

The Kashmir Talk

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Decision to transform J&K into UT is 'Temporary': PM Modi



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU JAMMU:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said the decision to transform Jammu and Kashmir into a Union Territory is "temporary" and the BJP-led government will restore the statehood to the

region. Launching a scathing attack on the opposition Congress, National Conference (NC) and Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), he accused them of 'inflicting wounds' on the people by depriving them of their rights. The prime minister said it is the

BJP, which has ended discrimination and is providing balm on the wounds of the victims of the three families. Addressing a massive election rally at M A M Stadium in the heart of Jammu a day before the conclusion of campaigning for the final phase of the assembly polls on October 1, Modi said the decision to transform Jammu and Kashmir into a Union Territory is temporary. "BJP is the only party which will restore statehood to the region," he reiterated. Escalating his attack, the prime minister said the "Congress, NC and PDP are annoyed by the changes in Jammu and Kashmir because they do not like your development". "They are saying they will form the government to revive the old system - the same discriminatory

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Amit Shah extends olive branch to terrorists in J&K

Reiterates no talks, no cross-border trade with Pak



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU JAMMU:

Union Home Minister Amit Shah asked terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir on Thursday to give up arms and come forward for talks with the government, while reiterating that there will be no dialogue or cross-border trade with Pakistan.

Ahead of the third and final phase of polling in the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly election next week, Shah addressed five rallies in poll-bound Assembly segments on Thursday and launched

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PoJK is also going to be part of J&K post elections: Yogi Adityanath

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU JAMMU:

Asserting that Pakistan-occupied Kashmir is raising its voice for separation from Pakistan, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Thursday said that PoJK will become part of Jammu and Kashmir after the BJP returns to power.

He said that people from various parts of the world have watched how peaceful polls are being conducted in Jammu and Kashmir in a festive mood and this is because of the government of the day which created such a sit-



uation. "After the BJP's return (to power) here through peaceful elections, Pakistan-occupied Kashmir is also going to be a part of Jammu and Kashmir. And this is the commotion in Pakistan, they are struggling to save their democracy. They are battling hard to save their democracy," Adityanath told a rally in R S Pura area.

Taking a dig at Pakistan, the chief minister said "the country is falling apart". "Pakistan has failed to safeguard its democracy. Flour in Pakistan now costs Rs 500 per kilogram, while PM Modi provides free ration to 80 crore Indians and free healthcare up to Rs five lakh. Pakistan is sinking, but India is advancing. Pakistan is a sinking ship," Adityanath said. "On one side there is India and on the other side there is Pakistan, there is a shortage of food there, naturally, beggar Pakistan is not able

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Cong always stands with enemies for sake of power, demands proof from Army: Anurag Thakur

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU NEW DELHI:

BJP senior leader and former Union Minister, Anurag Thakur, on Sunday said that Cong Party always stands with the enemies of the nation instead of the country and questions the sacrifices of our jawans demanding proof on their achievements.

While Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Defence Minister were at the border boosting the morale of the soldiers, Rahul Gandhi was hold-



ing meetings with Chinese officials behind closed doors during Galwan conflict.

He said that the Gandhi family has received crores of rupees from China, which is why

they stand with China rather than India.

He said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has taken revolutionary steps to improve the living standards of

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LG chairs 20th University Council Meeting of SKUAST Jammu



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU JAMMU:

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha chaired the 20th University Council Meeting of SKUAST Jammu at Raj Bhawan, today. The University Council headed by

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Strong wave in our favor, BJP will form next govt in J&K: Sat Sharma

Pvt Schools Association Secy Satpal Kalsotra along with supporters joins BJP

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU JAMMU:

The J&K BJP Working President, Sat Sharma, on Sunday said the high voter turnout in the first 2 phases of Assembly elections has made it amply clear that BJP will form its government in J&K on its own. This was stated



by Sat, while welcoming the Secretary of the

Private Schools Association Jammu, Satpal Kalsotra, and his supporters who joined BJP on Sunday during a programme organized at BJP media center.

Sat said that there is a strong wave in favor of BJP and Jammu will play

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Decision to..

approach which led Jammu to be the biggest sufferer," he added. Modi said the Jammu region in particular faced "decades of injustice" at the hands of the three parties which not only defamed the Dogra legacy but also their rulers. "The most corrupt Congress family is accusing the Dogra rulers to be corrupt," he said, adding it was the BJP which ended the "historic discrimination" and provided justice to the region during the last 10 years.

Referring to the setting up of various education and health institutions, including the IITs and AIIMS and infrastructure projects like tunnels, the prime minister said the Congress, NC and PDP inflicted "wounds on the people" by depriving them of their rights but the BJP reached them, irrespective of their religion, and rubbed balm on their wounds by giving them voting rights, reservations and empowering women.

"In coming times, Jammu's development will be further boosted. I want to tell the business community that the coming times will be full of opportunities for them," he said, adding "our efforts are on to bring more investment to Jammu and set up industry to provide jobs to the local youth in their own districts".

The prime minister said that earlier people close to the Congress, NC and PDP were the only persons who were getting jobs but "now every youth of J&K will get his right and honour under the BJP's rule".

"In the past 60 to 65 years, this region witnessed only destruction... Leave aside development, every sphere of life suffered. Modi is working sincerely to fill up all those pits of the past and will not leave any opportunity to address your issues," he said.

Modi also referred to the BJP's manifesto and the promises stating every section of the society, including Kashmiri migrant pandits, refugees and women, will get what is their right besides a big push will be given to boost tourism in the region by completing various projects and identifying new destinations.

"Congress was considering border villages as the last villages of the country. We are treating such villages as first villages and are developing these under a vibrant village project," he said, adding the Jammu ring road on completion will not only address the issue of traffic jam but also benefit the tehsils.

The prime minister said the electric buses are running on Jammu roads, the Jammu railway station is getting modernized, the Jammu airport is being expanded, Bahu ropeway project completed, while Tawi river front project is going to be a major attraction. The development of Gharana wetland, Surinsar lake and border tourism is also before you, he added.

Asserting the BJP wants empowerment of women, Modi said, "We will continue our efforts to help self help groups to make our sisters Lakhpati Didis in J&K. The women will also be given training and drones under the drone pilot scheme." The campaigning for 40 assembly segments spread across seven districts of Jammu, Samba, Kathua and Udhampur in Jammu region and Baramulla, Kupwara and Bandipora districts of north Kashmir is ending on Sunday evening.

Amit Shah extends...

a scathing attack on the Congress, NC and PDP, accusing these parties of providing protection to terrorism over the last three decades.

Promising a terror-free Jammu and Kashmir under the Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) regime, Shah, who is spearheading the saffron party's poll campaign, alleged that the National Conference-Congress alliance would implement Pakistan's agenda if it comes to power in the Union Territory.

At his back-to-back rallies in the Chenani and Udhampur Assembly segments in Udhampur district, Bani and Jasrotia in Kathua district and Marh in Jammu district, the home minister said terrorism has been buried by the BJP under the ground after the abrogation of Article 370 of the Constitution and it will not be allowed to stage a comeback.

The first phase of polling was held on September 18, followed by the second phase on September 25. The third phase, covering 40 seats in Jammu, Udhampur, Samba, Kathua and the north Kashmir districts of Kupwara, Baramulla and Bandipora, is scheduled to be held on October 1.

Extending an olive branch to the terrorists active in Jammu and Kashmir, Shah asked them to give up

arms and come forward for talks with the government or be prepared to get neutralised at the hands of security forces.

"For vote-bank politics, they (opposition parties) are asking for talks with terrorists. If they (terrorists) want to talk, let them come forward after giving up arms. In the northeast, 10,000 people have surrendered," Shah told the gathering at Jasrotia.

PoJK is also...

to handle itself today. Pakistan-occupied Kashmir is raising its voice for separation from it. It is saying that we also had the right to participate in the J&K elections. You have to give a good message through elections," he added. Escalating his attack on Pakistan, the senior BJP leader said Balochistan is saying that our chemistry does not match with Pakistan.

"Because Pakistan is the enemy of humanity, it is a cancer of humanity. The world must be freed from this cancer," he added.

Adityanath, who addressed rallies in Chhamb, R S Pura and Ramgarh, in Jammu as part of the BJP's campaign, said the large turnout of voters has shown that they have rejected the dynastic rulers and their divisive politics. "The results will be a slap on the faces of the NC, PDP and Congress," he said, urging the people of Jammu and Kashmir to ensure BJP's victory. Adityanath further said the people of Jammu and Kashmir "want a democratic government".

"They want to connect to the national mainstream and want to work for the development and progress of the region and the country," he added.

Praising Prime Minister Narendra Modi for bringing peace and normalcy in Jammu and Kashmir, the chief minister said, "The people from various parts of the world are watching here how peaceful polls are being conducted in Jammu and Kashmir in a festive mood. They have enjoyed it. This is because of the government of the day which created such a situation." Adityanath said that Modi made Kashmir a world tourist destination, which registered a record high footfall of tourists in the valley.

He praised Modi for opening the Kartarpur Corridor, allowing the pilgrims from India to visit the Kartarpur Sahib Gurdwara in Pakistan.

He also highlighted the transformation of Jammu and Kashmir, now regarded as a "tourism capital" rather than a "terrorism capital." Adityanath lashed out at the Congress for entering into a pre-poll alliance with the National Conference (NC).

He asked Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi to clarify whether he and his party support the restoration of Article 370, release of detainees and other issues included in the manifesto of the National Conference. "I want to ask Congress leader Rahul Gandhi whether he supports the National Conference's decision to have a separate flag for Jammu and Kashmir? Does Rahul Gandhi support the National Conference's demand to bring back Article 370 and 35A and push Jammu and Kashmir into an era of unrest and terrorism? Does the Congress support promoting separatism again by talking to Pakistan at the cost of the youth of Kashmir?" he asked. The chief minister criticized the National Conference, People's Democratic Party (PDP) and Congress for allegedly "ruining Jammu and Kashmir for 70 years". He accused them of supporting terrorism in the 1990s while enjoying vacations in Europe and England. "It was the Modi government that gave voting rights to West Pakistan refugees and the Valmikis, who were denied these rights by the previous governments in J&K," Adityanath said.

He also referred to a time when the BJP needed permission to hoist the tricolour in Lal Chowk, stating, "today, the national flag flies high there".

Adityanath emphasized the significance of the ongoing assembly elections, calling them historic.

"The results will be a slap on the faces of the NC, PDP and Congress," he said, urging the people of Jammu and Kashmir to ensure the BJP's victory.

Two of the three phases of the assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir concluded and the final phase polling will be held on October 1. The votes will be counted on October 8.

Cong always stands ...

the weaker sections of society, and the BJP will form its government in Jammu and Kashmir with a full majority.

While addressing public gatherings in support of party candidate Gharu Ram Bhagat in Suchetgarh, Anurag Thakur said that the Modi government has

taken solid steps to strengthen the country's defense system, including the creation of Rafale and Tejas fighter jets, and implemented the One Rank One Pension policy for soldiers.

He noted that PM Modi celebrates Diwali with the soldiers instead of his family. Thakur accused Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi of accepting crores of rupees from China under the Rajiv Gandhi Foundation, which is why they stand with Chinese officials rather than with Indian soldiers.

He added that during Congress rule, thousands of acres of land were given to China, but since Modi's arrival, not an inch of Indian land has been taken.

He said that during the Emergency, forced sterilization and the mass jailing of people were among the atrocities committed. If not for Ambedkar's Constitution, the Emergency might never have ended, he claimed. He said that in the last ten years, the Narendra Modi government has developed several sites named after Bhimrao Ambedkar and taken numerous welfare measures for the Dalit community.

He mentioned that it was the BJP that granted reservations to ST Gujjars, Bakarwals, and the Pahari community. Thakur questioned the Congress and National Conference's soft stance on Pakistan, recalling that after the surgical strikes, Pakistan was shouting about its destroyed hideouts, while some Indian leaders were asking for proof.

Thakur further said that Pakistan's Defence Minister Khawaja Asif has disclosed their relations with Congress and the National Conference, stating that they are on the same page regarding Article 370.

Strong wave in....

a decisive role in government formation.

BJP's election in-charge, J&K, and Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy also welcomed the new entrants into the party fold and said that family of BJP has been expanding with each passing day.

Reddy said that a terrorism-free Jammu and Kashmir is BJP's goal, and the party is working on a zero-tolerance policy against terrorism. He stated that under the capable leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, a positive environment has been created in J&K.

He further mentioned that the Prime Minister's "Vijay Sankalp Maharatna" was successful. BJP is confident that with the blessings of the voters, the party will form the government in J&K on its own.

Sat Sharma, while welcoming new entrants, said that BJP will form the next government in Jammu and Kashmir on its own. BJP Media Centre In-charge, Arun Gupta, Kathua District President, Gopal Mahajan, Darshan Lal, and Media Incharge, Dr. Pradeep Mahotra were also present on the occasion.

Those who joined the BJP included Madan Mohan Sharma, Suman Sharma, Dinesh Mahajan, Pradeep Singh, Vikas Gupta, Ashok Sharma and others.

LG chairs 20th...

Lt Governor deliberated on addressing key challenges in agriculture and allied sectors alongwith taking the research and innovation from Lab to the Field to increase productivity. The Lt Governor stressed that the University should adopt modern and sustainable agriculture practices and put more focus on developing interface with the farming community and implementation of e-office.

The meeting also appreciated the performance of the University under National Agricultural Higher Education Project (NAHEP). The Council gave in-principle approvals to various agenda points presented during the meeting including adoption of UGC based qualification for the post of the Assistant Registrar, Assistant Comptroller and ICAR norms for posts of Subject Matter Specialists. Dr. BN Tripathi, Vice Chancellor SKUAST Jammu presented the progress report of the University. He apprised the meeting that the University has made significant improvement in research, patents and publications. The meeting was attended by Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Shailendra Kumar, Principal Secretary, Agriculture Production Department; Santosh D Vaidya, Principal Secretary, Finance Department; Dr Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lt Governor; Dr. BN Tripathi, Vice Chancellor, SKUAST Jammu; Prof. Nazir A. Ganai, Vice Chancellor, SKUAST Kashmir; Prof. P.L. Gautam, Pro-Chancellor, Career Point University Hamirpur; Dr. M.C Sharma, former Director, Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar, Bareilly; Prof Anil Kumar, Registrar, SKUAST-Jammu and other senior officers, in person and through virtual mode.

CS reviews progress on PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today reviewed the progress on PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana and solarization of government buildings with senior officers of Science and Technology Department at Civil Secretariat, Jammu.

