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PM Modi Will Continue To Lead: Shah

Press Trust Of India

Hyderabad: Top BJP leader Amit Shah on Saturday asserted Prime Minister Narendra Modi will continue to lead the country post 2024 Lok Sabha polls and hit out at Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal for claiming the PM was seeking votes for making Shah his successor, citing the 75 years age 'rule'.

There was nothing written in the BJP's constitution on any such age ceiling, Shah told reporters here. There was no confusion in the BJP over the matter.

Shah was responding to Kejriwal's claim that Modi was asking for votes for the Union Home Minister to make him PM as the prime minister would turn 75 next year.

"I would like to tell Arvind Keiriwal and company and the whole Indi alliance, Modi becomes 75, there is no need for you to feel happy. It is not written anywhere in BJP's constitution. Modi will complete the term and will continue to lead the country. There is no confusion in BJP on this," Shah told reporters here.

To a related query, Shah said "His (Kejriwal) base is that Modi ji will be changed. I have made it clear that Modi will not be changed. At the root, why did he say that? Modi ji will be changed after 75. It has been decided not to change".

Kejriwal had charged that Modi

is asking for votes for Shah. "These people ask INDIA bloc about their (PM) face. I ask BJP who will be their PM? Modi ji is turning 75 on September 17 next year. He had made the rule that people aged 75 will be retired. They retired | More on P6

Lone Gets EC Notice Over MCC Violation

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Election Commission of India (ECI) on Friday issued a notice to Sajad Gani Lone, Peoples Conference candidate for Baramulla Lok Sabha segment, over posting a video on his X handle.

In a notice issued to Lone, the district election officer Kupwara has asked him to explain why he has uploaded a video on his twitter handle without prior clearance/ pre-certification from Media Certification and Monitoring Committee (MCMC). Sajad Gani Lone, candidate of Jammu & Kashmir Peoples

Campaigning Ends In Srinagar, Section 144 Imposed

'Dry Day' Declared, Polling Stations Designated As No-smoking Zones



Observer News Service

Srinagar: Leaders of all political parties made a lastditch effort to woo voters as campaigning for the Srinagar Lok Sabha constituency in Jammu and Kashmir ended on Saturday.

The constituency goes to the polls on May 13.

Tough

Triangular

Battle In

Srinagar

Auqib Javeed

Twenty-four candidates are in the fray from the constituency, which has been repre-

sented by three generations of Abdullahs. The National Conference has fielded influential Shia leader Aga Syed Ruhullah Mehdi while youth leader Waheed Para is contesting on a People's Democratic Party

'UNEMPLOYMENT, RESERVATION, ARTICLE 370' **Concerns & Hopes Among**

Kashmir's First-time Voters

ticket. The Apni Party has fielded Ashraf Mir.

The authorities have set up 2,135 polling booths for the constituency's 17.44 lakh eli-

gible voters. The re-drawn constituency covers 18 assembly segments, spread over the districts of Srinagar and Ganderbal and parts of | More on P6

s the political battleground heats up in Srinagar, one of Jammu and Kashmir's pivotal constituencies, the upcoming elections witness a fierce triangular contest among the National Conference (NC), People's Democratic Party (PDP), and the recently emerged Jammu and Kashmir Apni Party (DPAP). Ahead of the campaign closure on Saturday, all parties are leaving no stone unturned to sway voters in their favor. | More on P6

Srinagar PC All Set To Go For Polls On May 13

Observer News Service

Srinagar: With all arrangements in place, the polling for 4th phase of ongoing Lok Sabha elections is all set to commence on May 13 in the Srinagar Parliamentary Constituency.

A total of 17,47,810 voters are going to decide the fate of 24 candidates by casting their ballots in around 2135 polling stations across five districts of Kashmir. The polling will take place in 18 assembly segments on Monday from morning 07:00 AM to evening 06:00 PM in Srinagar, Pulwama,

8 'Pink Polling Stations' Established

scheduled on Monday, the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) Jammu and Kashmir Pandurang K. Pole on Friday said that they have designated 18 polling booths in Srinagar Parliamentary Constituency as "Pink Polling Stations" for women, entirely managed by the females. The CEO said that in order to encourage female voters to cast their votes, they have established some "Pink Polling Stations," where entire management will be with females. | More on P6



Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: It will be a positive initiative for the major political parties to present their vision from a common platform, Congress lead-er Rahul Gandhi said on Saturday as he welcomed the invitation of two former judges and an eminent citizen for a public debate on the Lok Sabha elections.

In a post on X, Gandhi also said the nation expects Prime Minister Narendra Modi to participate in the debate.

The Congress leader shared on X his reply to Justice (Retd) Madan B Lokur, Justice (Retd) Ajit P Shah and senior journalist N Ram, who had written to him and the prime minister earlier this week, inviting them to a platform for a debate on the key election issues. Rahul said on X that such a de-

bate "would be a positive initiative for the major parties to present their vision to the country from one platform for a healthy democracy". "Congress wel-comes this initiative and accepts the invitation for discussion. The country also expects the Prime Minister to take part in this dialogue," he said.

The former judges and senior journalist wrote a letter inviting Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Congress leader Rahul Gandhi for a public debate on the Lok Sabha Election to give a proper response to the allegations and that either side had put up against each other. invitation to a public debate with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, which was requested by two former judges and a senior journalist through a letter sent to More on P6



चनाव का पर्व **DESH KA GARV**

Alternative Documents To Prove **Your Identity At The Polling Booth**

Budgam, Ganderbal and Shopian. As per the details avail-

able, more than two lakh electorates are the firsttime voters. Of total 17.47 lakh voters, 8,75,938 are male and 8,71,808 are female electorates and 64 third gender voters. As per the data, there are around 11,682 | More on P6

Conference for | More on P6

UDHAMPUR ENCOUNTER JKP Releases Sketches Of 6 Terrorists

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: Jammu and Kashmir Police on Saturday released the sketches of six terrorists, who infiltrated from Pakistan into Basantgarh area of Udhampur district and killed a village defence guard in a gunfight before fleeing deep | More on P6

One Suspect Arrested

fter 14 days of hectic efforts to trace terrorists involved in the exchange of firing at Basantgarh area of Udhampur district, Jammu and | More on P6

voting rights one day

Faheem, a resident of North Kashmir's Bandipora district turned 18 in 2021, and is now very excited to vote in the Lok Sabha elections. His constituency is scheduled to go for polls in the fifth phase on May 20.

Srinagar: From a young age, Faheem

Bashir accompanied his father to

polling booths to observe the voting

process, eager to exercise his own

"I was very happy to see my name on the voting list. This will be the first time that I will be voting and choose my candidate," Faheem told Kashmir Öbserver.

Faheem, a college student, wants to elect a government that will reconsider the reservation quota recently implemented, aiming for a fairer distribution of opportunities.

"I will vote for a party that will abolish the 10% reservation quota that was granted to Paharis from the General/ open merit category a few months ago. The total open merit or unreserved segment has shrunk to around 36% from the previous 45-50%."

On 15 March, 2024 the Jammu & Kashmir administration approved 10% reservation for newly-included tribes, including Paharis, in the Schedule Tribe (ST). The Council also approved the addition of 15 new castes in the list of OBCs in Jammu and Kashmir and enhancement of reservation in favour of OBCs to 8%. The bill will provide reservation in jobs, educational institutions.

This has raised concerns among



people from the Open Merit category and the Gujjar and Bakarwal community has also criticised the government for granting status to the Pahari community, calling the move "arbitrary and unconstitutional."

"Jobs and employment are a priority. Reservation is always proportional to population, and the reduced quota is a huge injustice to general category aspirants," Faheem said.

Faheem's priorities match many of those his age.

Humaira Jan, from Kulgam, recently took the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET UG). Despite her rigorous preparation, Humaira grapples with uncertainty about her chances.

"The highly competitive nature of the exam is only one factor, the recently implemented reservation policy adds another layer of complexity to the selection process," she said, adding, "It's crucial | More on P6

three-time former MLA from

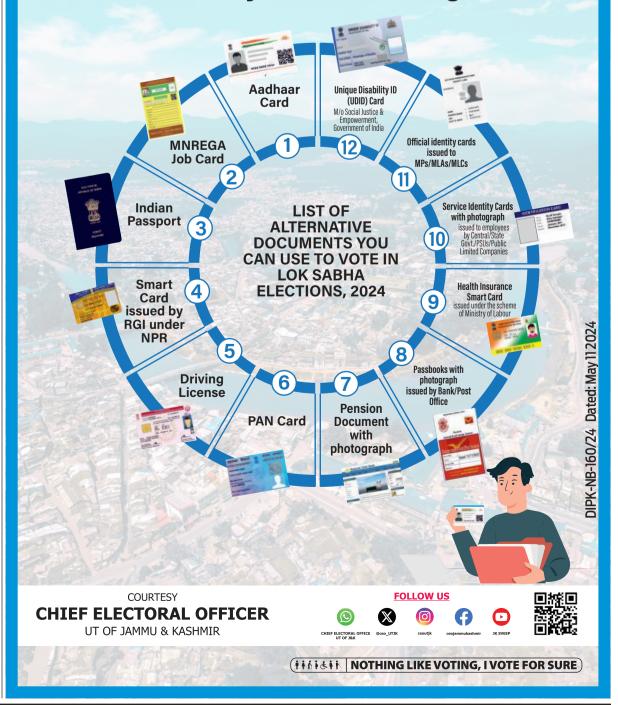
Budgam assembly segment,

is the party's candidate from

Srinagar Lok Sabha constitu-

ency which has been repre-

sented by three generations



'Create Political Space, Mobilise People' **Ruhullah's Roadmap For Art 370 Restoration**

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: Create a political space, mobilise people, find forces in the country who can ally with us and unite -" this is National Conference (NC) candidate from the Srinagar Lok Sabha seat Aga Syed Ruhullah Mehdi's roadmap for restoration of Article 370 in Jammu and



"We need to fight it politically, we need to mobilise

opinion and then mobilise that opinion and create that political space where leader, said.

an interview.

people can speak about it and stand for their rights," Mehdi, an influential Shia The NC leader,

people," Mehdi told PTI in

"First encourage our

people to express their

He said the leadership needs to reach out to the entire population of Jammu and Kashmir to mobilise

а them and | More on P6

of the Abdullahs.

Don't Repeat 1987 in

eoples Democratic Party (PDP) candidate for Srinagar Waheed-ur-Rehman Parra on Saturday said that the BJP-led government should not repeat 1987 rigged election saying it will have disastrous consequences. The elections were allegedly rigged by Congress alongside the National Conference Kashmir: Parra in Kashmir, spurring armed militancy in the Valley a year later. Talking to Kashmir | More on P6

