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Congress-NC Pre-poll Alliance? Rahul, Kharge To Visit J&K Today



Press Trust Of India

Congress president Jammu: Mallikarjun Kharge and former party chief Rahul Gandhi will be visiting Jammu and Srinagar on August 21 and 22 for key meetings in preparation for the upcoming assembly elections.

The visit comes after Congress president Kharge and Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi met general secretaries, in-charges and screening committee members of four

poll-bound states on Monday. "On 21st and 22nd August, Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge ji and Leader of Opposition Shri Rahul Gandhi ji will be visiting Jammu and Srinagar for key meetings in preparation for the upcoming assembly elections," Congress general secretary (Organisation)

K C Venugopal said on X. Congress National General Secretary Gulam Ahmed Mir told PTI in Jammu that "Kharge ji and Rahul ji will be | More on P6

Ram Madhav Back As BJP J&K In-charge

he BJP on Tuesday appointed its former national general secretary Ram Madhav and Union minister G Kishan Reddy as in-charge for the upcoming assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir. A statement to this effect was issued by party national general secretary Arun Singh here.

"BJP national president JP Nadda has appointed Ram Madhav, former national general secretary, and Union minister G Kishan Reddy as election in-charge for upcoming assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir," it said. | More on P6

Lack Of Applicants Delays J&K Child Rights Panel: Govt

M Ahmad

Srinagar: The government has cited the insufficient number of eligible applicants for non-constitution of J&K Commission for Protection of Child Rights.

government The

the post of Chairperson and members of the Commission. The status report also revealed that due to insufficient number of eligible applicants, the commission could not be constituted. Reason for insufficient

number of eligible applicants as per status report has been lack

J&K Assembly Polls **Over 88 Lakh Voters To Cast Ballot**

≫ Total Voters: 88.03 lakh >>

- Male Voters: 44.89 lakh >>
 - Female Voters: 43.13 lakh Third-Gender Voters: 168
- New Voters Added: 93,284 Increase in Young Voters >>> (18-19 age group): **45,964**

>>

- ≫ New PS Added: 209
 - Total Polling Stations: 11,838

Observer News Service

(24,310 women)

Srinagar: With the stage all set for the Elections to the Legislative Assembly of Jammu and Kashmir, the region has witnessed a sig-nificant increase of over 93 thousand new voters, courtesy the corresponding rise in the number of young and women voters, even as the number of polling stations across the Union Territory has also gone up by 209. This came to

fore as the Special Summary of Pho Photo Electoral Rolls with qualifying date 01 July 2024 was successfully completed in all twenty districts of Jammu and Kashmir, the Chief Electoral Officer, J&K UT informed on Tuesday.

» Increase in Female Voters: 51,142 » PWD Voters: 83,191 Centenarian Voters: 2,428 ≫

"With focus on ensuring accuracy, inclusivity, and purity of electoral rolls, the

mammoth Special Summary

Revision exercise has been

completed successfully in Jammu and Kashmir. We

have been able to include

all the eligible citizens who

have turned 18 or those

who have registered

for the first time.

as well as to iden-

tify and remove

ineligible voters,

besides correct-

ing errors and

discrepancies, in

order to improve

the health and ac-

curacy of electoral rolls,"

The CEO reiterated the

commitment to enhance vot-

» Total Young Voters (18-29

age group): 25.34 lakh

For 1st Phase Of Elections Observer News Service 33- Tral; 34- Pulwama;

ECI Issues Notification

Srinagar: Election Commission of India (ECI), Tuesday issued notification election for the 1st phase of the General Elections to the Legislative Assembly of Jammu and Kashmir. 24 Assembly con-stituencies (ACs) in the districts of Anantnag, Pulwama, Shopian, Kulgam, Doda, Ramban and Kishtwar shall go to polls in the first phase while polling for the rest shall be held in the second and third phases. In Kashmir Division 16 Assembly Constituencies comprising 32- Pampore;

Paramilitary

35- Rajpora; 36-Zainapora; 37- Shopian; 38- D.H. Pora; 39-Kulgam; 40- Devsar; 41- Dooru; 42- Kokernag (ST); 43-Anantnag West; 44-Anantnag; 45-Srigufwara – Bijbehara; 46- Shangus - Anantnag East; 47- Pahalgam and in Jammu Division 08 Assembly Constituencies comprising 48-Inderwal; 49- Kishtwar; 50- Padder – Nagseni; 51-Bhadarwah; Doda; 53-Doda West; 54-Ramban and 55- Banihal are scheduled to go to polls in the first phase of the electoral process. As per | More on P6

he Centre has so far deployed nearly 300 companies of paramilitary forces for election duties in the Kashmir valley, officials said on Tuesday. The companies have been deputed in Srinagar, | More on P6

2 Back-to**back Tremors Shake J&K**

Woman Electrocuted To Death In Bandipora

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A woman was electrocuted to death while a man was injured in northern districts after two back-to-back earthquakes jolted Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday morning. Some of the residential houses have also suffered damage, reports said.

The tremors, registering magnitudes of 4.7 and 4.8 on the Richter scale, occurred back-to-back, causing widespread panic among residents, with people rushing out of their homes in fear.

However, during the earthquake, a 35-year-old woman lost her life due to an electric shock at Odina area of Bandipora district.

The woman identified as Rafiqa Begum, wife of Mohammad Magbool Bhat, a resident of Odina Sumbal was immediately referred to Trauma Hospital Pattan where doctors declared her dead upon arrival.

Meanwhile, a man was injured after he jumped from a building in north Kashmir's Baramulla district.

The injured man, driven by fear | More on P6

Resignations, Realignments & Revolts Election Landscape Heats Up In J&K

the CEO said.

Observer News Service

Srinagar: As Jammu and Kashmir prepares for its upcoming Assembly elections, the political landscape is rapidly evolving. Key figures are rejoining old parties, new alliances are forming, and significant revolts are shaking up established political structures. The election, first since Jammu and Kashmir became a Union Territory in 2019 and in a decade, will be held in three phases: September 18, 25, and October 1.

The Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) is fac ring a revolt



es, which sparked discontent among several members.

On Tuesday, PDP spokesperson Suhail Bukhari, who had been

a senior PDP leader and District Development Council (DDC) member from Tral, resigned and announced his intention to join the Awami Itehad Party (AIP).

Besides other disillusioned PDP members, including former MLA Ajaz Mir and over 10 DDC members have also left the party. These leaders plan to contest the upcoming elections under the AIP banner and aim to strengthen the party's presence in South Kashmir.

within the party, with Veeri re-

The revolt within the PDP intensified after the party replaced several long-standing members with new candidate

9 Reserved Seats In J&K: **STs Seek Clarification**

Agencies

Jammu: Ahead of assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir, a group representing Scheduled Tribes has sought a clarification from the Centre on the nine reserved seats for them in the Union Territory, given induction of four more groups in the list early this year.

organiza-

The All Jammu and Kashmir Gujjar-Bakerwal tion coordination committee (AJKGBOCC) said the reservation of nine seats is meant for a dozen communities declared

reservations under the ST category to 20 percent in accordance to the assurance of the J-K Lt Governor Manoj Sinha that there will be no change in the reservation policy of earlier ST-declared groups after the addition of four new com-

munities to the list. AJKGBOCC chairman Mohd Anwar Chowdhary said confusion is prevailing within the ST communities after the Election Commission announced threephased elections, beginning September 18, with certain leaders from newly inducted ST communities expressing their desire to fight the elections from the ST reserved seats. "We want the government to come out with a clarification as soon as possible...We strongly believe that only the ST groups classified as ST-I are eligible to contest the reserved ST seats in the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly elections," he said. He said the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019 was passed by Parliament in August 2019, bifurcating the state of Jammu and Kashmir into the Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh and | More on P6

er participation and inclusiv-**Companies** ity as well as to ensure the in-Deployed tegrity of electoral processes as | More on P6

300

it in a status report filed before a division bench of Chief Justice(acting) Tashi Rabstan and Justice Moksha Khajuria Kazmi.

Subsequently, the court granted the government four weeks more time "to place on record the steps taken" for the constitution of the six members commission.

Earlier, in the status report, the government stated that a committee, constituted for the purpose, convened two meetings on 2 and 8 August last year and upon scrutinizing the applications received, the committee shortlisted three candidates for

of eligibility criteria mentioned in the rules.

The committee after thorough deliberations has recommended change in the eligibility criteria as well as process for the appointment to these posts to the competent authority, the status report said. "The approval for which is awaited," it said.

Subsequently, the counsel representing the government sought and was granted further four weeks' time by the High Court to place on record the steps taken for the constitution of the Commission having "important | More on P6

as several senior leaders have resigned just ahead of the elections. Sources said that several PDP leaders are upset with the functioning of the PDP.

The resignations followed the release of the PDP's list of constituency incharg-



a close aide to party president Mehbooba Mufti, resigned after being denied a mandate to contest from the Wagoora-Kreeri constituency. Bukhari was reportedly disappointed by the party's decision to favor former minister Basharat Bukhari instead, who recently rejoined the PDP.

portedly considering running as an independent. | More on P6 Similarly, Dr. Harbaksh Singh,

Azad Weighs Congress Return

emocratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) chief and former Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad has opened channels of communication with the Congress high command and held several "secret talks" with the top leadership, including Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, over his "Gharwapsi" (return to the grand old party) ahead of assembly elections in | More on P6

including Mehbooba Mufti's as STs in 1989 and 1991 based daughter, Iltija Mufti, who took on the delimitation commisover the Bijbhera constitusion report of 2022 and the ST ency from senior leader Abdur population as per 2011 census. Rehman Veeri. This shake-up In February, the Lok Sabha has led to further discontent

passed Constitution the and (Iammu Kashmir) Scheduled Tribes Order (Amendment) Bill, 2024, adding four communities -- Gadda Brahmin, Koli, Paddari Tribe, and Pahari Ethnic Group -- to the list of Scheduled Tribes in

Jammu and Kashmir The Jammu and Kashmir subsequently government approved 10 percent reservation for Paharis and three other tribes, taking the total

KO ANALYSIS

NC's Manifesto: A Balancing Act Between Politics & Practical Governance

KO CORRESPONDENT

Srinagar: An election manifesto of a political party is not just its blueprint for governance should it be elected to power but also its ideological outlook echoing the prevailing public sentiment and aspirations. By that yardstick, the National Confderence's manifesto ticks all the right boxes. It runs the gamut of ideological, political and governance expectations.

The party has made restoration of Article 370 and statehood as its primary political agenda. It couldn't have done without that. Harking back to the spe-cial status that the erstwhile state once had is certain to drive politics of the union territory for a long time to come. Pressing this demand has now become a condition for political survival. Any party that appears soft on the demand will find it harder to convince people about its bonafides. This was clear in the recent parliamentary polls: the parties that were seen ambivalent on the demand bit the dust, one of them even in its stronghold in north Kashmir.

That said, demand for special status for J&K even when



it is forcefully pressed by any party in J&K is largely rhetorical in nature. It succeeds the

earlier demands for autonomy and self rule, which principally again were slogans to mobilize

the public support: in a sense, quixotic goals pursued more for their popular appeal than with any hope of realizing them in the foreseeable future.

The NC Vice President Omar Abdullah at his press conference on Monday likened the demand for the reinstatement of Article 370 to the BJP's longstanding pursuit of its abrogation, which the latter finally fulfilled on August 5, 2019.

We will continue to fight politically for Article 370. The manifesto is an assurance that we will not stay silent on these issues," Omar said. "The Supreme

Court has in the past upheld Article 370 three times. Can't we expect a situation where the SC will change its recent decision. The BJP did not accept defeat despite three orders by the SC in favour of Article 370. Why should we?"

The argument apparently makes a good political point but on closer examination actually underlines the futility of this struggle: it draws parallel between the promises of the NC, now largely a regional party, and the BJP, an entrenched, pan-

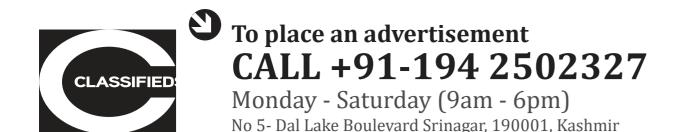
India political entity that has the

capacity to execute its agenda.

Aside from its political stance, the NC has drawn up an elaborate governance agenda that has almost everything for everyone, in some parts even echoing the welfare agenda of the Congress Nyay Patra and that of Arvind Kejriwal's AAP. The party plans to give 12 free gas cylinders, 200 units of free electricity, free education up to university, one lakh jobs, and monthly Rs 5000 to women.

In the coming days, other regional parties will come up with their own manifestos and they are likely to be a mirror image of the NC | More on P6







'Feeling Lack Of Purpose, Personal **Growth Could Be Signal Of Dementia'**

Press Trust Of India

The feeling that one's life lacks purpose and that there are fewer opportunities for personal growth could be a very early sign of dementia, according to a study.

