from the Avantipura Police in Jammu and Kashmir, where Bhatt wanted to reside, also mentioned that there is a reasonable apprehension that if he is released, he will abscond and join terror ranks.

The report said Bhatt's release on parole will be detrimental to the overall security scenario in the area. (Agencies)

Div Com Jammu visits...

Governor the District Administration is identifying

the land to compensate the affected families.

"The teams of experts from IIT Jammu and Geological Surgery of India have already visited the area and took stock of the situation besides taking samples to analyse the cause behind the sinking of land" he informed.

Earlier, Deputy Commissioner, Ramban, Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary briefed the Div Com about rescue and rehabilitation operations launched by the District Administration with the help of District Police, NDRF, SDRF, Civil defence Volunteers and locals.

It was informed that a comprehensive rehabilitation plan has been formulated to facilitate the affected families in all essential aspects. He further informed that the situation in Pernote is being monitored at the highest levels and all measures have been taken to facilitate the victims of the land sinking incident.

The Div Com urged the people not to go near the sinking area as suggested by the team of experts of Geological Surgery of India. All the concerned departments were directed to provide benefits of schemes to affected families by the respective departments.

Later, the Divisional Commissioner also visited the Digdol-Sumber route and directed for ensuring alternative transportation solutions following the closure of the Ramban-Gool road. The alternative route will play a crucial role in maintaining economic activities in Sub Division Gool despite the challenges posed by land subsidence at Pernote.

The Divisional Commissioner was accompanied by Deputy Commissioner Ramban Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary, SSP, Ramban Anuj Kumar, and other officers.

EC asks states to...

The advisory has been issued to ensure that this does not happen.

It said during the ongoing Lok Sabha polls, an intending candidate could not obtain such a certificate despite clearing dues.

A candidate who files nomination paper during an election to Parliament and state legislature has also to file an affidavit before the returning officer concerned under the provisions of the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

The Supreme Court in its various judgments has said that the affidavit so submitted should be completely filled in and no column should be left blank.

According to the directions of the Delhi High Court, a candidate who has been in occupation of accommodation provided by the government any time during the last 10 years before the date of notification of the election has to give details of the government dues accrued to him of various departments dealing with government accommodation towards rent, electricity charges, water charges and telephone charges. (Agencies)

8-day SVEEP voting awareness campaign concludes at NIT Srinagar

JINNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, MAY 3

The eight-day long SVEEP (Systematic Voter's Education and Electoral Participation) program concluded on Friday at National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar.

The program was organised under the Students Gymkhana of NIT Srinagar with various clubs conducting a variety of programs from 26th April till 3rd May 2024.

Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. A. Ravinder Nath along with senior professor from JNU flagged off and participated in the voting awareness rally from Fountain Park to Professor's Quarters. They stressed the importance of voting and encouraged students to get involved in the voting process.

Over the past 8 days, several engaging activities occurred to promote voter awareness among students on campus.

Beginning from 26th April, several activities

were coordinated by Dr Sumaira from Rhetoric and Eco Cult Club. Around 50 students participated in the event.

They were engaged in raising awareness through monologue performances and slogan-making competitions, setting an initial enthusiastic atmosphere.

On April 27th, the Sports Club, in collaboration with NCC Female Wing officer Lt. Dr. Nitika Kundan of NIT Srinagar, organized an awareness run alongside NCC's girls' unit, attracting approximately 150 student participants.

The momentum continued on April 28th when the Sargam Club, led by Dr. Janani, organized a captivating event featuring various performances including classical dance, music, flash mobs, and movie-like dance sequences. About 300 students actively engaged in this event.

On April 29th, the Culture Club and Soapbox, coordinated by Dr. Dinesh K. Rajendran,

hosted a vibrant array of activities including Rangoli making, painting sessions, and Nukkar Natak performances. Around 250 students participated in these cultural activities.

Moving forward to April 30th, the Movie Club, under the coordination of Dr. Parameshwar, showcased reels created by students highlighting the importance of voting. This event attracted participation from 29 teams and about 100 students.

On the fifth day 30th, the Movie Club, under the coordination of Dr. Parameshwar, hosted an event featuring reels created by students highlighting the importance of voting. These short films aim to educate and inspire viewers about the significance of their electoral participation. Around 29 teams submitted reels and 100 students participated.

On May 1st, the Technology Club, led by Dr. Iqra Gillani, conducted mock polling with a specially designed EVM

machine. 523 students, faculty, and staff participated in this mock election along with ideathons and quiz competitions.

On May 2, Stargazing club conducted an awareness rally that was flagged off by Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. Ravinder A Nath. Over 70 students participated and later took an oath to vote for the betterment of the nation.

The final day 3rd may the Photography club led by Dr Sparsh Sharma organised a digital poster designing and sketching competition to spread awareness among the students.

Finally, on May 3rd, the Photography Club, led by Dr. Sparsh Sharma, organized digital poster designing and sketching competitions to spread awareness among students with the theme #SrinagarWillVote. The event concluded with a speech from the honorable director, promoting voter awareness, in the common hall.

Academic Audit

Audit cornerstone of KU's commitment to excellence: VC

JINNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, MAY 3

To develop a survey instrument by providing an extensive platform to stakeholders to collaborate on its refinement and implementation for the upcoming academic audit, the National Education Policy (NEP) Cell, University of Kashmir (KU), organised a two-day workshop that concluded here on Thursday.

Titled 'Academic Audit in University of Kashmir: Developing Survey Instrument and Mechanism for Implementation', the workshop focussed on advancing the academic audit initiative within the university, an official statement issued here read. KU Vice Chancellor, Prof Nilofer Khan, highlighted the academic audit functions across both micro and macro levels within educational institutions and also addressed diverse facets of quality assurance and improvement.

"Academic audit is the cornerstone of the varsity's commitment to academic excellence and this workshop encouraged dialogue and collaboration towards enhancing academic quality assurance," Prof Khan said, adding that the stakeholders must engage in discussions, share expertise and contribute to the development of effective



strategies for implementing and refining academic audit practices. In his keynote, former Vice Chancellor, Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), Awantipora, Prof Mushtaq Ahmad Siddiqi, emphasised on clear and measurable standards and criteria for academic quality across all aspects of teaching, research and administration.

"Academic audit is an important tool for ensuring accountability, transparency and continuous improvement in higher education institutions and universities need to adapt to changing educational landscapes and embrace best practices to enhance academic quality assurance," he said.

Dean, Academic Affairs, KU, Prof Farooq Ahmad Masoodi, shared insights into the significance of academic audit in shaping the

university's educational landscape.

"The imperative for continuous improvement and innovation in academic processes to meet evolving educational needs is our objective," he reiterated.

Dean, College Development Council (DCDC), KU, Prof Khurshid Ahmad Butt, stressed the pivotal role of audit in institutional governance and quality assurance within higher education.

"Academic audit is not merely a bureaucratic exercise, but a transformative process capable of shaping an institution's future trajectory," he maintained.

Reiterating the significance of academic audit, KU Registrar, Prof Naseer Iqbal, said: "Audit serves as a vital mechanism for evaluating our academic processes, identifying areas for improvement and reaffirming our dedication to delivering the highest standards of education to our students."

Director, Directorate of Internal Quality Assurance (DIQA), Prof Manzoor Ahmad Shah, stated: "We have successfully devised a robust framework for academic audit that we can share with other academic institutions as an important reference."

Chief Coordinator, NEP Cell, KU, Prof Mushtaq Ahmad Siddiqi, outlined the significant role of audit in realising the goals outlined in the National Education Policy (NEP)-2020," he said.

"We need to systematically evaluate academic processes and practices to pave the way for transformative changes that empower students and enhance the learning experience," he added.

Rana for restoring pristine glory of ancient temples for posterity

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU MAY 03

Senior BJP leader Mr Devender Singh Rana today called for restoring the pristine glory of the ancient heritage temples and shrines for posterity to remain connected with their spiritual moorings and civilization.

Interacting with a delegation of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Ji Pracheen Marg Shrine Sanstha here this evening, Mr Rana complimented the office for their relentless efforts in promoting the ancient heritage route to Shri Mata Vaishno Deviji Cave Shrine from Kol Kandoli Temple in Nagrota.

"This route will bestow an added spiritual bliss to pilgrims thronging from across the country and abroad and give renewed impetus to the Jammu economy", Mr Rana said while responding with humility the gratitude expressed by the Sanastha for his support in bringing this route under focus.

Rana highlighted the efforts being made over the years for exploring this route optimally after carrying out detailed mapping by experts of all the important heritage assets like step-wells, ponds, Sarais, wells, tem-



ples and springs along the trails, which were once used and maintained by the pilgrims. The route starts from Kol Kandoli (Nagrota) on the National Highway 1A and passes through Jagdamba Mata Kheer Bhawani Temple - Jagti, Durga Mata Temple - Pangali, Shiv Temple - Thandapani - Drabi, Shiv Shakti Temple, Raja Mandleek Temple- and Raja Nowalgarh Temple - Marh, Drabi, Kali Mata Temple - Gundla Talab, Ram Darbar, Shiv Temple-Bamyal and Oli Temple Chhapanoo-Bamyal.

By reviving this route, the devotees could go back home after paying obeisance at the Durbar of the Mata with enlightenment they have been searching all their life, he added.

"Apart from spiritual aspect of the yatra, the promotion of Pracheen Marg will bring Jammu under focus and transform the economy of the peripheries from the City up to the cave shrine", he said, adding that the pilgrim tourism has sustained the economy of Jammu and Kashmir in general and this region in particular during most difficult times. For the past over four years, the pilgrim tourism has gained momentum, he maintained.

Rana called for proactive approach in execution of various projects related to pilgrim sites, saying the ancient link, passing through serene environs and spiritual ambience, offers spiritual

solace and Darshan of several revered temple which used to pre-requisite before embarking on the yatra to holy Bhawan on Trikuta Hills over several decades ago.

Prominent among those who were present included Harbans Lal President Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Pracheen Marg Shrines Sanstha Marh Bamyal (Chhapanoo), Pandit Ravi Kesar, Jagdish Raj, Ashok Thakur, Anand Swaroop Dutta, Rajesh, Neeraj Kumar, Saaranish Jalotra, Jeevan Kumar, Sahil besides Former Minister Prem Sagar Aziz, Former Deputy Mayor Dharamveer Singh Jamwal, Chairman J&K Panchayat Conference Anil Sharma, Dilbahadur Singh Jamwal and others.

2nd Session of India-Nigeria Joint Trade Committee held in Abuja

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 3

A seven-member delegation from India led by Additional Secretary, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Shri Amardeep Singh Bhatia, accompanied by High Commissioner of India to Federal Republic of Nigeria, Shri G Balasubramanian and Economic Adviser, Department of Commerce, Ms. Priya P. Nair held a Joint Trade Committee (JTC) meeting with their Nigerian counterparts in Abuja from 29.04.2024 to 30.04.2024. The JTC was co-chaired by Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Industry Trade and Investment, Nigeria, Ambassador Nura Abba Rimi; and Additional Secretary, Department of Commerce.

In a comprehensive dialogue, both sides undertook a detailed review of recent developments in bilateral trade and investment ties



and acknowledged the vast untapped potential for further expansion. To this effect, both sides identified several areas of focus for enhancing both bilateral trade as well as mutually beneficial investments. These include resolving of market access issues of both sides, and cooperation in key sectors such as Crude oil and Natural Gas, Pharmaceuticals, Unified Payments Interface (UPI), Local Currency Settlement System, Power Sector and

Renewable Energy, Agriculture & Food Processing, Education, Transport, Railway, Aviation, MSMEs, Development etc. Both sides agreed to early conclusion of Local Currency Settlement System Agreement to further strengthen bilateral economic ties.

Official delegation from India consisted of officials from Reserve Bank of India (RBI), EXIM Bank of India and National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI). The officials of both sides

actively engaged in the proceedings of the JTC. The discussions were held in a cordial and friendly atmosphere and were fruitful. There was enthusiastic response towards greater cooperation, addressing pending issues, boosting trade and investment, greater people to people contacts.

