

Good Morning Kashmir

15th Year Of Publication

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Addressed a conference on 21st Century and Aatmanirbhar Bharat. With unprecedented economic and social transformation, India's development has gained new speed and scale and today our country is one of the fastest growing economies in the world.

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J&K Bank mPay Delight+ Gets State-Of-The-Art Features



SRINAGAR: In its commitment to enhance customer experience through digital transformation, J&K Bank today rolled out new value-added features to its flagship mobile banking app - mPay Delight+. The enhancements include mPay Lite, UPI Scan & Pay, Credit Card Management and Customer Survey to provide additional functionalities to **P-06**

DGP Visits Family Of Martyr In Ponara



JAMMU: The Director General of Police, J&K, R.R. Swain visited the home of martyr Village Defence Guard (VDG) SPO Mohammed Sharif at Ponara area of Basantgarh Monday. The said VDG was martyred in a terror attack at Chochroo Gala area of Basantgarh. The DGP was **P-06**

'AFSPA May Not Be Needed' Assembly Elections In J&K Soon: Rajnath Singh



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Defense Minister Rajnath Singh, citing improvement in the ground situation in Jammu and Kashmir, stated that assembly elections will be held there soon, without providing a timeline.

He expressed his view on the potential discontinuation of the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) in the region, emphasizing that it is for the Home Ministry to decide. "The way anyone without any prior warrant. It also gives immunity to the forces if they shoot someone dead. Singh highlighted Pakistan's involvement in cross-border terrorism and stressed the need for Islamabad to cease such activities, stating, "They are trying to destabilize India, and we will not allow it to happen."

the situation is improving in Jammu and Kashmir, I think a time will come when AFSPA will no longer be required there. It is my view and it is for the Home Ministry to decide on it," he said in an interview.

The AFSPA empowers security forces to conduct operations and arrest

Srinagar PC 2 Lakh First-Time Voters Among 17.4 Lakh Electorates To Cast Ballot On May 13

OWAIS GUL

SRINAGAR: Srinagar Parliamentary Constituency having the highest number of candidates compared to other segments in Jammu and Kashmir is all set to witness an interesting showdown on May 13 when more than 17.4 lakh people are going to cast their ballots in five districts of the Valley.

Details gathered reveal that a total of 17,43,845 electorates are going to decide the fate of the 24 candidates in the fray for the Lok Sabha polls in Srinagar seat.

Of total, over 2.0 lakh are the first-time voters, who are in the age group of 18-20 and will be exercising their franchise for the first time on May 13, 2024.

There are 8,73,426 males and 8,70,368 females while 51 others are transgender.

Officials said that the arrangements have been almost finalized for 2135 Polling Stations, set up at 1323 locations in 18 Assembly Segments. The Assembly Segments include 17-Kangan and 18-Ganderbal, 19-Hazratbal, 20-Khanyar, 21-Habbakadal, 22-Lal-Chowk, 23-Chanapora, 24-Zadibal, 25-Eidgah 26-Central Shalteng, 29-Khansahib, 30-Char-

i-Sharief, 31-Chadoora, 32-Pampore, 33-Tral, 34-Pulwama, 35-Rajpora and 37-Shopian.

According to the details, 260 Polling Stations have been set up in two Assembly Segments of Ganderbal, 929 Polling Stations have been set up at 8 Assembly Segments of Srinagar, 345 in 3 Assembly Segments of Budgam, 479 Polling Sta-

tions in 4 Assembly Segments of Pulwama and 122 Polling Stations in one Assembly Segments of Shopian.

Pertinently, Srinagar constituency has been the bastion of the National Conference (NC) as the candidates from the party have secured the seat 12 times so far out of 15 parliamentary elections since 1947. **P-06**



Voters Enthusiastic To Cast Ballots On May 13

MUBASHIR ALAM WANI

SRINAGAR: The political landscape of Jammu and Kashmir has been undergoing a significant transformation, marked by the region's transition from a state to a union territory after the union government stripped J&K's special status and bifurcated it into two union territories on 05 August, 2019.

However, holding of mega rallies for the first time after the abrogation of Article 370 and 35-A, amidst the ongoing poll campaign for the Lok Sabha polls in Srinagar and **P-06**

IAF Convoy Attack Security Forces Release Sketch Of 2 Terrorists



YOGESH

JAMMU: Security forces on Monday released sketches of two suspected terrorists, believed to be behind the attack on Indian Air Force (IAF) vehicles, killing a soldier and injuring four others in Poonch district.

The army has also declared a reward of Rs 20 lakh for information on two

India One Of The Fastest-Growing Economies In World: LG Sinha

GMK NEWS NETWORK

VARANASI: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Monday said that India's development has gained new speed and scale, adding that our country is one of the fastest growing economies in the world.

Addressed a conference on 21st Century and Aatmanirbhar Bharat at Varanasi, Lt Gov highlighted India's transformation and historic growth trajectory.

"With unprecedented economic and social transformation, India's development has gained new speed and scale and today our country is one of the fastest growing economies in the world," the Lt Governor said.

He said, as a fastest growing nation, we have excelled in many areas, empowering every citizen, especially the marginalised to enjoy the fruits of development.

"Today only Mantra for the society is 'Nation-First' **P-06**



NC Faces Setback As Kargil Unit Members Resign En Masse



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: In a massive blow to the National Conference (NC) ahead of the Ladakh Lok Sabha elections, several members of the Kargil unit tendered their resignations on Monday. The move comes amidst escalating political tensions in the region, with the resigning members citing pressure to support the Congress can-

didate as their reason for departure.

The decision to resign was communicated to NC President Farooq Abdullah by the party's additional general secretary for Ladakh, Qamar Ali Akhoun, in a letter outlining the unit's collective stance. Addressing the media, Akhoun revealed that he and his colleagues had faced mounting pressure from the party's **P-06**

J&K Admin Aims To Set Up Of 50 PLCs In J&K This Year

MUBASHIR AALAM WANI

SRINAGAR: The J&K administration has targeted to establish 50 Panchayat Learning Centers (PLCs) in Jammu and Kashmir by the end of the current year.

Last year, the government announced the setting up of Public Libraries and extending Library facilities to the Gram Panchayat level across the country.

To implement the project, the Government of India earmarked a whopping Rs 5000 crores for the year 2023-24 for upgrading infrastructure.

As per the officials, so far the work is going on 12 PLCs in Jammu and Kashmir and the government has targeted to establish 40 new PLCs this year.

"Secretary Rural Development Department (RDD) and Panchayati Raj, Dr Shahid Iqbal Choudhary last month reviewed the progress in the implementation of the project. While the work is going on at 12 Panchayat Learning centres in Jammu and



Kashmir so far, it was decided in the meeting to establish 40 more PLCs by the end of the year," an official said.

Officials said the government will simultaneously ensure the infrastructure in these PLCs to ensure their functioning as soon as possible.

"The government is considering starting the PLC operation soon after the completion of the project. These are going to be the state-of-the-art libraries where books related to dif-

ferent subjects will be available. This move aims to enhance access to books and create spaces for community learning and engagement," they said.

Officials said facilities including digital learning infrastructure, study rooms and book banks will be established in these PLCs to make them stop learning centres in rural Kashmir.

"The department endeavours to establish digital learning infrastructure, study rooms, book banks and resources targeting all the sections of rural population including students, aspirants of competitive examinations, women and elderly people in the villages," they said.

Pertinently, during the recent meeting Secretary RDD outlined a comprehensive strategy to ensure that all selected PLCs are equipped with necessary facilities, leveraging funds allocated for E-Enablement and collaborating **P-06**

'MCC Violation' ECI Issues Show Cause Notice To Mehbooba Mufti



GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Election Commission has taken cognizance of purported violations of the Model Code of Conduct during a public rally in Thannamandi Shahdara Sharif, prompting a show cause notice to be issued to Mehbooba Mufti, President of the People's Democratic Party (PDP) who is also PDP candidate from the Rajori-Anantnag parliamentary seat, alongside PDP Assembly Incharge Anjum Mirza.

The notice served by Model Code of Conduct Nodal Officer and Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) of Rajori, Rajiv Kumar Khajuria, cites a viral video from the May 1, this year rally **P-06**

INOX CINEMA SHIVPORA SRINAGAR

Tuesday 07 May **MOVIES Schedule**

 <p>THE FALL GUY (ENGLISH) 12:00PM, 02:45PM (U/A)</p>	 <p>BADE MIYAN CHOTE MIYAN 3D (HINDI) 03:30PM (U/A)</p>	 <p>GODZILLA X KONG - 3D (ENG) 12:40PM (U/A)</p>
 <p>GHOSTBUSTERS (ENG) 11:40AM (U/A)</p>	 <p>MAIDAAN (HINDI) 05:15PM (U/A)</p>	 <p>CREW (HINDI) 02:15PM, 06:00PM (U/A)</p>

LS Polls

Kupwara Admin to organise mega Voter Awareness programme in Teetwal

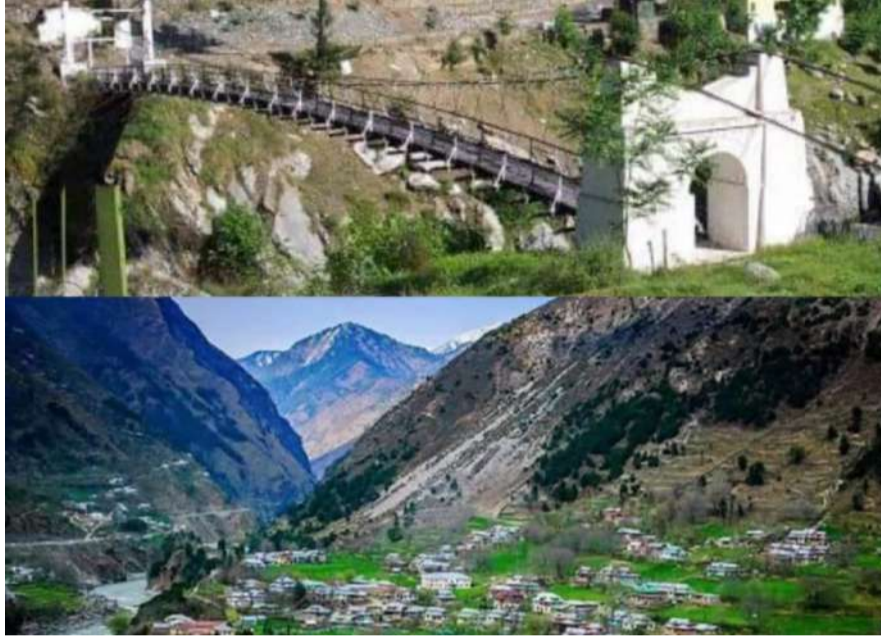
GMK NEWS NETWORK

KUPWARA: In a major initiative to encourage voter awareness and electoral participation, the District Election Office, Kupwara is organising a mega Voter Awareness programme (VAP) under Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) at Teetwal (LoC) on the banks of famous Kishanganga River on May 8, 2024.

Highlights of the mega event are Tiranga Rally from Country's first Polling Station (01-Seemari) to Teetwal and a scintillating Cultural Show by Sufi Sensation, Youth icon, Kabul Bukhari and other local artists who will go live at Teetwal Ground, from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM on May 08.

District Election Officer Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan has invited all to attend this mega Voter Awareness programme at Teetwal and grace the occasion.

This event is aimed to



bring together first-time voters, students, Community leaders, regional Youth icons, local artists, general public besides District Administration functionaries to create

awareness about the electoral process through voter education and other innovative mass mobilization activities.

Event at LoC will help the local populace realize

the value of their vote and importance of participation in elections on Poll day and combine the right to franchise with the spirit of patriotism, Cultural diversity and civic responsibility.

SVEEP CAMPAIGN

KU promotes voter education, participation through campus activities

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: To encourage civic engagement by promoting voter literacy and voter participation in the community, the University of Kashmir (KU) is spreading awareness under the SVEEP (Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation) programme.

The varsity has been organising interactive sessions, debates, discussions, cultural programmes, musicals, nukkad (street) performances, mock voting, etc. across all its campuses during the past several weeks, in which students, scholars, NSS volunteers, teaching and administrative staff from across domains participated in overwhelming numbers.

In this connection, a detailed schedule for the series of events is being followed that will culminate with a grand function this week. More than 10,000 students participated in the awareness campaign across all the campuses so far.

KU Vice Chancellor, Prof Nilofer Khan, reiterated her commitment to ensure that the university remains abuzz with activi-

ties whereby students, scholars and staff in their respective capacities, as well as teams, contribute to the education and awareness of the masses about the significance of participation by casting their votes in the elections.

"Our university is deeply

committed to encouraging a culture of democratic engagement and civic responsibility. Through various initiatives, we are trying to educate and empower individuals about the significance of their participation in the democratic process," Prof Khan said.

KU Registrar, Prof Naseer Iqbal emphasised the significance of organising events and programmes

for voter education and awareness for the masses in general and for the first time voters in particular. "Such activities invite attention, educate and empower youth, especially the first time voters, about their right to contribute in building a strong democracy



and to actively participate in the electoral festival," Prof Naseer said. He said the university remained flexible in terms of selection of programmes for better reception and wider reach. "Greater participation is the sign of a healthy democracy," Prof Naseer added.

