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NC Ploughs To Victory On Protest Vote

» BJP Retains Jammu Plains; AP, AIP Face Rout » Congress Bags 6 Seats On NC Turf, Bites Dust In Jammu

Farzana Nisar

Srinagar: The National Conference-Congress alliance is set to form the government in Jammu and Kashmir, after securing the majority in the first Assembly election in a decade, with the BJP achieving its highest-ever vote share, bagging 29

seats in the Jammu division. The Aam Aadmi Party, in a surprise entry, won its first ever seat in J&K in the Doda Assembly constituency.

The NC-Congress alliance crossed the 46-seat majority mark, claiming 48 seats with the NC winning the highest number of seats at 42 while the Congress took just six. The PDP which 2014 had won 28 seats from the Valley was down to three.

National Conference President Omar Abdullah won both Budgam and Ganderbal seats by considerable margins. After Omar's victory in Budgam, his father and NC chief Faroog Abdullah said he "will become the CM".

Omar has secured 36010 and defeated his close rival-Aga Syed Muntazir from Peoples

42 while the Congress took just six.



Democratic Party (PDP) by a margin of 18,485 votes while in Ganderbal, he secured the seat by getting 32,727 votes and defeated his rival from PDP—Bashir Ahmad Mir by a margin of 10,574.

THE NC-CONGRESS ALLIANCE CROSSED THE 46-SEAT majority

mark, claiming 48 seats with the NC winning the highest number of seats at

Meanwhile, the Communist Party of India (CPI-M) managed to secure the single seat allotted to it under the seat-sharing agreement, while the Congress party won six seats, | More on P6

BJP Retains Dominance In Jammu

The BJP has emerged the second largest party by winning 29 constituencies in the maiden assembly polls post abrogation of Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir, improving its alltime high tally of 25 seats recorded in 2014 elections.

However, the saffron party's biggest setback was the loss suffered by its Union Territory president Ravinder Raina from Nowshera constituency at the hands of

National Conference. Besides, the party also failed to secure a win from any seat in Kashmir where most of its nearly two dozen candidates lost their security deposit.

The pre-poll alliance between **National** the Congress Conference and managed to cross the halfway mark by securing 48 seats with the regional party getting the lion's share of 42 seats.

The BJP had fielded 62

candidates this time with major focus on its strong bastion of Jammu region.

However, it failed in its attempt to make inroads in Pir Panjal region of Rajouri and Poonch districts by fielding several turncoats from Gujjar and Pahari community including two former minis-ters – Choudhary Zulfikar Ali (Budhal) and Syed Mushtaq Bukhari (Surankote) - who lost by a huge margin of 18,908 votes and 10,428 votes, respectively. Incidentally, 75-year-old Bukhari passed away on October 2.

Besides the two former ministers, four ex-legislators, including Raina, lost to their rivals.

However, 12 former legislators, including seven ministers, successfully contested the elections and mostly retained their seats. The rest of the party winners are new | More on P6

PM Modi Greets NC On Poll Verdict

Srinagar: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday complimented the National Conference for its performance in the Jammu and Kashmir assembly polls.

The National Conference (NC) emerged as the single largest party in Jammu and Kashmir with 42 seats and is poised to form the next government in the Union territory with its al-liance partner Congress, which has bagged six seats.

"I would like to compliment JKNC for their commendable performance in the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly elections," Modi said in a post on X.

NC vice president Omar Abdullah thanked the prime minister and said that his party looks forward to a constructive relationship with the Centre.

"Thank you very much for your message of congratulations @narendramodi sahib. We look forward to a constructive relationship in the true spirit of federalism so that the people of J&K may benefit from continued development &

good governance," he said. Earlier in his customary evening address after election results, Modi also said that the National Conference-Congress alliance may have won more seats in Jammu | More on P6

7 Independents **Emerge**

Press Trust Of India

Victorious

Jammu: Seven independent candidates have emerged victorious in the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly polls, marking an increase from the 2014 elections when three such candidates had won.

Satesh Sharma, who left the Congress and contested as an independent from the Chhamb seat of Jammu region, won the election by defeating BIP candidate Rajeev Sharma with a margin of 6,929 votes. Satesh Sharma, 42, who is son of two-time MP and former Congress minister Madan Lal Sharma, polled 33,985 votes

Former deputy chief minister and | More on P11

Omar Set To Become J&K CM

Observer News Service

Srinagar: xpressing gratitude to the people for the massive victory of National Conference in the Assembly elections held after a decade, the party vice president Omar Abdullah Tuesday said J&K cannot afford to have an antagonist relation with the Centre as both have to work closely to resolve peoples' issues. He also said that the Government of India (GoI) must respect the mandate given by the people of J&K.

Omar said many attempts were made to destroy the National Conference over the last five years by creating new outfits which have been decimated in bly election 2024.

Omar won Ganderbal and



Budgam seats, defeating his nearest rivals from the PDP by more than 10,000 votes and 18,000 votes, respectively.

"There were attempts to destroy the National Congress over the last five years. So many parties were created here, whose only aim was to destroy the NC. But, God's

grace has been on us and those who tried to destroy us, have been decimated in the process," Omar Abdullah said, after receiving his winning certificate from the returning officer for the Budgam seat.

in Budgam for voting for me, making | More on P6

2 NC Leaders Elected For Record 7th Time

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: National Conference (NC) leaders Abdul Rahim Rather and Ali Mohammad Sagar were elected for a record seventh term on Tuesday in the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly elections.

Rather, the former finance minister of the erstwhile state of J-K, has represented central Kashmir's Chrar-i-Shareef for six terms before this since 1977.

He was elected to the assembly in 1983, 1987, 1996, 2002 and 2008 elections. In 2014 polls, he lost to PDP's Ghulam

However, Rather defeated Lone by a margin | More on P6

Er Rashid's Party Turns A Damp Squib

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU & KASHMIR

Target:46

9

Who Lost

margin of 10,574.

OTH Awaited

Who Won and

mar has

Syed Muntazir from PDP by a

margin of 18,485 votes while

in Ganderbal, he secured the

seat by getting 32,727 votes and defeated his rival from PDP—Bashir Ahmad Mir by a

Furthermore, Javaid Ahmad

Mirchal won Karnah by se-

curing 14,294 votes and de-

feated his rival by 6,262 votes.

Similarly, Trehgam elects Saifullah Mir by | More on P6

0

36010 and defeated his close rival—Aga

secured

Srinagar: The Awami Ittehad Party led by Sheikh Abdul Rashid alias Engineer Rashid, who proved a giant slayer after he defeated former chief minister Omar Abdullah in the 2024 parliamentary elections, has failed to make much impact in the Jammu and Kashmir assembly polls.

Rashid, who won while incarcerated in Tihar Jail on terror funding charges, attempted to demonstrate that his parliamentary win was not merely a fluke. However, he failed to strike a chord with the voters in the first assembly polls after the abrogation of Article 370.

being granted



interim bail on September 10, the Baramulla MP was allowed to campaign until October 2. His bail was later extended, enabling him to actively participate in the electoral process.

Despite his efforts, the majority of candidates associated with his party lost their deposits, indicating a clear disapproval from | More on P6

34 Ex-Ministers Lose Elections, Many To Novices

Majid Nabi

Srinagar: As the NC-Congress coalition crossed the majority threshold in the maiden assembly elections following the abrogation of Article 370, Many former ministers and legislators of the erstwhile state lost their seats, with many of them being defeated by first-time candidates.

A total of 873 people ran for 90 assembly seats in Jammu and Kashmir, including 43 in Jammu and 47 in Kashmir. This was the first assembly election following the abrogation of Article 370, which granted the former state a unique constitutional position, and the second subsequent to 2014.

Nonetheless, the notable outcome was the defeat of as



many former ministers, many of whom experienced loss at the hands of novices.

Former deputy chief minister Muzaffar Hussain Baig was among the 24 candidates in Baramulla constituency whose deposits were forfeited.

The seat was won by his

nephew Javid Hussain Baig who polled 22,523 votes, while Muzaffar Baig, a former MP as well, stood at a distant third by securing just 5,872 votes.

Another former deputy chief minister Tara Chand, Congress candidate from Chhamb seat in Jammu | More on P6

Barkati Falls Despite Daughter's Fierce Pitch

Syed Mohammad Burhan

Srinagar: Sarjan Ahmad Wagay, popularly known by the name Sarian Barkati who is currently in jail for anti-state activities, suffered significant defeats in both the Beerwah and Ganderbal constituencies, where he contested as an independent candidate in the recent Jammu and Kashmir Assembly elections. Despite an intensive campaign led by his daughter, Sugra Barkati, Wagay was unable to secure either seat.

Sugra Barkati, inspired by Abrar Rashid's successful campaign for his fa-ther, Er Rashid, who won a parliamentary seat while imprisoned, launched a massive effort in the Beerwah constituency to rally support for her father. Er Rashid had won the Baramulla Lok Sabha seat by a wide margin while incarcerated, fueling hope for a similar outcome for Sarjan Wagay. Sugra had vowed to fight for the release of her father and other political prisoners.

However, this strategy did not resonate with the electorate. In the Beerwah constituency, Sarjan Wagay secured 12,282 votes, losing by a margin of 7,836 votes to the National Conference's Shafi Ahmad Wani, who won with 20,118 | More on P6

It's Congress Party's Worst Defeat in JK's Electoral History

Agenceis

Srinagar: The election results on October 8 could be no less than a shock for the Congress party that has witnessed its worst ever drubbing in Jammu and Kashmir's political landscape, managing to win mere five seats from Kashmir and just one from the Jammu region in the 90 seat assembly.

Insiders within the Congress party said that the party has no reason to rejoice at the present time as it has lost a majority of its seats from its otherwise strongholds especially when from the entire Jammu region, it has got mere one seat. "We would not have even won the five seats from the Kashmir division. We won them because of our alliance with the national Conference. This alliance has given us these seats, otherwise we would have lost them too," says a senior Congress leader wishing not to be named.

He added that there are confabulations going on within the Congress party about what has gone wrong and where. "We got Rahul Gandhi in Jammu and Kashmir but there is no effect of his presence if we look at the results. We really wonder whose defeat it is. The JKPCC President has to take moral responsibility for this defeat. Beating drums will not hide our | More on P6

LG Or CM: Who Will Wield Real Power In J&K Now?

Agencies

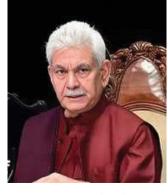
Srinagar: With results out for the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly elections and NC-Congress upbeat over emerging victorious, Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019 doesn't give much to the winners to celebrate.

The political structure of the Union Territory (UT) of Jammu and Kashmir, as laid out in the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019, highlights the significant powers vested in the Lieutenant Governor (LG). While an elected Legislative Assembly and Council of Ministers will exist, the ultimate authority will rest with the LG, appointed by the President of India.

Broad Powers Lieutenant Governor As per

the Act, the LG holds executive control over key areas such as police, public order, and land. Under Section 53 of the Reorganisation Act, the LG acts in his discretion on matters outside the purview of the elected assembly or when required by law to do so. Importantly, this includes areas like All India Services and the Anti-Corruption Bureau. Additionally, the LG can promulgate ordinances when the Assembly is not in session, giving him legislative powers as well. Further, all financial legislation requires the recommendation of the LG before being introduced in the Legislative Assembly.

The LG also retains final authority over budgetary aland expenditure Composition of the Elected



Government Despite the overarching authority of the LG, the UT will have a Council of Ministers to assist in governing. The Council, headed by a Chief Minister, will be limited to a size not exceeding 10% of the total membership of the Legislative

Assembly. The Ministers, appointed by the LG on the advice of the Chief Minister, are collectively responsible to the Assembly.

Legislative Role Limited The legislative powers of the Assembly, though significant, are circumscribed by the LG's authority to withhold assent to bills or reserve them for the President's consideration. While the Assembly can debate and vote on financial matters, all grants and appropriations must be presented for the LG's approval. Ministerial Terms, Salaries, and Allowances Ministers in the UT government will hold office at the pleasure of the LG, and they must be members of the Legislative Assembly within six months of appointment.

Their salaries | More on P6

NOTA Secures More Votes Than Many Candidates

Agencies

Srinagar: In the recent Jammu & Kashmir Assembly elections, the "None of the Above" (NOTA) option garnered more votes than a majority of candidates in nearly all constituencies, according to results declared on Tuesday.