In a concerted effort to bolster bilateral trade, both sides committed to expeditiously address all issues impeding bilateral trade and facilitate trade promotion between the two nations. A business delegation led by CII also accompanied the official delegation comprising representatives from various sectors like power, fintech, telecommunications, electrical machinery, pharmaceuticals, etc. The deliberations of the 2nd Session of India-Nigeria JTC were cordial and forward-looking, indicative of the amicable and special relations between the two countries.

CUKashmir's DIQA holds workshop on filling of AQAR

JINNEWS SERVICE
GANDERBAL, MAY 3

The Directorate of Internal Quality Assurance (DIQA), Central University of Kashmir (CUKashmir) Friday organised a one-day workshop for the DIQA Nodal Officers and Section heads on "Filling of AQAR 2022-2023," at varsity's Green campus here.

Addressing the participants, DIQA, Director, Prof. Syed Zahoor Ahmad Geelani said, the Annual Quality Assurance Report (AQAR) serves as an important component of the NAAC accreditation process, offering institutions an opportunity to provide a comprehensive overview and insights about their



performance and achievements over the academic year. "AQARs encapsulate key achievements, initiatives, challenges, and future plans, enabling institutions to demonstrate their commitment to quality enhancement and institutional development," he said. He added that the workshop has been tailored to provide participants with practical insights and strate-

gies, for effectively filling the AQARs. "By equipping the participants with the necessary knowledge and skills, we aim to streamline the accreditation process, enhance institutional quality, and ultimately contribute to the advancement of the higher education sector," he added. He asked the participants to gear up for the NAAC and properly document all the activities organised by the

departments from time to time. Talking about the AQAR, Deputy Director DIQA, Dr. Mohammad Sayeed Bhat, said, that central to the NAAC accreditation process is the meticulous preparation of Annual Quality Assurance Reports (AQARs), which serve as a comprehensive reflection of institutional achievements, challenges, and future aspirations.

Thereafter during technical sessions, Deputy Directors, Er. Afaq Alam, Dr. Moyeed ul-Zaffar, Ms. Gulafroz Jan, Dr. Faizan Ashraf Mir, Dr. Mohammad Sayeed Bhat, Nodal Officers, Mr. Arshad Me'raj and Imtiyaz Ahmad Najar, made presentations on their respective criteria in the AQARs.

7th India-Indonesia Joint Defence Cooperation Committee meeting held in New Delhi

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 3

Defence Secretary Shri Girdhar Aramane and Secretary General of the Ministry of Defence, Indonesia, Air Marshal Donny Ermawan Taufanto, M.D.S. co-chaired the 7th India-Indonesia Joint Defence Cooperation Committee (JDCC) meeting in New Delhi on May 03, 2024. During the meeting, both sides expressed satisfaction at the expanding scope of defence cooperation between the two countries. The progress made on various bilateral defence cooperation initiatives deliberated in meetings of Working Groups on Defence Coop-



eration and Defence Industries Cooperation was also reviewed by the co-chairs.

In addition, the dignitaries identified means to enhance existing areas of collaboration especially in the field of defence industry ties, maritime security and multilateral cooperation. During the visit, the Secretary General visited the DRDO headquarters in

New Delhi as well as TATA Advanced Systems and L&T Defence facilities in Pune. He also held deliberations with other Indian defence industry partners like Bharat Forge, Mahindra Defence & Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited and discussed ways to enhance defence industrial capabilities by cooperation in research & joint produc-

tion. He also called on the Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan during the visit. The Secretary General is on a visit to India from May 02-04, 2024. He laid a wreath and paid homage to the fallen heroes at National War Memorial, New Delhi.

India and Indonesia have a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership and have arrived at a shared vision of the Indo-Pacific. In current times, this partnership is characterised by closed cooperation in bilateral and multilateral arena, including frequent high-level interactions. Indonesia is an important partner in India's Act East Policy and the Indo-Pacific region.

EDITORIAL

Ensure preservation of Toshakhana assets

The rich tapestry of history often lies locked away in the treasures of the past, waiting to be unearthed and shared with generations to come. In the case of the Toshakhana assets, the jewels, artifacts, and armory of the erstwhile rulers of Jammu and Kashmir hold not only intrinsic value but also represent a tangible link to the region's cultural heritage. However, the recent saga surrounding the transfer of these assets to the Department of Culture underscores the urgent need for transparency, preservation, and public access. It's heartening to learn that the long-pending process of transferring these invaluable assets to the Department of Culture will likely see fruition in the upcoming months. Yet, the delay and lack of periodic inspections raise concerns about the condition and preservation of these historic articles. It's imperative that steps are taken to ensure their proper upkeep to prevent decay and damage. The decision to close the J&K Toshakhana Organization and transfer its assets to the Department of Culture marks a significant transition. However, this transition must be accompanied by meticulous planning and execution. The insistence on a proper inventory before transfer is understandable, as it ensures accountability and clarity in the handover process. Yet, it's equally crucial that this process doesn't unduly prolong the transfer, risking further neglect of these treasures. One of the key challenges highlighted is the lack of a plan for public display post-transfer. History isn't meant to be locked away; it's meant to be shared and experienced. The Department of Culture, in collaboration with the Directorate of Archives, Archaeology, and Museums, must develop a comprehensive strategy for showcasing these artifacts to the public. This could involve curated exhibitions, educational programs, and digital archives, ensuring accessibility to all, especially the younger generation keen to connect with their heritage. Moreover, the relocation of some items to the strong room in the Civil Secretariat following a fire at the Mubarak Mandi Complex underscores the vulnerability of these assets. Adequate measures must be taken to safeguard them against such risks, including fireproof storage and climate control to mitigate damage from environmental factors. As we look ahead to the completion of the handover process, it's crucial that all stakeholders remain committed to transparency, preservation, and public access. The Department of Culture, the Hospitality and Protocol Department, and other relevant authorities must work in tandem to ensure the seamless transfer and responsible stewardship of these invaluable assets. Let's not merely unlock the doors to history but open them wide for all to behold and cherish. It will also help the people to realize the rich cultural heritage of Dogra rulers in Jammu and Kashmir.

SANTOSH MATHEW

Were it left to me to decide whether we should have a Government without newspapers, or newspapers without a Government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter - Thomas Jefferson

Every year on May 3rd, the world comes together to celebrate World Press Freedom Day, a day dedicated to honouring the fundamental principles of press freedom, defending the independence of the media and paying tribute to journalists who risk their lives to report the truth. In an era marked by misinformation, censorship and threats to journalists worldwide, this day holds more significance than ever. Press freedom is the cornerstone of democracy. It empowers citizens by providing them with access to diverse viewpoints and information, enabling them to make informed decisions. A free press serves as a watchdog, holding Governments and powerful entities accountable for their actions. It acts as a voice for the voiceless, bringing attention to social injustices and human rights violations.

Despite the crucial role they play, journalists around the world face numerous challenges in

their pursuit of truth. They encounter threats, harassment and violence, both online and offline. Many journalists risk imprisonment or even death for daring to report on sensitive issues. Censorship, propaganda and attacks on press freedom have become increasingly prevalent, hindering the ability of journalists to fulfil their vital role in society. World Press Freedom Day. Since 1993, it has been observed globally to honour a declaration made by African journalists in Windhoek, Namibia, in 1991. It commemorates press freedom principles and acknowledges journalists' courage. UNESCO awards the Guillermo Cano Prize to those preserving press freedom.

While technology has revolutionised the way information is disseminated, it has also presented new challenges for press freedom. Social media platforms have become powerful tools for spreading information, but they have also been weaponised to spread misinformation and silence dissenting voices. Journalists must navigate through a digital landscape fraught with fake news and online harassment, often at great personal risk. India, home to one of the world's largest and most vibrant media landscapes, has faced



scrutiny in recent years regarding its press freedom record. According to the World Press Freedom Index compiled by Reporters Without Borders (RSF), India's ranking has seen fluctuations. In the 2023 index, India was placed at 163 out of 180 countries, indicating significant challenges to press freedom within the country.

"When asked to bend, the media crawled. And when asked to crawl, it cringed." This statement was made by Advani in the context of the Indian media's behaviour during the Emergency period (1975-1977), imposed by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. During this time, press freedom faced

severe restrictions, with journalists being arrested, newspapers censored and the Government exerting tight control over media outlets. Advani's quote reflects his criticism of how certain sections of the media capitulated to Government pressure and failed to uphold journalistic integrity and independence. It suggests that instead of resisting unjust demands or censorship, some media outlets complied with the Government's wishes, even to the point of degradation. This quote serves as a reminder of the importance of a free and independent press in holding those in power accountable and safeguarding democracy.

It highlights the need for journalists to remain vigilant in upholding the principles of press freedom, especially in times of political turmoil or authoritarian rule. British politician Edmund Burke is often credited with coining the term in the late 18th century, referring to the gallery of the House of Commons as the fourth estate, symbolising the press's influence on political affairs. The term "fifth estate" underscores the transformative role of social media in democratising access to information, enabling individuals to participate in public discourse and challenging established institutions and power structures. Social media

platforms empower users to share news, opinions and perspectives instantaneously, bypassing traditional gatekeepers of information.

On World Press Freedom Day, we must reaffirm our commitment to defending press freedom and protecting journalists worldwide. Governments must uphold the principles of free speech and ensure the safety of journalists within their borders. Civil society plays a crucial role in advocating for press freedom and holding those who seek to suppress it accountable. Media organisations must continue to strive for independence, transparency and ethical journalism, even in the face of adversity. World Press Freedom Day is also a day to celebrate the courage and resilience of journalists who risk their lives to report the truth. It is a day to honour those who have faced persecution, imprisonment and even death for their commitment to upholding the principles of press freedom. Their dedication serves as a reminder of the invaluable role journalists play in safeguarding democracy and promoting transparency.

(The writer is an associate professor, views are personal)

Engaging in the theatrics of India's electoral carnival

RAJDEEP PATHAK

In anticipation of the 18th Lok Sabha elections in India, political parties have fervently engaged in pre-electoral activities, including candidate selection, issue advocacy and public discourse—all these, much before the official announcement by the Election Commission (scheduled from April 19 to June 1, 2024). Of particular significance is the burgeoning cohort of 18 million first-time voters, who observe the electoral spectacle with keen interest as parties vie for their support by proffering ambitious pledges. Within this theatrical milieu, the composition of the Lok Sabha, comprising 543 parliamentary constituencies nationwide, assumes paramount importance. Each constituency plays a pivotal role in electing a singular representative, who assumes the mantle of voicing their constituents' concerns within the Lower House of Parlia-

ment. Thus, amidst the cacophony of democratic fervour, the formation of the (18th) Lok Sabha emerges as a focal point, embodying the democratic ethos and the intricacies of electoral representation within India's diverse polity - as we witness this chaotic carnival (read dance) of democracy.

Now picture this: Rallies echoing with rehearsed oratory; meetings buzzing with the monotonous drone of 'scripted' discourse; and the landscape littered with towering hoardings and captivating advertisements—all vying for attention like desperate contestants in a reality TV show. Each candidate, eagerly awaits their fate in this grandiose spectacle, hoping to shine bright enough to avoid being relegated to the shadows of political obscurity. But, as they say, once a politician, always a politician.

This grand orchestra of democracy will see nearly a billion people herded like cattle into over a

million polling booths, expected to cast their votes in a choreographed charade to determine the future Government.

In the realm of electoral politics, politicians assume the role of adept illusionists, skillfully concocting promises tailored to captivate the electorate. Through artful rhetoric, they conjure visions of development and inclusivity, appealing to voters' emotions despite the potential disparity with reality. Parties engage in a theatrical spectacle, donning elaborate garb and competing for attention with promises of infrastructure, welfare and prosperity. However, voters' decisions ultimately reflect both their susceptibility and the manipulative prowess of politicians. This electoral charade underscores the complex interplay between rhetoric, perception and voter agency in contemporary democratic processes. Here past performances matter.