Present in the meeting were Principal Secretary, PDD, Principal Secretary,

Finance, Commissioner Secretary, Science & Technology, MD JPDCL/KPDCL, Executive Director, JKSPDCL, CPM REC, Chief Engineers and other concerned officers in person and through virtual mode.

The Commissioner Secretary S&T, briefed about the present status and steps being taken to complete targets of PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli

Yojana. MDs of DISCOMS also briefed the chair about the physical and financial progress achieved, so far, in implementation of this scheme.

The issues which came up for discussion included present status of applications, implementation plan, progress on RTS installations, district wise status of applications received by

JPDCL/KPDCL, financial facilitation for PMSG-MBY (subsidized loan facility for consumers), milestones achieved in RTS process, challenges faced by the consumers, vendors and DISCOMS as well.

The Chief Secretary asked the senior officers of concerned departments to expedite the process on already received applications and sort out issues for its smooth implementation.

On the occasion, other physical and financial issues were also discussed including implementation strategy CAPEX/RESCO model of implementation, capacity of all government buildings identified across the UT and their distribution as per the implementation plan devised by the Department.

People will reject dynastic parties following Pak Agenda: Chugh



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

Bandipora: The BJP National General Secretary and Incharge, J&K affairs, Tarun Chugh, and J&K BJP General Secretary and also candidate from Padder-Nagseni seat, Sunil Sharma on Saturday addressed a public meeting at NaidKhair in Bandipora in favor of party candidate Naseer Ahmed Lone. While speaking on the occasion, Tarun Chugh said that this Assembly election is for the future of J&K and people will reject the dynastic politics of three families i.e Abdullahs, Muftis and Gandhis.

He said people of J&K have come to know the evil designs of the NC-Cong which have been working on Pak agenda here in J&K.

"People are now with the development agenda of PM Modi, who has established peace in J&K and given dignified life to the people," Chugh said.

"NC, Cong and PDP are working on the agenda of Pakistan and want to bring back terrorism and push J&K towards unrest," he said, adding, "People have rejected them in the first 2 phases of elections". BJP will form govt on its own in J&K, he said. "PM abrogated Article 370 and established peace in J&K but 3 families Abdullahs, Muftis and Gandhis want to bring back Article 370 and want death and destruction here," he said.

The Abdullahs, the Muftis, and the Gandhis will be wiped out in these elections as people have come to know their intention, he said. Sunil Sharma also said that people are with BJP and peace and development here in J&K. He appealed to the people to vote for BJP for bright future of J&K.

DC Doda chairs 4th DRSC meet

'Emphasizes on importance of educational campaigns for creating road safety awareness among local communities'

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
DODA:

Deputy Commissioner (DC), Doda Harvinder Singh chaired the 4th District Road Safety Committee (DRSC) meeting here today.

The meeting primarily focused on improving traffic management across the district as well as enhance road safety measures. The meeting, among others, was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioners of Doda and Bhandarwah, Chief Medical Officer, Chief Education Officer, ARTO, Divisional Forest Officer, Executive Engineers from various divisions and representatives from NHID-CL, PMGSY, and SDRF. During the meeting, the DRSC discussed crucial aspects of road safety and outlined a roadmap for implementing improved measures. 'Other issues like installation of essential road safety infrastructure, crash barriers on sharp curves, speed breakers in accident-prone areas, and improved road signage were also deliberated during the meeting. Addressing the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner emphasized on the importance of educational campaigns for creating road safety awareness among local communities.

He directed the Municipal authorities to remove unnecessary obstacles within the town to reduce traffic congestion. He urged upon all concerned departments to collaborate closely with one another in maintaining road safety measures, ensuring regular monitoring of speed limits, road maintenance, and prompt repair of damaged infrastructure.

The Deputy Commissioner also issued specific directions to the officials of NHIDCL, emphasizing the need to cover all sensitive and accident-prone areas with the installation of crash barriers.

ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS- 2024

DEO Bandipora interacts with female and PWD poll staff

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
BANDIPORA:

Ahead of General Elections to Legislative Assembly scheduled to be held on 01 October in district Bandipora, the District Election Officer (DEO) Bandipora, Manzoor Ahmad Qadri on Friday interacted with female and PWD poll staff designated for poll duties at Pink and Red polling Stations. During the interactive session, critical roles and importance of red and pink polling stations were threadbare discussed.

The DEO highlighted the significance of these special polling stations in ensuring accessibility and inclusivity for all voters.

He reassured the staff that all necessary welfare measures are in place to support them during the election process.

He underscored the commitment to ensure a fair and accessible electoral process.



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toral process.

He said that each member of the polling staff plays a vital role in fostering trust in our democratic system and instructed the poll staff to ensure that every voter has the

opportunity to exercise their right to vote.

To further enhance the experience for poll staff, the DEO announced the establishment of separate counters for female poll staff and Persons with Disabilities (PWD) staff at DCRC to streamline operations.

The programme was attended by DyDEO Mohammad Rafeeq Bhat, Nodal officer SVEEP Kishor Kumar, Nodal Officer Manpower and training Dr. G. M. Pujoo, female poll staff of Bandipora and Sonawari AC, PWD poll staff of Bandipora AC and other concerned.

Female poll staff of Gurez AC also attended the programme virtually.

ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS- 2024

DIPR Kathua organises Nukkad Natak to promote Voter Awareness



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
KATHUA:

As part of the ongoing SVEEP (Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation) campaign aimed at raising awareness about

the upcoming assembly elections, the District SVEEP Cell Kathua, in collaboration with the District Information and Public Relations (DIPR) Office, organized a series of Nukkad Natak in the Kathua town today. The performances took place

at two key locations, Mukherjee Chowk and Jarai Chowk, where talented artists from New Sargam, Social and Culture Club Samba, captivated large crowds with their theme-based Nukkad Natak, Dogri songs, and entertaining mimics.

The events attracted enthusiastic participation from the public, with commuters, business owners and shopkeepers in attendance.

The series of events kicked off at Mukherjee Chowk, one of the busiest areas in Kathua town. Through their engaging performances, the artists emphasized the importance of voting and highlighted the power of each vote in shaping government and democratic processes.

Bandipora readies for 3rd Phase of Assembly Elections

2.59 lakh voters set to exercise their voting right on 1st October across three constituencies

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
BANDIPORA:

District Bandipora is all set to go for polls on October 1, during the third and final phase of General Elections to the Legislative Assembly, with over 2.59 lakh voters eligible to exercise their right to franchise across the district.

The district comprises three Assembly Constituencies namely Sonawari, Bandipore and Gurez, with a total of 2,59,893 voters including 1,32,679 male 1,27,208 female and 6 third gender voters.

To facilitate the voters, Election Commission of India (ECI) has established 312 polling stations, 46 as urban polling stations and 266 rural polling stations for smooth and hassle free electoral participation in the district.

Among all the three Assembly Constituencies of the district, 14-Sonawari Assembly Constituency has highest number of 1,21,276 registered voters, comprising 61,473

males, 59,799 females, and 4 transgender voters. A total of 137 polling stations are spread across this constituency with 23 urban and 114 rural, ensuring that every registered voter has opportunity to participate in democratic process

15-Bandipore AC comes next with a voter population of 1,16,326, among which 59,483 are male, 56,841 female and 2 third gender voters.

To facilitate the voters, 144 polling stations have been established in the constituency; 23 as urban polling stations and 121 rural polling stations.

16-Gurez Assembly Constituency comes last with 22,291 registered voters; 11,723 male and 10,568 female. To ensure smooth electoral process, 31 rural polling stations have been established across the constituency.

The District Administration has completed all necessary preparations to ensure a fair and transparent election. Adequate measures

have been taken to ensure accessibility, security and smooth operations at all polling stations across all constituencies.

As per the guidelines of the ECI, every polling station is equipped with required infrastructure and has taken measures to guarantee the safety and accessibility of voters, especially women, elderly voters, and persons with disabilities, to facilitate a hassle-free voting experience.

Additionally, 12 model polling stations have been established across the district; one pink polling station, one green polling station, one blue polling station, and one red polling station in each AC.

Currently, a number of voter awareness programmes are underway in various parts of the district to generate interest among the electorate regarding importance of exercising their franchise and to maximize the voter turnout.

The voting will take place from 7.00 am to 6.00 pm in the district.

Col Mahan urges Nitin Gadkari to expedite key infrastructure projects in Kathua



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
KATHUA:

District Development Council (DDC) Chairman Kathua, Col Mahan Singh, held a significant meeting with Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari, during the latter's election campaigning tour to Mahanpur. Col Singh presented a series of crucial demands aimed at enhancing road connectivity and boosting tourism in the region, which he believes will open up vast opportunities for employment and economic growth.

During the meeting, Col Singh emphasized the early construction of the proposed PMDP Bharat Mala National Highway between Kathua and Doda. This strategic road will pass through remote regions, including Jasrota, Billawar, Mahanpur, Basohli, Bhoond, Bani, and Bhaderwah, providing a much-needed lifeline for the connectivity of these areas. He highlighted that this vital link would not only ease transportation but also promote tourism in the hilly districts of Kathua and Doda, generating employment opportunities for the youth.

Col Singh further pressed for the construction of a riverfront road alongside the Ranjit Sagar Dam, connecting Manu and Basohli. This road would link Dhar Road with the Atal Sethu and Dalhousie Road, creating a tourism corridor between Katra Vaishno Devi and Dalhousie, Himachal Pradesh. He noted that this project would reduce the distance between Kathua District Headquarters and Basohli from the current 86 km to just 30 km, making it a major attraction similar to the Mumbai-Worli sea link. Additionally, Col Mahan Singh proposed the initiation of cruise services in the Ranjit Sagar Dam to improve public transportation and promote tourism in the 6,000 square kilometer water body.

NSF celebrates birth anniversary of Shaheed Bhagat Singh

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

National Secular Forum (NSF), University Unit organized a programmed in Jammu University, and on the Birth anniversary of Shaheed Bhagat Singh who laid his life for the country. On the occasion, NSF activists raised slogans "Bhagat Singh Amar Raha "inquilaab Zindabad" "Bharat Mata ki jai", and they paid tributes to shaheed Bhagat Singh and garlanded the portraits of the son of soil.

Dr. Vikas Sharma Coordinator Jammu District and Zonal Secretary JKNC was the Chief Guest while Dr. Sukhdev Singh State president NSF presided over the function.

Speaking on the occasion Dr. Vikas Sharma appreciated the initiative taken by the NSF member to remember the martyrs who have sacrificed their lives for the freedom of the country.

Dr. Vikas Sharma also said that the right tribute to Bhagat Singh would be to launch the struggle for restoration of full status of Jammu and Kashmir State. On this occasion, he said that we all should take oath not to sit silent and continue our endeavor to regain Jammu and Kashmir State.

Referring to the unemployment problem, Dr. Vikas said that youth is very disturbed due to wrong policies of the Govt with a graph of unemployment growing fast.

Dr. Sukhdev Singh recalled the planning capability, boldness and feeling of nationalism in martyr Bhagat Singh and stressed upon the youth to follow his ideas. He appealed to the youth to come forward to eliminate all evils from the society.

He also stressed upon the youth to shun their self centered outlook and contribute in the development of the nation.

District-Level Slogan Writing, Essay Writing Competition held at GCOE Jammu



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

In commemoration of Gandhi Jayanti, Government College of Education Jammu on Friday hosted a district-level Slogan Writing and Reel Making Competition.

The event was part of a larger initiative led by the Higher Education Department, under the visionary guidance of Alok Kumar, Principal Secretary Higher Education, to promote creative engagement and awareness of Gandhian principles among students. Prof.(Dr.) Jyoti

Parihar, Principal of the College was the Chief Guest. She delivered an inspiring speech and highlighted the crucial role of youth in carrying forward the legacy of Mahatma Gandhi through innovation and social responsibility. She also commended the event's organizers and participants for their exceptional work and dedication.

The event, coordinated by Dr. Rajinder Kaur, Dr. Shubhra Jamwal, Prof. Sarita Dogra, Prof. Deepali and Prof. Ramandeep Karalia, was judged by the esteemed faculty members of higher

education Dr. Bindu Sharma (GDC Hiranagar), Dr. Payali Arora (GDC Udhampur), Dr. Shaveta Sharma (GDC Udhampur) and Professor Sanjeet Singh (GDC Udhampur).

Winners of essay writing competition were Chanpreet Kour from GCW Parade, Harshpreet Singh from GDC RS PURA, Aayushvi Sharma from GCOE bagging 1st, 2nd and 3rd position respectively.

The Slogan Writing Competition winners were Raksha Gurung from GCOE, Syona Gupta from GCW Gandhinagar and Sonia Thakur from GDC Nagrota bagging 1st, 2nd and 3rd position respectively

The winners will now move on to represent the district at the division level.

This competition exemplifies the Higher Education Department's commitment to fostering a sense of creativity and civic duty in students, encouraging them to internalize the values of Mahatma Gandhi.

Prof Satish Sharma, Prof. Sunanda Rani, Dr. Sushma Bala, Dr. Ambica were also present on the occasion.

GDC Marh shines at National Seminar display contest

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

Department of Dogri, Government Degree College Marh has added yet another feather to its cap by winning Second Prize in Dogri cuisine and kitchenware in the Inter College/Universities competition at the National Seminar.

The contest themed Traditional Dogra Cuisine, Dogra Traditional Attire and Kitchenware was part of the National Seminar hosted by Central University Jammu on the topic, "NEP 2020 for Viksit Bharat: Integrating Bhartiya Knowledge Systems with Education."

The College was awarded second

prize in a stiff competition among 15 participating colleges and 04 Universities of Jammu.

The Marh College students displayed the stall showcasing rich culture of Dogra heritage including Dogra attire, kitchenware and cuisines like Khamire, Gulrah, Quir, Luna Pura, Malpuha, Merie, Asra, Madra, besides famous Dogra pickle "Lasoor & Teau da Achaar." The aim was to revive the rich heritage of Dogra culture, which seems to be slowly diminishing in this modern era. Principal of the College Dr. Rakesh Kumar Koul expressed immense pride and joy over this maiden achievement of the College. He said that this event has provided

a platform to the students to gain exposure and experience in culinary arts at National level.