As per the details obtained. in Baramulla, NOTA received 561 votes, surpassing at least 12 contesting candidates. In Karnah, it secured 464

votes, outpacing one candidate, while Trehgam, NOTA Trehgam, received 920 more votes, than three candidates. Other

notable figures include 341 votes in Sopore, 1,193 votes in Rafiabad (more than five candidates), 1,494 votes in Gulmarg (more than nine), 1.032 votes in Pattan (more than ten), and 846 votes in Sonawari (more than eight). In Gurez, NOTA received

150 votes, surpassing two candidates, and in Kangan, it garnered 1,564 votes, exceeding four candidates in a contest with only six participants.

In the Ganderbal district, NOTA achieved 1,713 votes, more than ten candidates among Other significant | More on P6

Account In J&K, **Wins Doda**

AAP Opens

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) has won its first-ever seat in Iammu and Kashmir's assembly elections. AAP candidate Mehraj Malik clinched the Doda assembly seat in the Chenab Valley, defeating BJP's Gajay Singh Rana by a margin of over 4,000 votes.

This election, held after a decade-long hiatus, saw intense competition, especially in Doda, where Congress fielded Sheikh Riyaz Ahmed and National Conference backed Khalib Najeeb Suharwardi. However, the fight ultimately boiled down to AAP and BJP, with Malik emerging victorious. AAP leader Arvind Kejriwal | More on P6

Monday - Saturday (9am - 6pm)

No 5- Dal Lake Boulevard Srinagar, 190001, Kashmir



For Weight Loss, Breakfasts Should Be **High-Carb for Men, High-Fat for Women: Study**

Press Trust Of India

or losing weight, breakfasts should be high-carb for men and high-fat for women, suggested researchers, who created mathematical models depicting men's and women's metabolisms.

They showed that metabolic processes in men responded better to a meal high on carbohydrates like oats and grains, while those in women responded better to a meal high on fat such as omelettes and avocados.

While men are known to derive energy from metabolism of carbohydrates, women are known to obtain energy from metabolism of fat, resulting in significant sex-specific differences across metabolic states such as fasting and feeding.

'Since women have more body fat on average than men, you would think that they would burn less fat for energy, but they don't," said Anita Layton, a professor of applied mathematics, University of Waterloo, Canada, and co-author of the study published in the journal Computers in Biology and Medicine.

The results of the model suggest that women store more fat immediately after a meal but also burn more fat during a fast," Layton said. For their analysis, the researchers used techniques of computational biology

-- it makes use of computers and statistics to understand biological systems. The team created a model depicting human food intake and comprising varied

parts of one's body -- adi-

pose tissue (body tissue

containing stored fat) and organs such as liver, heart

abolic response to consuming meals containing both carbohydrates and fat im-They also modelled the metmediately after eating and during short-term fasting. The model was tailored to represent the metabolic state of a healthy young

The model's predictions of sex-specific differences in metabolism were more pronounced during short-term fasting, the researchers said. Further, the increased reliance of women on burning fat comes from sex-specific differences in liver and adipose tissue, they added. Specifically, they found that a woman's liver diverts more glycerol (formed from burning fat) than a man's liver towards gluconeogenesis -- a metabolic process that produces glucose from non-carbohydrate sources, such as glycerol, and vital for maintaining blood sugar levels.

"Whether attempting to lose weight, maintain weight, or just keep up your energy, understanding your diet's impact on your metabolism is important," Layton said.

'87% Parents Support Tech Integration In Schools, 28% Restrict Usage For **Educational Purposes'**

Press Trust Of India

At least 87 percent parents support technology integration in schools, recognising its potential to enhance learning while only 28 per cent of them prefer strict usage for educational purposes, according to a new survey. The first edition of "All India Parent

While 46 per cent allow moderate usage, others range from strict educational-only use (28 pc) to unrestricted access (6 pc)," the survey report said.

"To balance screen time, most parents (57 pc) encourage non-screen activities, with others explaining risks or setting explicit limits," it added. The sur-



Survey 2024 - Parents Attitude and Perception towards the Indian School Education Landscape" conducted by K-12 Techno Services, an education service provider, found that an overwhelming majority of parents (94 percent) positively acknowledge the importance of teaching life skills at an early age and its benefits for a child's overall development.

The report, which gathered insights from over 3,000 parents of children from multiple educational boards (ICSE, CBSE, IB, state-level boards) across regions, delved into crucial observations and trends in their quest for the ultimate school going experience.

"A promising 87% of parents support technology integration in schools, recognizing its potential to enhance learning. However, home management strategies vary widely.

vey reveals 58.33 per cent of parents have positive awareness of NEP 2020, while 41.67 per cent lack awareness or hold negative views.

"Activity-Based Learning (60.47 per cent) and Skill-Based Learning (53.44 per cent) are the most recognized aspects. However, 21.12 per cent of parents are unaware of any specific aspects, indicating a need for improved communication about the policy's details and benefits. 57% parents encourge non-screen activities

"The survey further indicates a substantial awareness of the Right To Education (RTE) Act, with 71.24 pc of parents familiar with this fundamental right. However, 28.76 pc of parents remain unaware, highlighting the need for continued efforts to educate and inform about this crucial legislation in Indian education," it added.

office of the regional passport office srinagar within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained. ZABAIDA BEGUM

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost my passport bearing no: \$8411607

Now I have applied for the duplicate of the

same if anybody has any objection in this re-

gard he/she may file his/her objection in the

W/o Ghulam Din Hajam R/o Andergam

The J&K Board Of Professional **Entrance Examinations** (BOPEE)

Tele/Fax: 0194-2433590, 2437647 (Srinagar): 0191-2479371, 2470102 (Jammu) Website: www.jkbopee.gov.in E-mail: coejakbopee@gmail.com/helpdeskjakbopee@gmail.com

Subject: Admission to MD /MS AYURVEDA Courses -2024 in JIAR: Online Registration / Submission of preferences thereof.

Reference: i)Directives for Counselling Authorities (Central/State/UT) issued by National Commission for Indian System of Medicine & National Commission for Homeopathy, New Delhi.

ii)Letter No: JIAR/2023/811 dated: 23-08-2024 and Ref. No.26-38/ MARB/2024-College dated 29-05-2024 of NCISM.

> Notification No. 128-BOPEE of 2024 Dated: 05-10-2024

Consequent upon declaration of AIAPGET 2024 result by National Testing Agency (NTA) on 01-08-2024, it is hereby notified for information of all those candidates who have qualified the said entrance examination and fall within the cut off score fixed by the NTA and intend to participate in the counselling process for admission to MD/MS Ayurveda 2024 seats in Jammu Institute of Ayurveda & Research (JIAR) including the seats available under All India Quota (AIQ) that they shall:

- 1. Register themselves online on the official website of BOPEE w.e.f 07-10-2024 to 10.10.2024.
- 2. Submit their preference of the courses through online mode at the time of registration. 3. Upload all documents mentioned as below on official website of BOPEE (www.jkbopee.gov.in) for verification purposes.

Documents to be uploaded for registration:

Score Card of AIAPGET-2024; Domicile Certificate of the candidate (not applicable for candidates who are applying

under AIO & MO seats). Final Year Marks Sheet of BAMS Examination;

Documentary Proof of having completed one-year Pre-Registration Compulsory Rotatory Internship in a duly Recognized Institution at the time of submission of documents, if not, an undertaking on prescribed format is required to be uploaded by the concerned candidate on the official website of the BOPEE. The format of undertaking is available on website of the Board as Annexure-A to this Notification;

Registration Certificate from J&K Medical Council/CCIM VI. Provisional Degree Certificate/Degree Certificate of BAMS issued by the concerned

University VII. No Domicile Certificate is required for the candidates from outside UT of J&K who are applying for All India & Management Quota seats. The annexure- A to this notification shall remain available on official website of the

Board only. The cut off score for different categories is as under:

> a. Open Merit/EWS (including JKPM/CDP/Sports) : 123 b. SC/ST1/STII/OBC/ALC/IB/RBA(including JKPM/CDP/Sports) : 106

- I. The candidate shall have to submit their application forms along with the preference of the courses through online mode on BOPEE website www.jkbopee.gov.in w.e.f. 07thOctober, 2024 to 10thof October, 2024.
- The candidates have to deposit the Counselling fee of Rs. 2000/- (Rupees two thousand only) through online mode without which they will not be considered for allotment of a seat notwithstanding the eligibility of such candidate (s).
- The seats shall be allotted to the candidates on the basis of merit cum preferences filled by the candidates in the online form.
- IV. All Management Quota seats including All India Quota seats shall be filled up by the BOPEE in terms of Government Order No. 634-HME of 2019 dated 04.07.2019 issued by the Health & Medical Education Department, J&K. The registration shall be provisional and shall not confer any right on the candidates
- VI. Any wrong information filled in by the candidate(s) in Application Form shall render
- him/her ineligible for admission.

S. No.	Name of the course	Intake Capacity				
		Govt.	All India	Management		
		Quota	Quota(15%)	Quota		
1	MD KAYACHIKITSA	03	00	02		
2	MD KRIYA SHARIR	02	01	02		
3	MD SHALYA TANTRA	02	01	02		
TOTAL		07	02	06		

Note II:

- 1. The seats under All India Quota (AIQ) in Private Colleges shall be filled by State/UT Counselling Authority i.e. J&K Board of Professional Entrance Examinations as per counselling guidelines for admissions & counselling issued by All India Ayush Central Counselling Committee (AACCC) referred above. For these seats, no domicile certificate is required i.e. candidate from outside UT of J&K can also apply under All India Quota seats mentioned in above table subject to the eligibility as mentioned above.
- 2. The seats under All India Quota (AIQ), if any, remaining unfilled, due to nonavailability of candidate(s) from outside UT of J&K, the Board shall fill up such seats and allot to willing candidates belonging to UT of J&K.
- 3. Regarding admission Fee, the willing candidates are advised to contact the concerned College before participation in Online Counselling process. E & O E

DIPK-NB-1631/24

No: BOPEE/Exam-13/2024

dated: 08-10-2024

(Gurvinder Raj Verma) Controller of Examinations J&K, BOPEE Dated: 05-10-2024

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost my passport bearing no: \$8411608 Now I have applied for the duplicate of the same if anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the regional passport office srinagar within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Ghulam Din Hajam S/O Ghulam Mohammad Hajjam R/O Andergam

High Court Of Jammu & Kashmir And Ladakh

(Office Of The Registrar Recruitment At Jammu) NOTICE

No:- 2529 of2024/RR/RC

Dated:07-10-2024

Subject:- Conduct of Examination (Shorthand Dictation and Typing Test) for the post of Senior Scale Stenographer (Level-7) and Junior Scale Stenographer (Level-6B) and issuance of Admit Cards.

The High Court of J&K and Ladakh would be conducting the shorthand dictation and typing test for the post of Senior Scale Stenographer (Level-7) and Junior Scale Stenographer (Level-66) advertised vide High Court Advertisement Notification No. 02 of 2024/RR/RC Dated 09.05.2024, as per the following details: -

S.	Post	Advertisement	Division	Date of	Shift and	Examina-
No		Notice No.		Examina-	Timing	tion Centre
				tion		
1.	Senior Scale Ste-	02 of 2024/	Kash-	23.10.2024	Shift and	
	nographer Level-7	RG/NG Dated	mir		Timing as per	
	(44900142400)	09.05.2024	Division		Admit Card.	As men-
F	Junior Scale Ste-	02 of 2024/	Kash-	24.10.2024	Shift and	tioned on
	nographer Level-6	RG/NG Dated	mir		Timing as per	the Admit
	B (35600112800)	09.05.2024	Division		Admit Card.	Card.
	Senior Scale Ste-	02 of 2024/	Jammu	05.11.2024	Shift and	Carai
	nographer Level-7	RG/NG Dated	Division		Timing as per	
	(44900142400)	09.05.2024			Admit Card.	
4.	Junior Scale	02 of 2024/	Jammu	06.11.2024	Shift and	
	Stenogra-	RG/NG Dated	Division		Timing as per	
	pher Level-6B	09.05.2024			Admit Card.	
	(35600112800)					

The candidates who have applied for the aforementioned posts, shall download their Admit cards from the official website of High Court of J&K and Ladakh (https://jkhighcourt.nic.in) w.e.f. 16.10.2024.