Enter the Narendra Modi Government, riding high on the waves of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas,' with a later addition of 'Sabka Prayas'. Since 2014, the Modi administration has been pulling rabbits out of hats faster than a magician—from electrifying villages to construction of toilets across the country in a bid to make India defecation-free, to digitising governance (Digital India), Startup India and standing up for the people and the world during emergencies like Covid19. Of course, like any good magic show, there's always a healthy dose of criticism to keep things interesting - after all, what's a political spectacle without a little touch of drama? India's diplomatic endeavours have bolstered its global stature, marked by strategic alliances with major powers and initiatives like the International Solar Alliance, etc., fostering collaboration in trade, technology and sustainable development. Concurrently, domestic devel-

opments such as Ayushman Bharat for healthcare, Saubhagya for rural electrification, Jan-Dhan Yojana for financial inclusion and so on, underscore efforts toward inclusive progress. Nonetheless, socio-economic disparities persist, emblematic of the ongoing challenges amidst India's democratic evolution on the world stage.

The Indian electoral process is characterised by extravagant rallies, serving as vibrant showcases of democracy where ordinary citizens are swept into the extraordinary theatre of politics. Whether attendees arrive voluntarily or are transported en masse, these gatherings epitomise the essence of democratic engagement. Amidst a backdrop of waving flags and resonant slogans, the democratic spirit radiates, offering a glimpse of both the triumphs and tribulations of competing political factions. Central to this spectacle, is the tireless efforts of party

workers, orchestrating the mobilisation of supporters for these occasions. One cannot forget that in this grand symphony, the Election Commission stands as the linchpin, ensuring the sanctity of free and fair elections despite recurrent criticisms. Imagine the stalwart veterans anxiously clinging to their phones, praying for one more display of their experience in the political limelight, while the current faces (read chosen MPs) pace like restless lions in the corridors of authority, fearing either the sweet embrace of reselection or the bitter sting of rejection. But there's nothing to fear. For in the unpredictable world of politics, one never knows when the pendulum of fortune will favourably swing back. So, let us Vote so that the elected parties work to fulfil their manifesto.

(The writer is Programme Executive, Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti; views are personal)

Time to curb fake videos in elections

VIVEK SHUKLA

The ongoing Lok Sabha election campaign has suddenly taken a very ugly turn after a fake video involving Union Home Minister Amit Shah has surfaced. Accusations and counter-accusations are common during campaigns and are not considered harmful. However, it is unacceptable for anyone or political party to resort to using 'deep fake' technology to release fake videos against their opponents to win elections.

In a recent case, the country's Home Minister, Amit Shah, has become a victim of 'deepfake' technology. Amit Shah delivered a speech at a BJP election rally in Siddipet, Medak district of Telangana on April 25. The video of this speech was allegedly tampered with and shared on social media. Fact checks have proven

this video to be completely fake.

In this fake video, Amit Shah is allegedly seen announcing the abolishment of reservations for Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST) and Other Backward Classes (OBC). Now, imagine if someone could abolish the reservations provided to the above-mentioned classes in the country. It is an impossible thing.

In reality, an old video of Amit Shah has been edited, in which he was talking about ending Muslim reservations. In this original video, ST and ST have been added in place of Muslims. However, the question arises as to how the fake video may look exactly like the real one.

Fake videos are created with the help of software. As we know, the use of machine learning and artificial intelligence tools has increased in the market



these days. In this technology, the tone and voice of a person are captured with the help of machine learning.

In fact, with the help of new technology, the face of a person who is not even a part of that video is fitted into the video. It is difficult to tell the difference between real and fake in a video manipulated through this technique.

Whoever leader or political party created and released fake videos showing Amit Shah announcing the abolishment of reservations, how serious an act they have committed to spreading hatred in society.

A complaint has been lodged by Prateek Karpe, an office bearer of BJP's Mumbai unit, at Bandra Kurla Complex (BKC)

Cyber Police Station. The complaint states that a deepfake video of Amit Shah was created, posted and shared on the internet, to defame BJP leader Amit Shah. The complainant also requested the police to immediately remove the fake video and register a case against those accused who allegedly shared it to create enmity and hatred among various castes. Based on the complaint, a case has been registered against the social media handle of Maharashtra Youth Congress and 16 others under various sections of the IPC and IT Act at Bandra-Kurla Cyber Police Station in Mumbai.

Of course, technological development has taken place rapidly in the world in the last few decades. The increasing use of digital platforms has made life easier and faster, but along with this benefit, some serious risks related

to cyber security are also coming to the fore. With the boundless nature of cyberspace, the threats associated with it and the deceitful methods and tools of cyber criminals, the trend of cyber-attacks is constantly changing.

Apart from this, terrorism and fundamentalism are also finding shelter in cyberspace. As Prime Minister Narendra Modi said, "Cybersecurity is no longer limited to the digital world."

It has become a matter of national security." Cyberspace has become the new battleground. The Government must take strict action against these elements. Meanwhile, one only hopes that the authorities concerned would curb the menace of deep fake videos sooner rather than later with an iron hand.

(The writer is a senior journalist and author of two books; views are personal)

Opposition manufacturing false narratives in anticipation of election debacle: Dr Jitendra

JI NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, MAY 3

Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh said here today that a desperate opposition is manufacturing false narratives in anticipation of the election debacle, which it is seeing as the writing on the wall.

Addressing a series of BJP election meetings in Bongaon and Barrackpore Lok Sabha constituencies here today, Dr. Jitendra Singh said, the opposition, notwithstanding its claim of coming together on a single platform as INDIA Block or whatever, has exposed itself before the people of this country as a 'House of Cards', which is falling apart under the weight of its own contradictions.

He said, as far as the Congress is concerned, it is at a loss to find candidates to fight against BJP



and this phenomena has been noted across the country. While in Amethi, it made a laughing stock of itself, in several other constituencies across North India also, the Congress had to reconcile by putting up candidates who had been rejected by all the other political parties, he added.

Dr. Jitendra Singh said, in this conglomeration of INDIA Block, while nobody is ready to accept

each other as the leader, it is a hilarious situation in West Bengal where Mamata Banerjee is also aspiring to be the future head of INDIA Block and thus the claimant for the position of Prime Minister. It is all the more amusing to note, he said, that West Bengal in total holds the key to 42 seats in Lok Sabha out of which in 2019, Mamata Banerjee led TMC had won 22 against 18 seats won by

the BJP and there is every indication that BJP tally will increase this time, which, in other words could dampen Mamata's dream of claiming to be the leader of the INDIA Block.

While the BJP is in the election fray as an Organizational Unit, said Dr. Jitendra Singh, the opposition parties like Congress and TMC are fighting an un-strategised election in the hope of carrying the

day on the strength of individual or family charisma, which the people of this country have long outgrown, he said.

Exuding confidence that the BJP led by Modi will not only improve its tally across the country, Dr. Jitendra Singh said, even in a State like West Bengal, people will ensure defeat of TMC and send out a loud message that the State is a part of Modi-led mainstream India.

Sitaram Yechury raises concern over delay in release of voting figures of LS polls

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, MAY 3

Communist Party of India (Marxist) General Secretary Sitaram Yechury raised concern over delays and "discrepancies" in the release of voting figures of Lok Sabha polls by the Election Commission of India saying, "In the interests of transparency and credibility of the process, it is incumbent upon the ECI clears the doubts that have arisen in this regard".

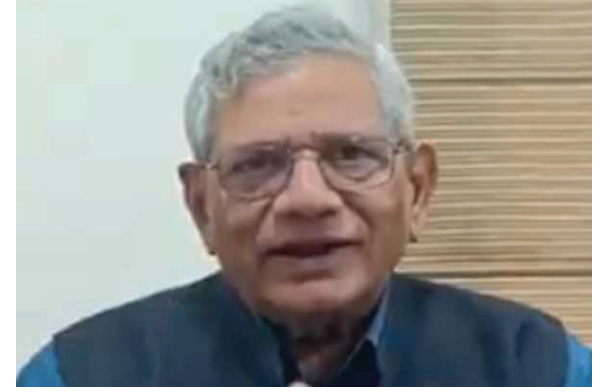
In a letter written to Rajiv Kumar, Chief Election Commissioner, Sitaram Yechury alleged that "The variation of six percent is unusual and raises some suspicion".

The Election Commission has come under scanner over the delay in releasing the voter turnout data for the first two phases.

The data came 11 days after the first phase polling on April 19, and four days after the second phase on April 26.

According to the Election Commission, the final voter turnout for the first phase was 66.14 percent, while it was 66.71 percent for the second phase.

After the first phase of



polling in 102 seats ended on April 19, the EC said the voter turnout was around 60 percent as of 7 PM.

After the second phase on 26 April, the poll body said that the voting figure was 60.96 percent.

"It is really surprising that after an inordinate and unexplained delay of eleven days, the final figures for the percentage of votes cast during the first phase of the Lok Sabha elections have been made available. In the case of the second phase the delay was four days" the letter said.

The CPI(M) General Secretary said, "Unfortunately, the ECI has not come out with any explanation for the cause of this undue delay. What goes unanswered is also a surge of

6 percent from the initial figures that the ECI put out and the final figure".

"In the interests of transparency and credibility of the process, it is incumbent that the ECI clears the doubts that have arisen in this regard".

Sitaram Yechury also demanded that the commission should provide state-wise, constituency-wise, and assembly segment-wise break-up of the initial and final percentage as well the number of votes cast.

"Further, it also needs to be clarified as to how much under which category this rise has taken place - EVMs, Postal Ballots, votes at Postall Centres for personnel on duty etc" he wrote.

Padma Vibhushan Dr Nirmala Deshpande Award 2024 conferred on Kunwrani Ritu Singh

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 3

Gandhi Global Family Jammu & Kashmir conferred the prestigious Padma Vibhushan Dr.Nirmala Deshpande Award-2024 on Kunwrani Dr. Ritu Singh. This esteemed honor is bestowed upon Dr. Ritu Singh jointly by Army Veteran General G. S. Jamwal, Great Educationist Sh. I. D. Soni, Padam Shri Dr. S. P. Verma. by recognizing her outstanding contributions to the peace-building, social justice, community and women empowerment.

Also Sh. Rameshwar Singh Mengi, Sh Raman Gupta, Ch.Farooq Alam, Abrol ji were present on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, Army Veteran General G. S. Jamwal and Sh. I. D. Soni appreciated Ritu's tireless dedication



to promoting harmony and understanding among diverse communities and said that this exemplifies the values upheld by Didi Nirmala Deshpande. Her commitment to Gandhian principles of non-violence, compassion and service has made a profound impact on the lives of countless individuals

in Jammu & Kashmir and beyond.

Padam Shri Dr. S. P. Verma said that the Padma Vibhushan Dr. Nirmala Deshpande Award serves as a testament to Ritu's unwavering commitment to fostering dialogue, reconciliation, and sustainable development in the region. Through

her exemplary leadership and grassroots initiatives, she has inspired positive change and laid the foundation for a more inclusive and peaceful society. Gandhi Global Family Jammu & Kashmir extends its heartfelt congratulations to Ritu on this well-deserved recognition. Her dedication to advancing

the legacy of Didi Nirmala Deshpande and promoting the Gandhian ideals of peace and social justice continues to inspire hope and resilience in communities across the region.

The award ceremony was conducted by Women wing of Gandhi Global family J&K.

Police arrest 02 pickpockets in Kulgam

JI NEWS SERVICE
KULGAM, MAY 3

Police in Kulgam have arrested 02 pickpockets and recovered stolen property from their possession.

Police Station Kulgam received several complaints regarding pickpocketing in their jurisdiction. Accordingly, a case vide FIR No 54/2024 under relevant sections of law was registered & investigation was set into motion.

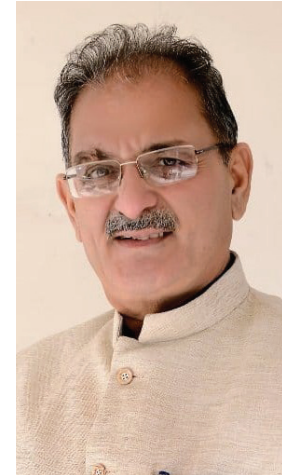
During the course of investigation, intensified patrolling and surveillance activities were carried out. After strenuous efforts and swift action by a team of Kulgam Police led by SHO Police Station Kulgam under the supervision of DySP HQRS Kulgam prepared a list of suspects.