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44 JKF-608-4-0 45 JKF-608-4-0	SHAMEEMA MOHD ASHRAF	13-05-2024 13-05-2024	SG-5113 SG-5113		156 JKF-1692-1-0 157 JKF-1731-2-0		13-05-2024 13-05-2024	SG-5113 SG-5113	280 JKF-3333-2-0 281 JKF-3333-2-0	GULSHAN JAVAID	13-05-2024 SG-5113 13-05-2024 SG-5113
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47 JKF-647-2-0	HAFEEZA	13-05-2024			159 JKF-1769-2-0	FIRDOUS AHAD	13-05-2024	SG-5113	283 JKF-3334-2-0 284 JKF-3367-4-0	ABDUL	13-05-2024 SG-5113 13-05-2024 SG-5113
48 JKF-647-2-0	GH HASSAN	13-05-2024			160 JKF-1769-2-0 161 JKF-1795-2-0		13-05-2024 13-05-2024	SG-5113 SG-5113	285 JKF-3367-4-0 286 JKF-3367-4-0	SEEDA FAZI	13-05-2024 SG-5113 13-05-2024 SG-5113
49 JKF-664-1-0 50 JKF-666-2-0	ALI MOHD MEHBOOBA JAVEED	13-05-2024 13-05-2024			162 JKF-1795-2-0		13-05-2024	SG-5113	287 JKF-3367-4-0	MOHAMMAD	13-05-2024 SG-5113
51 JKF-666-2-0	JAVEED AHMAD	13-05-2024			163 JKF-1813-2-0 164 JKF-1813-2-0		13-05-2024 13-05-2024	SG-5113 SG-5113	288 JKF-3380-3-0 289 JKF-3380-3-0	BAIGA AISHA	13-05-2024 SG-5113 13-05-2024 SG-5113
52 JKF-671-1-0	ab aziz	13-05-2024			165 JKF-1852-2-0		13-05-2024	SG-5113	290 JKF-3380-3-0	FIRDOUS	13-05-2024 SG-5113
53 JKR-676-2-0	SARA	13-05-2024			67 JKF-1855-2-0	REHTI	13-05-2024 13-05-2024	SG-5113 SG-5113	291 JKF-3393-1-0 292 JKF-3400-5-0	Ghulam NAZIRA	13-05-2024 SG-5113 13-05-2024 SG-5113
54 JKR-676-2-0 55 JKF-694-2-0	GHULAM nabi TANVEER	13-05-2024 13-05-2024	SG-5113 SG-5113		68 JKF-1855-2-0	BASHIR NIGHAT	13-05-2024 13-05-2024	SG-5113 SG-5113	293 JKF-3400-5-0 294 JKF-3400-5-0	GHULAM ZOONA BEGUM	13-05-2024 SG-5113 13-05-2024 SG-5113
56 JKF-694-2-0	NISAR	13-05-2024	SG-5113		70 JKF-1860-2-0	GULZAR	13-05-2024	SG-5113	295 JKF-3400-5-0	JOHAN ARA	13-05-2024 SG-5113
57 JKF-719-1-0	ABDUL	13-05-2024	SG-5113		71 JKF-1890-2-0 72 JKF-1890-2-0	JANA AB	13-05-2024 13-05-2024	SG-5113 SG-5113	296 JKF-3400-5-0 297 JKF-3411-1-0	BASHIR NAZIR	13-05-2024 SG-5113 13-05-2024 SG-5113
58 JKF-729-2-0	Shaida	13-05-2024			73 JKF-1932-4-0	INSHA	13-05-2024	SG-5113	298 JKF-3567-1-0	ABDUL	13-05-2024 SG-5113
59 JKF-729-2-0 60 JKF-750-3-0	Aftab MOHD AMIN	13-05-2024 13-05-2024	SG-5113 SG-5113		74 JKF-1932-4-0 75 JKF-1932-4-0	FOUZIA UBAID		SG-5113 SG-5113	299 JKF-3668-1-0 300 JKF-3671-1-0	GHULAM	13-05-2024 SG-5113 13-05-2024 SG-5113
61 JKF-750-3-0	HAKAM	13-05-2024	SG-5113	1	76 JKF-1932-4-0	MEHRAJ UD DIN	13-05-2024	SG-5113	301 JKF-3672-1-0 302 JKF-3674-3-0	WALI RUKHSANA	13-05-2024 SG-5113 13-05-2024 SG-5113
52 JKF-750-3-0	GHULAM	13-05-2024	SG-5113		77 JKF-1950-4-0 78 JKF-1950-4-0	HAMEEDA BEGUM GHULAM HAIDER		SG-5113 SG-5113	303 JKF-3674-3-0	RAHMTI	13-05-2024 SG-5113
33 JKF-896-2-0 34 JKF-896-2-0	RAJA GHULAM	13-05-2024	SG-5113 SG-5113		79 JKF-1950-4-0 80 JKF-1950-4-0	NASEEMA BEGUM	13-05-2024	SG-5113	304 JKF-3674-3-0 305 JKF-3684-2-0	GHULAM ZOONI	13-05-2024 SG-5113 13-05-2024 SG-5113
64 JKF-896-2-0 65 JKF-897-1-0	ALTAF	13-05-2024 13-05-2024	SG-5113 SG-5113		80 JKF-1950-4-0 81 JKF-1953-1-0	GHULAM MOHD GHULAM ALI		SG-5113 SG-5113	306 JKF-3684-2-0	MOHD	13-05-2024 SG-5113
66 JKF-907-2-0	NEELOFER	13-05-2024			82 JKF-1958-2-0 83 JKF-1958-2-0	TAHIRA	13-05-2024	SG-5113	307 JKF-3693-3-0 308 JKF-3693-3-0	Zamrooda Vakas	13-05-2024 SG-5113 13-05-2024 SG-5113
67 JKF-907-2-0	MOHD	13-05-2024	SG-5113		83 JKF-1958-2-0 84 JKF-1964-2-0	SHAKEEL NASIMA		SG-5113 SG-5113	309 JKF-3735-4-0	SAJA	13-05-2024 SG-5113
68 JKF-926-1-0	BASHIR	13-05-2024	SG-5113		85 JKF-1964-2-0 86 JKF-1969-3-0	RIAZ Zaboor Abmed Butt	13-05-2024	SG-5113	310 JKF-3735-4-0 311 JKF-3735-4-0	SABREENA MEHMOODA	13-05-2024 SG-5113 13-05-2024 SG-5113
69 JKF-927-1-0 70 JKF-928-1-0	BILAL GH	13-05-2024 13-05-2024	SG-5113 SG-5113		86 JKF-1969-3-0 87 JKF-1969-3-0	Zahoor Ahmed Butt Zubeda Begum		SG-5113 SG-5113	312 JKF-3735-4-0 313 JKF-3792-2-0	GULAM	13-05-2024 SG-5113 13-05-2024 SG-5113
70 JKF-929-1-0	ABDUL		SG-5113 SG-5113		88 JKF-1969-3-0 89 JKF-1984-1-0	Mohd Azhar Kabir Butt ABDUL	13-05-2024	SG-5113	314 JKF-3792-2-0	GH	13-05-2024 SG-5113
72 JKF-932-1-0	MOHD	13-05-2024	SG-5113	1	90 JKF-1986-1-0	BASHIR		SG-5113 SG-5113	315 JKF-3797-1-0 316 JKF-3798-1-0	MUSHTAQ BASHIR	13-05-2024 SG-5113 13-05-2024 SG-5113
73 JKF-935-2-0	RUQAI		SG-5113		91 JKF-1988-2-0 92 JKF-1988-2-0	Hajra Abdul Rehman	13-05-2024	SG-5113 SG-5113	317 JKF-3853-1-0	Gulam	13-05-2024 SG-5113
74 JKF-935-2-0 75 JKF-948-3-0	ZAHOOR MUGLI	13-05-2024 13-05-2024	SG-5113 SG-5113	1	93 JKF-1991-2-0	ASMAT		SG-5113 SG-5113	318 JKF-3961-3-0	SALEEMA	13-05-2024 SG-5113
76 JKF-948-3-0	RAFEEQA	13-05-2024			94 JKF-1991-2-0 95 JKF-1992-2-0	MOHD NASSIMA		SG-5113 SG-5113	319 JKF-3961-3-0 320 JKF-3961-3-0	MOHAMMAD HILAL	13-05-2024 SG-5113 13-05-2024 SG-5113
77 JKF-948-3-0	ABDUL	13-05-2024		1	96 JKF-1992-2-0	SHOKET	13-05-2024	SG-5113	321 JKF-3977-1-0 322 JKF-3993-1-0	Javid ABDUL	13-05-2024 SG-5113
011-040-0-0					97 JKF-1993-2-0	PARVEEN	12 05 0004	SG-5113	JEZ JAF-3993-1-0	ABDUL	13-05-2024 SG-5113

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KASHMIR OBSERVER | Srinagar | Sunday | 12-05-2024 🔾

CBC Organizes Voter Awareness Programs Under SVEEP In Srinagar

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Central Bureau of Communication, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, Field Office Srinagar, organized multiple voter awareness programs at Nishat Mughal Garden and Zero Bridge in Srinagar today.

Presented by the cultural troupes empanelled with CBC Srinagar, these programs were part of the ongoing efforts of the Bureau to enhance voter participation and civic engagement in the ongoing Lok Sabha elections.

Artists of Pamposh Folk Theatre and Magsood Bhagat Theatre enthralled the audience with colorful and informative skits and musical presentations,

highlighting various aspects of elections, emphasizing the importance of voting. and promoting democratic participation. Informative literature on voting and significance of elections was also distributed among the people by the CBC team. Field Publicity Officer, CBC Srinagar, Naseer Rather, emphasized that these programs were part of a comprehensive series of initiatives organized across the Kashmir region to raise awareness among the general populace about the importance of voting and democratic participation.

He said, 'through such endeavors, CBC Srinagar aims to empower citizens with knowledge and inspire them to exercise their democratic right to vote actively.



end of the 02-Srinagar PC campaign period on Saturday. KO Photo by Abid Bhat

Final Randomization For Allotment Of Polling Stations Held For Srinagar PC

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The final Randomization for allotment of Polling Stations to Polling Staff and Micro Observers to be deployed across 2135 Polling Stations in 02-Srinagar Parliamentary Constituency (PC) comprising 18 Assembly segments of Ganderbal, Srinagar, Pulwama Budgam (Partly), and Shopian (Partly) Districts was held here today at Conference Hall of DC Office Complex.

The Final/(3rd) Randomization was held under the supervision of General Observer for 02-Srinagar PC, Mukul Kumar in presence of District Election Officer (DEO) Srinagar, Dr. Bilal

Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat, who is also the Returning officer for

Srinagar Lok Sabha Seat. The District Election Officer (DEO) of Pulwama, Dr Basharat Qayoom; DEO Ganderbal, Shyambir; DEO Budgam, Akshay Labroo and DEO Shopian, Faz lul Haseeb attended the Randomization process through virtual mode from their respective Districts. The Randomization pro-

cess was conducted through dedicated Software as per the prescribed guidelines of Election Commission of India (ECI) ensuring fairness and impartiality in the deployment of Polling Staff and Micro Observers to polling stations for 02-Srinagar PC.

Authorities Thwart Illicit Import Of 'Opiod' At Srinagar Airport

Majid Nabi

Srinagar: The Drug Control Department confiscated a shipment of illicit narcotics comprising 1080 capsules of 'Tramadol', a medicine structurally related to the opioids like codeine and morphine at the Srinagar Airport on Saturday.

Officials told Kashmir Observer that the Central Enforcement (Airport Wing) Department at the Srinagar Airport here provided a tip off, that led to the seizure of illicit narcotics comprising 1080 capsules of Tramadol

Irfana Ahmad, the Deputy Drug Controller, and the officials of the Sales Tax Department seized the shipment, which officials claimed was being imported through unregulated channels.

As stated by the department, the seizure was part of its continuous efforts to prevent the unlawful distribution and sale of prescription medications.

The department had in the past intercepted similar shipments together with the Srinagar Airport Sales Tax Department and prosecuted those involved in the unlawful distribution and sale of prescription medications.

Speaking to Kashmir Observer, Deputy Drug Controller, Irfana Ahmad said the department is currently investigating the origin and planned use of the confiscated package.

"We are presently investigating the matter and whosoever is found involved in the unlawful distribution and sale of prescription medications will be dealt with in accordance with the law," the officer said, adding many such consignments have been seized in the past as well. Actually smugglers using licenses of bonafide pharmaceutical distributors carry out these illegal activities.

TRAFFIC POLICE: 9419993745, 01998-266686 PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883 PDD: 0194-2450213 FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES : 2479488,2452222,2452155 CAPD: 18001807011 SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081 Ambulance: Kashmer EMS Service: +91 94841 00200 AIRPORTS X SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311 RAILWAYS SRINAGAR: 0194-2103259 ANANTNAG: 01932-228243 BARAMULLA: 0194-102029 BIJBHERA: 01932-228243 PAMPORE: 01933-294132 PATTAN: 01954-293507 OAZIGUND: 01951-296153 **HIGHWAY STATUS** Sgr-Jammu highway - (Open) Mughal Road - (Open) Srinagar-Leh- (Open) **PRAYERS** FAJR 3:57 HIJRI ZUHR 12:27 CALENDAR ASR 5:20 7:26 Magrib 03 Zil-Qadah **ISHA** 8:59 1445

This Day In History

- 1328 Holy Roman Emperor Louis IV and assembly of priests select Pietro Rainalducc as anti-Pope Nicolaas V
- 1328 Antipope Nicholas V, a claimant to the papacy, is consecrated in Rome by the Bishop of Venice
- 1459 Sun City in India founded by Rao Jodhpur 1525 - Battle at Biblingen: Zwabische Union beats
- rebel Wurttemberg farmers 1534 - German Duchy of Wurttemberg becomes
- Lutheran under Ulrich, Duke of Württemberg 1551 - San Marcos University in Lima, Peru, opens
- 1588 Catholic League under duke Henri de Guise occupies Paris
- 1588 Catholic League under duke Henri de Guise occupies Paris
- 1604 Spanish garrison of Aardenburg surrenders to Mauritius
- 1640 Uprising against Spanish king Philip IV
- 1689- England & Netherlands form League of Augsburg
- 1777-1st ice cream advertisement (Philip Lenzi-NY Gazette)
- 1780- British troops occupy Charleston, South Carolina (Revolutionary War)
- 1797-First Coalition: Napoleon I of France conquers Venice.

Secy Health Addresses International Nurses Day Event At GMC Srinagar

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Government Medical College (GMC) Srinagar celebrated International Nurses Day here today.

The joint function of all Associated Hospitals was presided over Secretary Health and Medical Education. Dr. Syed Abid Rasheed Shah This year's theme: "Our Nurses Our Future," underscored the indispensable contributions of nurses globally. Principal/Dean GMC Srinagar, Prof. Dr. Iffat Shah. Administrator of Associated Hospitals, GMC Mohammad Srinagar, Ashraf Hakak, Heads of Departments (HODs) representing various specialties. Medical Superintendents. Faculty, Chief Medical Officers (CMOs), Resident Medical Officers (RMOs), Matrons, Nursing Supervisors, Nursing Officers, paramedics and large number of students were also present on the occasion. Addressing the gather-

ing, Dr. Abid commended the invaluable contributions of nurses and reaffirmed the department's commitment to supporting and empowering the nursing fraternity.

He expressed gratitude to all nurses for their symbolic gesture reintireless efforts in delivering compassionate care forced the unity and soliand emphasized the need for continued collaboration to strengthen healthcare system and improve patient outcomes. Other speakers reflected a renewed sense of appreciation and respect for nurses, who are critical team members of the healthcare system. As the world continues to navigate through unprecedented challenges, their unwavering commitment and dedication remain a beacon of hope and inspiration for all. Pertinently, the oc-

resilience of nurses in delivering quality healthcare. The main highlight of the program was the heartfelt rendition of the song "We Will Overcome," which resonated deeply with the audience. prompting everyone, to join in applause. This

casion celebrated the un-

wavering dedication and

Government Of Jammu And Kashmir Jammu And Kashmir Services Selection Board (JKSSB) CPO Chowk, Panjtirthi, Jammu / Zamzam Complex, Rambagh, Srinagar.

www.jkssb.nic.in

NOTIFICATION

Subject: Result/Score-sheet of Written Test for the post of Inspector (Finance) - regarding.