Researchers found that among older adults, these aspects of psychological wellbeing noticeably declined three to six years before a diagnosis of mild cognitive impairment, in which one's memory and thinking is affected, yet not to the extent that it interferes

with their daily functioning. Mild cognitive impairment is often seen to precede dementia, in which the symptoms become severe enough to interfere with daily activities.

The researchers, including those at China Agricultural University's Department of Nutrition and Health, said that while there is mounting evidence linking psychological wellbeing to brain ageing and related disorders, such as dementia, much of it focuses on the aspect of one's sense of purpose and not others, including personal growth.

For the study, published in the Journal of Neurology Neurosurgery and Psychiatry, the researchers followed 910 older adults in the US over a period of more than 10 years.

The participants, aged 80 years on average and cognitively intact to begin with, underwent yearly check-ups, including tests of brain function, cognition and psychological well-being.

The authors found that of the 910. about a third (265) developed mild

certificate/s:

fko

Name: Aijaz Ahmad Bhat

Paretnage:- Ghulam Ud Din Bhat

Registration No: 23718-SP 2006

candidate be treated as cancelled

No: F(Duplicate/ MC-6th Sem/PA /KU/

Roll No/s:- 27286, 1261260

Residence:- Gundjahangir Hajin Sonwari

Certificate/s lost:- UG/B.Ed Marks Certificate

Session/ Year : Dec 2006, Dec 2007, Dec 2008 & Oct 2013



cognitive impairment. Over a third of those 265 (89) went on to develop dementia, they said.

Compared with (the) participants who remained cognitively intact, those who developed mild cognitive impairment had a lower level of purpose in life beginning 3 years before diagnosis and a lower level of personal growth beginning 6 years before diagnosis," the authors wrote. They also found that of the individuals studied, over 75 per cent of whom were women, those who developed mild cognitive impairment were more likely to be older, weigh less and have lower levels of psychological well-being, compared to those who remained cognitively intact.

Being an observational study, the authors said that no firm conclusions could be drawn about cause and effect.

Further, even as the processes underlying the link between wellbeing and cognitive function are not well understood, the authors added that the factors could have a two-way relationship.

In other words, they explained that poorer cognition might affect psychological wellbeing and vice versa. Better wellbeing and cognitive function may also share certain protective factors, they suggested.

"Our findings indicate that personal growth and purpose in life may be more cognitively demanding than other components of wellbeing, and therefore may serve as more sensitive indicators of cognitive ageing," the authors wrote.

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 Madihia Manzoor D/o Manzoor Ahmad Wani R/o Hurhandpora Wanigam pattan District Baramulla with verified date of event (birth) as 24/09/2017 occurred at SDH Pattan

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

Public Notice

am applying for the issuance of

Pesticides license under name and

style Tantray Pesticides Wangam

udder Shampora Shopian. If any

body has any objection in this regard

he/she may file his/her objection

Officer Lalmandi Srinagar within

a period of seven days from the

date of publication of this notice After that no objection shall be

R/o Wangam Suddershanpora

entertained.

Shopian

Farooq Ahmad Tantray S/o Ab Ganl Tantray

in the office of the Plant Protection

Naib Tehsildar Pattan

NOTICE

Mushtag Ahmad Misger R/o 250 KVA Galaxy School Soura Srinagar Want to change my Elecricity Connectio bearing Consumer id 0204040005121 that was on the name of Ali Mohammad Misger R/o 250 KVA Galaxy School soura srinagar now I want it to be on my own name. in this regard,if anybody is having any objection may file his/her objection in the subdivision office hawal within a weeks time after that no objection will be entertained. 7889458083

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have applied for the issuance Of Discharge certificate of class 8th. If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Govt Middle School Check Kawoosa within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained. Abdul Hameed WanI S/o Abdul Rahman Wani bmg

R/o Check Kaswoosa Narbal

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 Aiza Akther D/o Akther Hussain Rather R/o Sarakwara Jahangir Pora Wagoora District Baramulla with verified date of event (birth) as 06/05/2022 occurred at SDH Pattan

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 have applied for the registration of Tour and Travel namely BILU BADSHAH TOUR AND TRAVEL KASHMIR in the department of Tourism BARAMULLA/ SRINAGER .If anybody having any objection in this regard he /she may file his /her objection in the office of concerned ASSISTANT DIRECTOR TOURISM within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained

AN URGENT APPEAL

(My Daughter Needs Liver Transplant)



I would like to appeal all the generous, kind hearted people that my daughter Seerat Gul R/O Nowgam, Tehsil Sumbal is suffering from Wilson's disease with partial HTN with recurrent ascites and SBP. The patient needs liver transplant as recommended by doctors. The liver transplant estimate is about Rs 40 lacs as certified by Apollo Hospital, New Delhi. Subsequently I request general public, who are bestowed with means and sense of charity and empathy to provide me assistance so that I can save the precious life of my daughter.

> Mushtaq Ahmad Najar F/o Seerat Gul R/o Nowgam Sumbal A/C No: 0729-0420-0000-0089 J&K Bank Branch : Gadakhud Gamdoo IFSC Code: JAKAOGAMUDD Cell No: 9622428470

The Jammu And Kashmir **Board Of School Education**

New Campus Bemina Srinagar

I have passed/appeared in Secondary School Examination (Class- 12th)under Roll No:. 332001033 Session: Annual Regular Year 2024 through the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education. Due to the error committed by the concerned School/parent/Board, against



my Father's Name Mohammad Iqbal Wagay instead of Iqbal Ahmad Wagay

Now, I have applied for correction/rectification of error in the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education. New Campus Bernina. Srinagar, if any person has any objection in this regard, may file the same in the office of the Assistant Secretary, Certificates-KD within seven days from the date of Publication of this notice, after the expiry of said period no objection will be entertained.

Name: Ulfat lobal F/N: Iqbal Ahmad Wagay M/N: Mahmooda Akhtar DOB: 05-06-2007 **Residence: Drabgam Pulwama** Ph: 9797090693

mpw_r

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

Office Of The Executive Engineer

week from the date of issuance of this notice. The original certificate/s issued to the

Notice

/ she has lost his/her University Certificate/s and has applied for issuance of duplicate

Before University will consider issuance of Duplicate Certificate/s in favour of the candidate, any person having any objection shall report to the undersigned within one

It is inform to all general public through the medium of public notice that the applicant namely Fatima Begum W/o Mohd Qazim Mir R/o Mirgund produced the school certificate medical, immunization card and affidavit countersigned by Judicial Magistrate Pattan/ Public Notery affidavit in favour of Fatima Begum W/o Mohd Qazim Mir r/O Mir Gund according to which his her date of birth is shown as 17–10-1952 . Now the applicant intends to obtain DOB certificate if any body has any

University of Kashmir, Srinagar The candidate whose particulars are given below has reported to the University that he

Assistant Controller

of Examinations (PG/UG/Prof

and Kashmir Office of the Naib **Tehsildar Khenpeth General Public Notice**

Government of Jammu

Mechanical And Hospitals Division Srinagar (Tele-fax No: 019-2496089, e-mail id: xenmhchdk@yahoo.in)

Subject Annual rate contract for maintaining cleanliness of Chief Office, Circle Office and Mechanical and Hospital Division, Srinagar building premises for the year 2024-25 w.e.f. 09/2024 at Shalteng, Srinagar

: This office NIT No: M&HDS/TS /2024-25/70/e-tendering Dated: 09.08.2024 Ref

EXTENSION

In view of poor response, the Critical dates of above subject work tendered vide above referred e-NIT are extended as follows: -

S. No	Description	Date and Time
1.	Last Date of Bid Submission	27.08.2024 (12:00 hrs)
2.	Date of Bid Opening	27.08.2024 (14:00 hrs)

All other Terms and Conditions of the NIT shall remain the same.

Sc	1/-
Executive Engine	er,
Mechanical & Hospitals Division	on,
Srinag	ar

No: M&HDS/TS/3358-61 DIPK-5103/24 Dated: 20.08.2024

Office Of The Chairman Madina Public School Ahmadpora, Pattan.

In pursuance to the meeting of the Managing body dated 16-06-2024 elections were held for the Managing body through secret ballot on 20-06-20224. The following members have been elected

01. Mr. Gh. Hassan 03. Mtr. Kaunsara 05. Mr. Ghulam. M 07: Mtr. Sadaf Sal	02, Mr. Fayaz Ahmad Bhat 04. Mr. Gh. Hassan Rather 06. Mr. Sajad Hyder Wani				
Name	Parentage	Residence	Qualifica- tion	Occupation	Designatio
Mr. Gh. Hassan Rather	All Mohammad Rather	Matipora	10+02	Pvt Service	Chairman
Mr. Fayaz Ahmad Bhat	Ab. Aziz Bhat	Agrl Kalan	M.A. B.ed.	Principal	Member
Mtr. Kaunsara Abdullah	Mohd Adbullah Dar	Magam	M.A	Pvt Service	Secretary
Mr Ghulam Hassan Rather	Mohd Abdulla Rather	Tantraypora	M.A.	Shop Keeper	Parent Me ber
Mr Ghulam Mohammad Joo	Ali Mohammad Joo	Tantraypora	P.U.C	Shop Keeper	Parent Me ber
Mr Sajad Hyder Wani	Ghulam Mo- hammad Wani	Goom- Ahmad- pora	10+02	Teacher	Member
Mtr. Sadaf Sakeena	Ali Mohammad Malik	Goom- Ahmad- pora	M.A., B,Ed.	Teacher	Member

within a period of seven days after that no objection shall be entertained. fo

Email: anantnag@nic.in pasectiondcang@gmail.com

licensed arms in District Anantnag.

holders in the police stations as deemed fit and:

Commissioner of Police.

a) Arms License of the persons released on bail.

after completion of election process.

No: DMA/Judicial/Gen/2024/8437-44

DIPK-5099/24 Dated: 20-08-2024

b) Arms Licenses of the persons having criminal offenses.

tion'

visit office of the undersigned

objection regarding the issu-

ance of DOB certificate may

S/O ... GH MOHD WANI **R/O ... HARNOW KAWACHECK** DISTT....BARAMULLA

Government of Jammu and Kashmir

Office Of The District Magistrate Anantnag

JUDICIAL SECTION

Subject: Conduct of General Elections to the Assembly of J&K-2024 and orders for depositing

ORDER

Whereas, pursuant to the announcement of General Elections to the Assembly of J&K -2024 in UT

Assembly of J&K-2024 in District Anantnag, it is considered expedient and necessary to verify the

character antecedents of all the license holders and to scrutinize and deposit arms of such license

Whereas, the Election Commission of India in pursuance to the directions issued by the Hon'ble High

Court of the Bombay (in Criminal Writ Petition No. 835/2009-Sh. Govind Vs Vikram Kumar, the

District Magistrate and Others vide its order dated 10-07-2009. has issued instruction No. 464/

INST/2009/EPS dated 01-09-2009 on deposition of arms wherein, it has been inter-alia directed:

Whereas, in pursuance to the directions of .Election Commission of India, the Screening Committee Anantnag on different dates discussed matter and has scrutinized the cases pertaining to:

Now Therefore I syed Fakhruddin Hamid IAS, district Magistrate Anantnag in excrice of powers vested to me under section 21 (1) Of the Arms Act 1959 and the Arms Rules 2016, do hereby direct the li-

censees of this district (Anantnag) to mandatorily deposit their firearms before the respective police

stations institutional license holders working in govt offices, banks, financial institutions and person

engaged with security Agencies may apply for exemption with reasons and appropriate documents.

The fire arms should be deposited within 7 days from issuance of this order. The officer-in-charge of

respective Police Station shall deposit the firm arms of the licensees in the armoury of the police sta-

tion under a proper acknowledgment to the licensee, the same shall be returned to the licese holders

Any violation will lead to legal actioni under Section 188 of the IPC.

c) Arms Licenses of the persons involved in rioting at any time but especially during Election.

d) Other License holder(s) having potential to disturb the Election Process.

• "to constitute a Screening Committee in every district consisting of District Magistrate

and SP in the Commissionerate area, consisting of Commissioner of Police and Joint/Add.

• The Screening Committee shall commence the work of screening from the day of announcement of election and shall complete it as far as possible before the date of notifica-

Whereas, in order to maintain law and order, peace and tranquility and to provide a conducive

environment for conduct of free and fair elections during the ensuing General Election to the

of Jammu and Kashmir Model Code of Conduct has come into force, and;

FKO

Phone:01932-222337

District Magistrate Anantnag

Fax: 01932-223164

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost the number plate of my motor cycle bearing regd no: JK05D3812. Now I have applied for the duplicate of the same if anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file his/ her objection in the office of the ARTO Sopore within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained. Altaf Ahmad Malla S/o Ghulam Ahmad Malla bmg **R/o Kantarbugh Pattan**

Office of the Naib Tehsildar Palhallan **Executive Magistrate 1st Class**

Application of Ishfaq Ah Sheer Gojri and Abdul Majeed Sheer Gojree Ss/o Ghulam Ahmad Sheer Gojri R/o Palhallan Tehsil Pattan for obtained OBC certificate

PUBLIC NOTICE

General Public is hereby informed through this notice that the applicant file is currently under process in the office of undersigned regarding obtaining OBC certificate. According to the field staffs report the applicants are permanent resident of village Palhallan tehsil Pattan District Baramulla and have been residing here from more than 15 years and has not migrated from the said village the annual family income of the applicant from all sources is Rs 158400/-. Family details of the applicant are give below

-				
S No	Name	Parentage	AGE	Occupa- tion
01	Ghulam Ahmad Sheer Gojree	S/oGh Mohd Sheer Goiree	70	Labour
D2	Zoona Begum	W/o Ghulam Ahmad Sheer Gojree	66	H/W
D3	Blal Ahmad Sheer Goiree	s/o	38	Labour
D3 04	shfaq Ahmad Sheer Goiree	-	30	Student
05	Abdul Maieed Sheer Goiree	_	28	-

In this connection If anyperson(s)hasanyobjection(s) he/ she can visit the undersigned's office within 07daysfrom the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection will be considered. fko_r

Naib Tehsildar

walnut ads.