India bloc all set to 'duck out', Omar's claim of clean sweep unrealistic dream: Kavinder

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 3

Senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister, Kavinder Gupta on Friday said that India bloc is all set to duck out in J&K as the parties in the amalgam have no takers in the Union Territory while the statement by NC Vice President Omar Abdullah over winning all seats shows how naïve he is in understanding politics.

In a statement issued to media persons, the BJP stalwart leader said that Omar Abdullah is living in a fool's paradise and believing in unrealistic dreams because the rivalry among the different constituents of India bloc in J&K and Ladakh UTs is not a secret now and people are closely



watching the mudslinging between the leaderships of these parties exposing things which these leaders never wanted to make public.

He said that whether it was NC, PDP or Congress, all had hoodwinked people for so long

and therefore expecting people's support is nothing but day dreaming. He said that novice Omar is expecting clean sweep in J&K at the time when he should have prayed for saving the India bloc leaders from forfeiting their security bonds.

Kavinder asserted that the National Conference and Congress had exploited every section of Jammu & Kashmir for nearly seven decades. He emphasized that the time has come for a significant shift, with the ball now firmly in the court of general public. He stated that the people are the better judges and will give a befitting reply to such opportunist political parties who exploited them for their political gains in the Lok Sabha polls.

University of Jammu launches Digital Governance with Samarth ERP Implementation

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 3

In a major shift towards transparency, efficiency, and accountability, University of Jammu today launched the E-Governance initiative with the implementation of Samarth ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) system in sync with the Digital India initiative of the Government of India. This strategic move by the E-Governance Initiative Cell marks a pivotal moment in the University's pursuit of modern governance practices.

Speaking at the launch of the Samarth ERP, Prof. Umesh Rai, Vice Chancellor, University of Jammu complemented the E-Governance cell of the University. Prof Rai expressed optimism about the transformative impact of Samarth ERP, stating, "The implementation of Samarth ERP underscores our commitment to embracing technology for the betterment of governance practices. This initiative will enhance operational efficiency within the University system and empower stakeholders with greater access and transparency."

On this occasion, Dr. Guneet Singh Sudan,



Head, E-Governance cell gave a detailed overview of the Samarth ERP. Giving details of this, Dr Guneet said that the modules under this initiative shall be implemented in two phases. In phase-I, 13 modules were launched today whereas 12 modules will be implemented in Phase-II.

Samarth ERP is an initiative by the Ministry of Education, Govt of India aimed at promoting good governance practices in educational institutions through the adoption of digital solutions. The platform offers a comprehensive suite of software modules designed to streamline administrative processes and enhance operational efficiency.

In this direction, University of Jammu endeavors to achieve a paradigm shift in governance with the introduction of Samarth ERP, leveraging ICT to drive transparency, effectiveness, and

responsiveness across all facets of university operations. This transformative initiative aligns with the university's vision of adopting best practices to enhance service delivery and stakeholder engagement. Governance in the digital age necessitates the integration of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) to facilitate interactive engagement between organizations and their stakeholders. Samarth ERP emerges as a beacon of progress, offering a comprehensive platform that not only harnesses technology but also fosters active participation from employees and students. This ERP system will streamline the operations, ensuring smoother day-to-day functioning by simplifying processes and workflows. With advanced data precision, SAMARTH guarantees accuracy in transactions and reports thereby enhancing the university's working.

The University of Jammu's adoption of Samarth ERP, an initiative by the Ministry of Education, underscores its commitment to deploying a digital framework of good governance. Samarth ERP offers over 40 software modules tailored to address the diverse needs of University operations and administration.

In Phase - I of implementation, the University of Jammu has launched several critical modules, include -Core Module, Employee Management System, Knowledge Management System, Career Advancement Scheme (CAS) Module, Grievance Management System.

Furthermore, the University of Jammu has introduced modules such as Leave Management System, File Management & Tracking System, Inventory Management System, Guest House Management System, Fleet Management System, Legal Case

Management System, Recruitment Management System and Core Communication System, among others, to streamline administrative processes and enhance operational efficiency.

In Phase - II, University is set to launch Payroll Management System, Budget Management System, Vendor Bill Tracking System, Hostel Management System, Sports Management System, Health Management System, Estate Management System, Residence Allocation System, RTI Management System, and Research Project & Management System.

Among those present on the occasion included Prof. Anju Bhasin, Dean Academic Affairs, Prof. Prof. Meena Sharma Dean Planning and Development, Prof. Neelu Rohmetra, Dean Research Studies, Prof. Pankaj K Srivastava, Director DD&OE, Prof. Prakash Antahal Dean Students Welfare, Dr. Jatinder Khajuria Finance Officer, Dr. Neeraj Sharma, SS to VC, Ms. Jaswinder Kour, S. Parvinder Singh, Harsh Dutt Sharma, Shubam Dogra, Shweta, Raiz, Nitin Verma and other staff members of E-Governance Cell of the University.

SC to consider giving interim bail to Delhi CM Kejriwal due to elections

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, MAY 3

The Supreme Court on Friday told Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's lawyer that it can consider giving interim bail to him owing to the Elections.

While concluding the hearing in Arvind Kejriwal's plea challenging his arrest by the Enforcement Directorate, a bench comprising Justice Sanjiv Khanna and Justice Dipankar Datta said, "Since it will take long to hear the main petition we may hear you on the questions of interim bail due to the elections. So please be prepared to answer on that," the bench told Additional Solicitor General SV Raju. The Court posed the matter for Tuesday morning and told Kejriwal's lawyer, "Since it is going to take time, we will be considering the ques-



tion of interim bail owing to the Elections," the Apex Court said.

The Top Court said, "We will be considering this because of the position Kejriwal holds, and asked Abhishek Manu Singhvi whether he wants the Chief Minister to be allowed to sign official files or not.

The Court asked Kejriwal's lawyer Singhvi as to when the elections in Delhi were to take place.

Singhvi replied, "Elections in Delhi are on May 25 and campaigning will

end on May 23. He added, "Elections were announced on March 16 and Kejriwal was arrested on March 21.

Singhvi said, "Anything and everything done by a political party cannot be attributed to its National Convenor of AAP.

It may be recalled that Kejriwal has not applied for bail till now. He has challenged his arrest by the ED and CBI in the Excise policy scam in formulating Delhi's New Excise Policy.

T20 WC: 'If Pakistan lose, PCB will blame Kirsten... this is our tradition': Rashid Latif

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, MAY 3

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) this week appointed Gary Kirsten and Jason Gillespie as head coaches for the white-ball and red-ball cricket teams, respectively, each for a two-year term.

However, the timing of the appointment ignited debate in the cricket fraternity as the ICC T20 World Cup is just a few days away. Speaking to media, former Pakistan wicket-keeper-batter Rashid Latif, too, expressed his concern over the late appointments.

"Gary Kirsten has been a successful coach for India, and also in franchise cricket. But timing (of his appointment) is wrong, the problem that has always arisen in Pakistan is timing. This is above my head... Next month



we are going to the World Cup. On the road to the World Cup, we are playing 7 matches. The time is very short. If they lose, the board will blame Kirsten or Babar Azam. This is our tradition. I will not blame Babar or Kirsten," Rashid said.

"Pakistan definitely has an advantage that you cannot neglect them in ICC events, you cannot write them off. They appear from nowhere... This has happened on many occasions. Kirsten

and Gillespie are both very experienced coaches and have impressive records. But they should have been called earlier.

"Today, if I know that this is my head coach, this is my captain and this is my selection committee... Momentum is like what happens in Australia, India, England that they know these are our 12-13 certain players and this is my coach. You should have known all this 6-8 months or even a year in advance," he added.

On Thursday, PCB announced its 18-player squad for the upcoming T20I series against Ireland (10-14 May) and England (22-30 May). The squad will be reduced to 15 players for next month's World Cup 2024 after the first T20I at Leeds on May 22 to meet the ICC's May 24 deadline.

The men's national selection committee has recalled fast bowler Haris Rauf, along with all-rounders Hasan Ali and Salman Ali Agha, in the 18-player squad. The two cricketers who did not make the cut from the original 17-player squad that faced New Zealand are wrist spinner Usama Mir and fast bowler Zaman Khan.

The Babar Azam-led side is scheduled to depart for Dublin on May 7 following a three-day training camp in Lahore from May 4-6.

01 missing BSF officer traced out by JKP in Domana area of district Jammu



JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 3

An information was received at Police Station Domana about the missing of an ASI/GD Parmanand Hembram of 7th Bn.BSF Hq.Paloura whose missing report was entered at PS Domana vide DD No.03, Dtd.01-04-2024.

Acting upon this, a Police team of PS Domana led by SHO Domana put

strenuous efforts and with the help of technical assistance as well as human intervention traced out the missing person and after completing all legal formalities the said person has been handed over to his Bn.Officer.Accordingly missing report has been closed.

BSF has appreciated the swift action of Domana police in tracing out the missing person.

Lok Sabha Elections-2024 38 candidates file nomination papers for Baramulla PC



JINNEWS SERVICE
BARAMULLA, MAY 3

A total of 38 candidates have filed their nominations for the 1-Baramulla Parliamentary Constituency (PC), with 19 candidates submitting their papers on last day of nomination here today at the office of the Returning Officer (RO), Minga Sherpa.

Those who filed their nomination papers today included Prince Parvez, Shafeeqa Begum, Bilal Ahmad Wani, Syed Ameer Suhail, Mohammad Sultan Ganaie, Shahdib Hanief Khan, Ghulam Nabi Parray, Ishfaq Ahmad Bhat, Dr. Man-

zoor Ahmad Bhat, Ashiq Hussain, Shabir Ahmad Malik, Mohammad Abdullah Khan, Haamid Hussain Bhat, Firdous Ahmad Bhat, Shabir Ahmad Dar and Arun Kumar Raina as independent candidate besides Muneer Ahmad Khan from National People's Front, Mehraj ud Din Ahanger from All J&K Kisan Mazdoor Party and Suraya Nissar from National Republic Party of India. The scrutiny of the nomination papers will be held on May 04, 2024.

The candidate can withdraw their nomination before 03:00 PM on May 06, 2024 in the office of Returning Officer.

Sapna Kotwal chairs meet to discuss measures for effective electoral awareness campaign



JINNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, MAY 3

To schedule an effective awareness campaign aimed to educate citizens about the importance of voting and electoral participation, a meeting was held today at the Chief Electoral Office Srinagar. The meeting was presided over by Nodal Officer for Media in the office of Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), UT of J&K Sapna Kotwal.

Officers from Chief Electoral Office, Department of Information and SVEEP related officers, besides representatives

from FM radio stations and multimedia experts attended the meeting. The meeting discussed ways and means for wide spread awareness campaign about various voting-related activities and promote electoral literacy, education and awareness among citizens, especially first-time voters in the run-up to the upcoming Lok Sabha Elections.

Sapna Kotwal impressed upon the concerned to give impetus to the electoral awareness campaign. She emphasized on the significance of electoral literacy in empowering citizens.

Police arrest drug peddler in Kulgam; Contraband substance recovered

JINNEWS SERVICE
KULGAM, MAY 3

Police in Kulgam have arrested a drug peddler and recovered contraband substance from his possession.

A Police party of Police Station Yaripora during patrolling at Humshalibugh, intercepted a suspicious person carrying a nylon bag. He has been identified as Karleep Singh son of Bishan Dass resident of Bass Panchal Ramban. During search, 4.5 Kgs of Poppy Straw was recovered from his possession. He has been arrested and shifted to police station where he

remains in custody.

Accordingly, a case vide FIR No. 29/2024 under relevant sections of law has been registered in Police Station Yaripora and investigation has been initiated.

Community members are requested to come forward with any information regarding drug peddling in their neighborhood. Persons found indulging in drug peddling will be dealt as per law. Our consistent actions against drug peddlers should reassure the community members that we are making efforts to keep our society free from the scourge of drug menace.