Whereas, the Jammu and Kashmir Services Selection Board (JKSSB) conducted the OMR based Written Examination for the post of Inspector, Finance Department, advertised vide Advertisement Notification No. 04 of 2020, under Item Nos. 117, on 17th March, 2024; and

darity within the healthcare community.

A documentary showcasing the exemplary work of nurses in the face of adversity, including their pivotal role during floods, CO-VID-19 pandemic, natural calamities, and other emergencies was also screened on the occasion. The documentary

served as a powerful reminder of selfless service and sacrifice of nurses in safeguarding public health and saving lives, even in the most challenging circumstances.

Whereas, the Revised/Final Answer Key in respect of written examination held for the said post has been notified vide No. JKSSB-COE0EXAM(UT)/9/2024-03 (7430339) dated: 15.04.2024; and

Now, therefore, in view of the above, the Result/Score-sheet, based on the performance of candidates who appeared in the Written Test for the post of Inspector, Finance Department, advertised vide Advertisement Notification No. 04 of 2020, under Item Nos. 117, conducted on 17.03.2024, is hereby notified as Annexure "A".

DIPK-478/24

dated: 11-05-2024

Sd/-(Reyaz Ahmad Malik) JKAS **Controller of Examinations J&K Services Selection Board**

Dated: 10.05.2024

Office of the Naib-Tehsildar Pattan

Executive Magistrate 1st Class

Subject: Issuance of Registration orders in respect of delayed Birth

Public Notice

The registar Births and deaths (EO Municipal Council Pattan/ Block Development Officer Pattan) has submitted a case file pertaining to Birth of Mehvish Hafiz D/o Hafizullah Mir R/o Darveshbagh Pattan Tehsil Pattan District Baramulla with verified date of event (birth) as 17-02-2010 occurred at Home In this connection, if anybody having any objection to the issuance of said registration may contact this office within seven (07) days, after which no objections shall be entertained. **Executive Magistrate 1st Class** fko Naib Tehsildar Pattan

PUBLIC NOTICE

I am Applying for the registration of my tour and travels agency under the name and style of well worth holidays at Kunzer Baramulla. Anybody having any objection may file the same to asstt director tourism Gulmarg within 14 days from the date of publication of this notice. No bjection shall be entertained after that

fko

Rizwana Rashid Daughter of : Abdul Rashid sofi R/o:Kunzer Tehsil: Kunzer

ازعدالت ایکزیکیٹومجسٹریٹ درجہاول نارہ بل ضلع بڈگام عنوان: درخواست منجانب محمد حنيف ڈارولدغلام محمد ڈار ساکنہ کاوسہ خالسۂ مخصيل ناره بل صلح بدگام بمراد عطائی اجرائی EWS سرتفكيت تجق سأل اشتهار بمرادآ گاہی ہرخاص وعام معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں کے نسبت سائل نے ایک درخواست online کیا ہے سائل EWS سڑٹھکیٹ حاصل کرنے کا خواہاں ہے سائل کا کنبہ 05افراد پر شتمل ہے اور سائل کے والد کے کنبہ کے مکان 🗧 وضحن 🖌 کا کل رقبہ 1360 فت ہے اور سائل کے کنبہ کی کل امدنی 800000 آٹھدلا کھروپے اس نبیت ہرخاص وعام کو مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ اگر کسی شخص یا شخاص کو کو کی عذر بر عتراض ہوتو وہ اپناعذر یا اعتراض سات یوم کے اندر پیش کریں۔ میعاد گزرنے کے بعد کوئی عذر پااعتر اض قابل قبول *نہ*ں ہوگاہ۔ نائت تحصيلداه bmg

Government Of Jammu And Kashmir Office Of The Deputy Director **Estates Kashmir**

E.:mail:-ddestsgr@gmail.com

Tel / Fax- 0194-2452435

CIRCULAR

All the out stationed non move employees who are availing boarding / lodging facilities in the Private Hotels hired by the Estates Department at Srinagar and intend to continue the facility during Summer Session 2024 (May -2024 to October-2024) are informed to submit their consent afresh on devised Format for continuation of the accommodation. The devised Format can be obtained from the Office of the Deputy Director Estates, Kashmir w.e.f 10/05/2024 and is also available at the hotels / guest houses hired by Estates department.

The devised Format complete in every respect should reach this office within a period of Fifteen (15) days from the date of issuance of this notice, failing which the extension to allotment for Summer Session shall not be granted.

No. DDES/Move/2024/1854-57 DIPK-464/24 Dated:-11-05-2024

> DEPUTY DIRECTOR **ESTATES KASHMIR Srinagar**

Milestone in J&K Health Sector **First Penile Implant Surgery Conducted In J&K**

No.: JKSSB-COE0EXAM(UT)/9/2024-03 (7430339)

n a pioneering move for urological healthcare in the region, Noora Hospital in Jammu and Kashmir proudly announces the successful completion of the first penile implant surgery. Led by esteemed urologist and andrologist Dr. Tariq Mir and team (Dr Azhar, Dr Haamid), this landmark procedure represents a significant advancement in the

field of sexual health and urology within the region. The penile implant sur-

gery, a complex procedure a seamless and successful aimed at restoring erecoperation. tile function in individuals Erectile dysfunction, a with erectile dysfunction (ED) unresponsive to other

condition affecting millions worldwide, can have protreatments, marks a turnfound effects on a person's ing point for patients in quality of life and relationneed of specialized care. ships. For individuals in Jam-

mu and Kashmir facing this challenge, the availability of advanced treatment options such as penile implants offers renewed hope and improved quality of life.

efforts of the medical team and underscored the hospital's commitment to delivering exceptional healthcare services.

The successful completion of the first penile implant surgery at Noora Hospital reflects not only medical excellence but also

a commitment to innovation and patient-centered care. As the field of urology continues to evolve, this milestone achievement serves as a testament to the

dedication of healthcare professionals in Jammu and Kashmir to improve the lives of their patients.

Moving forward, Noora Hospital aims to expand its urology services, ensuring that individuals across Jammu and Kashmir have access to comprehensive and advanced treatment options for various urological conditions. With a focus on patient well-being and innovation, the hospital continues to set new standards in healthcare delivery in the region. MIRACLE ADVT

Dr Tariq Mir

Dr. Tariq expressed his satisfaction with the outcome of the surgery, emphasizing the importance of bringing advanced urologi-

cal care closer to home for patients in the region. He praised the collaborative Dr. Tariq's expertise and the state-of-the-art facilities at Noora Hospital ensured

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>>>> Mother's Day Special

Should Housewives be Compensated for Housework?

Haneen Farid

6.4 billion hours per day are spent in performing unpaid care labour, as per data from the International Labour Organisation which is based on two-thirds of the world's working age population.

This statistic can also be understood as 2 billion individuals working 8 hours every day without pay. In fact, if these services were to be monetised, it would contribute to 9% of the world's GDP or US \$11 trillion (purchasing power parity in 2011).

Whilst the economy of unpaid care work has remained largely invisible for hundreds of years, the demand for its recognition has roots in the 19th Century. During the first wave of the women's rights movements in the US, Britain, and Europe, the main issue was that the burden of housework completely restricted women to the household. Further, there was a "second-shift' problem, whereby working women had to manage not only labour outside the household but also within the household.

In the second wave movement, the focus was not so much on the restrictions or burdens that came with housework, but the fact that it was unpaid and thereby perceived as a tool of oppression. As Silvia Federici argues in Wages Against Housework, the unpaid element that is intrinsic to housework is a 'powerful weapon' in reinforcing the notion that such work is not "actual work". Additionally, this prevents women from protesting against it, except in household kitchens or as part of bedroom quarrels, which have even become a matter of ridicule in society over time.

We spoke with Dr Roshan Ara, Assistant Professor at the University of Kashmir's Center for Women's Studies & Research. She highlights a major argument that is made for the movement for wages for housework:

'This [care work] is the pillar of the economy...if housewives do not work for one day, the whole world will be stagnant...there will be confusion and chaos...Who is preparing this human



resource? It is the mother. Therefore, I think this whole economy, wholly and solely, it is being supported by women', says Dr Ara.

Similarly, a certain section of marxist feminists view women's housework as a part of the social reproduction process, whereby housewives essentially enable men to perform their labour.

If we suppose it is universally decided that housewives must be compensated for household work, a crucial hurdle we would have to address is how their wages are to be computed. The United Nations System of National Accounts in 2008 listed 'difficulty of making economically meaningful estimates of their values' as one of the reasons for not including unpaid care work in labour statistics

To begin with, it is challenging in some cases to distinguish between work and leisure activities. For instance, if we say that a woman is playing with her child, would she be considered to be enjoying or working?

If such child-rearing is considered to be a leisure activity, exploitation is out of question. However, if this is work, then we can take the number of hours that child-rearing is performed and compare it with the working hours that the husband performs to ensure that the productive and non-productive working hours of both partners are equal and neither is exploited.

Now, if we suppose that childrearing is both a productive and non-productive activity, it would be categorised as work only to the extent that it contributes to the psychological growth of the child. And since there is no clear standard by which we can separate work from non-work, norms of fairness are tricky to apply when it comes to the separation of work between men and women.

But in such cases, women can be asked to decide for themselves what type of work constitutes leisure and labour. Although, as the "secondshift" concerns in the second wave movement suggest, there may be a possibility that women see household work as largely cumbersome. Still, such perceptions can shift overtime and the say of women is essential.

Regardless, one formula of calculating wages would be to take into consideration all the household work that can be outsourced to nannies, gardeners, cooks, domestic help, etc. and use it as a maxim to calculate the cost of the work that housewives would do in their place. This is the input evaluation method.

Another solution can be based on the notion that all the work performed by women within the household is aimed towards the betterment of her family members, who are public goods. Hence, these women should be compensated accordingly. This is the output evaluation method, whereby the market value of a task is calculated on the basis of the good that it produces.

Whilst care work has its intricacies in terms of monetisation, there is one aspect of this debate which is imperative to address, and that is the impact it has on the status of women.

Dr Ara explains, 'when it comes to monetary power, when it comes to bargaining powerwithin the household, who has the bargaining power? The bargaining power is in the hands of the person who has the cash in hand, who has resources in hand. And this "resource-lesness" has degraded women, it has derated their status as they have no bargaining power and no decisionmaking power. For example, in any family, whatever bold decision has to be made, usually some men assume that a woman's decision does not matter because they are not earning.'

'I am of the firm opinion that if we cannot [remunerate women], it is not necessary men have to pay for this. But at least men should get this realisation that whatever they are doing outside the home, it is all because women are giving them their time. She can also earn, but she is playing such a great role, she is preparing a human resource for the economy, she is feeding the members of the family ... we need to value this work.'

Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer

he world recently witnessed the warmest January on record, underscoring the urgent need for climate action. Against this backdrop, 2024 also happens to be the mega year for elections around the globe where 40% of the world's population will vote. The ongoing elections in India, home to the world's largest democratic process, hold significant sway over domestic and global climate policy. The demands and decisions made by millions of Indian voters will signifi

Climate On The Ballot Why India needs a climate-conscious majority for global good?

Ishita Aryan

(29%) as the large majority, the Cau-tivity and public health missed to even transition finance by setting-up a Green get a mention in both manifestos. Fur- New Deal Investment Programme fopolitical manifestos present a voice informed by those at the top, and not by the ones on the frontlines of the crisis. To gain a more nuanced understanding, it's important to closely compare & contrast some common themes and analogy of climate politics in the 2024 election manifestos. The ruling party's 69-page election manifesto dedicated three pages to environment and climate issues under the section "Modi Ki Guarantee for Sustainable Bharat". These highlight Lifestyle for Environment (LIFE) initiative, river cleaning mission on Namami Gange, and rigorous solar expansion as major milestones to sway the voters, along with new promises on cleaner air in cities, etc. The opposition party has also brought in some forward-looking approaches under the chapter such as setting up of a Green Transition Fund for enabling net zero commitments and establishing an independent Environment Protection and Climate Change Authority to establish and enforce the National and State Climate Change plans. The ruling party has a foot ahead of the opposition party for stating its commitment to leading the efforts for forming and lead ing unconventional global climate alliances for the collective good of climate fragile countries in the Global South. International Solar Alliance, Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure. One Future Alliance, Global Biofuels Alliance, and Big Cat Alliance are some of the celebrated names. India now Net zero alignment: draws 44% of its electricity from nonfossil fuel sources such as solar power but must showcase a continuous commitment to reaching its net zero goals. The ruling party's manifesto emphasises their work on the five nectar elements of 'Panchamrit' in GHG emission reduction, presented in COP26 in Glasgow. They aim to continue the Green Credit Programme by expanding the scope of activities to fulfil decarbonisation requirements. The opposition party, on the other hand, promises to accelerate

cused on solar power

nous, and phased strategies to avoid the water crisis.