Students who participated in this event were: Shivali Sharma of Sem 3rd, Pallavi Devi of Sem 3rd, Sweety Kaith of Sem 3rd, Rohit Kumar of Sem 3rd, Gourav Sharma of Sem 3rd, Rahul Kumar of Sem 3rd,

Richa Manhas of Sem 3rd, Sangeeta Devi of Sem 3rd, Atinder Kumar of Sem 3rd and Sneha Bhagat of Sem 3rd under the supervision of Dr. Sheetal Devi (HOD Dogri) and Dr. Ashu Jolly (HOD Education). Certificates of appreciation and participation were distributed among students.

Indian Army Celebrates World Environment Health Day In Rajouri, Poonch, And Reasi

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
POONCH/RAJOURI/REASI:

In a significant initiative to promote environmental health awareness, the Indian Army celebrated World Environment Health Day by organizing a series of impactful events across the remote districts of Rajouri, Poonch, and Reasi. This celebration was aimed at engaging local communities in sustainable practices and fostering a deeper understanding of the vital relationship between health and the environment.

The celebration kicked off with a series of workshops focusing on various environmental health topics, including waste management, air and water quality, and the effects of pollution on public health. Local residents, school children, and community leaders participated enthusiastically, reflecting a shared commitment to improving their environmental conditions. By providing valuable information and practical tips, these workshops empowered the community to take actionable steps toward a healthier environment.

The Indian Army collaborated with local schools to host engaging activities, such as debates, encouraging students to express their thoughts



on environmental conservation. Various places at these three districts witnessed a robust tree-planting drive led by army volunteers and local residents. Hundreds of saplings were planted, aimed at enhancing green cover, combating climate change, and restoring local biodiversity. The initiative also included sessions on the benefits of afforestation, urging participants to understand how trees contribute to cleaner air and healthier ecosystems.

The event concluded with a collective pledge from all participants to adopt eco-friendly practices and work collaboratively towards creat-

ing a cleaner, healthier environment for future generations. This celebration not only highlighted Indian Army's dedication to social responsibility but also showcased the power of community engagement in tackling environmental challenges, fostering unity, and promoting sustainable living in the region. The celebrations also included a community clean-up drive, where army personnel and residents worked side by side to remove litter from public spaces and local water bodies. This hands-on activity was crucial in demonstrating the impact of community involvement in maintaining a clean and healthy environment.

IIM Jammu Inaugurates 3-Day Capacity Building Program Under YUVA Project



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

The Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu today on 27th Sept 2024 inaugurated the 3-Day Capacity Building Program under the ambitious Project YUVA (Yuva Udyami Vikas Abhiyan). This groundbreaking initiative aims to foster entrepreneurship and accelerate employment opportunities across Jammu and Kashmir by empowering youth, women, and vulnerable groups. The program, scheduled from 27th to 29th September 2024, was graced by govt. officials of Jammu and Kashmir. The inauguration ceremony began with traditional lamp lighting. The inaugural event was graced by Shri Kumar Rajeev Ranjan, IAS, Secretary to Govt., Labour & Employment Department, Govt of Jammu and Kashmir. Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu presided over the inaugural ceremony.

In his address, Shri Kumar Rajeev Ranjan, IAS, Secretary to Govt., Labour & Employment Department, Govt of Jammu and Kashmir emphasized that Mission YUVA is a forward-thinking initiative designed to create an enabling environment for entrepreneurship, independent of government schemes. He highlighted the challenges individuals face in their careers, stressing the need for a mindset that fosters intellectual growth and innovation. He outlined the 4Cs-Culture, Capital, Capacity, and Connectivity-as key pillars for driving entrepreneurial transformation. He also emphasized the importance of creating market linkages and self-sustaining ecosystems for long-term growth. Additionally, he encouraged the government officials to draft comprehensive guidelines to support entrepreneurship, noting that clarity in these frameworks is essential for effective implementation. He concluded by reaffirming that this capacity-building program is a cru-

cial step toward fostering a sustainable and vibrant entrepreneurial ecosystem that will empower both government officials and entrepreneurs to drive the future development of Jammu and Kashmir.

In his address, Prof. B. S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu, highlighted the critical need for a mindset shift to foster entrepreneurship in Jammu and Kashmir. Drawing from his personal journey in both industry and academia, he underscored that creativity and innovation, rather than financial aid or subsidies, are the driving forces behind entrepreneurship. He emphasized that success requires embracing opportunities and challenges with the right mindset. He urged participants to commit to Mission YUVA, pointing out that entrepreneurship benefits not only individuals but also has a transformative impact on communities. He stressed that success is inevitable when one takes ownership of the entrepreneurial journey, in line with IIM Jammu's vision to nurture entrepreneurs who can perform globally to make a valuable difference to the Society and the Corporate world. He also elaborated on the broader vision of mission YUVA, emphasizing its project to create a dynamic entrepreneurial ecosystem in the U.T of Jammu and Kashmir.

Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean Academics, IIM Jammu, in his address, emphasized that initiatives like Project YUVA require careful planning and thoughtful deliberation during their design and implementation.

One-day Training program on Role of Teachers in Combating Substance Abuse held at Srinagar

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
SRINAGAR:

A one-day training programme focusing on the role of teachers in combating substance abuse was organized by District Social Welfare Officer Srinagar in collaboration with the Drug De-addiction Centre, Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (IMHANS) Kashmir, under National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction

The event saw active participation from teachers deputed by the education department across the district, who were guided through various critical topics by a team of experts.

The programme aimed to equip teachers with the knowledge and tools necessary to identify and address substance abuse issues among students, fostering a supportive and drug-free school environment.

The resource persons highlighted multiple dimensions of substance abuse, emphasizing prevention, early identification, and intervention strategies that teachers can employ in educational settings.

The session covered a range of topics including understanding addiction, the critical role of teachers in early identification of substance abuse, building essential life skills in students to prevent drug dependency, and providing basic counselling support.

Each speaker provided valuable insights on their respective topics, emphasizing the importance of a multi-dimensional approach to combating substance abuse in schools. In particular, Dr. Mukhtar Ahmad from the Department of Social Welfare, and Prof. Yasir Hassan Rather delivered special presentations on the pivotal role teachers play in addressing substance abuse issues among students.

The event concluded with an interactive Q&A session, where teachers expressed their concerns and shared experiences, leading to a fruitful discussion on the best practices for tackling substance abuse within schools.

IUST launches MA Philosophy programme, elevates Averroes Centre for Philosophical Studies (ACPS) to Deptt of Philosophy

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
PULWAMA:

In a significant development, the Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST) has launched a Master's programme in Philosophy and elevated its Averroes Centre for Philosophical Studies (ACPS) to Department of Philosophy.

The announcement was made by the Vice Chancellor of IUST, Prof. Shakil Ahmad Romshoo, who underlined that IUST is the first university in Kashmir valley to offer a PG programme in Philosophy. He emphasised the role Philosophy can play in infusing interrogative attitude within the higher education ecosystem.

The event was attended by the Dean of Academic Affairs, Prof. A. H. Moon who discussed the pedagogical and research potential of Artificial Intelligence in combination with Philosophy. Prof. Abdul Wahid Makhdoomi, Registrar IUST highlighted IUST's plans to conduct extension activities across colleges of Kashmir valley to promote awareness about philosophy among students. The Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Dr. Munejah Khan spoke about the importance of Philosophy in developing critical thinking skills and its role in forging and sustaining interdisciplinary studies.

The Coordinator of ACPS, Dr. Muzaffar Ali Malla underlined the plans of the Department to initiate multi-disciplinary dialogue and debate among academics, professors, professional experts, students and scholars of IUST. The Controller of Examinations Dr. Rumaan Bashir, Dean of School of Engineering and Technology Dr. Kaiser Javeed Giri, Professor of Practice Prof. Javed Hussain Mir, Heads, Directors and Coordinators of different Departments and Centres of IUST, were also present on the occasion.

ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS

Presiding Officers imparted Election Training at Handwara



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
KUPWARA:

As part of the training schedule to familiarize Polling Staff with necessary skills to carry out Election duties efficiently, the Returning Officer Handwara today organised a training session for the Presiding Officers of AC 05-Handwara at Environmental Hall Handwara.

The Training session was held under the supervision of Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Handwara, Aziz Ahmad Rather, who is also Returning Officer AC 5-Handwara Constituency.

Addressing the participants, the RO briefed the Officers thoroughly about the responsibilities during the poll day and highlighted the importance of election training to the polling staff.

The ARO said that training is pivotal to familiarize the staff with EVM & VVPAT operations and get acquainted with the necessary knowledge and skills for effectively carrying out their duties during the electoral process.

He said training enables polling officials to understand the election system and learn handling and operation of EVMs to ensure an error-free election process.

He also educated participants about their roles and responsibilities in the fair and free conduct of elections.

The Polling Staff were acquainted with essential skills and knowledge to ensure the smooth conduct of the electoral process. Participants actively engaged in interactive sessions and practical demonstrations to enhance their understanding and proficiency in handling diverse scenarios.

ARO, District Level Master Trainers and officials of RO office were present on the occasion.

Reddy first of its kind 'From Darkness towards Light' 'Kamal Kandeel' campaign

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

The BJP on Friday launched 'Kamal Kandeel' campaign with the slogan 'From Darknes Towards Light' from the heritage complex of Mubarak Mandi, Jammu. This campaign, the first of its kind was launched by union minister and Incharge of J&K elections, G Krishna Reddy in presence of Working President BJP Sat Sharma. The programme was organized today evening by the youth wing of the BJP led by President, Arun Prabhat. The BJP chose Mubarak Mandi heritage complex to launch this campaign to give a message that it wants to make J&K on the lines Maharaja Hari Singh dreamt of.

'From Darkness to Light' slogan of 'Kamal Kandeel' campaign means that the J&K under the leadership of PM Modi has started marching ahead on the path of peace and development, said the party spokesman.

Rahul Sahai Chair , Co Chairs of PHDCCI Calls on Vasu Yadav, Chairman of the J&K State Pollution Control Committee

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

Rahul Sahai, Chairman of the PHD Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Jammu Chapter along with Co Chairs Raj dua , Ashsih Jain Senior members Kuldeep Gupta , Vinod Gupta met and extended thier gratitude to Shri Vasu Yadav, Chairman of the J&K State Pollution Control Committee, for the opportunity to present the concerns of the industrial sector in Jammu. In the context of the NCSS package, he has raised key issues for the smooth functioning of both existing and new industries.

One of the primary requests is the expedited clearance of all pending Consent to Establish (CTE) cases under the NCSS 2021 Central package, ensuring that no unit misses the registration deadline of 30th September 2024. Sahai also addressed the difficulties faced by industrial units operating Diesel Generator (D.G.) sets above 800 KW capacity. The current regulations mandate retrofitting emission control devices in such units, but there are concerns due to the Central Pollution Control Board's (CPCB)



order, which restricts retrofitting to engines up to 800 KW. In light of this, Sahai requested that the J&K SPCB provide clear instructions for smooth processing of these consents.

Additionally, Sahai sought clarification on the consent requirements for warehouses, particularly those used as fulfillment centers for consumer goods. As these warehouses do not generate pollution, he emphasized that enforcing consent mechanisms would add unnecessary compliance burdens and hinder the government's Ease of Doing Business initiative. He also highlighted the potential issue of shifting warehouse activities from the White

to the Green category, which would impose additional costs and challenges on businesses that do not contribute to pollution. Finally, he called for a time-bound resolution of cases involving small industries, such as single-owner sawmills, to support their operations. Rahul Sahai concluded by expressing hope for a positive response from the J&K State Pollution Control Committee to address these critical industrial issues. Shri Vasu Yadav, Chairman of the J&K State Pollution Control Committee assured delegation of PHDCCI Jammu that all the issues will be resolved and said regular interactions are very important to address issues .

CU Jammu organized different activities under key pillars of the Swachhata hi Seva Campaign 2024 (SHS 2024)



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

As part of the Swachhata Hi Seva 2024 campaign, Central University of Jammu organized three impactful events, addressing key pillars of the national movement: Swachhata Mein Jan Bhagidari, Sampoorna Swachhata & Swachhata Lakshit Ekayi, and Safai Mitra Suraksha Shivirs. The events aimed at fostering community engagement, promoting cleanliness, and ensuring the welfare of sanitation workers.

Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Prof. Sanjeev Jain commended the efforts of the organizing team and praised the university's commitment to the Swachh Bharat Mission. The campaign was spearheaded by the Nodal Officer, Prof. Richa Kothari, who emphasized the importance of com-

munity-driven initiatives for a cleaner and healthier environment. The first event, coordinated by Lt. Dr. Pankaj Mehta under the Swachhata Mein Jan Bhagidari pillar, featured an insightful lecture entitled "An interactive session on Effective Compost Management by SHS Team Members at Central University of Jammu under Swachhata Hi Seva 2024 (SHS-2024) campaign."

where he educated the audience on sustainable composting techniques and the importance of waste management in achieving a cleaner society.

The second event, organized under the Safai Mitra Suraksha Shivir pillar, was a health camp coordinated by Prof. Ritu Bakshi and Lt. Dr. Pankaj Mehta. The camp provided essential health checkups for the university's sanitation work-

ers, acknowledging their vital role in maintaining cleanliness and ensuring their well-being. The third event, also under the Safai Mitra Suraksha Shivir pillar, was coordinated by Dr. Nancy Mengi. This session focused on mental health awareness among sanitation workers (Safai Mitras), offering support and resources to enhance their mental well-being, recognizing the emotional and psychological challenges they face in their daily work. The Fourth event was coordinated by Lt Dr. Pankaj Mehta under pillar three (Safai Mitra Suraksha Shivirs) as an awareness drive on "10 Golden Rules of Food Security Production". It was conducted by the team members of SHS-2024 at the Central University of Jammu.

NCC Cadets of 4 J&K Bn, NCC distributed pamphlets on 10 Golden rules of Food Security production and Governmental schemes related to social welfare under the theme "Swabhav Swachhata, Sanskaar Swachhata". Through the drive a message was conveyed to all the Safai Mitras about the best cleanliness and hygienic practices to be followed to avoid the outbreak of diseases.

Patiala Heart Institute & Multispeciality Hospital highlights importance of 'Heart Team Approach'

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
PATIALA:

Patiala Heart Institute & Multispeciality Hospital, a leading hospital for cardiovascular care in Punjab on Friday emphasized the importance of 'Heart Team Approach' in treating heart diseases.

It also stressed upon the need to raise awareness about heart disease.

While speaking at a press conference,

Dr. G.S. Sidhu, Managing Director and Chief Cardiologist at Patiala Heart Institute & Multispeciality Hospital underlined the significance of World Heart Day which is observed globally to increase awareness about cardiovascular disease.