In case of any difficulty in downloading/issue related to Admit Cards, candidates(s) may contact on the following helpdesk i.e. (e-Mail: recruitmentcell99@ vahoo.com').

te-

(Satinder Singh) Registrar Recruitment

No:-44968-87/RR/RC DIPK-5658/24 Dated: 08-10-2024.

Office Of The District Legal Services Authority Srinagar **ADR Centre, Srinagar** Email: dlsa.sgr@gmail.com

INTERVIEW NOTICE

Subject: Selection of Deputy & Assistant Legal Aid Defense Counsel.

It is notified for the information of all the candidates who have applied for the post of Deputy Legal Aid Defense Counsel and Assistant Legal Aid Defense Counsel, at District Legal Services Authority Srinagar, notified by J&K Legal Services Authority vide No: LSA/LS/96/2022/1435-39, Dated: 09/08/2024, respectively, that they shall appear before the competent Selection Committee for the interview, at Conference Hall, ADR, District Court Complex Srinagar on 09/10/2024, at 11:00 am

The candidates are required to bring with them all the requisite testimonials/certificates in original.

> Chairman **District Legal Services Authority** (Pr. District & Sessions Judge)

No: DLSA /SGR/2024/1153-1159 DIPK-5645/24 Dated: 07-10-2024

Name: JAVID AHMAD TANTARAY

PUBLIC NOTICE

My daughter's Parentage in date of birth certificate bearing

ID no 101002486148 in hospital record has been wrongly

written as. SIDRA JAVAID D/O JAVAID AHMAD TANTARY

R/O PALHALLAN while her correct parentage is SIDRA JAVID D/O JAVID AHMAD TANTARAY R/O PALHALLAN

Tehsil PATTAN which needs to be corrected ..if anybody has

any objection in this regard he /she may file his/her objection

in the BMO office kreeri / SDH kreeri within a period of seven

days from the date publication of this notice After that no

F/O:SIDRA JAVID R/O: PALHALLAN **DISTT: BARAMULLA**

objection shall be entertained

NOTICE

I Idrees Farooq Shah S/o Farooq Ahmad Shah R/o Lal Nagar Housing Colony, Sector B Malla Bagh Naseem Bagh, Srinagar, 190006 want to transfer the Electricity Connection bearing Consumer Id 0204020011920 & Installation No:-39020EDIV which is in the name of Javaid Hussain Khan S/o Gh Nabi Khan R/o Lal Nagar from which I have purchased this property.In this Regard, if anybody is having any objection, he or she may file his/her objection in the Electric Sub division Office Rainawari within a weeks time after that no objection shall be entertained. Media Line Ads

PUBLIC NOTICE

My DOB has been wrongly written in my school records as 20-07-2015 wile my correct DOB is 14-06-2014 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 Headmaster Govt Primary School Dangerpora Peth Makhama within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Sameena Hameed D/o Ab Hameed Hajam R/o Palhallan Tehsil Pattan

bmg

NECESSARILY ENDORSE THE CONTENTS OF THESE ADVERTS. THE READERS ARE THEREFORE REQUESTED TO VERIFY THE CONTENTS BEFORE ACTING THEREUPON. MANAGEMENT

General Manager Reviews Performance Of Northern Railway

Observer News Service

New Delhi: Shri Ashok Kumar Verma, General Man-Northern Railway, reviewed the Northern railway's performance with the departmental heads of Northern Railway and DRMs at Baroda House. The comprehensive review showcased Northern Railway's commitment to operational excellence, customer satisfaction and sustainable development.

Deliberations were held on keeping focus on passenger amenities at stations for the upcoming festival season. In this review meeting, he emphasized on convenient movement of railway passengers at stations and proper management of other facilities for

passengers, additional clearance of congestion during the upcoming Durga Puja, Diwali and Chhath Puja. He also reviewed the arrangement of festival special trains, cleanliness of platforms during the festival rush.

Sh. Verma, stressed the importance of Green Initiatives by reducing carbon footprint. He said that effective waste management practices have resulted in reduction in waste generation and Northern Railway may make significant strides in reducing its environmental footprint through solar power, energy-efficient lighting and eco-friendly practices.

Northern Railway is committed to provide safe, smooth and efficient services

People Have Spoken Through Votes, Message Loud & Clear: Karra

Srinagar: Amid the vote counting, former Lok Sabha MP and chief of Jammu and Kashmir Congress, Tariq Hameed Karra Tuesday said that people of Kashmir have answered the "hate politics of BJP by voting against them."

Speaking to the reporters here at SKICC outside the vote counting station, Karra said, The people here are aware about the atrocities committed by the BJP in past more than five years by voting against them."

Karra further said, "As of now, nothing can be said and decided regarding the taking other political parties on board in forming the government. We will like to have an inclusive government."

"Anyone who is on the



same page to keep BJP out of the power corridors and will be of the same ideology of Congress are welcome," he said.

Pertinently, Karra won Central Shalteng Constituency seat with 14395 votes.

Besides Karrra, five other INC leaders won from Jammu and Kashmir in assembly elections that took place after a gap of ten years—(KNO)



Celebrations Erupt As NC-Congress Alliance Sweep J&K Polls

Agencies

Srinagar: A wave of celebration swept across Jammu & Kashmir on Tuesday, as the National Conference (NC) and Congress alliance secured a stunning victory in the 2024 Assembly elections.

From the streets of Srinagar to the towns of Pulwama, Anantnag, Budgam and other areas, the valley resounded with the sound of firecrackers, joyous slogans, and dances, marking a historic moment for the region. Parts of Jammu division also rejoiced over the victory of the NC-Congress alliance.

A massive celebration erupted outside the counting centre at SKICC in Srinagar. The atmosphere was electric as Congress and National Conference (NC) workers poured onto the streets, their voices rising in joyous slogans that echoed throughout the area.

Banners and flags fill the air, creating a sea of colours. At SKICC, workers from both parties came together in a display of unity, dancing with happiness as they shared sweets and dates. The laughter and cheers, filled the air, mixing with the sounds of slogans, marking a remembering moment in the valley's political landscape.

While at the Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) headquarters in Lal Chowk, the mood was electric, as female Congress worker took centre stage, leading a jubilant dance while supporters chanted, "Bobei Sunn Kya Ronuth, Badam Goujeh, Tariq Sabun Foujey Aaw," and "Zyoon Ho Zyoon Ho, Congressan Zyoon Ho", a slogan that reverberated through the build-

ing and beyond. The atmosphere was electrifying, with many in the crowd wiping away tears of joy.

A supporter, holding a Congress flag high as celebrations continued, said that they had been waiting for this moment for years. "Today, it feels like our voices have been heard, and we are one step closer to change," he said.

Meanwhile, the streets of Srinagar were ablaze with fireworks, while Boulevard Road, and the residence of NC chief Dr. Farooq Abdullah, echoed with cheers as senior party leaders and winning candidates reached his residence earlier today.

Ahsan Pardeshi, the NC candidate for Lal Chowk, led a victory rally after his win, and his supporters thronged the streets, waving party flags and celebrating his win with firecrackers and sweets.

In Jammu, similar jubilant scenes were witnessed. At Sher-e-Kashmir Bhawan, the NC headquarters in Jammu, workers and supporters of NC and Congress gathered in large numbers, waving flags and raising victory slogans. At the NCSU Jammu Zone office, celebrations erupted as workers danced to the beats of drums and distributed sweets. In Kalakote and Sunderbani, NC supporters held rallies and victory marches, celebrating the triumph.

celebrations Further continued in Doda, where Mehraj Malik of NC secured a win in the Doda 52 constituency. His supporters thronged the streets, waving flags and lighting fireworks in jubilation. "This is a victory for the people of Doda, and a step towards a better future," a supporter said. In the valley, similar

scenes unfolded across Budgam, Pulwama, Anantnag, Tral, Khrew and Murran. In Pulwama town, the streets were alive with drums and slogans as locals came together to celebrate. "This victory gives us hope for a brighter future,' said Tariq Ahmad, a supporter in Pulwama, holding an NC flag in his hand. "It is not just a win for the parties, it is a win for all of us," he added

CBC's Three-Day Outreach Programme on Mission LiFE Commences In Kargil

Observer News Service

Kargil:The Central Bureau of Communication, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, on Tuesday launched a three-day Integrated Communication and Outreach Programme at Syed Mehdi Memorial Auditorium, Kargil.

Themed around Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment), Poshan Abhiyaan, Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat (EBSB) and the New Criminal Laws, the programme aims to raise awareness on sustainable development, National Integration, importance of balanced nutrition and new criminal laws

The event was inaugurated by Dr. Mohd Jaffer Akhoon, Chief Executive Councillor, Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC), Kargil. In his presidential address, Dr. Akhoon

emphasized the importance of sustainable development and adopting a healthy lifestyle to secure a prosperous future. He highlighted various developmental initiatives undertaken by the government for the Kargil region and urged participants to actively contribute to the betterment of society and the environment.

On the inaugural day, resource persons from the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), Forest, Education, and Health departments deliberated on a wide array of topics like sustainable development, cleanliness, balanced nutrition, and environmental preservation. The speakers also provided detailed insights into various government schemes and initiatives, encouraging participants to benefit from these initiatives for personal and community growth.

Only 3 Women Candidates **Secure Seats**

Syed Mohammad Burhan

Srinagar: Out of the 873 candidates who contested the 2024 Jammu and Kashmir Assembly elections, only 43 were women, highlighting the ongoing gender disparity in political representation in the Union territory of Jammu & Kashmir.

Despite the low number of women candidates, three prominent women secured victory, marking significant milestones in their respective political journeys. The winners include Sakina Itoo from who contested from DH Pora, Shamim Firdous from Habba Kadal, and Shagun Parihar from Kishtwar.

Sakina Itoo: Veteran Politician Triumphs In DH Pora

Sakina Itoo, a seasoned politician and former Cabinet Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, made a resounding return to the legislative assembly by winning the DH Pora seat. Sakina secured 36.623 votes, winning by a significant margin of 17,449 votes over her closest rival, Gulzar Ahmad Dar of the Jammu & Kashmir Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), who garnered 17.194 votes

Having served as the youngest member of the erstwhile Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly at the age of 26 in 1996, Sakina has held various ministerial portfolios over the years, including Social Welfare, Education, Tourism, Public Works, and others. Her political career is marked by numerous accolades, including the prestigious "Best MLA Award" in 2012 for her exceptional work in her constituency. Her win in 2024 solidifies her stature as one of the most influential women politicians in Jammu and Kashmir.

NOTA Secures More Votes Than Many Candidates

Agencies

Srinagar: In the recent Jammu & Kashmir Assembly elections, the "None of the Above" (NOTA) option garnered more votes than a majority of candidates in nearly all constituencies, according to results declared on Tuesday.

In Baramulla, NOTA received 561 votes, surpassing at least 12 contesting candidates.

In Karnah, it secured 464 votes, outpacing one candidate, while in Trehgam, NOTA received 920 votes, more than three candidates. Other notable figures include 341 votes in Sopore, 1,193 votes in Rafiabad (more than five candidates), 1,494 votes in Gulmarg (more than nine), 1.032 votes in Pattan (more than ten), and 846 votes in Sonawari (more than eight).

NC Sweeps Baramulla AS, Congress Secures One Seat

Baramulla: In a sweeping victory, the National Conference (NC) has secured a strong foothold in the Baramulla district by winning a majority of the assembly seats, while the Indian National Congress (INC) claimed one.

The political landscape of Baramulla saw significant shifts, as seasoned politicians and new contenders battled it out for control of this key district.

Javaid Hassan Baig of NC retained his seat in the Baramulla Assembly constituency, securing 22,523 votes, defeating Shoaib Nabi Lone, an AIP-backed candidate, by a margin of 11,773 votes. Despite fierce campaigning from his rivals. Baig's established presence and previous tenure as MLA in 2014 helped him secure a convincing victory.