Nature recovery: India remains one of the top countries when it comes to nature loss and biodiversity depletion. As per the 2021 State of the India's Environment report by CSE, over 90% of the area under the biodiversity hotspots have been lost. The ruling party aims to promote afforestation and agroforestry such as the Green Aravalli Project, ecotourism, protection of tribal communities, natural farming methods, biodi versity conservation for coastal and Himalayan states through instruments such as the Green Credit Programme. The opposition party also touches upon some of these main agendas including environment protection, forest conservation, biodiversity preservation, coastal zone regulation, and protection of tribal rights. However, both parties missed setting tangible milestones or proposing ground-breaking pathways for the implementation. As per a recent survey published from Deloitte, for around 1.8 crore young Indians voting for the first time, climate change is the third most important societal issue. It's time that voters must demand more than just rhetoric from their leaders, pushing for a hyper local narrative of climate politics and policies, and concrete actions for the same that safeguard the environment and promote resilience. The impacts of climate change manifests to different lived experiences for different communities, depending on the current socio- economics, development challenges or systemic oppression and, as an ecosystem. It's high time that India's politics and politicians start paying heed to these many-to-many linkages of climate change and economic development. So far, not a single political party has emphasised on key junctions of climate action and its potential to create 30-32 million green jobs by 2050 in India. Finally, although the manifesto for this election has been finalised, there is still much that voters, as responsible citizens, can do by demanding climate sensitive action plans from the chosen party leaders. Only by prioritising climate concerns can India truly fulfil its resilient economic development and secure a better future for the current and future generations to come Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer. The article was originally published by Financial Express

cantly shape the future governments commitments and policy on GHG reduction and climate adaptation. Thus, the fate of climate change and politics gets deeply intertwined.

India faces a myriad of climate hazards, with the World Bank identifying it as the country with the highest climate exposed population. From extreme heat and water scarcity to floods and cyclones, the impacts are felt across life, livelihoods, food security and economic productivity. As the world crossed the 1.5° Celsius warming threshold for the first time in 2023, India found itself amidst several heat waves. According to the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO), over 9 million people in India are already suffering from the adverse effects of climate change. Between 2016-2021, climate extreme events caused damage to crops in over 36 million hectares, and a \$3.75 billion loss for farmers in the country. If estimates from the report on 'Loss and Damage Today' by economist James Rising were to be be lieved, India lost 8% of its GDP in 2022. Further, if projections from the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) are to be stated, India has a risk of losing 35% of GDP to climate change by 2100.

The decimation of democracy: BJP's 'Make India great again' narrative is unlikely to become a reality anytime soon

At the moment, millions of Indians are heading to cast their votes in scorching heat waves. Despite these stark real ities, climate action has yet to dominate the electoral agenda. One might question why climate consciousness isn't at the forefront of political discourse. On the other side India's voters deeply resonate with the climate crisis since the majority of Indian voters have had firsthand experience of the adverse effects of climate change. According to Yale's Centre for Voting Opinion & Trends in Election Research (CVoter), India's voters can be differentiated into 4 brackets: the Alarmed (54%) and the Concerned

tive of the fact that India already has a climate consensus majority voters. According to the World Risk Poll, every three in five Indian voters perceive climate change as a threat to their country in the next 20 years. The question then arises: Can climate action agendas take the centre stage in India's political dynamics to sway voters' decisions? Are they powerful enough to change mandates and voters' preferences?

tious, and the Disengaged forming the

The climatisation of Indian politics has come a long way in the last two decades, from existing at the peripheries, to becoming an eminent frame of reference for mediation and hierarchisation of national and international issues. It has transverse from being a mere mention in a single paragraph in the 1999 general election manifestos, to today where the biggest political parties aim to weave green policies, renewable energy, and pollution-free cities into their mandates. India has once again pitched itself as a climate leader of the global south at the 28th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28) as well as during the G20 presidency. However, the climate issue has failed to strike a strong resonance in the current election campaigns. Political analysis of the 2024 general elections manifestos from India's two of the biggest parties does not reflect the specifics, depth, and tangible commitments for climate action. Not to refute the argument that political manifestos are often considered as statements of intentions and not policy documents.

For instance, both major parties touch upon key climate issues such as greenhouse gas reduction, air pollution, climate adaptation, resource circularity, and nature recovery. However, the parties could have further provided tangible climate action targets, funding commitments and pathbreaking implementation ideas. The key nexus of climate crisis with cities, urban heat island effects, impacts on food security, poverty, loss of livelihood and producrural areas and the agricultural sector.

Air pollution: At this moment, 83 of the world's 100 most polluted cities are in India, with New Delhi standing as the world's most polluted capital city. Both parties have been vocal about the issue. The ruling party's agenda highlights their initiative on the National Clean Air Program framework, which they now promise to convert into a Mission for the 102 most polluted cities in the country and achieve National Air Quality Standards in 60 Cities by 2029. The opposition party also aims to strengthen the National Clean Air Programme but lacks detailed plans on implementation and timelines

Climate adaptation and resilience: There is no introduction required for the devastating heat, floods, landslide, droughts that India currently faces, which is only expected to increase further with time on account of climate change. The ruling party states their twin agenda for enhancing resilience for coastal and Himalayan ecosystems. They propose building reservoirs to prevent flash floods in hilly terrains, which have seen the annual rage of floods. landslides, and glacial lake outbursts. On the other hand, the opposition party also aims to appoint a high-level committee to study landslides in hill districts and evolve prevention measures. They also promise to increase allocation to the National Adaptation Fund and review guidelines for its use.

Resource circularity: Both parties emphasise objectives on water and resource circularity. The ruling party emphasises institutionalising recycling mandates across the states under the National E-waste Management Mission. The opposition party made a bold commitment to installing desalination plants in all coastal areas and promoting water harvesting and recycling. However, as India's tech hub Bangalore and many other parched cities are reeling from the water crisis, both parties missed presenting innovative, indige-

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Hajj – A Spiritual Journey

Mohammad Hanief

The Hajj is the fifth pillar of Islam and the most significant manifestation of Islamic faith and unity. Undertaking the Hajj at least once is a duty for Muslims who are physically and financially able to make the journey to Makkah. The emphasis on financial ability is meant to ensure that a Muslim takes care of his family first. The requirement that a Muslim be healthy and physically capable of undertaking the pilgrimage is intended to exempt those who cannot endure the rigors of extended travel.

In the past, and as late as the early decades of last century, few people were able to "make their way" to Makkah for the pilgrimage. This was because of the hardships encountered, the length of time the journey took and the expense associated with it. Pilgrims coming from the far corners of the Islamic world sometimes dedicated a year or more to the journey, and many perished during it due in part to the lack of facilities on the routes to Makkah and also in the city itself.

The circumstances of the Hajj began to improve during the time of King Abdul Aziz Ibn Abdul Rahman Al-Saud, the founder of the modern Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Major programs were introduced to ensure the security and safety of the pilgrims, as well as their wellbeing and comfort. Steps were also taken to establish facilities and services aimed at improving housing, health care, sanitation and transportation.

Muslims today undertake the pilgrimage in ease, receive a warm welcome on their arrival in Saudi Arabia, and are provided with the most modern facilities and efficient services possible. Without the distractions that their forebears had to contend with, today's pilgrims are free to focus solely on the spiritual aspect of the Hajj.

Saudi Arabia considers serving the guests of God an honor, and dedicates vast manpower and financial resources to the proper conduct of the pilgrimage. Over the past four decades, it has spent billions of dollars to expand the



Holy Mosque in Makkah and the Prophet's Mosque in Madinah, as well as establishing modern airports, seaports, roads, lodging, and other amenities and services for the pilgrims.

Before heading toward Makkah, the pilgrims are already dressed in Ihram or may change at Miqat, where special facilities are set up for this purpose. By donning the Ihram, the pilgrim enters a state of spirituality and purity.

On the way from Jeddah to Makkah along the modern superhighway, pilgrims board one of the fleet of 15,000 buses assigned to the Hajj. This vast concourse of vehicles approaches Mina, some four miles to the northwest of Makkah, where most of the pilgrims are housed in the thousands of air-conditioned tents that stretch to the limits of Mina Valley.

Walking through this vast city that has been established for use for only a few days a year, the pilgrim is struck by the orderliness of the place. Food is prepared in hundreds of kitchens spread throughout Mina and distributed among the tents. Thousands of drinking fountains and wash ar-



In the past, and as late as the early decades of last century, few people were able to "make their way" to Makkah for the pilgrimage. This was because of the hardships encountered, the length of time the journey took and the expense associated with it eas are located throughout the tent city. There are hundreds of medical clinics that supplement the hospitals in Makkah and Arafat. Security personnel and traffic police guide and help pilgrims. Despite the clear signs and numbered rows, some pilgrims, particularly the elderly, tend to get lost and need assistance finding their tents or groups. Banks of telephones are located in all the pilgrimage sites, allowing pilgrims to make direct international calls.

After sunrise on the ninth of the Islamic month of Dhu Al-Hajjah, this vast crowd of nearly two million begins to walk some eight miles to the Plain of Arafat, passing Muzdalifah on the way. Many perform the noon and afternoon prayers at the Nimerah Mosque, a tradition set by the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).

Approaching Arafat by midmorning, the pilgrim is amazed to find the vast plain covered by what appears to be a thick fog, even though the temperature hovers around 90 degrees Fahrenheit. This optical illusion is created by thousands of sprinklers placed atop 30-foot poles and spaced some 50 feet apart, which spread a fine mist of water to provide coolness. Millions of containers of chilled water are distributed from refrigerated trucks located along the pilgrim route.

Despite these precautions, the wail of sirens is ever present as hundreds of ambulances pick up pilgrims suffering from heat exhaustion and transport them to special clinics for treatment. The more serious cases are evacuated by helicopter to hospitals.

Pilgrims are required to spend the day in the plain, performing what is called the Standing at Arafat. Here they also visit the Mount of Mercy and ask for God's forgiveness for any sins committed and for blessings. Facilities have also been set up here to feed the pilgrims and meet any requirement they may have.

After the sun has set this river of humanity retraces its steps back toward Makkah, but stops at Muzdalifah until the brightness of day appears on the eastern horizon. Here the pilgrims collect seven pebbles and carry them to Mina. As they arrive in the valley, they trek along a twolevel pedestrian walkway some 100-yards wide toward the three stone pillars called the Jamarat, which are meant to represent Satan. The pilgrims are required to cast the pebbles they have collected at the Stone Pillar of Aqabah while praising God, in a symbolic rejection of Satan. As the pilgrims approach along the walkway, they join those already at the pillar and, after hurling their pebbles circle toward the exit ramp in the direction of Makkah. Signs in various major languages direct the crowds along the route.

along the route. The pilgrims then walk some four miles along pedestrian walkways to reach Makkah, where they perform the tawaf, circling the Ka'abah in the Holy Mosque seven times counter clockwise. They then perform sa'ay, the running between Safa and Marwa in an enclosed, airconditioned structure. Male pilgrims are then required to shave their heads, although cutting a lock of hair is acceptable for both men and women. At this point the pilgrims sacrifice an animal, donating its meat to the needy. Each year, over 600,000 animals are sacrificed, in modern abattoirs that complete the processing of the meat over the three days of the Eid. Distribution of this sacrificial meat goes to those in need in some 30 countries.

The rites of the pilgrimage are now completed. Pilgrims come out of Ihram and wear their normal clothes, but remain at Mina for the Eid Al-Adha, the festival that signals the culmination of the Hajj. Over the next two days, they stone the three pillars in the Jamarat, before performing the Tawaf Al-Wida', the Farewell Circumambulation of the Ka'abah before their departure from the city.

At the conclusion of the Haji, the pilgrim has a profound feeling of having gone through a life-transforming spiritual experience. He comes away with pride in having successfully performed a ritual dedicated to God and in belonging to a huge family of people that shares the same religious beliefs. And he has acquired a sense of humility, inner calm, brotherhood and strength that lasts a lifetime.

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The Dual Edges Of AI In Scientific Research

Aditya Sinha

rtificial intelligence (AI) is significantly transforming scientific research by enhancing computational methodologies and enabling the analysis of largescale datasets across various disciplines. In the realm of biomedical research, AI technologies like machine learning models are crucial. For example, DeepMind's AlphaFold uses advanced deep learning techniques to predict protein structures with remarkable precision. This method employs a convolutional neural network that interprets amino acid sequences to predict protein folding patterns, facilitating rapid insights into biological processes and disease mechanisms, as demonstrated during the Covid-19 pandemic.

In environmental sciences, AI is applied to improve climate modelling and forecasting. Researchers at Stanford University have developed machine learning models that integrate with traditional climate simulation software to refine predictions of weather patterns and climate events. These models use reinforcement learning and neural networks to analyse historical climate data, enabling more accurate predictions of extreme weather conditions and their potential impacts.

Furthermore, in the field of astronomy, AI algorithms manage and analyse data from astronomical observations to identify celestial bodies and phenomena. A notable application involved researchers from the University of California utilising AI to process light



curves data from the Kepler Space Telescope. By applying a neural network-based classifier, they were able to identify exoplanets from subtle signals in the telescope's data, showcasing Al's ability to enhance signal detection and pattern recognition in vast datasets.

A recent working paper published by National Bureau of Economic Research has suggested that the integration of AI into hypothesis generation and testing leads to more efficient resource allocation, accelerated research outcomes, and increased economic gains. The paper "Artificial Intelligence and Scientific Discovery: A Model of Prioritized Search" by Ajay K. Agrawal, John McHale, and Alexander Oettl delves into the intersection of AI and the innovation process, specifically focusing on hypothesis generation. It introduces a novel model where the innovation process is seen as a sequential search over a combinatorial design space, using AI to prioritize which hypotheses to test. This method contrasts traditional approaches where theory and intuition guide hypothesis generation. The authors employ a discrete survival analysis to assess innovation outcomes like the probability of innovation, search duration, and expected profit. By shifting from conventional methods to Albased predictions, the model suggests that there can be an increase in successful innovations, reduced search times, and higher profits.