This year's theme focuses on promoting preventive measures and highlighting the critical role of timely intervention in case of heart emergencies, he said. Dr. G.S. Sidhu said, "Patiala

Heart Institute & Multispeciality Hospital has a round-the-clock state-of-art cardiac treatment expertise and facilities available under one roof, he informed.

Patiala Heart Institute is the only facility in the Malwa region of Punjab with such a well-equipped team and advanced facilities for cardiac care.

The institute is committed to providing high-quality, state-of-the-art treatment to patients experiencing heart

emergencies," Dr. G.S. Sidhu also introduced a team of interventional cardiologists at the Patiala Heart Institute including Dr. Simarjot Singh Sarin, Sr. Interventional Cardiologist, Dr. Birdevinder Singh, Sr. Interventional Cardiologist Dr. Gurdarshan Singh, Interventional Cardiologist and Dr. Biswajit Maharana, Cardiac Intensivist with each specializing in managing acute myocardial infarctions (heart attacks) requiring primary angioplasty.

Nitish urges people to support Vikram Randhawa for Bahu Constituency in Assembly Polls



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

Nitish Mahajan, Co-in-charge of the Social Media Department, BJP, Jammu & Kashmir, today called on the residents of Bahu Constituency to cast their votes and support the BJP candidate, Vikram Randhawa, in the upcoming Assembly elections.

While campaigning in support of Vikram Randhawa in Bahu constituency, Nitish emphasized the

importance of voting as a fundamental democratic right and urged the people to actively participate in the electoral process. "Every vote matters, and it is crucial for the citizens of Bahu Constituency to exercise their right and support a candidate who truly represents their interests," he stated. Vikram Randhawa, who has been a dedicated leader and a strong advocate for the welfare of the people in the region, has worked tirelessly to address the concerns of

the local community. He highlighted Randhawa's commitment to development, infrastructure improvement, and social welfare initiatives that have positively impacted the lives of the residents.

"Vikram Randhawa embodies the values and vision of the BJP, and his experience in serving the people makes him the ideal choice for Bahu Constituency," he asserted. He encouraged voters to consider Randhawa's track record of service and his plans for the future while casting their votes.

Nitish expressed confidence that the people of Bahu Constituency will recognize the positive changes brought about by the BJP and will make the right decision in supporting Vikram Randhawa. "Together, we can continue the journey of progress and development in our beloved Jammu & Kashmir," he added.

NC, Cong exploited J&K's instability for decades to suit their convenience: Adv. Purnima

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

Adv. Purnima Sharma, Spokesperson of BJP J&K and former Deputy Mayor of Jammu, has accused the National Conference (NC) and Congress of exploiting the instability in Jammu and Kashmir for decades to serve their own political interests.

She asserted that these parties have continuously misled the people of the region with empty promises and divisive politics, which only perpetuated their hold on power while leaving J&K underdeveloped and neglected.

Addressing a gathering in connection with Assembly poll campaign here today, Purnima Sharma said, "The NC and Congress have long used the turmoil and uncertainty in Jammu and Kashmir as a tool to retain control, ignoring the genuine needs and aspirations of the people. Their rule was marked by corrup-



tion, inefficiency, and a blatant disregard for public welfare. Instead of bringing peace and development, they preferred to fuel instability to suit their convenience."

Highlighting the significant changes brought under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, she stated that the abrogation of Article 370 was a historic decision that paved the way for true integration of Jammu and Kashmir with the rest of the nation.

"For the first time, we are witnessing real development, empowerment of women, youth, and marginalized sections, along with security and progress in every sector," she added.

Purnima further emphasized that the upcoming Assembly elections are crucial for the future of Jammu and Kashmir, urging the people of Jammu to unite and support the BJP. "We need to ensure that the state is not once again handed over to those who exploited its instability for personal gain. The BJP is committed to creating a prosperous and peaceful J&K, where every citizen can thrive," she said.

Purnima called on the people to place their trust in the BJP, which has a proven track record of development, good governance, and transparent leadership. She expressed confidence that the BJP would emerge victorious in the upcoming Assembly polls and continue to work for the welfare and upliftment of Jammu and Kashmir.

Indian Army Patrol Rescues Accident Victims at Dere Ki Gali on Srinagar-Rajouri Route

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
RAJOURI:

In a remarkable demonstration of vigilance and swift action, the Indian Army successfully rescued three civilians who were involved in an accident while traveling from Srinagar to Rajouri. The incident occurred late last night, on September 26, at approximately 10:30 PM, near Dere Ki Gali (DKG), highlighting the crucial role of military presence in the region.

The army patrol was conducting routine surveillance in the area when they noticed a vehicle that had overturned off the road. Recognizing the potential for serious injury, the Indian Army team quickly rushed to the scene to assess the situation.

Upon arrival, they found the three civilians visibly shaken but, fortunately, with only minor injuries.

Demonstrating their commitment to public safety, the Indian Army personnel provided immediate medical assistance to the victims, ensuring their stability. The soldiers assessed the area for any additional dangers, reinforcing the importance of maintaining a safe environment in such incidents. Moreover, they promptly communicated with local authorities to arrange for further medical care for the injured civilians. This incident underscores the ongoing dedication of the Indian Army to assist and protect civilians, particularly in remote and vulnerable areas. The prompt response of the army not only ensured the safe-

ty of those involved in the accident but also reinforced their role as guardians of the community. Their actions served as a testament to the dedication and readiness of the armed forces in Jammu and Kashmir.

The rescue operation stands as a powerful reminder of the significant bond between the Indian Army and local communities, especially during emergencies. It highlights the army's commitment to their humanitarian duties, as they remain vigilant and prepared to respond to any unforeseen situations. The swift and effective intervention by the Indian Army exemplifies their readiness to act in times of need, ensuring the safety and security of the citizens they serve.

DEO Kathua reviews operational activities of Sectoral Officers



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
KATHUA:

In preparation for the upcoming elections, District Election Officer (DEO) Dr. Rakesh Minhas today chaired a critical meeting with sectoral officers, including police officers, deployed across the Kathua, Jasrota, and Hiranagar assembly constituencies.

Returning Officers of Jasrota, Kathua (SC) and Hiranagar assembly constituencies were also present. The meeting aimed to streamline election procedures, ensure strict adherence to Election Commission of India (ECI) guidelines, and prepare the officers for the roles they will play in ensuring free, fair, and transparent elections.

During the session, Dr. Minhas provided a comprehensive briefing on the responsibilities of each officer, outlining the specific duties and protocols that need to be followed. These included the execution of pre-defined checklists, the conduct of election drills, and preparedness to address both mechanical and human resource-related issues during the election process. He emphasized the importance of meticulous planning and execution to minimize any disruptions or challenges during the voting period. "The success of any election hinges on the dedication and preparedness of our officers on the ground. It is vital that we follow the laid down ECI guidelines with precision and uphold the principles of fairness, impartiality, and neutrality at all times," Dr. Minhas said, stressing that officers must conduct their roles with the highest level of integrity and transparency.

ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS DEO B'pora finalizes Arrangements for Assembly Elections

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
BANDIPORA:

The District Election Officer (DEO) Bandipora, Manzoor Ahmad Qadri on Friday chaired a meeting of concerned officers to finalize arrangements for the upcoming assembly elections scheduled to be held on 1st October in Bandipora District.

The DEO took detailed feedback from the concerned regarding law and order, poll day reporting, MCC complaint and permission status, DCRC arrangements, Non EVM material readiness, status of Voter Information Slip distribution, training status of poll staff, AMF at polling station, and other necessary poll arrangements. He assessed the progress of plantation initiatives at polling locations, marking of electoral rolls, and security measures to ensure a safe environment for voters.

The DEO said the administration is committed to ensure a transparent and smooth electoral process, and it is vital that all stakeholders work together diligently to uphold the integrity of elections.

He urged everyone involved to complete their assignments efficiently and on time to facilitate voter participation. He further instructed all officers and officials to prioritize prompt communication and coordination to address any emerging issues swiftly besides stressed adherence to ECI guidelines.

THE KASHMIR TALK

EDITORIAL

Mamata Faces Backlash

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, who had adopted an adamant attitude towards the laws made under the federal structure and the orders of the courts, was finally forced to kneel before her own people. Mamata's attitude softened due to the agitation that started after the rape and murder of the female doctor. Mamata would not have even imagined that this agitation in West Bengal would shake the foundations of the government. Mamata, who had adopted a sharp attitude towards the orders of the central government and the courts, was even ready to resign. Mamata understood that the central government can be ignored due to political animosity, but to remain in power in the state, the anger of the people of the state can show the way out of power. In the case of the alleged rape and murder of a female doctor in RG Kar Medical College and Hospital, agitations were held against the Trinamool Congress government not only in the country but also abroad. Every section of West Bengal held a state-wide protest against the inaction of the Mamata government in protest against this heinous crime. The striking doctors demanded the removal of the directors of medical education and health services and the removal of Kolkata Police Commissioner Vineet Goyal from his post. Mamata Banerjee had said a few days ago that she would retain Police Commissioner Vineet Goyal in his post till Durga Puja. After massive protests, Goyal had to be transferred. The striking doctors say that their security arrangements in hospitals should be strengthened. They are demanding that the government should tell how the budget of Rs 100 crore will be spent for the security of doctors in hospitals. They also talked about improving the 'referral system' to implement security measures in hospitals and stopping corruption in recruitment. Junior doctors are demanding student union elections in medical colleges and increasing their representation in the policies of the institutions. They want their voice to be given prominence through student union elections so that their problems can be solved. The anarchy in West Bengal can be gauged from the fact that after the rape and murder of a female doctor, miscreants attacked the hospital. Doctors, nursing staff and patients had to run away to save their lives. Anti-social elements vandalized the crime scene and tried to erase the evidence of the crime. In this case, the medical college and the police administration were seen standing indirectly in favour of the accused. An attempt was made to hush up the rape and murder by calling it a case of suicide. After the biased attitude of the police and administration, the case was handed over to the Central Bureau of Investigation by the order of the court. After this, the voice of protest against the Mamata government rose everywhere. After heavy protests, Mamata understood that this movement cannot be dealt with like opposing the BJP coalition government at the center. Mamata Banerjee, who gained power by protesting and demonstrating against the Communist government of West Bengal, made it her weapon. There has hardly been any occasion when the Mamata government has not protested against the central government. The result of this tendency is that an attempt was made to suppress and crush the movement that arose from the death of the female doctor. Like Rahul Gandhi, Mamata Banerjee has been opposing Prime Minister Narendra Modi in every matter. On the issue of sharing the water of Ganga and Teesta rivers between India and Bangladesh, Mamata Banerjee alleges that the Modi government at the center has not included the West Bengal government in the talks with Bangladesh. Mamata Banerjee also wrote a letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

India in the role of a global negotiator



HARSHA KAKAR

Prime Minister Modi discussed the outcome of his visits to Kyiv and Moscow with President Biden when they met over the weekend in Wilmington, Delaware on the sidelines of the Quad summit. He would have highlighted differences in perception of both sides on a possible solution to the conflict. It is not just the US which is interested in India being involved in stopping the war and negotiating peace but even the participants. After his address to the Russian Eastern Economic Forum in Vladivostok in early Sept, Russian President Vladimir Putin was asked which countries could potentially offer to negotiate between Moscow and Kyiv. He responded without hesitation, "China, Brazil, India."

It is believed that Putin has given his pre-conditions for negotiations to PM Modi. The Ukrainian perspective was shared with him when the Indian NSA met him. PM Modi would be holding a summit with Putin on the sidelines of the BRICS+ conclave next month in Russia. He could discuss options offered by the US. The Italian PM, Giorgia Meloni, also recently mentioned, "China and India have a role to play in resolving the conflict." The Ukrainian Ambassador to India, Oleksandr Polishchuk, mentioned in an interview in Delhi, that in case India seeks a permanent seat in the UNSC it should negotiate between the two sides. Ukrainian president Zelenskyy is hoping India will host the next peace summit around November this year. India is hesitating as without the presence of Russia, a peace summit has little value. Russia has refused to participate in any 'peace summit' aware that nothing would be achieved. India on its part has been mentioning that both sides have to negotiate. As External Affairs minister Jaishankar mentioned, "If they want advice, we are always willing to give it." PM Modi is the only global leader who has visited and been heard in both Moscow and Kyiv. He has refused to bend to

Western demands of stopping oil procurements from Russia while providing humanitarian aid to Ukraine. India has also refused to be cowed down by Western pressures. A recent example has been India turning down the US request to ban and block the Russian state media network RT, formerly known as Russia Today. The Indian government mentioned that the matter 'does not pertain' to it while insisting that New Delhi does not adhere to unilateral sanctions, not approved by the UN. India, on its part, has cautioned Russian media networks, RT and Sputnik, for falsely citing Bangladesh as an example of a 'US regime change operation,' a report which garnered immense discussion within India. It had also pulled them up for falsely mentioning Indian intelligence concerns on US diplomatic staff meeting opposition leaders. Evidently, Russian media has been working to distance India from the US. In fact, India is being requested to negotiate in other global trouble spots too. The Israeli Ambassador to New Delhi, Reuven Azar, mentioned in a recent interview that it is up to India to decide the extent to which it wants to be involved in 'resolving' the Gaza war. He stated, "There is an increasing role of India in West Asia in general, because India can bring a lot to the stability and prosperity in our region."

India has always been a proponent of a 'two-state solution' between Israel and Palestine. The Palestinian PM, Muhammad Mustafa, congratulating PM Modi on his re-election wrote, "as a global leader and a nation that values human rights and peace, India holds a significant role in bringing an end to the genocide in Gaza. It is imperative for India to utilize all diplomatic channels to call for an immediate ceasefire." The Palestinian ambassador to India reiterated this in a media interaction. PM Modi in his telephonic conversations with the Israeli PM, Benjamin Netanyahu, in August urged for de-escalation as also for implementing a ceasefire.

The latest request for Indian participation in resolving ongoing conflicts flowed from Elisabeth Braw, a Senior Associate Fellow, European Leadership Network and a columnist with Politico Europe and Foreign Policy. Writing on the Red Sea crisis where Yemen based Houthis are targeting global shipping, she mentions that the war impacts India as it has over 113,000 individuals in global shipping companies. She writes, "PM Modi is a man keen on conducting foreign policy independent of global alliances." She adds that India's growing economic power "lends weight to Modi's foreign policy, and makes him perfectly positioned to read the Houthis the riot act." She ends by mentioning, "If you can help stop the attacks on shipping in the Red Sea, the whole world will be grateful." Why is India a nation that the world looks up to for resolving global crises? The reasons are that India has always stood for peace and dialogue.

