

PM Modi Pitches India To Chip Makers

Press Trust Of India

Greater Noida: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday said resilience of supply chains is critical for the economy as he made a pitch to boost investments in domestic manufacturing of semiconductors -- the foundation of everything from smartphones to EV and AI.

Speaking at the SEMICON 2024 conference on the outskirts of the national capital, the Prime Minister said the Covid pandemic showed the importance of the supply chain and underscored the need to act to ward off any disruption.

"Whether it was Covid or war, there hasn't been a single industry to remain unaffected by supply chain disruptions," he said.

Stressing the importance of a resilient supply chain, the Prime Minister expressed pride in India's central role in building resilience across sectors, positioning the country as a key player in the global mission to safeguard supply chains.

"Resilience of the supply chain is very important," he said. "India is working to create the same in different sectors of the economy."

A halt in flights, factory shutdowns in China, and surges in demand for specific products broke supply chains during Covid-19. One of the sectors impacted was chips that form a critical part of every electronic device.

Prime Minister showcased India's reformist regime, stable policies and a market that has tasted technology to make a strong pitch | More on P6

With Unwavering Tone, Er Rashid Walks Out Of Tihar

- Vows to Fight Modi's 'Naya Kashmir' Narrative
- Says His Election To Parliament 'Referendum' Against August 5 Decision



Majid Nabi

Srinagar: Awami Ittehad Party (AIP) supremo and member parliament Engineer Rashid walked out of Tihar Jail on Wednesday on interim bail till October 2 for campaigning in

the Jammu and Kashmir assembly elections.

The parliamentarian immediately resumed his characteristic blunt and fiery rhetoric, and vowed to fight Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "Naya Kashmir" narrative.

Rashid claimed that his election to Lok-Sabha was a 'referendum' against Prime Minister Narendra Modi's decision to strip J&K of its special constitutional position on August 5, 2019.

Calling himself a victim of the Bharatiya | More on P6

'INDIA Bloc Stabs In The Back'

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: Engineer Rashid on Wednesday slammed the BJP and INDIA bloc, alleging that the ruling party at the Centre hits upfront while the opposition grouping stabs in the back.

Wearing a black band on his left arm to register his protest against abrogation of Article 370 in 2019, the Baramulla MP also made it clear that his party will

contest 35 to 40 seats in Jammu and Kashmir assembly elections and that there will be no coalition with any political party but only with his "inner self".

Rashid was addressing a press conference after walking out of Tihar Jail on interim bail till October 2 for campaigning in the J&K polls.

"When I went in on August 2, I had a state, Article 370 and Article 35A. Now when I came out | More on P6

AIP To Hold 'Welcome' Rally In Baramulla Today

MAJID NABI

The Awami Ittehad Party (AIP) will be holding a grand welcome rally in Baramulla district of north Kashmir on Thursday for | More on P6



Rashid's Release 'Fishy': Omar

National Conference (NC) Vice president and former chief minister of erstwhile Jammu and Kashmir state, | More on P6



Who's funding AIP?, Asks Mehbooba

The people of Kashmir must remain vigilant and avoid a divided vote as (Awami Ittehad Party chief) | More on P6



Will Further Vitiating Valley Politics: Ram Madhav

Senior BJP leader and election incharge for Jammu and Kashmir, Ram Madhav on Wednesday slammed Er Rashid for his remarks after he was released on | More on P6

Congress Chief Announces 4 Guarantees For J&K

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Stating that BJP was feeling the heat of Congress-National Conference pre-poll alliance in J&K, Indian National Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge Wednesday announced four guarantees for the people of J&K—Rs 5 lakh interest free loan for women, Rs 25 lakh insurance cover for every citizen, due representation of OBCs and rehabilitation of Kashmiri Pandits.

Addressing a press conference in Srinagar, Kharge, who was flanked by J&K Pradesh Congress Committee (J&KPC) chief Tariq Hameed Karra, said: "Let me tell you that BJP has started to feel the heat of National Conference-Congress alliance in J&K. Now BJP is supporting independent candidates to defeat Congress-NC joint candidates."

Kharge said that BJP tried its best to break the INDIA block but



failed. "The party is applying the same tactics in Kashmir by trying to divide the vote bank by supporting independent candidates. The BJP will see how Congress-NC will emerge victorious in the upcoming polls," he said.

Announcing the four-guarantees, Kharge said if NC-Congress comes to power in J&K, women will get interest free loan under Self Help | More on P6

Kulgam's Electoral Face-Off Tarigami's Long Standing Hold Tested By J&K Backed Candidate

Syed Mohammad Burhan

Srinagar: The Kulgam assembly constituency in south Kashmir is gearing up for an unprecedented electoral battle. The first phase of the elections will take place on September 18, setting the stage for a contest unlike any seen in recent history.

A total of 10 contestants are in the fray for the Kulgam seat, four of which are contesting as independent candidates.

However, political analysts believe that the main contest seems to be between Muhammad Yusuf Tarigami of CPI (M) and Sayar Ahmed Reshi, an independent candidate, who has the backing of banned Jamaat-e-Islami.

Observers say, the four-time MLA and senior CPI (M) leader



Muhammad Yusuf Tarigami, who is consensus candidate of the National Conference-Congress alliance, is facing one of the toughest electoral battles in his home turf.

The Kulgam seat in South Kashmir has been a stronghold of CPI (M), with Muhammad Yusuf Tarigami getting elected since 1996. Some even say it is a battle between Islamists and communists in Kashmir's

only Red Island.

On Sunday, Sayar Ahmed Reshi and his supporters stunned everyone in Kashmir by holding a massive rally in Bugam area of Kulgam.

Sayar Ahmed Reshi, a resident of Kharote village of Kulgam is popularly known as "Sayar Sir" among the younger generation here for his services in the educational sector. Sayar, who holds M. Phil in political sciences, has worked as a contractual lecturer in Government degree colleges of Kulgam and Anantnag.

Speaking to reporters, Sayar said he chose to enter politics after seeing the terrible condition of Kulgam and accused Tarigami of corruption.

"Communism has vanished and it is time the people of Kulgam show | More on P6

Anantnag Assembly Seat A four-cornered Contest In The Offing

Agencies

Anantnag: The main Anantnag assembly segment in south Kashmir is set to witness a close contest between four candidates, including one independent who was previously associated with the People's Democratic Party (PDP) and People's Conference (PC).

The four candidates in the running include National Conference-Congress Alliance candidate Peerzada Mohammad Sayed, Dr Mehboob Beigh of the PDP, Hilal Ahmad Shah of Apni Party, and independent candidate Peer Mansoor.

Peerzada Mohammad Sayed

Peerzada Mohammad Sayed is a prominent politician from Jammu & Kashmir, affiliated

with the Congress party. He has served as the President of the Jammu & Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee and has been elected four times as an MLA from the Kokernag constituency. Sayed, who has held several ministries, is contesting elections from another constituency as his own seat is ST-reserved Larnoo. However, the backing of NC makes him a strong contender.

Dr Mehboob Beigh

Dr Mehboob Beigh, son of Mirza Afzal Beigh, was associated with NC for a long time but later joined PDP. Beigh has been elected to the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly, Legislative Council, and the Indian Parliament multiple times. He has also served as | More on P6

EPS #2

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'Excess Abdominal Fat Linked To Widespread Chronic Pain In Women'

Press Trust Of India

Excess fat around the abdomen is related to more chances of experiencing widespread chronic pain, especially in women, according to a study. In over 32,000 participants from the UK Biobank dataset, researchers found that women having fat surrounding their abdominal organ, called 'visceral adipose tissue', were twice as likely to experience chronic pain at multiple points in their body. About half the participants were women, aged 55 years on average. Chronic pain is a condition in which pain persists beyond the immediate healing period, following an injury or trauma. It can sometimes be widespread, felt in more than one part of the body. The researchers, including those from the University of Tasmania, Australia, also found that women

having higher levels of 'subcutaneous adipose tissue', or the fat right under the skin that can be pinched, were at a 60% increased chance of having widespread chronic pain. The findings are published in the journal *Regional Anesthesia and Pain Medicine*. While excess fat in obesity is known to be linked to pain in the muscles and bones, researchers said that the relationship between excess visceral and subcutaneous and widespread chronic pain has not been studied. Among the men studied, those having higher levels of visceral adipose tissue and subcutaneous adipose tissue were found to be at a 34% and a 39% higher chance of having widespread chronic pain, respectively. The stronger links between fat and chronic pain in women could be a result of how differently fat is distributed compared to men, along with hormonal differences.



The researchers advised that addressing abdominal fat could help reduce chronic pain, particularly if it is widespread.

For the study, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scans of the abdomen were used for measuring both the types of fat -- visceral

and subcutaneous adipose tissue. The participants also underwent pain assessments, in which they were asked if they had experienced pain in their neck or shoulder, back, hip, knee or 'all over the body' for more than three months. The scans and evaluations were repeated after two years for a smaller group of 638 participants. Being an observational study, the authors could not establish cause-and-effect links. They also acknowledged the study's limitations, including the comparatively smaller size of the participants' sample undergoing repeat tests, and not measuring the severity of pain. "Abdominal adipose tissue was associated with chronic musculoskeletal pain, suggesting that excessive and ectopic (abnormal) fat depositions may be involved in the pathogenesis of multisite and widespread chronic musculoskeletal pain," the authors wrote.

Robots Can Lie And Deceive Like Humans, Reveals Study

IANS

Just like humans, robots can lie and deceive, according to a study that shows how emerging technologies like generative AI can be used to manipulate users. The team from George Mason University in the US aimed to explore "an understudied facet of robot ethics" to understand mistrust towards emerging technologies and their developers. To determine if people can tolerate lying from robots, the team asked nearly 500 participants to rank and explain various forms of robot deception. "I think we should be concerned about any technology that is capable of withholding the true nature of its capabilities because it could lead to users being manipulated by that technology in ways the user (and perhaps the developer) never intended," said lead author Andres Rosero, a doctoral candidate at the University.



"We've already seen examples of companies using web design principles and artificial intelligence chatbots in ways that are designed to manipulate users towards a certain action. We need regulation to protect ourselves from these harmful deceptions."

The findings, published in the journal *Frontiers in Robotics and AI*, showed that robots can deceive humans in three scenarios: external state deceptions, hidden state deceptions, and superficial state deceptions. The robots were used in medical, cleaning and retail

work, and were portrayed as lying about the world beyond the robot, a house-cleaning robot with an undisclosed camera, and a robot working in a shop. The participants were asked to approve of the robot's behaviour, its deceptiveness, and if it could be justified. Most participants disapproved of the hidden state deception, which they considered the most deceptive. They also disapproved of the superficial state of deception, where a robot pretended it felt pain. The researchers attributed these deceptions, particularly hidden state deceptions, to robot developers or owners. They warned that the study should be extended to experiments that can better model real-life reactions, such as videos or short role plays because it was conducted on a limited number of participants, which does not make up for concrete evidence.

Public Notice

My name nad DOB has been wrongly written in my aadhaar as Mubashir Ahmad Mir, DOB 18-07-1990 while my correct name and DOB is Mahboob Ahmad Mir DOB, 20-02-1990 which needs to be corrected. if anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the Concerned office within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Mahboob Ahmad Mir
 S/o Farooq Ahmad Mir
 R/o Andergam Pattan fko

Subject:- Grant Of Registration of the Proposed Travel unit under the name & Style "M/S Epic Mountainous Kashmir Tour & Travel situated at Wailoo Kunzer

Public Notice

Whereas I, Mr. Naveed Ahmad Bhat S/o Gh Ahmad Bhat R/o Wailoo Kunzer KASHMIR intend to apply in the Department of Tourism for registration of my proposed travel unit under the name & style of M/S Epic Mountainous Kashmir Tour & Travel situated at Wailoo Kunzer KASHMIR under tourist trade act 1978/82/2011-12. Whereas I will submit state subject / Domicile certificate, Qualification Certificate, pan card \ Experience Certificate (Minimum 5years), Police character certificate, Bank statement (minimum balance 10000), site plan, Affidavit, Rent deed duly attested by sub Registrar, printing material (Letter head / Visiting card) Photograph of the unit (indoor and outdoor) and Two passport size photographs to the department of Tourism as per prescribed checklist I Prior to Registration of my unit as an Excursion Agency. Now as per J&K Registration of Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011/12) before my case is processed for my registration by the Competent Authority, the matter is hereby notified for information of general public/ Financial institutions/ Bank/ Organisation, etc for objection, if any and the same should reach to the Deputy Director Tourism Registration(email id: dtdreg23@gmail.com) within a period of 7days from the publication of this notice in a leading newspaper/newspapers of the valley. No objection beyond a period of 7 days shall be entertained.

How iPhone 16 Is Different From Apple's Recent Releases

Associated Press

Apple's ubiquitous iPhone is about to break new ground with a shift into artificial intelligence that will do everything from smartening up its frequently dim-witted assistant Siri to creating customised emojis on the fly. The new era will dawn on Monday with the unveiling of the hotly anticipated iPhone 16 in a Cupertino, California, auditorium named after Apple co-founder Steve Jobs, who pulled out the first iPhone in 2007 and waved it like a magic wand while predicting it would reshape society. Apple has sold billions of iPhones since then, helping to create about USD 3 trillion in shareholder wealth. But in the past decade, there have been mostly minor upgrades from one model to the next -- a factor that has caused people to hold off on buying a new iPhone and led to a recent slump in sales of Apple's marquee product. The iPhone 16 is generating a bigger buzz because it is the first model to be tailored specifically for AI, a technology that is expected to trigger the biggest revolution in the industry since Jobs thrust Apple into the smartphone market 17 years ago. The advances included in the iPhone 16 could set up

Apple to be "the gatekeeper of the consumer AI revolution", Webdush Securities analyst Dan Ives wrote in a research note. Apple's pivot began three months ago with a preview of its new approach during a developers' conference,



helping to build anticipation for Monday's showcase. Since that June conference, competitors such as Samsung and Google have made even more strides in AI. Google even took the unusual step of introducing its latest Pixel phones packed with their own AI magic last month instead of hewing to its traditional October timetable in an effort to upstage Apple's release of the iPhone 16. In an attempt to set itself apart from the early leaders in AI, the technology being baked into the iPhone 16 is

being promoted as "Apple Intelligence". Even so, Apple Intelligence is similar to the generically named AI already available on Google's Pixel 9 and the Samsung Galaxy S24 released in January. Most of Apple's AI tasks

will be performed on the iPhone itself instead of remote data centres -- a distinction that requires a special processor within the forthcoming models and the high-end iPhone 15s that came out a year ago. That's why investors anticipate hot demand for the iPhone 16, spurring a surge in sales that has caused Apple's stock price to climb by 13 per cent since Apple previewed its AI strategy in June. That spike has increased the company's market value by nearly USD 400 billion.