In the neighbouring Sopore

constituency, Irshad Rasool Kar pulled off a landslide victory, se-

NC's Pirzada Farooq Ahmed Shah emerged victorious with 26,984 votes, defeating Ghulam Hassan Mir, a former MLA, by a margin of 4.191 votes. Similarly, in Rafiabad, NC's Javid Ahmed Dar clinched the seat with 28,783 votes, defeating Yawer Ahmad Mir of the JK Apni Party by a margin of 9,202 votes. Dar, a former MLA, reclaimed his seat after his prior win in 2008, while Yawer Mir, despite contesting as a PDP candidate in 2014, failed to regain his former momentum.

curing 26,783 votes and defeating his opponent Mursaleen Aajir by a massive 20,220 votes. The twotime MLA Abdul Rashid Dar of INC trailed far behind with only 5,127 votes. In the Gulmarg constituency,

Irshad Kar Triumphs In Sopore With Massive 20,220 Lead

Agencies

Srinagar: In a remarkable political turnaround. Irshad Kar of the National Conference (NC) has emerged victorious in the Sopore Assembly constituency, securing a massive margin of 20, 356 votes, with Er Rashid's AIP-backed candidate Mursaleen finishes with distant second.

According to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), Kar's win, which saw him claim 26, 975 votes, signals the end of the dominance of Haji Abdul Rashid Dar, a two-time MLA from the Indian National Congress (INC), who managed only 5, 167 votes, while Awami Ittehad Party (AIP)-backed independent candidate Mursaleen Aajir trailed behind with 6, 619 votes, finishing

second in a hotly contested race. This victory makes Irshad

Kar the only candidate across Jammu and Kashmir to win by such a large margin in the 2024 elections, marking a decisive moment for the political landscape in Sopore, a region with a historically complex and volatile political history.

From Hurriyat stronghold to electoral fervour

Sopore, long known as a Hurriyat Conference stronghold and the home base of Syed Ali Shah Geelani, was synonymous with separatist sentiment for decades. The town has often been referred to as the "separatist bastion" of Kashmir, particularly during Geelani's era, where pro-independence sentiment ran deep. The separatist leader's influence over Sopore, with his repeated boycotts of elections and strong antiestablishment stance, kept elec-

toral participation at low levels. However, the voter turnout this year was notable, reflecting a shift from the past where separatist ideologies dominated local discourse.

Kar's Promise of Change

Speaking to reporters after his historic win, Irshad Kar attributed his success to the people's growing desire for change and development. "This win is not just a victory for me, it's a victory for the people of Sopore who have been yearning for good governance and progress," Kar said.

He criticized the misgovernance and neglect the region had suffered in recent years under the previous leadership, vowing to work towards the upliftment of Sopore, a town long neglected in terms of infrastructure and economic development.

Budgam: NC Secures All 5 seats; PDP Fails To Open Its Account

Agencies

Budgam: In a resounding victory in the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly elections, the National Conference (NC) clinched victory from all the five seats in Budgam district, leaving no room for the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) or other parties to make a mark.

This sweeping win comes as the first assembly election held in the region after a decade, marking a significant milestone for NC.

NC quickly took the lead in all five assembly constituencies of Budgam district, which include Budgam, Beerwah, Khansahab, Charar-e-Sharief and Chadoora.

By the end of the day, these initial leads translated into confirmed victories for the party, solidifying their dominance in the district.

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved father **Abdul Hamid Khan** (Renowned Judo Martial Art Instructor/ Vice President of J&K Judo Association) R/o Sathu Bala Bar Bar Shah, Srinagar who left for heavenly abode after a brief illness on 08th October, 2024. Mourning will be held for three days. Congregational Fateha Khawani will be held at our ancestral graveyard at Malteng, Dalgate on 10th October, 2024 at 10:00 AM. May Almighty Allah grant Jannat-ul-firdous to

the departed soul, Ameen!

BEREAVED:

Zubair Hamid Khan (Son),

Adv. Ahana Hamid Khan (Daughter)

Contact: 7006774199

NORTHERN RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE

Senior Divisional Mechanical Engineer (C&W) Firozpur acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders for the works/services listed below. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offer are not allowed against these tender and any such manual offer received shall be gnored. Contractors are allowed to make online payments against these tende Document cost and earnest money only through online payment modes available or www.ireps.gov.in portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payment hrough Demand draft, Banker's cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed.

Date of Tende **Bidding** System Uploading tenders Date/Time Opening of E-Tender Type Open Single packet 05.10.2024 Time 28.10.2024 17:00 hours Time 15:00 hou 15:05 hours. **Details of Tender** 19-2024- Design, supply, Installation and commissioning of Automatic Coach ACWP-Washing Plant with Effluent treatment plant and water treatment

Plant with two years warranty at C&W depot Firozpur (FZR) Advertised Earnest Period of of Offer completion 17460148.80/-237300/-45 Days 180 Days For more details, please log on to www.ireps.gov.in 3085/24 SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE



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🔪 KO VIEW

Election Rekindles Hope

s Omar Abdullah prepares to take charge as the new Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, he faces what may be the weakest elected government in the country. His challenges are not just the limited power of the assembly after the abrogation of Article 370 in August 2019, but also the presence of a powerful Lieutenant Governor representing the BJP-led central government. Also, the BJP has established itself as a formidable opposition in the region, with its increased tally of 29 seats in the Hindu-majority Jammu division, up from 25 in 2014.

With the BJP controlling the Union government and the LG wielding considerable authority in the Union Territory, the Omar-led coalition will have a tough time asserting its power, if any. The NC-Congress combine has 49 seats between them which makes for a secure majority The BJP which was hoping to form a government by roping in the smaller parties and the independents from Kashmir Valley doesn't have many options. And for now, the party could settle for a role in the opposition but it would be there to make the most of every opportunity.

The NC-Congress government is also likely to centre stage the demand for statehood and it remains to be seen how centre will respond to it. There will, however, be enormous pressure on Omar to make the restoration of statehood a central issue of his government, as the people would want him to assert himself and deliver on his promises. This is why this election saw a voter turnout of 63.88 percent, with people in the Valley too voting in large numbers, which was the first such sign of their democratic engagement in the last three decades. The Valley has placed its faith in the electoral process, hoping for tangible improvements in their daily lives. But the limitations of the new assembly must not be ignored. It will be difficult for Omar and his team to meet these expectations considering the constraints imposed by the current political framework.

That said, it is a momentous occasion for J&K. Assembly polls have been held after a decade, a gap which has also created a realization among people of the worth of democracy. Here's hoping that this government, despite its lack of authority, will rise to the occasion and fufill the expectations of the people. People deserve not only a functioning government but one that is responsive, accountable and, of course, empathetic. The road ahead is undoubtedly difficult, but the return to democracy offers



Did you know?

Navigating Volatility and Leverage in the Stock Market

Irshad Mushtaq

methe world of stock trading, high fluctuations and market downturns can be particularly challenging, especially when using leverage. Leverage can amplify gains, but it also magnifies losses. For example, if you have 20 and buy stocks worth 40 using leverage, a market decline can result in a loss on the full 40, not just your initial 20. This is why effective money and risk management is essential. The stock market often exhibits short-term volatility, which can feel like a Hollywood drama. It reacts swiftly to news-good or bad. This unpredictability underscores the importance of avoiding excessive leverage. Instead, focus on smart investment strategies. Prioritize investing in quality shares, exchange-traded funds (ETFs), and mutual funds. While these may also experience declines, quality assets typically recover over time. Avoid leveraging excessively as it's inherently risky. Ensure the organizations you're investing in have strong fundamentals. Recently, the Nifty index has shown a 27% increase over the past year. Despite a 5% decline in the last five days, this long-term growth suggests resilience. Such declines are not unusual; the stock market rarely moves in a straight line. It's essential to maintain a long-term perspective and hold on to quality investments. Embrace diversification across industry sectors with well-managed stocks to create a robust portfolio. In times of market fluctuation, view each drop as a potential opportunity. Instead of making hasty decisions, invest in a staggered manner. For instance, increase systematic investment plans (SIPs) and make lump-sum contributions selectively. In conclusion, while the stock market can be unpredictable, maintaining a disciplined approach can help you navigate its ups and downs. Prioritize quality, diversify your holdings, and manage risk effectively to weather the storm and make the most of market opportunities.

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

Advancing Quality Education in Government Schools



Dr. Rizwan Rumi



J&k's educational landscape has witnessed commendable expansion, with the establishment of a vast network of government schools, representing a significant milestone in the nation's pursuit of universal education. However. beneath this veneer of progress lie persistent issues plaguing these institutions.

ccess to quality education is the cornerstone of societal progress, serving as the bedrock for individual growth and national development. Yet, despite strides in educational infrastructure, numerous government schools throughout the country struggle to provide basic amenities essential for effective learning. In Jammu and Kashmir, this challenge is particularly acute, echoing the urgent need for systemic reform to ensure that every child, regardless of socio-economic status, receives a robust educational foundation.

J&k's educational landscape has witnessed commendable expansion, with the establishment of a vast network of government schools, representing a significant milestone in the nation's pursuit of uni-

and reliance on temporary or untrained teaching staff. Despite offering competitive salaries compared to their private sector counterparts, government school teachers often face overwhelming workloads and minimal support, hindering their ability to deliver quality instruction effectively.

Furthermore, compliance with legislative mandates such as the Right to Education (RTE) Act remains a distant reality for many institutions, with only a fraction achieving full adherence to its provisions. Political interference and bureaucratic inefficiencies further impede progress, perpetuating systemic neglect and eroding public trust in government schools.

The ramifications of this educational divide are far-reaching, with parents increasingly turning to private alternatives egy is imperative. Prioritizing infrastructure development, including investments in digital infrastructure, is essential to meet the evolving needs of 21stcentury learners. Concurrently, efforts to recruit and retain qualified educators, coupled with robust professional development initiatives, are paramount to bolstering instructional quality and student outcomes.

Furthermore, fostering collaborative partnerships among schools, educators and communities can facilitate tailored interventions to support marginalized students and bridge the digital divide. Equally crucial is the provision of basic amenities, such as electricity and sanitation facilities, to create safe and hygienic learning environments conducive to holistic development.

Ultimately, the transforma-



ark picture of the reality faced y many sever men schools, evening a distressing lack of seeman resources tritical for

fostering a conducive learning environment. Shockingly, near ly half of these institutions oper-trenching societal meguities.

Amidst these challenges, ate without access to electricity or recreational spaces, while the modify grapple with insuffi-

cient classrooms, basic amenities, and sanitation infrastructure. The resulting atmosphere stifles academic engagement and contributes to alarmingly high dropout rates, perpetuating a cycle of educational disenfranchisement.

At the heart of this crisis lies the acute shortage of qualified educators, a challenge exacerbated by inadequate professional development opportunities Amidst these challenges, however, promising faitiatives offer glampses of transformative

temporary or untrained teaching staff

potential. Programs like Nipun Bharat aim to address learning gaps through targeted interventions, while visionary leadership in many states and UTs underscores the importance of holistic reform encompassing infrastructure enhancement, teacher capacity building, community engagement, and curriculum innovation.

To chart a sustainable path forward, a multifaceted strat-

and prioritizing the educational needs of all children, we can forge a future where every large she er has the opportunity to thrive and contribute meaningfully to society's collective progress.

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

The Author is a freelancer, Writer and columnist. He can be mailed on rizwanroomi2012@gamil.com



OBSERVER

All letters intended for publication must include the writer's name and address, even if a pseudonym is used. Letters are edited as clarity, spaceand accuracy of expression require. Our publishing a letter does not mean we agree with everything or even anything in it. -EDITOR

MAIL YOUR LETTERS

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Hope for a People's Government in J&K

s the results of the Jammu & Kashmir Assembly elections are declared, I am writing to express my hope that the newly elected government truly serves as the voice of the people. This election was a crucial moment for the region, representing a chance for citizens to shape their future through democratic means.

It is my sincere wish that the new government will prioritize the aspirations, concerns, and welfare of the people of J&K. In a region that has faced immense challenges over the years, the elected leaders have a responsibility to bring about tangible development, promote peace, and ensure that every citizen feels heard and valued. The issues of economic development, education, employment, and social harmony must be

addressed with dedication and care. The diversity of Jammu & Kashmir's population is its strength, and I hope the new government reflects this diversity in its policies and actions. It is essential that the elected representatives rise above divisions, focus on unity, and work to build a brighter future for all sections of society.

I trust that the new leadership will work tirelessly to uplift the region and restore faith in democratic governance. The people of J&K deserve a government that is responsive, accountable, and genuinely committed to improving their lives.

Thank you for continuing to provide balanced and comprehensive coverage of this significant political event. I look forward to seeing how the new government addresses the region's needs in the coming months and years.