Its foreign policy has been sans influence from major powers, despite its alliances, and has displayed over the years that it will not be cowed down. It has always been the first to support nations facing crisis and humanitarian suffering, which is evident when nations face natural calamities as also during Covid, when Indian manufactured vaccines were distributed globally. India's voice is globally respected. When India speaks, it is not for itself but its voice represents billions from the Global South, who are indirectly impacted by wars being fought in distant lands. Their concerns are equally important; however, they lack a platform, which India provides.

At the same time, most global conflicts are complicated, involving more than just the warring nations. There are nations that treat those involved in the conflict as proxies keeping their own national interests foremost in mind. Conflicts are also beneficial for global defence suppliers, who fund political parties, as also a testing ground for new equipment and operational concepts. Hence, dialogue will invariably also involve those supporting the conflict from the background. This makes the process slow and tedious. Ultimately, while great powers and leaders exploit the conflict for their own advantage, it is innocents who suffer. It is this suffering which India seeks to end. Resolution to conflicts between conflicting states is slow and tedious. However, the first step is imposing a ceasefire. It is this that India would seek, but for this it would need backing of multiple nations, which is not easy, given their own interests.

(The writer is a retired Major-General of the Indian Army.)

Groundswell of support for BJP as voters reject dynasts, says Arun Gupta

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

In the first two phases of the assembly elections, the people of Jammu & Kashmir have voted overwhelmingly for the BJP. As the party continues to gain support in all remaining assembly segments, its candidates will win handsomely in the third also. The way party's polling campaign has been going on, it will form the next government after October 8 when the results are declared, BJP spokesperson & Media Centre Incharge Arun Gupta said here on Friday.



The voters have rejected all the three dynastic parties, the Congress, the National Conference (NC) and the Peoples' Democratic Party (PDP). The parties led by Gandhis, Abdullahs and Muftis have seen the writing on the wall and already conceded defeat, Mr Gupta said. This is the reason why Mehbooba Mufti has started talking of going to the extent of supporting NC to keep BJP out of power, he added.

It is a pleasant surprise for the BJP that the Congress, the NC and the PDP candidates are not visible anywhere on ground, he said. This shows the extent of nervousness among them after the abrogation of Article 35-A and 370 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi five years ago, he said. Though these parties claim that they will work for the restoration of these articles, they know that Modi has buried these articles forever, Mr Gupta asserted.

It is not the prerogative of small regional parties to make changes in the Indian Constitution and the question of these parties bringing back Article 370 does not arise, despite claims and assertions to the contrary, he pointed out. The BJP remained steadfast on its commitment to abrogate this pernicious article for several decades. In June 1953, Shyama Prasad Mukherjee attained martyrdom for opposing Article 370 and his followers carried forward his ideology finally throwing it out of the Constitution in August 2019, Mr Gupta added.

Talking about the cavalier manner in which the NC and the Congress treated the Dogras, Mr Gupta recalled that that in 1946, NC founder Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah had launched 'Quit Kashmir' movement. Sheikh had termed Dogras and Kashmiri Pandits as outsiders at that time, he added. Now, decades later, the

Congress has entered into alliance with NC and started calling fellow Indians as outsiders, he pointed out. This is a syndrome often displayed by the three dynastic parties as they dream about returning to pre-August 2019 status. Earlier, they used to talk of the status of Jammu & Kashmir which prevailed prior to August 1953, he added.

The NC could not get pre-1953 status restored in J&K till 2019 when Article 370 was abrogated. Nor will it be able to do anything other than making noises for its restoration. Rahul, Omar and Mehbooba know it clearly that till Mr Modi is the PM, they can do nothing, Mr Gupta said.

During NC's rule, J&K faced economic ruin because of repeated bandhs, hartals and wanton violence. By integrating J&K more closely with the rest of India, the Central government has opened up new economic opportunities for J&K, he said. Now, there are no hartals and no closures of business establishments on calls by separatists and secessionists as these have become things of the past, he added.

Terrorism ruled and terrorists struck at will during the earlier regimes headed by NC-Congress combine. However, once the reigns of J&K were taken over by the Modi government, it has remained terror-free and peaceful, Mr Gupta said. This has impressed the people of J&K and they are voting for the BJP in large numbers, he added.

BJP utterly failed to fulfil the aspirations of the people of J&K: Luthra, Sawhney



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

A Women Wing workers meeting was held at New Plot, Jammu East Constituency the other day as part of election campaigning. The meeting was organized to support Yogesh Sawhney alliance candidate of Jammu East Constituency. Yogesh Sawhney also participated and addressed the workers.

Addressing the gathering Mrs Bimla Luthra said that the people of Jammu and Kashmir have endured a decade of hardships under BJP's "Acche Din" slogan, which he claims has remained unfulfilled.

"The people of J&K are frustrated and continue to suffer due to the hollow policies of the BJP.

In the past 10 years, they have been victims of recruitment scams, inflation, unemployment, inflated power bills, seeing no future for Youth in Jammu and Kashmir.

Mrs Luthra mentioned that the NC is committed to raise old age pensions from Rs 1000 to Rs 3000, increase financial assistance for girls marriages to Rs 75,000 from 50,000 of EWS, provide 12 LPG cylinders per family per year of EWS, and Provide One lakh jobs for the youths of Jammu and Kashmir, Provide 5000 Pm to elderly Female member of each household of EWS, Provide free 200 units power, free drinking water, Provide free travel of females in govt transport, legalize MSP for farmers and Provide 10 Kg rise per person per month free of cost.

Muslim Organizations Rally Behind Pavneet Kour in Jammu South



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

In a powerful show of unity, several influential Muslim organizations have come forward to endorse Pavneet Kour, the Apni Party candidate for Jammu South, ahead of the upcoming elections.

This endorsement underscores their belief in her ability to bring meaningful change to the region, particularly in areas concerning women's empowerment, youth development, combating the drug menace, and regularization of colonies.

These organizations have praised Pavneet Kour's inclusive agenda, which advocates for minority rights, creating opportunities for youth, and her commitment to addressing the community's needs.

Her promises to empower women, promote sports among the youth, and establish a drug-free society have resonated strongly within the community.

Muslim leaders have appealed to the voters of Jammu South to support Pavneet Kour, emphasizing that her leadership can foster unity and progress for all communities. They are confident that she will be a strong voice for justice, equality, and development.

Indian Army Medical Team Successfully Evacuates Injured Soldier from Israel

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
NEW DELHI:

In a remarkable display of coordination and professionalism, an Indian Army medical team, led by a doctor, successfully conducted the critical evacuation of a severely injured Indian soldier from the Golan Heights, where he had been serving as part of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF). The soldier, Havildar Suresh R, aged 33, was airlifted back to India amidst tense conditions, ensuring his safe return for further treatment. The evacuation mission was meticulously coordinated by a Critical Care Air Evacuation Medical Team (CCEMT) led by Lieutenant Colonel Anuj Singh from the Base Hospital in Delhi Cantt, along with two trained paramedics. The injured soldier was transported via a C-130 air ambulance, with support from the Indian Air Force, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), and other agencies.



Havildar Suresh had sustained severe injuries, including a head injury, subarachnoid hemorrhage, diffuse axonal injury, and left hemiparesis. After being admitted to Rambam Hospital in Haifa, Israel, for nearly a month, his condition required advanced medical intervention and close monitoring. He had been admitted to the hospital

from 22 August to 20 September, 2024, during which he remained disoriented and unable to recognize time, place, or people.

On 20 September, he was transferred to a Level 1 hospital on the Israeli side of the conflict zone, where his condition began to stabilize. At the time of his evacuation, his vital signs were stable, with his oxygen saturation above

98% at room air. He showed improvement in his physical condition, with a Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS) score of 10/15 and smoother body movements. The air ambulance departed from Tel Aviv at 01:20 AM (IST) and landed in Jamnagar, India, at 10:00 AM. From there, the soldier was further airlifted to Palam, New Delhi, arriving at 2:00 PM. Following his arrival in New Delhi, he was swiftly transferred to the Army Hospital (Research & Referral) by ambulance for further treatment and rehabilitation. This successful mission is a testament to the dedication and capability of the Indian Armed Forces, especially its medical services, in safeguarding the lives of soldiers even in the most challenging conditions. The efforts of the entire evacuation team underscore the Army's unwavering commitment to protecting its personnel, ensuring they receive the best possible care, regardless of the circumstances.

ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS- 2024

DEO Kishtwar reviews Counting Day preparations

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
KISHTWAR:

District Election Officer (DEO) Rajesh Kumar Shavan, accompanied by SSP Abdul Qayoom, today visited the proposed venue for the counting of votes for Assembly Election.

The team also inspected the strong rooms at Kendriya Vidyalaya, where the polled Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) from the recent Assembly Election have been



securely stored.

During the inspection, the DEO meticulously assessed the three-tier security system in place, ensuring that every pro-

cedure is being followed with utmost precision.

The inspection included a detailed examination of the log Register, CCTV cameras, and

the control room. The DEO emphasized the importance of maintaining a flawless security setup round the clock. The key focus of the inspection was to take stock of the Counting centers to be established adjacent to the strong room for the counting day. He was satisfied with the preparations made by the ROs with the assistance of PWD. Later, the Officer held a comprehensive interactive meeting with Master Trainers including District Level Master

Trainers (DLMTs) and Assembly Level Master Trainers (ALMTs) in preparation for the upcoming counting day on October 8, 2024, under the Assembly Elections.

The meeting focused on fine-tuning the district's preparedness to ensure a smooth and efficient counting process. He lauded the role played by the Master trainers for training the staff and polling parties who exhibited the full accuracy of the procedure.

PDP District President along with his team joins BJP

Sat asks Cong to clear stand on Art 370

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

The joining of prominent leaders from different political parties in BJP continues as in this regard, PDP District President, Dapinder Singh Romi along with his team joined BJP during a programme organized at party head office, here today.

J&K BJP Working President, Sat Sharma, Ashish Sood, Seh Prabhari, Ranjodh Singh Nalwa, President, BJP Minority Morcha, Santokh Singh, General Secretary, Minority Morcha, in presence of other BJP leaders welcomed the new entrants into the party fold and said that party will further be strengthened with joining of new people.

"More and more people are impressed by the policies of PM Modi and are embracing the BJP," Sat said, while adding, "BJP will form next government in J&K on its own".

Sat said that PM Modi has established peace in J&K by abrogating



Article 370 and people are now living a dignified life. "Record number of tourists are now visiting J&K and film shootings have also started after more than 3 decades," he said.

He said that NC and Cong are responsible for terrorism and unrest in J&K. "These parties are now promising to release the jailed terrorists and stone pelters," Sat said, adding, "NC and Cong want death and destruction in J&K and want to push it terrorism and unrest".

Sat also asked Cong to clear its stand on Article 370 and snatching of reservation rights given by PM Modi to Gujjars, Paharis, OBCs.

While speaking on the occasion, Ashish Sood said that there is a strong wave in favor of BJP as the 1st phase proved. "I have been visiting different places across J&K and seeing the ground situation I am 100% confident that BJP will form next government in J&K with full majority," Sood said.

"Rahul Gandhi - The Non-Serious Politician," says Dr. Abhijeet Jasrotia, BJP Spokesperson & social media Prabhari

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

In a sharp critique, Dr. Abhijeet Jasrotia, BJP Spokesperson and Prabhari for Social Media, described Rahul Gandhi as a "non-serious politician" who has failed to earn respect or credibility, not only among the opposition but even within his own party and from his allies. Dr. Jasrotia's remarks came in response to a recent statement by former Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, who suggested that Rahul Gandhi should focus on Jammu as he has been a major failure in Kashmir.

Dr. Jasrotia highlighted the growing sentiment across the political spectrum that Rahul Gandhi's influence has waned significantly. "The irony is that no one, whether the opposition, his own Congress party, or his political allies, takes Rahul Gandhi seriously anymore. The country as a whole doesn't take him seriously at all. The only people who



seem serious about him are those conspiring against Bharat (India)," Dr. Jasrotia stated.

Further intensifying his criticism, Dr. Jasrotia referred to the recent controversy surrounding Rahul Gandhi's pictures with U.S. Congresswoman Ilhan Omar, who has been known for her anti-India stance. "Congress ka haath dushman ke saath" (The hand of Congress is with the enemy), he said, accusing Gandhi of aligning with forces hostile to India's inter-

ests.

He added that such actions by Rahul Gandhi not only damage his own reputation but also raise serious concerns about the Congress Party's position on national security. "At a time when India is progressing and emerging stronger on the global stage, those who are threatened by this progress seem to take Rahul Gandhi seriously. His association with individuals who challenge India's sovereignty raises critical questions about his political alignment," Dr. Jasrotia remarked.

Concluding his statement, Dr. Jasrotia assured the public that the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the nation remain vigilant in safeguarding India's progress from both internal and external threats. "Rahul Gandhi may be a non-serious politician, but the danger he poses, intentionally or not, is something we take seriously. The BJP is committed to ensuring India's growth and protecting it from any detractors," he said.

Fire crackers will be burnt in Delhi on Oct 8 not in Karachi: Tarun Chugh

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

The BJP National general Secretary and Incharge of J&K affairs, Tarun Chugh, on Friday said that fire crackers will be burnt on 8th of October in Delhi and not in Karachi. It may be mentioned that the results for Assembly elections will be declared on 8th of October. Chugh said that NC and Cong have been working on Pakistani agenda and want to revive terrorism and separatism in J&K.

"BJP, right since day one, has consistently been saying that NC-Cong alliance is working on Pak agenda," he said, and added, "Our stand has been vindicated by the Defence Minister of Pakistan Khawaja Asif, who said that Pakistan fully supports NC-Cong alliance". NC says that it will release jailed terrorists and stone pelters and its alliance partner Cong is mum over this which means it also fully supports NC, he said.

People of J&K have come to know the evil designs of NC-Cong and will teach these dynastic parties a lesson in these Assembly elections, the BJP National General Secretary said.

"The heavy voter turn out in the first 2 phases of Assembly elections clearly establishes that people have rejected NC-Cong alliance," Chugh said, while adding, "The trends and ground report of the 2 phases clearly indicate that BJP will form next govt in J&K". He said, "On 8th of October, fire crackers will be burnt in Delhi and not in Karachi as Pakistani backed parties i.e NC-Cong alliance will be defeated". Chugh said that BJP abrogated Article 370 after which there is nearly 70% decline in terror activities and there is peace in J&K. Development is taking place at a fast pace in J&K after abrogation of Article 370, he said.