Office of Advocate Mohd Moonis Manzoor Lic No.: 1070/23

In the case of Sangam Cricket Club Through its president 1. Wajahat Majeed (Age 40) 2. Fayaz Ahmad (Secretary Age 41) 3. Majid Ahmad (treasurer Age 39) (Caveators) PUBLIC AT LARGE (Non-Caveators) In the matter of: Caveat petition in terms of section 148-A of C.P.C the caveator has reason to believe/ apprehension that non caveator may file a suit of any other type of proceeding before the Hon'ble court and on the ground of Distorted facts/misrepresent and cooked story and may succeed in obtaining some relief/order at irreparable loss and inconvenience it would be proper that caveator is given opportunity of being heard by the Hon'ble court before passing any other.

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Given under my hand and seal on 16/08/2024



KASHMIR OBSERVER[®] Srinagar | Wednesday | 21-08-2024

LA Polls-2024: Training Program For ROs, AROs Held In Srinagar

Observer News Service

Checklist and other areas of

Srinagar: In order to ensure a smooth election process in all 08 Assembly segments of Srinagar District, the District Election Authority Srinagar today organized a comprehensive training program for all Returning Officers (ROs) and Assistant Returning Officers (AROs).

The training program was convened under the chairmanship of District Election Officer (DEO) Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat at Conference Hall of DC office Complex, here.

During the training program, the Officers were acquainted with essential skills and knowledge to ensure the smooth conduct of the electoral process.

They were briefed thoroughly about Nomination process, Scrutiny, Withdrawal and Finalization of Nominations, preparation of Ballot Papers, preparation of understanding. Participants actively en-

gaged in interactive sessions to enhance their understanding and proficiency in handling diverse scenarios. Meanwhile, the District Election Officer impressed

upon all the Officers to ensure smooth facilitation to all aspiring candidates in every step, right from nomination process. He emphasized them to work with utmost dedication and coordination to ensure fair and transparent conduct of Assembly Election in the district.

The DEO concluded the session by emphasizing the need for strict adherence to protocols, effective coordination among departments, and meticulous planning. This will ensure that the Assembly elections are conducted smoothly and successfully, upholding the highest standards of integrity and transparency.



Mudgal Visits Hazratbal Shrine, Inspects Developmental Works

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Commissioner Secretary Tourism, Yasha Mudgal along with Secretary Public Works (R&B), Bhupinder Kumar conducted a detailed inspection of assets created at Dargah Hazratbal here under PRASAD Scheme of the Govern-

ment of India. Director Tourism Kashmir, Raja Yaqoob and other senior officers from Tourism, R&B, SICOP and J&K WAQF Board accompanied during her visit. Projects worth Rs. 40.00 Crore aimed to enhance the infrastructure and facilities for devotees/ tourists visiting the revered shrine have been executed under

the said scheme. Commissioner Secretary Tourism directed that as the project has already been taken over by J&K WAQF Board, the same shall ensure the operation and management of assets like Multi Level Car Parking, Tourist facilitation Centre, Sufi Interpretation Centre, Wazu Khana and Shopping Kiosks at the earliest ensuring their pub-

e lic use.

Additionally, executing agencies were directed to complete the finishing works on the Tourist Facilitation Centre, Mechanical Tensile Structures and Multi-Level Parking well before the upcoming Eid-e-Milad Festival so as to enable the public to utilize the upgraded facilities during the celebrations.

The concerted efforts under the PRASAD Scheme are designed to improve the overall experience for pilgrims and tourists, making their visit to Dargah Hazratbal more convenient and enriching.

Frequent Traffic Jams From Fruit Mandi To Parimpora Irk Commuters

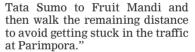
Agencies

Srinagar: Commuters in Srinagar are experiencing a tough time to cross from mandi stop to bus yard exit gate at Parimpora due to the frequent traffic jam on the road stretch. Notably, the road witnesses rush of commuters from north

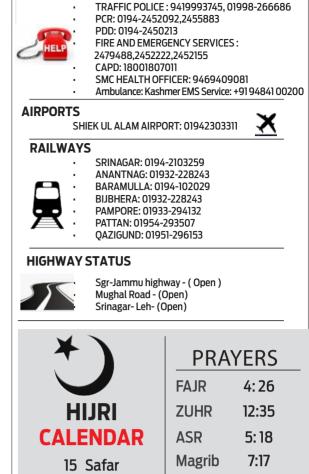
rush of commuters from north Kashmir and outskirt parts of the Srinagar that leads towards the city centre Lal Chowk and downtown areas, has become a major bottleneck.

Many commuters, especially students, told the news agency— KNO that they face constant delays caused by passenger vehicles stopping to pick up passengers.

Bilal Ahmed, a commuter from Mirgund, mentioned his strategy to avoid the delays. "I travel by



The commuters, especially students, have appealed to the traffic police authorities and transport department to ensure smooth regulation of traffic from fruit Mandi to Parimpora road stretch so that they don't face any inconvenience.



This Day In History

1446

1541- Ottoman Turks under Suleiman the Magnificent capture Buda, the capital of the Hungarian Kingdom. Dominate central Hungary for 150 years

ISHA

8:42

- 1573- Spain begin siege of Alkmaar in the Netherlands
- 1598- Deed of Transfers proclaims Netherlands independence
- 1673- Sea battle at Kijkduin: De Ruyter defeats English & French fleet
- 1703-The Edirne Event: Turkish army removes Sultan Mustafa II, lessening the power of the sultans
- 1808- Battle of Vimeiro: British and Portuguese forces led by General Arthur Wellesley defeat French force under Major- General Jean-Andoche Junot near the village of Vimeiro, Portugal, the first Anglo-Portuguese victory of the Peninsular War.
- 1914- Belgium: German troops occupy Tamines
- 1914-French offensive in the Ardennen/Sambre 1915- Italy declares war on Turkey in World War One
- 1942- World War II: a Nazi flag is installed atop the Mount Elbrus.
- 1943- Japan leaves Aleutian Islands
 - 1953- Sultan Sidi Mohammed Am Joessoef V of Morocco deposed
 - 1957- 1st launching in Baikonur, Kazachstan (R7 "Semiorka"- rocket)
 - 1965- Gemini 5 launched into Earth orbit (2 astronauts)
 - 1968-Radio Prague (Czechoslovakia) at 12:50 AM announces a Soviet led invasion

Ex-Chief Justice Magrey Visits Ahata Waqar Day Care

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Former Chief Justice Ali Mohammad Magrey visited Ahata Waqar, a day care and recreation centre located in Chanapora, Srinagar. This centre operates under the auspices of the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Srinagar.

The event began on a thoughtful note with a poetry recitation by a student from Higher Secondary School Chanapora, capturing the essence of the day's gathering. This was followed by a welcome speech delivered by Abdul Ganie Parray, the Chairman of Senior Citizens Council. The cultural significance of the occasion was further enriched by a moving poem on Ahata Waqar, presented by Mr. Abdul Rashid Qazi.

Addressing the event, Justice (Retd) focused on the urgent need to address various social evils, with a particular emphasis on drug abuse. Drawing from his extensive experience and dedica-

outlined practical strategies for combating this menace. He further emphasized the importance of community involvement in overcoming such

ment in overcoming such challenges, offering both guidance and encouragement to the senior citizens and staff of Ahata Waqar for their ongoing efforts in this regard

tion to social causes, he

efforts in this regard. During his speech, Justice (Retd) Magrey acknowledged the concerns shared by the senior citizens regarding the centre and assured them of his continued support in addressing these issues. He also discussed various initiatives he has championed to tackle social evils, reinforcing his commitment to fostering a safer

and healthier society. In his concluding remarks, Former Chief Justice extended his heartfelt appreciation and encouragement to District Legal Services Authority- Srinagar for the exemplary effort in establishing and nourishing the institute exclusively for the benefit of senior citizens.

NIT Organizes Orientation Workshop For Participating Institutions Of J&K

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The National Institute of Technology Srinagar (NIT Srinagar), one of the Regional Coordinating Institutes (RCI) of Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA), organized a One-Day Orientation Workshop for Participating Institutions of UT Jammu and Kashmir.

The program was inaugurated by Prof. M.F. Wani, Regional Coordinator of RCI NIT Srinagar. Prof. Wani introduced the participants to the overarching goals of the UBA program and outlined the action plan for implementing UBA activities in the adopted villages. tailing the achievements of RCI NIT Srinagar was also presented, serving as a source of inspiration and encouragement for all participants. Prof. Ravinder Nath,

Prof. Ravinder Nath, Director of NIT Srinagar, served as the Chief Guest for the inaugural ceremony. In his key speech, he emphasized the pivotal role that technical institutes play in the holistic development of rural areas.

Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. A Ravinder Nath stressed the importance of leveraging technology and innovation to uplift rural communities, improving their quality of life and ensuring sustainable progress.



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From KO Archives

'Illiterate' Appointed Instead Of Namesake Mushtag Aftab

hadura (Budgam) - Even as numerous scandals of fake appointments have surfaced in various government departments over the recent years, incidence of the wrong doing is far from being stamped out. Some diehards still manage to get a job in one or the other department by manipulating records and documents, and by tapping the 'right' person and the 'tight' timer.

An illiterate villager has got a government job allegedly by impersonation, and got away with it, assurance of the finance minister to get the wrong undone notwithstanding. In the process, the genuine claimant for the appointment continues to be jobless. Reports said Nazir Ahmad Dar r/o Abdul Kabir Dar R/o Badipore, has passed his 12th (TDC) clam examination. But, it is his namesake in the neighbourhood who, though illiterate, has allegedly got a government job. The only difference between the two is in the names of their grandfathers. While the former's grandfather is named Abdullah Dar, the latter's name is Ahmad Dar.

According to reports, the uneducated Nazir Ahmad Dar was appointed in the horticulture department in 1996. He is posted in the district office at Budgam. Sources in the department said Dar managed to procure the certificates of his educated namesake which he produced in support of his claim. The department did not entertain the 'genuine' claim of the educated Dar.

Though the serious case of alleged swap was brought to the notice of the state vigilance organisations, no action has been taken so far. The educated Dar approached the finance minister, Abdur Raheem Rather, who also happens to be his neighbour. He had assured him to get the right person appointed against the post. However, justice ' still eludes hint despite lapse of about four years

In another case, Mushaq Ahmad Zargar s/o Ghulam Ahmad Zargar r/o Badipore has managed to secure a job allegedly by producing a fake certificate of academic qualification. According to reliable sources, he is barely read upto 4th standard. However, he managed to get a certificate of having passed his 9th class (under metric) examination from the government higher secondary school, Nagam, in 1996 allegedly, through his brother, Abdul Rasheed Zargar, who is a teacher at Badipore.

On the basis of the alleged fake certificate, Zargar was appointed as a peon in the animal husbandry department. He has been working at the veterinary dispensary here for about three years past. Sources said the department did not take any action to unravel the facts and bring the accused to justice even after the matter was brought to its notice.

(Kashmir Observer, August 21, 2000)

Government of Jammu and Kashmir Office of the Naib Tehsildar Khenpeth

General Public Notice It is inform to all general public through the medium of public notice that the applicant namely Assadullah Mir S/o Mohd Qazim Mir R/o Mirgund produced the school certificate medical, immunization card and affidavit countersigned by Judicial Magistrate Pattan/ Public Notery affidavit in favour of self Assadullah Mir S/o Mohd Qazim Mir R/o Mirgund according to which his her date of birth is shown as 07–03-1955. Now the applicant intends to obtain DOB certificate if any body has any objection regarding the issuance of DOB certificate may visit office of the undersigned within a period of seven days after that no objection shall be entertained.