Hadiya Khan

New Age, Customs Aging Girls



There is a new ritual that has surfaced in the past few years in which the Baratis are greeted with welcome drinks served in elegant and usually customised boxes. These boxes contain 2-3 types of juices, dry fruit, sweets and what not



Midhat Soharwardy

Tashmir, known for its diverse culture, rich cuisine, and warm hospitality is also famous for its sumptuous weddings. The wazwan, a highlight of Kashmiri weddings, is a feast enjoyed by guests who traditionally sit in groups of four to share the meal. In the past, this culinary tradition was much simpler, making it affordable for every family in Kashmir. But, over-time, the complexity and extravagance of the wazwan has evolved because of the changing trends and cultural expectations. By virtue of these cultural expectations people have started spending a substantial sum on weddings making it difficult for middle-income groups to get their children married, especialThere is a new ritual that has surfaced in the past few years in which the Baratis are greeted with welcome drinks served in elegant and usually customised boxes. These boxes contain 2-3 types of juices, dry fruit, sweets and what not. In addition to this the lavish tents and intricate decor contributes to the rising cultural expectations surrounding wedding calebrations.

wedding celebrations.

"My family was planning to arrange my marriage to a distant relative. Meanwhile, my future sister-in-law, who is also a relative, planned to visit our home with her husband to meet me. My parents prepared a variety of traditional wazwan dishes and welcomed them warmly. However, a few days later, we learned that they were unhappy with how things had unfolded. They expected us to present them

with welcome boxes, and their dissatisfaction led to disrespectful behavior towards my parents. Ultimately, they called off the arrangement altogether. This experience took a toll on my mental health and made me realize that, in Kashmir, weddings often seem to revolve around customs and expectations rather than genuine connections." said Mehreen who hails from srinagar.

Recently, a survey was conducted by a non-profit organisation Tehreek e Fala-Ul-Muslimeen and they revealed that nearly 50,000 girls in Kashmir valley are on the cusp of crossing the age limit of getting married because of the largely avoidable rituals. Out of these 50,000 girls more than 10,000 girls are from Srinagar itself.

Late marriages not only take a toll on the mental health of wom-

en but also their physical health. Research has indicated that there is a potential link between late marriages and increased risk of breast cancer. Women who have their first child at an older age may have a higher risk of breast cancer compared to those who have children at a younger age. Moreover, hormonal factors play a role as well, delayed childbirth often results in fewer pregnancies and extended exposure to estrogen, which can be a risk factor for breast cancer.

In Kashmir, there are many NGOs working to help young underprivileged girls get married. One of them is "we the helping hands foundation" which goes by the name @hhelping891 on instagram, is a non-government organisation that mainly focuses on marriage, it is led by Umer Wani a young activist.

"I started this NGO back in 2013. I was young and enthusiastic at that time, my main motive behind establishing this NGO was to help people. In 2015, I came across a survey that stated girls in Kashmir are becoming overaged for marriage due to the increasing customs and traditions. Instead of just talking about it we started working on ground but we were not able to create any impact. After a few months we came up with this idea of mass marriage and with the help of social media we were able to reach out to girls. We gave traction to discussions about unnecessary rituals and started promoting simple nikkah. So far, we've facilitated the marriage of 900 such poor girls. There are 15 people who are presently working in our NGO and we have around 500 volunteers working in different districts who help us maintain the data of unprivileged girls. In the coming month, we are planning a mass marriage ceremony for about 100 girls. These rising traditions are detrimental to the society, that is what we are fighting against and we hope we will be able to create a difference", said Umer Wani.

Unless there is a wider campaign against costly and ostentatious marriages, the efforts of certain NGOs can only create a flicker of hope rather than a flame and desire to come to the rescue of our innocent but poor girls who are feeling the pain of entrapment where man made rituals gain precedence over securing their future.

The author can be reached out for feedback at suharwardymidhat12@gmail.com

Phone Use: Healthy or Compulsive?

Amy Margolis

o you feel compelled to post a picture of your food when you dine out?
Do you find yourself busy recording your child's concert instead of fully enjoying it?
Do you click on your ex

when you're disillusioned with your current partner?

Do you experience FOMO when you don't check Insta-

Do you experience FOMO when you don't check Instagram every day?

If so you are not alone Lam

If so, you are not alone. I am currently visiting my 91-year-old mother in Concord, Massachusetts. Today, we dined with my two favorite cousins at the Fife and Drum, a restaurant run by inmates at the Northeastern Correctional Center since the 1970s. The rules are simple: no shorts, jeans, cleavage, purses, or cell phones. Essentially, show up with your cash, picture ID, and an empty stomach, and for just \$3.21, you can enjoy a three-course

meal, and it's delicious!

As we sat at the table enjoying homemade Caesar salad, chicken noodle soup, eggplant parm, peanut butter cake, and garbage cookies (I know, they were a first for me, too, and amazing), the conversation went something went like

"I wonder what that illness cousin so and so has entails, let me look it up. Oh yeah, I don't have my phone."

"Hey, I'll show you a picture of my daughter's boyfriend.

Oh, right, I can't. My phone is in the car."

"Let me see if my son texted from his first college tailgate. Oh my God. I feel so naked without my phone!"

Then we all chimed in. We all felt naked without, as my mom so aptly refers to our iPhones, "our third hands."

And we are three women who came of age in the 1980s. What happened to us? Back in the day, we would get in the car, turn on the radio, sing at the top of our lungs to Def Leppard, and if we got lost, pull over and ask a human being for directions. And we lived to tell it. Now if we leave home without our phones, fear sets in. Fear of what? Boredom? Being out of touch? Off the grid? Missing something? Never finding our way home?

Whether we would like to admit it, even the healthiest among us is attached. But it is important to stop and inquire...

- Does listening to the news first thing in the morning cause me to feel more informed and have a better day or frustrate me and put me in a bad mood?
- Does checking the number of followers and likes I have make me feel powerful or as if I've given my power away?
- Does comparing my insides to someone else's highlight reel serve me?



 Maybe the most important question is: Do I have a healthy attachment to technology or is it veering into being unhealthy and/ or compulsive?

Technology so easily satisfies our needs for distraction, interaction, a change in environment, and stimulation quickly and efficiently that it releases dopamine. This causes structural changes in

the brain very similar to those experienced by people with alcohol or drug addiction. And these changes may lead to impairments in our decision-making, reasoning, executive and cognitive functioning, emotional processing, and working memory.

Working memory.

Researchers began to investigate the concept of internet addiction disorder (not an official diagnosis in the DSM-5) in

1998, and compulsive overuse of technology has risen over the past two decades. It is associated with mental illnesses such as impulse control disorder, ADHD, anxiety, increased substance use, and depression. Physically, it is linked with a higher risk of cardiometabolic disease, sleep disturbances, and fatigue. According to the Center for Internet & Technology Addiction, 85% of Ameri-

cans go online daily, 31% of American adults are online "almost constantly," and 35% of people have an "internet addiction."

Here are five tips to help ensure that you don't fall into compulsive technology use and remain an active participant in your life rather than a mere spectator.

Technology Gatekeeping Tips

1. Make a List of 25 Things
You Love: Include hobbies,
creative passions, things
you want to try, places you
want to go, and people you
care about, and be intentional. Put one tech-free
adventure or social event
on the calendar every

- week. (More if possible!) 2. Spend the First Hour of Your Day Tech-Free: Meditate, stretch, journal, clear yourself of yesterday's resentments, make a gratitude list, and ask questions like. What do I feel? Need? Want? What actions can I take on my behalf? When we give ourselves the gift of our own attention, we are less likely to be hijacked by outside distractions and more focused, motivated, and conscious
- in our own lives.

 3. Make an Order of Operations (PEMDAS) in Your Daily Life: Know your first five priorities in order of importance. Things like: family, career, school, spir-

ituality, friends, chores... and make sure you attend to them first. With technology at our fingertips and being reachable 24/7, we can be tired by the end of the day, and we haven't attended to the people or things we hold most dear. Using a PEMDAS makes tech-use an "in addition to" rather than "in replacement of."

- 4. Use Technology, Instead of Letting It Use You: Don't fall prey to zoning out on tech when you know you could be doing something more meaningful in your life or connecting in realtime with someone you love. Use technology as a "Yes, and..." to enhance your life affording you more information, knowledge, career advancement, connection, and entertainment.
- Control Technology, so It Doesn't Have Control Over You: Have boundaries around: what you use it for, how much time you spend using it, and when. For example: maybe make social media scrolling or watching your favorite show an end-of-a-day well-spent reward rather than an all-consuming, anytime-free-for-all distraction in your life.

The article was originally published by Psychology

Peoples Verdict Will Be Honored: Winning Candidates

Srinagar: Expressing sincere gratitude for giving a resounding mandate to the National Conference and Congress alliance during the assembly elections, the winning candidates of the alliance claimed on Tuesday that the voters' primary motivation for supporting the INDIA Bloc was to prevent the BJP from

While INDIA Alliance candidate and JKPCC president, Tariq Hamid Karra who won the central Shalteng seat, said that an inclusive government in Jammu and Kashmir is the need of the hour to help the people overcome their political predicament, NC winning candidate from Hazratbal constituency, Salman Ali Sagar said

the peoples mandate will be honored.

"I want to dedicate my victory to the people of Jammu and Kashmir, whose dreams and aspirations were dashed by the BJP's jackboot policy. BJP initiated hate politics in the region and used all of its resources to muzzle the voice of dissent. But the people of J&K gave the coalition a mandate that eliminated

the saffron party," Karra told the media after declaring winner from Central Shalteng.

Regarding the government formation, the PCC chief said the alliance's success in the assembly elections was just the beginning and that many difficulties were ahead for the incoming government.

"This would be the beginning of a new struggle, the struggle

for our identity (statehood), the struggle for our rights to our land and jobs, the struggle against unemployment, and the struggle against the drug menace which has negatively impacted our younger generation," Karra added.

Besides advancing the policies for women

and youth included in the Congress manifesto, he said, it is imperative to fortify job opportunities in J&K.

Salman Sagar argued that the people of J&K collectively voted against the August 5, 2019 decision of centre that stripped the erstwhile state of its epical constitutional standing and downgraded it to a union territory.

"We are committed to fulfill our promises we made with the people, we will not let our people down like some parties

did back in 2014. They utilize the same mandate that they first sought to fend off the BJP to form a coalition with the same party," he added.

Legislative priorities, according to Sagar, will be to solve the everyday issues that people face, such as power outages, smart meters, improved roads, better water supplies, and other necessities for daily living.

CONTD. FROM **FRONT PAGE**

NC Ploughs To

with five of those in the Kashmir valley and only one in Jammu. In 2014, the Congress had won 12 seats.

The BJP also made notable gains, winning 29 seats -- its best performance in J&K to date, up from 25 seats in the 2014 elections.

Despite the defeat of J&K BJP president Ravindra Raina, the party's vote share increased from 23 per cent in 2014 to 25.64 per cent this year.

However, political analysts do not read much into the increased tally of the BJP and mainly attribute it to the recent delimitation of assembly seats in which many strongholds of the BJP were bifurcated into two like Kishtwar and Nagrota and others in Jammu district.

The NC saw a rise in its vote share as well, improving from 20.77 per cent in 2014 to 23.43 per cent.

In contrast, the PDP experienced a significant vote share drop from 22.67 per cent to just 8.87 per cent.

The Congress vote share declined from 18 per cent to approximately 12 per cent. There are only three women winners --

Sakina Masood, Shamima Firdous (both NC) and Shagun Parihar (BJP) -- among the 90 successful candidates.

Two NC veterans -- Abdul Rahim Rather (Chrar-e-Sharief) and Ali Mohammad Sagar (Khanyar) -- won their seventh election each.

Among the other key winners were NC vice president Omar Abdullah, J&K Congress president Tariq Hamid Karra, PDP youth president Waheed Para and BJP leader Devender Rana.

The key losers include former deputy chief minister Muzaffar Hussain Baig (Independent), Congress leader Tara Chand, PCC working president Raman Bhalla, former PCC president Vaqar Rsool Wani and NC provincial president Nasir Aslam Wani.

Omar Abdullah, a likely candidate for the chief minister's position after winning in both Budgam and Ganderbal, expressed gratitude to the electorate for their support.

"We are committed to serving the people and addressing their concerns in this new mandate," he stated.

