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# INDIA bloc seeking votes to provide reli**gion-based reservation: Modi** ter, he told the prime minister that he is being misin-

formed by his advisors about things that are not even written in the 'Nyay Patra'.

"It has become your habit to seize on a few words taken out of context and create a communal divide. You are lowering the dignity of the chair by speaking in this manner,"

"You are being misinformed by your advisors about things that are not even written in our manifesto. I would be more than happy to meet you in person to explain our 'Nyay Patra' so that, as prime minister of the country, you don't make any statements that are false," he added.

He had earlier stated that Congress had designs to provide reservations to Muslims from the quotas earmarked for the Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs), and reiterated that the Opposition party has hatched a "deep conspiracy" to "X-ray" and snatch people's wealth and distribute it among a "select" group.

The PM had alleged that the Congress-led United Progressive Alliance (UPA) government in 2004 took steps to "curtail the SC/ST reservation in Andhra Pradesh" to allocate it to Muslims

#### Civillian injured in Sopore encounter

returned. While the intermittent exchange of fire was in progress, a civilian was caught in cross-firing, the officials

The civilian, who was identified as Farooq Ahmad Dar, sustained a bullet injury in his shoulder. He was admitted to hospital and his condition was stated to be stable.

The operation was in progress when reports last came in tonight. Details were awaited.

## 22 file nominations from **Srinagar constituency** from J&K National United Front, Amir Ahmad Bhat

from Democratic Progressive Azad Party and Qaiser Sultan Ganai covering candidate of Democratic Progressive Azad Party submitted their nomination papers before the RO 02-Srinagar Parliamentary Constituency.

Likewise, Ashiq Hussain from Rastriya Jan Kranti Party, Mohammad Yousuf Bhat from Gana Suraksh Party, Suraya Nissar from National Republic Party of India and Farooq Ahmad Bhat from National Youth Party also filed their nominations from 02-Srinagar Lok Sabha Seat.

Those who filled their nomination papers as Independent candidates include Wahida Tabasum, Dr. Qazi Ashraf, Fida Hussain Dar, Abdul Hamid Rather, Arun Kumar Raina, Bansi Lal Bhat, Saquib Rahman Makhdoomi, Shadib Hanief, Javaid Ahmad Wani, Jehangir Ahmad Sheikh, Shabir Ahmad Malik and Sajad Ahmad Dar.

With the filing of 22(Twenty-Two) nominations today (Thursday-April 25, 2024), the last date of filing nomination papers in 02-Srinagar Parliamentary Constituency, the total number of candidates who filed their candidature for 02-Srinagar Lok Sabha Seat reached to 39 (Thirty-Nine), as 17(Seventeen) candidates have already filed their nomination papers on April 22, 2024 (Monday), April 23, 2024(Tuesday) and April 24, 2024

### Property of 4 Pak-based terrorists attached

Mumtaz Ahmad Khwaja, son of Mohammad Subhan

Khwaja of Kralgund, land measuring 16-3/4 Marlas belonging to Lateef Ahmad Bhat, son of Abdul Rehman Bhat of Badra Payeen, land measuring 1 Kanal 2 Marlas at Ashipora belonging to Mushtaq Ahmad Mir, son of Mohammad Sultan Mir of Ashpora, and land measuring 1 Kanal at Khaipora belonging to Ghulam Nabi Ganai, son of Ghulam Rasool Ganai of Khaipora, Qaziabad.

These terrorists were also involved in different cases and were actively trying to revive and run the terror ecosystem in Jammu and Kashmir, the officials added.

Besides these four, 51 persons of Jammu and Kashmir residents, who had exfiltrated to Pakistan/PoJK for illegal arms training and were now operating from there, had also been declared as proclaimed offenders by the court, of-

The action was also being contemplated against them under law, the officials added.

#### AAP leaders, Gujjar Nagar youth join BJP; welcomed by Kavinder

& PDP had considered J&K as their inheritance and took all those decisions which harmed this peaceful and beautiful state. "People, having witnessed their selfishness and anti-development approach, have now developed a faith in the policies of Modi government. This is the reason that more & more people are nowadays joining BJP," he added.

Those who joined the party included AAP leaders - Sanjeev Verma, Rahil Nischal, Shammi Thakur, Lucky Gandhi, Naresh, Amit Gupta, Sham, Chain Singh, Sanjay Abrol, Sanjeev Sharma, Raj Kumar and Parveen Sharma.

Sikander Khan, Nazhar Khan, Asif, Amjad Chowdhary, Kartik, Aquib, Aamir, Arsnan, Muneer and Sohail were amongst the Gujjar Nagar residents who embraced BJP.