Office of the Executive Engineer Electric Division Baramulla

Fax No'-- 01954-234241 email:- tseidbla@rediffmail.com

Cancellation of e-NIT No:-EDB/16.EDB/14.EDB/18.EDB/20.EDB21.EDB/22.EDB/23.EDB/24.EDB/25.EDB/26.EDB/37.EDB/38.EDB/39.EDB/40.EDB/41.EDB/42 of 2024-25 Dt 14-08-2024

The above referred e-NITs are hereby cancelled due to technical reasons.

No:-EDB/Ts:-2080-82
 DIPK-NB-1546/24 Date:-11-09-2024

Executive Engineer
 Electric Division Baramulla

Government Of Jammu & Kashmir

Office Of The District Election Officer, Anantnag

Ph: 01932-222291, 222337 (Office) Fax: 01932-22291 email: entanantnag@nic.in

"Greater participation for a Stronger Democracy"

Subject -Constitution of District Grievance Committee-Regarding.

ORDER No:-84/DEO/ANG/2024.

Dated: 18/08/2024

In compliance to the Election Commission's Letter NO.76/ECI/SOP/EEM/EEPS/2023 Dated. 23-11-2023 conveyed by the Chief Electoral Officer, J&K, Jammu vide letter No. CEO-ELECOE/78/2024-1/33-54 Dated 18-08-2024, a District Grievance Committee comprising of following Officers is hereby constituted.

Sr. No.	Name of the Officer	Designation of the Officer	Mobile No.	Designated as
01.	Mr. Abdul Aziz Sheikh	Addl. District Development Commissioner Anantnag	9469549535	Convener
02.	Mr. Mohd Akram Thokur	District Treasury Officer Anantnag	9622138137	Member
03-	Mr. Peerzada Ishtiyaq Amin	Manager, J&K, Bank TP Branch Anantnag	7006301064	Member
04.	Ms.Mehroosh Nabi	Banking Associate J&K Bank Harnag Anantnag	9797059499	Member

The District Level Committee so constituted shall suo-moto examine each case of seizure made by the Police or SST or Flying Squad and where the committee finds that no FIR/Complaint has been filed against the seizure or where the seizure is not linked with any candidate or political party or any election campaign etc as per the SOP Dated 9th May 2015, it shall take immediate steps to order release of such cash etc to such persons from whom the cash etc was seized after passing speaking order to that effect.

(Copy of above communication along with enclosure is enclosed for information and reference).

No-DEO/ANG/2024/12049-98

DIPK-5414/24
 Dated:-11-09-2024

Sd/-
 District Election Officer, Anantnag

Lost Of Migration Certificate

I have lost my migration certificate bearing Roll No 2413226 of class 12th, now I have applied for the duplicate of the same if anybody has any objection in this regard, He/She may file his objection here in this office of JKBOSE suboffice magam with in a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice after that no objection shall be entered.

Name: Muhammad Mohsin Dar
 Address: Miragund, Pattan, Baramulla- 193121,
 Roll No. 2413226
 Registration No. N13441700014
 Year of Passing :- Annual 2016
 Issued by JKBOSE.
 Mob.No.: +918899666366

ss

NOTICE

This is to certify that I Junaid Ahmed Sikander S/o Intizar Ahmed Sikander R/o Ellahi Bagh , Sgr sold a vehicle i.e Ford Ecosport bearing registration number DL3CCC4062 , Engine No EU75883 , Chassis No MAJAXMRKAEU75883 on 11/9/2024 to Mr. Aqib Sidiq Jogi S/o Sidiq Jogi R/o Ahmda Kadal Srinagar. Further more I don't have any sort of association with the vehicle whatsoever. Further the said individual i.e Aqib Sidiq Jogi S/o Sidiq Jogi would be responsible for every action in regard to vehicle.

Media Line

Office Of Advocate Yakoob Hussain Sofi J&K High Court Srinagar

CHAMBER NO. 07 MUNSIFF/JMFC AT MAGAM
 Cell No. 9906517553, 9419068005

In the case of.
 I. Abdul Qayoom Bandy.
 S/o Nizam ud din Bnaday, R/O Najan Beerwah ...Caveators
 Versus
 PUBLIC AT LARGE
 ...Non-caveator

IN THE MATTER OF:

Caveat Petition in terms of Section 14B-A of C.P.C. The Caveators have reasons to believe/apprehension that non-Caveator (s) may file a suit/application/petition or any other type of proceedings before the Hon'ble High Court, District Courts, Revenue Courts or any other forum may succeed in obtaining some relief/order at their back/ex-parte against the caveators and in such eventuality, the caveators will be put to an irreparable loss and inconvenience. It would be proper that caveators may be given an opportunity of being heard by the Hon'ble Court before passing any order or direction.

Seal & Signature
 Yakoob Hussain Sofi

bmg

PUBLIC NOTICE

I want to change the name on electricity Bill bearing Consumer ID No: 0201050002389 from Gh. Mohammad Fafoo R/o Naqashpora Barbarsah to Nazir Ahmad Fafoo S/o Mohammad Ismail Fafoo R/O Naqashpora Barbar Shah Srinagar . If Anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the concerned PDD office within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Nazir Ahmad Fafoo
 S/o Mohammad Ismail Fafoo
 R/O Naqashpora Barbar Shah Srinagar iko

Office of the Naib-Tehsildar Pattan Executive Magistrate 1st Class

Subject: Issuance of Registration orders in respect of delayed Birth

Public Notice

The registrar Births and deaths (EO Municipal Council Pattan/Block Development Officer Lolpora) has submitted a case file Mushtaq Ahmad Parra S/o Abdul Jabar Para R/oMamooosa Tehsil Pattan District Baramulla with verified date of event (birth) as 15-06-1975 occurred at Home In this connection, if anybody having any objection to the issuance of said registration may contact this office within seven (07) days, after which no objections shall be entertained.

Executive Magistrate 1st Class
 Naib Tehsildar Pattan fko

Office of the Naib-Tehsildar Pattan Executive Magistrate 1st Class

Subject: Issuance of Registration orders in respect of delayed Birth

Public Notice

The registrar Births and deaths (EO Municipal Council Pattan/Block Development Officer Lolpora) has submitted a case file pertaining to Birth of Sofi Sugrah D/o Mehraj-ud-Din Sofi R/o Nehalpora Pattan District Baramulla with verified date of event (birth) as 28-05-2021 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
 Naib Tehsildar Pattan fko



Ganesh Chaturthi Concludes With Visarjan In Srinagar

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Kashmiri Pandits across the world celebrated Ganesh Chaturthi, traditionally known as Vinayak Tchoram, with great devotion and enthusiasm. This year's celebrations began on 7th August 2024, marked by religious ceremonies at the Siddhivinayak Ganpatyar Mandir in Srinagar.

The Siddhivinayak Ganpatyar Mandir and the Vessu Welfare Committee organized a Hawan (a sacred fire ritual) and Prasad distribution, supported by the Shri Bausahab Rangari Trust, Pune, headed by Shri Punit Balan. Eco-friendly Ganesh idols were provided for the Kashmir Valley, ensuring environmentally responsible celebrations.

The five-day festival concluded with the Ganesh Visarjan (immersion ceremony) on 11th September 2024. The Ganesh idols were carried

in two grand processions—one from the Ganpatyar Mandir in Srinagar to the Jhelum River at Haba Kadal, and the other from Vessu KP Colony to the Sangam in Anantnag, covering an 11 km route from Vessu to Sangam. The processions were celebrated with great enthusiasm, music, and prayers by the local community.

A unique feature of the festival, known as Pann Pooza, involved the preparation of sweet bread as an offering to Lord Ganesh, symbolizing unity and communal bonding.

Despite the challenges during the militancy years, the local Muslim community in Kashmir continues to witness and participate in the celebrations, reflecting the spirit of communal harmony that transcends religious boundaries. Their participation highlights the deep-rooted bonds of brotherhood and mutual respect in the Valley.



Assembly Elections- 2024

General Observers For Srinagar Inspects MCMC, Election Control Room

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The General Observers on Legislative Assembly Election-2024 for Srinagar, Sandhya Bhullar, Chandresh Kumar Yadav and Akhilesh Kumar Mishra Wednesday visited the Media Certification and Monitoring Centre (MCMC) established at DC Office Srinagar and reviewed its functioning.

District Election Officer, Srinagar, Dr Bilal Mohiuddin Bhat accompanied the General Observers during the visit.

During the visit, the team of Observers sought details of action taken to ensure free, fair and transparent elections with respect to media coverage in Print, Electronic and Social Media.

The Observers also interacted with the team of Officers and officials of MCMC and enquired about various activities carried out during the current Legislative Assembly Elections.

On the Occasion, Nodal Officer MCMC briefed the Observers regarding Certification of Political Advertisements, Monitoring of Paid News and other election related content shared on local TV Channels, Social Media channels and on different platforms which is being monitored by the MCMC team.

Nodal Officer, MCMC informed that the team has taken suo-moto cognizance of various MCMC & MCC violations and served notice to media platforms in various cases and got the content removed.

They were apprised that the team is scanning local Newspapers daily and submitting daily reports to the con-

2nd Randomization Of EVMs, Polling Staff Conducted In Srinagar

Srinagar: In view of General Elections for Legislative Assembly in Srinagar, the 2nd Randomization of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) and Polling Staff for all the (08) Eight Assembly Segments of Srinagar District was conducted in accordance with the guidelines of Election Commission of India (ECI) on Wednesday at Meeting Hall of DC Office Complex, here.

The 2nd Randomization process was held under the supervision of District Election Officer (DEO) Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat in presence of the General Observers for Srinagar District.

The representatives of Political parties, Contesting Candidates of all 08 Assembly Constituencies, Returning Officers, Deputy DEO, Nodal Officer EVMs, Nodal Officer ETPBS and other Officers of District Election Authority Srinagar.

The 2nd and final Randomization of Ballot Units, Control Units and VVPATs for Eight (08) Assembly Segments of Srinagar District were carried out through a dedicated software-EVM Management System. The reserve EVMs were also allotted to polling stations for use.

Besides, 2nd randomization of Polling Staff was also conducted through the software to create Polling parties and assign Polling Stations to them.

cerned authorities.

The Observers also checked the sample videos uploaded on Social media platforms which had been categorized under MCMC/MCC violation.

On the occasion, the Observers appreciated the work done by the MCMC team to ensure a level playing field in the media.

Meanwhile, the officers also inspected the Integrated Election Control Room to take stock of calls and grievances of voters received by the officials and the number of grievances addressed.

They were informed that more than hundred grievances from voters were received which were promptly addressed.

The General Observers later also visited other offices set up by the District Administration for the smooth conduct of elections.

BJP Intensifies Door-to-Door Campaign In Habbakadal-AC

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Ashok Koul, BJP General Secretary (Organization) Wednesday joined the door-to-door campaign for the Habbakadal Constituency ahead of the upcoming Assembly elections, scheduled for the 25th of this month. The campaign, which began from Barbar Shah, covered various parts of the constituency, engaging with voters from Habbakadal and the adjoining areas before concluding at the BJP constituency office in Barbar Shah.

Ashok Koul's participation further galvanized the efforts of the campaign committee led by BJP candidate Ashok Bhat, who is contesting from Habbakadal. Under the leadership of Ashok Koul, the BJP Srinagar team organized this large-scale outreach initiative, aimed at mobilizing support for Ashok Bhat and the party's symbol, the Lotus.

The campaign saw multiple teams, each led by local heads, engaging with residents on a personal

level, explaining the party's manifesto and urging the electorate to vote for BJP and its vision for the future of Habbakadal. The overwhelming response from the public highlighted the growing support for Ashok Bhat's candidacy.

During the campaign, the leaders and workers encouraged the public to stand with the BJP, emphasizing the promises made in the manifesto, which was unveiled yesterday in Jammu by the party leadership. Key participants in today's campaign included Adv. Syed Shujat Rizvi, Mohammad Hanief Bhat, Majid Khan, Arshad Ahmed, Riyaz Ahmed Ganaie, Bashir Ahmed Mir, Sif Khan, Mehrajudin Khan, Muneer Ahmed, Huzaf Ahmed, along with other BJP workers, supporters, and voters.

The BJP's door-to-door campaign in Habbakadal marks a significant push as the party works to secure victory in the upcoming Assembly elections and deliver on its commitment to serve the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

Mega SVEEP Event To Enhance Voter Awareness Held At Hazratbal- AC

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A significant mega Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) event was conducted on Wednesday at Baghe-Shagufa Park, Nigeen in Hazratbal Assembly Constituency (AC) with an aim to enhance voter awareness and encourage the participation of residents in the electoral process, emphasizing the importance of every eligible citizen casting their vote.

The primary goal of the event was to spread mass awareness about the importance of voting among the residents of Hazratbal constituency. The event underscored the need for all eligible voters, particularly those over the age of 18, to actively participate

in the electoral process and avoid wasting their votes.

The event was presided over by Dr Akhilesh Kumar Mishra, Election Observer 19-Hazratbal AC and was attended by Returning Officer Hazratbal AC, Syed Ahmad Kataria; Chief Education Officer, Nodal Officer SVEEP Hazratbal AC, Principles of Various Constituent Higher Secondary Schools, Heads of Constituent Schools, Officers from Civil Administration and police and National Awardee Teachers.