GDC Thannamandi Screens

Documentary on Mahatma Gandhi

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
THANNAMANDI:

Government Degree College Thannamandi organized a special screening of a documentary on the life and philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi, under the guidance of Principal Dr. Farooq Ahmed.

The event was organized by the NSS Unit in collaboration with the Culture Club is one of the series of events being organized in the campus in connection with the celebrations of Gandhi Jayanti. Attended by faculty members and students the program was aimed to commemorate Gandhi Jayanti and promote values of non-violence, peace, and social justice. The documentary explored Gandhi's remarkable journey, highlighting his philosophies, struggles, and achievements that shaped India's independence movement. "The documentary screening is an initiative to inspire our youth to embrace Gandhian principles and contribute to nation-building," said Dr. Farooq Ahmed, Principal of the college. Faculty members who graced the occasion included Dr Gulshan Bhat, Prof Asif Ajaz Lone, Mr Anuj Bali, Prof Rizwana Kouser, Prof Rumi Dar and Prof Supriya Gupta.

Chugh trashes Rahul Gandhi for raising a canard of statehood on behalf of Pakistan and Abdullahs

Rahul visits J&K like a royal prince without understanding problems of J&K : Chugh

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

BJP national general secretary Tarun Chugh today blasted AICC leader Rahul Gandhi, who is also the leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha, for raising a narrative which is not less than a canard and falsehood.

Addressing party workers, Chugh said that the BJP was already committed to restore the status of statehood to J&K but it was ridiculous to see Rahul Gandhi harping on the subject simply because he had no vision of growth and development of J&K.

Chugh said Rahul



Gandhi visits J&K like a dreamland boy and fails to connect with the grassroot problems of the people.

He said Rahul should have first of all apologised for the mistakes Pt Nehru did for the people of J&K and the subsequent

alliance that the Congress has built with the Pakistan ISI to create turmoil in J&K. Chugh strongly condemned Rahul Gandhi for dancing to the tunes of Pakistan and the Abdullah family by talking of statehood.

There should have been a concern for the youth and women of J&K, but Rahul Gandhi would always fail to measure up simply because he has no idea of the problems of the people in J&K.

He has come here like a prince tourist and has delivered a speech written by the Abdullah family to please its mentors in Pakistan.

Chugh said the Modi government has shown a new sunrise to the people of J&K making the union territory a tourist capital of the country whereas Rahul Gandhi's party and the Abdullahs made it a terrorist bastion of the country.

Kavinder reviews preparations for PM Modi's upcoming rally in Jammu

Says Rally will boost BJP's campaign for upcoming Assembly elections

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

Senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister, Kavinder Gupta today visited MA Stadium to review the preparations for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's upcoming rally scheduled on September 28 in Jammu. Accompanied by senior party leaders and workers, the BJP stalwart assessed the arrangements and stressed the importance of ensuring a well-coordinated event that reflects the party's dedication and commitment to the people of Jammu.

Speaking during the visit, Kavinder Gupta, who is also In-charge of J&K BJP's Election Committee, asked party workers to leave no stone unturned in making the rally a resounding success, as it holds significant importance in boosting the BJP's campaign for the upcoming Assembly elections in Jammu & Kashmir.

He emphasized that the rally is a crucial moment to galvanize support and showcase the Party's dedication to the region's development under Prime Minister Modi's leadership.

He said that the preparations for the upcoming rally are in full swing, with party workers and local leaders ensuring all logistical and security



arrangements are in place to welcome the Prime Minister and a large gathering of supporters.

"This rally will be a historic moment for Jammu, as we reaffirm the region's unwavering support for Prime Minister Modi and his vision for a progressive and prosperous Jammu & Kashmir.

It will also serve as a key event in gearing up for the upcoming Assembly elections, where we aim to secure a strong mandate from the people of Jammu," he stated.

Kavinder called on party cadre to work tirelessly to ensure maximum participation and stressed that the rally would be a platform to outline the BJP's roadmap for further development and welfare in Jammu & Kashmir.

The senior BJP leader also appealed to the people of Jammu to come forward and actively participate in this landmark rally.

He highlighted that the rally is not only a celebration of the government's achievements but also a pivotal step in ensuring the success of the party's Assembly election campaign.

"Prime Minister Modi's leadership has brought peace, development, and new opportunities to Jammu & Kashmir.

I invite the people of Jammu to join us on September 28 at MA Stadium and show their support for the ongoing efforts to build a better future for our region and give a strong mandate to the BJP in the upcoming elections," he added.

Enthusiastic participation marks commencement of Postal Ballot Voting in Udhampur

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
UDHAMPUR:

Voting through postal ballot for eligible voters engaged in essential services and those assigned election duty began today across all four assembly constituencies of

Udhampur district.

To facilitate this process, the District Administration has established Postal Voting Centers (PVCs) for absentee voters in essential services and Voter Facilitation Centers (VFCs) for voters on election duty. These centers have been strategical-

ly set up in all four assembly constituencies of Udhampur district.

To ensure the smooth conduct of postal voting, the Udhampur district administration has implemented stringent measures to guarantee transparency and efficiency at every stage.

Awareness programme on Environmental Management of Dairies/ Gaushalas and adoption of scientific dung disposal mechanisms



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

MVO section, JMC organized an Awareness programme on Environmental Management of Dairies/ Gaushalas and adoption of scientific dung disposal mechanisms at Gurdalay Dairy, Sanjay Nagar today on 27th September, 2024.

VAS, JMC, Dr. Divya Sharma and other officials of Veterinary section of JMC were present in the programme. The dairy owners & gaushala operators of Sanjay Nagar were invited in the programme for making them aware regarding management of dairies/ gaushalas & proper scientific dung disposal mechanisms viz. Installation of Biogas Plant, Vermicompost unit, compost pits etc. to be adopted in their dairy units.

VAS, JMC Dr. Divya Sharma informed the local dairy farmers that Jammu Municipal Corporation has taken various initiatives regarding regulation of Dairies & Gaushalas operating within JMC limits in line with guidelines of JKPCCC regarding Environmental Management of Dairies/ Gaushalas & FSSAI norms. Further, she informed that 82 no. of Dairy Units have already been registered with JMC and process is going on to register/regulate all the Dairy units/ Gaushalas operating within JMC limits. For mandatory registration, the dairy unit shall fulfill the said criteria as per the guidelines of JKPCCC and FSSAI norms.

BJP Spokesperson Dr. Abhijeet Jasrotia Calls on J&K Voters to Ensure Victory for Bharat, Not Islamabad

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

Dr. Abhijeet Jasrotia, the BJP Spokesperson, has termed the upcoming Jammu & Kashmir elections as a "decisive moment" for the future of the region and the nation. Drawing a parallel to the intense anticipation of an India-Pakistan cricket match, Dr. Jasrotia emphasized the national importance of these elections, urging every citizen to ensure J&K's victory in India's democratic framework.

He hailed the abrogation of Article 370 as a landmark step that has paved the way for equality, justice, and development in Jammu & Kashmir.

He highlighted the historical injustice faced by the Dogra community of Jammu, dating back to the Nehru-Sheikh alliance, which, according to him, disproportionately favored Kashmir over Jammu.

"For decades, Jammu was sidelined, and the rightful demands of its people were ignored," Dr. Jasrotia said, recalling how even prominent leaders like Prem Nath Dogra were denied their due recognition. The BJP spokesperson issued a strong warning about the involvement of external forces in the region's politics, pointing to recent statements by Pakistan's defense minister, which he claimed aligned with certain elements in the political landscape.

Dr. Jasrotia described this as a matter of "national pride and security," framing the elections as a battle for the "soul of Jammu & Kashmir and India." He concluded with a clarion call for the people of J&K to ensure that the victory celebrations take place in Delhi, signifying progress for India, rather than in Islamabad.

"The responsibility lies with every voter in J&K to make this election a win for democracy, peace, and development," he said, quoting the patriotic sentiment, "Sare Jahan Se Accha, Hindustan Humara." As Jammu & Kashmir prepares for its crucial elections.

Indian Army Conducts Skill Development Courses to Empower Local Women in Sandot, Manjakote, Poonch & Rajouri



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
POONCH & RAJOURI:

In a significant effort to empower women in the remote regions of Sandot, Manjakote in Poonch and Rajouri districts, the Indian Army recently concluded a stitching and tailoring course aimed at promoting economic independence and self-reliance among local women. This initiative reflects the Army's commitment to improving the socio-economic status of women in the South Pir Panjal region by providing them with essential skills that can generate income and uplift their communities.

The course, which commenced on 28 August 2024, saw participation from 40 local women and was conducted by two instructors.

The initiative not only highlights the local community's eagerness to seize development opportunities but also showcases the Indian Army's

proactive role in addressing the challenges faced by residents in these remote and often isolated regions. By empowering women with skills that are directly linked to economic opportunities, the Army is taking tangible steps to bridge the gap between the local populace and mainstream economic activity.

The training center, set up by the Indian Army, was fully equipped with sewing machines and raw materials, allowing participants to receive hands-on training in a variety of tailoring techniques, ranging from basic stitching to advanced garment design.

The inclusion of local women with prior experience in tailoring as instructors added a layer of relatability and practical knowledge to the course, ensuring that the skills imparted were both relevant and supportive of the local economy.

The initiative is part of a broader series of community development

efforts by the Indian Army aimed at uplifting the lives of people living in the border regions.

By focusing on skill development, the Army is addressing the twin challenges of isolation and lack of economic resources that are often prevalent in such remote areas. These courses not only equip women with practical, income-generating skills but also foster a deeper sense of community cohesion and partnership between the local population and the Indian Army.

The successful completion of the course has provided these women with the tools and confidence to start their own tailoring ventures, which can lead to financial independence and long-term sustainability for their families.

Moreover, the course promotes a sense of community engagement, as the women can share their knowledge and inspire others to pursue skill-based training for better livelihoods.

Through such initiatives, the Indian Army continues to reaffirm its commitment to empowering local communities, promoting women's participation in the workforce, and fostering a stronger connection between the armed forces and the people in these remote regions.

The stitching and tailoring course stands as a testament to the transformative power of skill development, paving the way for future programs that will further enhance the socio-economic conditions of the people in Poonch and Rajouri.

Kavinder slams Omar for pushing Pakistan's agenda on terrorism



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

Senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister, Kavinder Gupta, strongly criticized NC leader Omar Abdullah for advocating talks with Pakistan on the issue of terrorism. He reminded Omar that terrorism in the erstwhile state began during the rule of the National Conference (NC) and continues to harm Jammu and Kashmir.

"Terrorism grew under the National Conference's rule, and Omar Abdullah should take responsibility before making such remarks. It's clear now that the National Conference and Congress are working to promote Pakistan's agenda in Jammu and Kashmir," he said while speaking to media persons during the election campaign at Bahu constituency.

Kavinder further mentioned that Pakistan's Defense Minister recently admitted that Pakistan shares the same view as NC and Congress on bringing back Article 370.

"This proves that these parties are working with Pakistan to divide the country. I urge the people of Jammu to be careful of political parties like these, who are pushing Pakistan's interests in our land," he warned. Earlier, Kavinder Gupta intensified the BJP's campaign in support of Vikram Randhawa, BJP candidate for the Bahu constituency. Speaking at rallies in several areas of Jammu West, Kavinder called on voters to reject parties that side with Pakistan and support the BJP for a safe and strong Jammu and Kashmir.

He urged the public to vote for Randhawa and strengthen BJP's mission of peace, development, and national security.

Beautician Course in Pir Panjal Region: A Step Toward Empowering Local Women at Sanjot, Rajouri

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
POONCH:

In a major initiative aimed at empowering women in the remote Pir Panjal region, the Indian Army has successfully concluded a beautician course at Sanjot, Poonch. This skill development program was designed to enhance the livelihoods and financial independence of local women by providing them with practical training in various beauty care techniques. The initiative is part of the Indian Army's ongoing efforts to support and uplift marginalized communities in the region.

The beautician course, which ran for several weeks, offered hands-on instruction in key areas of the beauty industry, including makeup application, skincare routines, hair styling, and other beauty techniques. The program's main objective was to impart skills that not only open up employment opportunities but also inspire self-confidence and entrepreneurship among the partici-



pants. By learning these valuable skills, the women are now equipped to start their own small businesses, giving them the tools to achieve financial independence and create sustainable livelihoods for themselves and their families.

The Indian Army's efforts in the Pir Panjal region go well beyond just this beautician course. Previous initiatives have included educational programs, health camps, and vocational training, all

aimed at improving the overall quality of life for residents in these remote areas.

These efforts are a clear reflection of the Army's commitment to the social and economic development of the region. By focusing on women's empowerment, the Indian Army is contributing to building a more inclusive society where women can actively participate in both the economic and social spheres.

The success of the

beautician course highlights the transformative power of education and skill development. These women, many of whom had limited access to formal training, are now empowered with the knowledge and skills needed to pursue careers in the beauty industry. For them, this course represents more than just a new trade-it offers the hope of a brighter future. By gaining skills that can generate income, they are better positioned to contribute to their households and communities, thereby fostering economic growth and community development in the Pir Panjal region.

This initiative by the Indian Army not only enhances the participants' career prospects but also serves as an inspiration for further skill-development programs in the region.

As these women embark on their new journeys in the beauty industry, they carry with them both the skills and the confidence to build a successful and independent future.

One day training program on 'implementation study of adult BCG vaccination' held at Doda

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
DODA:

Deputy Commissioner Doda, Harvinder Singh today inaugurated a one-day training program on 'implementation study of adult BCG (Bacillus Calmette-Guerin) vaccination' at Shivalik Guest House here.

The program, organised by district Administration Doda, was held with an aim to sensitise the healthcare professionals about the importance of BCG vaccination in combating tuberculosis disease.

The training program was attended by Chief Medical Officer, District Immunization Office, healthcare professionals, including doctors, nurses, and paramedics from various health institutions across the district.

Addressing the gathering, the Deputy Commissioner appreciated the work of health department in combating the Tuberculosis disease in the district. He stressed on the newly BCG Adult Vaccination implementation study effectively in the district.

Speaking on the occasion, CMO Doda gave a detailed presentation on the BCG vaccination implementation, benefits, efficacy, study methodology, data collection and monitoring for adults in the district.

During the program, the participants gained hands-on experience and clarity on the BCG implementation study objectives, for effective execution in the district. The program also aims to strengthen tuberculosis prevention efforts in Doda, aligning with the national health mission's goals.