SVEEP is the flagship programme of the Election Commission of India for

increase their awareness and promote their informed participation.

Meanwhile, a meeting was also conducted in this regard chaired by Vice Chancellor KU. The meeting was attended by Sapna Kotwal, Nodal Officer for Media in CEO Office and looking after SVEEP activities; Akhtar Qazi, Nodal Officer SVEEP, Registrar and Special Secretary.

Two Pharmaceutical distributors suspended from operating in Bijbehara

GMK NEWS NETWORK

ANANTNAG: An inspection drive led by Assistant Drug Controller Anantnag regarding the implementation of CCTV surveillance and computerized billing systems in medical establishments within tehsil Bijbehara led to suspension of two Pharmaceutical distributors.

During the inspection, a team of Drug Control Officers conducted thorough inspections of around 20 medical establishments in and around SDH Bijbehara. The focus of these inspections was to verify compliance with directives regarding the installation of CCTV cameras and adoption of computerized billing systems.

The results of the inspection were largely positive, with nearly all chemists having installed CCTV cameras and adopted computerized billing systems within their establishments. However, the operation of two wholesale firms, M/s Janisaar Enterprises Pharmaceutical Distributors Bijbehara and M/s New Iqbal Enterprises Pharmaceutical Distributors Bijbehara, was



temporarily suspended due to non-compliance with the computerized billing system and other unidentified violations.

Following the inspections, stringent directives were issued to all medical establishments in the region. They were instructed to strictly adhere to guidelines regarding the implementation of computerized billing system (CBS) and issuance of computerized cash memos. Additionally, retailers were advised to only accept invoices generated through

a computerized billing system from their distributors and suppliers.

The Assistant Drug Controller emphasized the importance of these measures in ensuring transparency and accountability within the pharmaceutical sector. Further actions are expected to be taken to ensure full compliance within the established guidelines, with focus on maintaining highest standards of quality and integrity in the distribution of pharmaceutical products within the region.

Literary Event enlightens students at GCW Gandhinagar

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: J&K Academy of Art, Culture & Languages (JKAACL), in collaboration with Punjabi Sahitak Sabha, R S Pura, on Monday organized a literary event- Punjabi Kavi Darbar here in the Seminar Hall of Padma Shri Padma Sachdev Government College for Women, Gandhi Nagar.

Legendary satire writer Dr. Monojit was the chief guest, while S. Ajeet Singh Mastana, a noted Punjabi Ghazal poet from Kashmir presided over the programme.

Prof. Dr. S P Saraswat, Prof. Dr. M K Mussa, S. Popinder Singh Paras, Editor Sheeraza Punjabi, JLAACL, S. Harjit Singh Uppal, President, Punjabi Sahitak Sabha, R S Pura and Dr. Anuradha Sharma, HoD, Punjabi, GCW, Gandhinagar shared the dais. The programme was attended by intellectuals, poets, Dr. Bindu Chib, HoD Hindi, select staff and students of the College.

Welcoming the guests and the poets, Dr. Prof. S



P Saraswat said that it's an appreciable step by JKAACL to organize such a literary event at Government College for Women, Gandhinagar, Jammu. He said that Punjabi culture is vast and inherent with great values appreciated across the globe.

A number of prominent, well-known and young poets presented their poetry in different genres of literary art.

The poets who presented their creations in the form of poetry included Harjit Singh Uppal, Ajit Singh Mastana, Jang S. Verma, Dr. Baljit Singh Raina, Davinder Singh Vishavnagrik, Bhupinder Singh Bhargav, Suraj Singh Suraj, Harbhajan Singh Upashak, Bachan

Bharti, Balkar Singh, Balwinder Singh Jammu, Suraj Prakash, Manjit Singh Kaamra, Saran star, Balwinder Singh Deep, Shamsheer Singh Chahalvi, J P Singh Azad and Dr. Rajvir Singh.

In his introductory discourse, S. Popinder Singh said that the Academy is organizing literary events of all the languages of the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir and accessing the youth through different modes of liking. He said that the Academy is also providing all facilities for the promotion of Punjabi language in the far flung areas of the valley and Jammu region.

In his presidential address, S. Ajeet Singh

Mastana appreciated the Cultural Academy and other organisers for hosting such events to promote regional languages including Punjabi. He emphasized on the need to preserve and promote the art, culture and languages of different societies of the region.

In his address, Dr. Monojit appreciated the poetry presented by the participating poets. He complimented the organizers for organizing this literary programme at GCW, Gandhinagar, Jammu.

The proceedings of the programme were conducted by Dr. Anuradha Sharma and the vote of thanks was presented by S. Harjit Singh Ppal, President, PSS, R S Pura.

GDC Khansahib organizes Voter Awareness Rally

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BUDGAM: Under the patronage of college Principal, Dr. Nargis Bano, a Voter Awareness rally was Monday organised by the Electoral Literacy Club and NSS unit of GDC Khansahib, here.

Prior to taking out the rally, SDM Khansahib, Tariq Ahmad Malik interacted with the students and highlighted the significance of voting for a healthy democracy.

The rally was taken out from the college campus and culminated at main market Khansahib.

Led by the NSS Programme Officer Dr. Sajad Padder and other faculty members, more than 100 NSS volunteers and students, including many first time voters, took part in the rally.

They pledged to vote in the forthcoming General Elections and also encourage others to do so.

Inter-school Zonal Level Sports activities thrive across G'bal

GMK NEWS NETWORK

GANDERBAL: Youth Services and Sports Ganderbal, in alignment with its annual calendar of activities, orchestrated a fervent display of sporting prowess Monday by hosting inter-school zonal level competitions across the district.

The main event was organized at the MM Stadium Ganderbal, where Zone Ganderbal saw a spirited showdown in the discipline of football among boys under-14 years of age.

The event witnessed a remarkable turnout of enthusiastic students, showcasing their skills and tenacity on the field. Amidst fierce competition, Vijay Memorial Educational Institute emerged triumphant thus solidifying their dominance in the sport.

Meanwhile, in Zone Hariganiwan, the sports fervor was palpable at BHSS Hariganiwan ground



where another intense football competition unfolded among boys under 14 years old. A total of 81 students from various schools participated, demonstrating their athletic prowess and sportsmanship.

In addition to the football showdowns, MS Batwina and MS Sehpura of Zone Tullamulla played host to a captivating display of athleticism, featuring jump rope and rope skipping

and Badminton events. Enthusiastic students from the schools enthusiastically participated, adding to the vibrant sports culture prevalent across the district.

These inter-school zonal level competitions not only serve as a platform for young talents to showcase their abilities but also foster a spirit of healthy competition and camaraderie among students.

LOK SABHA ELECTIONS

Training programme for Micro-Observers held in Shopian

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SHOPIAN: The District Election Office, Shopian Monday conducted a training programme for Micro-observers at Meeting Hall Mini-Secretariat, here to acquaint them with the know-how of election process in the district.

The Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Shopian, Dr. Nasir Ahmed Lone who chaired a session, emphasized upon Micro-Observers to perform their duties with utmost dedication so that the Lok Sabha elections are held in a free, fair and transparent manner.

He also stressed on the importance of adhering to the Election Commission of India's guidelines to ensure fair and transparent polling.

Master Trainers presented a detailed presentation regarding the role and responsibilities of Micro-observers in the upcoming phase of elections for Srinagar and Anantnag Parliamentary Constituencies.

GOVERNMENT OF UT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, MECHANICAL AND HOSPITAL DIVISION, SRINAGAR SHALTENG, SRINAGAR-190017 TELE-FAX NO: 0194-2496089, E-mail Id: Xenmhchdk@Yahoo.in

- Subject:- Comprehensive Maintenance Contract along with Operation of Generation Plants of Capacity 04 No. 1000 LPM & 01 No. 600 LPM Inmatec Make installed at Govt. SMHS Hospital Srinagar for the year 2024-25. Comprehensive Maintenance Contract along with Operation of Generation Plants of Capacity 01 No. 1500 LPM and 01 No. 1000 LPM PM Care L&T and 01 No. 500 LPM Oxybatec make installed at Govt. Chest Disease Hospital Srinagar for the year 2024-25. Comprehensive Maintenance Contract along with Operation of Generation Plants of Capacity 01 No. 1000 LPM and 625 LPM Inmatec make installed at Govt. Lalla Ded Hospital Srinagar for the year 2024-25. Comprehensive Maintenance Contract With Operation Generation Plants of capacity 01 No. 1000 LPM Inmatec make and 01 No. 500 LPM Maruti Suzuki installed at Govt. Super Speciality Hospital Srinagar for the year 2024-25. Comprehensive Maintenance Contract With Operation Generation Plants of capacity 01 No. 1000 LPM Inmatec Make installed at Govt. Kashmir Nursing Home Srinagar for the year 2024-25. Comprehensive Maintenance Contract With Operation Generation Plants of capacity 01 No. 750 LPM and 300 LPM Inmatec make installed at Govt. Bone & Joint Hospital Srinagar for the year 2024-25. Ref: NIT No: M&HDS/TS/2024-25/01/e-tendering, Dated: 19.04.2024

CORRIGENDUM

In view of representation(s) received from bidder(s) and in order to ensure wider participation, the following changes are made in Cover Ist of the above referred e-NIT

- 1.The bidder shall upload "Technical Support/ Spares parts certificate" from OEM's of INMATECH/OXYMAT as applicable, except plants installed under CSR/PM CARES 2.ESI/EPF/Labour Registration shall be produced by L1 bidder at the time of award of contract. 3.Service Schedule and Maintenance:Please read "If necessary and as per the joint inspection of site engineer and service engineer of firm based on recommendation of OEM" 4.Financial Turnover: Average Annual financial turnover of the bidder during the last three (03) years, ending March, 2024 shall not be less than 30% of the estimated cost against each Hospital duly certified by a registered Chartered Accountant with proper UDIN number for the issued certificate 5. Eligibility /Work Experience certificate: OEM or experienced firms with following documentary proof a. Profile the client lists in case OEM is participating in the tendering process or. b. Firms having experience in CMC of Oxygen Plants Govt./ Semi Govt. Hospitals at least 03 Plants past 07 years. The bidder also shall submit a documentary proof of having successfully executed the same work amounting to 80% of the estimated Cost in single contract or 50% of estimated cost in two contracts each or 40 % of the estimated cost in three contracts each in last seven years in any Govt./Semi Govt./Autonomous Institutions along with satisfactory performance certificate issued by a competent authority not below the rank of Executive Engineer shall be considered.

All other Terms and Conditions of the NIT shall remain the same. No: - M&HDS/TS/639-42 Dt:06.05.2024 DPK-366-24 Dt: 06/05/2024

Sd/- Executive Engineer Mechanical & Hospital Division Srinagar

Acharya Pramod Krishnam terms Farooq Abdullah 'deshbhakt'

IANS

NEW DELHI: Acharya Pramod Krishnam, former Congress leader and Kalki Dham Peethadhishwar, spoke to IANS on a host of issues including the Poonch terror attack and former Punjab Charanjit Singh Channi, calling it a BJP's stunt and also on NC leader Farooq Abdullah's 'pro-Pak' statement.

Pramod Krishnam said that Farooq Abdullah's 'Pakistan not wearing bangles' statement was unfortunate and deplorable and added that he must have refrained from making such 'casual' remarks.

Describing Farooq Abdullah as 'deshbhakt', Krishnam said that he has known him for long and added that he always stood up for national interests.

"It's probably the effect of his association with the anti-nationals that he has taken this line and is making unwarranted statements," Krishnam said further.



In reply to Defence Minister Rajnath Singh's remarks that 'PoK will be merged with India', the NC leader Farooq Abdullah had said on Sunday "Pakistan is not wearing bangles and it also has atom bombs that may fall on us."

Pramod Krishnam further said that many Congress leaders questioned Pulwama and Balakot strikes and insulted the martyrdom of jawans.

"In their hatred for PM Modi, they have gone haywire and it has now led to hatred against the nation," he told IANS.

Reacting to former

Punjab CM Charanjit Singh Channi's distasteful remarks on the Poonch terror strike, he said, "Not much can be expected from an eve-teaser."

"It's unfortunate that the Congress party had picked a person for the CM post, who was accused of abusing and molesting women IAS officers of his department. Today, he is insulting the martyrdom of our soldiers," Krishnam said, bristling over his remarks.

Notably, Charanjit Singh Channi had called the terror attack on the IAF convoy in Jammu &

Kashmir's Poonch, 'a pre-poll stunt by the BJP' for alleged political gains.

When questioned on Congress leader Shashi Tharoor's description of Jammu and Kashmir as 'India-administered Kashmir', in a foreign publication The Daily Star, he lashed out at Rahul Gandhi and said, "Whosoever remains in his company will be prompted to make such statements."

"It's fortunate that Tharoor hasn't written Kerala as India-administered Kerala," he said taking a caustic jibe at the senior Congress leader.