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Ensure safety for women doctors

he torture, rape and murder of a postgraduate trainee doctor at a government hospital in Kolkatta has "shocked the conscience of the nation" as aptly described by the Supreme Court. The doctor was on night duty when she suffered this tragic fate. She was resting in the seminar hall of the hospital at the time when a civic volunteer who has since been arrested gained an easy entry to her. This has triggered widespread public outrage and protests by doctors who demand security at the hospitals, especially during night shifts. The case has since become heavily politicized. The Supreme Court has taken suo moto cognizance of the tragedy. The court has ordered the setting up of a National Task Force to recommend safety protocols for healthcare professionals at workplaces. The task force, which would include top doctors and government officials, will look into the situation and file an interim report in three weeks and a final report in two months. Importantly, the court has highlighted the problems facing medical institutions, including a lack of resting rooms and toilets, functional CCTV cameras, security personnel and screening for arms at entrances. It is these problems that made it easy for the accused to reach the victim and murder her at the Kolkata hospital.

The chilling crime should be a wake-up call for the administration in Kashmir. The healthcare institutions in the Valley are plagued by similar problems, and may be worse in some aspects than their counterparts in West Bengal and in the other parts of the country. Last week, doctors in Srinagar and Jammu, also staged protests against the brutal assault on the woman doctor in Kolkatta. They also stressed on the urgent need for the government to devise a comprehensive security plan for the hospitals in the union territory in the wake of this incident. More so, for the female staff. It is no secret that the hospitals in the UT lack adequate security measures which can deter such incidents. In the recent past, even the AYUSH hospitals in the Valley have started night duty for their doctors including the female doctors. This despite the fact that these hospitals lack not just the security but also the infrastructure to hande admitted patients. More so, during the night when patients could develop serious complications. The women doctors are particularly vulnerable in the absence of credible security and the inadequate supporting staff. The situation may be slightly better at allopathic institutions but it is far from being ideal. It is time that the government intervenes in the matter and ensures that the doctors get all the required facilities during night shifts including security. Special care needs to be taken to make the night shift of the women doctors comfortable and, more importantly, safe.



Did you know? The Importance of Financial Advice for Wealthy Individuals

Balancing Free Speech And Hate Speech

Where Should We Draw The Line?

Madiya Mushtaq

ne Blacklaw's Dictionary defines hate speech as, "Speech that carries no meaning other than the expression of hatred for some group, such as a particular race, especially in circumstances in which the communication is likely to provoke violence." Over the past decade or so, the instances of hate speech have only increased over time. Hate speech has been unbridled and unchecked. On the contrary, free speech, spoken by the minorities- slightly critical of the government has been bottled up as hate speech with an additional rigor of locking any dissenting voice behind bars. Legislative initiatives to control free speech therefore naturally give rise to worries that attempts to prohibit hate speech could stifle criticism and dissent.

Fundamental elements of human rights and the foundation of democratic and free societies are the freedoms of speech and opinion. Other essential rights, such the freedom of religion, to engage in public affairs, and to peacefully assemble, are supported by these freedoms. Unquestionably, social media and other digital media have strengthened people's ability to find, receive, and share knowledge and ideas.

Right to Expression under the Indian Constitution

The cornerstone of every democratic society on the planet is freedom of speech. At its core, free speech is the ability to communicate openly and to receive information from others. It is regarded as the main requirement for autonomy. It is regarded as the "mother" of all other freedoms and one of the most important civil liberties that is shielded from restriction or repression by the government. This fundamental right to freedom of speech and expression is guaranteed by Article 19(1)(a) of the Indian Constitution. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) defines freedom of expression as a human right, and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) protects the right to free speech under international human rights law. Since the right to free expression is not unqualified, certain restrictions are placed on it under Article 19(2). Nevertheless, law is the only means of restricting the right to free expression. Within the scope of this freedom is the ability to publish, market, and spread information.

Only Indian citizens are entitled to the freedom of expression under Article 19(1)(a); foreigners are not granted this liberty. Freedom of speech and expression is the ability to openly express one's ideas and opinions through writing, art, publications, graphics, or any other medium. Therefore, it includes expressing one's ideas, emotions, beliefs, and thoughts through any kind of visual presentation or communication medium, including signs, gestures, symbols and the like. A free person is entitled to the rights specified in Article 19 of the Indian Constitution. These are common law or natural law rights rather than statutory rights. Therefore, every citizen has the freedom to exercise these rights, subject to set restrictions.



00 Hate speech belongs in this type of language that is damaging. It blatantly violates principles like equality, respect for one another, and unrestricted thought interchange that free speech is intended to uphold

stitution establishes the fundamental right to freedom of speech, which is further reinforced by the Preamble. There is a long and rich history behind the freedom of speech. It can be found in the international human rights conventions of today. It is believed that the concept of free speech first emerged in the late fifth or early sixth century BC. Two of the main principles of the Roman Republic were freedom of speech and religion.

In India, insertion of a Constitutional Article was a major feat in crystallizing the right of freedom of speech in India. Democracy in itself bases itself on unhinged debates, discussions and dialogue which do not only act as 'corrective of government action' but also ensures proper checks and balances. It is obvious that having the ability to freely express one's opinions is crucial. The promotion and protection of free speech is the cornerstone of democratic governance. The democratic process cannot function properly without this autonomy. The freedom to express oneself and to engage in free speech is a prerequisite for autonomy. In the hierarchy of freedoms, it has a prominent position and offers protection and support to every other freedom. That it is the origin of all other freedoms is accurate. A concise paragraph cannot fundamentally explain the evolution of right of freedom of speech in India, as this growth has not been linear, it has gone through its highs and lows, to reach a point where it has metamorphosized into a progressive concept now. However, a peek into what rigor is existent on the present concept of freedom of speech is required to understand what constitutes 'hate speech' and whether what is censored as 'hate speech' can really be categorized as such.

Hate speech is defined by the Bureau of Police Research and Development as any language that disparages, insults, threatens, or targets an individual based on their identity and other traits (such as sexual orientation, disability, or religion, among others). This manual is intended to assist investigating agencies in cyber harassment cases

The right to free speech is a fundamental component of democratic societies, even in a time when information and ideas may be shared more easily than ever. It is a fundamental freedom that gives people the ability to voice their opinions, question the current quo, and engage in intellectual exchanges. This freedom does have some restrictions, though. A dangerous abuse of this freedom is hate speech, which is defined as any communication that disparages or discriminates against someone based on their gender, race, religion, ethnicity, or other identification characteristics. It is critical to understand that hate speech contradicts the same ideals of equality, respect, and dignity that free speech is meant to uphold, and that it should not be tolerated under the pretense of free speech.

Hate speech is a violent kind of expression that can have serious negative effects on one's social and psychological well-being. It targets people or groups according to innate traits, encouraging animosity, violence, and discrimination against them. Unchecked hate speech can have disastrous effects, as history has demonstrated. In Nazi Germany, it fueled the Holocaust, and in Rwanda, it contributed to the genocide against the Tutsi population.

The consequences of hate speech are very severe in today's culture. It muffles the voices of those who are the targets by creating an atmosphere of fear and intimidation. This has the chilling effect of making members of marginalized groups feel as though they must avoid public discourse, which reduces the diversity of viewpoints that is necessary for a robust democracy.

Irshad Mushtaq

ontrary to popular belief, having substantial wealth often necessitates needing more advice. The greater the wealth, the higher the stakes, and poor decisions can lead to significant financial losses. Wealth alone does not guarantee wisdom; good judgment is not something money can buy.

Globally, affluent individuals understand the value of professional guidance. They frequently employ teams of consultants and financial experts to safeguard and grow their wealth. The presence of these advisors reflects a recognition that managing significant assets requires more than just capital; it necessitates expertise and strategic planning.

Wealth does not inherently impart common sense, and historical context shows that accumulating money used to be more straightforward due to a lack of competition. In the past, investing in physical assets like showrooms or stores would reliably increase wealth. However, today's market dynamics are vastly different. The fiercely competitive environment demands that affluent individuals make well-informed decisions, often predicated on professional advice.

In the realm of investments, some individuals let emotions drive their choices or fail to seek professional counsel, overlooking the paramount importance of informed decisionmaking. Money should be seen as a tool to work for you, rather than something that controls you.

To illustrate, consider a worker earning 600 rupees a day. If they work 20 to 25 days a month, their monthly income ranges between 12,000 to 15,000 rupees, culminating in an annual income of 1.44 to 1.80 lakh rupees. Such earnings come from hard, often physically taxing labor. When managing and growing any amount of money, one must think carefully and strategically.

Assuming an investment yielding a 20% annual return, a capital of 10 lakh rupees is required to generate an annual income of 2 lakh rupees. This calculation underscores the importance of not making investment decisions based solely on emotions. Reliable, data-driven investment strategies often come from professional advice and thorough planning.

In conclusion, financial advice is invaluable, especially for those with significant wealth. Consultation with professionals not only mitigates risks but also ensures the efficient and effective growth of assets. Investing wisely, detached from emotional biases, and prioritizing professional advice can transform money into a powerful tool that works for the individual.

Learn from the insights of @IrshadMushtag, writer, investor, entrepreneur & Founder of MI Securities! Connect for valuable financial advice at misecurities@bp.sharekhan.com

Article 19(1)(a) of the Indian Constitution

Freedom of expression serves four broad special purposes:

- It enables an individual to accomplish selffulfillment:
- It assists in the revelation of reality and the veracity of claims; it enhances an individual's capacity to participate in decision-making; and, aids in the knowledge of the truth, and the revelation of it.
- It supports and enhances an individual's ability to engage in judgment making; and
- It supplies a mechanism for striking a significant compromise between social cohesion and social transformation.

It's important to remember that the right to receive and transmit information has been included in the expanded definition of the right under Article 19(1)(a). The Supreme Court ruled in State of Uttar Pradesh v. Raj Narain that every citizen has the right to free expression and the freedom to receive and disseminate information on matters of public concern under Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution. According to Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Govt. of India v. Cricket Association of Bengal, the freedom to gather and disseminate information is contained in Article 19(1)(a) of the Indian Constitution. The print media is a powerful tool for information dissemination and reception for every individual.

Origin and importance of the Right To Speech And Expression

India places a high value on freedom of expression. Its importance becomes immediately clear when one realizes that the preamble of the constitution guarantees everyone the freedom of expression, opinion, faith, worship, and religion, among other things. Article 19(1)(a) of the Con-

Grounds for restrictions on Speech And Expression Freedom

Article 19(1) rights cannot be restricted by operative or departmental orders; only a "Law" has this authority. Complete or unrestricted freedom is impossible. Freedom of speech and expression is curtailed by Article 19(2) of the Constitution, which permits the State to impose "reasonable" restrictions on the grounds listed below.

- Sovereignty and integrity of India.
- Security of the State.
- Friendly relations with foreign states.
- Public order.
- Morality or decency.
- Contempt of Court.
- Defamation.
- Incitement to an offence.

Hate speech refers to statements meant to incite hatred toward a specific group, which could be a community, a religion, or a race. This speech might or might not be meaningful, but violence is probably going to happen.

The Limits of Free Speech

Although it is frequently defended as an unalienable right, freedom of speech has always had some restrictions. Around the world, when free speech violates other fundamental rights, it is restricted by legal frameworks. Laws against defamation, prohibitions on inciting violence, and prohibitions on the use of child pornography are a few instances of how society acknowledges that there are some forms of communication that are harmful and outweigh the advantages of free speech.

Hate speech belongs in this type of language that is damaging. It blatantly violates principles like equality, respect for one another, and unrestricted thought interchange that free speech is intended to uphold. We run the risk of weakening these ideals by enabling hate speech to proliferate unchecked, fostering a culture that values division and fear above communication and understanding.

Conclusion

Although it is an essential part of democratic society, the right to free speech is not inalienable. It is important to strike a balance between the right to free speech and the responsibility to protect people and communities from hate speech. The same values of equality, respect, and dignity that free speech is supposed to protect are undermined when hate speech is permitted to grow under the cover of the right to free speech. Therefore, limiting hate speech is not only justified but also essential to keep the marketplace of ideas as a forum for healthy discussion rather than a haven for violence, fear, and division.

Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer The author is Advocate, Supreme Court of India and can be reached at madiyanadroo97@gmail.com

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Cameras Over Cry for Help

Syed Aamir Sharief Qadri

ndeed, Allah has set a predetermined time for everyone's death. Yet, when we receive the shocking news of a loved one's sudden passing, it feels as if our hearts freeze and our minds momentarily shut down. This is exactly what happened to me when I heard about the tragic death of my dear relative Sajad Ahmad Shah around 4:30 PM on August 16, 2024. The initial shock left me in a state of disbelief, but as the moments passed, I had to accept this harsh reality and find a way to cope with the profound sadness.

A motorcycle carrying two school teachers, Riyaz Ahmad Dar and Sajad Ahmad Shah, was involved in an accident in the Shopian district, which led to their deaths shortly afterward. The vehicle that ran them over so mercilessly was driven by a young boy who was not of legal driving age. While the victims' identities were established, the identity of the driver will also be determined. This issue will be resolved by the police and the court. However, there is something important I need to say about this incident, so please listen carefully.

After the burial, while I was on my way home, I stumbled upon a one-minute video clip on social media that left me deeply disturbed. The footage, taken just minutes after the accident, shows the two victims in their final moments, gasping for breath while bystanders stood around them, turning their suffering into a spectacle. The cameraman recorded their last breaths without anyone coming forward to offer assistance; instead, people watched from afar, numb to their pain.