Jammu will take lead and decide next govt in J&K: G. Kishan Reddy



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

Union minister and J&K Election in-charge, G. Kishan Reddy, on Sunday said that this is the historic time when Jammu will take lead and decide next government in J&K.

He said that for the first time, the BJP is poised to form a government on its own in Jammu and Kashmir, and the people of Jammu now have the power to decide their own destiny. This was stated by Reddy, while addressing a press conference at BJP media center. BJP's working president Sat Sharma, national spokesperson R.P. Singh, spokesperson & media center in-charge Arun Gupta, spokesperson

Girdhari Lal Raina, and media head Dr. Pradeep Mahotra were also present in the press conference.

Reddy said that due to the Modi government's "zero tolerance" policy, terror incidents have decreased by 98%, and now Jammu and Kashmir is on the path of development and prosperity.

Reddy said that Congress, National Conference, and PDP are fooling the people. "These parties are responsible for terrorism and blood shed in J&K," Reddy said, adding, "terrorism was the biggest speed breaker in way of development".

He described the abrogation of Article 370 as the foundation for Jammu and Kashmir's development and said that prosperity reigns in

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's new Jammu and Kashmir.

Reddy appealed to the people of Jammu to vote for the BJP's symbol, the "Lotus," in the upcoming elections so that a majority BJP government can be formed to make Jammu and Kashmir a developed and self-reliant state.

Continuing his address, G. Kishan Reddy said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, an atmosphere of security and peace has been established in Jammu and Kashmir.

He said that to eliminate terrorism, stone-pelting, and separatist politics, the Modi government has taken strict measures, leading to a wave of development in Jammu and Kashmir today.

He emphasized that the instability in Jammu and Kashmir so far has been caused by parties like the Congress, National Conference, and PDP, which have betrayed the people for their own familial interests.

He noted that there is now an environment in Jammu and Kashmir where the youth are excited about their future.

"Inter-School sports meet for children with special needs held at CRC Jammu (Samba)"

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

The Composite Regional Centre (CRC) Jammu (Samba) proudly hosted an Inter-School Sports Meet for Children with Special Needs, featuring enthusiastic participation from different esteemed institutions: Composite Regional Centre Jammu (Samba), Model Academy Inclusive School, Muskan Home, Channi Himmat and DEIC, Gandhi Nagar Hospital Jammu. The event took place under the distinguished presence of the Dr. Rohnika Sharma, Director of CRC Jammu (Samba), who graced the occasion as the chief guest. The day commenced with a warm welcome address by Dr. Devedika Padha, Lecturer Physiotherapy (Consultant) CRC Jammu (Samba), setting a positive tone for the festivities. Following this, the chief guest officially opened the sports meet, igniting excitement among participants and spectators alike. The rules of each game were

explained to the children with special need in order to ensure clarity and fairness before the sporting events began. The main events of the programme included:

Glass Pyramid Race: In which Mr. Rohit, CRC Jammu (Samba) got 1st prize, Ms. Paramjeet, Muskan Home got 2nd prize and Ms. Amrita, CRC Jammu (Samba) got 3rd prize.

50 Meter Race: Above 10 years category, in which Mr. Dikshant, CRC Jammu (Samba) got 1st prize, Mr. Sagar, Muskan Home got 2nd prize and Ms. Rekha, Muskan Home got 3rd prize. Below 10 years category, in which Mr. Rudransh, DEIC Gandhi Nagar Hospital Jammu got 1st prize, Mr. Aadish, Model Academy Inclusive School got 2nd prize and Mr. Danish, CRC Jammu (Samba) got 3rd prize. Discuss Throw: Above 12 years category, in which Mr. Dikshant, CRC Jammu (Samba) got 1st prize, Ms. Amrita, CRC Jammu (Samba) got 2nd prize and Mr. Rohit & Ms. Ruben, CRC Jammu (Samba) got 3rd prize. Below 12 years category, in

which Mr. Abhayjeevan, Model Academy Inclusive School got 1st prize, Ms. Eklavya, CRC Jammu (Samba) got 2nd prize and Mr. Danish, CRC Jammu (Samba) & Mr. Ridhwan, Model Academy Inclusive School got 3rd prize. Pick Stones with Clip One-Minute Challenge: In which Ms. Amrita, CRC Jammu (Samba) got 1st prize, Ms. Rekha, Muskan Home got 2nd prize and Ms. Suman, Muskan Home got 3rd prize.

As the events concluded, Medals were awarded to all the winner and color kits were presented to all the participants for their participation in different events, celebrating their achievements and encouraging their continued involvement in sports. The programme ended with a heartfelt vote of thanks by Ms. Meenakshi Devi, Special Educator (Consultant) CRC Jammu and a memento presentation to the Director of CRC Jammu (Samba) by Mr. Naveen Gupta, Administrative Officer, CRC Jammu (Samba) in appreciation of their support and guidance.

ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS- 2024

General Observers review Counting Centre preparations in Bandipora for Assembly Elections

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
BANDIPORA:

In view of Assembly Elections 2024, General Observer for Bandipora and Sonawari Assembly Constituencies (ACs) Nelson Eyon Bage and General Observer for Gurez AC, Ramniwas Yadav on Wednesday conducted a site visit to the designated counting center at Degree College Bandipora.

During the visit, District Election Officer (DEO), Manzoor Ahmad Qadri provided a comprehensive briefing on the arrangements and logistical steps taken to ensure a seamless counting process.

He said robust measures have been implemented to facilitate a smooth counting process, including extensive training for staff and logistical arrangements to ensure transparency and efficiency at every stage.

The Observers emphasized the importance of preparedness to uphold the integrity and transparency of the electoral process. They stressed adherence to all ECI protocols to maintain public confidence in the electoral system besides ensuring a fair and transparent counting process. Among others, SSP Bandipora, ADC/Nodal Officer MCC, Dy.DEO and other concerned were present on the occasion.

ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS Home Voting continues on Day-2 in Baramulla

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
BARAMULLA:

On the second day of the Home Voting process in District Baramulla, polling teams continued to traverse through all the seven assembly constituencies, navigating remote and challenging terrains to ensure that eligible voters, even in the district's most far-off areas, were able to cast their votes.

Aimed at empowering elderly voters aged 85 and above, as well as individuals with a minimum 40% benchmark disability, this facility aligns with the guidelines set by the Election Commission of India (ECI).

The process is set to continue until September 26, 2024. A total of 661 home voters have been identified in the district, comprising 287 elderly voters aged 85 and above, classified as AVSC (Absentee Voters in the Senior Citizens category), and 374 voters with disabilities, categorized as AVPD (Absentee Voters with Disabilities). To facilitate seamless home voting in Baramulla district, 49 dedicated teams, comprising polling staff, micro-observers, and videographers, have been stationed across all seven assembly constituencies in the district.

Out of the 49 polling teams deployed in the district, 24 have been assigned to the challenging terrains of the 09-Uri and 11-Gulmarg Assembly Constituencies.

These teams have been navigating the most remote and difficult areas to ensure that all registered voters have the opportunity to exercise their right to vote.

Elderly and PwD voters who exercised their franchise through the home voting facility expressed their gratitude towards ECI and DEO for providing them the opportunity to exercise their democratic right from the comfort of their homes.

ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS DEO reviews Poll preparedness for 63-Bani Assembly Constituency



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
KATHUA:

District Election Officer (DEO) Kathua, Dr. Rakesh Minhas (Deputy Commissioner Kathua), today chaired a key meeting with Sector Officers and Sector Police Officers in the Office of the Returning Officer for the 63-Bani Assembly Constituency to review the preparedness for the upcoming election.

During the meeting, it was decided that polling parties assigned to 94 polling stations within the 63-Bani AC - 33 in Lohai Malhar and 61 in Bani - will be paired at Government Degree College (GDC), Kathua. These teams will be dispatched for polling on September 29, 2024, and are expected to reach their respective locations in Bani and Lohai Malhar by the evening of the same day. The DEO directed the Returning Officer, Bani to ensure appropriate lodging and boarding arrangements for the polling parties assigned to Bani. Similarly, the RO for Billawar will oversee lodging and boarding for those assigned to Lohai Malhar.

As decided, on September 30th, the polling parties for the 61 stations in Bani and 33 stations in Lohai Malhar will be deployed to conduct polling, which is scheduled for October 1, 2024. Following the polling, the Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) will be returned and deposited at GDC Bani and GDC Billawar.

On the following day, all EVMs will be transported to GDC Kathua for the counting of votes.

ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS- 2024

ECI establishes 157 Special Polling Stations in Phase II



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

With an aim to ensure that every eligible voter exercise his democratic right, the Election Commission of India has established 157 special polling stations in second phase of ongoing Assembly Election in Jammu and Kashmir.

"These special polling stations are theme-based, and in some areas,

efforts are being made to go the extra mile to reach voters and maximize participation. The decoir booths, fundamental to the entire election process, play a significant role in making the festival of democracy a success", maintained the J&K Chief Electoral Officer, Pandurang K Pole.

He said that these innovative polling stations, such as women-managed, youth-managed, Green

Polling Stations, Model Polling Stations, Border and Unique Polling Stations, were designed to cater specifically to women, youth, Persons with Disabilities (PwDs), promote eco-friendly practices, ensure inclusive and accessible elections, and accommodate voters of different kinds in the region.

Furthermore, the ECI's commitment towards environmental sustainability is demonstrated through the implementation of green practices at these polling stations. Every aspect is meticulously designed to minimize environmental impact and promote a greener future.

Speaking on this milestone initiative, CEO said that the establishment of these unique polling stations underscores the unwavering dedication towards fostering inclusivity and sustainability in the electoral process. He added that the ECI believes every citizen should have equal access to exercise their democratic right, and these polling stations represent a significant step toward achieving that goal.

ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS- 2024

General Observer Bani inspects Assured Minimum Facilities in Polling Stations

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
KATHUA:

General Observer for 63-Bani Assembly Constituency A.N Khanum on Wednesday visited two key polling stations, PS Gatti and PS Neka to review preparations for the upcoming elections scheduled for 1st October 2024. The Observer's visit focused on reviewing the Assured Minimum Facilities (AMFs) at these polling stations and ensuring they are equipped to facilitate a smooth voting process.

During the visit, the Observer assessed the readiness of polling

infrastructure and emphasized the importance of ensuring accessibility for all voters, including senior citizens, persons with disabilities, and other vulnerable groups. The Observer interacted with local officials and polling staff to ensure all arrangements are in place for a free, fair, and transparent electoral process. The Observer made an earnest appeal to the residents of the 63-Bani Assembly Constituency to exercise their democratic right by casting their votes on 1st October 2024. "Voting is not only a right but a responsibility. I encourage all eligible voters in the constituency to

come out in large numbers and make their voices heard. Every vote counts," the Observer remarked.

The visit to PS Gatti and PS Neka comes as part of the General Observer's broader efforts to ensure all polling stations within the constituency adhere to the required standards of preparedness and accessibility.

The Election Commission has taken extensive measures to ensure a secure and convenient voting process, including enhanced facilities at polling stations, security arrangements, and provisions for voters' safety and comfort.

ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS- 2024

Skill Development Programme for Youth held at GDC Kishtwar



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

During the second day of the Skill Development training programme for youth being conducted by Krishi Vigyan Kendra Kishtwar on Mushroom Cultivation at Govt. Degree College Kishtwar,

the participants were trained regarding the different entrepreneurial opportunities of Mushroom cultivation.

The programme is being conducted under the guidance of Dr Amrish Vaid Director Extension SKUAST Jammu. Dr Narinder Paul Head KVK

Kishtwar and Prof Satish Thakur Head Department of Botany GDC Kishtwar coordinated the programme.

The programme was attended by 50 youth. Principal GDC Kishtwar Prof Basharat Iqbal was the Chief Guest during the session. Prof. Asma Javed

carried out proceedings of the programme.

The Skill Development Programme aims to educate the students regarding the utilization of agri-wastes for production of protein rich food besides developing do-how skills of different steps of mushroom cultivation, entrepreneurship and self-reliance.

The five-day programme includes expert talks, demonstrations and hands on training for the participants.

Prof Basharat Iqbal Principal of GDC Kishtwar lauded the efforts of KVK Kishtwar for planning and organizing a significant and need based programme for youth that will promote skill-based education.

TLSC Ganderbal, WMDA jointly celebrate 'World Tourism Day' at Manasbal



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
GANDERBAL:

The Tehsil Legal Services Committee (TLSC) Ganderbal, in collaboration with Wullar-Manasbal Development Authority, Ganderbal today celebrated 'World Tourism Day' at Manasbal Park.

The event was held under the supervision of Abdul Nasir, Principal District and Sessions Judge (Chairman District Legal Services Authority) Ganderbal and Tabasum, Secretary (Incharge), District Legal Services Authority, Ganderbal, and guidance of Mohammad Waseem Mirza, Chairman Tehsil Legal Services Committee (TLSC) Ganderbal.

The event aimed to emphasize legal responsibilities in maintaining ecological balance.

Umar Shafi, Chief Executive Officer, Wullar-Manasbal Development Authority, educated participants on the significance of World Tourism Day.

Adv. Aqib-ul-Ahad highlighted tourism's role in fostering development, global harmony and peace. He also highlighted key legal responsibilities, including preservation of natural resources, protection of wildlife and their habitats, conservation of water bodies, reduction of plastic waste, respect for local regulations and traditions.

Students of Govt. Higher Secondary School, Safapora, Govt. High School, Kondbal, Ganderbal, Valley Lake School, Safapora, New Delight School, Safapora participated in the event and also delivered speeches, performed skits etc.

The programme was attended by Umar Shafi, Chief Executive Officer, Wullar-Manasbal Development Authority, Ganderbal; Assistant Executive Engineer, R&B Sub-division, Safapora, Ganderbal; Assistant Tourist Officer, Manasbal, Ganderbal, officers and officials of Wullar-Manasbal Development Authority, Ganderbal, Teachers and Students of Govt. Higher Secondary School, Safapora, Govt. High School, Kondbal, Ganderbal, Valley Lake School, Safapora, New Delight School, Safapora, Local Shopkeepers, etc.

DC inspects Water Filtration Plants; Asks for extensive chlorination to combat water borne diseases



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
SHOPIAN:

Acting swiftly on reports regarding some cases of Hepatitis A in few villages of Shopian including Keegam, Deputy Commissioner, Moha-mmud Shahid Saleem Dar, today conducted an extensive tour of the district.