Yudhvir Sethi said people had decided to support the Modi government and were coming forward on their own to

Pardeep Mahotra, Parmod Kapahi and Hari Om Sharma also spoke on the occasion.

The new entrants praised the Modi government for its focus on the welfare of poor and the needy and the development at the grassroots level.

#### People want me in J&K for development instead of being in Parl: Azad

Kashmir remained silent on Article 370. It was me who stood in parliament and fought for it. Others remained silent, only exploited people and misled them. They were mum in parliament. I raised almost all major issues in parliament, be it Article 370, CAA, NRC, or the lynching of innocents. You have tested those parties, give a chance to my candidate Saleem Parray; he will raise your issues the way I have done," Azad said.

He reiterated his unwavering commitment to development as the cornerstone of his political agenda. Having five decades of dedicated service to the nation, he emphasised the unassailable integrity that had characterised his political

"In my 50 years of politics, no one can question my integrity. I have never taken a single penny from anyone for doing their work," he said and outlined his vision to empower youth and catalyse J&K's development through tangible

"My vision encompasses the establishment of more colleges, roads, schools, universities and hospitals, aiming to uplift communities and foster progress across the region. I do not engage in personal attacks or abusive rhetoric," he said, highlighting his commitment to constructive dialogue and civility in political discourse.

Reflecting on the pressing challenges facing Jammu and Kashmir, Azad said while his party leaders had proposed his candidacy in parliamentary elections, his conscience led him to a different decision. Witnessing firsthand the grievances of the people, including the lack of basic amenities such as electricity, water, employment opportunities and infrastructure development, Azad recognised the urgency of addressing these issues.

"The demand of people is clear – they want genuine progress and development," he said.

"Only by focusing our efforts on the UT level can we address the pressing needs of our communities and pave the way for a brighter future," he added.

Azad made the decision to concentrate his efforts on addressing the immediate challenges confronting Jammu and Kashmir. "The transformative policies needed to uplift our communities can only be enacted by forming a govern-

"My people want me to focus in Jammu and Kashmir. I can't resolve the basic issues of development in Parliament; there you can only fight and demand. But here, if we form government, we can take decisions on our own and develop by our own. That's why I took this decision," he said.

Among others present on the ocassion included party candidate Saleem Parray, chief spokesperson Salman Nizami and secretary Shuby Jan.

#### EC notice to Nadda on complaints against PM

Separately, the poll panel also issued a notice to Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge, asking him to respond to the complaints filed by the BJP against him and the main opposition party's senior leader Rahul Gandhi regarding their

In the notice sent to Nadda, the Election Commission sought his response by Monday to the complaints filed by the Congress, CPI, CPI (ML) and civil society groups regarding the remarks made by Modi on April 21 in Banswara.

These complaints had referred to Modi's allegations that the Congress wanted to redistribute the wealth of the people to Muslims and that the opposition party won't even spare  $\label{eq:continuous} % \begin{center} \begin{cente$ the 'mangalsutra' of women. The speech led to a major political slugfest with the Con-

gress and other opposition parties accusing the prime minister of making false claims and the BJP alleging that the Congress was nursing an agenda of Muslim appearement at the cost of weaker sections of the society. The EC also asked Nadda to bring to the notice of all star

campaigners of the party to "set high standards of political discourse and observe provisions of model code of conduct in letter and spirit". The poll panel also said that campaign speeches made by

those holding high positions have more serious conse-

Officials said it is the first time that the panel has taken cognisance of a complaint against any prime minister.

In the 2019 Lok Sabha polls, the EC had given a clean chit to Modi on complaints lodged by the opposition parties. Then election commissioner, Ashok Lavasa, gave a dissent note on some of the decisions taken by the EC on complaints against the prime minister.

The EC has invoked provisions of the Representation of the People Act to hold party presidents as the first step to rein

According to the poll panel, it has taken a view that while individual star campaigners would continue to remain responsible for speeches made by them, the Commission will address party chiefs "on a case-to-case basis".

### SC to share cause list, info about listing of cases through WhatsApp: CJI

the role of a powerful communication tool. To strengthen the right to access to justice and enhance transparency in the judicial system, the Supreme Court announces integration of WhatsApp messaging services with its IT services," the CJI said. Elaborating further, Justice Chandrachud said under

this initiative, the Advocates-on Records (AoRs) and the litigants, who appear in person before the top court, will get automated messages regarding electronic filing of cases, cause lists, orders and judgements. "The cause lists will be sent to all members of the bar by

the registry as and when published. The orders and judgements available on the website will also be sent through WhatsApp," he said.