The mega SVEEP event was a resounding success, with over 15,000 participants across the constituency of Hazratbal including students, teachers and local residents came together to promote the crucial message of voter participation.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been wrongly written in driving licence bearing DL no: JK01 20170002438 As Suhaib Ahmad Dar S/o Ghulam Mohammad Dar while my correct name is Suhaib Ahmad S/o Ghulam Mohammad Dar which needs to be corrected. If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the RTO Srinagar within a period of seven days after that no objection shall be entertained.

Suhaib Ahmad
S/o Ghulam Mohammad Dar
R/o Old Nishat Srinagar

laa

OBSESSIVE COMPULSIVE DISORDER

8 WEEK FREE GROUP THERAPY

I did wash my hand ... but.... did I clean it enough? Wash it again? Is it clean now?

It's not just RECURRENT HANDWASHING AND CHECKING BUT UNSEEN PAIN, distress, myths and stigma associated with OCD

KASHMIR | Kashmir American Society of Healthcare, Medical Education & Research in collaboration with HPVT | Help Poor Voluntary Trust | is initiating a free 8 weeks Group Therapy for the individuals suffering with OCD by a team of counselling clinical psychologists led by leading consultant clinical psychologist of J&K.

If you or some one you know is experiencing symptoms of OCD, seeking professional help is crucial.

You do not have to fight your battles alone.

There is no need for referral, simply call us for registration.

Happy & Healthy minds Office, HPVT Building (First Floor), Daresh Kadal Chowk, Srinagar

9070806160

- TRAFFIC POLICE : 9419993745, 01998-266686
- PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883
- PDD: 0194-2450213
- FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES : 2479488,245222,2452155
- CAPD: 18001807011
- SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081
- Ambulance: Kashmir EMS Service: +91 94841 00200

AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311 ✈

RAILWAYS

- SRINAGAR: 0194-2103259
- ANANTNAG: 01932-228243
- BARAMULLA: 0194-102029
- BUBHERA: 01932-228243
- PAMPORE: 01933-294132
- PATTAN: 01954-293507
- QAZIGUND: 01951-296153

HIGHWAY STATUS

- Sgr-Jammu highway - (Open)
- Mughal Road - (Open)
- Srinagar- Leh- (Open)

HIJRI CALENDAR

07 Rabi-ul-Awwal 1446

PRAYERS

FAJR	4: 50
ZUHR	12:31
ASR	4: 55
Magrib	6:50
ISHA	8: 12

This Day In History

- 1213 - Battle at Muret: Crusade of Simon de Montfort beat Pedro II of Aragon
- 1217 - French prince Louis & English King Henry III sign peace treaty
- 1635 - Sweden & Poland sign ceasefire Treaty of Stuhmsdorf
- 1683 - Austro-Ottoman War: Battle of Vienna - several European armies join forces to defeat the Ottoman Empire
- 1703 - English army under arch duke Charles of Austria lands in Portugal
- 1722 - Russian troops occupy Baku & Derbent in Persia
- 1829 - Greek War of Independence ends after 8 years and 6 months
- 1909 - World's first patent for synthetic rubber granted to German chemist Fritz Hofmann
- 1918 - WWI: US forces launch an attack on German-occupied St Mihiel
- 1919 - Adolf Hitler joins the obscure German Worker's Party as its seventh member, agreeing not with worker's rights, but with its German Nationalism and antisemitism
- 1928 - Hurricane in Florida, kills 6,000
- 1938 - Adolf Hitler demands self-determination for Sudeten Germans in Czech
- 1940 - Italian troops enter Egypt
- 1941 - 1st German ship in WW II captured by US ship (Busko)
- 1942 - Battle of Edson's Ridge begins at Guadalcanal
- 1942 - Free-Poland & Belgium asks pope to condemn nazi-war crimes
- 1943 - Free French lands on Corsica
- 1944 - US Army troops entered Germany for 1st time
- 1948 - Invasion of the State of Hyderabad by the Indian Army on the day after the Pakistani leader Jinnah's death.
- 1949 Theodor Heuss elected 1st President of the German Federal Republic (West Germany) with Konrad Adenauer the 1st Prime Minister.
- 1961 - NASA civilian pilot Joseph A Walker takes X-15 to 34,840 m

From KO Archives

DD Kashir Runs Into Rough Weather

Observer News Service

NEW DELHI- The much-hyped Kashir channel of the Doordarshan has run into rough weather. The union ministry of home affairs (MHA) is understood to have declined to foot the bill for running the channel. Even as the channel has allegedly become a money spinner for some Mandi House officials and a handpicked coterie of Kashmiri migrants.

According to reliable sources, the MHA had 'promised' to provide the financial support required to run the channel which was launched, for the third time in June this year, with a big fanfare. Two plane loads brought several Bollywood celebrities besides the union minister of information and broadcasting, Arun Jaitley, with hundreds of ministry officials in tow to grace' the occasion The gala function held at the city's Grand Palace hotel is believed to have cost the exchequer a fabulous Rs two to three crore.

Sources said no new Kashmiri programmes were likely to be produced for the channel. Proposals submitted by Kashmir producers, mostly Kashmiri pandits, were being returned due to non-availability of funds. Sources said 148 proposals, were approved by the Mandi House last month. However, some 'stale' programmes provided gratis by Star, Zee TV Sahara and some other private channels may be telecast from the Kashir channel.

(Kashmir Observer, September 12, 2000)

KASHMIR OBSERVER®

Thursday | 12-09-2024

Rashid Stirs Kashmir Politics

The sudden release of Awami Ittehad Party leader Engineer Rashid has stirred things up in the Valley. It is as if a big rock has been hurled into the already choppy waters of Kashmir politics. The ripples generated from the impact are set to radiate outwards. Rashid's combative press conference at Delhi Press Club has already set the ball rolling. It remains to be seen how he is welcomed back into the Valley and how he himself chooses to go about it. If anything, Rashid has always been a maverick and consequently his politics has been dramatic and unpredictable. With his entry, the ongoing election campaign will become only more interesting.

The campaign is already heating up. Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to visit Jammu and Kashmir twice this month to campaign for BJP candidates ahead of the assembly elections. His first visit is set for September 14, with a second visit planned for September 19. Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, who addressed a rally at Anantnag on Wednesday, announced five guarantees, if the Congress-NC alliance is voted to power in the Union territory. The guarantees include interest-free loans of Rs 500,000 for women entrepreneurs, Rs 25 lakh health insurance for each household, Rs 3,000 monthly for women heads of families, 11 kg of grains per person through the public distribution system, and the fulfillment of the rehabilitation promise for Kashmiri Pandit migrants made during Manmohan Singh's tenure.

Other parties in the Valley including the National Conference (NC) and the PDP are also expected to up their game. They face a challenging road ahead. The ongoing Assembly polls are the first major electoral exercise in which the old and the new political order are face to face. The outcome will profoundly impact Kashmir's future politics. Though the NC looks strong on paper and Mehbooba Mufti remains politically very much relevant, the parties have a work on hand to retain their centrality. This has become critical after the alliances they were a part of have now decisively come undone.

The PDP has traditionally been dominant in South Kashmir and the NC in central Kashmir with Srinagar city as its core base. And in the north we are witnessing the dramatic emergence of Engineer Rashid's party as a significant player. Whether this new political reality also reflects in the seat tallies of these parties in the future assembly election remains to be seen. For now, the election campaign is becoming more exciting by the day. The coming weeks are set to be packed with a high voltage political drama. Here's hoping that the campaign remains peaceful and the outcome benefits people of the union territory. More so, after what they have gone through over the past five years.



Did you know ? The Power of Compounding: Rule of 72 Explained

Irshad Mushtaq Using the Rule of 72, we can quickly estimate how long it takes for an investment to double given a constant annual growth rate (CAGR). Here's a closer look at how this rule applies to two different growth rates: 1. At 9% CAGR: Calculation: $72 \div 9 = 8$ years to double. In 20 years: The investment doubles 2.5 times ($20 \div 8 \approx 2.5$). So, Rs 10 lakh doubles as follows: Rs 10 lakh Rs 20 lakh (8 years) Rs 40 lakh (16 years) Rs 80 lakh (24 years) 2. At 18% CAGR: Calculation: $72 \div 18 = 4$ years to double. In 20 years: The investment doubles 5 times ($20 \div 4 = 5$). So, Rs 10 lakh doubles as follows: Rs 10 lakh Rs 20 lakh (4 years) Rs 40 lakh (8 years) Rs 80 lakh (12 years) Rs 160 lakh (16 years) Rs 320 lakh (20 years).

Summary:
At 9% CAGR: Rs 10 lakh transforms into approximately Rs 56 lakh, doubling 2.5 times over 20 years.
At 18% CAGR: Rs 10 lakh transforms into Rs 3.2 crore, doubling 5 times over 20 years. Understanding the Impact of Compounding The Rule of 72 is a fundamental concept in financial literacy, illustrating the significant impact of compound interest. This principle underscores the importance of understanding Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR), a critical metric in evaluating investment performance. Key Takeaways 1. Compounding is often referred to as the 8th wonder of the world because of its exponential impact over time.

2. Educating oneself on international financial standards and metrics like CAGR is vital for making informed investment decisions.

3. Even small differences in growth rates can lead to vastly different outcomes over long periods. For example, a 9% CAGR versus an 18% CAGR results in a substantial difference—Rs 56 lakh versus Rs 3.2 crore over 20 years. In today's fast-paced and busy world, it's essential to take the time to understand how your money can work for you. The knowledge of financial principles like the Rule of 72 can empower you to maximize your investments and achieve greater financial security. Remember, small increments make a significant impact over time. Investing time in financial education can yield substantial rewards in the long run.

Learn from the insights of @Irshad Mushtaq, Writer, Investor, Entrepreneur & Founder of M I Securities! Connect for valuable financial advice at misecurities@bp.sharekhan.com

Zadibal Assembly Constituency Trends and Turnouts



Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat



The Zadibal assembly segment was represented by Saleem Anwar Dar, an independent candidate in 1972. This was the time when the National Conference had been pushed to the wall by Congress Govt at centre. Saleem Anwar Dar had secured 6173 votes out of 18692 votes that had been polled. Another independent candidate Aga Syed Afzal Jalali secured second position with 3491 votes

Zadibal assembly constituency has been a traditional stronghold of the National Conference. In 1983 assembly elections, the polling percentage was as high as 89%. After the 1987 elections, the voting percentage came down considerably as a majority of people boycotted these elections.

As Srinagar, Budgam and Ganderbal districts in Central Kashmir will go for assembly polls on September 20th, a tough contest between National Conference's Tanvir Sadiq and Peoples Conference's Abid Hussain Ansari is expected. Abid Ansari was elected as MLA from Zadibal during 2014 elections on People's Democratic Party (PDP) ticket. There are some prominent independent candidates in the fray as well like ex-Mayor of Srinagar, Junaid Mattu. PDP has also fielded its candidate Gowhar Ali.

The Returning Officer for Zadibal assembly segment has accepted the candidature of 15 candidates. The nomination papers of four candidates were rejected. There are now eleven candidates in the fray and locals whom this author interacted said that the main fight is between NC & PC candidates. Junaid Mattu who was earlier eyeing on Shia vote bank in Dal Lake area is now eyeing on the Bakra votes (the supporters of Mirwaiz Umar Farooq). The Zadibal constituency was considered to be the stronghold of National Conference as Soura area falls under this assembly segment. NC founder Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah belonged to Soura locality of Srinagar and that is why Zadibal was considered to be a high profile assembly constituency. After delimitation, some areas like Kalaiandar, Rainwari, Jogi Lanker and surrounding areas of Dal have also been included in the Zadibal assembly segment.

1972 election

The Zadibal assembly segment was represented by Saleem Anwar Dar, an independent candidate in 1972. This was the time when the National Conference had been pushed to the wall by Congress Govt at centre. Saleem Anwar Dar had secured 6173 votes out of 18692 votes that had been polled. Another independent candidate Aga Syed Afzal Jalali secured second position with 3491 votes. There were around 32,000 registered voters in Zadibal in the 1972 assembly election. Sadiq Ali who was later on elected as MLA of the area from National Conference in 1996 had also contested from Zadibal seat as an independent candidate and had secured 753 votes. Ghulam Nabi Nowshehri a noted Jamat e Islami leader was also contesting from this constituency and had secured 650 votes.

1977 election

In the 1977 historical election, which was said to be a transparent election held in Kashmir's history, this sitting MLA of that time, Saleem Anwar Dar, lost to his nearest rival Ghulam Ahmad Shunthoo who was a National Conference (NC) candidate. Shunthoo had secured 23,401 votes while Saleem Anwar who was contesting on Janata Party ticket gave a tough fight to NCs candidate by getting 21,522



votes. Jamaat e Islami candidate Ghulam Nabi Nowshehri managed to get mere 469 votes. There were no other candidates in the fray and polling percentage was recorded as 81.71%. During the 1977 elections Zadibal had 56400 registered voters out of which 45,392 voted.

Historic 1983 election

In 1983 assembly elections, which were held after the death of Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah in 1982, National Conference candidate Sheikh Abdul Rashid who was a close relative of Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah and Dr Farooq Abdullah got almost 50,000 votes which is a record in Kashmir's electoral history. Sheikh Rashid got 88% of the total votes and the polling percentage was 88.93%. Jahangir Ali Khan, an independent candidate, had secured 4000 votes. Congress and Peoples Conference had also fielded its candidates namely Mohammad Amin Bhat and Mohammad Ashraf in Zadibal in 1983 but they managed to get only 1710 and 545 votes respectively. Jamat-e-Islami had not fielded any candidate from Zadibal area in 1983 assembly elections.

1987 election

During the infamous 1987 assembly elections which are said to have been rigged in many places and was followed by militancy in Kashmir, there were only three candidates in the fray namely Peer Mohammad Shafi (NC), Peer Abdul Rouf (Independent) and A R Wani (Independent). Peer Mohammad Shafi secured 27,316 votes while his nearest rival Peer Abdul Rouf who was the candidate of Muslim United Front (MUF) managed to get 22,121 votes. A R Wani got only 755 votes. The polling percentage in 1987 elections in Zadibal assembly constituency was more than 71%.