Bhatnagar addresses two-day Amrit Kaal Lecture Series at JU

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar Monday underscored the importance of drawing inspiration from India's rich legacy as a knowledge hub and global leader, emphasizing the need for a holistic approach in finding solutions.

Advisor Bhatnagar was speaking during the Amrit Kaal Lecture Series- 2024 under theme 'Dissolving Boundaries Evolving Education' at Brigadier Rajinder Singh Auditorium, University of Jammu.

The Advisor hoped that the lecture series would inspire forward-thinking and urged everyone to step out of their comfort zones.

Recognizing the pivotal role of teachers in shaping students' futures, he encouraged continued efforts towards positive change within oneself and the broader ecosystem.

Underscoring the shift towards knowledge- and technology-based society, Advisor Bhatnagar urged the audience to acknowledge India's abundant talent and heritage rather than constantly looking to the West.

Vice Chancellor University of Jammu, Prof. Umesh



Rai, in his address emphasized the importance of adopting a multidisciplinary approach in academia.

By encouraging students to explore diverse fields of study, he advocated for breaking down traditional boundaries that confine learning within rigid disciplinary lines.

A highlight of the event was the felicitation of Prof. Dinesh Singh, Vice Chairman of the Higher Education Council, J&K, and former Vice-Chancellor of University of Delhi.

Prof. Singh was honored with the prestigious "Bhartiya Pragya Bhushan Samman" in recognition of his exemplary contributions to the field of education. The citation was read by Prof. Anju Bhasin, Dean Academic Affairs, University of Jammu, and Formerly Vice Chancellor of Cluster

University of Jammu.

The keynote address was delivered by Padmashree Prof. Dinesh Singh, Vice Chairman, Higher Education Council, Government of Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory who captivated the audience with his enlightening discourse titled "From the Indus Valley Civilization to Srinivas Ramanujan: The Fascinating History of Indian Mathematics," shedding light on the rich heritage of Indian mathematics.

The Guest of Honour, Prof. Sudhish Pachauri, formerly Pro Vice-Chancellor of Delhi University, delivered an insightful address that enriched the gathering. Reflecting on the theme of the lecture series, he praised its uniqueness, emphasizing the multitude of boundaries present in India, ranging from religious and ego-driven boundaries to those in subjects and knowledge.

He discussed the similarities among different literatures such as Urdu, Hindi, English, and Sanskrit, suggesting that they share common elements.

Prof. Pichauri specifically addressed how language segmentation can create barriers between people and emphasized the need to break down these boundaries through a collective spirit of unity across various fields of study.

Former Pro Vice-Chancellor, DU, Prof. Sudhish Pachauri, Director ISTRAC, B. N. Ramakrishna, Director MMTTC, University of Jammu, Prof. S. K. Pandita, Co-chairperson, Campus Cultural Committee, Prof. Sarika Manhas among others also addressed the event on their respective topics.

CEO for intensifying SVEEP activities to achieve highest voter turnout

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BUDGAM: Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), J&K, Pandurang K Pole, Monday exhorted upon the officers for intensifying activities under Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) campaign encouraging enhanced electorate participation to achieve highest voter turnout in the district.

The CEO, while chairing a meeting held to review election arrangements being put in place during his extensive visit to Budgam, asked for ensuring high mobilization of people through ground level functionaries ensuring maximum participation of people in the Lok Sabha Polls.

The CEO chaired a review meeting to take stock of all election related preparations being made for smooth and successful conduct of general elections in the Srinagar and Baramulla Parliamentary Constituencies to be held on May 13 and May 20 respectively.

While reviewing overall arrangements he took stock of the status of creation of PwD, pink, green, youth and unique polling station facilities in differ-



ent assembly constituencies of the district. He had a detailed assessment of arrangements being put in place for the polling staff and designated deployment, home voting and expenditure monitoring.

While reviewing status of commissioning of EVMs and training of designated staff, the CEO emphasized comprehensive hands on training aimed at familiarizing the poll staff with the operation and maintenance of EVMs. He also asked the AROs to ensure proper uploading of data on EMS.

The CEO directed for wide publicity of election related activities including SVEEP awareness activities for encouragement of general public to vote and register highest voter turnout in the district.

District Election Officer (DEO), Budgam, Akshay Labroo, through a PowerPoint Presentation, presented the district profile and overall arrangements in place for free, fair and smooth conduct of elections in the district. He said that all ECI guidelines are being implemented in letter and spirit in the district and efforts are being made to ensure maximum participation of voters in the festival of democracy.

The DEO also briefed about the functioning of MCMC, deployment of SST, FST, VVT and teams, arrangements for senior citizens and PwDs voters in the district.

SSP Budgam, briefed about overall security arrangements being put in place for smooth conduct of elections in the district.

LOK SABHA ELECTIONS

GO B'la PC reviews election preparedness meeting at B'la

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BARAMULLA: General Observer for 1-Baramulla Parliamentary Constituency (PC), Deependra Singh Kushwah Monday chaired a comprehensive meeting of officers to review the preparations for the seamless conduct of Lok Sabha Elections 2024 to be held in 1-Baramulla PC on 20th of May.

The meeting was attended by the Expenditure Observer, 1-Baramulla PC, Sita Ram Meena; Police Observer, 1-Baramulla PC, Ravi Shankar Chhabhi; Returning Officer 1-Baramulla PC, Minga Sherpa; District Election Officer Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan; SSP Baramulla, Amod Nagpure; SSP Kupwara, SSP Bandipora, Security Officer and Nodal Officers from individual districts.

During the meeting, the General Observer was comprehensively briefed by the representatives of the individual districts encompassing 1-Baramulla Parliamentary Constituency regarding the various arrangements implemented by the administration to facilitate the smooth conduct of the electoral process.

The RO, 1-Baramulla PC, gave a detailed presentation about the implementation of Model Code of Conduct in the district Baramulla, AMFs at designated Polling



Stations, Specialized Training for the Polling Personnel, Material Management Plan, Secured Strong Rooms and Dispatch Centers, Route Plans and Vulnerability Mapping, installed FSTs, VST and MCMCs and other aspects for the conduct of Lok Sabha Elections 2024.

Similarly, the DEO Kupwara, in her presentation, provided detailed insights into the preparations done and measures taken at the district level to ensure smooth conduct of the elections.

Furthermore, Nodal Officers from Bandipora and Budgam districts briefed the meeting on the measures undertaken by the administration for the Lok Sabha Elections 2024.

The SSPs from all the districts of 1-Baramulla PC also provided presentations, apprising the chair about

the comprehensive security arrangements put in place by the police department for the peaceful conduct of the elections.

While taking first hand appraisal, General Observer expressed satisfaction with the arrangements made by both civil and police administrations for the elections and urged them to continue this coordinated approach throughout the election period to ensure flawless and efficient conduct of Lok Sabha Elections 2024.

The Expenditure Observer, Sita Ram Meena, instructed the concerned nodal officers of Expenditure Monitoring teams to maintain accurate expenditure records of the candidates and collaborate effectively to ensure a level playing field for the contesting candidates.

LOK SABHA ELECTIONS

RO Srinagar PC flags-off mega Voter Awareness Rally under SVEEP

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: In order to enhance public participation and anticipated Voter turnout in the upcoming General Elections to Lok Sabha-2024 in Srinagar Lok Sabha seat, a mega Voter Awareness Rally was organized by District Election Office Srinagar under Systematic Voter's Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) here on Monday.

The Voter Awareness Rally was flagged-off by the Returning Officer (RO) for 02-Srinagar Parliamentary Constituency, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat from Polo Ground which passed through Polo View, Residency Road, Regal Chowk, Ghanta Ghar and other major roads.

After flagging-off the Rally, the Returning Officer highlighted the importance of voting and said that the Awareness Rally is the part of the efforts of the District Election Authority to engage the community and promote active participation in the electoral process. He said the Awareness Rally is expected to have a significant impact on improving voter turnout, particularly in the areas that have witnessed low voter engagement.

The RO appealed to the Electorates particularly the New Voters and Women

Voters to participate in upcoming electoral process enthusiastically and exercise democratic rights by pressing the EVM button on May 13, 2024, the Poll Day for 02-Parliamentary Constituency.

He further underlined the initiative of the Election Commission of India (ECI) taken for providing Home Voting facility to the Elderly and Persons with Disabilities in the Lok Sabha Elections-2024. He said Voters above 85 years of age and Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) with 40% benchmark disability can avail the optional home voting facility on May 07, 08 and on May 09, 2024 in Srinagar.

Similarly, the RO also briefed about the Mobile Polling stations, Pink Polling Stations, PwDs Polling Stations, Green Polling Stations and Youth Polling Stations established in the Constituency to facilitate the voters on the Poll day and welcome them to experience a festive-like environment.

Deputy District Election Officer, Srinagar, Mir Imtiyaz ul Aziz; Nodal Officer SVEEP, A.H Fani; other Officers from District Election Authority, Information Department, School Education Department and a large number of students were part of the Election Awareness Rally.

RO Srinagar PC oversees commissioning of EVMs at Collection Centres

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Returning Officer (RO) 02-Srinagar Parliamentary Constituency (PC), Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat Sunday visited Strong rooms, Distribution and Collection centres established for the General Lok Sabha Elections-2024.

During the visit, the Returning Officer took stock of the commissioning of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) and had a detailed assessment of arrangements put up for the safety, surveillance and security of Election-related material and machinery kept at these centres for the Lok Sabha elections in 02-Srinagar PC.

While interacting with the concerned AROs and

other staff at Strong Rooms established at Amar Singh College and Government Degree College, the Returning Officer instructed them to ensure all safety measures and adherence to the guidelines of the Election Commission of India in letter and spirit for the protection of election-related material and machinery at these centres.

He also stressed on proper handling and management of the EVMs and other Election related material, besides ensuring efficient and secure mechanism for its storage.

Deputy District Election Officer, Srinagar, Mir Imtiyaz ul Aziz, concerned AROs and other Officers accompanied the DEO during his visit.

Apni Party Will Change J&K Scenario for Brighter Future: Altaf Bukhari

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Apni Party President Altaf Bukhari on Monday said that the Apni Party will change the scenario of Jammu and Kashmir for a brighter future.

He said that people have maintained peace and tranquility in J&K for four years, and "I am sure they will reap the economic and political advantages of this peace."

He made these comments while addressing a party public rally at Tral, in south Kashmir's Pulwama district, today. People, mostly from the Sikh community, thronged the rally and warmly welcomed Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari and his accompanying leaders upon their arrival at the venue. This event was part of the party's ongoing campaign for the Lok Sabha polls.

Addressing the gathering, Syed Mohammad Altaf



Bukhari applauded the role of the people in maintaining peace and tranquility in the valley for the past several years, especially after August 5, 2019.

He said, "The entire Jammu and Kashmir has suffered due to the long phase of violence here. We have seen deaths and bloodshed everywhere in Jammu and Kashmir during the past more than three decades,

but Tral is one of those places that suffered the most. However, I congratulate the people who contributed their efforts to peace and tranquility here during the past few years, especially after August 5, 2019. And, I am sure that people will reap the economic and political benefits of peace."

"Apni Party will change the scenario of Jammu and Kashmir for its brighter

future, as we are committed to ensuring political and economic empowerment of the people," he added.

Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari appealed to people to support and vote for Apni Party in the Lok Sabha polls. He said, "I request that you give the Apni Party a chance to serve you. We will not let you down, instead, our members will represent your sentiments in the parliament."

He urged people not to vote for the same party who have been deceiving them through their deceptive narratives and provocative slogans.

"In 2019, the traditional parties sought your votes promising that their elected members would protect Article 370 in Parliament. You trusted them and elected three members of one of these parties. Another party also had two members in the Rajya Sabha. Did they protect it? They didn't even bother to resign in protest of the abrogation of Article 370. Did these so-called representatives fetch any economic package for the people during their 5-year tenure? Did they even try to ensure the release of the jailed people? If not, then why should you vote for candidates from the same parties?" he asked.

He said that the Apni

Party is committed to striving for "permanent peace, enduring prosperity, and equal development in Jammu and Kashmir." He went on to say, "We will ensure peace with dignity, a brighter future for our youth, infrastructure development, and the creation of employment opportunities."

Addressing the rally, the party's Provincial President for Kashmir and the party candidate for the Lok Sabha polls in Srinagar, Mohammad Ashraf Mir, said, "Apni Party, if it gets the mandate, will ensure that all the rights guaranteed by the constitution of the country are restored to the people of Jammu and Kashmir as well." He added, "We will ensure there is no injustice to anyone. We will bring back the people who are in jail to their homes so that they can live normal lives with their families."

Good Morning Kashmir

EDITORIAL

Hail Hammad!

There is some good news. A Srinagar-based footballer has been shortlisted for the 26-man team of probable senior players to represent India. It is a proud achievement for the whole of Kashmir in general and for the football fraternity in particular.