Abdullah said many attempts were made to destroy his party over the last five years by creating new outfits which have been decimated in this election.

"There were attempts to destroy the NC over the last five years. So many parties were created here, whose only aim was to destroy the NC. But, God's grace has been on us and those who tried to destroy us, have been decimated in the process," Abdullah told reporters here after receiving his winning certificate from the returning officer for the Budgam seat.

He said the verdict has increased the party's

PDP president Mehbooba Mufti, while congratulating the NC-Congress alliance for the victory, said the Centre should take a lesson from the decisive verdict of the Jammu and Kashmir assembly polls and "not meddle" in the affairs of the upcoming NC-Congress government.

She said her party would play the role of a constructive opposition.

"I congratulate the NC leadership for its spectacular win. I also want to congratulate the people of J&K for voting for a stable government and not a hung assembly because the people faced several problems especially after August 5, 2019. A stable and strong government is very important for the redressal of those problems." Mufti told reporters here.

CPI(M) candidate Mohamad Yousuf Tarigami won the assembly election from the Kulgam seat in for the fifth consecutive time, defeating former member of banned Jamaat-e-Islami (JeI) Sayar Ahmad Reshi by more than 7,800

votes. Tarigami said the trends showed that the vote of the people is against the central govern-

ment and its policies. "The writing is on the wall and the vote of the people is against the BJP government and its policies," Tarigami said.

BJP Retains

faces including a former police officer, a university professor and a former bureaucrat who have taken retirement recently to fight the elections besides a lone woman who had lost her father and uncle to a terror attack in November 2018.

J&K BJP chief Raina lost to National Conference nominee Surinder Choudhary from Nowshera seat by a margin of 7,819 votes. Raina had won the seat in 2014 assembly elections.

Similarly, former MLA Rajeev Sharma lost to Congress rebel Satish Sharma by 6,929 votes from Chhamb, former MLA Jewan Lal lost to independent candidate Rameshwar Singh by 2,048 votes in Bani, former MLA Faqeer Mohammad Khan lost to NC leader Nazir Ahmad Khan by 1,132 votes and former MLC Vibod Kumar lost to Congress candidate Iftkar Ahmed by a margin of 1,404 votes.

Vice president of J&K BJP Sofi Yousif only managed 3,716 votes from Srigufwara-Bijbehara where the winning NC candidate got 33,299 votes followed by PDP's Iltija Mufti who secured 23.529 votes.

Prominent among others who won the elections for the BJP include former ministers Sham Lal Sharma, Surjeet Singh Slathia (Samba), Pawan Kumar Gupta (Udhampur

West), Devender Kumar Manyal (Ramgarh), Rajiv Jasrotia (Jasrota), Shakti Raj Parihar (Doda West), Chander Parkash (Vijaypur), and Sunil Sharma (Paddar-Nagseni) and former MLAs Devender Singh Rana (Nagrota), Kuldeep Raj Dubey (Reasi), Daleep Singh (Bhaderwah), Baldev Raj Sharma (Shri Mata Vaishno Devi)

and Ranbir Singh Pathania (Udhampur east). Devender Singh Rana registered the highest winning margin of 30,472 votes against his nearest NC rival Joginder Singh who polled 17,641 votes, while Slathia also registered a win by 30309 votes against independent candidate Ravinder Singh who polled 12,873 votes.

Two-time MLA Balwant Singh Mankotia, who joined the BJP last year, won the elections from Chenani segment, defeating his nearest rival and former minister Harsh Dev Singh by a margin of 15,611 votes. Singh, who heads National Panthers Party (India), is the cousin of Mankotia who polled 47.990 votes.

Darshan Kumar of the BJP defeated veteran Congress leader and two-time MP Choudhary Lal Singh by a huge margin of 16,034 votes from Basohli constituency, while Garu Ram, a two-time MLA of the BJP, scored victory from Suchetgarh segment by a margin of 11,141

candidates Arvind Gupta and Satish Kumar Sharma won from Jammu West and Billawar segments by 22,127 and 21,388 votes, respectively.

Shagun Parihar (Kishtwar) defeated her nearest rival and former NC minister Sajjad Kitchloo after a day-long seesaw battle by a slender margin of 521 votes.

Former SSP Mohan Lal won from Akhnoor by a margin of 24,679 votes, former agriculture director Bharat Bhushan emerged victorious from Kathua seat by 12,117 votes and Sunil Bhardwaj (Ramnagar) by 9,306 votes.

Who Won

casting 18,002 votes in his favour and defeating his rival by 3,626 votes.

Qaysar Jamshaid Lone defeated his rival by 7,871 votes from Lolab, Irshad Rasool Kar won by a margin of 20,356 votes. Javid Ahmad Dar wins Rafiabad by a margin of 9,202, Sajjad Shafi in Uri by 14,469, Javid Hassan Baig in Baramulla by 11,773, Pirzada Faroog Ahmed Shah in Gulmarg by 4,191 votes, Javaid Riyaz Bedar in Pattan by 603 votes, Sonawari Hilal Akbar Lone by 13,744 votes, Gurez (ST) Nazir Ahmad Khanby 1,132 votes, Mian Mehar Ali Kangan (ST) by 3,819 votes, Hazratbal Salman Sagar by 10,295, Khanyar Ali Mohammad Sagar by 9,912 votes, Habbakadal Shamim Firdous by 9,538, Lal Chowk Sheikh Ahsan Ahmed by

11,343, Channapora Mushtag Guroo by 5,688. In Zadibal Tanvir Sadiq won by 16,173 votes, Eidgah Mubarik Gul by 1,680, Beerwah Shafi Ahmad Wani by 4.161. Khansahib Saifuddin Bhat by 11,614, Chrar-I- Sharief Advocate Abdul Rahim Rather by 11,496, Chadoora Ali Mohammad Dar by 17,218, Pampore Hasnain Masoodi by 2,763, Rajpora Ghulam Mohi Uddin Mir by 14,313, Zainapora Showkat Hussain Ganie by 13,233, D. H. PORA by Sakeena Masood by 17.449. Devsar Peerzada Feroze Ahamad by 840, Kokernag(ST) Zafar Ali Khatana by 6,162, Anantnag West Abdul Majeed Bhat by 10,435, Srigufwara – Bijbehara Bashir Ahmad Shah Veeri by 9,770, Shangus - Anantnag East Reyaz Ahmad Khan by 14,532 and Pahalgam Altaf Ahmad Wani by 13,756 votes.

In Jammu division, NC has won Ramban with a margin of 9013 votes, Banihal with a margin of 6110 votes, Gulabgarh (ST) by 6527, Nowshera by 7,819, Budhal (ST)by 18,908, Poonch Haveli by 20,879 and Mendhar (ST) by 14.906 votes.

Indian National Congress has won six seats out of 31 segments which include Wagoora -Kreeri by Irfan Hafiz Lone by a margin of 7,751 votes, Bandipora by Nizam Uddin Bhat with a margin of 811 votes, Central Shalteng by Tariq Hameed Karra with a margin of 14,395, Dooru by Gulam Ahmad Mir with a margin of 29,728 votes, Anantnag by Peerzada Mohammad Syed with a margin of 1,686 votes, Rajouri (ST) by Iftkar Ahmed with a margin of 1,404 votes.

BJP has however won the second highest seats in Jammu and Kashmir. The party has managed to increase its seats from 25 in 2014 to 29 in 2024.

The seats where from BJP candidates have emerged victorious include Kishtwar, Padder Nagseni, Bhadarwah, Doda West, Reasi, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi, Udhampur West, Udhampur East, Chenani, Ramnagar (SC), Billawar, Basohli, Jasrota, Kathua, Hiranagar, Ramgarh (SC), Samba, Vijaypur, Bishnah (SC), Suchetgarh (SC), R. S. Pura- Jammu South, Bahu, Jammu East, Nagrota, Jammu West, Jammu North, Marh (SC), Akhnoor (SC) and Kalakote – Sunderbani.

Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) has managed to secure three seats including Kupwara, Tral and Pulwama while Peoples Conference (PC) won Handwara seat, CPI (M) won Kulgam. Aam Aadmi Party has opened its account in Jammu and Kashmir by securing Doda seat.

Furthermore, seven independent candidates have emerged victorious from seven seats including Langate where Awami Ittehad Party (AIP) Chief Er Rashid's brother— Khursheed Ahmad Shiekh won with a margin of 1602 votes. Besides, Shopian, Inderwal, Bani, Chhamb, Thannamandi (ST) and Surankote (ST) seats have also won by independent candidates

PM Modi Greets

and Kashmir but the BJP has emerged as the single-largest party in terms of vote share, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Tuesday.

PM Modi pointed out that the BJP had set a record by winning in Haryana for the third straight time and thanked voters for the verdict. Shifting focus to Jammu and Kashmir, he said elections have taken place in a peaceful manner in the erstwhile state after decades.

"Peaceful voting was held, results were declared. This is a victory for the Constitution, for democracy. The people of Jammu and Kashmir have given more seats to the National Conference and its allies. I send them my best wishes as well. In terms of vote share, the BJP has emerged as the single largest party in Jammu and Kashmir," he said in Hindi.

The National Conference-Congress-CPM alliance won 49 of the Union Territory's 90 Assembly seats for which elections were held. The National Conference contributed 42 of these, with the Congress winning six and the

The BJP achieved victory in 29 seats, four more than it had in 2014. Its vote share, however, stood at 25.64% while the National Conference polled 23.43%. The Congress' vote share was only 11.97%.

National Conference chief Farooq Abdullah has said his son and party Vice President Omar Abdullah will be the next chief minister of Jammu and Kashmir. Omar Abdullah, however, insisted that the chief minister will be decided by the MLAs of the party and the alliance.

Terming the election result a rejection of the removal of Article 370, Abdullah also said he hoped that the PM would fulfil his promise and restore statehood to Jammu and Kashmir at the

"The PM is an honourable man... he promised statehood to the people of Jammu and Kashmir and I hope he lives up to that," Abdullah said.

7 Independents Emerge

Congress candidate Tara Chand, who had won this seat three times, finished third with 16,449 votes.

In Inderwal, independent candidate Payare Lal Sharma defeated veteran leader Gulam Mohammad Saroori by a narrow margin of 643 votes. Sharma received 14,195 votes, while Saroori, also an independent candidate, secured 13,552 votes. Saroori had previously won

In Bani, independent candidate Dr Rameshwar Singh defeated BIP nominee and former MLA Jewan Lal by 2,048 votes. Singh secured 18,672 votes, while Lal polled 16,624

In the Surankote assembly segment, independent candidate and National Conference rebel Choudhary Mohammad Akram defeated Congress' Mohammad Shahnawaz by a margin of 8.851 votes. Akram received 34.201 votes.

Muzaffar Iqbal Khan won the Thanamandi seat with a margin of 6,179 votes against BJP candidate Mohmmad Iqbal Malik. Khan garnered 32.645 votes.

Khursheed Ahmed Sheikh secured 25,984 votes and defeated Peoples Conference's Irfan Sultan Panditpuri by a margin of 1,602 votes in the Langate assembly seat. Similarly, Shabir Ahmed Kullay defeat-

ed National Conference candidate Sheikh Mohmmad Rafi by a margin of 1,207 votes in the Shopian seat.

A total of 346 independent candidates contested in the J&K Assembly elections, with 339 of them failing to win.

Three and four candidates were elected to the J&K Assembly in 2014 and 2008 elections, respectively.

Omar Set To

me successful and giving me an opportunity to serve the people of Jammu and Kashmir once again," the NC vice-president said.

Omar Abdullah, who is set to be the new chief minister of the Union territory, said the verdict has increased the party's responsibilities.

Omar said whosoever becomes Chief Minister of J&K will meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah. "We cannot have an antagonistic relation with the Centre. I hope the Centre respects the mandate given to us," Omar said. "I hardly recall any speech of Honourable PM Modi where he stated that statehood to J&K would be restored only when BJP comes to power. I am using the word Honourable because I believe so. He (PM) has said that the Statehood will be restored af-

ter the polls.' Faroog Declares Omar Will be CM National Conference chief Farooq Abdullah

said people have given their mandate in the assembly elections and that Omar Abdullah will become the next chief minister.