1996, 2002, 2008 and 2014 elections

In 1996, mere 12% votes were cast during assembly elections and Sadiq Ali became MLA of the Zadibal by getting 2948 votes. His nearest rival Ghulam Hassan Bhat of Janata Dal got 1451 votes.

In 2002, Zadibal had the lowest voter turnout in the assembly elections. A mere 4% votes were polled as there was a massive boycott call given by Hurriyat and Militant groups. An independent candidate Shahjahan Dar won the elections by securing only 1500 votes. He defeated his nearest rival Sadiq Ali with around 300 votes. Sadiq Ali who is father of present NC candidate Tanvir Sadiq had obtained 1220 votes. PDP which formed the Govt in 2002 with Congress had also fielded a candidate namely A R Wani from Zadibal but he managed to get only 54 votes. BJP, Congress and Panthers party had also fielded their candidates from Zadibal in 2002.

During 2008 assembly elections, Peer Afaq Ahmad became MLA of Zadibal. He is the son of former MLA of Zadibal Peer Mohammad Shafi. The polling percentage in 2008 was 17% and there were around 16 candidates contesting from Zadibal. The sitting MLA in 2008 Shahjahan Dar who had joined PDP secured 3094 votes. Tanvir Sadiq who is

contesting on NC's mandate now was an independent candidate in 2008 elections. He was associated with PDP from 2006 to 2008 and was elected as corporator from Zadibal area.

In 2008 assembly polls, Tanvir obtained 2759 votes from Zadibal with a vote share of around 22%. He later on joined National Conference soon after 2008 assembly elections and with the passage of time became a close confidant of Omar Abdullah.

In the 2014 assembly elections, Abid Hussain Ansari, who was associated with PDP at that time, won from Zadibal by securing 7852 votes. His nearest rival Peer Afaq of National Conference got 4849 votes and lost by 3003 votes. There were 14 candidates in the election fray and the polling percentage in 2014 was almost 24%. In 2014, Zadibal had almost 77000 registered voters which is now more than 1.30 lakhs.

Scenario after delimitation

After the delimitation exercise, the Shia vote bank has been consolidated in the Zadibal now as all the interior areas of Dal, Ni-geen and Anchar lakes have been included with the Zadibal assembly constituency. The Hazratbal shrine area is also part of Zadibal assembly segment which earlier was part of Hazratbal assembly constituency. NC candidate Tanvir Sadiq through his party's manifesto has promised one lakh jobs and development of roads and bridges if elected to power. He has also promised to develop Mir Behri Dal as a tourist village. Former Mayor Junaid Mattu, who was corporator from Mir Behri is now eyeing on both Shia and Sunni votes especially Bakra votes. Sheikh Imran, an independent candidate from Khanyar is helping him with that. Both Junaid and Imran originally hail from downtown Srinagar, but have been living in Ishber and Bagat areas for many decades. Will Junaid manage to get votes from Mir Behri and other Shia pockets of Zadibal along with Sunni Bakra votes? This all will be clear on October 8th when results of J&K assembly elections will be announced.

Conclusion

Zadibal assembly constituency which had once witnessed almost 89% polling in 1983 assembly elections and 71% in 1987 saw a massive shift. Like many other areas of Srinagar, people in this area were boycotting elections. The polling percentage graph came down to mere 4% in 2002 assembly polls. The local residents whom this author met in many areas of the Shia and Sunni localities of Zadibal told me that people will come out to vote this time in large numbers. It is expected that Zadibal will witness more than 50% polling on September 20th when elections for Srinagar, Ganderbal and Budgam districts will be held.

Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer
Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat is an Acumen Fellow. He is Chairman and Founder of Jammu & Kashmir RTI Movement

Education and Teachers

Some Relevant Discussions

HIMANGSHU RANJAN BHUYAN

Humans are the only thinking creatures on this earth. This is the quality that makes humans the best of creatures. The field that is denoted by the thinking or thinking power is the intellectual field. The field that plays a decisive role in the development of the intellectual field is the educational field. Without education, our lives are meaningless. The word 'education' is the deepest and greatest word. Education paves the way for right thinking and righteous deeds in human life.

Only proper education can teach us how to succeed in life and how to live our lives. Education is associated with the progress of human life. It is through education that people gain immense joy, enthusiasm, enterprise, enthusiasm and inspiration.

Swami Vivekananda said, "We need education that shapes character, increases mental strength, increases intelligence and enables people to stand on their own feet." The future of a nation or a country depends on the education system. With the development of human civilization, the goals, policies and roles of education have taken various forms. The main goal of education is to build people. In fact, education is a sign of the fulfillment of human life. However, the clear aspect nowadays is that formal education is of the utmost importance in the development of civilization.

Whether it is the Gurukul education system of old or today's sophisticated satellite classroom system - it is undeniable that in all educational systems of all civilizations, evaluation of the educational situation is essential for the development of beings and for enriching the necessary awareness.

The prosperity and progress of a country depends on quality education. In fact, no matter how rich a country is, if education is poor, it can never progress. It is true that no matter what schemes or plans are taken by the State Education Commissions or the Government for the improvement of the education system, the society, students and teachers play a major role in the actual implementation of these.

Teachers play a major role in improving the quality of educa-

tion with the progress of society, adapting it to the dynamic society and achieving all-round development of students to become healthy, strong and good citizens. Teachers are an ever-burning slum whose light illuminates a society, a nation. Teachers, the miners of man-building, constantly enlighten future generations with the light of knowledge through immortality. It is said - teachers are born, not made ('Teacher is born, not made').

Teachers are the most prominent and respected persons in society. Teachers are said to be symbols of sacrifice and ideals. Everyone is aware of the teacher-student relationship. Teachers are friends and guides of students. The famous philosopher Aristotle said, "Teachers are more respected than parents, because parents give birth to children, teachers determine the way of life."

A student carries the knowledge gained from his teacher gently in his mind for the rest of his life. In our Indian society too, there is a very high perception of teachers in everyone's mind. Since ancient times, students have regarded their teachers as gods. He lived in the Guru's ashram and obeyed his orders and advice without any objection. "Guru Brahma Guru Vishnu / Guru Deva Maheshwara / Guru Sakshat Param Brahma Tasmaishri Guruvei Namah."

The great philosopher, ideal educationist Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan said - Teachers are an eternal need of society. They keep the candle of civilization burning by passing on intellectual, cultural and technological skills from one generation to another. Teaching is a sacred service for a teacher. Therefore, it is the duty of the teacher to guide the students in the right path with his extensive knowledge. Only if teachers become the best friends, well-wishers, guides, enlighteners and fathers of the students can the students be glorified with knowledge and make themselves successful in their future lives. To be a true and ideal teacher, it is essential to possess certain qualities.

Competence, intelligence, skill, character, humor, eloquence and enthusiasm are the keys to a successful and ideal true teacher. Teachers must be curious, insightful and studious. He must

thoroughly master the medium in which he will teach. He must be idealistic, honest, tolerant, virtuous, patient, affection-

ate, equal-minded, just, ethical, punctual, truthful and sacrificial. 'Simple Living High Thinking' - this is the ideal that teachers

and nation to move towards continuous progress. The role of the teaching community in enlightening the society with the light of



If a teacher takes all these aspects into consideration and applies modern scientific teaching methods with knowledge of child psychology, the teaching will surely be effective. Therefore, it is important to ensure that the students are not limited to the limited knowledge of the textbooks

should practice.

UNESCO's 1996 book 'What Makes a Good Teacher' describes the qualities of a teacher - a teacher should be patient and kind, flexible and proud, tolerant and open-minded. He should be funny, enthusiastic and enjoy teaching. The teacher should be honest, imaginative, creative, skilled, self-disciplined, helpful, humble and modest." Many people may not have these qualities before becoming a teacher, but they must be possessed if teaching is a profession. Teaching is not just a profession, it is a symbol of sacrifice and responsibility. In fact, virtuous, wise, truthful, conscientious and skilled teachers can create a suitable nation through school education. Teachers should realize that the first book students start reading is the teacher sitting in front of them. They study the teacher first, and then concentrate on the teaching he does. Teachers are imitated by students at every moment. Therefore, the teacher must stand before the students as a person of ideal personality and clean image.

Furthermore, it is essential for teachers to be self-sufficient in the exploration of new knowledge in order for the country

knowledge is certainly immense and any delay in this will have an adverse and negative impact on the society of the future. It is said, 'A doctor's wrong treatment kills a patient, but a teacher's wrong teaching can destroy a nation. Teachers need to be aware of this. A true idealistic teacher is always a welcome, invaluable person in the society or the country and his contribution will always be accepted with respect and honor by the students and the society and his ideals will shine brightly in the society forever.'

The Kothari Education Commission report titled 'Education and National Development' said - 'The Destiny Of India Is Now Being Shaped In Her Classroom' Although the current education system is child-centered, the teacher certainly plays a strong role in developing good habits by controlling some of the instinctive tendencies, reactions and behavior of the students and developing the students into a healthy personality. The basic principle of the contemporary education system is enjoyable and effective education. Special attention has been paid to ensure that the students can learn without any mental and physical suffering. Nowadays, teachers

have to study the psychological aspects of children and teach. The Education Commission has taken special steps to ensure that there is no stagnation in the education of students and waste of human resources which can never be effective without the goodwill and cooperation of the teaching community. Teachers must apply new techniques in the classroom to teach students in a practical manner. Each class has students of different levels and tastes. Similarly, there are many students with different behaviors in different societies and environments.

Therefore, if a teacher takes all these aspects into consideration and applies modern scientific teaching methods with knowledge of child psychology, the teaching will surely be effective. Therefore, it is important to ensure that the students are not limited to the limited knowledge of the textbooks but also to develop their personalities through physical, mental, intellectual and moral character development, honest thoughts and deeds, teachers must always play the role of vigilant guards.

However, more recently, the rare status of the teaching community has been greatly eroded under the influence of various factors. There are many reasons behind this but lack of professional responsibility, social responsibility and moral responsibility of some teachers (a small number) and extreme indifference towards teaching, involvement of some teachers in various scams and misdeeds.

There is no doubt that the increase in the number of teachers has greatly diminished the status of the entire teaching community. In short, teaching will be meaningful only if teachers can move forward with a spirit of sacrifice and service by inspiring students to acquire knowledge through positive thinking, action, social responsibility and ideal life. Finally, I would like to conclude with a sentence written by Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam in his book 'India 2020 - A Vision Of the New Millennium' - "You as a teacher must play a special role in shaping the future generation with all your power."

The Writer is CRCC of Nalbari Cluster, Biscanath Education Block, Education Department, Govt. Of Assam

REMEMBERING DR. AZIZ HAJINI

A Tribute to a Remarkable Father & Guide

Azhar Hajini

On the fourth death anniversary of Dr. Aziz Hajini, we gather in spirit to honor a man who left an indelible mark on society and in the hearts of those closest to him. Known to the world as a revered administrator, a prolific poet and writer, and a passionate advocate for the preservation of the Kashmiri language, I was fortunate enough to know him as something far more profound, a devoted and loving father.

To many, Dr. Aziz Hajini's legacy is anchored in his literary contributions and cultural leadership. As a key figure in the revival and promotion of Kashmiri, he became an icon in the region, a voice for the heritage that might have otherwise been lost to time. His poetry resonated with the emotions of the people, his essays reflected his deep understanding of culture, and his administrative work especially in the J&K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages for promoting and propagating different languages especially Kashmiri.

Yet for all his public achievements, it is his private legacy that I hold most dear. To me, Dr. Aziz Hajini was not just a celebrated figure; he was my father, and his influence on my life is immeasurable.

One memory stands out viv-

idly, a story that exemplifies the depth of his selflessness and the love he carried for his children. I had set my heart on attending the prestigious Film and Television Institute of India (FTII) in Pune and was required to appear for a written test in New Delhi. My father, despite his numerous responsibilities, did not entrust this duty to anyone else. Instead, he accompanied me personally. He cleared his schedule, traveled with me, and waited patiently throughout the day while I sat for the exam.

As I walked out of the examination hall, I saw him there, a man of immense stature, standing among other parents, unassuming and without airs. At that moment, he wasn't Dr. Aziz Hajini, the literary giant. He was simply my father—an embodiment of support and encouragement. His presence that day, in the heart of New Delhi, was a quiet testament to his unwavering belief in my dreams. He taught me then, without saying a word, that no matter how high we climb, family is always our greatest purpose. His lesson of humility and unconditional love still echoes in my heart, and it is a memory I cherish to this day.

For many, it's easy to admire someone for their public accomplishments, but it is in the smaller, private acts of devotion that one's true character is revealed. My father had a



unique ability to balance the weight of his public responsibilities with the tenderness of his role as a parent. His professional success never eclipsed his commitment to his family.

As I reflect on his life, I am reminded of another poignant moment that encapsulates his spirituality and selflessness.

My father had an unshakable faith in Allah and a profound reverence for Sufi saints. He found solace and strength in these beliefs, especially during times of hardship. When he was diagnosed with a serious health condition, I took him to the shrine of Habba Sahab RA in Hathlangoo. It was a place

that his time on this earth was limited.

What struck me most during this conversation was not his fear of what was to come, but his concern for us—his family. He shared a prayer he had made to Allah during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. With the world gripped in uncertainty and fear, he, too, was worried for his loved ones. In his prayer, he asked that if any misfortune was destined for his family, may it be redirected to him instead. This self-sacrifice, this willingness to bear the burden of suffering for the sake of his children and loved ones, is the essence of who my father was. His love knew no boundaries, and his care for us transcended even his own life.

In the years since his passing, I often think about that moment. My father faced the end of his life not with despair, but with acceptance and a deep sense of peace, secure in the knowledge that his family would be protected. His faith gave him strength, and his love for us gave him purpose. His passing left a void that can never be filled, but his spirit and legacy remain a guiding light for me and countless others whose lives he touched.