This video starkly highlights the cruelty and insensitivity of the person who filmed it. By recording and then sharing this footage on social media, he committed two profound wrongs: first, by capturing the victims' final moments, and second, by broadcasting their suffering to the world. Even if Allah might forgive the first act, the second is unforgivable. This individual has turned the anguish of griev-



ing families into a public spectacle. Imagine the torment of the victims' loved ones as they watch this video—how could anyone be so callous? Those who exploit such tragedies for their own purposes must be held accountable.

The scenes following the accident were deeply sorrowful. As the truth came to light, it was revealed that there had been a delay in taking them to the hospital. They had sustained severe injuries, making survival almost impossible. What will forever haunt their family and loved ones is the realization that no one made an effort to save them in their final moments. No one stepped forward, no one held their heads gently, and no one tried to tend to their wounds. The absence of compassion in their last moments adds to the profound sorrow of their loss. Witnessing someone's death should shake a person to their core, but these people turned death into a show. They mocked the very sanctity of life in its final moments. How can anyone with a beating heart in their chest watch such a terrifying scene of death as if it were just entertainment on a TV show? It's incomprehensible that they could be so cold and indifferent, treating a moment of profound sorrow and loss as mere entertainment.

There is a big difference between imagining something and seeing it with your own eyes. Before this video went viral, the pain might not have been as intense as it is now after seeing the footage. Who would want to see a family member, relative, or friend in such a state? As if the news of the accident and the mourning for their burial wasn't enough, this cameraman decided to make things worse by sharing the video to gain views, adding

99

Here, if someone had an accident, people would rush them to the hospital without a second thought. Today, for the first time, we're witnessing something different, something heartbreaking. It's as if even in Kashmir, the spirit of humanity has begun to fade to the suffering of the victims' families. There is no shortage of such heartless individuals in the world who exacerbate others' misfortunes.

The pain of losing someone isn't as devastating as witnessing their death being turned into a public display. Just minutes after the accident, when a friend of Sajad Ahmad Shah was desperately crying out for help, no one came forward. A grieving friend was holding his deceased companion, pleading for help, but no one answered his call. This heartwrenching incident should serve as a powerful lesson for all of us. When someone is in desperate need, no law should stand in the way of offering help. I understand that strict traffic

I understand that strict traffic laws can discourage people from rescuing those in crisis, as helpers might be held responsible during police investigations, making people hesitant to intervene. However, it's crucial to remember that humanity should always come before the law. If you leave victims alone in such situations, you will regret it for the rest of your life, and perhaps Allah may not forgive this mistake. Remember, those who act according to what is right are never wrong.

According to some, a few people in the crowd helped the driver and three others escape. The underage boys were speeding and recording videos for fun. When they hit a pothole, they swerved into oncoming traffic, lost control, and ran over the motorcycle. Before this accident, the same boy had driven recklessly on this road at high speed four times, despite multiple warnings from people throughout the day, which he ignored.

The question isn't simply whether these young children are to blame for the tragic deaths of their teachers. The real, heartbreaking question is how children like this can emerge in a society that is guided by well-respected and revered educators. This wasn't just an accident but a result of reckless behavior. We must reflect on why the new generation is increasingly involved in illegal activities. Despite teachers' dedication to educating our children, many students skip school and waste time aimlessly. What kind of upbringing is this? Instead of being respected, our teachers are being mistreated, undermining the very foundation of our society.

It's a harsh truth that outside of Kashmir, when accidents happen, people often ignore the victims until the police arrive. But this was never the case in Kashmir. Here, if someone had an accident, people would rush them to the hospital without a second thought. Today, for the first time, we're witnessing something different, something heartbreaking. It's as if even in Kashmir, the spirit of humanity has begun to fade.

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

How to Stop Overthinking

Nir Eyal

Who hasn't ruminated on a hurtful comment or unintentional harm we might have caused someone? Feeling bad about something you did, or something done to you, is human. Congratulations on not being a psychopath!

But while it's expected that the arguments we've had, the negative events we've experienced, and the major decisions we face haunt us, overthinking can also pile on new problems. Rumination, or "overthink-

Rumination, or "overthinking," is a hallmark of poor mental health and unhappiness. It is a psychological tendency that, if left unchecked, can reduce our enjoyment of life, ensuring we are never satisfied for long.

Yes, there are benefits to analyzing the past. But too much rumination can torment you and, worse, cloud your judgment about how to proceed into the future. The consequences of too much rumination are focusing on problems rather than solutions, sacrificing the present moment, and losing productive time, sleep, and healthy relationships.

Studies show there's a way to circumvent rumination, which has myriad benefits, including helping us to overcome distraction in a world that has evolved faster than we have.

What Is Rumination?

Rumination is our tendency to keep thinking about bad experiences. It's quite different from healthy self-reflection.

If you've ever chewed over something in your mind that you did, over something that some-



one did to you, or over something that you don't have but wanted, over and over again, seemingly unable to stop thinking about it, you've experienced what psychologists call rumination.

This "passive comparison of one's current situation with some unachieved standard," as described by the authors of a study on rumination, can manifest in self-critical thoughts such as, "Why can't I handle things better?"

Another study notes, "By reflecting on what went wrong and how to rectify it, people may be able to discover sources of error or alternative strategies, ultimately leading to not repeating mistakes and possibly doing better in the future." A potentially valuable trait—but, boy, can it make us miserable.

Rumination impairs decisionmaking and worsens physiological stress responses, and it's correlated with not only leading to depression and anxiety but also increasing their severity. It can prompt us to distraction, and it's one of four psychological factors that drive us to dissatisfaction.

Thankfully, some studies have found a way to rewire our rumination into wisdom.

Taking Yourself Out of the Equation

Have you ever tried talking about yourself in the third person? The practice, called illeism, goes at least as far back as the Ancient Greeks. (There's still a lot we can learn from the Ancient Greeks.)

Several modern-day studies show that talking about yourself in the third person allows you to see past your personal biases and improve decision-making and emotional regulation.

How does it do that?

Illeism is a form of "self-distancing" that allows us to circumvent Solomon's paradox: the idea that we are great at applying wise reasoning to others' lives but terrible at applying it to our own. (Many studies validate Solomon's paradox as social cognitive bias, though the psychological mechanism behind it remains unclear.) Distancing ourselves from our problems helps us to see them as clearly as we would another person's.

That's why illeism is a powerful method for breaking the cycle of rumination. It allows you to observe your thoughts and feelings objectively rather than getting caught up in an emotional storm. By referring to yourself as he, she, or they—or whatever thirdperson pronoun you prefer—you detach from the immediate experience and gain a broader perspective.

In this way, illeism is similar

to talking to yourself as a friend would, another method for beating negative thoughts and selftalk.

Several studies—many conducted by psychologist Igor Grossmann at Canada's University of Waterloo—have found that practicing illeism to defeat rumination makes us wiser.

According to Grossmann, wise reasoning includes intellectual humility, recognition of uncertainty and change, others' perspectives and broader contexts, and compromise. He also found that wisdom is better than intelligence at predicting emotional well-being and relationship satisfaction.

Grossmann's 2021 study shows that illeism can even help us build a long-term habit of being wise: For four weeks, almost 300 participants kept a daily diary describing a new social conflict or "irritating interaction."

Half the group wrote in the third person, the other in the first person. Before and after the monthlong exercise, two psychologists scored each participant on wise reasoning.

The study found that those who wrote in the third person improved their "intellectual humility, open-mindedness about how situations could unfold, and consideration of and attempts to integrate diverse viewpoints." According to Grossmann and his co-authors, "This project provides the first evidence that wisdom-related cognitive and affective processes can be trained in daily life."

How to Use Illeism to Become Indistractable

To use illeism, a powerful cognitive-reframing tool, take a note from Grossmann's study and journal in the third person about

your conflicts. You might practice illeism during a daily 15-minute morning brain dump, which will not only reduce rumination and make you wiser but also alleviate the internal triggers, or negative feelings, that drive you to distraction. Conquering internal triggers is the first step in my four-step model to become "Indistractable."

If you're not the type to keep a diary, you can get those same benefits by visualizing your conflicts from a third-person perspective or relaying them to yourself in the third person, either aloud or in your head.

Think of a recent conflict with a romantic partner, a friend, or boss, or picture a significant life decision you've had to make. Describe that situation in the third person.

Here's a one-sentence example if I were to try illeism: I'd replace "I was annoyed that they complained to me about distraction but hadn't read Indistractable" with "Nir was annoyed that they complained to him about distraction but hadn't read Indistractable."

If you're talking to yourself rather than writing, make it more realistic by addressing yourself in the mirror: Pretend you are a therapist or some other wise figure and give advice to your reflection, the "client."

Using illeism to combat rumination will do wonders for controlling your attention and boosting your focus, ultimately helping you to develop the most important skill of the future: being "Indistractable."

The article was originally published by Psychology Today

News

Centre Drops Lateral Entry Plan Amid Opposition Pressure



Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: The UPSC on Tuesday cancelled its latest advertisement to fill key posts in government departments through lateral entry, amid a political row over the lack of a reservation provision for those positions.

The move came after Union Minister of State for Personnel Jitendra Singh wrote to Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) Chairperson Preeti Sudan to cancel the advertisement, so that marginalised communities get their rightful representation in government services.

The commission had, on August 17, issued a notification for the re-cruitment of 45 posts -- 10 of joint secretaries and 35 of directors or deputy secretaries -- through lateral entry, which is referred to as the appointment of specialists (including those from the private sector) in government departments. It was one of the biggest tranches of

lateral recruitment announced by the commission.

The decision had ignited criticism from the opposition parties, which claimed that it undermined the reservation rights of the Other Backward Classes (OBC), Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs).

Union Minister Chirag Paswan, the head of BJP ally Lok Janshakti Party (Ram Vilas), had also said the proposed recruitment was a "matter of concern" for him and that he would take up the matter with the Centre.

Official sources said the decision to cancel the advertisement was taken by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) and the government would now review the lateral-entry recruitment drive with reference to the applicability of reservation provisions in it.

At present, the sources said, there is no policy and provision for reservation for these specialised or single-cadre posts.

They said comments and concerns of all stakeholders would be taken into account by the government to find out whether or not reservation can be applied to lateral-entry recruitment.

"The Centre may review its reservation policy to ensure social justice in lateral-entry recruitment," a source said.

In the letter to the UPSC, Singh said for Prime Minister Narendra Modi, reservation in public employment is a cornerstone of "our social justice framework", aimed at addressing historical injustices and promoting inclusivity.

"Since these positions have been treated as specialised and designated as single-cadre posts, there has been no provision for reservation in these appointments. This aspect needs to be reviewed and reformed in the context of the Hon'ble Prime Minister's focus on ensuring social justice," the minister said.

"Hence, I urge the UPSC to cancel

the advertisement for lateral entry recruitment issued on 17.8.2024, he added.

Singh said the step would be a significant advance in the pursuit of social justice and empowerment.

"It is well known that, as a principle, lateral entry was endorsed by the Second Administrative Reforms Commission which was constituted in 2005, chaired by (senior Congress leader) Shri Veerappa Moily. The recommendations of the Sixth Pay Commission in 2013 were also in the same direction," he said.

However, there have been many high-profile cases of lateral entrants before and after that, Singh pointed out.

Under earlier governments, posts as important as those of secretaries in various ministries, the leadership of the UIDAI etc. were given to lateral entrants without following any process of reservation, he said.

"Further, it is well known that the members of the infamous National Advisory Council used to run a super-bureaucracy that controlled the Prime Minister's Office," the minister added.

While most of the major lateral entries before 2014 were made in an ad-hoc manner, including cases of alleged favouritism, the efforts of "our government have been to make the process institutionally driven, transparent and open", he said.

Further, the prime minister is of the firm belief that the process of lateral entry must be aligned with the principles of equity and social justice as enshrined in the Constitution, particularly concerning the provisions of reservation, Singh added.

Lateral recruitment in the central government has been undertaken since 2018 to appoint persons for specific assignments, keeping in view their specialised knowledge and expertise in the domain area.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Rahul, Kharge To

visiting Jammu and Kashmir for two days, starting tomorrow. They will arrive in Jammu tomorrow afternoon".

Mir said that during their stay, they will engage in extensive meetings with leaders and workers in both Jammu and Srinagar, aiming to energise and strengthen the party cadre.

After their interaction in Jammu, they will fly to Srinagar on Wednesday evening to continue their interactions with the cadre there.On Thursday, they will hold a press conference in Srinagar.

After the meeting on Monday, Venugopal had told reporters that the leaders deliberated upon preparation for elections in Jammu and Kashmir, Haryana, Jharkhand, and Maharashtra, and guidelines for selecting candidates.

He said the Central Election Committee meeting for Jammu and Kashmir would take place in the next three-four days. Venugopal also said the party was open for an alliance in Jammu and Kashmir and its main objective was to keep the BJP out of government.