Harpic and News18's 'Mission Swachh Aur Paani' Marks 1400 Days of Promoting Nationwide Hygiene Awareness

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 3

In a shift that once seemed unthinkable, discussing toilets has become a regular part of conversations nationwide. Mission Swachh Aur Paani campaign, a collaborative effort by Harpic and News 18, has been at the forefront of this change, marking over 1400 days of continuous engagement. A first-of-its-kind awareness campaign, the initiative normalized discussions on good toilet behavior across the country, touching millions of citizens, and bringing together leaders from all walks of life. Integrating culture, comedy, muppets, technology, music and education, Harpic Mission Swachh Aur Paani recently celebrated the completion of its third edition, setting the stage for scaling it up in future. The milestone coincided with the 10-year anniversary of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's ambitious Swachh Bharat Mission.

The celebration saw participation from Mission Swachh Aur Paani campaign ambassador, Akshay Kumar; Hon'ble Union Ministers Gajendra Singh Shekhawat & Mansukh Mandaviya; Hon'ble

Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Eknath Shinde, and other prominent figures advocating for a safe and healthy Bharat.

Aligned with the Swachh Bharat Mission and UN's Sustainable Development Goals, Harpic & News18's Mission Swachh Aur Paani has united various stakeholders - policy makers, cultural icons, celebrities, thought leaders, development sector professionals, water and public health experts, and academia. The campaign reinforced the importance of sanitation for clean and accessible toilets along with inculcating toilet appropriate behaviour, particularly in young children. A remarkable feature of this campaign has been leveraging popular culture to simplify the message for mass consumption. A stand-up by Gaurav Kapoor, a song about health and sanitation by Grammy winner Ricky Kej, a message by Akshay Kumar and a short film like 'Kar Lo Karmon Ka Uddhar' appeal to common people, make them think, and inspire behavior and attitudinal shift.

Highlighting the significance of a Swachh Samaj for elevating India's stand-



ing, Akshay Kumar said, "A clean society is the foundation of a healthier and better nation. Mission Swachh Aur Paani has evolved into a 'Jan Andolan' (people's movement) for sanitation security and focused on building awareness for right to dignity. I urge each one of you to continue supporting us and join us to drive advocacy for clean toilets to build a cleaner India."

Hon'ble Minister of Jal Shakti, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, emphasized the lasting impact of the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, asserting, "India has witnessed a revolutionary transformation in sanitation and hygiene. Over one lakh villages have been declared completely clean based on various parameters. Our persistent efforts under the Swachh Abhi-

yan are poised to significantly elevate both the National Health Index and GPI."

Hon'ble Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Mansukh Mandaviya, highlighted the critical role of good sanitation in maintaining good health, crediting the Swachh Bharat Mission for spreading the message of health and hygiene nationwide. He commended the Prime Minister for ensuring dignity for women, sanitation workers, marginalized communities, and others through this campaign.

During the celebration, Ravi Bhatnagar, Director of External Affairs & Partnerships - SOA, Reckitt, said, "Since its inception, Harpic Mission Swachh Aur Paani has been working towards integrating a culture of cleanliness

in society, particularly among youth, ensuring clean toilets become second nature. Events like G20, which championed 'India for the World,' and the profound philosophy of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam have deeply inspired and reinforced our commitment. At Reckitt, we remain steadfast in our pursuit of universal sanitation as we continue spreading the message of toilet hygiene and sanitation, helping build healthy habits among masses. While our progress has been commendable, we acknowledge there is more to be done and this marks just the beginning of our journey towards a Swachh Bharat."

Avinash Kaul, CEO Network18 (Broadcast) & MD of A + E Networks, expressed pride in spear-

heading a high-impact campaign on toilet-appropriate behavior, reaching millions across India over the past three years.

"As India strives towards the vision of 'Viksit Bharat-2047', establishing itself as a developed global power, our commitment as a responsible media organization to support and contribute to this goal is unwavering. Through initiatives like Mission Swachh Aur Paani, we are dedicated to promoting mass social awareness programs with a transformative agenda. Network18 will continue to encourage efforts for a Swachh and Swasth Bharat," he said.

Launched in 2019, Mission Swachh Aur Paani campaign worked around the core theme of 'Healthy Hum, Jabe Saaf Rakhen Toilet Hardam,' which is designed to inspire behavioral change and create a lasting commitment to cleanliness among people. The campaign has made a significant impact nationwide, leveraging the extensive reach of Network 18, spanning 14 channels in 15 languages across 26 states, reaching over 69 crore individuals monthly, in addition to its digital channels reaching millions more.

Samsung eyes Rs 10,000 crore sales from TV business following launch of Neo QLED and OLED AI televisions in India

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 3

Samsung, India's largest consumer electronics brand, is aiming to hit the INR 10,000 crore sales milestone for its television business in India, with the launch of its 2024 lineup of AI televisions. According to analysts, no television brand has achieved this significant milestone in India so far. "With the launch of our new range of AI-powered 8K Neo QLEDs, 4K Neo QLEDs and OLED TVs, we are confident of driving our revenues and extending our market leadership in India this year. In 2024, we are looking at achieving a milestone of INR 10000 crore in revenue from our TV business in India. Our Neo QLED 8K AI TVs promise an immersive viewing experience with lifelike picture qual-

ity and premium audio," said Mohandeep Singh, Senior Vice President, Visual Display Business, Samsung India. Citing data from research firm Omdia, Samsung said it is India's number one television brand with 21% volume market share as of 2023. Samsung said it is the biggest TV brand in India for the last five years, according to Omdia. The newly launched Neo QLED 8K, Neo QLED 4K and glare-free OLED TVs come with transformative power of Artificial Intelligence (AI), helping improve consumers' lifestyles, Samsung said. The new AI-powered Neo QLED 8K, Neo QLED 4K and OLED TVs redefine the home entertainment experience and offer new innovations across accessibility, sustainability and enhanced security with the power of AI.

Brijesh, Aryan among seven Indians to enter finals at Asian U-22 & Youth Boxing Championships

AGENCIES
ASTANA (KAZAKHSTAN), MAY 3

Brijesh Tamta and Aryan alongside five other Indian boxers entered the finals of the youth men's category at the ASBC Asian U-22 & Youth Boxing Championships 2024, here on Friday.

Beginning the proceedings for India, Brijesh defeated Mongolia's Taalaibek Jasur in the 48kg category with a convincing 5-0 score. Following a similar suit, Rahul Kundu (75kg) and Aryan (92kg) outclassed China's Kanji Bayi Ersi and Kyrgyzstan's Alybaev Tynystan with identical unanimous decisions.

Sagar Jakhar (60kg), on the other hand, forced a Referee Stop the Contest (RSC) win in the final round over Kyrgyzstan's Sadirov Dilerbek. Aryan (51kg), Yashwardhan Singh (63.5kg) and Priyanshu



(71kg) further extended India's winning run with split decision verdicts.

Meanwhile, Sumit (67kg) and Sahil (80kg) signed off with bronze medals after going down 0-5 against Kazakhstan's Sabyr Khan Torekhan and Kyrgyzstan's Zakirov Mukhammadziz. The Indian youth contingent has

secured 22 medals, including 12 in the women's category, at the prestigious tournament.

Later on Friday night, Lakshay Rathi (92+ kg) and the reigning junior world champion Nisha (52kg) and Akansha (70kg) will fight for a place in the final along with 10 other Indian youth boxers. On Thurs-

day night, Dhruv Singh (80kg), Guddi (48kg) and Poonam (57kg) made their way into the last-four stage of the U-22 category.

On Saturday, Olympics-bound Preeti (54kg) and reigning Youth World Champion Vishvanath Suresh (48kg) will lead the charge for India in the U-22 semifinals along with 17 other boxers.

Muskan (75kg) and Alfiya Pathan (81kg) have received byes in their respective U-22 semifinals.

The tournament has witnessed high-voltage action with 390-plus boxers from more than 24 countries, including strong boxing nations such as China, India, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan fighting for the medals across 25 weight categories.

The Youth and U-22 categories finals will be played on Monday and Tuesday respectively.

Marriott International announces 150th Hotel opening of Katra Marriott Resort & SPA

JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 3

Marriott Hotels, the name-sake brand of Marriott Bonvoy's extraordinary portfolio of over 30 hotel brands, today announced the opening of Katra Marriott Resort & Spa in the serene landscapes of Katra, Jammu & Kashmir. The brand's debut in the spiritually significant destination, marks a milestone as the 150th Marriott International hotel to open in the country. Nestled amidst the serene landscapes of the Trikuta hills, popularly known as the Vaishno Devi Hills, this purely vegetarian resort offers a captivating blend of heartfelt service and spirituality. Here, guests are invited to partake in leisurely nature walks, all while immersing themselves in the vibrant culture and culinary delights of Katra. Katra, a spiritual region known for Shri Mata Vaishnudevi Shrine

and Trikuta Hills, offers a picturesque landscape for the fulfilment seekers. The resort provides unparalleled access to the region's nearby attractions, including Patnitop Hill Station, Mansar Lake and Krimchi Temple, all of which are within an hour's drive from the resort. Katra's local market is 5-mins away from the resort, where guests can enjoy authentic local cuisine and shop for traditional handicrafts and souvenirs, intricate papier-mâché creations and walnut wood carvings. The city is accessible by road and well connected to leading metro cities in Northern India like Delhi, Chandigarh and Amritsar. Katra is 50 kms from Jammu Airport and 222 kms from Srinagar International Airport.

Commenting on this significant opening for India, Ranju Alex, Area Vice President, South Asia, Marriott International said "As we celebrate the milestone

opening of our 150th Hotel in India, we acknowledge not just our prominent presence in the country, but also the unique and enriching experiences our hotels provide through their distinctive architecture and design, world-class food and beverage offerings and curated amenities that provide exceptional, one-of-a-kind stays. We continue to have confidence in the resilience of our brands and our teams, and remain steadfast in our commitment to advancing our growth through a strong pipeline of hotels".

Inspired by the natural beauty of its surroundings, the design of Katra Marriott Resort & Spa seamlessly transforms myth into mesmerizing reality. The Greatroom lobby, comprising an open and warm reception with an enigmatic central sculpture adorned with ancient inscriptions envelopes guests with a calm, mystic



aura from the moment they enter the resort. The flower chandelier, reminiscent of shrine offerings, offers an immediate connection to the beautiful rituals of the land. Each element, from the mandala-inspired lounge seats to every intricate detail, embodies the hotel's unwavering commitment to seamlessly merging spirituality with breathtaking design, promising a transcendent experience for all who step through its doors.

Unforgettable Stays

Katra Marriott Resort & Spa features 100 modern, inviting guest rooms, suites and cottages, offering breathtaking views of the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine and lush green landscapes. Each cottage offers a sanctuary of relaxation with natural sunlight, plush comfortable bedding and contemporary comforts. Some of the rooms open to private balconies, providing guests with space to unwind and relax over the harmonious symphony of birdsong and views of rolling green hills. The cottage suites also fea-

ture a private swimming pool, allowing guests to indulge in a refreshing dip within the comfort and privacy of their own space.

For those seeking relaxation and rejuvenation, the Quan Spa offers five therapy rooms with treatments that embrace the ancient wisdom of Ayurveda and contemporary wellness practices. Enriching experiences are also provided through the rich nature cover that envelops the Katra Marriott Resort & Spa. Guests can start their day with revitalizing yoga sessions or guided-walks amidst the picturesque backdrop of Trikuta Hills. As twilight descends, serenity awaits to soothe the senses, with the evening rituals of hi-tea at Vat Vriksh, commonly known as the banyan tree.

Fitness enthusiasts can recharge their body and mind at a fully equipped fitness center or indulge in some quiet calm by the poolside. Kids can enjoy

themselves at the Kid's Club, a wonderland of fun and engagement, with a dynamic play area that sparks joy and creativity.

Exquisite Dining

The resort promises a delightful culinary adventure for those seeking pure vegetarian and non-alcoholic indulgences. TPK (Three Peaks Kitchen), the contemporary all-day dining restaurant, features international favourites and the myriad flavours of traditional Katra cuisine. Meanwhile, the KBC (Katra Baking Company) is an inviting and sophisticated space for guests to relax and reconnect over bakery delights, artisanal teas, full-bodied coffees and creatively infused mocktails, dressed with seasonal ingredients amidst a relaxed ambiance.