The tall lanky footballer from central Kashmir is known for some of the meanest defending abilities in the football arena and was skipper of the Real Kashmir Football Club for about a year. Hammad is all set to be transferred to FC Goa next year after agreeing on a deal to sign with the Indian Super League club earlier in April. In total he represented Real Kashmir FC in 24 games and kept 12 clean sheets while allowing only 19 goals. Recognizing his defending skills which remind one of Italian defender Paolo Maldini who was also of similar build, Hammad was awarded Best Defender of the 2023-24 I-League season. Hammad had a long-cherished dream to represent team India in international football. Now that he is most likely to be roped in the squad for the all-important FIFA World Cup 2026 Preliminary Joint Qualification Round two matches against Kuwait and Qatar. Hammad has a compact technique, and great marksmanship qualities and is able to set up forward players on the counter as and when he senses the slightest opportunity. He is very much similar in technique and built to a former international football player from Kashmir Mehrajuddin Wadoo. Former international players Ishfaq Ahmad and Abdul Majeed Kakroo would be proud of his achievement.

On the domestic turf, Hammad has time and again inspired everyone with his defending abilities. He is a great defender and if everything falls in place, we might see him in national colors very soon. This will be an emblematic moment for every football lover in Kashmir. This success would be truly inspirational for the thousands of youth in Kashmir who would now want to take up football as a career in Kashmir. For an enthusiastic sports lover, there is no dearth of mentors in Kashmir. This would be incomplete without appreciating the efforts of Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha who spawned a culture of sports development in the entire union territory of Jammu and Kashmir. Kashmir Valley has changed a lot in the last five years. A lot of positive things are happening on the ground indeed.

Understanding Electrophysiology And Arrhythmia



DR T.S. KLER

Electrophysiology is a branch of cardiology that focuses on the electrical activity of the heart and its relationship with heart rhythm disorders, known as arrhythmias. Arrhythmias are abnormalities in the rhythm of the heart, which can manifest as irregular heartbeats or abnormal heart rates. These disturbances can range from harmless to life-threatening, and they affect millions of people worldwide.

What is Arrhythmia?

Arrhythmia refers to any irregularity in the heartbeat. Normally, the heart contracts and relaxes in a steady rhythm, pumping blood throughout the body. However, in individuals with arrhythmias, this rhythm is disrupted. Arrhythmias can occur when the electrical impulses that coordinate heartbeats are delayed, blocked, or travel along abnormal pathways. This disruption can lead to the heart beating too fast (tachycardia), too slow (bradycardia), or irregularly.

Symptoms of Arrhythmia:

Symptoms of arrhythmia can vary depending on the type and severity of the condition. Common symptoms include:

1. Palpitations (a feeling of fluttering or pounding in the chest)
2. Dizziness or lightheadedness
3. Fainting or near-fainting spells (syncope)
4. Shortness of breath
5. Chest pain or discomfort
6. Fatigue
7. Weakness

Types of Arrhythmia:

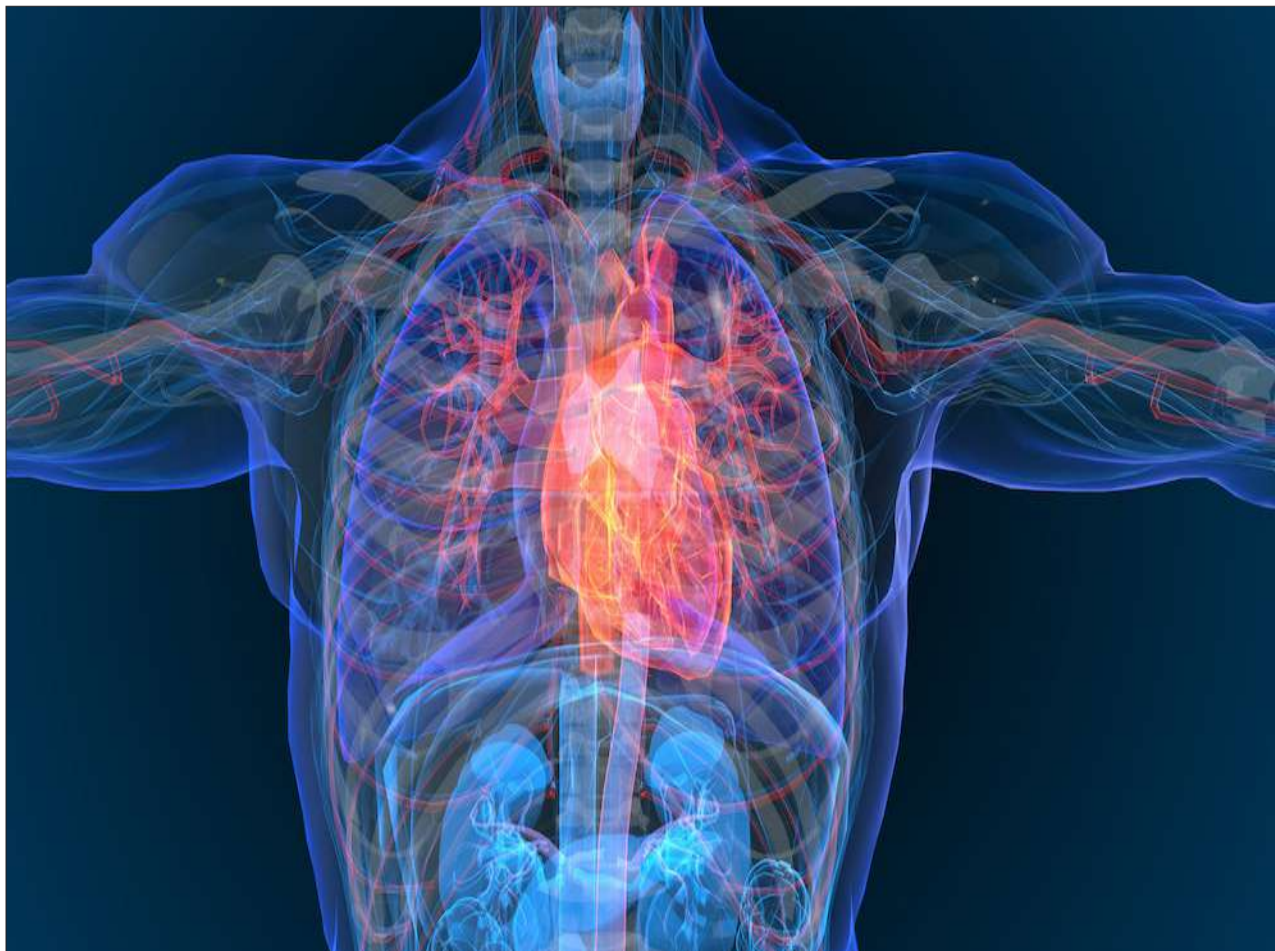
There are several types of arrhythmias, including:

Atrial Fibrillation (AFib): The most common type, characterized by rapid and irregular beating of the upper chambers of the heart (atria).

Bradycardia: When the heart beats too slowly, usually defined as a resting heart rate below 60 beats per minute.

Tachycardia: When the heart beats too quickly, often defined as a resting heart rate above 100 beats per minute.

Supraventricular Tachycardia (SVT):



Episodes of rapid heart rate originating above the ventricles.

Ventricular Tachycardia (VT): Rapid heart rate originating in the lower chambers of the heart (ventricles), which can be life-threatening.

Treatment of Arrhythmia:

Treatment for arrhythmias aims to restore normal heart rhythm, control symptoms, and prevent complications. Options include:

Medications: Antiarrhythmic drugs to regulate heart rhythm and rate.

Cardioversion: Electrical shock to restore normal heart rhythm.

Catheter Ablation: A procedure to destroy small areas of heart tissue that are causing the arrhythmia.

Implantable Devices: Pacemakers to regulate heart rate or implantable cardioverter-defibrillators (ICDs) to monitor and correct abnormal heart rhythms.

Lifestyle Changes: Quitting smoking, reducing alcohol and caffeine intake, managing stress, and maintaining a healthy diet and weight can help control

arrhythmias.

Age Groups Affected:

Arrhythmias can affect individuals of all ages, from infants to the elderly. However, the risk of developing arrhythmias increases with age, as structural changes and other heart conditions become more common. Certain types of arrhythmias, such as atrial fibrillation, are more prevalent in older adults.

Other Points to Consider:

1. Risk Factors: Factors that increase the risk of developing arrhythmias include high blood pressure, coronary artery disease, heart failure, diabetes, obesity, excessive alcohol or caffeine consumption, smoking, and certain medications or recreational drugs.

2. Complications: Untreated arrhythmias can lead to serious complications, including stroke, heart failure, and sudden cardiac arrest.

3. Diagnosis: Arrhythmias are diagnosed through a combination of

medical history, physical examination, and diagnostic tests such as electrocardiogram (ECG), Holter monitor, event recorder, echocardiogram, and electrophysiology studies.

4. Prevention: Adopting a heart-healthy lifestyle, managing underlying medical conditions, and following treatment recommendations can help prevent or minimize the occurrence of arrhythmias.

In conclusion, electrophysiology plays a crucial role in understanding and managing arrhythmias, which are common heart rhythm disorders with various causes, symptoms, types, and treatment options. Early detection, accurate diagnosis, and appropriate management are essential for improving outcomes and quality of life for individuals with arrhythmias.

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ADVANCING AIR QUALITY

Innovations And Regulatory Actions In Environmental Compliance

RAHUL TRAKROO

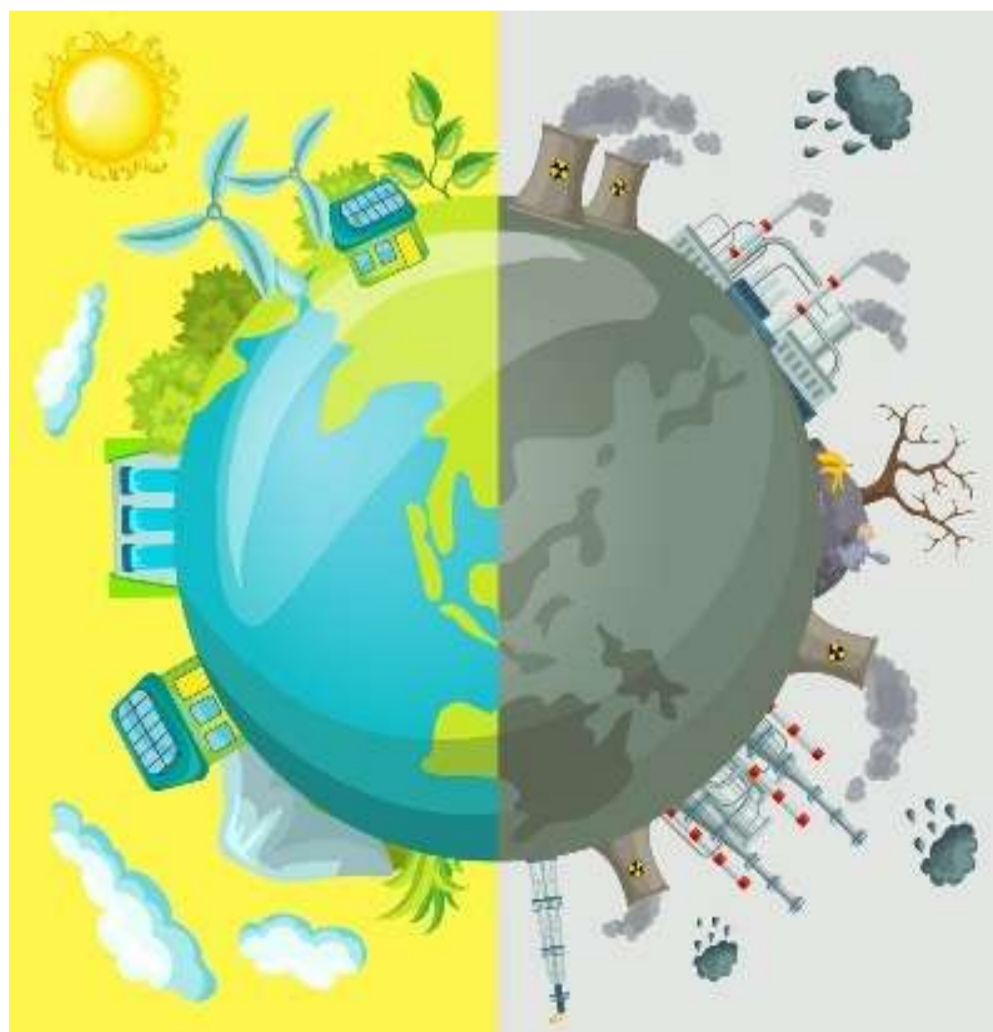
In India, the quest for reliable backup power has long relied on diesel generators (DG sets), which are crucial in ensuring uninterrupted electricity supply. However, alongside their utility comes a significant environmental challenge: the emission of pollutants such as Nitrogen Oxides (NOx), Carbon Monoxide (CO), and particulate matter, contributing to air pollution and its associated health risks.

India has implemented stringent regulatory measures under the National Green Tribunal and the Central Pollution Control Board to address this issue, supported by initiatives like the National Clean Air Program (NCAP). These initiatives aim to curb DG set emissions and improve air quality across the nation.