As I write this, I realize that words will never fully capture the essence of Dr. Aziz Hajini. He was a man of profound intellect, boundless creati-

ty, and unmatched integrity. But above all, he was a father whose love was the cornerstone of my life. His support, his wisdom, and his faith continue to shape the person I am today.

On this somber occasion, we remember Dr. Aziz Hajini not only for his contributions to literature, culture, and society but also for the way he lived his life—full of compassion, humility, and grace. He taught me, and all who knew him, that the measure of a person is not in the accolades they receive but in the love they give and the lives they impact.

Though he is no longer physically with us, his presence is felt in every corner of our lives. His spirit lives on in the lessons he imparted, in the poetry he wrote, and in the love he gave. Dr. Aziz Hajini may have left this world, but his legacy is eternal, woven into the fabric of the family he cherished and the community he served.

As we mark this anniversary, I find comfort in knowing that while my father is no longer here to guide me in person, his love continues to light my path. His memory will forever be a source of strength, and his legacy will continue to inspire those who knew him and those who come to learn about the extraordinary life he led.

Rest in Jannah, Dady. Your love remains with us, always.

PM Modi Pitches

for investments in semiconductor manufacturing. "This is the right time to be in India. You are at the right place at the right time," he said. "In 21st-century India, the chips are never down."

He went on to state that India of today assures the world, "When the chips are down, you can bet on India."

"Whether it is mobile manufacturing, electronics, or semiconductors, our focus is clear - we want to build a world that doesn't stop or pause in times of crisis but keeps moving forward," he said.

As the US-China trade war threatens to make chip imports even more expensive, countries around the world are investing aggressively to build domestic supplies of semiconductors - the foundation of everything from smartphones to electric cars and artificial intelligence (AI).

With its semiconductor market expected to touch USD 63 billion by 2026, India has created a Rs 76,000 crore program to woo chipmakers and their suppliers and cut dependence on countries such as Taiwan for imports to meet current requirements.

That programme has drawn nearly Rs 1.5 lakh crore of investment in producing about 70 million chips per day.

Tata is partnering Taiwan's Powerchip Semiconductor Manufacturing Corp to set up India's first chipmaking plant worth Rs 91,526 crore in Gujarat's Dholera. Its unit Tata Semiconductor Assembly and Test Pvt Ltd is also investing Rs 27,120 crore to set up a unit in Assam.

US memory maker Micron Technology Inc is also setting up a Rs 22,516 crore assembly facility in Gujarat, while Adani Group plans to build a chip plant in Maharashtra with Israel's Tower Semiconductor at a cost of Rs 83,947 crore. Also, CG Power is partnering with Japan's Renesas Electronics Corp and Thailand's Stars Microelectronics for a Rs 7,584 crore chip packaging plant in Gujarat.

"India's semiconductor sector is on the brink of a revolution, with breakthrough advancements set to transform the industry," Modi said, adding the country's chip industry is equipped with special diodes where energy flows in both directions.

"Today's India inspires confidence in the world... When the chips are down, you can bet on India," he said.

Modi said while the country's contribution to the world of designing is 20 per cent, India is creating a semiconductor workforce of 85,000 technicians, engineers and R&D experts.

Explaining that India holds a three-dimensional power - a reformist government, growing manufacturing base and aspirational market which is aware of the technological trends, the Prime Minister said that this base of 3D power is difficult to find elsewhere.

Stating that India is a huge consumer of such chips, he emphasized that the world's finest digital public infrastructure was built upon it. "This small chip is doing big things to ensure last-mile delivery in India."

Recalling the coronavirus crisis when the strongest banking systems of the world collapsed, Modi said that banks in India were running continuously. "Be it India's UPI, Rupay Card, Digi Locker or Digi Yatra, multiple digital platforms have become a part of the everyday life of the people of India."

To become self-reliant, the Prime Minister said that India is increasing manufacturing in every sector, making green transition on a large scale and the demand for data centers is also increasing. "India is set to play a big role in driving the global semiconductor industry."

Pointing out the numerous steps taken by the government to promote semiconductor manufacturing, Modi highlighted that the government is offering 50 per cent financial support for setting up semiconductor manufacturing facilities, with state governments also playing a key role in this effort.

Because of these policies, he said, India has attracted investments worth more than Rs 1.5 lakh crore in a very short time and many more projects are in the pipeline.

"Our dream is that every device in the world will have an Indian-made chip," he said, adding the government will do whatever it takes to make India a semiconductor powerhouse.

On the progress India has made in the last few years, he said the country is now the second-largest market for 5G handsets globally, just two years after the rollout of 5G.

With India's electronics sector now valued at over USD 150 billion, the Prime Minister outlined a larger goal to grow the country's electronics sector to USD 500 billion and create 6 million jobs by the end of this decade.

He said that this growth will directly benefit India's semiconductor sector. "Our goal is that 100 per cent of electronic manufacturing should happen in India. India will make semiconductor chips and the finished product too."

With Unwavering

Janata Party, Rashid dispelled 'rumors' about his party supporting the saffron party in any way, either directly or indirectly, in the next assembly elections in J&K.

"I pledge to oppose Modi Ji's narrative of Naya Kashmir, which has failed miserably in Jammu and Kashmir. His narrative and his decision to strip J&K's of its special status under Articles 370 and 35A, have been categorically rejected by the people," the AIP chief said.

Affirming his commitment to work for the welfare of the people and the peaceful resolution of the Kashmir issue, the AIP leader asked the Prime Minister not to be afraid and not to scare him either.

Talking to reporters outside the jail, he also attacked National Conference (NC) leader Omar Abdullah and PDP president Mehbooba Mufti for "destroying" Kashmir and said he would continue to fight for the people of the region.

Targeting Omar Abdullah, whom Rashid defeated in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, the Baramulla MP said, "My fight is much bigger than Omar Abdullah. I was literally dying in Tihar for five-and-a-half years while the NC leader was hiding in London."

Rashid said he has nothing to do with the opposition INDIA bloc or the ruling NDA. "I am fighting alone," he said.

Omar Abdullah and Mehbooba Mufti are fighting for the chair, and my struggle is for the people of J&K, Rashid said in response to a question about the claims made by the duo that his release was 'planned' and that he was actually a BJP proxy.

"He used to run away like a cat, yet he speaks ill about me. All I can tell is that it's the court that granted me bail," Rashid added.

Rashid said that people of north Kashmir responded to him during Lok Sabha elections when he lost by more than 20 lakh votes.

As Sheikh Abdul Rashid, popularly known as Engineer Rashid, stepped out of the prison, he was

welcomed by his sons and supporters. "He was released from jail at 4.15 pm," a senior prison official said.

He has been in jail since 2019 following his arrest by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act in the 2017 terror funding case.

Rashid's Awami Ittehad Party is contesting the Jammu and Kashmir assembly elections to be held in three phases -- September 18, September 25 and October 1. The results will be declared on October 8.

"I feel stronger coming out of jail after five-and-a-half years. I am proud of my people. I pledge that I will not let down my people... I am committed to fighting for them. I will unite the people and not divide them," he told reporters outside Tihar Jail.

Rashid said he wants to bring everlasting peace to Kashmir and prove that Kashmiris are not stone pelters. But they will not compromise with their political rights, he said.

"I do not require their accreditation to demonstrate whether I am good or bad, having served a taxing five and a half years in prison. When I last saw Altaf Fantosh, one of my jail mates, I saw his lifeless body. I cannot forget dozens of Kashmiris who need immediate medical attention in Tihar jail," Rashid said, adding, since my fight is for the people of J&K, I don't want to minimize my stature or my sacrifices.

The huge turnout of voters during Lok Sabha elections in J&K, Rashid claimed, was a display of resentment with Narendra Modi and his policies.

"It was for what Kashmiris genuinely wanted, not out of love for Modi. Let them talk to the people across the border and see what they genuinely want. They talk about Pakistan Occupied Kashmir, we talk about the Kashmir issue and if saying so is a crime I would love to commit this crime again and again and again," he said.

"I am not coming to split my people apart; rather, I am coming to bring them together. It is my responsibility to represent their wishes and aspirations, and for that, I am willing to spend the rest of my life in Tihar Jail. Kashmir belongs to us, and we are willing to sacrifice our lives for it. I will not exploit my people, and I advise the youth to concentrate on their education and careers and leave politics to us," he added.

On Tuesday, after a court here granted interim bail to Rashid, NC leader Omar Abdullah said the Baramulla has been given bail to fetch votes from the people of Kashmir and not to serve them.

Rashid also attacked PDP president Mehbooba Mufti, saying, "The damage caused by madam and her father to Kashmir... I would like to say that the biggest traitors of Kashmir are Farooq Abdulah and Omar Abdullah... and Mehbooba Mufti is carrying forward their legacy. They have destroyed Kashmir."

On Wednesday, Additional Sessions Judge Chander Jit Singh ordered Rashid's release on interim bail on a personal bond of Rs 2 lakh and a surety of the like amount. He also imposed certain conditions on him, including that he would not speak to the media about the case.

'INDIA Bloc Stabs

there is neither a state, nor Article 370 or 35A, only a charge sheet," he said about his black band protest.

He said the issue of Article 370 has nothing to do with militancy.

On the accusations from the PDP that he was a proxy for the BJP, Rashid said, "We were in prison for five and half years while they were enjoying themselves. We are dying. They should be ashamed for asking such questions. I came out of death bed but I was not presented as a victim. I remained silent."

He said the PDP entertained the BJP and formed a government with it. "They become ministers, they form governments, form coalitions. Who the hell are they? People know everything. They have given the verdict. The reason why I was put in jail, that cause is much bigger than the allegations of Mehbooba Mufti and Omar Abdullah."

Making clear that he is a proud Islamist and not radical, the Awami Ittehad Party (AIP) chief, who is facing charges of terror funding and was arrested by the National Investigation Agency on August 9, 2019, said, "No Islamist can be radical... I love people of India and believe in Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam (the world is one family)."

"Just like Modi's call for nationalism is fake, so is their (INDIA bloc) call for secularism. Both nationalism and secularism are dirty things used by them to bring bad name to real nationalism and secularism," Rashid said.

"The BJP says that they will restore statehood at right time, our fight is not for statehood. When will that right time come, we have been waiting since 1947," he said.

Rashid said he has a message to the BJP that "we do not have any fight with you but do not sacrifice Kashmiris for your political agenda".

"I also have a question for the INDIA bloc. They are not clear on their stance. Modi ji hits from the front while INDIA hits from the back. They weakened Article 370, Modi buried its body," he said.

He said the BJP government was labelling former chief minister Farooq Abdullah as an anti-nationalist whose father Sheikh Abdullah gave Kashmir on a platter to India. "Sheikh Abdullah insulted Mohammed Ali Jinnah (founder of Pakistan) for India. Who can question Farooq Abdullah credentials who openly says Bharat Mata ki jai in Kashmir and has advocated bombing Pakistan."

Challenging the Centre to allow him to speak in Parliament, Rashid said the claims of the BJP that the entire nation was with them on abrogation of Article 370 was destroyed in the recent Lok Sabha elections.

"They (BJP) went asking for at least 370 seats in just concluded parliamentary elections as they wanted the nation to acknowledge what they did in Jammu and Kashmir. The result is in front of your eyes," he said.

He said five of our Kashmiri daughters including Asiya Andrabi are lodged in Tihar jail. "They are our Sita. At least you can send them to Kashmir if you want to keep them in prison. If you want to bring hearts closer, it is the way that you can't find space in Kashmir prisons for Kashmiri daughters? It is too much."

He rejected the claims of the BJP that people were happy after the removal of special status and said "if people would have been happy after abrogation, government would not have to bury separatists like Syed Ali Shah Geelani, Ashraf Sethrai or Altaf Fantosh in the dead of night and put thousands of people in jail".

He said that his party AIP, which is yet to get recognition from the Election Commission of India, had been singled out and kept out of any deliberations that have taken place between government and political parties. "Even parties like AAP and Shiv Sena have been called for talks".

Rashid went on to buttress his case of being singled out and said former chief ministers Farooq Abdullah, his son Omar Abdullah and Mehbooba Mufti were

released after sometime and the Public Safety Act was revoked against them. "Even bureaucrat like Shah Faisal's PSA was revoked. But I was called over the phone and put in Tihar jail."

He claimed that he was not allowed to speak to his family since January 18. However, the charge had been put before the special court that a secret report from Jammu and Kashmir as well as Home Ministry suggested misuse of telephone facility by the accused.

Later at request and an undertaking in the court, Rashid was allowed to make two calls in three weeks to his wife and children under certain conditions.

Rashid was granted an interim bail on Tuesday to allow him to campaign in the Jammu and Kashmir assembly election till October 2 after which he has to surrender.

After filing a supplementary charge sheet against the accused, the court had framed charges against Rashid various sections of IPC and UAPA which include waging war against the country, sedition and doing an act with intent to threaten or likely to threaten the unity, integrity, security of the country.

Rashid said he has become an MP with support of people. "Are they all separatists," he said and warned that if such a narrative is allowed to be built, the nation is playing in the hands of the enemy.

On Kashmiri Pandit "brothers", he said they are saying they want to come back for the last several years but are not able to do so.

"I feel their pain. Any innocent of any religion, caste or nationality being killed is wrong. You call it ethnic cleansing or want to condemn in any words but also remember that one lakh Kashmiri people have also died. It is not that our one lakh people have gone for a picnic and will come back. No one talks about us," he said.

"If our Kashmiri Pandit brothers want to come back, they should state it openly," he said.

"If they want to come back, I will raise volunteers who will guard their villages just like from 1989 to 2004 our 250-300 volunteers guarded army camps. We will do the same for our Pandit brothers. They have to decide. Kashmir belongs to them as much as it belongs to me. Along with them, around 30,000 people who were forced to cross the border because of shelling in 1989 should also be allowed to return," he added.