A cause list features the cases to be heard by a court on a given day.

"This is another revolutionary step," Solicitor General Tushar Mehta said.

The CJI also shared the top court's official WhatsApp number 8767687676 and said it will not be receiving any

"This will bring a significant change in our working habits and will go a long way in saving papers and our planet Earth," Justice Chandrachud said.

The CJI, referring to digitisation of judicial functions, said now more and more lawyers will have access to the courts and "even people from remote areas can access simple cases involving citizen issues as well."

"We are also migrating all our services into Meghraj cloud 2.0 which is the cloud infrastructure created by National Informatics Centre (NIC) ... The data is preserved on servers in India," he said.

Taking note of the submissions of a lawyer that high courts and tribunals are not on the same page as the Supreme Court on the issue of technological advancement, he said, "Some high courts say tell us 48 hours in advance for video conference links and you can get only if you are above 60 years of age (and have difficulty attending the proceedings physically). We had to pass a judicial order saying what this is and how it can be done.'

Underscoring the importance of video conferencing facilities, the CJI said if the investigation officer (IO) of a case has been transferred, he should be able to appear virtually. The trial court proceedings need not be adjourned if the IO has been shifted, he said.

"We are moving rapidly by pushing the high courts to do this and there is financial backing also. And now the money goes straight from the central government through the e-court committee of the high courts," he said.

The top court, under the leadership of CJI Chandrachud, has been taking steps to digitise the functioning of the

He said the Centre has sanctioned Rs 7,000 crore for the e-court project.

The solicitor general shared the views of the central government and the prime minister and said they were com-

mitted to digitisation of the judiciary to enhance the access to justice for common litigants and lawyers. "There is a direction from the prime minister that gives first priority to digitisation because access to justice is pos-

sible to the common man if there is digitisation and this is the priority of the government too," the top law officer

# **DLSA Kathua hosts Sensitization Programme** on various legal frameworks

**KATHUA, APRIL 25:** One Day Sensitization Programme on NALSA (Compensation Scheme for Women Victims/survivors of Sexual Assault Crimes) scheme-2018, J&K Victim Compensation Scheme-2019 & Landscape of Cyber Crime, was today organized by District Legal Services Authority Kathua in the Conference Hall of ADR Centre here.

The programme was held under able aegis of JK **Legal Services Authority** as per the action plan issued by J&K Legal Services Authority, (JKLSA) for the month of April, 2024 and also under the insightful directions and supervision of Chairman District Legal Services Authority Kathua, (Pr. District & Sessions Judge Kathua). Ashok Kumar Shavan.

The programme was organised for the Police functionaries of the district and Legal Aid Counsel of DLSA Kathua.

The Principal District Sessions Judge



Shavan was the chief guest of the program.

In his special address, the DLSA Chairman sensitized the participants about essential knowledge and skill to navigate the above captioned crucial areas of Law effectively.

Deputy Chief Legal Aid Defence Counsel Kathua, Puneet Kumari, Sub- Inspector, Incharge Crime Cell Kathua, Shubam Maand Shivam Sachdev Advocate District Court Complex Kathua were the resources persons of the program.

Secretary DLSA Kathua Rekha Kapoor Nischal presented a formal welcome address whereas Saurav Mahajan, Advocate Bar Association Kathua conveyed Vote of thanks.

The proceedings of the programme were conducted by Upasana Gupta, Panel Lawyer DLSA

# YSS Ganderbal inspires voter awareness through cycle race for girls under SVEEP

GANDERBAL, APRIL 25: The Youth Services and Sports (YSS) department Ganderbal today orchestrated a remarkable cycle race for girls as part of the Systematic Voters Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) program.

The event witnessed an overwhelming response from young girls, highlighting their dedication to becoming active participants in the democratic process. Commencing from the iconic clock tower in Duderhama,

the race took the scenic route to the Government College of Physical Education in Gadoora, Ganderbal, where the race concluded amidst enthusiastic cheers. The spirited participation of student girls underscored

their eagerness to contribute to the democratic ethos of the They expressed gratitude to the YSS department and the

Nodal Officer of SVEEP for organizing a purposeful event tailored specifically for girls. The presentation ceremony, graced by senior department

officials, honored outstanding student players with trophies and medals, recognizing their unwavering dedication and sportsmanship. In addition to the cycle race, GHS Shallabugh of Zone

Ganderbal conducted a road rally, where students and

school officials raised voting awareness slogans, empha-

sizing the importance of participation in the upcoming Lok Sabha 2024 elections. Moreover, across the district, various sports events were organized as part of the annual calendar of activities. Zone Hariganiwan hosted a zonal level cycle race for boys in the U/14 years age group, promoting sportsmanship and

healthy competition. Furthermore, Zone Tullamulla organized events in basketball, table tennis, chess, carrom, and cricket across educational institutions, providing a platform for enthusiastic students to showcase their talents at the grassroots level.