However, this use of AI in scientific discovery has also other side to it. One should read the atest paper published in the Journal Nature by Lisa Messeri and M. J. Crockett. The authors suggest that the use of AI in Science is creating "illusions of understanding," where scientists may believe they comprehend more than they actually do. There are six reasons why AI is creating this illusion.

First, AI can analyse complex data sets and generate outputs that may appear insightful and comprehensive to researchers. However, these outputs are based solely on the data and algorithms used, without genuine understanding or contextual judgement. Researchers might believe they grasp the underlying principles or patterns in the data better than they actually do because the AI presents results in a seemingly clear and authoritative manner.

Second, AI tools can perform tasks like data analysis and hypothesis generation quickly and efficiently. This reduction in cognitive load for scientists can lead them to accept conclusions drawn by AI without sufficient scrutiny. The ease and speed with which AI provides answers can discourage deeper investigation into the underlying mechanics or potential inaccuracies of these answers.

Third, many AI models, especially those involving deep learning, are complex and not fully transparent, often referred to as "black box" models. Scientists using these models may not fully understand how the algorithms arrive at certain conclusions. This opacity can lead to misplaced trust where the users attribute too much credibility to the AI-generated results without a thorough understanding of the algorithmic processes and potential biases involved.

Fourth, AI tools are often designed to optimise specific types of analysis or data processing tasks. This specialisation can inadvertently lead researchers to focus on questions and methods that are best suited to AI's capabilities, neglecting other potentially valuable approaches. This creates a monoculture of knowing, where the diversity of scientific inquiry is reduced, and only the AI-compatible methodologies thrive. Fifth, AI systems learn from

existing datasets and can perpetuate or amplify any biases present in those datasets. This can lead to a situation where new insights are merely reflections of past data, reinforcing existing beliefs and misconceptions without challenging them with new, independent observations. Researchers might then wrongly assume they are gaining new understanding when they are essentially looking at regurgitated versions of old data.

Sixth, the emphasis on the predictive capabilities of AI can overshadow the importance of understanding the causal relationships behind scientific phenomena. Scientists may become more concerned with whether an AI tool can predict outcomes accurately rather than whether it helps them understand why those outcomes occur. This shift from explanatory to predictive models can detract from the depth of scientific knowledge.

This transition raises fundamental questions about what it means to "know" something in science. If scientific knowledge becomes predominantly characterised by predictive accuracy rather than explanatory depth, the essence of science as a pursuit of understanding the why and how of phenomena may be diluted. This shift could redefine the goals of science, moving away from a comprehensive understanding towards a model where the primary objective is operational effectiveness and technological utility. Such a redefinition risks turning science into a field dominated by technological determinism, where the means-AI tools-start dictating the ends of scientific activity. This scenario compels a philosophical re-evaluation of the values that underpin scientific endeavours and challenges us to think critically about how we define progress and success in the scientific domain.

The article was originally published by Khaleej Times

NEWS

Well Care Medical Institute Conducts Free Urology Camp At Kangan

KO WEB DESK

Srinagar: Well Care Medical Institute (WMI), Ahmad Nagar, 90 feet road, Srinagar conducted a free urology camp at Pure Health Smart Clinics, Kangan on Saturday. Dr Imtiyaz Sofi, noted Urologist of the valley provided free consultation in the OPD. In

addition to free consultations, free investigations like uroflowmetry and urine examination was also done.Patients were also provided free medicines. A good number of patients from different parts of the Kangan and adjoining areas vis-Kangan anu aujoning ited the said health camp.

patients with different urological disorders like prostatomegaly, urolithiasis and urinary incontinence were examined and treated accordingly, they were also provided counselling regarding their health issues.

Tajamul Islam, Administrator and Spokesperson of WMI "The camp was well said.



organised, taking care of all the the public.Some of the patients minute details and it received

who needed further surgical intervention will be provided free treatment in our hospital under Avushman Bharat scheme.' Dr Masood ul Hassan, Medical

Director WMI said, "In our public outreach program we frequently conduct health camps in different parts of the valley including far off areas so that

the local population can take benefit of these camps where our specialists are available".

Dr Hassan thanked Dr Rayees Jeelani, Medical Director of Pure Health Smart Clinics, Kangan for providing the space and logistic support, thus giving an opportunity to serve the public in this area.

CONTD. FROM **FRONT PAGE**

PM Modi Will

LK Advani, Murli Manohar Joshi, Sumitra Mahajan," Kejriwal said.

"He (Modi) will retire next year. He is seeking votes for making Amit Shah the prime minister. Will Shah fulfill Modiji's guarantee?" the CM, out on bail in the Delhi Excise Policy scam, asked.

Further, Shah launched a scathing attack on Congress and its leaders, alleging that due to the fear of Pakistan having a nuclear bomb, the grand old party wants to give up India's rights over Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir (PoK).

On Saturday, Shah addressed election rallies at Vikarabad and Nagarkurnool in convene, hold, attend, join or address any Telangana and later a press conference here on the last day of campaigning for the May 13 Lok Sabha polls in the state.

He also said if Kejriwal thinks that the Supreme Court's interim bail is a clean chit, then his understanding with regard to law is poor.

The home minister also expressed confidence that the BJP would emerge as the largest party in South India in terms of Lok Sabha seats.

The BIP is confident of winning more than 10 Lok Sabha seats in Telangana, he said

In his address at a rally at Vikarabad, Shah recalled that former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee had conducted nuclear tests at Pokhran on this day in 1998 and made the country a nuclear power.

The Congress does not have the courage to conduct surgical strikes and airstrikes, he alleged.

He said PM Modi did surgical strikes and air strikes within 10 days after Pakistan terrorists attacked the country and "finished them"

Referring to the reported comments of Congress leader Mani Shankar Aiyar and that of National Conference leader Farooq Abdullah on Pakistan having an atom bomb, the home minister said he would like to ask Rahul Gandhi if PoK would be given to the neighbouring country because of it possessing a nuclear bomb.

"As long as BJP is there, it cannot happen" and PoK belongs to India and we will take it. he said.

"They don't feel shame. Due to fear of an atom bomb, they want to give up our rights over PoK. But you don't worry, Modi ji is going to be Prime Minister again and Pakistan's bullets will be replied to with cannon," Shah said.

PM Modi has ended terror and naxalism May 13, 2024 (Monday). in the country, he said.

"Revanth Reddy, where strikes, he asked

Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat on above the age of 100 years. Saturday issued Prohibitory orders under Section 144 CrPC throughout the District. According to the order issued from the Office of District Magistrate Srinagar, the restrictions have been imposed in District under Section 144 CrPC from 6:00 pm on May 11, 2024 (Saturday) till 6:00pm on May 13, 2024 (Monday) in wake the scheduled Polling in the District and to uphold

the sanctity of democratic principles. The order further reads that there shall be ban on unlawful assembly as per the section 144 of IPC and any procession or rally shall be prohibited to prevent any law and order problem, and no person shall public meeting or procession with regard to the Elections.

As per the order, the instructions shall be imposed from 6.00pm on May 11(Saturday) till 6.00pm May 13, 2024 (Monday) in the District.

of Polling in Srinagar Ahead Parliamentary Constituency, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat, District Magistrate, Srinagar, who is also the Returning Officer RO) for Srinagar PC also declared "Dry Day" in Srinagar from 6:00 pm on May 11, 2024 till 6:00pm on May 13, 2024 in wake of the scheduled Polling in the Constituency.

In this regard an order has been issued by the District Magistrate stating that "In light of the ECI election schedule District Srinagar is going to Polls for Lok Sabha Elections-2024 on May 13, 2024, 'Dry Day' is declared from 6.00pm on 11/05/2024 till 13/05/2024" in the District.

"Accordingly, all Liquor shops, Bars, eating houses etc will be shut during the said period and No liquor will also be served in Hotels, Clubs and other Establishments", the order further reads.

Besides this, all Polling Stations in the district have been designated as 'No-Smoking Zones'.

According to the public notice issued. all the 929 polling stations in respect of eight (08) Assembly segments of Srinagar viz Hazratbal, Khanyar, Habbakadal, LalChowk, Chanapora, Zadibal, Eidgah, Central Shalteng of District have been declared as 'No Smoking Zones'.

It also reads that "No person shall indulge in smoking in the area designated as Polling Stations and violators shall be dealt under the provisions of COTPA (Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products-2003).

The instructions come as the District is all set to go for Lok Sabha Election-2024 on

Notably, as per an official communica-Referring to Telangana Chief Minister tion, the public campaigning in areas of accorded permission for 1556 applications Revanth Reddy's comments on surgical Srinagar Parliamentary Constituency con- and rejected 271. cluded at 6PM here on May 11, 48 hours before conduct of the elections. No one, including citizens, journalists, politicians, would be allowed to partake in any election campaign related activity. Holding public meetings, conferences, interviews has been stopped to give the voters a peaceful break from being influenced by campaigns so that they may make a considered decision while voting.

As the stage is set for the voting,

the poll body has made an arrangement of four election staff at every polling station, thereby over 8,500 polling staff, including reserve, will be deployed on the duty for polling in Srinagar Parliamentary Constituency.

Around 20 polling booths across the constituency will be managed by the women, known as pink polling stations while 18 others will be managed by specially-abled persons.

The voters will have their valid identity proof like Aadhar Card, MGNREGA Job Card, Passbook with photograph issued by Bank or Post Office, driving license or other cards along.

As per the details, more than 600 journalists and cameramen of print, electronic and social media platforms have been provided with Pass to cover the polling.

Every polling station will be provided with Assured Minimum Facilities (AMF's) like drinking water, electricity, toilet, ramp, furniture, verandah / shed besides wheel chairs will also be provided to the needy. The ballot unit will also have a list of contesting candidates in brail script. Where ever required, there will be separate queues for senior citizens and specially-abled persons facilitating them with early polling. Additionally, there will be a voter help desk, manned by the concerned Booth Level Officer (BLO).

Besides, the Voter Turnout App will be used to display estimated provisional voter turnout details of each Parliamentary Constituency entered by the RO. The media can also use the same application to capture estimated voter turnout data. Approximate voter turn out data of each phase of the elections will be displayed through this app. There will be two hourly reporting of voting percentage from 9.00 am to the end of poll. The concerned ARO and RO will share the data with media accordingly.

All polling stations in phase 4 will have CCTV camera for live webcasting to the control rooms established at District and CEO office. There are few polling stations which falls in communication shadow areas. Suitable alternate arrangements by providing Satellite Phones. Wireless sets and Special Runners have been put in place in around few polling stations which fall in communication shadow areas.

Candidates/ Political parties need to obtain prior permission for campaigning purposes by seeking online permission on Suvidha app. Till date election officers have

Accordingly, either myself or the Congress President would be pleased to participate in such a debate," Rahul said in his letter.

'Please do let us know if and when the Prime Minister agrees to participate, following which we can discuss the details and format of the debate. Thank you once again for your initiative. I look forward to participating in a productive and historic debate," he added.

Lone Gets EC

into the forest, officials said.

Udhampur Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Joginder Singh announced the first breakthrough in the case with the arrest of an overground worker, who had provided logistic support to the terrorists. Singh said the sketches of the six terrorists, two of whom are believed to be brothers, were prepared based on the inputs from various agencies, the public and questioning of the suspected persons.

'We hope the people will come forward and help the security agencies to neutralize the terrorists. Anyone with credible information leading to neutralization of each terrorist will be given a reward ranging from Rs five lakh to Rs 10 lakh," the officer told reporters in Udhampur.

Village Defence Guard (VDG) Mohd Sharief was killed in an encounter with the terrorists following a cordon and search operation in Panara village of Basantgarh on April 28.

A massive joint search operation by the army, police and paramilitary forces is going on in the area to flush out the terrorists, who are believed to have crossed into Udhampur from nearby Kathua district after successfully infiltrating from across the border.

The SSP said at least 12 terrorists are believed to have infiltrated into the area and added "it is our collective responsibility to make it once again the abode of peace by neutralizing them".

"The area has remained peaceful for a very long time and our enemy wants to disturb it. But we will frustrate their designs with the cooperation of the people and will ensure a peaceful atmosphere," he said.

Singh identified the arrested accused as Javed, a resident of Loha-Nathi village of Kathua, and said that he had provided logistic support to the terrorists.

"He is the first person arrested in the case so far and his questioning is still at preliminary stages," Singh said, adding the police has gained some credible information about the movement of suspects and had likewise zeroed in on a few "unscrupulous elements".

The sketchy description of the terror aged between 20 and 42 years, revealed that they are equipped with AK assault rifles, US-made M4 carbine and pistols. The SSP said the identities of the terrorists are not known yet. "There is no credible information suggesting that they are locals. All our agencies, including the army, police, paramilitary forces and intelligence agencies are working hard with the active support of the locals to deal with them," he said.

India, who want stronger states. We need to find like-minded parties and forces with whom we can join forces and one day, find ways for our dignity to be returned.

"Who knows, in the course of restoring or making India a greater or stronger federal structure, we may get our dignity, our rights back because what south India espouses for is no different than from what we had and what Bengal and the northeast espouse for is no different from what we had." he said.

He said the opinion in support of the restoration of Article 370 needs to be brought up from the grassroots to the national level to "get our dignity and rights back".

Mehdi, who has been a strong votary of unity among the political leadership in Jammu and Kashmir, said electoral competitions aside, it is imperative to stand united for the "bigger cause".