A Place for Celebrations

With over 12,000 square feet of event spaces encompassing two stun-

ning venues - The Pine Ballroom and Mulberry Hall, including three lawns the resort offers the largest banquet space in the city. With its flexible layouts and the picturesque landscape as a backdrop, the hotel emerges as an ideal destination to host weddings, intimate family gatherings, and corporate team outings.

"We are excited to welcome guests to Katra Marriott Resort & Spa, our spiritual haven, nestled at the foothills of the divine Vaishno Devi Shrine, where hospitality meets fulfilment," said Satish Srinivasamurthy, General Manager, at Katra Marriott Resort & Spa. "Whether you seek spiritual solace, leisurely indulgence, memorable weddings, or wellness escapes, we are dedicated to crafting enriching experiences and offering thoughtful services that reflect the true essence of wonderful hospitality."

Pak supporting Cong indicates party's hand with enemies of the Nation: Yogi

AGENCIES
LUCKNOW, MAY 3

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Friday launched a scathing attack on Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and the INDI alliance and said that it is now evident the Congress' hand is with the enemies of the nation.

The CM's remark came following reports that Chaudhry Fawad Hussain, a former Pakistan minister in Imran Khan's cabinet, shared a video featuring Rahul Gandhi on social media, praising him.

Yogi said, "If Modi and the BJP win, Diwali is celebrated in the country, whereas if Congress wins, it is celebrated in Pakistan. The people of the country

should understand this difference and reject anti-national elements."

He said that the elections have reached their peak today. "Naturally, those who are enemies of the country will exert their utmost to disrupt the atmosphere in favour of PM Modi during the elections," he said.

The CM said, "Citizens across the nation must observe how Pakistan is endorsing Rahul Gandhi. A former minister of the Pakistani government, who shamelessly supported the Pulwama incident, is now openly backing Rahul Gandhi, expressing joy in his support."

He said that this shows that both the hands of Congress and the enemies



of the country are together. "If Modi ji emerges victorious, it will be akin to Diwali in India, but if Congress achieves success, Pakistan appears pleased. It's crucial for the citizens

to take note of these statements and comprehend the intentions of the anti-India forces involved," he said.

Yogi's comments followed PM Modi's state-

ment on Thursday, when at his Gujarat election rally, the prime minister too, insinuated that when "Congress dies, Pakistan cries".

Yogi said that Congress strayed from its path post-independence. "Motivated by self-interest, it initially fostered national division and pursued appeasement policies for political gain. The adverse effect of appeasement policies was that separatism and extremism reached their peak within the country.

"Additionally, the Congress government's corrupt practices led to the rapid spread of Naxalism. Over the past decade, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's efforts have effectively curbed terrorism,

Naxalism and extremism," he said.

He said, "Consequently, a favourable national environment has emerged, fostering development and inclusive welfare schemes. Even those in the most marginalized positions benefit from government initiatives."

The CM said, "Naturally, the public favours Modi ji on these fronts. We are confident that the populace will resoundingly reject Congress and the INDI alliance's divisive and appeasement strategies, ensuring the victory of the Bharatiya Janata Party and the NDA alliance under Modi ji's leadership with a robust majority to form the government at the Centre once again."

KL Sharma files nomination from Amethi, Priyanka seeks support



AGENCIES
AMETHI (UP), MAY 3

Congress candidate and close confidant of Gandhi family Kishori Lal Sharma on Friday filed his nomination from the high profile Amethi parliamentary constituency.

Sharma, who candidature was announced on Friday morning itself, filed his nomination at around 12.30 pm. Although he had come to Amethi on Thursday itself and had also taken permission for the road show from the administration, but there were speculations that former Congress president Rahul Gandhi will challenge Bharatiya Janata Party BJP candidate and sitting MP Smriti Irani.

Congress General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, who reached Amethi this afternoon, appealed to the people of Amethi for the victory of Mr. Sharma. She along with former Chief Minister of Rajasthan Ashok Gehlot took out a road show with the Congress candidate before nomination.

During the roadshow Priyanka said that her

party wants to bring back the politics of truth and service. "While Rahul Gandhi will contest from Rae Bareilly, KL Sharma, who you know for the last 40 years, will contest from Amethi," she said.

She said, "He knows every nook and corner of Amethi and he also knows about the needs and problems of Amethi. He has served you people for 40 years. We will fight the election shoulder to shoulder and I hope that you will make him victorious."

The Congress leader said that her party wants to bring back the politics of truth and service. "I will come back on May 6 and will stay here till the end. While the other candidates contest on the basis of money power, we will contest the poll on the power of the public. We will contest elections for you so that your development takes place. We want to give a message to the country that we want politics of service," she said.

Earlier, Priyanka directly reached Amethi from Fursatganj and participated in the roadshow of KL Sharma.

Vote BJP, big election promises of Congress-INDI alliance is to befool Ladakh masses: Khatana

JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 3

The big election promises of Congress and other groups in INDI alliance is only a lip service to befool masses in Ladakh.

This was stated by senior BJP leader and Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha), Gulam Ali Khatana in a statement issued to the media on Friday.

The BJP Rajya Sabha Member urged the voters of Ladakh Union Territory to value their vote and cast the same in favour of BJP candidate, Tashi Gyalson in the ongoing Lok Sabha elections.

"By voting BJP candidate, Tashi Gyalson you will be strengthening the hands of Prime Minister Narendra Modi who in turn will return you in developments, progress,



more employment avenues, peace and safety," Khatana said referring to the people of Ladakh Union Territory.

He also said that people of Ladakh can't imagine developments which will be there in the Union Territory after PM Modi will helm the affairs of the country for the third time. "What the Congress

and others have given to the people of Ladakh in all the years of their rule should be kept in mind before voting and the developmental works accomplished in the last 10 years of government led by PM Modi should never be forgotten while voting," the firebrand BJP leader said.

He also said that so far the Congress and others have only discriminated with Ladakh region but it was the BJP government led by PM Modi which worked with the principle of equality and welfare of all under the theme of "Sab Ka Saath Sab Ka Vikas."

Khatana also said that in the ongoing Lok Sabha elections BJP will emerge as a single largest party by winning more than 400 seats from across the country.

NHM Team conducts assessment of Ayushman Arogya Mandirs in J&K



JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 3

A team comprising of members appointed by the Mission Director NHM J&K, led by Dr. Ila Gupta, AD Schemes DHS Jammu, along with Dr. Sharpi Sharma, APM NHM, and Mrigya Bakshi, Consultant NIPI, conducted an on-site visit to AAM PHC Dhaggar, AAM Bhullari, and AAM Backon Block Bani to assess the impact of Ayushman Arogya Mandirs in the region.

Dr. Dev Raj Mishra, Block Medical Officer Bani, DMEO Kathua Mr. Deep Kumar Sharma, and BM&EO Bani Mr. Jhalk Raina also accompanied the team.

The team meticulously examined all relevant indicators outlined in the institutional checklist, ensuring a thorough

assessment of each facility's performance. Utilizing the latest technology, the team promptly uploaded on-the-spot assessment reports via the ODK app, enabling real-time data transmission and analysis.

In addition to the assessment, the team took proactive steps to address the concerns and grievances voiced by the dedicated staff members. Assurances were provided for the timely redressal of these issues by the competent higher authorities, demonstrating a commitment to fostering a supportive and responsive healthcare environment.

Dr. Ila Gupta emphasized the importance of such evaluations in enhancing the quality and effectiveness of healthcare services across the region. "Our visit today underscores our unwav-

ering dedication to ensuring the well-being of our communities through the provision of accessible and high-quality healthcare services. By conducting thorough assessments and addressing concerns promptly, we aim to strengthen the foundation of our healthcare system and improve outcomes for all," said Dr. Ila.

The impact assessment initiative reflects the ongoing efforts of the NHM Jammu & Kashmir and its partners to uphold the principles of accountability, transparency, and inclusivity in healthcare delivery. Through collaborative endeavours and continuous evaluation, the aim is to achieve greater efficiency and effectiveness in meeting the healthcare needs of the people of Jammu & Kashmir.

Cyber cell of J&K Police in Jammu district solved cyber online financial fraud amounting to Rs.1,78,200

JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 3

Cyber Cell of Jammu & Kashmir Police in District Police Jammu solved online cyber crime.

Brief facts of the case are that a complaint was received at cyber cell DPO Jammu regarding financial fraud of Rs.1,78,200. The complainant received a message from telegram to

give review and earn money and when the victim gave review he firstly got the amount, after that fraudster asked him to join one link and when the victim joined the link fraudster further asked him to invest more to earn more money. The victim invested Rs 1,78,200 and then fraudster blocked his number.

During the investigation, the Cyber Cell DPO

Jammu, acted swiftly and exhibited hectic efforts which ultimately led to put on hold an amount of Rs 1,78,200/- out of 1,78,200/- in online cyber crime complaint. Further investigation is underway. District Police Jammu, equipped with advanced technology and skilled personnel, remains at the forefront in the fight against cyber-criminals.

Karnataka CM accuses Prajwal of rape in sex videos scandal

AGENCIES
KARNATAKA, MAY 3

In a shocking development, Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah made a grave accusation, alleging that Prajwal Revanna, sitting Hassan MP and grandson of former Prime Minister HD Deve Gowda, has committed rape amid the ongoing sex videos scandal.

Addressing reporters here on Friday, CM Siddaramaiah declared, "Regardless of his whereabouts, Prajwal Revanna will be apprehended and returned to face justice in India."

He emphasised that the case against Prajwal Revanna transcends sexual harassment, constituting

the serious crime of rape. "The victim's testimony holds weight in court. Her life would be ruined if she fabricated such a claim," Siddaramaiah asserted, highlighting the gravity of the allegations made by a married woman who has come forward alleging rape.

According to reports, the Special Investigation Team (SIT) has filed cases against Prajwal under various sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), including 376 (2) N (repeated rape), 506 (criminal intimidation), 354 (A) (I) (sexual harassment, demanding sexual favors), 354 (B) (use of criminal force on a woman), and 354 (C) (voyeurism).

Tanishq unveils Grand New Store in Jammu

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 3

Tanishq, India's largest jewellery retail brand from the house of Tata has launched its grand new store in Jammu, Jammu and Kashmir. The brand new store was inaugurated by Kalyani Seshadri, Head of Customer Experience, Pan India and Mr. Arun Kumar, Regional Business Manager, North 2. As part of the grand inauguration, the brand is offering an irresistible offer wherein customers can get a free gold coin on every purchase*. The offer is valid from 3rd May to 5th May, 2024. The store is located at Ground floor, near Garden Estate, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu and Kashmir, pin code-180012

Spanning across 3000q. ft., the store presents an extensive selection of iconic Tanishq designs across dazzling gold, stunning diamonds, kundan and polki. The store proudly presents Tanisha's exclusive festive collection, 'Dharohar, drawing



inspiration from the heirloom artefacts from the eras gone by, and

'Alekhya', inspired by the indigenous heritage art forms celebrating today's woman as the 'karigar of her life. The store is also equipped with a stunning and versatile range of contemporary daily wear jewellery

'GlamDays' along with a modern, contemporary and lightweight jewellery collection 'String It.

Furthermore, the store houses a beautiful collection of 'Dogris', alongside accommodating stunning jewellery pieces from 'Rivaah', a dedicated wedding jewellery sub-brand

of Tanishq. Rivaah is meticulously crafted to align with the fashion preferences of women from various regions across India and has evolved as a one-stop destination for wedding shopping.

Speaking on the inauguration, Mr. Arun Kumar, Regional Business Manager, North 2, Tanishq said, "We are thrilled to announce the grand opening of our newest Second store in the city of Jammu, and marking our 3rd store in the state of Jammu and Kashmir. As a beloved jewellery brand nationwide, our foremost goal has always been to provide exceptional customer ser-

vice to our esteemed customers. Our unwavering dedication is to maintain the Tanisha legacy, ensuring a delightful shopping experience for all occasions, conveniently available in one place. This expansion represents another stride towards that objective.

Tanishq presents an awe-inspiring array of jewellery pieces suitable for every individual and occasion. Our store showcases a stunning collection of jewellery designs in gold, diamonds, kundan, polki, daily wear jewellery and contemporary styles, catering to the varied preferences of our clientele. We eagerly await the residents of Jammu to explore the meticulously curated offerings awaiting them in this splendid store."