The NGT's Order 681/2018 mandates emission controls for DG sets, directing state pollution control

boards to integrate regulations into clean air action plans. Compliance options include retrofitting DG sets with emission control devices or transitioning to gas-based generators. The CPCB, on the other hand, plays a critical role in setting emission standards and certifying technologies to ensure environmental compliance and air quality improvement.

Innovative technologies such as Chakr Innovation's Retrofit Emission Control Device (RECD) offer promising solutions to address these challenges. Developed by graduates of IIT Delhi, Chakr Innovation's RECD significantly reduces particulate matter, carbon



monoxide, and hydrocarbons emitted by DG sets, thereby contributing to improved local air quality.

The adoption of CPCB-certified RECDs by industries and institutions in J&K underscores the importance of technological innovation in achieving compliance with emissions standards and fostering sus-

tainable development.

Technologies like RECDs are poised to play a crucial role in mitigating emissions from industries, ensuring sustainable development and a cleaner environment. By leveraging innovative solutions and strengthening regulatory frameworks, India can make significant strides towards

cleaner air and a greener future for all.

The convergence of regulatory actions, technological innovations, and market dynamics is reshaping efforts to combat diesel generator emissions and industrial pollution, ultimately fostering a healthier environment for present and future generations.

The CPCB, on the other hand, plays a critical role in setting emission standards and certifying technologies to ensure environmental compliance and air quality improvement.

Addressing air pollution challenges requires a comprehensive approach that integrates technological advancements with robust regulatory measures. Initiatives like Chakr Innovation's RECD exemplify the transformative impact of sustainable technologies in achieving air quality objectives and promoting environmental stewardship.

By prioritizing the adoption of clean technologies and strengthening enforcement of emissions standards, India can pave the way towards cleaner air and sustainable development, benefitting communities and beyond. The collective efforts of government, industries, and innovators will be instrumental in realizing this vision of a healthier and more sustainable future.

Author is Interested in worldly affairs

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History And Genesis Of Money Laundering Act In India

PRABHU RAZDAN

What is the history and genesis of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) in India? What was the basic purpose of this Act and why did its execution in terms of high-profile arrests hog the limelight for right or wrong reasons, its frequent amendments and judicial interventions? Let's discuss.

The Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002 came into force in India on July 1, 2005. At the global level, its objective was to counter serious threats not only to the financial system across the countries but also to their integrity and sovereignty. India too fulfilled the global obligation by enacting the legislation over two decades ago.

To obviate such threats, the international community took certain initiatives and they were:

The United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances was held to which India is a party, calling for the prevention of laundering of proceeds of drug crimes and other connected activities and confiscation of proceeds derived from such offence.

Establishment of a Financial Action Task Force at the summit of seven major industrial nations in 1989 which examined the problem of money laundering and 4) making forty recommendations including comprehensive legislation to combat this problem.

In order to achieve this objective, the Prevention of Money Laundering Bill was introduced in the Indian Parliament in 1998, after smooth passage in the Parliament, it received the assent of the President of India on January 17, 2003, and finally, the Act came into force from July 1, 2005.

The Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) has dwelt deeply on its basic fundamental principles—like what constitutes the offence of money-laundering, the power to arrest and survey, search and seizure, search of persons and punishment are some of the main sections explained below.

The offence of Money-laundering: Section 3 of PMLA, 2002 which deals with the offence of money laundering says that "Whosoever directly or indirectly attempts to indulge or knowingly assists or knowingly is a party or is actually involved in any process or activity connected with the



proceeds of crime including its concealment, possession, acquisition or use and projecting or claiming it as untainted property shall be guilty of the offence of money-laundering"

Power to Arrest: Section 19 of the PMLA, 2002 says, "If the Director, Deputy Director, Assistant Director or any other officer authorised by the Central Government has on the basis of material in his possession reason to believe (recorded in writing) that any person has been guilty of an offence punishable under this Act, he may arrest such person and shall, as soon as may be, inform him of the grounds for such arrest."

Power of Survey: As per Section 16 of the PMLA, 2002, "...where an authority, on the basis of material in his possession, has reason to believe that an offence under Section 3 has been committed, he may enter any place—within the limits of the area assigned to him."

Search and seizure: As per Section 17 of the PMLA, 2002, "where the Director or any other officer not below the rank of Deputy Director authorised by him for the purpose of this section, on the basis of the information in his possession, has reason to believe that any person—1) has committed any act which constitutes money-laundering

or 2) is in possession of any proceeds of crime involved in money-laundering or 3) is in possession of any records related to money-laundering or 4) is in possession of any property related to crime, then, he may authorise any officer subordinate to him to—1) enter and search any building, place, vessel, vehicle or aircraft where he has reason to suspect that such records or proceeds of crime are kept 2) break open the lock of any door, box, locker, safe, almirah etc where the keys are not available 3) seize any record or property found as a result of such search, 4) examine on oath any person, who is found to be in possession or control of any record or property, in respect of all matters relevant for the purpose of any investigation under this Act.

Search of Persons: As per Section 18 of PMLA, 2002, if an authority, authorised by the Central Government by general or special order, has reason to believe that any person has secreted any record or proceeds of crime which may be useful for relevant to any proceedings under this Act, he may search that person and seize such record or property which may be useful for or relevant to any proceedings under this Act

Punishment for Money Laundering: Section 4 of PMLA, 2002 deals with the punishment of the accused.

It says, "Whoever commits the offence of money-laundering shall be punishable with rigorous imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than three years but which may extend to seven years and shall also be liable to fine..."

The Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) has been a cornerstone legislation in India's fight against financial crimes. An array of legislative amendments in 2009, 2012, 2015, 2018, 2019 and 2023 since its enforcement in July 2005, reflect the country's hardening stance against illicit wealth.

- Global history of money laundering and Indian legislation:**
- **July 14 to July 16, 1989—Financial Action Task Force (FATF) established at the summit of seven major industrial nations, held in Paris to examine the problem of money laundering made 40 recommendations.**
 - **February 23, 1990—Political Declaration and Global Programme of Action, annexed to the resolution S-17/2 was adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations at its 17th special session.**
 - **June 8 to June 10, 1998—Political Declaration adopted by the special session of the United**

Nations General Assembly calls upon the member states to adopt national money laundering legislation and programme.

- **August 4, 1998—To achieve the objective of preventing money laundering, the Bill was introduced in the Parliament on August 4, 1998.**
- **March 4, 1999—The Bill was referred to the Standing Committee on Finance, which presented its report on March 4, 1999, to Lok Sabha.**
- **January 17, 2003—The Prevention of Money-Laundering Bill having been passed by both the Houses of Parliament received the assent of the President of India on January 17, 2003.**
- **July 1, 2005—It came on the Statute Book as The Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002, that came into force from July 1, 2005.**

As per Section 2(y) of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002, "Scheduled Offences" are classified under Part A, Part B and Part C of the schedule include offences under the Indian Penal Code, 1860, Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985, Explosive Substances Act, 1908, Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967, Arms Act, 1959, Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956, Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, Explosives Act, 1884, Antiquities and Arts Treasures Act, 1972, Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992, Customs Act, 1962, Bonded Labour Systems (Abolition) Act, 1976, Child Labour (Prohibition And Regulation) Act, 1986, Transplantation of Human Organs Act, 1994, Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000, Emigration Act, 1983, Passports Act, 1967, Foreigners Act, 1946, Copyright Act, 1957, Trademarks Act, 1999, Information Technology Act, 2000, Biological Diversity Act, 2002, Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act, 2001, Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, Suppression of Unlawful Acts against safety of Maritime Navigation and Fixed Platforms on Continental Shelf Act, 2002, Companies Act 2013, the Customs Act, 1962 and offence of Cross-border implications etc etc.

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Honoring Parents

Strengthening The Most Sacred Bond



IMRAN MAQBOOL WANI

Our lives are silently built by our parents, who provide the groundwork for perseverance, love, and knowledge. Their sacrifices provide witness to their unwavering dedication, and their counsel serves as a compass. We find comfort in their embrace and strength in their instruction. The greatest blessing in life is our parents, who always shine a graceful light on our road. The teachings of the Quran and the prohibitions of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) are adhered to by both religions. Islam emphasizes the importance of parents and the obligations that follow from their position on both sides. Islam is based on divine principles, hence there are different regulations for parents and children. We must treat our parents with the utmost civility, obedience, and respect even if we will never be able to repay the great amount we owe them.

The fact remains that our parents have always supported us, offering us care, education, direction, and financial and academic help. Regrettably, many individuals behave poorly toward their parents. For instance, teenagers frequently argue with their parents about nothing in particular, and other people would rather ignore them in favor of

their friends or the internet. However, it is crucial to remember that Islam prohibits treating parents badly and that Allah tells us to always treat them with the highest respect. The need to treat our parents with compassion and obedience, particularly as they age, is emphasized throughout both the Quran and Hadith.

Disrespecting our parents is one of the biggest crimes in Islam, and we must constantly treat them with respect and deference. Muslims are required by Islam to treat their parents with respect and loyalty. A parent's disregard is considered a serious transgression and will not be rewarded by Allah on the Day of Judgment. Those who disobey their parents will not be permitted to join Paradise, as Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W) warned. Muslims are expected to take care of their parents and to show them respect, politeness, and love. One of the most important forms of devotion in Islam is taking care of one's parents. A

companion who desired to fight in Jihad was once counseled by Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W.) to put his parent's duty before his own. This demonstrates why providing parents with the best care and respect possible is crucial, even above and beyond their religious obligations. Being respectful to parents entails attending to their needs and duties, making sure they are happy, and treating them properly. Muslims have to always express their gratitude to Allah for the benefits they receive from their parents. Respect for one's parents is said to lead to one's children honoring and following in their parents footsteps. Because Allah has promised that good acts would be rewarded with good, honoring and



being nice to parents is a way to worship Him and get blessings in this life as well as in the hereafter.

Parents are considered gifts from Allah, and one way to express your thanks to them is to treat them with respect. Remembering that our parents have contributed much to our lives and have played a significant role in it is vital. They have shown us how much they love, care, and concern us by always being there. To make sure we have the finest life possible, they have given up time, effort, and resources. It is our responsibility to show our parents love, support, and care as they get older and more reliant on us. To be a decent human being, no matter how old we are, requires us to respect

and value our parents. We must ensure their comfort and happiness and show our gratitude for their presence. Never forgetting that our parents gave us the gift of life and shaped who we are now is vital. As a result, we owe it to them to respect them and express our gratitude in whatever manner we can.

Islam highlights the divine duty of respect, loyalty, and care towards parents, underscoring the tremendous relevance of the parent-child bond. Ignoring your parents is seen as a grave sin that will not be atoned for in the hereafter. Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) demonstrated how important it is to appreciate parents by putting their welfare ahead of one's interests. To thank Allah for giving us parents

is to make sure they are happy and comfortable, to recognize the sacrifices they have made, and to nurture the relationship between them throughout their lives. In the end, respecting parents is not just a religious obligation but also a sign of compassion and appreciation for the priceless influence they have had on our lives.

The Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him and his family) said: "Every righteous child who casts a look of mercy and affection upon his parents shall be granted, for every look of his, rewards equivalent to that of an accepted Hajj." My parents have supported me no matter what throughout my life. Since the day I was born, they have loved me without condition and have supported me consistently, no matter what. Every want and requirement I had was met, and they made sure I would always be taken care of. They have built my life from their love and commitment to my welfare, for which I will always be thankful. All of my accomplishments now are a result of their perseverance and leadership. They have greatly influenced the development of the prosperous person I am today, from childhood to schooling and work. They have given me unselfish guidance at every turn, and my achievements are a result of their sacrifices and steadfast support. Their generosity towards me is immeasurable, and I will always be grateful. I will always adore them more than anything in this world as I value their support and affection. Thank you, Daddy and Mummy.

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Oral Health

Common Dental Myths You Should Stop Believing

Oral health needs adequate attention as it is linked with your overall health in several ways. Oral health is often referred as the mirror of the overall health of a person. There are many misconceptions related to oral health. Due to these misconceptions, many times people end up following wrong practices, ultimately landing up with oral health issues. Untreated oral issues can lead to severe complications in future. Here are some common misconceptions regarding oral health you need to know. These will help you improve your overall dental health.

Common dental misconception

1) Only sweets cause cavities
Anything sticky which stays in the mouth for a long time can cause an acidic environment in the mouth, causing cavities.

Preferably after a meal, you should at least gargle or rinse with plain water, so that the layer formed on the teeth can be removed.

2) White teeth are healthy
Definitely white teeth are healthy, but the impression that yellow teeth are unhealthy is wrong. Enamel shade and thickness can vary from person to person which can give off a different colour other than white. White teeth are healthy but yellow teeth are healthy too. If you feel teeth are too yellowish show it to your dentist.