He had expressed displeasure after the People's Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD)," an amalgam of various political parties seeking restoration of special status," broke apart as NC and PDP could not come to a seat-sharing arrangement for the polls and announced to contest separately.

"PAGD or any other nomenclature that you want to have, the people of Jammu and Kashmir need unity," he said.

He said "we have a bigger cause, which is bigger than these electoral competitions".

We need to stand and unite ourselves for that bigger cause and objective. So, PAGD has to unite again. If all the constituents of the PAGD are honest towards that cause, towards the people of J-K, we can forget whatever happened in this election.

'We had electoral competition, nothing lost. We can reunite and focus ourselves towards the cause that we have and that cause is bigger, it is larger than these objectives, electoral objectives," Mehdi said. The former minister said he envisions

the PAGD getting together in the future. "PAGD or any other name, unity among the people of J-K is incumbent upon us. We

cannot avoid it if we want to espouse for that cause," he added.

Asked if the alliance among PAGD parties could be cobbled up for the assembly elections then, he said "if everything goes well, maybe"

"If PDP looks inside, inwards and introspects, and the same goes with the NC and I can assure that. But, if the PDP also has that introspection, and finds why the individuals created an atmosphere in that political party which destroyed that unity and brought that animosity," he said.

Blaming certain leaders in the PDP for working at the behest of the "establishment" to break the PAGD, Mehdi asked "who was the individual or the individuals

happy with the abrogation of article 370 or against it," Kamran Bilal, a resident of Srinagar said.

In Jammu and Kashmir, there are 3.40 lakh first-time voters, with 1.35 lakh of them being female first-time voters.

Besides, the Election Commission (EC) is undertaking an unprecedented effort to reach-out to the first time voters across the three constituencies through the Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) programme.

Various programmes including lively Nukkad Natak, Mehandi art competitions, Tiranga rallies, cultural shows were organized in a spirited effort to boost voter participation in elections.

Å number of colleges and schools in the valley are bustling with campaigns to draw first-time voters to polling booths.

Political parties are also leveraging the power of social media, to lure the young into polling booths. Campaigning and efforts to secure votes are increasingly extending into the virtual realm.

Mir Seerat, a student of Women's College M.A Road Srinagar, said, "I'm thrilled to cast my maiden vote. I've realised the importance of voting over these years."

Seerat expects development which consists of inclusive growth, employment opportunities, better living conditions including education & health from the candidate to whom she is voting.

Political pundits in the valley argue that upcoming elections will be the most interesting elections in the history of Kashmir, particularly in shaping the political direction of Kashmir.

Mir Tahir, 20, from North Kashmir's Bandipora district believes that the elections will end the "political vacuum" in J&K which occurred due to the absence of a democratic process.

"Over the last four years, people felt the importance of mainstream politics due to many reasons and that's why everyone is excited for the elections to neutralize the bureaucratic rule," Tahir added.

In popular government, Tahir said, an elected leader is connected with his ground level worker and is easily accessible.

However, amidst the fervor of upcoming elections in Kashmir, there's a notable segment of the young population expressing skepticism about the impact of their vote.

"I don't think much is going to change as don't expect any party to solve our problems," 24-year-old Hadika said.

"Nobody in my family has ever cast a vote, I don't think I will either," another first-timer said, adding, "No more false promises now."

Pertinently, in view of the ongoing elections all the political parties, except BI

did you keep your mind? You kept it in Italy?'

Reddy on Friday claimed an intelligence failure in preventing the Pulwama incident of 2019 when a terror strike on Indian troops left about 40 CRPF personnel dead.

Attacking the ruling Congress and BRS in Telangana, he alleged that the 'steering' of the government always lay with AIMIM president Asaduddin Owaisi

The four per cent Muslim reservation introduced in Telangana robs the quotas of SC, ST and OBCs. Whenever BJP comes to power, it will end Muslim reservations, he said

On BRS president Chandrasekhar Rao's reported comments that a system of contest between regional parties like in Tamil Nadu should be in place in Telangana, Shah said KCR has the right to talk about regional parties but people would decide.

On CM Revanth Reddy's allegation that investments in Telangana are being stopped, the senior BJP leader said he does not think anyone would come to invest given the way he (Reddy) is running the government. Revanth Reddy could have met the PM if there were any problems "regarding investments", he said.

Attacking the Congress government, he charged that the only promise fulfilled was the one made to the party high command to provide funds from Telangana to fight elections all over the country.

Dismissing Congress allegations that the BJP would end reservations if it gets 400 seats, he said the Modi government had a full majority for 10 years, but it did not use to end quotas but to abolish article 370 and others.

"The sin of editing my video and presenting it in a wrong way happened here," he said referring to the case registered by the Delhi police with regard to the doctored video of Shah circulated on social media.

At the rally, Shah asked Revanth Reddy to tell people, if he has the courage, whether he would end Muslim reservations.

Campaigning Ends

Budgam, Pulwama and Shopian districts.

In order to facilitate smooth conduct of electoral process in the Srinagar Parliamentary Constituency, and denote the end of campaigning period and start of silence period of campaigning, the District Magistrate (Deputy Commissioner)

Tough Triangular

Agha Ruhullah, the NC candidate, remains confident in the party's cadre and the legacy of the Abdullah family, while Waheed Parra of the PDP banks on youth support and disillusionment with both NC and the ruling BJP.

As per the reports, the DPAP, led by Ghulam Nabi Azad, is striving to transform the contest into a quadrilateral one, leveraging Azad's past developmental initiatives during his tenure as Chief Minister. Mohammad Ashraf Mir, DPAP's candidate and former state minister, eves votes from both his party faithfuls and supporters of the People's Conference.

Despite Srinagar's status as the summer capital, the political climate is ablaze, with security forces on high alert and campaign vehicles flooding the districts. While formal campaigning ends by 10 PM, party strategists work late into the night, strategizing to clinch victory.

The central issue of the election revolves around the dichotomy of BJP versus development ("Vikas") and the restoration of statehood. Criticisms against the BJP by NC and PDP for allegedly neglecting Kashmiri interests and identity are countered by promises of statehood restoration and development initiatives. DPAP, on the other hand, pledges to focus on peace-building efforts and developmental projects.

The historical voting patterns in Srinagar, characterized by fluctuating percentages, reflect the region's complex political dynamics. The turnout in 2019 plummeted to 14.43%. This was indicative of the challenges in voter engagement and participation.

Notably, with the absence of a representative from the Abdullah family on this traditional seat, the battle for supremacy has intensified, drawing attention to the decisive role of approximately 52,000 votes of Kashmiri Pandits.

Srinagar PC All

8 'Pink Polling

He said that these specially curated polling stations will be manned exclusively by women, from polling party, polling party agents to security personnel.

He said the move is aimed at ensuring a safe and comfortable environment for female voters. He added that apart from the pink polling stations initiative, they have made other practical measures to facilitate women's participation with each polling station dedicated with a female helperan Asha or Anganwadi worker, to assist female voters throughout the electoral process

Additionally, separate queues and other facilities will be provided to cater specifically to the needs of female voters at all polling stations, he said

He said that this initiative underscores the commitment of electoral authorities to foster an inclusive and equitable democratic process. By prioritizing the needs and concerns of female voters, the "Pink Polling Booths" seeks to elevate their voices and ensure their active participation in shaping the future of their constituency.

Pole, while speaking about the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) said that any violations reported were promptly addressed through written communication to the concerned candidates and political parties, with stress on importance of compliance to MCC guidelines to ensure a fair and orderly electoral process.

Congress Accepts

both the leaders.

The former Judges and senior journalist wrote a letter inviting Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Congress leader Rahul Gandhi for a public debate on the Lok Sabha Election to give a proper response to the allegations and challenges that either side had put up against each other.

They also said that the public is concerned as they have only heard allegations and challenges from either side and have not heard any meaningful responses.

"I have discussed your invitation with Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge. We agree that such a debate will help people understand our respective vision and enable them to make an informed choice. It is also critical to put to rest any unsubstantiated allegations attributed to our respective parties. As the principal parties fighting the election, the public persons with disability and 705 persons deserve to hear from their leaders directly.

JKP Releases Sketches

Kashmir police have arrested one suspect, who has allegedly provided logistic support to the terrorists.

The suspect has been identified as Javed, son of Muhammad Hussain of Loha Nathi area of Kathua.

Police have also released sketches of five terrorists involved in the terror activity. In a statement, Police said that the force has gained some credible information of movement of suspects and have zeroed in on some unscrupulous elements that has marked proclivities towards the act of

"The police, in consequence, arrested Javed who has evidence stacked against him for providing logistic support to the terrorists," police claimed.

of three districts Udhampur, Kathua and Doda have laid cordon and search operation to track down terrorists and the operation is still going on.

one VDG member Muhammad Shafi was killed

Ruhullah's Roadmap

drum up support for the restoration of the special status which was revoked by the Centre on August 5, 2019.

"It is not about the party cadre only, it is not about a particular party, it is about entire Jammu and Kashmir.

"We need to reach out to them, we need to give them that energy and that strength and with that mobilisation, we need to take our cause to the government of India with the strength like other campaigns in the rest of the nation," he added.

Mehdi said the leadership then needs to take the political mobilisation and opinion of the people to the rest of India and find allies

"We need to find like-minded parties like those in south who want a federal

which were given a task by the forces or establishment in Delhi to break the unity and PAGD"

The NC candidate said he can work towards unity among the political leadership in J-K.

"If they (PDP) do that introspection, if they have that realisation, I can try to create that atmosphere, but only if they are honest. If the individual, those who were successful in breaking the PAGD have free hand in that party, I will be helpless.

"I have a certain control over how I can make an opinion or shape opinion in my party, but I do not have control over how opinion is shaped in PDP. So, they need to be serious, they need to be honest and I can be a helping hand if they honestly espouse the cause." he added.

Talking about his fallout with the party leadership, Mehdi said he had his reasons to have that disagreement with the party and "today if I feel somewhere that I need to express my disagreement, I will still do".

"But, one thing is very encouraging that the party as a whole not only accommodated me, it gave respect to my dissent and my disagreements and we are in the process of correcting the course," he said.

He said the party leadership has asserted that there could be disagreements in the approach, but the objective is same.

"That is an encouragement for me, a positive for me and that keeps this relation intact. As long as we espouse for the same cause, we may have different approaches, it does not matter," he said.

Concerns & Hopes

that we elect representatives who understand and prioritize the concerns of students like me."

"Unemployment looms large over Kashmir. I see friends with higher education and degrees than mine remaining idle at home," Wahid Hassan, another firsttime voter. said.

"Our elders have been boycotting elections for years, but I will definitely vote. This time it is about development. It is about the daily issues that impact our lives.

For many youngsters, these elections are more important and significant, particularly in view of the abrogation of article 370 by the BJP-led government.

"I have decided to cast my vote to express myself. The people should also come to vote and tell the world whether they are

reaching-out to the people in J&K aiming to persuade them to cast their votes in their favor.

All the leaders are busy in attending rallies in different parts of the valley. A number of youth conventions, worker meetings and central committee (CC) meetings have been held by all parties.

While the INDIA block alliance is looking forward to keeping the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) at bay, the ruling party has decided to not contest elections from the three seats of the valley.

The political parties in Kashmir allege that BJP is supporting their alliance partners including Jammu and Kashmir Apni Party and Peoples conference-a claim strongly denied by both the parties.

The five constituencies are Baramulla. Srinagar, Anantnag-Rajouri, Udhampur and Jammu. While the elections in Jammu and Udhampur are over, the elections on the three seats of the valley are scheduled to be on May 13, May 20 and May 25.

Don't Repeat

,he said that his party did not demand any support from the central government but was seeking free and fair elections.

He said that the government shouldn't support those who are misleading them, alleging Apni Party chief Altaf Bukhari has been misleading Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah.

He alleged that his workers are being detained at the behest of Bukhari and named him the "chief of political Ikhwan".

He said that people must vote for those who they really think can raise their voice in the parliament as people in J&K are livng under constant fear since August 2019.

Parra said that there has been silence since then in J&K and nobody dares to speak here.

"We want to break the silence and we can save our identity, land and resources that are under threat." he added.

He claimed that his party, especially the President Mehbooba Mufti, is the only leader who has been very vocal against the policies of the government of India since 2019 while other leaders have maintained silence.

According to Parra, people in large numbers must vote to keep those away from power who have been misleading the government of India.

During the encounter in Panara village,

Since the encounter on April 27, police

STATE

NC, PDP Accuses J&K Admin of Harassing Workers

power too," he added.

Addressing a press con-

on Monday.

Agencies

SRINAGAR: National Conference chief Farooq Abdullah on Saturday accused the Jammu and Kashmir administration of harassing his party workers and spreading fear among people so that the BJP could win elections.

"The police are calling elders and youths and then telling them they are with Hurrivat and others. In reality, they are trying to create fear among you," Abdullah said addressing a public rally in the Hazratbal area of the city here. The National Conference

(NC) president asked the people to fear only God. "We do not have to fear

them as tomorrow they will be under your feet, their pride will go away. I want to tell LG (J-K Lieutenant Governor Manoj

Sinha) to stop harassing people. If you think that by using police to harass our people, you (BJP) will win elections, then you will lose the elections by such things," he added.

Lok Sabha elections by harassing" her party and The former chief minister said the BJP would lose its supporters.

the elections in the entire country. "Not only in J-K, but you

will lose polls in the entire India, I can give you in writing. Then, you will have to pack your bags and return to where you came from," Abdullah said as he again asked the LG to stop using the police to harass NC workers.