#### JAMMU, APRIL 25: World Malaria day was observed today across Jammu division by organ-

ising series of IEC activi-The awareness campaign was held under the overall supervision of Secretary Health & Medical Education, Dr. Syed Abid Rasheed Shah. Director

Health Services, Jammu, Dr Rakesh Magotra, with teamwork of all the staff working under the administrative control of Dr. D. J Raina, State Malariologist, J&K Jammu, immensely contributed in organisation of various programmes.

The activities included participation in web conference of National Centre for Vector Borne Disease Control in collaboration with WHO.

At the National level, the Nodal Officer of the Provincial Hospital Gandhinagar Jammu participated in a one day techniworkshop elimination of Malaria targeted by 2027. The IEC activities in-

cluded publishing of IEC

material in leading UT and local newspapers. The in-Doordarshan Jammu and local channel(s)

Series of IEC activities held across Jammu

division to observe World Malaria Day

awareness Malaria was also spread through an interview and day long broadcast of audio -spot on Akashwani Jammu and FM radio channels, educating the people about various aspects of prevention and control of malaria.

The State Malariologist addressed an assembly of around 1500 students in Army School, Nagrota as a part of Civil Army collaboration for percolation of the message in the community at large through school children.

The IEC material was distributed among the students and students were requested to carry message to their homes.

The IEC activity on World Malaria Day was also held at Provincial Govt. Hospital Gandhi Nagar in which a gathering of AMT students, Malaria workers, staff of the hospital among others were ad-

Malariologist, Deputy Diformation was also spread rector Health Services, through TV interviews on Jammu and Medical Superintendent, Government Hospital gar, Jammu.

dressed by the State

Similar IEC activities were also held at several District and Block headquarters by taking out rallies with participation of schools to bolster the Malaria elimination by 2027.

World Malaria Day was also observed by the healthcare Institutes in the urban healthcare setup by organising rallies and educational programmes in schools and spreading awareness in the community by undertaking house to house visits.

Using the Social Media platform, the IEC campaign was also carried out through the WhatsApp groups, Facebook and X

(formerly Twitter). The banner display containing the IEC material was held at different prominent points for general awareness of the pub-

# Secretary Planning inspects JTFRP works in Srinagar, Budgam

RINAGAR, APRIL 25: Secretary Planning and Civil Aviation Department, Aijaz Asad, today inspected various ongoing Jhelum and Tawi Flood Recovery Projects being executed under World Bank funding in

Srinagar and Budgam districts. During the visit, the Secretary took stock of progress on additional block at Bone and Joint Hospital Barzulla in Srinagar and Emergency Operations Centre in Budgam.

While inspecting construction of 120 bedded Specialized Orthopaedic Unit (additional hospital block) at Bone and Joint Hospital, Barzulla, he directed the concerned officers to focus on quality parameters thereby ensuring timely completion.

Aijaz Asad, while enquiring about the technical specifications of the building, directed the concerned engineers to keep regular check on the technical and quality parameters for effective implementation.

The Secretary was informed that the building will be G+4 structure with 120 beds capacity and technically advanced modular Operation theatres besides pre-operative and post-



siderably augment the infra-The block will also feature the structure of valley's largest cen-Pneumatic Tube System, a first

of its kind in hospitals in J&K, ensuring seamless transport of various medical items, including blood samples, test reports from one floor to another. The system will minimize human interference in supply of these items like blood sample sent from one floor will directly reach its destination without any hassle. Pertinently, the prestigious

project has been taken up under the component "Critical Infrastructure" of JTFRP being funded by the World Bank.

The Secretary also reviewed work progress on prestigious

project of Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) and Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition Control Building at Ompora, Budgam. The EOC will be fully

equipped with all the latest modern technologies, software being used world over for forecasting of natural disasters and coordinating the relief and rescue operations in case of any natural disaster. Besides, the **Supervisory Control and Data** Acquisition Centre building would be the central control room for the dewatering pumping stations in Srinagar City for

scientifically controlling and managing all the pump stations in the City using IT enabled services.

He directed the executing agencies to expedite the pace of work on the project and mobilize more men and machinery on site to ensure that work is completed within the stipulated timeframe.

Earlier, the Secretary visited the Government Woollen Mills. Bemina here and took stock of ongoing works undertaken un-World Bank-funded Jehlum Tawi Flood Recovery Project there.