Also read: Diabetes And Oral Health: Uncontrolled Blood Sugar Levels Can Lead To These Many Dental Issues

3) Brushing harder is better
The harder you brush, the more injury you are causing your teeth and your gums. Harder brushing causes abra-



sions that cause sensitivity. In fact, you should use a toothbrush with soft bristles and the brushing motion should be circular or vertical and not

horizontal.
4) Drinking fluoride water for healthy teeth
Drinking fluoride water is recommended. It helps in

strengthening teeth and re-mineralises the tooth enamel. But fluoride should be consumed in a limited quantity, for adults' it should be 1000 ppm per tooth-

paste, for children less than six years it should be less 500 parts per ppm in toothpaste. Excessive consumption of fluoride causes fluorosis.

5) Brushing suffices good oral health
In addition to brushing twice a day, cleaning your gums by flossing and cleaning your tongue with a tongue cleaner should be done. This is the bare minimum you should be doing for good oral health.

6) Removing wisdom teeth affects your eyesight, memory
Due to evolution in our eating habits, our jaws have become smaller hence there is not enough place in our mouth to accommodate all the teeth, so sometimes they come slanting and it causes problems to the adjacent teeth. If that is the case then it is recommended that you get it checked by your

dentist and get it removed and no it will not affect your memory or eyesight.

7) Bleeding gums is normal
Bleeding gums can be indicative of other underlying conditions such as nutritional deficiencies or diabetes and should not be ignored. Periodontitis which is a gum disease can lead to teeth mobility and loss of teeth. They are also related to heart diseases and can be avoided if proper oral hygiene is practiced.

Any missing teeth should be immediately replaced because even one tooth missing can harm the entire oral structure. Consumption of tobacco, smoking and alcohol usage should be reduced or stopped and if any changes in the insides of the mouth are noticed then a dentist should be immediately consulted.

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

Assembly Elections

in February 2019, in response to the Pulwama terror attack. Further strain occurred after India announced the withdrawal of special powers from Jammu and Kashmir on August 5, 2019, leading to the region's bifurcation into two union territories. India maintains its desire for normal neighborhood relations with Pakistan, while insisting that Islamabad must create a terror-free environment for such engagement.

2 Lakh First-Time

The party has faced a defeat once only so far in 2014 when Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) candidate Tariq Hameed Karra defeated his rival Dr Farooq Abdullah. However, the party didn't field its candidates in 1996 Lok Sabha elections and also supported an Independent candidate, S A Shamim in 1971. He was supported by "Mahaz Raishumari Front" headed by Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah. The constituency is expected to witness a tough competition in the upcoming polls while the prominent candidates including National Conference's Aga Syed Ruhulla Mehdi, PDP's Waheed-ur-Rehman Parra and Apni Party's Muhammad Ashraf Mir are vying for the seat. Returning Officer (RO), Srinagar Parliamentary Constituency, Dr Bilal Mohi-uddin told KNO the arrangements are being finalized, saying that the web casting and micro observers will be kept at all the polling stations.

He further stated that the voter awareness under the SVEEP campaign is in full swing and they are expecting a massive voter turnout in this election. "This time around, there is a great enthusiasm among the voters as laws passed in the parliament will be applicable on J&K as well," he said—(KNO)

Voters Enthusiastic

elsewhere in Jammu and Kashmir, the workers of mainstream political parties in the Srinagar are upbeat on casting their votes and to see their demands and issues being raised in the parliament in New Delhi. During a parliamentary poll campaign rally of National Conference in Srinagar constituency on which Aga Syed Ruhulla Mehdi is contesting, a political worker said that they have been waiting for the change since 2019, and they want their representatives to represent their aspirations in the parliament.

"There is no one who will listen to us, although we were expecting assembly elections, but that unfortunately did not happen. We want to vote for the change and this election is a preparation for the upcoming assembly elections," says a political worker.

Several others echo similar sentiments, stating that their desire for change and the need for their demands to be addressed on a national platform.

However, amidst this optimism, there's a palpable sense of frustration among residents too. Nazir Ahmad, a local worker of a political party, lamented the absence of a locally elected government, highlighting the challenges faced by people in having their concerns addressed by the bureaucracy, saying that they have been grappling with their day-to-day issues, stating that bureaucracy does not provide them space to be heard.

Another worker expressed optimism about the potential impact of the upcoming polls, citing past disappointments with previous MPs inability to effect substantial change in Jammu and Kashmir.

"Although I don't expect much from these polls, but still for a change if new age MPs are going to parliament, let us know what they will do there, however the fact is they can't do anything", he said.

Shabir Ahmad, echoing similar sentiments, questioned the purpose of electing representatives when decision-making authority still largely rests with New Delhi. Despite acknowledging the significance of the political developments post-August 5, 2019, Ahmad remains sceptical about the efficacy of the electoral process in bringing about meaningful change to the region.

"As long as New Delhi is holding the command and driving things here, what is the purpose of these MPs or MLAs? For me this is just a new ongoing chapter in Kashmir history", he said.

Political workers from different parties here in Srinagar say that the candidates should demonstrate a strong commitment to serving the interests of their constituents, prioritizing their welfare and development, with expectation that MPs will maintain regular communication, address local grievances, and advocate for regional issues effectively.

They also emphasize the integrity and accountability were fundamental traits expected from candidates seeking electoral mandates, demanding transparency in actions, ethical conduct, and a willingness to be held accountable for their decisions and performance in office.

Amid the rallies and campaigns in Srinagar, the voters expect that the candidates should articulate a clear vision for the socio-economic development of Jammu and Kashmir.

Meanwhile, amidst the electoral fervor, some residents have voiced concerns over the use of religious places for political purposes. Criticizing political parties for exploiting sacred sites for their gain, locals have called for restraint and respect for religious sentiments.

"We respect the democratic process, but using religious places for political rallies is unacceptable," remarked Dawood, a resident of Nowhatta Srinagar. "Our mosques and shrines hold deep significance for us, and they should not be turned into arenas for political campaigns," he said—(KNO)

J&K Bank mPay

customers, ensuring a more seamless and secure banking experience. The Bank's MD & CEO Baldev Prakash formally launched the new features on Saturday at the Bank's corporate headquarters. Executive Director Sudhir Gupta, General Managers, DGMs, and other senior officers were present at the event, along with Divisional Heads and Zonal Heads who joined via video conferencing from their respective locations.

Speaking on the occasion, MD & CEO highlighted the importance of innovation in customer service, stating, "It is another important milestone in our digital journey for which our teams deserve applause. Our goal is to innovate continually and improve our services to meet the evolving needs of our customers. The impactful feature like Scan & Pay is finally here and integrated seamlessly with the UPI platform. With these new features, we have made mobile banking even more accessible, convenient, and secure."

"Now, we need to popularize these features across our areas of operations so that more and more people become beneficiaries of our state-of-the-art digital offerings", he added.

Stressing upon the significance of customer feedback, Baldev Prakash said, "Feedback is vital in our pursuit of excellence. The customer survey feature allows us to understand our users' preferences and modify our services to align with their tastes accordingly. It's a win-win for both the Bank and our valued customers."

Earlier, General Manager Intiyaz Ahmad Bhat highlighted how the new features enhance customer convenience. He said, "The new features in the mPay Delight+ app underscore the Bank's commitment to customer-centric digital transformation, paving the way for more secure, efficient, and user-friendly mobile banking services. The latest updates to the mPay Delight+ app are designed to bring ease and efficiency in the functioning of our app for customers."

Making a brief presentation on the occasion, DGM Mohammad Muzaffar Wani gave an overview of the newly added features. He said, "We are excited to provide these value-added services, reinforcing our commitment to customer satisfaction. The newly introduced mPay Lite is a simplified version of mPay Delight+ that offers a basic menu with key functions such as funds transfer, mini-statements, PIN changes, and deposit/loan account inquiries. Customers can also manage beneficiaries through this version."

"Notably, the UPI Scan & Pay feature allows users to scan and pay using any

type of QR code. It also provides a hassle-free method for linking accounts with UPI, with no requirement for debit cards or Aadhaar OTP. Additionally, customers can send money to any virtual payment address (VPA) and review the status of past UPI transactions."

"Our added feature of Credit Card Management in mPAY Delight+ offer greater control and flexibility, while the customer survey gives us direct insights into how we can continue to meet customer expectations", he stated.

DGP Visits Family Of

accompanied by Additional Director General of Police, Jammu Zone Sh. Anand Jain, DIG U-R Range Sh. Rayees Mohammad Bhat, SSP Udhampur Sh. Joginder Singh, and other senior Police officers of District Udhampur. The DGP met the family members of the martyr and expressed his heartfelt condolences on behalf of J&K Police.

While interacting with the family of the martyr, he assured that the Jammu and Kashmir Police department stands united in solidarity with the bereaved family and shared their grief and sorrow, and further promised that every support would be provided to the family of the martyr. The DGP also handed over a cheque of amount Rs five lakh to the martyr's family.

Later in the afternoon, the DGP visited Police Station Basantgarh, where he reviewed the functioning of the police station and also inspected the crime records. While interacting with the jurisdictional police personnel, the DGP stressed the importance of adopting comprehensive counter measures to tackle terror crime incidents, adding that securing the lives of people is department's prime responsibility. He stressed the need to augment security in vulnerable places to prevent terror crime incidents. He directed the officers to further strengthen communication within the ranks and augment the security grids in their respective areas for the safety and security of the people. The DGP said that all suspicious elements providing any kind of support to terrorist activities should be kept under radar to foil their attempts. This should be backed with stringent action against all kinds of elements found involved in unlawful activities.

Security Forces

in Danna Top, Shahstar, Sheindra and Sanai Top areas of Poonch.

Top officers of police and army, including GOC 16 Corps and ADGP Jammu, also visited the site and took stock of the security arrangements yesterday. A group of 2-3 terrorists carried out the surprise attack on the IAF convoy near Shaistar Sanai in Surankote area on Saturday.

Officials said that anyone who will give any fruitful and reliable information about the whereabouts of these terrorists, leading to their arrest will be rewarded and their identity will be kept a secret. As per a lookout notice, people have asked to share inform on these numbers 9541051982, 8082294375, 9541051982, 8082294375—(KNO)

India One Of The

and collective pursuit of national goals and equal opportunities for people have ensured all-round development," the Lt Governor said.

He said the society today is more conscious to preserve and promote our priceless cultural heritage, traditional wisdom and knowledge.

Education sector is focused on promoting virtues of culture, humanity, spirituality and enhancing quality of life, the Lt Governor said.

Our values are guiding force of inclusive development. We have made commendable progress in social sector and also made impressive stride towards achieving the goal of equitable growth, he further added.

NC Faces Setback

high command to endorse Tshering Namgyal, the official Congress candidate for Ladakh. In defiance of this directive, they opted to step down from their positions within the party.

Akhon emphasized that the decision to support Namgyal contradicted the stance adopted by the Kargil Democratic Alliance, prompting the unit to align itself with Haji Hanifa Jaan as their preferred candidate.

Earlier, rift between the NC and Congress surfaced when the NC expressed its desire to nominate Haji Hanifa Jaan from the Kargil region, backed by the Kargil unit of Congress. However, disagreement brewed from the Leh unit of Congress, leading to Namgyal's nomination instead. The decision left NC pondering its next move in the electoral chessboard. Congress and NC had earlier announced a collaboration for the Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh elections. With Ladakh's seat designated to Congress, this move intensified the divide between the two parties—(KNO)

ECI Issues Show

wherein Mehbooba is purportedly seen involving a minor girl in her political campaign, soliciting votes for the PDP. The footage further allegedly captures PDP President encouraging the said minor post the conclusion of the public rally.

Khajuria, in the notice, has highlighted the Election Commission's guidelines explicitly prohibiting the utilization of minors in political campaigning by any political entity. Failure to provide a satisfactory response to the allegations could potentially lead to the initiation of legal proceedings, including the filing of an FIR against Mehbooba. Moreover, there is a looming prospect of imposing a ban on her campaigning activities in the ensuing days should she fail to adequately address the concerns raised by the Election Commission.

Both Mehbooba Mufti and the PDP have yet to issue a formal response to the allegations leveled against them by the Election Commission—(KNO)

J&K Admin Aims

with the Information Technology (IT) department for CSCs (Common Service Centers) where necessary.

He encouraged innovation at the district level, empowering Additional Commissioner Panchayat (ACP) and Block Development Officer (BDO) officials to explore innovative solutions tailored to local needs.

The project is likely going to benefit the student community who face immense difficulties in absence of adequate libraries.

Currently, the majority of the schools in Jammu and Kashmir are without libraries. Of the 18,723 schools across Jammu and Kashmir, around 9925 schools are without library facilities—(KNO)

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BJP will transform growth trajectory of Odisha: PM Modi



IAN S

NEW DELHI: Emphasising that his government remains committed to the vision of 'Developed Odisha - Developed India', Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday said that the people of Odisha see BJP as the "only party" that can fulfill their aspirations.

Addressing public rallies in Berhampur and Nabarangpur, PM Modi insisted that a vote for the BJP will transform the growth trajectory of the state, as has been seen in Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh and many other states.

"I went to Berhampur and Nabarangpur not to seek votes for BJP but to invite people for the oath-taking ceremony of

a BJP CM in Odisha in June. Odisha has given many years to BJD and Congress, yet the aspirations of people remained unfulfilled. Odisha is looking to the BJP with hope," PM Modi posted on X after addressing the two rallies.