AIP To Hold

its chairman, Er Rashid who was out on interim bail on Wednesday. Er Rashid will address the rally at Baramulla at 10:30 am, according to Firdous Baba, the party spokesman, permission for which has been granted by the district administration.

Immediately following his release from Tihar jail, Er Rashid took to social media to appeal to the public to join his rally in Baramulla.

"Let's meet tomorrow at Baramulla at 10:30 am and then in south Kashmir. I have been advocating for the restoration of Article 370 and 35A and I know how restore it, how to restore the lost rights, dignity and honor of the people of J&K," Rashid said in a live video, adding, elderly persons above 70 years and children below years need not to tomorrow's rally in Baramulla.

In a job at the NC-Congress partnership ahead of the J&K Assembly elections, Rashid questioned what type of coalition it is when one member advocates for the reinstatement of Article 370 while the other would rather keep quiet.

AIP spokesperson said all the preparations for granting a public rally have been finalized, and that a sizable number of people are expected to participate in the maiden public gathering following the arrest of Er Rashid in terror funding case back in 2017.

Expressing gratitude to the Patiala House Court for granting an interim bail to Er Rashid, Baba said, his release, although temporary, will boost the morale of the party and that of his supporters ahead of the upcoming elections.

"The rally was preponed to Thursday even though it was originally scheduled for Friday, September 13," Baba told Kashmir Observer, adding elderly people above 70 years of age and children below 18 years are not required to attend the rally.

When asked whether Er Rashid would address the gathering, he replied "of course he will address the public. The event has been planned to welcome him back to his homeland after a grueling seven years."

Will Further Vitiare

interim bail from Tihar jail after almost 5 years.

In a post on X, Ram Madhav reacted to Er Rashid's remarks where he said he will defeat Modi's idea of "Naya Kashmir". "This rank separatist, in jail for last 5 years under UAPA for indulging in anti-India activities, is out on bail to further vitiare Valley politics. Look at d language... anti-Modi rants, restoring Art 370, freeing terrorists from jails," he said.

He said that this is no different from what Omar or Mehbooba or even others like Lone, of NC, PDP or PC - the Gupkar Gang - is saying. "He wants to defeat Modi's dream of Naya Kashmir. We accept d challenge. Naya Kashmir's March will go on unrelenting," Madhav said.

Er Rasheed walked out of Tihar jail today a day after Delhi's Patiala House court granted him interim bail for election campaigning in Jammu and Kashmir till October 2 in a case linked to terror funding.

Who's funding

Er Rashid is being released to split votes," People's Democratic Party (PDP) president Mehbooba Mufti said on Wednesday.

Speaking to reporters after addressing party workers in Watchi and Shopian, the former chief minister called for unity among voters. "People of Kashmir must stay alert as Er Rashid's release seems aimed at dividing the vote," she said.

While Mufti welcomed Rashid's release, she raised concerns about its timing. "He should have been released earlier, so he could have represented the people of J&K in Parliament," she remarked. "I wish Er Rashid had been freed during the Parliamentary elections, allowing him to seek votes for himself. Now, with his release on bail, the timing is suspicious," she added.

Mehbooba further questioned the apparent funding behind AIP's campaign activities. "I am surprised to see AIP carrying out huge rallies with vehicles. Who is financing AIP? PDP candidates are short of funds for rallies, but AIP has fielded candidates everywhere, which makes it seem like agencies have chosen their candidates," she said.

When asked about Jamaat-e-Islami's (JeI) participation in the elections, she expressed uncertainty. "JeI is banned, isn't it? I'm not sure if it's really JeI contesting or if it's agencies. Jamaat must clarify this," she said.

The PDP chief also highlighted the "unfair treatment" of families unable to visit their jailed loved ones. "There should be an unbiased approach in such matters," she said—(KNO)

Rashid's Release

Omar Abdullah Wednesday said that the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Chief Engineer Rashid ahead of the upcoming elections as "fishy", questioning the Bharatiya Janata Party's intentions.

Replying to a query, Omar said that the plans are being formulated by using the anti-nationalist forces to divide the voters.

Meanwhile, Omar described the release of Awami Ittehad Party (AIP) Chief Engineer Rashid ahead of the upcoming elections as "fishy", questioning the Bharatiya Janata Party's intentions.

Speaking to reporters in Kupwara, Omar, according to KNO, expressed disbelief at the BJP's contradictory stance on releasing political figures for campaigning. He compared Rashid's release to the BJP's earlier criticism of Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's campaign-related release.

"When Arvind Kejriwal was allowed to campaign, BJP opposed the move nationwide. But now, they welcome the release of Er Rashid. It's somehow fishy," Omar said, accusing the BJP of double standards.

"He warned the people of Kashmir to avoid splitting votes in the upcoming elections, saying such a move could enable the BJP's "conspiracy" to gain power in the region. "If the people of Kashmir let their votes divide, there are chances BJP's conspiracy may succeed. People need to vote wisely," he urged.

Reflecting on past elections, Omar expressed regret over the outcome in Baramulla, where Er Rashid was elected. "The people of Baramulla wasted their votes in the Parliamentary elections. Er Rashid was unable to represent them in Parliament as he remains in jail," he said, referring to the AIP president's limited release for election campaigning.

The former chief minister criticised the decision to release Rashid for just 20 days, claiming it serves only to gather votes. He defended his cooperation with Atal Bihari Vajpayee, praising the former Prime Minister's approach to Jammu and Kashmir.

"I never denied working during Vajpayee's tenure. He talked about Insaniyat, Jumhooriyat and Kashmiriyat, and stood tall without pushing BJP's agenda. We can change friends but not neighbours," he said.

"Vajpayee Sahab made efforts to open the Srinagar-Muzaffarabad road, which was a positive step," the NC leader added

A four-cornered

Cabinet Minister for Health, Family Welfare, and Medical Education. With the political influence his family, especially his father Afzal Beigh had, Dr Beigh is also a main contender for the seat.

Hilal Ahmad Shah

Hilal Ahmad, who was associated with the Indian National Congress for a long time, joined the Apni Party a few years ago. Shah, who also served as Municipal Corporation Anantnag Chairperson, secured around 11,000 votes against former chief minister Mufti Mohammad Sayed in 2014 and may turn the tables this time.

Peerzada Mansoor Hussain

Peer Mansoor Hussain, a former MLA of the Shangus constituency, is fighting the election as an independent candidate after having been associated with the PDP and Apni Party. Mansoor has a good voter base in the area and can pose tough competition to the other three candidates, who are backed by their respective parties.

Others

The Democratic Progressive Azad Party's (DPAP) Mir Altaf Hussain and BJP's Syed Peerzada Wajahat Hussain can also secure a good share of votes, further dividing the vote share among the main four contenders.

Political analysts believe that the NC-Congress alliance candidate Peerzada Mohammad Sayed's non-residency in the constituency may be a weak factor, but NC candidate Peer Mohammad Hussain's full support could help Sayed win. According to them, Dr Mehboob Beigh's and his father's long representation of the constituency may help Beigh regain the seat.

Analysts add that Hilal Shah, who secured around 11,000 votes against Mufti Mohammad Sayed on a Congress ticket in 2014, can once again attract a good number of votes. Furthermore, Peerzada Mansoor, who represented the Shangus constituency on a PDP ticket in 2014, could leverage the fact that villages formerly part of Shangus are now part of Anantnag, and boost his vote share and help him win.

In the 2014 Jammu and Kashmir Assembly Elections, JKPPD leader Mufti Mohammad Sayeed won the seat with a margin of 6,028 votes. He secured 16,983 votes with a vote share of 51.20%. He defeated Congress candidate Hilal Ahmad Shah, who garnered 10,955 votes (33.03%). NC candidate Iftekhar Hussain Misger came third with 2,403 votes (7.24%), and BJP candidate Mohd Rafiq Wani was in fourth place with just 1,275 votes (3.84%). A total of 33,200 votes were polled (39.71%).

In the 2008 Jammu and Kashmir Assembly Elections, PDP leader Mufti Sayeed won the seat, polling 12,439 votes with a vote share of 39.49%. NC candidate Mirza Mehboob Beigh got 7,548 votes (23.96%) and was the runner-up. Sayeed defeated Beigh by a margin of 4,891 votes. A total of 31,501 votes were polled (41.23%). Independent candidate Liyaqat Ali Khan came in third with 1,895 votes (6.02%), and another independent candidate, Hilal Ahmad Shah, was in fourth place with 1,683 votes (5.34%).

AC 44-Anantnag contains 61,070 voters (30,645 males, 30,425 females) with 70 polling stations (43 urban and 27 rural). AC 45-Srigufwara-Bijbehara has 1,02,081 voters (50,728 males, 51,353 females) with 125 polling stations (16 urban and 109 rural).

Historically, the Anantnag seat was represented by Mirza Afzal Beg of the National Conference in 1951. In 1962, 1967, and 1972, it was represented by Shamasuddin of the Indian National Congress. Beg held the seat in 1974 and 1977, followed by Mirza Mehboob Beg in 1983. In 1987, Mohammad Syeed Shah, an independent, won the seat, followed by Saifur Ali Beg of NC in 1996. Mehboob Beigh won the seat in 2002, followed by Mufti Sayeed in 2008 and 2014, and Mehbooba Mufti in the by-elections of 2016. (KNO)

Tarigami's Long

communists their place. There is no place for

communists in Kulgam anymore. It is sad there is a continued ban on the Jamaat-e-Islami but we cannot put ourselves to sleep, we have to move forward," Sayar said.

Sayar also said that the Jamaat-e-Islami has played a key role in shaping society morally and religiously.

"Our main goal was always to improve the conditions of our people," he said addressing his supporters. He added that the response to his campaign has been overwhelming. "People who have suffered injustice for 30 years are coming out in support. Beyond the youth, women, elders, and intellectuals who seek societal good, not personal gain, are backing us strongly."

On the other hand, in a bid to attract voters, Tarigami has launched relentless attacks on Sayar and Jamaat-e-Islami calling him "weed".

Tarigami said this is not the first time the Jamaat has made a U-turn in terms of entering electoral politics and insisted that there is no "green wave" in the red citadel.

"There is no green wave in Kulgam," Tarigami said, in a direct reference to his arch rival.

"There is no scope for religion based politics. Jamaat-e-Islami was behind the murder of my cadre, let them come before people and ask for apology, they did not only back the killers but killed people openly, the killings which were carried out here should be investigated and killers should be booked," visibly angry Tarigami said.

However, Sayar is not the only threat that Tarigami faces. He is also facing Nazir Laway of Peoples Conference, Nazir Laway contested against Tarigami since 2008 and lost in 2014 with just 334 votes, when he was the PDP nominee. Laway was later PDP's nominated Rajya Sabha member, but after 2019, he left PDP and joined PC led by Sajad Lone.

The Peoples Democratic Party has fielded Mohammad Amin Dar from the seat, while the Apni Party's Engineer Mohammad Aqib is also in the fray.

Pertinently, the Kulgam assembly segment has 1,17,322 voters, including 58,477 male and 58,845 female voters, who can exercise the right to vote in 134 polling stations.

Observers say with strong candidates like Tarigami defending the only Red Island in Kashmir and Sayar Ahmed Reshi presenting a formidable challenge backed by his educational and social work credentials, the dynamics have shifted.

Congress Chief

Groups upset to Rs 5 lakh, plus every woman will get Rs 3000 financial assistance. "Plus, every citizen will get Rs 25 lakh insurance cover for quality treatment in super speciality hospitals like we had done in Rajasthan. Also, OBCs will be given due representation and rehabilitation policy for Kashmiri Pandits will be implemented," Kharge said.

Taking a jibe at PM Modi, Kharge said that BJP government was on crutches. "Chanderbabu Naidu and Nitish Kumar can withdraw support any time. BJP's claims of ab ki baar 400 paar have fallen flat. The party couldn't even cross 240," Kharge said.

He said BJP doesn't have the same confidence as it had previously. "It was due to the stiff opposition in the parliament, Waqf bill was referred to Joint Selection Committee (JSC)," he said. Earlier, in the day, addressing a gathering at Anantnag, Kharge had claimed that NC-Congress would restore the Statehood of J&K and also the Upper and Lower house of the J&K legislature

The congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Wednesday suggested that BJP leaders would have been in jail had the opposition INDIA bloc won 20 more seats in the recent Lok Sabha elections, as he mounted a frontal attack on the Centre over various issues.

The BJP hit back at Kharge, alleging that his remarks were a clear example of Congress "Emergency mindset".

"They (BJP) used to say 400 paar, 400 paar. Where is your 400 paar gone? They could get only 240 seats. Had we won 20 more seats, they would have been in jail. They deserve to be in jail," Kharge told an election rally in Anantnag without naming anyone.

"Abki baar 400 paar(beyond 400)," was BJP's Lok Sabha poll slogan. While the BJP bagged 240 seats, the INDIA bloc, which included the Congress, notched 234 seats.

Kharge stood by his comments when he was asked about it at a news conference in Srinagar.

BJP spokesperson Shehzad Poonawalla took to X to counter Kharge.

"This is a clear example of Congress' 'Emergency' mindset...Indira Gandhi had imposed Emergency and put opposition leaders in jail. The Congress wants to continue with that legacy," he said in his Hindi post.

The Emergency imposed by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was in force for 21 months from June 25, 1975.

At his news conference in Srinagar, Kharge said the BJP should stop making efforts to break alliances and political parties

ACB Exposes 310 Kanals Land Scam By Mafia, Officials

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: While continuing its tirade against the unholy nexus of revenue officers and land mafia, J&K Anti Corruption Bureau (ACB) achieved yet another major success in extracting the land scam, wherein around 310 kanals of Custodian land in Asarwan, Mishriwala and Bhalwal area of Jammu district has been found usurped by the land mafia in connivance with the officials/officers of Custodian, Revenue and Police department.

Earlier, the ACB had unearthed a land scam involving around 210 kanals of Custodian land, in respect of which five FIRs were registered. A statement reads that inputs were received that Custodian land in thousands of Kanal situated at Asarwan, Mishriwala and Bhalwal Jammu, has been fraudulently grabbed by the land grabbers/gangsters in connivance with the Revenue and police officers/officials.