The Launch Ceremony was attended by all major business organisations of Jammu including Chamber of Commerce and Industries lead by the President Mr. Arun Gupta and FICCI FLO J & K chapter lead by its Chairperson Mrs. Ruchika Gupta.

Police busts notorious gang of truck robbers in Srinagar; 03 arrested so far

J1 NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, MAY 3

Police in Srinagar have busted a notorious gang of robbers by arresting three accused persons involved in the commission of crime besides, recovered stolen items from their possession.

On 29/04/2024, Police Station Shalteng received a written complaint from one person namely Hakam Khan (driver) son of Anwar Khan from Rajasthan, stating therein that during the night of April 28/29, around 2:30 am, while driving his truck bearing registration No. RJ19GJ3179 at Maloora, a group of men stopped the truck and forcefully took control of his truck and decamped with cash amount of Rs 15,000, 02 cell phones including truck cleaner's cell phone, a gas cylinder, 02 watches and the truck's music system. The driver was also physically assaulted during the incident.

Regarding the incident,



a case vide FIR No 28/2024 under relevant sections of law was registered at Police Station Shalteng and investigation was initiated.

During the course of investigation, the investigating teams raided various locations in Srinagar

and after strenuous efforts of territorial officers and with the help of technical data analysis, zeroed in on three accused persons identified as Mohd Amir Keenu son of Mush-taq Ahmed resident of Palpora A/P Puran Teng Maloora, Adnan Ahmed

Shah son of Mohd Aslam Shah resident of Kanipora Nowgam A/P Padshaha Bagh and Imran Ahmed Shah son of Gh Mohd resident of Kanipora Nowgam. During preliminary investigation, it surfaced that these criminals operated a well-organized gang with a modus operandi of targeting vehicles plying on the NHW through Srinagar. Stolen goods including gas cylinder, mobile phones etc. have been recovered from the accused persons. They have been arrested and shifted to police station where they remain in custody. Pertinent to mention here that these accused persons are also involved in robbery of trucks along Lasjan Highway on 23/04/2024 & decamped with cash Rs 8000, ATM cards, DL and mobile phone of the truck drivers. To this context, FIR 44/2024 stands registered under relevant sections of law in PS Nowgam. Search for other accused persons involved in the crime is underway.

Rahul Gandhi files nomination from Rae Bareilly

AGENCIES
RAE BAREILLY (UP), MAY 3

Former Congress President Rahul Gandhi filed his nomination on Friday for Rae Bareilly parliamentary constituency on the last day of the nomination process for May 20 elections in the fifth phase.

The Congress leader filed his nomination in the presence of his mother and former MP from Rae Bareilly Sonia Gandhi, party's national general secretary and sister Priyanka Gandhi Vadra and party president Mallikarjun Kharge.

Following election on the Wayanad seat in Kerala on April 26, speculations were rife for Rahul contesting from Amethi, but popping a surprise his candidature from Rae Bareilly was announced at the last moment.

So far UPA chairperson Sonia Gandhi has been representing this seat in the Lok Sabha since 1999, however, she had refused to contest citing health reasons as well as after being nominated to the Rajya Sabha.

In Rae Bareilly, Rahul will face Minister in the Yogi



Adityanath government and Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) candidate Dinesh Pratap Singh, who also filed his nomination on Friday.

In 2019 the Rahul Gandhi lost the Lok Sabha elections to BJP's Smriti Irani from Amethi, although he reached the Lok Sabha by winning the election from Wayanad seat in Kerala.

Sonia Gandhi, after being elected to the Rajya Sabha, had written an emotional letter to the people of Rae Bareilly citing her health issues that in her place, someone from her family would contest the elections from the seat. Since then speculations were being made that either Rahul or his sister Priyanka Gandhi will enter the electoral battle

from the family pocket borough.

In the last Lok Sabha polls, Sonia had secured 56.41 per cent of the votes in this seat with 5,34,918 votes while her nearest rival Dinesh Pratap Singh of BJP had secured 38.78 per cent of the votes and had secured 3,67,740 votes.

In the 2014 elections, the UPA chairperson defeated BJP's Ajay Aggarwal and got 5,26,434 votes while BJP's nominee got 1,73,721 votes. The first elections on this seat were held in 1952 and since then Congress has won 16 times in 19 elections.

Raj Narayan of Janata Party defeated Indira Gandhi in this seat in 1977 and after that Ashok Singh of BJP won this seat in 1996.

Teachers inspired by the innovative training to teach Science

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 3

A two days training workshop for the capacity building of Science teachers concluded today at Army Goodwill School, Wyne Kupwara. CSIR - Indian Institute of Integrated Medicine organized this training workshop in collaboration with the Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC), UK with the support of Army Goodwill School (AGS) on 2nd and 3rd May, 2024. Total 49 Science teachers from various government schools of Kupwara / Tangdhar participated along with the teachers from AGS, Kupwara. The program was organized under the patronage of Dr. Zabeer Ahmed, Director IIIM and guidance of Er. Abdul Rahim, Head IIIM (Br.) Srinagar under the flagship of IIIM Jigyasa program.

Mr Hemant Lagvankar, a key resource person of this training programme said, "The aim of this teacher development programme was to give teachers the new techniques for delivering and engaging concepts in Science effectively. Teachers were introduced to proven active learning techniques that can be applied easily in a science



context, helping students to develop their conceptual understanding. Teachers got the opportunity to learn some practical science experiments that could be adapted to be used in any setting, includ-

ing those with no traditional laboratory facilities".

Participating teachers thoroughly enjoyed the proceedings when they actively learned the techniques like Dart, Tarsia, Dominoes, etc. Deputy

Chief Education Officer of Kupwara - Mr Manzoor Ahmed was present on this occasion. Mr Ahmed urged teachers to take these innovative techniques into the classroom and make Science teaching effective and

joyful for the students.

Senior Principal Scientist Dr Khurshed Ahmad Bhat from IIIM briefed the teachers about the objectives and various educational activities which are being conducted by IIIM through Jigyasa programme. The Jigyasa programme is a regular activity of CSIR for student-scientist interaction. Under this programme, scientists visit schools for outreach, students visit CSIR labs for hands-on training, live demonstrations of various scientific experiments / facilities, and student residential programme, etc.

Dr Asha Chaubey, Senior Principal Scientist, IIIM and Lt. Col. Rajiv from AGS, Kupwara played a key role in coordinating this two days workshop.

Shah sounds alarm on SDPI influence in Karnataka politics

AGENCIES
HUKKERI, MAY 3

In a fiery address at a public meeting in Belagavi district, Union Home Minister Amit Shah accused the Congress of aligning with the Social Democratic Party of India (SDPI), the political front of the banned Popular Front of India (PFI), to secure power in Karnataka.

Shah's remarks came amidst escalating tensions following a bomb blast in Bengaluru, which he attributed to "anti-national elements" associated with SDPI. Highlighting the recent Rameshwaram cafe blast on March 1, Shah underscored the alleged involvement of SDPI operatives, challenging the Congress government's handling of the investigation. He called for a transfer of the probe into the Hubballi student Neha Hiremath murder case to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), citing doubts over the state's ability to

conduct a thorough investigation.

"Under Modi ji's leadership, terrorism has been decisively curbed across the nation, and the menace of the Popular Front of India (PFI) has been effectively countered. However, it's alarming to note that the Congress government in Karnataka has allied itself with (SDPI), a known affiliate of PFI.

"The repercussions of this unholy alliance are evident - we witnessed a tragic bomb blast in Bengaluru soon after their ascent to power. This underscores the grave dangers posed by such alliances to our nation's security and stability," Shah asserted, addressing the enthusiastic gathering in support of BJP candidate Annasaheb Jolle in the Chikkodi Lok Sabha segment.

Referring to Neha Hiremath's tragic murder, Shah criticised the initial characterisation of the incident as a personal dis-




pute. He recounted meeting Neha's grieving mother and emphasised the alleged pressure on Neha to undergo a religious conversion, warning the Congress of the consequences if they fail to pursue justice in the case. Neha, the 23-year-old daughter of a Congress councilor, was fatally stabbed on her college campus, with the accused, Fayaz Khondunai, subsequently arrested by the police. Shah's impassioned plea for a thorough investigation resonated with the audience, framing the BJP as a party committed to ensuring justice.

Turning to broader political themes, Shah juxtaposed the alleged corruption of the Congress with the clean governance of the BJP under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership. He lambasted Congress leader Rahul Gandhi for his stance on COVID-19 vaccines, contrasting it with Modi's unwavering dedication to public ser-

vice.

"In this crucial election, we are faced with a stark choice. On one hand, we have the Congress, embroiled in scandals and corruption amounting to a staggering Rs 12 lakh crore.

"On the other hand, we have the BJP, under the leadership of Narendra Modi, who has served as Chief Minister and Prime Minister for a cumulative 23 years, with not a single stain of corruption on his record. "This stark dichotomy underscores the clear and undeniable choice before the voters," Shah proclaimed, rallying fervent support for the BJP in the run-up to the impending polls. Shah also credited Modi for landmark achievements such as the resolution of the Ram Mandir issue and the development of religious sites, while chastising Congress leaders for their absence at significant events like the Ayodhya consecration ceremony.

Government of Jammu and Kashmir
Directorate of Skill Development, J&K

Srinagar: Bemina Srinagar 190018 Phone: 0194-2491613
 Jammu: Vikram Chowk, Jammu 180004 Phone: 0191-2435190

Mr. Ishan Gautam
 Village Sangal, P.O. Akhnoor Tehsil Akhnoor.
 Distt. Jammu.
 C/O H.NO. 208-D Lower Shiv NAGAR
 Jammu (J&K)

Ref No: - DSD/poly/101/e-108005/253-54 Dated: -01-05-2024

SHOW CAUSE NOTICE

Whereas you were appointed as Demonstrator (Civil Engineering) vide order no: - 301 of 2017 dated 18.04.2017 in Technical Education Department (Now Skill Dev. Department) and were subsequently posted at Govt. Polytechnic Udhampur and you have availed 48 days Medical leave.

Whereas you were posted at Govt. Polytechnic Jammu vide no. 02 of 2020 dated 24-07-2020 and you again availed 30 days Medical leave.

Whereas during your tenure at Govt. Polytechnic Jammu you remained on unauthorized absence for a period of 205 days w.e.f 22 March 2022 to 12 Oct 2022.

Whereas in the interest of natural justice Vide order no: - 82JK-(DSD) of 2023 dated 27 June 2023 the said unauthorized period of absence was regularized as "Dies- Non" as per J&K Civil Services (regulations) 1956.

Whereas you were posted at Govt. Polytechnic Udhampur vide Order No. 193 of 2023 dated 27-04-2023 and as per written communication received from Govt. Polytechnic Udhampur you have again applied for leave without pay on the following counts:-

1. Leave without pay w.e.f. 08.08.2023 to 22.08.2023.
2. Extended leave without pay w.e.f. 23.08.2023 to 31.10.2023.
3. Again applied for leave without pay w.e.f 01.11.2023 to 31.01.2024
4. Further applied for extension of leave without pay upto 31.03.2024.
5. Again on 28.03.2024 applied for extension of leave without pay till 31.05.2024.

Whereas vide GPU/PF-25/2024/834-35 dated 08Jan 2024 a notice was served/ issued to you by Principal Govt. Polytechnic college Udhampur at your home address as well as on your registered mail ID available with the office with the directions to report for duty within two days.

Whereas instead of complying to the aforementioned instructions you again applied for leave without pay upto 31.05.2024.

Whereas vide letter No: - DSD/Poly/101/ e-108005/2786-90 dated 22.03.2024 a notice was served to you at your residential address & also published in the local newspaper affording a final opportunity to resume your duties within a period of 7 days from the issuance of this notice failing which actions as warranted under rules shall be initiated against you.

Whereas you seem to be a habitual offender having a long back history of remaining on unauthorized absence on many occasions and did not care for the duties assigned to you as a Demonstrator which is marring the career of young students who are enrolled in the Polytechnic for pursuing Technical Education and as an institution of learning of Technical Education cannot afford any more absence from the institutions.