Also newly-appointed Jammu and Kashmir Congress chief Tariq Hameed Karra said on Monday that the party is open to talks with like-minded parties to strike a "respectable alliance" for the Jammu and Kashmir assembly polls but the parameters for such a tie-up would be different from the Lok Sabha elections.

The three-phase elections to the 90-member Jammu and Kashmir assembly will be held on September 18, September 25 and October 1.

The Election Commission has also nnounced that elections to the 90-member Haryana assembly will be held on October 1 and results for both the polls will be declared on October 4.

ratio of the electors by 2 points-going up from 959 to 961, demonstrating significant progress in efforts towards intensification of electoral inclusion of women.

"A grounds-up, multi-faceted campaign including organising Prabhat Feris, Door to Door and Mass Awareness programs have contributed significantly to the increase in the number of women electors," said the CEO.

Along with the increase in numbers of electors, the number of polling stations across Jammu and Kashmir has also seen an uptick, this year.

"The number of polling stations (PSs) in Jammu and Kashmir for the upcoming Assembly elections has increased from 11629 to 11838 and polling station locations (PSLs) from 8930 to 9168. This increase of 209 polling stations and 238 polling station locations has come courtesy the rationalisation of the polling stations and polling locations, while ensuring that there should be a distance of less than 2 kilometres to facilitate the voters," the CEO informed.

The CEO informed that as on date, Jammu and Kashmir has 83,191 registered Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) voters, while the number of centenarian voters (of age over 100 years) stand at 2428.

Appreciating all the stakeholders involved in the Special Summary Revision, the CEO underlined the significance of good quality, pure electoral rolls, weeded out of all errors.

The CEO appreciated the Block Level Officers and the key role played in successful conduct of the House-to-House surveys across the challenging terrains of Jammu and Kashmir, even as he noted the significant rise in the number of registered Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) voters and Migrants voters. The CEO appealed to all eligible voters across Jammu and Kashmir to exercise their franchise on the polling davs in their respective constituencies and strengthen democracy in the Union Territory.

Rafiabad, Qaziabad Haril, Mawer, Langate and Handwara developed cracks, reports said.

However, no major damage was reported from anywhere during the earthquake. (KNO)

Lack Of Applicants

statutory role".

The court was hearing a Public Interest Litigation and on the last date of hearing on 24 July this year, it had granted the government two weeks time to file the status report and in case of failure, Chief Secretary of J&K was directed to be personally present before it

Election Landscape

This is the second major revolt within the PDP, following similar resignations in 2020 after the abrogation of Article 370, which saw over 20 leaders leave to form the Apni Party led by Altaf Bukhari.

Similarly, Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) and Apni Party faced a jolt on Tuesday when the key leaders announced their resignation from the respective parties.

Meanwhile, Choudhary Haroon Khatana, a prominent tribal leader from Kokernag in Anantnag district, has resigned from the Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) and is expected to join the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) soon.

Khatana confirmed that he has stepped down from all DPAP positions, including the post of General Secretary, and relinquished his basic membership.

Although he has been approached by several parties, Khatana plans to make a final decision on his next move

ST-I group comprises 12 tribes declared STin 1989 and 1991 while ST-II comprises newly entered groups.

"Under the aforementioned provision, individuals classified under ST-II are not eligible to apply for reserved Assembly seats allocated to ST-I, and

encies which were reserved for ST-I should, therefore, remain exclusively for the ST-I groups to ensure their

Chowdhary said though the top BJP

clarification. Azad

and Kashmir, sources said. Azad has been in with

since

"farce and sham" and said that the party had reached a point of "no return." Over a month after quitting the

Congress despite a half-century-old association, Azad announced his party on September 26, 2022.

Sources said, keeping electoral politics in mind, Azad and his party colleagues may be looking for options ahead of the Assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir. They said several DPAP leaders are also planning to meet Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge in Srinagar to discuss the ways and means for joining the Congress.

Amid the speculations, DPAP on Sunday denied reports of Azad and his party joining Congress, even though the party's senior leader, Taj Mohiuddin, announced his decision to join Congress.

Meanwhile, a senior party leader claimed that nearly 20 top leaders from different political parties are in touch with Congress to join the party. However, he didn't divulge the identities of any of the aspiring entrants.

These leaders belong to the Apni Party, DPAP, People's Conference (PC), National Conference (NC), and Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), he said.

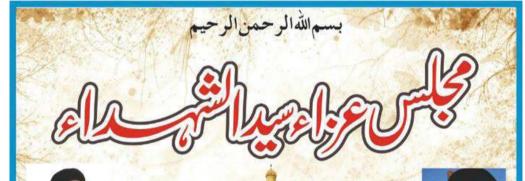
Notably, Congress has already formed a five-member committee to hold talks with different parties and individuals over the alliance.

The panel is led by newly appointed J&K Congress chief Tariq Hameed Karra and comprises All Indian Congress Committee (AICC) General Secretary Ghulam Ahmad Mir, working committee presidents Raman Bhalla and Tara Chand, and former JKPCC chief Vikar Rasool Wani.

Sources said the committee has been tasked with holding talks with other leaders about their return to the party. (KNO)

NC's Manifesto

manifesto. Already, the People's Conference led by Sajad Lone has accused the NC of copypasting its manifesto. But none of the parties can afford to be silent on Article 370 and statehood and a well-rounded welfare agenda, so they have to include all. What, however, would get them votes is not a piece of paper but how credibly they build a forceful narrative around it.



vice versa," he said, adding it is crucial to clarify that the reserved constituencies for STs were based on the population of ST-I group of 12 tribes declared ST in 1989 and 1991. He said the nine reserved constitu-

rightful representation.

leadership and the Lt Governor have time and again assured the community that their reservation will not be diluted, particularly the rights of Gujjar-Bakarwals, the government should keep its word, failing which confidence of the people particularly

of ST and SCs shall get shattered. He said they have already forwarded representation to the Election Commission, central government and Lt Governor-led J-K administra-

tion, seeking an immediate Weighs Jammu

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Ram Madhav Back

"This appointment comes into effect immediately," the statement said.

Madhav served as BJP national general secretary during 2014-20 period. He was responsible for handling the political affairs of Jammu and Kashmir, Assam and other Northeastern states.

In a reshuffle on September 26, 2020, the BJP dropped Madhav and several other general secretaries to bring in new faces in its team.

Over 88 Lakh Voters

he detailed the notable findings of the Special Summary Revision-2024.

"As per the Special Summary Revision -2024 completed with publication of the final electoral roll, the total number of electors (voters) stand at 88.03 Lakh. These include 44.89 Lakh males, 43.13 Lakh females and 168 third gender electors," the Chief Electoral Officer said in a statement.

A total of 93,284 voters have been added in this Special Summary Revision across Jammu and Kashmir. while the elector population ratio has improved from 0.59 to 0.60.

Highlighting the notable achievements, the CEO said that the number of young voters in the 18 to 19 years age group has increased by 45,964, with 24,310 of them being women, even as the overall number of the women voters has also gone up by 51,142.

"This significant increase in the number of young electors in Jammu & Kashmir demonstrates the commitment of young electors towards the electoral process," said the CEO, adding that the total number of young electors in Jammu and Kashmir in the 18-29 age group stand at 25.34 Lakhs.

The comprehensive Increase of first time young voters is attributed to the comprehensive SVEEP plan and its successful implementation by the respective District Election Officers, under the overall guidance of Chief Electoral Officer Jammu and Kashmir.

The CEO also noted the special efforts made during the special summary revision exercise which has resulted in the improvement in the gender

ECI Issues Notification

the Notification, the last date for filing nominations is August 27, 2024. Scrutiny of the nomination papers shall take place on August 28, 2024 and last date of withdrawal of candidature is August 30, 2024.

The polling day for these Assembly constituencies is scheduled for September 18, 2024, and the Polling will be conducted from 07:00 AM to 06:00 PM, the notification reads. 300 Paramilitary

Handwara, Ganderbal, Budgam, Kupwara, Baramulla, Bandipora, Anantnag, Shopian, Pulwama, Awantipora, and Kulgam, they said.

As many as 298 companies of paramilitary forces, including Central Reserve Police Force, Border Security Force, Sahastra Seema Bal, and Indo-Tibetan Border Police, have been deployed for the providing security for the smooth conduct of the assembly polls in the Kashmir valley, they added. According to officials, Srinagar has got the maximum number of companies (55), followed by Anantnag (50), Kulgam (31), Budgam, Pulwama, and Awantipora police districts (24 each), Shopian (22), Kupwara (20), Baramulla (17), Handwara 15, Bandipora 13, and Ganderbal (3).

The notification for the first phase of the three-phased polls was issued earlier on Tuesday. The voting for the first phase will take place on September 18, second phase on September 25, and the third and final phase on October 1.

2 Back-to-back

during the tremors, jumped from a building (Ahmed Complex) and suffered a leg injury in Baramulla. He was immediately rushed to a nearby hospital, where he is reported to be in stable condition.

Furthermore, several residential houses in Sumbal, Hajin, Dangiwacha after consulting with his workers.

The Kokernag assembly segment, now reserved for Scheduled Tribes following recent delimitation, could see Khatana's formal shift to the PDP in the coming days. Previously, Khatana was affiliated with the National Conference before moving to the DPAP.

Zafar Iqbal Manhas, Vice President of Apni Party, and his son have resigned from the party and are expected to join the Congress on Wednesday.

Manhas confirmed his resignation but indicated that the next steps will depend on feedback from his workers.

A meeting with his supporters is currently taking place at his residence, and a final decision is anticipated soon.

Sources suggest that Manhas will formally join Congress in the presence of senior leader Rahul Gandhi.

Manhas, a founding member of the Apni Party after leaving the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), has been a notable figure in regional politics, with his son Irfan Manhas serving as Vice Chairperson of the DDC Council in Shopian.

Abdul Haq Khan, a former Jammu and Kashmir minister, has rejoined the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) after two years.

Khan confirmed his return to the PDP, which was also announced by Mehbooba Mufti after visiting him in Srinagar.

Khan, who previously served as Minister for Rural Development, Panchayati Raj, and Law and Justice under the PDP-BJP coalition, represented the Lolab constituency from 2009 to 2018 and was elected on the PDP ticket in 2008 and 2014.

9 Reserved Seats

extended national laws to the region.

As per the act, a delimitation commission, which was constituted in March 2020, submitted its report which came into force on May 20, 2022, reserving nine seats for STs and seven for Scheduled Castes among the total 90 seats.

Chowdhary said the sub-classification was enforced by the Jammu and Kashmir Government, with newly entered groups classified as ST-II with an additional 10 percent reservation.

party's performance in the Sabha in J&K and held talks them. During his talks, he has shown interest in his return to Congress," مولاناافتخار sources said. However, the former J&K chief minister was particular about getting a "top position Congress respectfully,' which seleaders strong reservations. also بولانا that announcement about his joining should from کی ارواح منتقلہ الی عالم برزخ کی ب<mark>لندی درجات کے لئے ایک عظیم الشان مجلس عزاء سیدالشھد اءکاانعقاد</mark> central leadership of م - کشمیری روایتی، مرشیذوانی معد مواعظه حسنه سے محلس هذا کومنور کیا جائیگا۔ Congress rather than from طعام وشربت کاانظام حسب تقاضائ فطرت جائے مجلس پر پی ہوگاhim or his party," a Congress اسکے لئے گھرگھرجانے کی ضرورت نہیں ہے۔ functionary, wishing anonymity, said. Azad left بروزجمعرات: زمان: in August 2022 م 10 بج ےشام 6:30 بجتک 2024 آگست 2024 after he re-16 صفر المظفر 1446 بجرى signed from all party positions and quit **پیسماندگان** : آغاسیدقاسم شاه ابن سیدنقی شاه بالخصوص ، آغاسید ظهور حسین موسوی و برادرانش the primary membership. In his fivepage resignation letter to قصرامام زمان (ع) ،نواب باغ ، باعنبان پوره ، لال با زار ،سرینگر ،کشمیر then-party مكان: president Sonia Gandhi, اخوان المنتظرين في قيادت امام زماننا (ع الداعى he called the party's election +91 7889301308 for

STATE

Er. Rashid Led AIP Spreads Wings In South Kashmir

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Days after the three-phased assembly elections were announced, the incumbent Member of Parliament (MP) from Baramulla Lok Sabha constituency led Awami Ittehad Party is spreading its wings in South Kashmir as a few leaders have announced their joining in the partyfold while a few more are expected to join soon.

On Tuesday, two Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) leaders and DDC members including Dr Harbaksh Singh and Abdul Qayoom Mir resigned from the party and joined AIP.

Talking to reporters after joining AIP, Singh said that he hasn't left the party for not getting the mandate but being a senior leader, he wasn't taken into confidence before taking any decision.

He said despite serving the party for 14 years, he wasn't informed about the decision made by the party for Tral constituency. He alleged that both the PDP and NC have always neglected minority communities and he is hopeful that the AIP won't repeat such things

Singh said that he is against the policy of the PDP where they think about their family only. "I have always worked for the welfare of the people and will continue to do so irrespective of the affiliations of the party," he said.