The revenue records have been tempered and land has been sold to various persons, it said. ACB conducted a formal verification wherein it was found that in furtherance of the criminal conspiracy, FORM 3-A (Form Alf) along with power of attorneys (POAs) were obtained from various POK Refugees, alluring them of additional lands and providing them instant money ranging from Rs 5000 to Rs 50,000 by the conduits of land grabbers, and thereafter insertions/ad-

ditions regarding additional chunks of custodian lands were made in the revenue records by the officials/officers of the Revenue and Custodian department, by sheer abuse of their official positions, and these lands were sold by the conduits and attorney holders to various persons including their own gang leaders and members, by resorting to fraudulent means, thereby causing a huge loss to the Govt.

"Owing to the establishment of, prima facie, nexus of the criminal elements/ land grabbers and the Revenue/Custodian officers/officials in alienation of Custodian land through fraudulent means, ACB has registered 10 formal case FIRs in PS ACB Central for investigation under the provisions of Prevention of Corruption Act, criminal conspiracy, cheating, forgery and fraud," it said.

During the course of investigation, after obtaining the search warrants from the Ld. Special Judge Anti-Corruption Jammu, search teams comprising ACB officers, Independent Witnesses, Magistrates were dispatched to around twelve locations throughout Jammu and its adjoining areas, the statement said.

"In addition to 10 FIRs registered, verification is still in progress to unearth the remaining usurped custodian land by land mafia in connivance with officers and officials of Revenue, Police and Custodian department," the statement reads.

Vikram Sahay Assumes Charge As Principal Commissioner IT

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Vikram Sahay, a senior officer of the Indian Revenue Service (IRS) from the 1992 batch, has assumed the charge of Principal Commissioner of Income Tax, Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. Shri Sahay brings with him immense experience garnered over many years of service rendered in different important assignments across the country.

Sahay has also served on deputation with various key Union Ministries, including the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting and the Ministry of Human Resource Development (HRD). His vast experience also includes assignments in the NorthEast region.

In his new role, Sahay's primary focus will be on enhancing taxpayer services in Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, raising awareness of voluntary tax com-



pliance, and addressing taxpayer grievances with greater efficiency. By improving these areas, Sahay aims to create a more transparent and responsive tax environment, helping build trust between taxpayers and the Income Tax Department.

Principal Commissioner has highlighted the departments' commitment to further enhancing taxpayer services, aiming to streamline processes and improve accessibility for the citizens of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.

Tribunal Upholds Ban On 6 J&K Separatist Groups

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: A judicial tribunal of the Delhi High Court has upheld the Centre's ban on two factions of the separatist group Muslim Conference Jammu and Kashmir and four factions of another secessionist organisation, Jammu and Kashmir People's League (JKPL), for threatening India's integrity by promoting, aiding and abetting the secession of Jammu and Kashmir through terrorism.

Three separate orders -- one for the Muslim Conference Jammu and Kashmir (Bhat faction), another for Muslim Conference Jammu and Kashmir (Sumji faction) and a third one for the four factions of the JKPL -- upholding the ban imposed under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act were issued by the tribunal consisting of Justice Neena Bansal Krishna, a Delhi High Court judge.

The Muslim Conference Jammu and Kashmir (MCJK-Bhat) was declared a banned association by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) through a notification on February 28.

The tribunal was constituted on March 18 for the purpose of adjudicating whether or not there was sufficient cause for declaring the MCJK-Bhat an unlawful association.

"And, whereas, the said tribunal, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (3) of section 4 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967, passed an order on August 23, 2024, confirming the declaration made in the said notification," the home ministry said through a notification issued on Tuesday.

While imposing the ban, the ministry had said the MCJK-Bhat had linkages with banned terror outfits and supported terrorism in Jammu



and Kashmir, its members were indulging in generating feelings of hatred and disaffection against the country to separate Jammu and Kashmir from the Union of India, and its leaders and members were involved in raising funds through various sources, including from Pakistan and its proxy organisations, for perpetrating unlawful activities, including supporting terror activities and sustained stonewalling on security forces.

The MHA had also said the MCJK-Bhat and its members, by their activities, showed sheer disrespect towards the country's constitutional authority and constitutional set up, gave a clarion call to boycott polls on multiple occasions, attempted to subvert the will of people and the democratic process in Jammu and Kashmir, and were involved in promoting, aiding and abetting the secession of Jammu and Kashmir from India through anti-national and subversive activities.

In the second order, the tribunal upheld the February 28 ban imposed on the MCJK (Sumji faction).

In its order issued on August 23, the tribunal accepted the home ministry's submission that the MCJK (Sumji faction), chaired by Ghulam Nabi Sumji, is known for its anti-India and pro-Pakistan propaganda, its members are involved in supporting terror activities and providing logistic support to terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir.

Besides being involved in raising funds through various sources, including from Pakistan and its proxy organisations, for perpetrating unlawful activities, its members were also involved in supporting terror activities, sustained stonewalling on security forces and constantly asked the people of

Kashmir to refrain from taking part in elections and thereby, targeted and hampered the very basic constitutionally-recognised fundamentals of Indian democracy.

In the third order, the tribunal confirmed the ban imposed on the four factions of the Jammu and Kashmir People's League -- JKPL (Mukhtar Ahmed Waza), JKPL (Bashir Ahmad Tota), JKPL (Ghulam Mohammad Khan alias Sopori), which is also known as Jammu and Kashmir People's Political League, and JKPL (Aziz Sheikh) led by Yaqoob Sheikh -- as unlawful associations.

While declaring the four JKPL factions outlawed under the UAPA on March 15, the MHA had said the groups were involved in supporting terror activities and spreading anti-India propaganda for fuelling secessionism in Jammu and Kashmir, and their members were involved in mobilising violent protests in various parts of Jammu and Kashmir for perpetrating unlawful activities.

The members of the groups were also involved in stonewalling on security forces, have constantly asked the people of Jammu and Kashmir to refrain from taking part in elections and thereby, targeted and hampered the very basic constitutionally-recognised fundamentals of Indian democracy, the ministry had said.

The tribunal, in its August 29 order, said: "From the elaborate material and evidence placed on record in these proceedings, this tribunal finds that there is ample justification to uphold the ban on the four factions of the JKPL and uphold the declaration of the four factions of the JKPL, namely JKPL (Mukhtar Ahmed Waza), JKPL (Bashir Ahmad Tota), JKPL (Ghulam Mohammad Khan @ Sopori) also known as Jammu and Kashmir People's Political League, and JKPL (Aziz Sheikh) led by Yaqoob Sheikh as being 'unlawful associations' under the UAPA."

CS Reviews Functioning Of Technical Education Board



Agencies

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo Wednesday took a detailed review of the working of the Board of Technical Education (JBOTE) here during which he emphasised on imparting hands-on training and quality teaching to the students in the technical institutions of the UT.

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary, School Education Department; Secretary, Skill Development Department; Director SDD; Secretary BOTE; Registrar BOTE, besides other concerned officers.

The Chief Secretary took this occasion to impress upon the board to make the polytechnic colleges and Industrial Training Institutions (ITIs) the hub of training wherefrom quality manpower is produced for industrial and technical nature of the jobs available in the market.

He maintained that such institutions are least meant for providing theory lessons but chiselling the talent-of-the-candidates to turn them into astute professionals well-versed in their respective trades.

Dulloo further maintained that in order to enhance the employability of these pass-outs and to increase the traction of these technical courses among the students, the board should make the examination process strict with focus on imparting market-driven skills to them.

He also advised for taking necessary measures to determine the equivalence of these diplomas given by polytechnic colleges with respect to the

mainstream courses offered by the School Education Department. He also asked for making the lateral entry into these courses smooth and hassle-free for the interesting candidates.

The Secretary, BOTE, Shaista Shamim presented the detailed picture of the mandate, working and achievements of the Board. She revealed that the nose dive in seeking admissions in technical education institutions during the past few years had been tackled well by creating awareness in schools here.

She also apprised the meeting about the current trend in seeking of admissions along with that of the courses and colleges in demand. She said that the board offers admissions and conducts examinations for nearly 3500 candidates in 26 polytechnic colleges and 84 ITIs of J&K.

It was further disclosed that during the ensuing and previous academic sessions the admissions reached to about 95% with pass percentage of around 70%.

Regarding the implementation of NEP-2020, it was added that the same was successfully adopted in JBOTE for all Polytechnics of J&K. It was said that the registration of JBOTE with National Academic Depository (NAD), DigiLocker and Academic Bank of Credits (ABC) Portal has also been done for the overall benefit of the students.

Regarding the conduct of examinations it was informed that these are held timely with declaration of results as per the examination/academic calendar issued on the commencement of the session. --(KNO)

SDA Demolishes Under Construction Hotel In Sonamarg

Agencies

GANDERBAL: After the directions by the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Sonamarg Development Authority (SDA), an under construction hotel was demolished Wednesday as part of an ongoing demolition drive aimed at preventing unauthorized constructions in Sonamarg.

The operation, carried out by a team from the Sonamarg De-

velopment Authority, is part of a broader effort to ensure compliance with legal and environmental standards in the area.

The demolition drive seeks to uphold the orders of the High Court, which have placed restrictions on illegal developments in Sonamarg.

The CEO of the Sonamarg Development issued a clear warning urging them to refrain from violating the High Court's directives--(KNO)

SEHAT SCHEME

HC Asks Govt To Utilize Rs 427.73 Cr Premium For Medical Claims

M Ahmad

SRINAGAR: The High Court of J&K and Ladakh on Wednesday directed the government to utilize a premium amount of Rs. 427.73 crores lying with it for reimbursement of medical claims as regards Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana-SEHAT in Jammu and Kashmir.

A division bench of Justice Sanjeev Kumar and Justice Sindhu Sharma however said that reimbursement of the premium amount shall be subject to outcome of the appeal filed by IFFCO Tokio General Insurance Co. Ltd against an order by court's single bench earlier this year in which the company was asked to continue with the existing arrangement.

"In the meanwhile, there shall be stay of the proceedings in the contempt matter," the Division bench said.

In its order last month, the court's single bench said had

government plea, underlining that the insurance contract between the parties (Government through State Health Agency and IFFCO TOKIO General Insurance Company Limited), was for a period of three years and the Company having already extended the insurance cover for the second year, in terms of clause 9 of the contract, "cannot turn around and wriggle out of the contract for the third year extension and plunge the people of UT into risk and uncertainty."

In the appeal, the insurance company has challenged on various grounds and among other submitted the Single Judge was a duly constituted Commercial Division Court under the Provisions of Section 4 of the Commercial Courts Act and hence did have jurisdiction to entertain, adjudicate and consequently decide the issue.

As noted by the court's single bench, the Government of Jammu and Kashmir launched Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana-SEHAT ["AB-PMJAY-SEHAT"] to provide free of cost Universal Health Coverage to all its residents, including the serving and retired employees and their families.

The Scheme is intended to provide same benefits those were available under Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana ["AB-PMJAY"], a Government of India Scheme, that is providing annual health insurance cover of Rs.5,000 lacs per family on a floater and cashless basis through an established network of health care providers. Pertinently, the Scheme came to be introduced by the Government with the object to reduce catastrophic health expenditure and to improve access to quality health care of the domiciles of UT, the court had noted.



Body Of Dog Removed From Water Supply In Sopore Village

Agencies

SRINAGAR: In a shocking incident, a semi-decomposed body of a wild dog was removed from a water supply tank at Hardushiva Sopore village in Baramulla district.

The wild dog was found in the tank this morning by the locals and later informed the Jal Shakti department Sopore. The wild dog was removed from it by a Jal Shakti department employee with the help of locals.

This tank, according to officials, provides water supply for several villages' including

Duroo and Dangerpora. Locals said that they have no idea since how long the dog was in the tank and they were consuming the contaminated water for drinking purposes.

"We are shocked and nobody has eaten anything after we heard a dog was found dead from our water tank," Abdul Rashid, a local, said.

Executive Engineer of Jal Shakti department in Sopore, Mushtaq Ahmad Wani, said that the process to clean the water has been started and the water supply will get restored again--(KNO)

Ex-MLA Nizamuddin Bhat Joins Congress

Agencies

SRINAGAR: In a significant development, Former legislator and ex vice-chairman Jammu and Kashmir Waqf Board Nizamuddin Bhat on Wednesday joined the Congress in Srinagar a day ahead of last date for filing nomination papers for third phase of assembly election.

As per details available, Bhat joined the grand old party in the presence of Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee chief Tariq Hameed Karra in Srinagar.

The development comes a day ahead of the last date of filing nominations papers for

third phase of Jammu and Kashmir polls on Thursday. Bhat is yet to file his nomination papers for Bandipora constituency that will vote in the third phase of J&K polls on October 1.

Notably, in the NC-Congress alliance Bandipora seat has been allotted to the Congress in the seat-sharing pact. Bhat joining the grand old party is seen as major boost with the seat being jointly contested by the National Conference and Congress.

Bhat was already seen as a major contender for Bandipora constituency with mass following that has been growing over the weeks--(KNO)

HK Hyundai, Unveils The Bold New Hyundai ALCAZAR

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: HK Hyundai unveiled the bold new Hyundai ALCAZAR at their Hyundai dealership located at Athwajan bypass Srinagar, a starting price of INR 14 99 000 for the 1.5 l Turbo GDi Petrol and INR 15 99 000 for the 1.5 l U2 CRDi Diesel. Redefining customer travel experiences, the 6 and 7 seater premium SUV will enrich their journeys with its grandeur, comfort & convenience, technology, energetic performance and advanced safety features.

Umar Yaqoob Mir (Managing Director, HK Hyundai) unveiled the new Hyundai Alcazar in presence of Akshay Singh Jammwal (TSM, HML) & Nitin Sharma (TPSM, HML) Speaking at the launch, Mr. Umar Yaqoob Mir, Managing Director, HK Hyundai, said, "we are committed to enhancing customer experience through our diverse



and versatile products. We remain dedicated to listening to the changing customer needs while continuously evolving to exceed their expectations. The bold new Hyundai ALCAZAR is a testament to this commitment. We are excited to unveil the Intelligent, Versatile and Intense SUV that will further elevate grandness, comfort & convenience in the SUV segment. We are confident that the SUV will offer unique value propositions to our customers."