Section 144 has been im-"God is watching how you (BJP) are using your posed in Pulwama district agencies to try to suppress which is unprecedented. us in the entire country. It has not happened before but you do not know His that restrictions are imposed where the elections power is very strong. His power drowned Pharaon, are to take place and that too till the time of the conso He can drown your

clusion of the elections," Meanwhile, PDP presishe said.

dent Mehbooba Mufti also The PDP president said accused the administrathey were trying to "hation of trying to "fix" the rass" the people so that they do not come out to "selectively targeting and vote.

"Preparations are being made to do fraud in the elections. The election is being fixed," she added.

ference at the PDP headquarters here, Mufti also The former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister alleged that the authorities also alleged that her parhave imposed restrictions for 48 hours from 6:30 pm ty's active workers, who on Saturday under Section have been organising its 144 in Pulwama, which is meetings, have been detained ahead of the polling. part of the Srinagar Lok Sabha seat going to polls "This is not restricted to Pulwama only. Some days "From 6:30 pm today, back, there was an attack in Surankote (in Poonch district of Jammu). After that, 50-60 of our workers have been detained and a strange atmosphere is being created," said Mufti.

"If the Election Commission of India has to repeat

1987 elections, then why this drama of elections? If they have to create Ikhwan (government gunmen) or the party of Ikhwans, their proxies whom they are supporting then they should say that," she

added. Mufti said the administration is not yet openly coming out in support of their proxies as they are waiting for the elections to conclude in two seats in Srinagar and Baramulla.

"After that, they will declare their support in Rajouri-Poonch (part of Anantnag-Rajouri seat). The election was delayed there only because of their party, the party of suitedbooted ikhwans. They have created political ikhwans whom they support fully, the whole government machinery supports them," Mufti said.

Fratricidal Incident At CM's Residence In 2006

HC Upholds Dismissal Of CRPF Jawan For Failing To Intervene

M Ahmad

SRINAGAR: The High Court of J&K and Ladakh has upheld dismissal of a CRPF soldier for his failure to "stop or shoot" his colleague, who had been on a killing spree at Chief Minister's residence in Jammu in 2006. The court observed that a security personnel, who has no courage to face an armed colleague, who has gone astray, has no place in a brave force like the

paramilitary force. "In the instant case, the petitioner (sacked CRPF personnel) has been found to be negligent in performing his duties as sentry on a vital location like CM's residence. If the security personnel posted at the residence of a high constitutional functionary like CM are allowed to go scot free for their remissness, it would amount to compromising the security of the Chief Minister," a bench of Justice Sanjay Dhar observed while

dismissing plea," adding, As observed by the court 'A security personnel, who based on pleading of the has no courage to face an parties, on the same day, at armed colleague, who has about 1945 hours, one Constable Anand Kumar Singh gone astray, particularly in a place like CM's residence, left the Sentry Post no.3 has no place in a brave force with his personal rifle and like CRPF. Such people do rushed to the Company ofnot deserve to be part of fice and fired a few rounds such a valiant force which at Inspector Mohan Shyam. has sacrificed hundreds of He also fired at Head Conits jawans and officers while stable H.N. Pandey which fighting against enemies of led to his death. Thereafter, Kumar reached Morcha No. Subsequently, the court while upholding the dis-11 where Om Prakash was standing on sentry duty and he enquired from the missal of the personnel said that the punishment petitioner about Head Conimposed upon him by austable Vipin Kumar. He also thorities can by "no stretch told him that the company of imagination be termed as would be smashed away by him and that he would The court was hearing a kill all of them. Constable petition by Ex-Ct/GD Om Anand Kumar Singh pro-Parkash, challenging his ceeded towards the compadismissal from services af-

ny mess and shot dead Head Constable Yogender Iha and escaped from Camp through gate No. 11 and whereafter he surrendered before the Police Station, Peer Mirtha, lammu.

1,22,549 Cases Settled In **National Lok Adalat**

KO NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Continuing its endeavor to fulfill constitutional commitment of ensuring swift, cost-effective and providing efficient dispute resolution to the masses in general and litigant public in particular, the J&K Legal Services Authority on saturday organized 2nd National Lok Adalat of the year 2024 across the UT of Jammu & Kashmir.

The programme was organised to boost amicable settlements amongst the parties in cases including MACT, Matrimonial disputes, cheque bounce under Negotiable Instrument Act, Money recovery, Commercial disputes and Criminal Cases of compoundable nature.

In order to ensure amicable settlement of maximum disputes, Pre-lok adalat sittings and pre-counselling sessions were organized well before the date of National Lok Adalat so that the parties get ample opportunity to engage in dialogue with their opponents to arrive at a consensus to resolve the dispute permanently.

Besides, webinars and virtual peetings were also organized



to persuade the parties to take maximum benefit out of it. As per the information received from various Legal Services Institutions working in different districts of UT of J&K, out of total 1,28,959 cases taken up by 138 Benches in the day long National Lok Adalat across the UT of J&K,

1.22.549cases were amicably settled and disposed off involving an amount of Rs.42,73,80,904 compensation/settlement as amount in cases like Motor Accident Claims, civil, criminal, labour disputes, Electricity and Water Bills, Land Acquisition, Family matters, cheque dishonor and Bank Recovery etc.

Talking to media persons, Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority, Amit Kumar

66-Day Hunger Strike For Ladakh Statehood Ends



KNO Correspondent SRINAGAR: After a mara-

thon 66-day hunger strike demanding statehood and constitutional protection for Ladakh, environmentalist Sonam Wangchuk announced the end of the strike, citing the impending Lok Sabha elections and a commitment to maintaining peace during the electoral process

tions, he expressed the need to avoid any complications that could arise from the ongoing hunger strike.

"We do not want any kind of problem in the elections. Therefore, we are ending the strike for now," Wangchuk said. He further expressed hope that the issues concerning Ladakh's statehood and constitutional safeguards would be addressed through the democratic process of voting and subsequent government actions. Highlighting the core objectives of the hunger strike, Wangchuk reiterated its fundamental purpose. "Our strike was to save the culture, environment, and identity of the

people of Ladakh," he said. The hunger strike, which began in March and continued for over two months, garnered widespread support from various sections of Ladakhi society.

In March, Wangchuk initiated a 21-day hunger strike, which concluded on March 26. Subsequently, the movement gained momentum as youth, women, Buddhist monks, and elders in Leh joined in solidar-

Over 3 Lakh Tourists Visit Pahalgam In Last Four Months

Agencies

PAHALGAM: Renowned tourist destination Pahalgam has seen an influx of around three lakh visitors, including both domestic and foreign travellers, in the last four months who explored the beauty of the region.

hours.

the nation.'

'disproportionate'."

ter was detailed on Sentry

duty in Morcha No. 11 at

then Chief Minister's resi-

dence Jammu on March 3

from1800 hours to 2000

Chief Executive Officer, Pahalgam Development Authority, Tariq Hussian Naik speaking with the news agency said that more than three lakh tourists including 7,000 foreigners visited Pahalgam in the first four months of this year.

According to Naik, the increase in tourist footfall has brought jubilation among tourism stakeholders in Pahalgam. Shopkeepers,

ponywalas, hoteliers and others have expressed satisfaction with the rise in visitors, as it directly correlates with their livelihoods. Hotel occupancy rates are

on the rise, said Zakir Ahmad, a hotelier, adding that almost all hotels in Pahalgam are fully

booked for the next month. Currently, the whole of Pahal-

gam is jam-packed and almost all hotels are booked for next month, he said.

An official of the tourism department told KNO that the season is in full bloom in Pahalgam and thousands of tourists are visiting the destination daily.

With each passing day, the number of tourists visiting Pahalgam is increasing and it will increase further in the coming weeks, he said.

The official said thousands of tourists stay for the night at Pahalgam and the number of local as well as domestic tourists visiting the place will increase manifold.

To accommodate the growing number of tourists, the official said efforts are being made to enhance facilities in Pahalgam continuously. This includes improving accommodation options, transportation services, and other amenities to ensure a comfortable and enjoyable experience for visitors, he said–(KNO)

UDHAMPUR-BARAMULLA RAIL PROJECT Will Complete Work Up

to sensitize the stakeholders, officers of Legal Services Institutions, LADCs, Panel Lawyers, PLVs and all those who are related in one way or the other in enhancing the Alternate Dispute Resolution, regarding the importance of LokAdalat and

Gupta appreciated the efforts of all the Judicial Officers, Secretaries DLSA's, Advocates, staff of the district and tehsil courts as well as Legal Services Institutions as also litigants for their whole hearted participation in the National Lok Adalat.

cusing on AI and machine learn-

ing's potential across sectors

like healthcare, education, and

manufacturing. He discussed

As per the reports received

by news agency, Wangchuk, flanked by supporters from the Leh Apex Body, emphasized the importance of ensuring a smooth electoral process without disruptions. With only 10 days remaining until the elecity, staging consecutive days of hunger strikes in support of Wangchuk's cause.

While the hunger strike has been temporarily suspended, Wangchuk emphasized the readiness to resume protests if necessary in the future–(KNO)

NIA Searches Six Locations In Jammu

Agencies

NEW DELHI: The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Saturday conducted searches at six locations across Jammu province in Pakistanbacked conspiracy to spread terror in the region, an official statement said. Extensive searches were conducted

in Doda, Ramban and Kishtwar districts of the region by the NIA teams in a case relating to the conspiracy by banned terrorist organisations and their offshoots to carry out violent attacks with sticky bombs, IEDs and small arms etc. in Jammu and Kashmir, the statement said.

The searches have led to the seizure of incriminating material, including digital devices, documents etc. from premises linked with hybrid terrorists, overground workers (OGWs), sympathisers and cadres linked with the newly-formed offshoots and affiliates of proscribed terrorist outfits, it said.

These include Laskhar-e-Toiba (LeT), Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM), Hizb-ul-Mu-

Speedy Tempo Crushes 60 Sheep **To Death In Kulgam**

Agencies

SRINAGAR: At least 60 sheep died while 40 more were injured after a flock of sheep were crushed to death by a speedy tempo vehicle on national highway in Kulgam late last night. An official told the news agency that a flock of sheep were hit by a speedy tempo near Khudwani on national highway late on Friday night.

He said that in the incident at least 60 sheep lost their lives while 40 more were injured. He said that two persons members of the flock owners were also injured in the incident who have been hospitalized. He said that police have taken cognizance of the incident by registering FIR and driver has been arrested while further investigation has been taken up-(KNO

To Reasi By June: GM

NEW DELHI: Shobhan Chaudhuri, GM/NR continues his inspection of USBRL Project on the 2nd day during visit to J & K.

ern Railway continued his inspection of the prestigious National Project of Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla new BG Rail Link Project.

He continued intensive inspection from Chenab bridge upto SANGALDAN station by Motor Trolley.He inspected all track works, E&M and Signal & Telecom works in Bakkal- Dugga- Sawalakote- SANGALDAN section .Balance activities for completing the work of Sawalakote yard, Tunnels T-42&43 were thoroughly discussed with engineers of Northern Railway, IRCON and KRCL.

The General Manager expressed satisfaction at the pace of progress but impressed upon the project authorities to closely monitor all the activities .He instructed that targets must not slip any further and any shortfall occurring should be made up by diligent planning.

He directed the Project Authorities to complete the work upto REASI beyond SANGALDAN (46 KM) by June 24.

Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited **Corporate Communication & Marketing Department** Corporate Headquarters, M.A. Road Srinagar, 190 001

Online Notice for Inviting Tender (e-NIT) For

Selection of Vendor for Supply Installation of Flex and Vinyl on Existing Glow Sign Boards / New Sign Boards at New and Existing Premises of the Bank along with Service and Maintenance of Installed Items and brand-ing of Branches/ATMs/ Offices mapped with all the five zones in Jammu region

Fender Notice along with Complete Tender document outlining the minimum require ments can be downloaded from and BIDs can be submitted on the Banks' e-Tendering Portal https://jkbank.abcprocure.com w.e.f. May 14, 2024, 16.00 Hrs. RFP Document can also be downloaded from Bank's Official Website www.jkbank.com. Last date for ubmission of Bids is June 04, 2024, 17.00 Hrs.

-RFP Ref. No. JKB/CHQ/CCM/Selection-Sign-Boards(JMU)/2024-1076 Dated:09-05-2024

Registered office : Corporate Headquarters, M.A.Road, Srinagar 190001, Kashmir, India :IN: L65110JK1938SGC000048 ; T : +91 (0)194 2481 930-35 ; F : +91 (0)194 248 1928 ; E : info@jkbmail.com ; W : www.jkbank.co

DIPK-NB-150/24 dated: 11-05-2024

CUKashmir Organises Program To Celebrate National Technology Day

KO NEWS SERVICE

GANDERBAL: Central University of Kashmir (CUKashmir) organised a three-day long programme to celebrate the "National Technology Day", which concluded on Saturday.

Every year India celebrates the day on 11th of May to commemorate the successful nuclear test at Pokhran in 1998 and mark significant achievements in technology.

The event was organized by the Department of IT in collaboration with DSW and DIQA. In his opening remarks, Dr. Zahoor Ahmad Najar, pointed out that science delves into the realm of understanding the natural world through observation and experimentation, technology on the other hand, encompasses the practical application of scientific knowledge for solving real-world problems.

Dr. Abid Hussain Wani, from University of Kashmir was the first speaker who deliberated on the technologies to counter the technological threats in the cyber world. Students including Tariq Hamid and Mehdi Hafiz delivered presentations on "Startup Ecosystem in India" and "AI in Healthcare" respectively.