DDC member from Kakapora Abdul Qayoom Mir will contest



the assembly elections from Pampore against Zahoor Mir.

PDP workers from the area said Zahoor Mir was inactive for the last six years and a mandate should have been given to the active leader only.

Meanwhile, sources said that many other PDP leaders, who have been denied mandate, are in touch with AIP and they are expected to join the party soon. The leaders include former MLA Watchi Aijaz Ahmad Mir, DDC Member from Shopian Raja Waheed, DDC Chairperson Pulwama Syed Bari Andrabi

and others. Sources said that they are in touch with other parties like Congress as well but they think they won't be able to get a mandate from Congress if there will be any pre-poll alliance.

However, most of these leaders are still waiting to get any green signal from the party with which they have been associated.

Sources further added that AIP team is in touch with leaders of other parties but the situation will get clear once parties like NC, Congress, Apni Party and others will announce mandates-(KNO)

Timely Rains Set Stage For Successful Saffron **Farming In Kashmir**

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Saffron farming in Kashmir is off to a promising start this year, thanks to timely rains that have arrived at a crucial period for the crop. The rainfall, which has been particularly beneficial for saffron, contrasts sharply with the challenges faced by other crops in the region this season. Kashmir's saffron fields, known for producing some

of the world's most prized saffron, have seen a positive boost from the recent precipitation. This timely rain is expected to enhance the quality and

yield of the saffron, providing a much-needed uplift for local farmers. "It is really a moment of joy

for the farmers as saffron is a very delicate crop and needs timely rainfall. This rainfall received this week will help the crop to grow, thereby enhancing its quality and quantity," said Muzaffar Ahmad, a farmer.

In contrast, vegetables and paddy crops have suffered significantly this year due to prolonged dry weather. The extended dry spell earlier in the season adversely affected the growth of vegetables in particular, leading to concerns about reduced yields and increased difficulties for local farmers.

Saffron farmers also had expressed their concern about

WORLD MOSQUITO DAY

the prolonged dry weather, Bashir Ahmad, another saffron saying the crop which is in

farmer. its infancy requires frequent

Dry weather has been often throwing challenges for the saffron cultivation in Kashmir. Pertinently, the govern-

ment launched the 4.1 billion Rupee National Saffron Mission (NMS) in 2010 to mitigate these challenges and rejuvenate saffron cultivation in Kashmir.

Apart from manual irrigation, the growers claimed that timely rains play an important role in the growth of the crop. To reduce the impacts of climate change, farmers in Kashmir have resorted to indoor farming.

This mode of farming which is not yet common has shown promising results as the growers got good returns in terms of production as well as quality through indoor farming-(KNO)

ing was also attended by Spl DGP; Spl DG Crime; ADGPs; Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir/Jammu; Secretary, Transport; IGP Jammu/

Kashmir; Transport Commissioner; DIGs; Deputy Commissioners; SSPsand other concerned officers. Outstation officers partici-

pated in the meeting through video conferencing. The Chief Secretary took this occasion to impress upon the concerned to make robust arrangements for additional companies of CAPFs required

here in the UT.

KASHMIR OBSERVER® Srinagar | Wednesday | 21-08-2024

CS Takes Stock Of Security,

Other Arrangements For

Upcoming Polls

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary,

Atal Dulloo Tuesday held a

meeting of top Civil Adminis-

tration and Police Department

to take stock of the security ar-

rangements made for smooth

conduct of assembly elections

Besides the DG Police and Prin-

cipal Secretary, Home the meet-

in each district. He asked for identification of feasible locations for camping these security forces which are amenable in terms of basic amenities like water, power, toilets and others. Dulloo also sensitized the

administration to look into the security and accommodation

of contesting candidates. He advised for making adequate arrangements for such protected persons along with other requirements for their campaigning and electioneering.

He implored upon the Transport Department to make prior roadmap in collaboration with the respective districts for making available the requisite number of buses, LMVs and HMVs for ferrying polling staff, security forces and other poll materials.

He enjoined upon the respective Divisional Commissioners to personally monitor these activities along with specifying places, carrying out necessary repairs, if any before the actual dates of polling there. He directed for submitting the daily reports about the progress made on this account. Moreover the Chief Secretary took appraisal from the concerned Divisional Commissioners, Deputy Commissioners and Transport Department about their preparedness and plans to meet the requirements. He asked them to observe utmost coordination with each other so that this democratic exercise completes in a very congenial manner with large participa-

tion of public. **Committee Constituted For Identification Of Parking Lot**

Sites In Jammu & Srinagar

Agencies

SRINAGAR: In an effort to address the growing urban congestion and enhance infrastructure, the Jammu and Kashmir government has constituted a high-level committee to iden-

tify potential sites for the development of parking lots in Jammu and Srinagar cities. The move is aimed

at improving traffic management and alleviating parking issues in these bustling

urban centers. The committee as per KINS comprises key officials, including the Inspector General of Police (Traffic), J&K; Commissioners of Jammu and Srinagar Municipal Corporations; the Transport Commissioner of J&K; and Vice Chairman of both the Srinagar and Jammu Development Authorities. Additionally, the committee has the power to co-opt any other relevant members as deemed necessary.

The primary responsibility of the committee will be to identify suitable, encumbrance-free sites for the development of parking lots in both cities. The identified areas will be assessed for their suitability in terms of accessibility, infrastructure po-

tential, and freedom from legal or physical

The committee has been directed to submit its recommendations and suggestions to the Housing and Urban Develop-

ment Department within one month from the issuance of the order. It is expected to ensure strict adherence to all relevant rules, procedures, and guidelines set forth by the government. The order was issued by the Principal Secretary to the Lieutenant Governor of J&K, underscoring the importance of the initiative in improving urban infrastructure and traffic management.(KINS)

DEO Ganderbal Briefs Political

Parties On Election Process

Observer News Service

GANDERBAL: In preparation for the upcoming Assembly election in Ganderbal district, political parties were today thoroughly briefed on the rules and regulations governing the electoral process during a meeting held under the chairmanship of District Election Officer (DEO) Ganderbal, Shyambir. The meeting, conducted at the VC Room, aimed to ensure a free, fair, and transparent election. During the meeting, the DEO provided a detailed orientation on the election process and emphasized that the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) has been in effect since the election notification was issued. He stressed the importance of strict adherence to the MCC and guidelines of ECI to maintain the integrity of the elections. Master trainers present at the meeting gave comprehensive guidance on expenditure monitoring, highlighting a spending limit of Rs 40 lakhs for election-related activities in each Assembly Constituency. They also explained the procedures for obtaining necessary forms, permissions and schedules to be followed during the election period. The DEO urged all political parties to apply for permissions online through the Suvidha app and recommended that they seek assistance from the DIO NIC for smooth issuance of these permissions.

He also advised parties to nominate an Election Expenditure Agent and an authorized person with an official email ID to ensure proper communication with the District Election Office

'Increased Vigilance Needed To Prevent Mosquito-Borne Diseases'

spells of rain.

of Kashmir.

'There hasn't been a major

impact on the crop yet. How-

ever, saffron requires regular

rainfall after August 20 and in

September," said Abdul Ma-

jeed Wani, President of the

Saffron Growers Association

The growers claimed the en-

hanced production recorded

during the last few years was

a result of periodic rainfalls

sensitive to weather. Insuf-

ficient rain can hinder early

growth and affect the crop's

quality and yield. However, re-

cent years have seen favorable

weather conditions, which

have positively impacted both

production and quality," said

"Saffron cultivation is very

received in the valley.

Agencies

SRINAGAR: On World Mosguito Day, medical professionals have called for heightened awareness and vigilance to prevent mosquito-borne diseases such as dengue, malaria and chikungunya, which can be severe and even fatal in

some cases. Dr Irfan Ahmad from GMC Anantnag said it is important to take necessary precautions protect against these to

ly reduce mosquito populations," he added.

Dr Basharat from the Directorate of Health Services Kashmir (DHSK) said that personal protection measures, such as applying mosquito repellents. wearing longsleeved clothing and using mosqui-

ular inspections and fumigation in high-risk areas by the

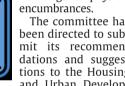
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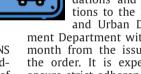


Mosquito bites, common in warm and

climates, an imresponse that leads to red these

encumbrances.





 \square

Additionally, the DEO cautioned against the involvement of government employees in election campaigns, warning that strict action as per ECI guidelines would be taken against any employee found participating in the campaign activities of any political party.

Political party representatives were also informed about the various measures being implemented to ensure transparency and efficiency in the electoral process. These measures include stringent monitoring of campaign expenditures and the use of advanced technological tools like cVIGIL, Suvidha, and NCORE, provided by the Election Commission of India for real-time monitoring and swift action in case of violations.

The DEO called for the effective cooperation of all political parties to ensure the smooth conduct of the elections. He emphasized the necessity of obtaining prior permission for election campaigning, rallies, and advertisements.

The meeting was attended by the Additional District Development Commissioner, Mushtag Ahmad Simnani; Additional Deputy Commissioner, Gulzar Ahmad; ACR, Dy. DEO, DIO NIC, DTO, and representatives of various political parties.

"Preventing mosquito breeding is crucial," he said. The doctor advised people to eliminate standing water from containers, flower pots and other potential breeding sites. "Regular cleaning of water storage containers and proper waste disposal can significant-

toes out of homes," he suggested.

to nets, are essential.

"Window screens must

be installed to keep moso

Both doctors said that public education is crucial, as many people do not take mosquito-borne diseases seriously enough.

Dr Basharat called for community involvement and reghistamines. Over-the-counter creams should be used with caution, they said.

The medical community's message is clear: prevention is critical, and public cooperation is essential to reduce the risks associated with mosquito-borne diseases-(KNO)

ACB Arrests VLW For Demanding Rs 20,000 Bribe In Kupwara

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Anti-Corruption Bureau has arrested a village level worker for demanding and accept-

ing Rs 20, 000 bribe in Vilgam village of Kupwara district. In a statement, ACB said it received a complaint from a resident of village Kukrossa, where he

alleged that a case under PMAY was sanctioned in his favour by block development officer, Vilgam. The statement reads that the complainant received two instalments of monetary assistance of Rs 50,000 and Rs 75000 from the concerned departaction against concerned VLW ment through a bank account. "On receipt of information, which prima facie disclosed "The construction of the house of the complainant was incomplete due to non receipt of final instalment Rs 50,000 which of was due in March this year. The complainant alleged

times, but the

payment was re-

or other by Nazir Ah-

bribe," it reads.

the commission of offence punishable U/S 7 of the P.C Act 1988 (as amended in 2018), case FIR No. 10/2024 was registered at PS ACB Baramulla and investigation was taken up," it added. that he visited the It reads that during inves-

BDO office many tigation, a trap was laid the accused was caught while demanding and accepting Rs fused on one pretext 20,000 bribe from the complainant.

"The bribe amount was remad, village level worker of the concerned block, who covered from the possession was demanding Rs 20,000 of accused. The accused was immediately taken into cus-It added that under these tody following due process of circumstances the complainlaw. Further investigation of ant approached ACB for legal the case is going on," it reads.

'Include Biz Community **Issues In Manifestos'**

Observer News Service

It's high time their resilience and **SRINAGAR:** The Kashmir Trade contributions are acknowledged Alliance (KTA) has urged political parties to consider the plight of the business community while formulating their

election manifestos. The trade body said there is the dire need for economic upliftment of the business community. "As we stand on the cusp of a new political era, it is imperative that our leaders recognise the pivotal role of the business community in Kashmir's economic landscape," said KTA

President Aijaz Shahdhar. He highlighted challenges faced by local entrepreneurs and traders saying, "Our business community has weathered numerous storms, from political in-

and supported through concrete policy measures." Shahdhar emphasized the timing of their appeal, noting, 'With elections around the corner, we demand that all political parties incorporate the needs and aspirations of our business sector into their man-

stability to economic downturns.

ifestos. This is not just about promises; it's about crafting a vision for sustainable economic growth in Kashmir."

He said manifestos should not be mere documents of hollow promises and the trade body expects the elected government to implement their economic pledges with dedication and transparency.

NORTHERN RAILWAY

Notice Inviting Tender

Sr. DEE/TRD/FZR acting for and on behalf of the President of India invites E-Tenders for the works as under. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids upto closing date 05.09.2024 at 15:00 Hrs. only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender and any such manual offer received shall not be considered

Tender No.	Name of work	App. Cost. (Rs.)	Cost of Tender form (Rs.)		Earnest Money # (Rs.)	Completion period	Opening of tender	Website Particulars
611- TRD-FZR 2024-25			NIL	Upto 05.09.2024 15:00 Hrs	2,88,600/-	Twelve (12) Months	05.09.2024 after 15:00 Hrs.	www.ireps.gov.in
612- TRD-FZR 2024-25	TRD Work in c/w Provision of Automatic Block Signalling on LDH-JUC section of Firozpur division	1,70,28,820.60	NIL	Upto 05.09.2024 15:00 Hrs	2,35,200/-	Twelve (12) Months	05.09.2024 after 15:00 Hrs.	www.ireps.gov.in

Note:#

Tenderer (s) may please note that offers received without Bid Security either in cash through e-payment gateway or as Bank Guarantee bond from a schedule commercial bank of India or as mentioned in tender documents (as per Annexure-21) valid for a period of 90 days beyond the bid validity period, will be considered as ete & invalid offer and for which contractor shall have no claim on Railway. No.: 611 & 612-TRD-FZR-2024-25, Dated: 12.08.2024 2589/2024

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

Sayeed Mureed Hussain Shah Joins BJP

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Sayeed Mureed Hussain Shah, a prominent social activist and retired senior official, along with his supporters from Mendhar, Poonch, officially joined the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) at the party headquarters in Jammu.