Hence keeping in view the urgency, interest of enrolled students and nature for duties assigned to you as a Demonstrator, in the interest of natural justice & fair play you are once again afforded an opportunity to SHOW CAUSE as to why action under rules including removal from the services as per classification, conduct & appeal rules (1956) 30 sub section vii. The reply of which should reach to this office within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice is taken, failing which it shall be presumed that you are no more interested to continue with your appointment as a Demonstrator & further action shall be initiated against you as mentioned Supra. Note that this is the last cum final notice being issued to you & no further correspondence in this regard shall be entertained as the department shall be at liberty to pass the final order forthwith.

Sd/-
(SudershanKumar) JKAS
 Director,
 Skill Development, J&K

DIP/J-323/24
Date: 3-5-24

CS reviews the progress of implementation of SBM (G), development of Panchayat Index



JNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, MAY 3

Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today chaired a meeting at Civil Secretariat to review the progress of preparation of Panchayat Development Index (PDI) in Jammu and Kashmir.

Secretary, Rural Development Department and Panchayati Raj, Dr. Shahid Iqbal Choudhary, Director General Rural Sanitation, Anu Malhotra, Secretary in RDD, Director RDD and other concerned officials attended the meeting in person and virtually.

The meeting focused on various indicators being

used to evaluate panchayats' performance across different development parameters including the configuration of mandatory and optional indicators, data verification processes and field office updates. Besides, the progress on data point configuration for locked indicators, District Confidence Frames (DCFs) published by J&K, and the PDI portal being opened for data entry was also reviewed.

Further, discussions were held on the weight assigned to each indicator and its significance in formulation of this index. Moreover, data collec-

tion formats sent to line departments, and development of dashboards for both Kashmir and Jammu divisions also came up for deliberations.

Dulloo emphasized the importance of close coordination among departments to ensure timely data updates on the PDI portal for all districts.

Additionally, the performance distribution across districts since January 2024 was also examined during the meeting.

The meeting also reviewed the status of achieving ODF+ Model category by the villages of J&K under the Swachh

Bharat Mission-Grameen (SBM-G).

Director General Rural Sanitation, Anu Malhotra, presented a detailed report highlighting key achievements in this regard.

The meeting discussed door-to-door garbage collection status, Annual Implementation Plan 2024-25, SBM funds utilization status, Swachhata Green Leaf rating for hospitality facilities and legacy waste management initiatives besides challenges faced along with possible solutions worth implementing by the department.

SP College warmly farewells Prof Manzoor Wani, Prof. Niyaz Wani, Prof. Rabia Ahmad & Kounsar Kirmani



JNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, MAY 3

SP College, Srinagar gave a warm send-off to three senior faculty members and a non-teaching employee of the college who attained their superannuation on 30th April 2024.

These superannuating faculty and employees include Professor Manzoor Ahmad Wani, Head Department of Botany; Professor Niyaz Ahmad Wani, Department of Botany; Professor Rabia Ahmad, Head Department of English and Kounsar Kirmani, Lab. Assistant Department of Biochemistry.

Director Colleges, Higher Education Professor (Dr.) Yasmeen Ashai, Principal of the college Professor (Dr.) Jeelani Qureshi, Professor (Dr.) Wilayat Rizvi Registrar Cluster University Srinagar, Professor (Dr.) Sheikh Ajaz Bashir Nodal Principal Kashmir Division Colleges, Former Principal Dr. Parveen Pandit, Former Director Colleges Professor (Dr.) Yaseen Ahmad Shah, Former Principal Professor Bashir Ahmad Shah, Former Principal Professor (Dr.) Khurshid Ahmad Khan, Professor (Dr.) Fouzia Principal GDC Ganderbal, Professor (Dr.) Mohammad Farooq Mir Principal GDC Women Nawa Kadal, Prof. Ezaz Rizvi Principal

GDC Kulgam, Prof. Shah-e-Jehan Wani Principal GDC Frisal, Professor Deeba Sarmand Dean Academics CUS, Professor Khurshid Controller CUS, Dr. Naseer Shah Dean Sciences CUS, Dr. Mushtaq Lone, Professor (Dr.) Sadaf Principal GDC Kangan, Distinguished academics Professor Mairaj-ud-Din Sheikh, Professor Afzal Mir, Professor M. A. Lone, Professor Naseer Farhan, Prof. B. A. Mir, Prof. Showkat Zargar, Professor Mukhtar Malik, Dr. Zubaida, Prof. Nighat Hassan, Prof. Anjum Qazi, Professor Rubiya Sultan, Professor Nusrat Syed, Dr. Abdul Hai, Prof. Mujahid Ahmad, Dr. Nikhat Nabi, were present at the farewell event.

College Teaching and Non-Teaching Staff of the college also attended the farewell meeting held at College Auditorium.

On the occasion, Principal of the College, Professor (Dr.) Ghulam Jeelani Qureshi congratulated them on the successful completion of their active services. He also highlighted their zeal and dedication towards their work.

Dr. Qureshi said that it is with mixed emotions that the esteemed faculty and staff at SP College, Srinagar bid a warm and heartfelt farewell to Prof. Manzoor Wani from the Botany department, Prof. Niyaz Ahmad Wani also from the Botany department and Prof. Rabia

Ahmad from the English department.

Dr. Qurashi said that these distinguished educators have made invaluable contributions to the academic community, inspiring generations of students with their knowledge and passion for teaching. Additionally, we also extend our heartfelt appreciation to Kounsar Kirmani, a dedicated Lab Assistant, for her hard work and commitment to excellence.

As these esteemed members of our academic family move on to new endeavors their presence and guidance will be sorely missed. Their legacy within the halls of SP College will endure as a testament to their dedication to shaping young minds and fostering a culture of learning and growth. I wish them all the best in their future endeavors and are confident that they will continue to excel in all their pursuits, he added.

"It is with a heavy heart that we bid farewell to Professor Manzoor Wani, a distinguished Head of the Department of Botany. Throughout his tenure, Prof. Wani has exemplified excellence in academics and dedication to his students. His passion for botanical studies and commitment to research has inspired countless individuals within the department," Dr. Qurashi said.

He said, we gather here today also to bid farewell to our esteemed Professor Niyaz Ahmad Wani. Throughout his tenure at this institution, Professor Wani has been an exceptional mentor, educator, and colleague. His dedication to teaching, research and his students have left an indelible impact on our academic community.

Dr. Qurashi extended his warm regards and best wishes to Professor Rabia Ahmad, esteemed member of the Department of English. Serving as a dedicated educator, her passion for literature and language has left an indelible impact on the academic community. Professor Rabia's unmatched expertise and commitment to her students have undoubtedly enriched countless minds through her teachings.

I would also like to formally acknowledge the departure of Kounsar Kirmani, our esteemed laboratory assistant. Kounsar has been an invaluable member of our team, contributing her expertise and dedication to the success of our research endeavors, Dr. Qurashi said.

The proceeding of the felicitation function was conducted by Dr. Shazia Mushtaq, Associate Professor Botany.

At the end of the vote of thanks was proposed by Prof. Master Showkat, Department of English.

DDC reviews status of JJM works in Jammu District

JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, MAY 3

District Development Commissioner, Sachin Kumar Vaishya today conducted a comprehensive review of the progress of Jal Jeevan Mission works.

The DDC meticulously evaluated the advancement of individual assignments, with a division-wise scrutiny.

Emphasising the importance of adhering to the schedule, he directed the officers to expedite the projects, which are at various stages of completion, to meet the set deadlines.

Sachin Kumar took stock of the mission's components, including the construction of bore wells and dug wells. He



underscored the necessity for these infrastructural elements to be completed promptly to facilitate a sustainable water supply network throughout the district. Furthermore, he outlined a strategic roadmap for the future, detailing the necessary interventions to guaran-

tee a reliable and enduring water supply.

The meeting also saw the participation of Additional District Development Commissioner, Sher Singh, Chief Planning Officer, Uttam Singh, alongside other senior officers from the concerned departments.

DDC inspects Cow Shelter in Kishtwar Town

JNEWS SERVICE
KISHTWAR, MAY 3

Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar, Dr. Devansh Yadav, today conducted inspection of the Cow Shelter in Ward 13 of Kishtwar Municipality.

The visit aimed to assess the condition of the shelters and ensure the welfare of stray animals in the district. During the inspection, Dr. Devansh Yadav directed the Municipal Authorities and Animal Husbandry Department to provide proper care to stray animals until their owners claim them.

He emphasized the importance of imposing penalties on negligent owners who fail to fulfill their responsibilities



towards their animals. DC urged animal owners to refrain from allowing their animals to roam freely in town and market areas. 'Such behavior not only disrupts public order but also

amounts to cruelty against the animals" he added.

He stressed on responsible pet ownership for maintaining harmony in society and ensuring the well-being of both animals and humans.

YSS Samba hosts Inter-School Judo, Basketball competition for U14, U 17 boys and girls



JNEWS SERVICE
SAMBA, MAY 3

The Department of Youth Services & Sports Samba organised an inter school district level competition for U 14 & U 17 Boys and girls in the discipline of basketball at High School Jatwal and Judo Indoor Stadium Samba

The event was held under the control of

Dharmveer Singh DYSSO Samba.

The DYSSO addressed the participants and advised them to play the game with true sportsmanship and follow the rules and regulations which govern them.

A pledge to fight against drug abuse was also taken by the students. About 105 student players from different

schools of district Samba participated in basketball and 39 girls participated in Jodo.

Today's Result: U/17 yr Rich Harvest Bari Brahmana defeated APS Samba by 7 points.

U/14 yrs: APS Samba defeated Rich Harvest Bari Brahmana by 11 points and won the final match and clinched the trophy.

Power shutdown
JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU

Superintending Engineer (Distribution) JPDCL O&M Circle Kathua has

informed that the power supply to Kaluchak, Old Complex Industry, BB Town and its adjoining areas will remain affected on May 04 from 10 am to 2 pm.

Similarly, the power supply to Nandpur-I and II, PHE Ghagwal, Jatwal, Local and its adjoining areas will remain affected on May 04 from 10 am to 2 pm.

DC Kishtwar discusses arrangements for Shree Machail Mata Ji Yatra

JNEWS SERVICE
KISHTWAR, MAY 3

Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar, Dr. Devansh Yadav, today chaired a meeting with concerned departments, executing agencies, contractors and discussed the arrangements for Shree Machail Mata Ji Yatra.

The meeting was attended by ADC, Pawan Kotwal, ACD, Phulail Singh, SDM Paddar Amit Kumar, CMO, Executive Engineers of PWD, Jal Shakti, PDD, PMGSY, BDO Paddar among others. The DC reviewed various ongoing developmental projects aimed at facilitating Yatrees. He reviewed the progress of work on the upcoming Yatra Bhawan at Gulab Garh, Sapphire Guest House, Alpine Hut and renovation works.

Detailed directives were issued to the concerned officers present in the meeting.

DC stressed the identification of black spots and the installation of crash barriers, road signages and other measures on Paddar route to ensure that the Yatra proceeds smoothly.

Authorities seize 3.63 quintals of banned polythene in Doda

JNEWS SERVICE
DODA, MAY 3

In a coordinated enforcement drive, Jammu and Kashmir Pollution Control Committee (JKPCC) and Municipal Council Doda authorities today seized 3.63 quintals of banned polythene.

The joint operation was conducted at a residential house in Akarambad, Doda, where the illegal material was unlawfully stored.

The operation, supervised by Deputy Commissioner, Harvinder Singh, involved Divisional Officer JKPCC, Gurpreet Singh; Naib Tehsildar Vidya Sagar, and Executive Officer, Amit Sharma from the Municipal Council Doda. The team, which also included police personnel, worked in tandem with local authorities to carry out the seizure of the concealed polythene.

The successful operation reflects the commitment of the administration towards enforcing environmental regulations. The district authorities have taken a critical step towards reducing environmental pollution and promoting sustainability in the region.

This crackdown serves as a warning to those who engage in the unlawful storage and distribution of banned materials. The authorities intend to continue their efforts to enforce environmental regulations and protect the ecosystem from the harmful effects of illegal substances like polythene.