The bold new Hyundai ALCAZAR

developed on Hyundai's Global Design identity of Sensuous Sportiness is all set to command the Indian roads. The meticulously created SUV exudes spacious, wider, and taller stance for an assertive road presence. The premium 6 and 7 seater SUV with new H shaped LED DRLs, distinctive quad-beam LED headlamps, all new hood design, rugged front bumper along with a new skid plate and new dark chrome front grille is sure to turn heads on the road. The bold new Hyundai ALCAZAR exuber-

ates premium and comfort inside. The dual-tone noble brown and haze navy color plush interiors offer a sophisticated feel to the cabin making you feel like home. The overall interior design layout offers a feeling of spaciousness, comfort and modernity. The bold new Hyundai ALCAZAR will be offered in 9 striking colours with 8 mono-tone options including NEW Robust Emerald Matte, Titan Grey Matte, Robust Emerald, Starry Night, Ranger Khakhi, Fiery Red, Abyss Black, Atlas White and 1 dual-tone colour option available in Atlas White with Black Roof.

With safety at the forefront, the bold new Hyundai ALCAZAR ensures utmost passenger safety with a gamut of advanced safety features. Offering a safety cocoon to all the passengers, the bold new Hyundai SUV offers 70+ total safety features including best-in-segment Hyundai

SmartSense™ Level 2 ADAS with 19 attributes like Smart Cruise Control, Surround View Monitor (SVM), Blind Spot View Monitor (BSVM), Forward Collision Warning & Avoidance Assist, Lane Keeping Assist, Driver Attention Warning and others, this SUV redefines vehicular safety with its offerings. The SUV comes with standard 40 safety features including six airbags, Hill-Start Assist Control, Electronic Stability Control, Vehicle Stability Management, all four disc brakes and Tyre Pressure Monitoring System (High-line). Additionally, the bold new Hyundai ALCAZAR is equipped with safety enhancements like the Digital Key, Hill Descent Control, front parking, sensors, Rain sensing wipers, Electro-Chromic inside rear-view mirror providing a comprehensive safety net, ensuring peace of mind for all occupants.

Govt Officer Suspended For Dereliction Of Duties

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: In view of dereliction of the Election related duties, the District Election Officer (DEO) Srinagar has ordered suspension of a Government Official with immediate effect.

The order issued in this regard by the DEO Srinagar, a Government Officer namely, Sarfaraz Ahmad Dar, Assistant Director erstwhile Gazetteers Unit (presently posted in the National Register of Records Office, Srinagar in Department of Archives, Archaeology & Museum Kashmir) had been appointed as Zonal Magistrate for Barzulla

Zone falling in 23-Chanpora Assembly Constituency.

The order also reads that "the Officer despite repeated intimations refused to perform his duties is hereby placed under suspension with immediate effect and attached with the Additional Deputy Commissioner (K), Srinagar till further orders.

The order further stated that "the Additional Deputy Commissioner (K), Srinagar shall conduct the detailed enquiry into the dereliction of duties and misconduct of the Officer. He shall submit the comprehensive report to the DEO Srinagar within a week.

Downtown Heroes Draw 2-2 With SSU, Advance To I-League 3 Playoffs



R. Elahi

SRINAGAR: Downtown Heroes FC entered the Play-Off round of the 2024-25 I-League 3 season on Wednesday after drawing 2-2 against Southern Sporting Union at TRC Stadium here. The draw meant the hosts have now finished second in their group and qualified for the next round of the league, which is the fourth tier of professional football in India.

The match proved a challenge for the Heroes who were 1-0 up at half time, thanks to a 14th-minute goal by Mohammed Riyas A. Downtown went 2-0 up in the 52nd minute through Thingnam Radhakanta Singh. However, Southern Sporting sparked an incredible come-

back and scored two goals in four minutes to level the proceedings and give the host team a hard fight till the very end.

Golmei Apu Kabui made it 2-1 for SSU in the 75th minute, before Laishram Roshan Singh made it 2-2 in the 79th.

However, Ajaz Ahmad Bhat-coached Downtown Heroes hung on to secure a draw and a second placed finish in Group E. Heroes right back Abid Dar was named player of the match.

The team completed their four matches with seven points, winning two, drawing one and losing one while scoring 10 goals and conceding five. All Group E matches were played at Srinagar's TRC Stadium.

In contrast, group leaders

Abbas Union Football Club from Hyderabad took nine points from their four games in Srinagar, winning three and losing one. They scored four goals and conceded two. Abbas Union, finishing top of the group, will also enter the Play-Off round of the competition.

The play-off round will have the top two teams from the five groups separated into League A and League B of five teams each. The top two teams, four in total, from these groups will be promoted to I-League 2 for the 2024-25 season.

Downtown Heroes Playing XI: 26 Nirdosh, 2 Abid, 4 Zahid, 5 Musaab, 6 Arun, 20 Abdul, 10 Lalramzaava, 31 Mohammed, 8 Imad, 16 Sahil, 19 Thingnam

Short TAKES

FCC Anchidora Wins One Village Cricket Tournament Veeri



FCC Anchidora lifted the title of One Village Cricket Tournament 2024, organised by Veeri Cricket Association. FCC Anchidora defeated Laribal Sports in the final match by 54 runs on Wednesday at Tarbal Ground Veeri Anantnag.

FCC Anchidora, while batting first, set the target of 191 runs, in which Muneeb played a brilliant knock of 67 runs. In reply, Laribal Sports failed to chase the target.

Muneeb was adjudged as man of the match, while Younus Naikoo was declared as man of the tournament for 234 runs and 17 wickets.

Day 3 Of Afghanistan-New Zealand Test Abandoned Due To Rain

Day three of the one-off Test between Afghanistan and New Zealand was abandoned due to heavy rain here on Wednesday.

The first two days of the game were called off without a ball bowled due to a wet outfield, raising serious questions over the preparedness of the venue.

Considering the weather, the match officials did not take long to rule out any possibility of play on Wednesday.

ICC Delegation To Review Pakistan's Champions Trophy Prep

An ICC delegation is scheduled to visit Pakistan this month to assess the preparations for the upcoming Champions Trophy. They will also discuss the tentative schedule of the event with the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB).

According to a source familiar with the situation, the PCB has not yet been informed about which ICC officials will be visiting or which departments they represent. However, it is expected that the event schedule will be discussed in detail.

Arsenal's Odegaard Could Miss Several Weeks, Says Norway Doctor

Arsenal captain Martin Odegaard could face several weeks on the sidelines after injuring his right ankle during Norway's Nations League victory against Austria on Monday, according to the Norwegian team doctor.

Odegaard hobbled off the pitch and was photographed using crutches as he boarded a plane back to London where he underwent further scans to reveal the extent of the injury.

Arsenal face north London rivals Tottenham Hotspur in the Premier League on Sunday when they will also be without midfielder Declan Rice who is suspended.

PSG Seeks Mediation Over Mbappe's Wage Dispute Post-Madrid Move

Paris St Germain has welcomed an offer from the French football league's governing body (LFP) to mediate with Kylian Mbappe regarding his wage dispute following his high-profile move to Real Madrid.

Mbappe, the club's all-time top scorer, left PSG as a free agent after the 2023-24 season and is reportedly seeking around 55 million euros (\$60.58 million) in payments. Media reports also indicated an earlier agreement involving loyalty bonuses.

YSS Budgam Holds District Level Netball, Softball Tourneys



Observer News Service

BUDGAM: The Department of Youth Services and Sports Budgam organised Inter-Zonal District-Level Tournaments in Netball and Softball for boys of all age groups on Wednesday at Sports Stadium Budgam. The event was inaugurated by Gh. Hassan Khanday, Activity incharge DYS-SO Budgam.

A large number of students partic-

ipated in the competitions. Khanday, in his inaugural address, highlighted the critical role of sports in the physical and mental development of youth. He emphasized how participation in games like netball and softball instills discipline, teamwork, and leadership skills in students.

He also used the occasion to spread awareness about the Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) program.

District Bandipora Tennis Championship Concludes

Observer News Service

BANDIPORA: The District Bandipora Tennis Ball Cricket Championship 2024, encompassing both junior and senior categories for boys and girls, concluded on Wednesday at Govt. Boys Higher Secondary School Nadihal.

The event, held under SVEEP, was organised by the Bandipora District Tennis Ball Cricket Association. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from 26 teams over two days, celebrating local talent, fostering sportsmanship among the youth and raising awareness regarding civic responsibilities.

Speaking on the occasion, Pad-



mashree Faisal Ali Dar, expressed his enthusiasm for the role sports can play in shaping a positive future for the youth.

He said that the successful conclusion of the championship sets the stage for the selected teams to advance to the upcoming state championship.

Advanced Rhythmic Gymnastics Demonstration Held At DPS

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: A demonstration of advanced rhythmic gymnastics was held at Delhi Public School Srinagar on Wednesday. The demonstration was organised by the J&K Sports Council in collaboration with Delhi Public School Srinagar as part of the ongoing National Advanced Rhythmic Gymnastics Training Camp.

The camp, which has garnered significant attention, is being conducted under the expert guidance of international coach Dilbar Ibrahimova from Azerbaijan, a celebrated gymnast of international repute. Ibrahimova, in collaboration with Krupali Patel Singh, Arjun awardee and national head coach for



gymnastics in India, has been leading the training sessions.

The ongoing camp is part of a larger initiative, facilitated by the Ministry of Sports of Azerbaijan through an MoU with India, bringing international expertise to local athletes. The camp is being organised by

J&K Sports Council in collaboration with Gymnastics Federation of India and Gymnastics Association of J&K.

Thirty rhythmic gymnasts from across India, including participants from Jammu & Kashmir, participated in the demonstration.

Divisional Under-19 Cricket Tournament Reaches Semis Stage

Observer News Service

ANANTNAG: The ongoing Divisional Level Inter District Under-19 Cricket Tournament has reached semis stage. On the second day of the tournament, a total of eight matches were played, in which Kulgam, Kupwara, Budgam, Baramulla registered their victories. However Kulgam has remained outstanding performer in the tournament so far and topped with 6 points in the pool-A. While as Kupwara topped in pool-B with 6 points.

Earlier, on the opening ceremony of Wednesday's matches, Principal HSS Arwani Qazi Arshid Hussain



along with HOI Gh Hassan Dar interacted with players at Arwani Venue and Senior Sports Analyst of J&K Lal Mohammad Ganie interacted with players at Bijbehara.

The two semi-final matches will be played on Thursday at BHSS Bijbehara and Rail-

way Ground Hassanpora. First semi-final match will be played between Baramulla and Kupwara at Railway Ground and the second semi-final will be between Anantnag and Kulgam at BHSS Bijbehara Ground. The final will be held at BHSS Bijbehara Venue at 1:30 pm.

Manchester United Vows To Improve On & Off Pitch After Fifth Year Of Losses

Agencies

Manchester United's new chief said on Wednesday the club was working towards improving performance on and off the pitch after a fifth consecutive year of net losses following a poor 2023-24 season and heavy investments in the new squad.

The English Premier League soccer club's shares slipped 8% in early U.S. trading as net losses widened to more than 113 million pounds (\$147 million) in the year to June, making it only the second time since its New York listing in 2012 that losses topped 100 million pounds.

United have embarked on a slew of changes since British billionaire Jim Ratcliffe bought a 25% stake in the club and under his stewardship had a busy summer in the transfer market, securing several promising young players.

"We are working towards greater financial



sustainability and making changes to our operations to make them more efficient, to ensure we are directing our resources to enhancing on-pitch performance," newly appointed CEO Omar Berrada said. "Our clear objective is to

return the club to the top of European football." The Premier League has clamped down on big spending by clubs with its Profitability and Sustainability Rules (PSR) to try to level the playing field and prevent rich owners from

spending vast sums on players. To comply with PSR, clubs must rack up no more than 105 million pounds of losses over a three-year period, although investments in infrastructure, academies, charity foun-

dation and women's soccer can be deducted.

United have recorded losses of more than 257 million pounds in the past three years, and more than 370 million pounds over five years. The club said it was committed to and compliant with the PSR, as well as European governing body UEFA's Financial Fair Play Regulations.

United finished eighth in the Premier League last season, their lowest position since the league's inception in 1992. This season has not started any better, with two losses from the first three games.

For fiscal 2025, the club expects an adjusted core profit of 145-160 million pounds and revenues of 650-670 million pounds. It reported adjusted core profit of 147.7 million pounds on record revenues of 661.8 million pounds in fiscal 2024.

The forecast reflects the impact of recent restructuring that included 250 job cuts.

Pogba's Brother, 5 Others To Stand Trial In Extortion Case



Agencies

Brother of World Cup winner Paul Pogba will stand trial with five other men as part of an extortion case that targeted the soccer player two years ago, the Paris prosecutor's office said Tuesday.

A judge ordered the six men to appear before a court following an investigation into whether Pogba was the target of extortion by his brother, Mathias Pogba, and childhood friends, the office said.

The prosecutor's office said Mathias Pogba, 34, was ordered to stand trial "for the offenses of attempted extortion and criminal conspiracy." The court date has not been announced.

The five others — identified by their first names only — allegedly demanded 13 million euros (\$14.3 million) from the France midfielder, and repeatedly intimidated him, claiming he didn't support them after he became an international soccer star. They are accused of extortion and

attempted extortion by using violence, abduction and confinement to facilitate a crime or misdemeanor, as well as criminal conspiracy.

During the investigation, Pogba said he paid 100,000 euros to the organized group including his brother. According to French media reports, the 31-year-old player also told investigators the alleged extortionists wanted to discredit him by claiming he asked a witch doctor to cast a spell on teammate Kylian Mbappé. Pogba denied the allegation.