"People have given their mandate, they have proven that they don't accept the decision that was taken on August 5...Omar Abdullah will be the chief minister," the senior Abdullah told reporters Speaking to reporters here, Farooq said, "We

want to tackle issues of unemployment, inflation and others. I am grateful to everybody for casting their votes. Omar Abdullah will be the chief minister.' was attacked with ink by BJP workers following

'Will Claim Govt After Electing Coalition Leader

Earlier Omar Abdullah said the INDIA bloc will stake claim to form the government in Jammu and Kashmir only after the alliance partners meet to elect the leader of the coalition in the assembly.

"Let the NC legislative party meet, I am not staking a claim to the chief ministership of J&K. It is for the alliance and the elected members to decide who they feel should lead the state over the next five years, and that is as far as I am willing to go," Abdullah told reporters outside his residence here.

His remarks came after his father and NC president Farooq Abdullah announced Omar would be the chief minister.

The junior Abdullah said that as grateful as he was for the vote of confidence reposed in him by the NC president, "this is a decision for the legislative party of the NC" and a decision to be taken by the allies together.

Let the party celebrate its win and colleagues heave a sigh of relief before a meeting of the NC's legislative party takes place, he added.

"In a couple of days, we will call our legislative party meet where the NC legislative party leader will be elected. Then, we will sit with the alliance to decide who will head it. Then, when we have all the letters of support, we will stake our claim to the LG for government formation," Omar Abdullah added.

The NC leader said the mandate proves that the people have voted against the BJP's politics in Jammu and Kashmir.

There was no division of votes in Kashmir and the higher reaches of Jammu. I think the people used their vote thoughtfully. It is now the responsibility of the alliance to provide a clean government which comes up to the expectations of the people," he added.

Earlier, in Budgam, Abdullah said many attempts were made to destroy his party over the last five years by creating new outfits which have been decimated in this election.

"There were attempts to destroy the NC over the last five years. So many parties were created here, whose only aim was to destroy the NC. But, God's grace has been on us and those who tried to destroy us, have been decimated in the process," Abdullah told reporters after receiving his winning certificate from the returning officer for the Budgam seat.

"I am thankful to the voters in Budgam for voting for me, making me successful and giving me an opportunity to serve the people of J-K once again," he said.

Abdullah said the verdict has increased the party's responsibilities.

"It is our duty now to come up to the expectations of the people through our work and that is what our endeavour would be for the next five years," he added.

He also expressed gratitude to PDP president Mehbooba Mufti after she congratulated the NC for the spectacular win.

2 NC Leaders

of over 11,000 votes on Tuesday. Sagar, the general secretary of the NC, also won the assembly election for the seventh

He was first elected to the assembly from Batamaloo seat here in 1983. He regained the seat in 1987. Later, Sagar shifted to Khanyar and won the polls from there in 1996. Since then, he has never lost an election from the seat. In fact, the NC general secretary has never lost an assembly election.

Sagar won the Khanyar seat defeating fromer deputy Mayor of Srinagar Sheikh Imran who contested the polls as an independent candidate by a margin of 9,912 votes.

Another politician who could have achieved the feat was Hakeem Mohammad Yaseen who has represented Khansahib seat, in Budgam district, six times.

However, he could not win the seventh time and was defeated by NC's Saif ud din Bhat by a margin of 11.614 votes.

NC's Mubarak Gul is another politician who has won his seat several times. Gul won the election from Eidgah here for the sixth time, while CPI(M)'s M Y Tarigami wrested the Kulgam constituency for the fifth time.

Er Rashid's Party

the electorate. The Awami Ittehad Party (AIP) had fielded 44 candidates. Even prominent figures, including AIP spokesperson Firdous Baba and business-

man Sheikh Ashiq Hussain, lost the polls. However, Rashid's brother Khursheed Ahmad Sheikh, who contested from Langate, managed to win the seat.

Before his foray into mainstream politics, Rashid was known for his separatist leanings and was involved with the Peoples' Conference, where he advocated for the 'Azadi' sentiment through articles and columns.

With a diploma in civil engineering, he served over a decade in the Jammu and Kashmir Projects Construction Corporation before entering politics. Rashid first contested the assembly elections

Langate constituency in Kupwara district, winning the seat again in 2014. His tenure as an MLA was fraught with controversy, including a physical assault by BJP legislators in 2015 for hosting a party that allegedly served beef, and an incident where he

his comments on the lynching of a Kashmiri

in 2008 as an independent candidate from the

34 Ex-Ministers Lose

region, lost to independent candidate Satish Sharma. Chand stood at the third place.

Among the former ministers and legislators who lost assembly elections including Abdul Gaffar Sofi, Usman Majeed, Vikar Rasool, Muzaffar Beigh, Lal Singh, Manohar Lal, Chowdhary Zulfikar, Altaf Bukhari, Harsh Dev Singh, Tara Chand, Hakeem Mohammad Yaseen, Ghulam Nabi Lone, Abdul Majeed Paddar, Sartaj Madni, Abdul Majeed Wani, Ajjaz Ahmad Khan, Ghulam Hassan Mir, Chowdhary Mohammad Ramzan, Aesia Nagash, G M Saroori, Ajay Kumar Sadhotra, Sajad Kitchloo, Nasir Aslam Wani, Mohammad Ashraf Mir, Imran Ansari, Mohammad Khalil Bandh, Abdul Gani Vakil, Abdul Rehman Bhat, Jugal Kishore, Taj Mohiuddin, Mehboob Beigh, Mushtaq Bukhari and Basharat Bukahri.

Almost fifteen of these ministers had registered a thumping victory during the 2014 elections while running for the PDP. Nonetheless, a large number of candidates in this election chose to run as independents or affiliate with other parties, including Peoples Conference and Apni Party.

Jammu and Kashmir will now have an elected government for the first time in five years following the abrogation of Article 370 on August 5, 2019.

Barkati Falls Despite

votes. Despite the high-energy campaign,

Sugra's efforts could not overcome the gap. Wagay's performance in the Ganderbal constituency was even less promising, where he received only 438 votes. In this race, former Chief Minister Omar Abdullah of the National Conference secured a landslide victory with 32,727 votes, putting Wagay's prospects to

Sugra Barkati's campaign, which centered on advocating for the release of political prisoners, fell flat in both constituencies, a stark contrast to the success of Er Rashid's campaign while in iail

Pertinently in the past, the State Investigation Agency (SIA) has presented a charge sheet against Sarjan Ahmad Wagay alias Sarjan Barkati, his wife, and others in a case of unlawful activities and militant financing.

It's Congress

failures. What if we had no alliance with the National Conference. The fact is that this is our worst ever defeat and we have to contemplate the reasons behind such a scenario. We have lost an entire Jammu region where NC gave us an open field," said another Congress leader and former legislator.

Repeated attempts to contact JKPCC Chief Tariq Kara for comments on the issue didnt fructify.

The assembly election results 2024 were announced on Tuesday with NC sweeping 42 seats followed by the BJP that won 29 seats.

LG Or CM: Who

will be determined by law, but until the Assembly enacts such legislation, the LG has the authority to decide their remuneration. The Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019, passed on August 9, 2019, and enforced from October 31, 2019, fundamentally reshaped the political structure of Jammu and Kashmir. This act bifurcated the erstwhile state into two Union Territories—Jammu and Kashmir with a legislative assembly, and Ladakh without a legislative body—(KNO)

NOTA Secures

tallies included 732 votes in Hazratbal (more than nine), 1,220 in Lolab (more than five), and 585 in Lal Chowk (more than five). NOTA also surpassed multiple candidates in various other constituencies, including 2,082 votes in Zainapora and 2,390 votes in DH Pora.

Since its introduction in 2013 following the Supreme Court's directive in the PUCL vs. Union of India case, NOTA has allowed voters in India to express their discontent with the candidates on the ballot. The option was first utilized in the legislative assembly elections across four states and the Union Territory of Delhi, and it has gained traction among voters

ever since. (KNO) **AAP Opens**

took to social media platform X to congratulate Malik, stating, "Many congratulations to Aam Aadmi Party candidate Mehraj Malik from Doda for a landslide victory by defeating BJP. You fought a very good election."

Kejriwal later video-called Mehraj and congratulated him for his victory. Mehraj Malik thanked him and also extended him an invitation to visit Kashmir on Thursday. "On 10th at 2 pm, we will wait for you. The public here will wait for you." The Delhi Chief Minister accepted his invitation and promised to visit on October 10. "I will come. I will come for sure on the 10th," he said.

Mehraj Malik, a 36-year-old postgraduate, has been a longtime member of AAP and has steadily built a strong support base in Doda over the past few years. He previously won the District Development Council (DDC) elections in 2021, becoming the first AAP representative in Jammu and Kashmir. Malik's popularity surged during his recent election campaign, which culminated in a massive rally attended by senior AAP leader Sanjay Singh. (KNO)

To Leave Library Early

Sadiya Jan (Name Changed) as per her schedule reached her reading station at SPS library in Lal Chowk in the morning.

The morning session of Sadiya's studies went well. However, the afternoon session for her started with the distracting slogans and ambiences.

Sadiya told KNO that her focus on studies was diverted soon after the political workers started shouting slogans outside the SPS

"I was trying to remain focused on my studies but the political workers in the same vicinity of the SPS library started playing postudents," she said.

Not only Sadiya, other students and the members of SPS library left books on the tables and throng to the windows of the building to watch the celebrations of the political party of which office is next to the library.

For some students, it was entertaining as they were witnessing such scenes after around a decade.

However, many students resentments expressed against playing of political anthems on loudspeakers and bursting of firecrackers saying, "The celebrations could have been done in the late evening without distracting the stu-

NIT Srinagar To Host 2-Day 'Techvaganza 2024' From Oct 10



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar is gearing up to host its annual technical festival, Techvaganza 2024, from October 10 to 11 on the institute's campus.

The event will be organized by 'Student Gymkhana, and is expected to bring together students, tech enthusiasts, industry experts, and academia from all over the country to celebrate technology and innovation in a vibrant and dynamic atmosphere.

Dean of Students Welfare, Prof. Abdul Liman is the Chairperson of the event, with Dr. Malik Pervez Ahmad serving as the Convener. Dr. Iqra Altaf Gilani is the Coordinator, while Dr. Dinesh Kumar Rajendran and Dr. Janani L are the Co-Coordinators.

In a message, Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. A Ravinder Nath said techvaganza has earned a reputation as a premier tech fest in the region.

"Such fests are not only a great way for students to showcase their skills but also an opportunity to learn from peers, industry experts, and the latest technological

advancements," he said

Institute's Registrar, Prof Atikur Rehman described the two-day fest as an "electrifying experience" for attendees, aimed at engaging and inspiring students while promoting a vibrant and inclusive campus community.

"A wide range of workshops, seminars, and training sessions led by experts from various fields will be held during the event," he added.

Meanwhile the theme for this year's event is "Greener Innovation - Engineering a Sustainable World!", focusing on how engineering and technology can contribute to a more sustainable and environmentally friendly future.

It will feature a range of cutting-edge events, workshops, competitions, and exhibitions, all designed to inspire creativity and innovation in the tech world.

From hands-on sessions in emerging technologies like Artificial Intelligence Robotics, and Web Development to thrilling coding competitions and hackathons, Techvaganza 24 promises to be an unmissable experience for participants of all levels.

DHSK Conducts Extensive Visit To JLNM Hospital



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Director of Health Services Kashmir,(DHSK) Dr Jehangir Bakshi along with the Divisional team, today conducted an extensive visit to Jawahar Lal Nehru Memorial (JLNM) Hospital Srinagar, the apex hospital of the Directorate.

The visit was aimed at assessing the current status of hospital facilities and address key areas requiring immediate attention.

During the tour of the new building, the Director visited the CF Scan section and highlighted the need to expedite the delivery of the MRI machine, which has already been processed through the Jammu and Kashmir Medical Supplies Corporation Ltd (JKMSCL).

The Director urged the concerned officers to follow up on the procurement process to ensure timely installation and operation.

sions regarding the completion of the new hospital building. Emphasis was placed on accelerating the remaining construction works to make the entire facility fully operational. The Director stressed the importance of ensuring that the hospital's Operation Theatres function 24x7 for conducting various specialized surgeries. He directed the concerned

The Director held discus-

officers to prioritize the augmentation of both human resources and equipment required to make this possible, thereby enhancing surgical care at the hospital.