Ravinder Raina, President of the J&K BJP, welcomed Shah and his supporters,

highlighting the Modi government's commitment to public welfare through its schemes aimed at the poor and needy. Raina emphasized the government's dedication to "Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Prayas, Sabka Vishwas," underscoring the development and inclusiveness brought about by BJP policies.

BJP Minority Morcha President Ranjodh Singh Nalwa was also present, noting that

prominent figures from various fields are joining the BJP daily, reflecting their trust in the Modi administration's developmental agenda. He commended Shah and his supporters for recognizing the progress achieved even in remote areas.

Ravinder Raina expressed confidence that the residents of Jammu and Kashmir are increasingly supportive of the BJP and are poised to vote

Assembly elections in 2024. In response, Shah thanked the BIP for the warm reception and affirmed his commitment to working for the welfare of the people, in alignment with the party's principles. He acknowledged the visible development and progress in Jammu & Kashmir and expressed eagerness to contribute to addressing the needs of the neglected regions.(KINS)

for the party in the upcoming

SPORTS

'Bumrah Has Been The Best Multi-Format Bowler For Last 5 Or 6 Years'

Press Trust of India

DUBAI: India's pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah has been the best multi-format bowler for the last five or six years, reckons former Australia captain Ricky Ponting.

Ponting said that there might have been a few concerns over Bumrah's longevity but he has only returned stronger from injuries.

"I've said it for a long time, he's probably been the best multi-format bowler there's been in world cricket for the last five or six years," Ponting said on the ICC review. "There might have been

some fears a couple of years

ago when the injuries come in and 'would he come back the same?', but I think he's actually come back better," he added.

'The greatest way to always get a real gauge on these players is by asking (other) players. And when you talk to opposition batsmen about him (Bumrah) in particular, it's always, 'No, he's a nightmare! You never know what's going to happen. One's going to swing, one's going to seam, he's going to bowl an in-swinger, he's going to bowl an out-swinger'," he continued.

With 15 wickets in the T20 World Cup, Bumrah played a pivotal role in India's title triumph and Ponting heaped

praise on the 30-year-old. "If I watch what he did in the T20 World Cup -- the pace is still there, there's nothing that's changed with the accuracy or what he can deliver," Ponting said.

"The skillset is all the same. He's getting better year on year. He would rank right up there.

"When you've got that skillset and the consistency that he has, then you're going to be a great player. Look at (Glenn) McGrath, look at (James) Anderson, these guys, their longevity and their skills being able to hold up for such a long period of time is what separates them from the rest," Ponting added.

Short TAKES

Wushu, Fencing, Handball Selection **Trials Held In Jammu**



The Department of Youth Services and Sports' District Level Selection Trials in the sports disciplines of Wushu for U-19 years age group Boys/Girls and Fencing for all age groups (AAG) Boys/Girls started at MAM Stadium in Jammu. Trials in Handball for U-19 boys and girls also began at Dogra Ground Jammu. The competitions are being organized under the patronage of Director General Youth Services and

Sports J&K Rajinder Singh Tara. The selection trials are being conducted with the

expert guidance of Yash Paul Sharma, Vishal Malhotra and Anil Shan.

Australia Batsman Steve Smith Says He Has No Plans To Retire

Veteran Australia batsman Steve Smith says he has no plans to wind down his cricket career having signed a long-term deal to play in the Big Bash League with the Sydney Sixers.

The 35-year-old inked a three-year contract with the Sixers and could squeeze in four BBL games during the home summer between the final test against India and the tour of Sri Lanka. Smith said he remains committed to playing all formats.

Jannik Sinner Beats Frances Tiafoe To Win Cincinnati Open

World number one Jannik Sinner beat Frances Tiafoe 7-6(4) 6-2 at the Cincinnati Open final on Monday, showing that despite recent health strug-gles he will still be the man to beat at the upcoming U.S. Open in New York.

The 23-year-old, who has been struggling over the last couple months with a hip issue and who missed the Paris Olympics due to tonsillitis, was error-prone to start the contest and came up limping after several points in the tight first set.

Brighton Buys Georginio Rutter For Club Record Transfer Fee

Drighton signed Georginio Rutter from second-tier DLeeds late Monday, making the France Under-21 forward a reported record transfer buy for the Premier League club.

Brighton said Rutter signed a five-year deal, with the move reportedly valued at a club record 40 million nounds (\$52 million)

ICC Women's T20 World Cup Shifted From Bangladesh To UAE



Press Trust of India

DUBAI: The ICC on Tuesday said the Women's T20 World Cup will be moved to the United Arab Emirates due to the prevailing unrest in Bangladesh following the ouster of former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

The event, scheduled to take place from October 3 to 20, will now be staged in Dubai and Sharjah.

ICC Chief Executive Geoff Allardice said: "It is a shame not to be hosting the Women's T20 World Cup in Bangladesh as we know the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) would have staged a memorable event."

"I would like to thank the team at the BCB for exploring all avenues to try and enable the event to be hosted in Bangladesh, but travel advisories from the governments of a number of the participating teams meant that wasn't feasible. However, they will retain hosting rights. We look forward to taking an ICC global event to Bangladesh in the near future." he added

ICC Finally Reveals Ratings For T20 WC Pitches In New York



Samoa's Darius Visser Hits 39 Runs In 1 Over, Smashes Yuvraj's Record



Agencies

APIA: Darius Visser hit 39 runs in a single over to set a men's Twenty20 International record and help Samoa to a 10-run victory over Vanuatu in a 2026 World Cup regional qualifier on Tuesday.

Visser, who scored 132 off 62 balls, was on 46 when Vanuatu's Nalin Nipiko stepped up to bowl the 15th over. in which the Samoa batter cleared the ropes on six occasions and faced three no balls. Nipiko bowled a dot ball for the fifth delivery of the over but followed it up with two no balls, with 28-year-old Visser hitting the second of them for a six. Visser finished with 14 sixes and five fours. The previous record for the most runs in a T20I over was 36, with India's Yuvraj Singh, West Indies' Kieron Pollard and Nepal all-rounder Dipendra Singh Airee all having struck six sixes in an over.

Pollard meted out the same treatment to Sri Lanka's Akila Dananjaya in 2021, with Airee becoming the third batsman to achieve the feat in April. The record in one-day internationals is 36, scored by South Africa's Herschelle Gibbs and U.S. batsman Jas-

karan Malhotra. Visser, who also took the wicket of Vanuatu batter Ronald Tari, powered Samoa to a

celebration of Singh's unparalleled journey and contributions to cricket, capturing the essence of his career, unforgettable six sixes in the 2007 T20 World Cup, his courageous off-field battles and his subsequent return to cricket in 2012", a press release said.

Singh, who began his career at the age of 13, said he is hoping his life story will inspire people to overc

Press Trust of India

DUBAI: The ICC match referees have gone soft on the much-maligned pitches used for the New York leg of the T20 World Cup with six of the eight games, including the India versus Pakistan contest, getting a "satisfactory" rating.

Two games at the makeshift Nassau County Cricket Stadium, including India's opening fixture against Ireland, have got an "unsatisfactory" rating from the game's governing body which remains bullish on promoting cricket in the United States. The surface used for the game between between Sri Lanka and South Africa also got thumbs down from the match referee.

After a rather long delay, the ICC published the pitch ratings on its website on Tuesday. The tournament was played from June 1 to 29. All eight games in New York ended up being low-scoring affairs, drawing scathing criticism from experts and fans during and after the ICC event. The cricket on display in New York was not the best advert for a sport trying to make its presence felt ahead of the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics,

where it will make its debut.

Yuvraj hit England's Stuart Broad for six sixes in an over in a 2007 T20 World Cup match,

total of 174, which they were able to defend to claim their second victory in the East Asia-Pacific qualifying tournament.

Biopic On Yuvraj Singh Announced

An upcoming biographical movie will chronicle the inspiring journey of former Indian cricketer Yuvraj Singh, the makers announced Tuesday. The yet-to-be-titled biopic will be produced by Bhushan Kumar's T-Series and co-produced by Ravi Bhagchandka, known for "Sachin: A Billion Dreams" and the upcoming Aamir Khan-starrer "Sitaare

Zameen Par". The film is touted as a "grand challenges.

"I'm deeply honoured that my story will be showcased to millions of my fans across the globe by Bhushan and Ravi. Cricket has been my greatest love and source of strength through all the highs and lows. I hope this film inspires others to overcome their own challenges and pursue their dreams with unwavering passion," the former India all-rounder said.

Kumar, known for backing blockbuster films such as "Drishyam 2", "Animal", "Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2", "Kabir Singh" and "Tanhaji: The Unsung Warrior", said he is excited to bring out the inspiring journey of Singh on the big screen.

The 22-year-old Rutter had moved to England in January 2023 when Leeds, then in the Premier League, bought him from Hoffenheim in a deal worth up to 35 million pounds (\$45.5 million).

Lionel Messi Left Out Of Argentina's World Cup Qualifiers

njured Argentina captain Lionel Messi was left out of the squad announced on Monday by the Argentine FA for next month's South American World Cup qualifiers against Chile and Colombia.

The 37-year-old Messi was not included in the 28-man squad following an ankle injury sustained during last month's Copa America final in the United States. The Inter Miami player is currently recovering at his club.

Argentina host Chile on September 5 before facing Colombia five days later.

Motta Pleased With Juve's First Game **Under His Leadership**

Agencies

TURIN: Juventus coach Thiago Motta appeared well pleased with his new team after they strolled to a 3-0 home win against Como in their Serie A opener on Monday.

Juve pulled off a confident performance as they beat newly-promoted Como with Samuel Mbangula, Timothy Weah and Andrea Cambiaso all on target in the first game of the season at the Allianz Stadium.

"I was satisfied with the performance but above all with the result. We deserved to win," Motta told a press conference.

"Today I liked the defensive phase, understanding the moment to press, recompose, the willingness of the attackers, of Dusan (Vlahovic) to start the first pressing.

"I'm satisfied. We can im-



prove there too and we'll try to do it in everything. I think this team should and can do it." Juve, who won nine con-

secutive championships between 2012 and 2020, great enthusiasm. are hoping for a fresh start under the Italian-Brazilian coach, whose main objective will be to secure the

great respect, in the right way: defending ourselves first Serie A crown for the together; when we have the Turin club in four years. ball we have players of great

"Humility is always quality, with a great under-

needed," Motta said. "Like standing of the moment and the game and we did very that of Dusan today in dropping back to consoliwell throughout the match." date the team... we played Motta, 41, had more well against a very good words of praise for Serbian team that was coming with Vlahovic, who had a series of chances and a goal ruled "We faced them with out for offside.

"Dusan had a great game with and without the ball, for us he is an important player who definitely needs the team," said Motta.

Simeone Sees Hope In Atletico's **Disappointing Start To Season**

Agencies

MADRID: Atletico Madrid manager Diego Simeone said he spotted good points in his side's performance despite the disappointing 2-2 draw at Villarreal that kicked off their LaLiga season on Monday.

Atletico had to fight back twice in the first half to rescue a point at Villarreal, who made the most of their rivals' mistakes in defence.

Arnaut Danjuma easily beat Atletico defender Axel Witsel to score Villarreal's opener and a bad mistake by goalkeeper Jan Oblak led to an own goal from Atleti captain Koke 19 minutes later.

"We played a good game. We had individual situations that we have to improve but as a collective effort the team played well, but we conceded goals we could have avoided," Simeone told Movistar Plus.

"(The) thing is, in the few chances they had in attack we were toothless and conceded two goals in isolated plays. But I saw good things and details that make the difference throughout the year.'



Simeone said he was satisfied with the debut of his blockbuster signing Julian Alvarez, who came off the bench to play the final 15 minutes of the game but had little impact.

Argentine Alvarez joined Atletico only a week ago after Manchester City agreed a deal of more than 75 million euros (\$83.13 million) to part with the versatile 24-year-old forward.

"Julian is gradually getting to know

the club and his teammates and understanding the system that we are going to play so we are hopeful we'll be able to (appreciate) all the great things he has to offer soon enough," Simeone said.

The manager also confirmed that Joao Felix's absence on Monday was due to "the transfer market", after British and Spanish media reported that Atletico had a deal in place to send the Portuguese forward to Chelsea.