In his address, Prime Minister Modi said that Odisha needs a "double-engine government" and the 'Sankalp Patra' of the state BJP unit focuses on the region's culture, tourism, and overall development.

"With BJD losing its sheen and Congress at a historic low, BJP is the only hope for the development of Odisha and India. Despite BJD-Congress ruling Odisha for 75 years it's health and educational infra along with its culture and traditions is at a historic low," he said in Ber-

hampur.

Slamming the Congress and BJD, PM Modi added: "In Odisha, the Congress party ruled for nearly 50 years, followed by 25 years of BJD government. But what happened? Odisha has water, fertile land, a treasure trove of minerals beneath the ground, a long coastline, and trade centers like Berhampur. It's a 'Silk City' and the food capital too. Here, there is history, heritage of culture as well. Every time I say what happened here despite such richness, the people of Odisha remained poor. The answer to this is the plunder by leaders of both Congress and then BJD."

He mentioned that it was the BJP government that proudly appointed a daughter born in Odisha - President Droupadi Murmu - to

the highest position in the country.

"When a BJP Chief Minister, rooted in Odia culture, leads Odisha, your issues will be promptly addressed. I have seen how the people of Odisha have transformed Surat. Therefore, I believe that the development of Odisha will continue," said PM Modi.

In his rallies, Prime Minister Modi also spoke on further harnessing the oceanic potential of Odisha by strengthening the coastal economy.

"Odisha has been a large beneficiary for the 'Sagarmala Yojana'. Now, the Odisha BJP has also resolved to bring Odisha among the top three tourism states in the country. This will provide new employment opportunities for the youth here," he said.

ED recovers over 19 kg gold from bank locker of cyber thug

IAN S

NEW DELHI: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has seized 19.5 kg of gold valued at Rs 14.04 crore from the locker of a cyber fraudster maintained in the name of his mother with the Ballabgarh branch of Indian Bank in Haryana's Faridabad on May 3, said an official on Monday.

The financial probe agency said the fraudster, identified as Punit Kumar a.k.a. Puneet Maheshwari, a resident of Moti Nagar in the national capital, was arrested on April 3 from the Arrival Hall, Terminal-3 of IGI Airport.

"He was produced before the Delhi PMLA Court on the same day and granted ED custody for 12 days and is presently under judicial custody," said the senior ED official.

The seizure follows specific intelligence indicating that Punit Kumar has hidden the proceeds of cybercrimes in the form of gold in a locker held at Indian Bank under his mother's name.

Additionally, previous searches conducted under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002, at 14 locations in February and March 2024 resulted in the confiscation of various assets.

These include foreign-made gold bars totalling eight kg valued at Rs 5.04 crore found at Punit Kumar's premises, cash amounting to Rs 75 lakh, jewellery, high-end luxury watches, luxury vehicles

like Mercedes, Audi, and Kia, along with incriminating documents and electronic devices containing evidence.

These actions are part of a money laundering scheme involving foreign-based online gaming companies exploiting Indian residents.

According to ED sources, Punit Kumar, Ashish Kakkar, who was arrested on March 2, Keshav Sood, a resident of Anand Nik-

incriminating documents, forged/fake IDs like Aadhaar and PAN cards, digital devices for online transactions in foreign banks, laptops, computer hard disks, and pen drives containing electronic records related to numerous Foreign Outward Remittances. They also found stamps from numerous Indian and foreign registered firms, as well as blank letterheads from several such Indian and foreign firms.

gaming violates FEMA provisions.

Kakkar and his associates allegedly devised a distinctive modus operandi involving the creation of dummy firms using forged or fabricated documents. They then used these firms for import/export activities in Special Economic Zones and outward foreign remittances against these imports to evade FEMA restrictions. The same forged documents were



etan, Chanakyapuri, and Shiv Dargar, who resides in Saket and others have facilitated outward remittances derived from cybercrimes.

The ED alleged that the accused engaged in hawala transactions to various destinations worldwide, including the UAE, Singapore, Hong Kong, China, Malaysia, Mauritius, and Thailand, among others.

During searches at Kakkar's properties on May 22 and 23, last year, conducted under the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA), the ED recovered and seized a significant number of

The ED sources further said that Kakkar established and operated multiple shell trading firms/bogus companies across India and abroad, primarily in China, Singapore, Hong Kong, and Dubai. These firms were registered in the names of various employees or hired individuals using fabricated or forged documents. They were utilised for collecting, routing, and outwardly remitting the proceeds of crime from online gaming activities conducted by foreign registered gaming websites.

It's worth noting that sending proceeds of crime out of India from online

also used in the operations of bank accounts opened under the names of dummy companies/firms.

Sources claim that using this modus operandi, the alleged individuals operated 188 bank accounts for 167 domestic firms/companies and 110 bank accounts for 105 foreign firms/companies. Among the foreign companies, 46 were based in China, 30 in Singapore, 18 in Hong Kong, seven in the UAE, two in Malaysia, one in Thailand, and one in Mauritius. The accused allegedly retained blank chequebooks of the dummy firms/companies after obtaining or forging signatures on blank leaves.

EXCISE POLICY SCAM

Delhi court denies regular bail to BRS leader K. Kavitha

IAN S

NEW DELHI: A Delhi court on Monday denied regular bail to Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) leader K. Kavitha in connection with the money laundering cases being probed by CBI and ED related to the alleged excise policy scam.

Currently, Kavitha, the daughter of BRS supreme and former Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrabab Naidu, is in judicial custody till May 7.

Special Judge Kaveri Baweja of Rouse Avenue Court pronounced the order on her pleas.

Kavitha was first arrested by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) and later by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on April 11 while she was in Tihar Jail.

Judge Baweja had then sent her to CBI's custody noting that a "detailed and sustained interrogation" of the accused is necessary.

Now, she is in judicial custody in the case being probed by both the agencies. In her application, Kavitha has alleged that her arrest was politically motivated, aimed at depriving her and her party of a level playing field in the upcoming general elections.

She has asserted that her arrest by the CBI, just days before the commencement of the nomination exercise in Telangana, was orchestrated by the ruling party at the Centre to impede her election campaigning.

She has maintained that she has no connection to the Delhi excise policy and that the ruling party is using investigative agencies to tarnish her image and that of her father.

"The political masterminds are well aware that if the petitioner can be connected to the alleged scam, it will bring her, and by logical implication, her father, the erstwhile Hon'ble Chief Minister of Telangana, into disrepute," she has said.

"The ruling party in the Centre is using investigative agencies to publicly connect the petitioner to the Delhi excise policy so that further coercive actions can be taken against her," her application stated.

Moreover, Kavitha has cited her medical condition, hypertension, as a reason for bail, stressing the need for medical care after her arrest by the ED. She has contended that the CBI is relying solely on the statements of approvers or their associates as part of a larger conspiracy against her.

Telangana collecting 'Rahul Revanth' tax: HM

IAN S

HYDERABAD: Union Home Minister Amit Shah alleged that the Congress government in Telangana is collecting 'Rahul Revanth' tax to fund the party's election campaign in the country.

Addressing a public meeting of BJP at Secunderabad here, he accused Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy of turning Telangana into an ATM of the Congress.

HM Shah said the people of Telangana were losing their money in 'RR' tax.

"Elect our two candidates, we will take care to see that this ATM runs out of cash," the Home Minister said while appealing to the people to vote for BJP candidates for Malkajgiri Lok Sabha seat and Secunderabad Cantonment Assembly seat (bye-election).

Earlier, HM Amit Shah said in Nizamabad that daily, hundreds of crores were being sent from Telangana to 'Delhi darbar'.

HM Amit Shah also referred to the case booked against him by Hyderabad police for violating a Model Code of Conduct by involving children at a recent election rally.



"Revanth Reddy recently became the chief minister. Recently, he registered a case, but I will not cry like Revanth Reddy. I will go to the High Court to get it quashed," the former BJP president said.

The Union Minister leader told Revanth Reddy that the central leadership at whose direction he is doing corruption will use and dump him.

HM Amit Shah also referred to the case booked against Revanth Reddy by Delhi Police for editing his video and circulating it.

Addressing an election rally in Nizamabad, HM Amit Shah said that his video was tampered with to create a fake video.

"Revanth Reddy is saying

Delhi Police are after him. What will happen if you make a fake video?" the Home Minister asked.

Reiterating that reservation given to Muslims is unconstitutional, HM Amit Shah said that when the BJP comes to power in Telangana, it will scrap it.

He alleged that Congress is spreading lies that if the BJP comes to power again it will take away the reservation for SCs, STs and OBCs.

"We have had a majority for the last 10 years, but we have not scrapped the reservation," he said.

HM Amit Shah also alleged that "Congress, BRS and Majlis were resorting to Muslim appeasement".

He said restrictions were being imposed on the Ram Navami procession.

The Home Minister slammed Congress leaders for not attending Pran Pratishtha ceremony of Ram Mandir, saying they were scared of vote bank.

He remarked that the vote bank of Congress and AIMIM leader Asaduddin Owaisi is the same.

"They don't allow celebration of Hyderabad Liberation Day. They oppose CAA and UCC," the Union Minister said.

HM Amit Shah also said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led government eliminated terrorism and Left Wing Extremism.

"Left Wing Extremism has ended in all the states. It is still there in a small part of Chhattisgarh. Make Narendra Modi ji the Prime Minister for the third time, BJP will wipe it out from the entire India," HM Amit Shah said.

Telangana unit BJP president and Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy, BJP MP K. Laxman, BJP candidate from Malkajgiri Eatala Rajender, candidate from Secunderabad Cantonment Assembly seat Vamsa Tilak were present at the public meeting in Secunderabad.

Vice Chancellors slam Rahul Gandhi, seek action for 'resorting to falsehood'

IAN S

NEW DELHI: Leading Vice Chancellors and academicians have written an open letter opposing Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's remarks on the selection process of University heads and seeking action for 'resorting to falsehood'.

"It has come to our notice from tweet and open sources of Rahul Gandhi, Congress Leader, that appointment of Vice Chancellors is made solely on the basis of affiliation with some organisation rather than on the basis of merit and qualification thereby questioning the merit of the process through which the Vice Chancellors are appointed. We categorically and unequivocally discard such claims," read the letter which had 181 signatories from across the country.

The letter stated that the process by which Vice Chancellors are selected is characterised by stringent, transparent rigorous procedure grounded on values of meritocracy, scholarly distinction and integrity.

"The array of academic disciplines and professional experiences represented amongst us stands as evidence of the unbiased and inclusive nature of the selection procedure. It reflects our dedication to cultivating an atmosphere that values and promotes diversity, encourages independent thinking, and supports scholastic achievement," it read.

"We strongly urge all individuals involved to exercise discernment in distinguishing fact from fiction, to abstain from spreading unfounded rumours, and to participate in dialogue that is well-informed, constructive, and supportive of our shared goal of creating a dynamic and inclusive educational environment," they urged through the letter.

The letter further stated that the universities in India have undergone significant transition as evidenced by an ascent in global rankings, prominent accreditations, world-class research and innovations, curriculum facelift narrowing the industry-academia gap and higher placement prospects reaffirming their commitment to academic quality and societal relevance.

"With utmost conviction, the Vice Chancellors of prestigious Universities nationwide and Academic Leaders, address and refute the baseless allegations that have recently been circulated concerning the selection process," it read.

Financial regulator finds 'illegal' stock short selling at 5 more global banks

IAN S

SEOUL: South Korea's financial regulator said on Monday that it has found suspected cases of naked stock short selling at five more global investment banks (IBs), bringing the total to nine out of the 14 largest global IBs in the country.

The additional cases come after the Financial Supervisory Service (FSS) reported in January that it has detected suspected illegal stock short-selling activities at two global IBs, reports Yonhap news agency.



The FSS has been conducting an inspection on all 14 global IBs here since it exposed two IBs suspected of placing naked stock short-selling orders worth 55.6 billion won (\$40.3 million) in 2021-2022.

The financial regulator, together with the Financial Services Commission, had since imposed a temporary ban on stock short selling, currently set to expire at the end of next month. The FSS said that it has

"completed imposing fines (26.5 billion won) on the first two companies that engaged in illegal stock short selling, worth 55.6 billion won, and referred them to the prosecution."

"While conducting an inspection of all (global IBs), it has exposed illegal short selling by seven additional companies, worth 155.6 billion won," it added.

The inspection on the other five global IBs is still underway, according to the FSS. The financial regulator said it will swiftly take punitive measures once the naked stock short selling allegations are confirmed.

FSSAI terms reports of allowing 10x more MRL in herbs, spices 'baseless'

IAN S

NEW DELHI: The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) on Sunday denied reports in a section of media, claiming that it permitted higher pesticide residues in herbs and spices.

In a press statement, the FSSAI called the reports "false and malicious" and emphasised that India has one of the most stringent Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) standards in the world.

It also mentioned that the MRLs of pesticides are established differently for various

food commodities based on their risk assessments.

The Centre's clarifi-

residues of pesticide ethylene oxide in their samples.