The Director conducted a detailed review of the work being done in the Surgical and Medical Intensive Care Units (ICUs). He examined the overall functionality of these critical care units and provided guidance to improve patient management and care delivery.

Celebrations Forces Students Workers Gather To **Celebrate NC-INC Victory**



Majid Nabi

SRINAGAR: Grand celebrations were witnessed at the National Conference and Congress headquarters in Srinagar as the coalition partners secured a resounding victory in Kashmir on Tuesday, opening the doors for a government to be formed after a ten-year hiatus.

NC workers celebrated the win by shouting 'zioon ho, zioon ho' outside SKICC and later at the party headquarters, Nawai-Subh here, while Congress workers—including women-were seen dancing to traditional Kashmiri music at the party head office, Maulana Azad Road.

Senior leaders, as well as other activists and workers of the both

parties, garlanded the winning candidates for their resounding victory in the just concluded assembly elections, the results of which were announced today.

Elated at the results, the party leaders distributed sweets among the workers and supporters who had gathered at their party head offices, claiming that Jammu and Kashmir will move towards a new era of development soon.

The saffron party's "muscle-mania" strategy, they claimed, is what led to the BJP's loss and concluded with the INDIA Alliance's stunning triumph.

"We are overjoyed that the IN-DIA Alliance candidates have won; words cannot express our happi-

ness" according to Muzaffar Ahmad, an NC worker from Lal Chowk, adding, the people of Jammu and Kashmir have now chosen their representatives, signaling the end of a ten-year 'dictatorship'.

The BJP was certain to fail in Jammu and Kashmir, according to a female worker at the Congress headquarters here, claiming the dictator-

ship never last-long. "With the abrogation of Article 370, they (BJP) wasted no time harassing the people of J&K and stopped at nothing to bring more and more sufferings to them. We hope the upcoming coalition government will live up to the expectations of the people of J&K," she





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SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081 Ambulance: Kashmer EMS Service: +91 94841 00200

AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311

CAPD: 18001807011



RAILWAYS SRINAGAR: 0194-2103259 ANANTNAG: 01932-228243 BARAMULLA: 0194-102029 BIJBHERA: 01932-228243

PAMPORE: 01933-294132 PATTAN: 01954-293507 QAZIGUND: 01951-296153

Sgr-Jammu highway - (Open)

HIGHWAY STATUS





PRAYERS FAJR 5:07 **ZUHR** 12:18 ASR 4:26 Magrib 6:09 ISHA 7:28

This Day In History

- 1617 Peace of Pavia between Spain and Savoye
 - 1621 Turkey & Poland signs Peace of Chotin
 - 1962 Uganda becomes independent from the United Kingdom
- 1963 French air force gets first nuclear weapons
- 1963 Hurricane Flora ravages Cuba & Haiti, kills 6,000
- 1970 Khmer Republic (Cambodia) declares independence
- 1973 Israel announces loss of Bar-Lev defense line in Suez Canal
- 1975 Soviet dissident Andrei Sakharov wins Nobel Peace Prize. 1977 - Soyuz 25 launched to Saluyt 6, but returned after failing
- 1990 Saddam Hussein threatens to hit Israel with a new missile 1997 - Nobel prize for literature awarded to Italian playwright
- 2006 North Korea conducts its first nuclear test, with an
- estimated yield of between 0.4-2 kilotons. 2009 - First lunar impact of the Centaur and LCROSS spacecrafts
- as part of NASA's Lunar Precursor Robotic Program 2012 - Women's rights and education activist Malala Yousafzai is shot three times by a Taliban gunman as she tried to board her school bus in Swat district of northwest Pakistan
- 2013 60 people are killed in clashes between militias and Seleka rebels in the Central African Republic
- 2013 Martin Karplus, Michael Levitt and Arieh Warshel win the 2013 Nobel Prize in chemistry for their work on multiscale models for complex chemical systems



Rs 4 Cr Spent Over 20vrs To **Build 1-Km 'Road' Stretch!**

Rajinder Singh

AJOURI: History of sorts was created in this far-flung border district when the state government last year handed over a major road construction project to the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) after having squandered an astro@nomical Rs four crore on 'creating' just a kilometre of an improvised fair-weather path- over a period of 20 years. In sharp contrast, the BRO's Project Sam-park had completed 20 km stretch of the road, by September 10 this year

According to reports, the park's very own public works department (PWD) had taken up the construction of 35-km Ghambir Tarkundi road in Rajouri district in 1980 While its physical execution went on at a snail's pace, the department displayed a mad haste in the booking of expen®diture It spent a near Rs four crore till the time the project was finally entrusted to the BRO last year

Locals told Observer News Service that road proved to be a goldmine for the executing agencies. It was first entrusted to the PWD and subsequently to its 'notorious cousin', the rural development department. With politi®cal blessing, the "worthies' of the two hyper-active' state outfits managed an apology of a small 1-km stretch which defies the description of road. Even light motor vehicles cannot ply-on it. Sources alleged fictitious drawls were made, on a massive scale to swindle the crores provided by the government. Apprehending cognizance of the huge scam, all the records pertaining to the road project were al legedly consigned to flames in a mysterious- fire. With the entire evidence destroyed thus, they alleged, the sea maters managed their escape from the vigilance dragnet.

Construction of the road had been conceived to provide connectivity to 20 villages in areas close to the line of control (LoC). Even after 53 years of independence, nearly 80 per cent of population in the isolated villages remains landlocked for want of roads. Absence of roads has also retarded the overall development of the chronically back®ward areas As a result, the funds provided for them under various welfare programmes have allegedly been swindled by officials and their political patrons.

Fictitious drawls are believed to be common in most development departments in the twin districts of Poonch and Rajouri. Sources alleged various PWD and rural development offices had drawn balls for bridle paths and other works executed by the security forces. Likewise, works executed by one agency were charged by more than one department defrauding the state exchequer to the extent of crores of rupees.

The state vigilance organisation (SVD) had, in 1988, es®tablished a case pertaining to construction of a water tank at Sari in Poonch district. It had been built by the public health engineering (PHE) department. However, two more departments - PWD and rural development - also have allegedly drawn bills for the scheme even after 12 years, no action has been taken against the accused.

(Kashmir Observer, October 09, 2000)



Australia Tour: India Likely To Play Practice Games

NEW DELHI: The Indian team is expected to leave for Australia at least two weeks prior to the first Test starting November 22 in Perth and will be playing one or two intrasquad matches against their 'A' team colleagues as a tune-up to the opening fixture.

The Indian senior team's home Test series against New Zealand will end on November 5 in Mumbai if the third match goes into the final

day. It is understood that the Test squad will be leaving from Mumbai few days after the series and just like it happened during the last tour of



senior team will play a two-day day/night pink ball game at the Manuka Oval in Canberra on November 30 and December 1 against Prime Minister's XI, to prepare for the main fixture.

This will be a time when two separate Indian teams will be in two different countries at the same time.

As the Test team gears

GR8 Sports To Partner Wit Legends League Cricket

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Kashmir Willow bat manufacturers, GR8 Sports, on Tuesday announced its partnership with the 2024 Legends League Cricket, currently underway at Bakshi Stadium. Gr8 will be one of the official sponsors of the matches being hosted in Kashmir Valley and will aim to promote Kashmir Willow bats on a global stage.

The 2024 edition of the Legends League Cricket has reached its finals stage, featuring iconic players from around the globe.

During all the seven matches at Bakshi Stadium, Srinagar, GR8 will fe-



India A, which people in

the know of things feel

will provide Rohit Shar-

ma's men with quality



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joint effort of GR8 Sports Kashmir Willow while and CIED- IUST Foundation (Centre of Innovation nology to meet the evolvand Entrepreneurship Development, Islamic University, Awantipora).

Founders of GR8 Sports said in a statement.

bhammad expressed

ocuses on

embracing modern teching demands of cricketing professionals and enthusiasts alike," the company

YSS Zone Dooru Organises Fit India Freedon Rin



Observer News Service

ANANTNAG: The Department of Youth Services and Sports Anantnag organised a Fit India Freedom Run in Zone Dooru on Tuesday. This initiative, held under the larger ban-

ner of the Fit India program, witnessed the participation from students, numbering almost 244 boys and girls, YSS staff and sport analysts. The run was flagged off from Chakpath and finished at

"Event reflected the core objectives of the Fit India initiative, promoting physical well-being and awareness through active participation in sports and cleanliness drives," the department said in a

Batting Display



Agencies

MULTAN: Pakistan racked up 556 in their first innings before England's rejigged top order cruised to 96 for one on an eventful second day in the opening Test in Multan on Tuesday.

Salman Agha, who made an unbeaten 104, became the third Pakistan batter to smash a hundred in the match before they were all out in the final session on

Forced into shuffling their top order after Ben Duckett injured his thumb while taking a catch, England began well with Zak Crawley leading their reply with a run-a-ball 64 n<mark>ot out.</mark>

run-a-ball 64 n<mark>ot out.</mark> Joe Root was on 32 at the other end needing another 39 to overtake <mark>Alastair Cook as England's leadi</mark>ng scorer England's struggle with the ball was compounded by stand-in skipper Ollie Pope's poor reviews as he maintained his record of not getting it right even/once in 13

attempts as captain of the side England were made to toil with little reward on Mon-

day and it was more of the same when play resumed as key cog in proved he could contribute with the bat as well Naseem smacked three sixes in his career-best 33, denying England a breakthrough in the first hour, de-

spite suffering hits to the helmet and his bowling hand. Naseem collaborated in a 64-run partnership with Saud Shakeel before his 82-ball defiance ended after he tickled Brydon Carse to Harry Brook at leg slip, giving the debutant seamer his maiden Test wicket.

Next man in Mohammad Rizwan fell for a 12-ball duck, stepping out against Jack Leach and spooning the ball to Chris Woakes at mid-off.

Pakistan lost Saud and Aamer Jamal in the second session but Salman hit two sixes and 10 fours in his belligerent knock to take them past the 500-mark.

Saud (82) looked poised for a hundred but was caught in the slip off Shoaib Bashir.

Suryakumar's Boys Look To Seal T20 Series In New Delhi



Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: An India so dominant that Bangladesh is admittedly clueless about how to match the "skills and mentality" of Suryakumar Yadav's men.

The script is not expected to deviate much when the two sides clash in the second T20 International in New Delhi on Wednesday with the home team's voung mavericks proving more than a handful for the full-strength visitors.

Bangladesh have hardly

looked like the plucky

opponents that they are hyped to be but India have looked every bit the marauding force that loves to intimidate on home turf. So, even with key players

such as Rishabh Pant, Axar Patel, and Jasprit Bumrah rested, India's remarkable depth in white-ball cricket shone through in a comfortable seven-wicket victory in the opening game in

One man who made a strong statement of intent in that game on Sunday was

Gwalior.

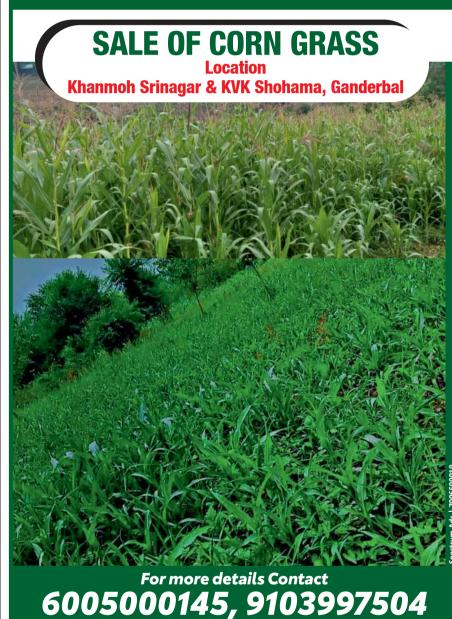
Sanju Samson.

With the T20 World Cup still two years away, a series of consistent performances as both opener and wicketkeeper could make him a strong contender for future selections in the white-ball formats.

The hosts are unlikely to tinker with their playing XI after everything went India's way in the opener.

The Bangladesh bowlers have the ability to spice up things but against India's formidable lineup, they would need plenty of runs







In our latest podcast, we present Irshad Mushtag, founder of MI Securities. In addition, he is a financial expert who has helped countless individuals and businesses navigate complex financial landscapes. In this episode, we discussed different investment strategies, personal finance tips, and wealth building. The full video will be released soon on our YouTube channel. Subscribe Kashmir Observer channel for the latest updates.