Invited speaker Dr. Mohammad Ahsan Chishti, HoD CSE at NIT Srinagar, in his presentation highlighted the critical role of technology in today's world, fo-

the potential of blockchain technology, promise of AR/VR in redefining user experiences and training and the potential of 5G and 6G technologies to enhance global connectivity. In his remarks, Er. Afaq Alam Khan, Coordinator Department of IT listed out the technological advancements the country has achieved in various fields ranging

from space Technology to telecommunication, from software Development and Artificial Intelligence to Aadhar and UPI and recent setting up of semiconductor chip fabrication facilities.

Dean School of Engineering & Technology, Prof. Mohammad Yousuf emphasized that conduct of such programmes channelize the energy in the younger generation in the right direction and provides orientation to the students to think out of box solutions to the problems confronting the society. In his presidential address, Dean Academic Affairs, Prof Shahid Rasool highlighted the technological advancements the country has witnessed in the last few decades. Citing the example of weapons of Mass destruction, social media addiction etc he emphasized on the need to develop the system to address the ill effects of the technology.

jahideen (HM), Al-Badr, Al-Qaeda, etc.,

said the statement issued by the NIA.

The NIA had registered a suo moto case on June 21, 2022 to dismantle the terror network operated by these outfits as well as their newly launched offshoots such as The Resistance Front (TRF), United Liberation Front Jammu & Kashmir (ULFJ&K), Mujahideen Gazwat-ul-Hind (MGH), Jammu & Kashmir Freedom Fighters (JKFF), Kashmir Tigers, PAAF and others, it added.

As part of its investigations into the case, the NIA has been cracking down on various locations in recent months



JAK Bank

SPORTS

IPL 2024: In-Form RCB Eye Fifth Win In A Row Against Pant-Less DC

Press Trust of India

BENGALURU: Pushed into a tight corner, Royal Challengers Bengaluru rose above their frailties to notch four wins on the trot to stay alive in the race to play-offs, but Delhi Capitals even sans their suspended skipper Rishabh Pant offer them a different challenge in the IPL match here on Sunday.

While the absence of Pant will certainly give RCB an edge, they can't get themselves lulled into a comfort zone.

In the run-up to this match, RCB defeated Gujarat Titans twice, Punjab Kings and Sunrisers Hyderabad once each.

While the victory over SRH was valiant, RCB did not face much challenge from the floundering Titans and Kings.

But the Capitals are a team unlike any other as they have oscillated between brilliant and ordinary in the span of a few days.



On April 27. the Pant-led side posted a hefty 257/4 in their 10-run win over Mumbai Indians and on April 29, they made a lowly 153/9 while capitulating against Kolkata

Knight Riders. The RCB, currently seventh with 10 points from 12 matches, will desperately hope not to run into that brilliant Capitals as a defeat can undo their good

work in the last four matches. But their confidence will be high, courtesy strong and consistent batting effort led by talisman Virat Kohli.

Kohli is the leading run-

getter in this IPL with 634 runs but, more importantly, those runs have come at a brisk rate of 153, giving RCB early momentum while setting or chasing targets.

Along with Kohli, additional runs from skipper Faf du Plessis, Rajat Patidar, Cameron Green and Dinesh Karthik have provided their bowlers, who have responded to the call splendidly, with a cushion.

The transformation of RCB bowlers in the last four matches have been nothing short of remarkable.

Their skills will be tested first by Jack Fraser-McGurk, who has teed off to make 309 runs from seven matches at an impressive strike-rate of 235.87.

His opening partner Abhishek Porel too has made runs at 157 strike rate, though the DC management will be happier to see him adding more consistency to his game. Match starts at 7.30 PM.

Short TAKES

IPL: Man Enters Ground To Meet Dhoni In Gujarat, Arrested



∧ 21-year-old man has been arrested for criminal Ttrespass after he breached the tight security cordon to enter the field to meet cricketer MS Dhoni during an IPL match at Narendra Modi Stadium in Gujarat, police said on Saturday.

The incident occurred during the match between Chennai Super Kings and Gujarat Titans at the stadium in the Motera area of the city on Friday night, an official said.

Pant To Miss RCB Game Due To Suspension, Fined Rs 30 Lakh

Delhi Capitals captain Rishabh Pant will miss Sunday's crucial match against Royal Challengers Bengaluru after he was handed a one-match suspension for maintaining a slow over-rate for the third time this IPL season.

Pant was also fined Rs 30 lakh for the Code of Conduct breach that took place during DC's 20-run win against Rajasthan Royals on May 7 here. DC were 10 minutes behind time at the start of the

final over in that game.

England's James Anderson To Retire After Lord's Test Against WI

egendary pacer James Anderson on Saturday announced that the first Test against the West Indies this summer will be his final appearance for England, bringing down the curtains on an illustrious career

spanning over 20 years. Regarded as one of the greatest bowlers of all times, the 41-year-old is England's leading wicket-takers and is one of only three bowlers to take over 700 Test scalps.

India Armed & Ready To Compete In 2036 Olympic Bid: Sports Min

Bullish about India's chances of securing the 2036 Olympic hosting rights, Sports Minister Anurag Thakur said the country has the wherewithal to compete with other contenders in the bidding war and rejected criticism that the money would be better spent on welfare schemes.

The host of the Games will be decided by the International Olympic Committee's future host commission not before 2026 or 2027 as the IOC is due to elect a new president next year.

Olympic Gold Medalist Chopra to Thrill Home Crowd After 3-Year Hiatus

Olympic champion Neeraj Chopra's presence will Dturn the National Federation Cup, starting Sunday, into a high-profile domestic competition though several top athletes have decided to skip the four-day

KU's Volleyball Intramural Activities Conclude

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Kashmir University's Volleyball Intramural Activities for M.P.Ed, organised by the Directorate of Physical Education & Sports, University of Kashmir, concluded on Saturday.

The final game of the tournament was played between Real Strikers and KU Hunters.

Registrar, Professor Dr. Naseer Iqbal, and Director Directorate of Physical Education & Sports Dr. Mandeep Singh, were also present at the event. Dr. Surjeet Singh, Senior Assistant Professor and Incharge Intramural, along with other faculty members including Dr. Nasir, Dr. Iftikhar and Dr. Kabir.

Prof Dr. Naseer Iqbal congratulated the Director, Direc-



torate of Physical Education & Sports for organising such events providing students the ample opportunity to learn and grow. He also assured to provide their full support wherever needed.

Dr. Mandeep, Director, Directorate of Physical Education & Sports thanked the Registrar for their presence at

The final match started

at the scheduled time of 9:30 am. Team Real Strikers two sets, emerging as winners beating KU Hunters 2-0.

Sports Initiatives Flourishing Across Anantnag: DYSS

the event.

Observer News Service

showed their total dominance by winning both of the first In the post match presenta-

tion, all players from both the finalist teams were awarded with medals. The captains of winners and runners up teams received their respective trophies.



CSK Need Batters To Fire In

a make-or-break situation for him.

CHENNAI: In need of a victory to firm-up their position in the IPL plav-offs race, Chennai Super Kings have the heavy task of nullifying a deeply hurt and frustrated Rajasthe Indian team for the upcoming than Royals in Chennai on Sunday.

Let's take a quick assessment of the two protagonists' situations. The Super Kings are currently fourth in the standings with 12 points from as many games but the defeat against Gujarat Titans on Friday has added dollops of pressure on them. Now they need to win

Press Trust of India

Although it was pleasing to see Daryl Mitchell and Moeen Ali among the runs, Shivam Dube, CSK's bulwark this season, has gone silent ever since he was selected to

T20 World Cup. As for CSK's bowling, Tushar Deshpande once again fired against GT while Shardul Thakur surprised all with his economical outing.

However, the Chennai bowlers are expected to buckle up and do well in this fixture at home, their strong area. On the other hand, desperate to end the losing streak. Raiasthan could not have asked for a more suitable opponent than an unsteady CSK. Opener Yashasvi Jaiswal, who hasn't been at his best this season, will be desperate to prove his mettle before travelling to the Americas for the T20 World Cup.

ANANTNAG: The Department of Youth Services and Sports organised several sports tournaments on Saturday at various Zonal Headquarters with the aim of engaging the youth.

The first phase of the interschool Zonal Level Rope Skipping and Badminton competition for all age groups boys unfolded at four distinct venues within Qazigund Zone. A staggering 260 boys participated fervently across two age categories.

Simultaneously, in Achabal Zone, a riveting Table Tennis competition was hosted across two venues, namely



HSS Damhall and HSS Dial-Services and Sports, Bidder gam. The event, exclusively Zone, organised an inter-school Kho-Kho Tournament for U-17 for U-14 and U-17 Girls, wit-Girls at HS Sagam. The event nessed spirited performances. In this tournament, a total of commenced with a solemn Anti-Drug Pledge. Nearly 100 stu-220 young girls participated. The Department of Youth dents participated in this event.

their remaining two matches

The Royals, on the other hand, are second with 16 points but smarting from two successive defeats against Sunrisers Hyderabad, which was by just a run, and Delhi Capitals.

They are in no real danger of missing the play-offs spot, but the Sanju Samson-led side will be eager to return to winning ways at the earliest and enter the knock-outs.

What had hurt CSK against GT was the malfunction of their toporder, comprising Ajinkya Rahane, Rachin Ravindra and skipper Ruturaj Gaikwad, and they would be desperate to regain the momentum in Chepauk.

Ravindra might be given another go against the Royals, but it could be

Senior Championships.

The 26-year-old Chopra will be competing in a domestic event for the first time in three years, after featuring in the 2021 edition of the same event. It will also be the first time that Chopra will compete in India after winning a historic gold in Tokyo Olympics in 2021.



PRESS RELEASE

The Federation has come across some press reports regarding career progression process of officers in Jammu and Kashmir Bank, published in one of esteemed dailies of The UT. The Federation hereby wants to clarify that the views expressed by quoted unnamed officials may be in their personal domain and cannot be attributed to collective view of the officer class of The Bank. The right to express the collective view of the officers of The bank is enshrined with The Federation as it is the only recognized trade union of JK bank officers representing 97% of the officer staff. The federation has been engaging with The Management of The Bank on regular intervals having discussions on various issues concerning The Bank and officer staff of The Bank. This includes the career progression of officers and it is emphasized that the present career progression process of officer class of The Bank has been initiated by the Management in light of BOD approved promotion policy of 16th April 2024. As per the communication of the Management to The Federation This process is in line with the common grounds reached between the two in a series of discussions beginning on 06.03.2023 and last round of which was held on 19.03.2024. The Federation advises these sources to take up their issues either with the Federation or with The Management for clarification rather than putting them across in public domain while contributing to disinformation and defaming of an institution of repute. Such an attempt on the part of these vested interests seems to be an attempt to force blackmail on the system which will yield no fruits and needs to be curbed with a heavy hand. The Federation has always been proactive to promote better industrial relationship between The Management and the staff holding discussions at intervals so that bank continues to provide world class banking facilities to its clientele and also play its role in socio- economic development of country. This continuous engagement has always helped in resolution of vexed issued and expediting the implementation of these resolutions. Furthermore The Federation has always supported continuous engagement between all the stakeholders of The Bank so that The Bank marches on the path of progress and reaches to an enviable place in the industry. The federation has a firm belief in transparency and adherence to norms with respect to placements because practicing same results in avoiding of birth of holy cows in the system.

Riyaz Ahmad Bh	a
Gen. Secreta	rj
AIJKBO)

Mbappe Confirms He Will Leave PSG At End Of Season

Agencies

PARIS: Kylian Mbappe confirmed on Friday that he will leave French champions Paris Saint-Germain at the end of the season, with Real Madrid widely expected to be his next destination.

The announcement brings an end to a prolific association with his hometown team, which began when he signed from Monaco in 2017 in a deal worth 180 million euros (\$194 million).

"I wanted to announce to you all that it's my last year at Paris Saint-Germain. I will not extend and the adventure will come to an end in a few weeks," Mbappe, 25, said in a video posted on social media.

"I will play my last game at the Parc des Princes on Sunday.'

PSG have already secured the Ligue 1 title, their 10th in the last 12 seasons, and the Qatar-owned club will pick up the trophy after Sunday's game against Toulouse, which will be their last of the campaign on home turf.



the send-off he had hoped for in the

Champions League final at Wemblev

on June 1 and will end his seven-year

spell at PSG without ever having

won Europe's elite club competition.

in February of his intention to depart

Mbappe informed PSG privately

Luis Enrique's side were eliminated from the Champions League by Borussia Dortmund in the semifinals on Tuesday when a 1-0 loss in the second leg at home sealed a surprise 2-0 aggregate defeat.

It means Mbappe will be denied

when his contract expires at the end of the current campaign.

never confirmed publicly he was leaving, though, far less said where he will be going next, but it appears certain that he is bound for Real Madrid.

Spanish media have claimed for several months that Mbappe has signed an agreement which would see him join the Liga champions in July once his PSG deal runs out.

"It's a lot of emotions, many years where I had the chance and the great honour to be a member of the biggest French club, one of the best in the world," said Mbappe.

"It allowed me to arrive here, to have my first experience in a club with a lot of pressure, to grow as a player of course, by being alongside some of the best in history, some of the greatest champions," he added.

"It's hard and I never thought it would be this difficult to announce that... but I think I needed this, a new challenge, after seven years."

Abbas Ads.

The 2018 World Cup winner had