Pesticide regulation in



cation comes after the Hong Kong food regulator banned particular spice blends from two prominent Indian brands - MDH and Everest, due to reported

India is managed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, through the Central Insecticide Board and Registration Committee.

This organisation was established under the Insecticide Act of 1968 to supervise the manufacturing, import, transportation, and storage of pesticides, as well as their registration, banning, or restriction.

The FSSAI's Scientific Panel on Pesticides Residues works closely with the Committee and conducts comprehensive risk assessments on data to recommend appropriate MRLs. The Committee has registered more than 295 pesticides to date, of which 139 are specifically approved for use in spices.

LOK SABHA ELECTIONS

CEO flags off mega bicycle SVEEP rally in Budgam

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BUDGAM: Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), J&K, Pandurang K Pole Monday flagged off a mega bicycle rally under SVEEP at Sports Stadium Budgam.

District Election Officer (DEO), Budgam, Akshay Labroo and SSP Budgam, Nikhil Borkar were also present on the occasion.

The rally participated by hundreds of school going children raised awareness on right to exercise franchise.

The participants carried ply cards pasted on their backs, and loud speakers mounted vehicles generated awareness on importance of voting.

The rally passed through main road Budgam and culminated a Mirgund Chowk.

Later, CEO also chaired a SVEEP programme at Sheikh-Ul-Alam Degree



College Budgam.

Speaking on the occasion, Pandurang K Pole highlighted the importance of voting and said that

every vote matters and it is a finger on the EVM which decides the future.

The CEO urged young voters to ensure their par-

ticipation in elections for strengthening of democracy and exercise their right to franchise during the ensuing elections.

Pandurang K Pole called for encouragement of other eligible voters and ensure every voter casts his/ her vote during elections.

Earlier, CEO also launched a plantation drive under SVEEP at the college.

DEO Budgam, while speaking on the occasion, said that youth participation in election is important for democratic strengthening.

Various students and renowned artists performed during the SVEEP programme for awareness generation on importance of voting.

SSP Budgam, Nikhil Borkar, CEO, Principal SAM GDC were also present on the occasion.

All is not well in GMC Doda: Principal transferred prematurely

KNO CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU: All is not well in Government Medical College (GMC) Doda where the incumbent Principal Dr. Puja Vimesh has been transferred after she expressed her unwillingness to work in the institution.

The decision to appoint a new principal is expected to be taken soon and the name of professor in community medicine of GMC Jammu is doing the rounds.

Sources said that that few officials of GMC Doda were not allowing Dr. Puja Vimesh to work and her decisions weren't being implemented on the ground.

Dr. Puja Vimesh was appointed as Principal GMC Doda in January 2023 and she joined on Febru-



ary 1, 2023 for the period of five years but she was transferred prematurely.

"There were people who were sabotaging her work in the college which irked her. She had to shuttle between Jammu and Doda because of her work in super specialty hospital

Jammu and discharging her duty as Principal GMC Doda. When she wasn't in the college at Doda, things were made more complex," said a source.

Due to the unfavourable atmosphere and pressure being mounted on her, Dr. Puja Vimesh was taken

to GMC Jammu after she fainted in Doda and she regained consciousness in GMC Jammu. "Since then she hasn't visited GMC Doda as she had taken sick leave after suffering health issues," the source added.

Now, she has been transferred and the purpose of those who were working against her in GMC Doda has been served.

GMC Doda is one of the five new medical colleges established by the Government of India in 2014 during Ghulam Nabi Azad's tenure as union health minister. The GMC is already facing a tough time as not many expert doctors are willing to work in this college due to many reasons and the transfer of Dr. Puja Vimesh will further aggravate the situation and will make it murkier—(KNO)

DIPR organises symposium on 'Uses, Abuses of Social Media'

GMK NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Cultural Unit, Department of Information and Public Relations, Jammu Monday organised a Symposium on the topic "Uses and Abuses of Social Media" at Government Girls High School Birpur Samba.

Ten students of the school participated in the competition organized to encourage the students to express their views and experiences about the uses and abuses of Social Media.

The speakers presented insightful views on the topic by citing examples to support their perspective. Another attraction of the event was a theme based colorful Cultural programme

presented by the students.

Students were judged on parameters of Pronunciation, Modulation of Voice, Factual Representation, confidence etc. Pammi, Rekha Rani and Suksham were the Judges for the day. Jasvinder Kour hosted the event.

The First Position was bagged by Hiya Jamwal and Gunjan Chark, Second Position secured by Bhumika and third Position secured by Shagun.

Speaking on the occasion, Headmaster of the School, Neeru Bangotra educated the students regarding the topic and lauded the Department of Information & Public Relations for organising the event in the school.

Election Training for POs, P1 staff held in Bandipora

GMK NEWS NETWORK

BANDIPORA: The District Election Office Bandipora Monday organised a training programme for employees of various departments who have been assigned duties as POs and P1 for the upcoming Lok Sabha Polls to be held on 20th May in District Bandipora.

The training programme was organised at Mini Secretariat Bandipora for the employees posted in Bandipora, besides for the employees posted in Sumbal and Gurez, the training programmes were held in their respective sub-divisions.

The training programme was aimed to equip the employees with necessary knowledge and skills to efficiently manage the polling stations and to conduct the electoral process effectively during the upcoming Lok Sabha Elections 2024.

On the occasion, hands-on training was also imparted to participants in order to ensure effective EVM management.

The training was imparted by Master Trainer, Mohammad Iqbal Samoon (Lecturer) and Sajad Ahmad Bhat (Lecturer), besides other concerned officials were also present.

Maxi Cab Drivers Overcharging Tourists To Face Legal Action: Div Com

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Taking serious note of complaints by tourists regarding menace of overcharging by Taxi & Maxi Cab drivers, the Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri Monday admonished those vehicle owners involved in illegal and unethical practice of fleecing tourists by charging exorbitant rates.

While advising them to charge tourists as per the notified rates only, he stressed on adopting tourist friendly behaviour to promote tourism which provides livelihood to lakhs of people.

Chairing a meeting in this regard, the Div Com directed authorities and police to de-register those vehicles whose drivers are found indulging in unethical practice and penalize them.

He said tourists are our guests, and service providers have a responsibility to foster hospitality.

He also directed con-



cerned departments to take action against those who force tourists to switch vehicles while enroute to destinations causing inconvenience to them.

Div Com reiterated that all vehicles have been given access permission to Srinagar Airport so they can directly ferry tourists to tourist spots.

He directed the Tourism Department to publish notified rates on their website and install hoardings at all the prime locations.

The meeting was attended by DC Anantnag; DC Ganderbal; ADC, Baramulla; CEOs of Gulmarg, Sonmarg and Pahalgam Development Authorities, RTO Kashmir, besides SSPs of all three districts, SSP Traffic Rural and Officers of Tourism Department.

Srinagar Smart City projects nearing completion, will be over in 45 days: CEO



REHAN QAYOUM MIR

SRINAGAR: Smart City projects in Srinagar are nearing completion, with locals requesting the authorities to speed up the pace of work.

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Srinagar Smart City Limited (SSCL), Dr Owais Ahmed, during a visit to the Karan Nagar area, said all ongoing projects under SSCL will be wrapped up within the next 45 days.

An official from Srinagar Smart City Limited, said the completion of underground work will be followed by macadamisation process. "All the projects of Smart City are progressing at a good pace and if the weather remains favourable, the entire work will be finished on time," he said.

"The projects, undertaken in double shifts, are

nearing their final stages and are set to bring much-needed relief to motorists and pedestrians alike," he said.

Local residents expressed optimism about the improvements. "The Karan Nagar to Kak Sarai road has been a nightmare for commuters, especially during rainfall," said a resident. "We are hopeful that the completion of these projects will ease our daily travails and alleviate traffic congestion," he added.

Meanwhile, on May 04, Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo embarked on a whirlwind tour of Srinagar to personally assess the progress of Smart City initiatives. Accompanied by key officials, Dulloo inspected various project sites, including the development of pedestrian walkways, cycle tracks, and beautification efforts along the iconic Dal Lakefront—(KNO)

Khyber Industries Backs Downtown Heroes FC as Title Sponsor

GMK NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Khyber Industries, a renowned name in the cement industry, declares its association with Downtown Heroes FC as the title sponsor for the upcoming football season. Downtown Heroes Football Club is an Indian professional football club based in Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir and The Football Club enjoys the privilege of being Champions of Srinagar Premier League 2023-24. This collaboration marks a significant stride towards encouraging local football talent and facilitating their growth both nationally and internationally.

"We are thrilled to partner with Downtown Heroes FC as the title sponsor for the upcoming football season," said Mr. Umar Trambo, Director Corporate & Strategy at Khyber Industries. "At Khyber Industries, we believe in



supporting initiatives that encourage development and community involvement. Our partnership with Downtown Heroes FC aligns perfectly with these ideals, and we're excited for a great season together."

The official signing ceremony, held at the Corporate office of Khyber Industries, marked the commencement of the partnership where the unveiling of the team's new jersey also took place. Mr. Manzoor Ahmad

Mir, Head of Commercial for Legal & Regulatory Affairs, sealed the deal between the two organizations. This occasion marks a new chapter in the history of Kashmiri football, with Khyber Cements leading the charge in supporting local talent.

With Khyber Industries as the title sponsor, Downtown Heroes FC aims to provide support to young athletes, enabling them to shine on the pitch and

beyond across the state of Jammu & Kashmir.

Mr. Irfan Shahmiri, Chairman of Downtown Heroes FC, extended his sincere congratulations to Khyber Cements for their sponsorship. He also highlighted the significance of such partnerships in creating a nurturing environment for aspiring footballers and providing them with the opportunities they merit. Mr. Mushtaq Bashir, founder of the club, was amongst one of the signatories present at the official signing ceremony.

The collaboration between Khyber Industries and Downtown Heroes FC emphasizes a shared vision to uplift football as a sport and develop a path for the next generation of athletes. The upcoming football season holds the promise of a thrilling journey, filled with opportunities for growth and accomplishment.

Jal Shakti dept digs up NH Ganderbal without permission

AGENCIES

GANDERBAL: The Jal Shakti department dug out a macadamised road at Beehama in Ganderbal without obtaining permission from the concerned department, causing inconvenience to people.

Locals said that that National Highway was macadamised last year by the R&B Department Ganderbal division but Jal Shakti department's action damaged it causing massive gridlock on the road.

They said that the Jal Shakti department should have cleared it within days but ten days have passed but the road is yet to be cleared.

AEE Jal Shakti department Ganderbal said he will resolve it within days.



Executive Engineer R&B division Ganderbal Tatheer Manzoor said that the Jal Shakti department damaged the National Highway without their permission. "We appealed to Jal Shakti not to dig roads with our proper permission in the future," he said. "We are trying our best that the road shouldn't get damaged and if anywhere it would have happened. We are going to rectify it," he said—(KNO)

Water bodies turning into dumping sites in Tral, local demand action

JAHANGEER GANAIE

PULWAMA: Almost all the water bodies in Tral Sub division of South Kashmir's Pulwama district have turned into the dumping sites while the authorities are unmoved, thereby leaving the locals especially the farmers to lurch at large.

Locals from the different areas of Tral informed that the water bodies have been dying due to uncivilized behaviour of the public and inaction of the authorities.

They said that these water bodies have been encroached since long besides that all dirt is being thrown into these water bodies putting their existence in dark

Basharat Ahmad, a social activist from Tral said that water canals passing through the villages have turned into dumping sites as heaps of polythene, plastic bottles and other dirt can be seen piled up.

He said that no measures are being taken in this regard to preserve the water bodies.

Junaid Ahmad, another local resident said non priority works are being taken up by the government while water bodies on which we are fully dependent are being neglected.

He said that these water bodies are shrinking with each passing day and there is immediate need of a restoration of these water bodies.



Locals claimed that they had informed concerned authorities several times but they failed to do anything substantial in this regard.

The heaps of garbage and stagnant water pose

a threat of communicable disease, said Javid Ahmad, another resident.

Farmers said that paddy sapling plantation season is about to start but these water bodies on which we depend for irrigation pur-

poses haven't been cleaned yet.

They said that these water bodies must be cleaned before the season so that farmers won't face any problems.

They requested higher ups to look into the matter at an earliest and take immediate steps in this regard.

Meanwhile, an official of Irrigation and Flood Control told KNO that de-silting and cleaning of water bodies has been handed over to RDD department now and they will take up the process.

He assured that water bodies will be cleaned well before the season so that they won't face any problems—(KNO)

ASHAI FAMILY BEREAVED

With profound grief and sorrow, we share the sad news of demise of Begum Saad Ud Din Ashai, who left for heavenly abode on 4th May 2024, Saturday. May Almighty Allah SWT grant her Jannat Ul Firdous, congregational Fateh Khawani will be held on Wednesday, 8th May 2024 at 9:15 AM at their ancestral graveyard Ashai Kocha Fateh Kadal, Srinagar followed by Majlis Dua at her residence HNO 13, Lane 3 Ibrahim Colony Hyderpora.

Bereaved: Ashai, Buchh, Siddiqui and Shah families.
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