The DC, during the visit, reviewed the functioning of water filtration plants there with a view to ensure quality water supply to the inhabitants of the district. The DC visited various areas including Chowgam, Pad Pawan, Pahnoo, Balpora, and Shirmal filtration plants and water supply schemes to take a first-hand appraisal of the water treatment processes. He emphasized the critical role of clean water in safeguarding public health.

During the review, the DC instructed the Jal Shakti Department to chlorinate all water sources in the district as a preventive measure against potential waterborne infections especially the Hepatitis A.

GOC Tiger Division Flags Off Cycling Expedition to Border Villages



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

In line with the Indian Army's tradition of fostering adventure, teamwork, and leadership, the Tiger Division organized a 12-member cycling expedition. The 28-day journey will take the team from Chandigarh to Manali, passing through the Shipki La pass in Himachal Pradesh, which stands at an elevation of 13,420 feet. The expedition, covering a total distance of 1,192 kilometers, was flagged off by Major General Mukesh

Bhanwala, General Officer Commanding (GOC) of the 26 Infantry Division, Jammu, on 25th September 2024.

The objective of this cycling expedition is to showcase the Indian Army's resilience and indomitable spirit, as well as its ability to overcome harsh weather and difficult terrain in high-altitude regions. Furthermore, it aims to reach out to and connect with the residents of the border villages, showcasing the Army's dedication to national integration and civilian engagement.

The expedition will cover 42 vil-

lages along the route, including 10 vibrant first villages declared by the Government of India and the Himachal Pradesh Government. These are strategically important villages located near the nation's borders.

By interacting with the local populations, the Indian Army seeks to strengthen its bond with these communities and spread awareness about the opportunities available for young men and women to join the armed forces.

As part of the outreach, the expedition team will engage with ex-servicemen (ESMs), Veer Naris (widows of martyrs), and gallantry award-winning soldiers from the Indian Armed Forces.

These interactions aim to honor the contributions of the veterans and war heroes while inspiring the youth to follow their path by joining the Indian Armed Forces. The team will also highlight various entry schemes available for both officers and soldiers, including the Agnipath Scheme.

ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS- 2024

2-day Inter College Chess Tournament for men, women commences at GCE Jammu

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

A Two-day Inter College Chess Tournament 2024 for Men and Women was inaugurated today at the Government College of Education, Jammu under the supervision of Director Sports Cluster University of Jammu Dr. Vinod Bakshi.

The event has drawn participation from various reputed institutions, including GGM Science College, Govt. MAM College, Govt. SPMR College of Commerce, PSPSGCW Gandhi Nagar, Jammu, and the host college. Competitions are being held in both the men's and women's categories. The College Principal Dr. Jyoti Parihar formally inaugurated the tournament with a warm welcome address. In her remarks, she motivated the players to participate with enthusiasm, emphasizing the importance of maintaining the true spirit of sportsmanship throughout the event. The tournament was graced by the presence of several distinguished guests. Mohammad



Zubair attended as the Chief Guest, while Dr. Vinod Bakshi was the Guest of Honour, and Dr. Jyoti Parihar served as the Special Guest.

The event was organized under the guidance of the College Sports Committee, led by Ramandeep Kralia, Convener of the Sports Committee, with contributions from Dr. Rakesh Bharti, Dr. Shalini Rana, Prof. Priyanka Mahajan, Prof. Sarita Dogra and Dr. Sonam Gandotra. The entire proceedings of the event were skillfully conducted by Dr. Rakesh Bharti.

Other dignitaries in attendance included Prof. Satish Kumar,

Neenu, Physical Director of MAM College, Ravi Kumar, Physical Director of SPMR College of Commerce, Kajal Premi, Physical Director of GCW Gandhi Nagar, Jammu, Neelam Kumari, Assistant Physical Director of MAM College, Prof. Arun Sharma, and Prof. Arti Heer. Shushil Kumar officiated the matches. On the day one, in the Men's Section, GGM Science College triumphed over MAM College with a score of 3-0, while Government SPMR College of Commerce secured a victory against Government College of Education, Jammu, with a score of 3-0.

ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS- 2024

Rangoli Competition, Skit hosted at GHS Lachhipur to promote Electoral Awareness

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
KATHUA:

As part of the Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) initiative, a Rangoli competition and skit programme were successfully conducted at Government High School (GHS) Lachhipur, today.

The twin events were part of spreading awareness about the

importance of voting, with a special focus on educating the public about the use of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs).

The students enthusiastically participated in the event, using art and performance as a medium to convey the significance of voter participation in the upcoming elections.

The Rangoli competition beautifully illustrated themes related to democracy and the electoral

process, while the skit performance captivated the audience, delivering a clear message on the importance of casting votes responsibly and using EVMs accurately.

The skit, performed by the students, was particularly impactful, offering a vivid demonstration of the voting process through EVMs, emphasizing how each vote plays a critical role in shaping the future of the constituency.

ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS DEO Bandipora flags-off Poll parties for Gurez AC

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
BANDIPORA:

In view of the General Elections to Legislative Assembly scheduled to be held on 01 October in district Bandipora, the District Election Officer (DEO) Bandipora, Manzoor Ahmad Qadri on Saturday flagged-off poll parties for 16-Gurez Assembly Constituency.

The deployment of polling parties three days in advance to Gurez is crucial due to the region's challenging terrain and potential logistical hurdles. This early mobilization allows the teams to reach remote polling stations, set up necessary equipment, and ensure all preparations are complete for a seamless voting process. A total of 31 polling parties, consisting of Presiding Officers, polling staff, and police personnel, were dispatched to ensure fair and transparent voting, allowing every eligible citizen to exercise their democratic rights.

The DEO highlighted the commitment to conduct free, fair and peaceful elections, adding that all necessary arrangements and welfare measures for the polling staff are in place.

He stated, that well trained and dedicated teams are prepared to facilitate a smooth and secure voting experience for all citizens.

Dy.DEO Bandipora, Mohammad Rafeeq Bhat, ARTO Anees Ahmad and other concerned were also present on the occasion.

World Rabies Day observed at Doda with Educational Outreach

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
DODA:

The Department of Community Medicine Government Medical College Doda and ANMT School Observed World Rabies Day 2024 under the theme "Breaking Rabies Boundaries," aiming to raise awareness about rabies prevention.

The event at GMC, guided by Principal Dr. Rakesh Bahl, attracted healthcare professionals, community members, and students, all united to spread crucial knowledge about this preventable disease.

The program featured educational workshops on rabies transmission, symptoms, and prevention, led by Dr. Suresh Kotwal, Head of the Department of Community Medicine and Incharge Anti-Rabies Clinic. He emphasized the importance of education in combating rabies, stating, "Education is key to stopping rabies. We want everyone to know how to protect themselves and their pets." Students from the second prof MBBS and Nursing College Doda played an active role in raising awareness by engaging patients at the Anti-Rabies Clinic and OPD through informative posters and direct interactions.

Faculty members, including Dr. Walied Balwan (Assistant Professor), Dr. Arjun, Dr. Nayer, Dr. Asif, Dr. Falak (Demonstrators), and Dr. Anzar Majeed, JR in Anti-Rabies Clinic, made valuable contributions to the event's success. The Medical Superintendent, Dr. Tanveer Rather, was commended for his support and logistics, which were instrumental in making the event a success.

Similar activities were conducted at RHTC and UHTC under the Department of Community Medicine, where volunteers engaged the community through outreach efforts, distributing pamphlets, and addressing questions about rabies prevention.

The event received positive feedback from the community, reinforcing the importance of vaccination and responsible pet ownership, with GMC Doda reaffirming its commitment to promoting health and safety towards a rabies-free future.

Meanwhile, the District Health Society, through the IDSP Unit, observed World Rabies Day 2024 at ANMT Doda under this year's theme, "Breaking Rabies Boundaries," to raise awareness about rabies and its prevention. The event, held under the guidance of Chief Medical Officer Dr. Om Kumar, saw participation from the staff of the CMO Office as well as students and staff of ANMT Doda.

All DSS leaders join BJP; It is not just joining but a magic: Reddy



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

The office bearers of Dogra Swabhimaan Sangathan (DSS), led by General Secretary, Hari Dutt Shishu, on Wednesday joined the BJP during a programme organized at BJP media center, today evening. The new entrants were welcomed into the party fold by union minister and Incharge J&K Assembly elections, G Krishna Reddy, BJP's Working President, Sat Sharma, former Deputy Chief Minister, Dr.

Nirmal Singh, Rajya Sabha MP Engineer Ghulam Ali Khatana, and Media Center In-charge, Arun Gupta. While speaking on the occasion, Reddy said, "it is not just joining but a magic and shows BJP's growing popularity in J&K". Welcoming the new members, Reddy said that the Dogra Swabhimaan Sangathan, which has been raising voices for the interests of Jammu, has now become part of BJP and it will impact the results of upcoming Assembly elections.

Working President Sat Sharma and former Deputy Chief Minister Nirmal Singh also welcomed the office bearers of Dogra Swabhimaan Sangathan into the BJP.

Among those who joined Rajesh Sharma In charge Suchetgar CWC Member Dogra Swabhimaan Sangathan Party, Maninder Singh Secretary Udhampur, Surjeet Kumar Bhagat Ex President Municipal Committee Nagri Kathua kathua Secretary, Rakesh Kumar Sharma Kathua, Dhian Singh Ji In charge Nagrota CWC Member, Yog Raj Sharma CWC Member Hira Nagar, Mahipal Sharma Kathua, Ashish Sharma Youth leader Jammu, Jhanvi Gupta Youth Leader Women cell Dogra Swabhimaan Sangathan Party, Vikram Singh Andotra CWC Member Kathua, Balwant Singh Mandla CWC Member Incharge Boder Belt Arnia, Ramesh Chander, Secretary Kisan Cell Along with supporters which include Academician, Advocates, Formers and Youth leaders, local Business men and others.

Smriti Irani Criticizes NC-Congress, Promotes BJP's Development and Women Empowerment in J&K

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

BJP's star campaigner and former Union Minister, Smriti Irani, on Wednesday said that NC-Cong promoted separatism and terrorism, while PM Modi brought peace and development in J&K and empowered the women. This was stated by Smriti, while addressing rallies at Nandpura and Rajpura in Ramgarh Assembly segment in favor BJP candidate Dr Devender Manyal.

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi has brought development to the ground in J&K," she said, while adding, "under the Congress and National



Conference governments, separatism and terrorism were promoted and people were deprived of even basic necessities".

Irani said that Modi government has worked for empowering women. Earlier, women of J&K

who married outside were denied all rights but after abrogation of Article 370 by Modi govt, the women of J&K now have equal rights even after marrying outside, she said.

Smriti said that BJP government in Jammu

and Kashmir will give Rs 18000 to the most senior woman in each family annually. The youth appearing for UPSC and Jammu & Kashmir Public Service Commission exams would also be provided Rs 10,000 as coaching fees by the BJP govt, she said. Irani said that Prime Minister Modi has set Jammu and Kashmir on the path to becoming the most developed state in the country. She said that after the abrogation of Article 370, justice has been served to people from all sections of society. Terrorism and separatism are now things of the past, with peace and prosperity being enjoyed by all, she said.

Why Jammu can't decide future of J&K? Chugh asks Abdullahs

Why no CM from Jammu so far?



THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
KATHUA:

The BJP National General Secretary and Incharge of J&K affairs, Tarun Chugh, on Sunday said that Jammu will decide and lead the next government in J&K and BJP is committed to give justice to Jammu region.

"Jammu has been neglected discriminated by three families Abdullahs, Muftis and Gandhis since decades," Chugh said, while adding, "Now, this is the first time that Jammu will decide the next government in J&K".

What is the reason that there has been no CM from J&K?, he questioned and said, "The three families always looted J&K and discriminated with Jammu".

Chugh also said that Polling in 2 phases in J&K is against 3 families and people now hate these families Abdullahs, Muftis and Gandhis.

"The polling in the first 2 phases is against Abdullahs, Muftis and Gandhis and Omar, Gandhis and Muftis will lose this election," Chugh said, while adding, "Omar will lose both seats he is contesting from". Abdullahs and Muftis used to become CMs with just 6% to 8% polling. "This is the first election when there is no boycott and no violence and people have rejected 3 families," Chugh said.

He added, "These families, which gave stones and guns in the hands of youth are now shamelessly going to the people to seek votes". Chugh also said that Cong has surrendered its manifesto, agenda and ideology before the NC.

"Cong is fully behind NC which says that they will release jailed terrorists, stone pelters and bring back Article 370," Chugh said, while adding, "If Abdullahs take birth ten times more even then Article 370 will not return".

He said that NC-Cong insulted Maharaj Hari Singh. "Hari Singh was not the Maharaja of Jammu but entire J&K and insult of Maharaja is insult of the entire country," Chugh said.

ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS

Sandhya SVEEP rally held at Bahu Plaza

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
JAMMU:

A Sandhya SVEEP rally was held this evening at Bahu Plaza, aiming to raise awareness about voter participation in the J&K Assembly Elections. The event was presided over by District Election Officer Sachin Kumar Vaishya, alongside election Nodal Officers including ADDC Sher Singh and ACD Dr Vikas Sharma.

Addressing the gathering, the DEO encouraged all participants, particularly first-time voters, to actively participate in the democratic process in large numbers. He emphasised the importance of electoral participation for a stronger democracy.

Later, a rally was held from Bahu Plaza to Zorawar Singh Chowk, where participants, including district officers and the public, motivated the general populace to cast their votes and ensure widespread electoral participation.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from the public, particularly the youth, as part of the ongoing Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation campaign to promote voter awareness.

DRDO & IIT Delhi Develop ABHED Lightweight Bullet Proof Jackets

THE KASHMIR TALK BUREAU
NEW DELHI:

In a significant step forward for Indian defence technology, the Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) and researchers from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi have jointly developed advanced, lightweight bulletproof jackets named ABHED (Advanced Ballistics for High Energy Defeat). These jackets were designed and created at the

DRDO Industry Academia Centre of Excellence (DIA-CoE) located at IIT Delhi. The ABHED bulletproof jackets are made using polymers and indigenous boron carbide ceramic material, showcasing India's progress in using locally sourced materials for defence purposes. The design configuration of the jackets is based on detailed characterization of various materials under high-strain conditions, followed by precise modelling and simulation conducted in collaboration with DRDO. The inno-

vation involved in these jackets is a reflection of the close cooperation between the scientific, academic, and industrial communities. The armour plates integrated into the ABHED jackets have undergone and passed all essential R&D trials according to set protocols. The jackets are designed to meet the highest threat levels while remaining lighter than the maximum weight limits stipulated in the General Staff Qualitative Requirements of the Indian Army.