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After taking oath as CM, Omar to chair 'important' meeting of administrative secys

Kashmir was revoked on Sunday, clearing path for the formation of new government headed by CM-designate Omar Abdullah.

A notification in this regard was issued by President of India Droupadi Murmu on Sunday.

NC had staked claim to form government, following a meeting between Omar and LG Sinha.

NC and its alliance partnet Congress won 48 of the 90 seats. While NC had made almost a clean sweep in the valley by winning 42 seats, Congress had to be satisfied with six seats. BJP got 29 seats from Jammu region and no seat from the valley.

Five Independents, including four from Jammu region, too have extended their support to NC, taking its tally to 46, one more than the seats required for government forma-

India at UN condemns Pak's 'unsubstantiated allegations' on J&K

der terrorism as a weapon against its neighbours," Pun-

He also said that Pakistan has been implicated in several attacks, including the attack on the Indian Parliament. "The list of attacks orchestrated by Pakistan is indeed long. In India, they have targeted our Parliament, market places and pilgrimage routes, among several others. Normal Indian citizens have been victims of such dastardly and inhumane acts by Pakistan," Punnoos said.

He also compared India and Pakistan, praising the former for its "pluralism, diversity and democracy," and highlighting the latter's "terrorism, parochialism and per-

Punnoos said, "India symbolises pluralism, diversity and democracy. In contrast, Pakistan reminds the world of terrorism, parochialism and persecution. Religious and ethnic minorities and their places of worship are targeted and vandalised on a regular basis. It is important for Pakistan to first look inward and set own house in order instead of meddling in the internal affairs of neighbouring

He added, "Pakistan's obsession with India and their past practice corroborate that they will continue to use this august forum for spreading their malicious propaganda against my country. They will exercise their right of reply but I shall refrain from responding to it... As such, facts speak for themselves. Lies are lies, even if they are repeated over and over by Pakistan."

Meanwhile, Punnoose emphasised India's pivotal role in the global struggle against colonialism, highlighting the country's unwavering commitment to freedom.

He said, "India has been a global champion and leading voice in the struggle against colonialism. In 1962, India was also elected as the first chair of the Decolonisation Committee, a committee of 24, which was established to monitor the implementation of the 1960 Declaration on Granting of Independence to colonial countries and peoples and consider applications in this regard. Since the establishment of the Decolonisation Committee, India has been actively contributing towards its functioning. We have also been working constructively on the decolonisation

Notably, Pakistan regularly brings up the Jammu and Kashmir issue at UN platforms and other some international forums, irrespective of the agenda of the meetings.

India has repeatedly rejected Pakistan's attempts to raise the Kashmir issue on international platforms, asserting that the union territories of Jammu and Kashmir as well as Ladakh are "integral parts of India" and Pakistan has no "locus standi" to make statements regarding India's domestic matters.

Prof Chandrasekar appointed CLUJ VC

2016, I, Manoj Šinha, Chancellor, Cluster University of Jammu, hereby appoint Prof K S Chandrasekar, senior Professor, Institute of Management in Kerala, University of Kerala, as vice-chancellor, Cluster University of Jammu, for a period of three years, with effect from the date on which he takes over the charge on terms and conditions to be notified separately.'

Meanwhile, Sinha, also Chancellor of Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University (BGSBU) in Rajouri, officially appointed Prof Jawaid Igbal as the new Vice Chancellor for a term of three years.

Prof Igbal, who is currently a professor in the Department of West Asian and North African Studies at Aligarh Muslim University, will assume his role upon taking charge, with specific terms and conditions to be communicated separately.

Aghore, Lamberi

get degree colleges
The order says that the two degree colleges have been sanctioned for Aghore in Jammu and Lamberi in Rajouri. SIA releases pics of terrorists killed in 2023 Ra-

jouri encounter

rity operation.

The SIA SSP has issued public notices in newspapers, including the terrorists' pictures, for identifying them, officials added.

It was also not confirmed if the slain terrorists were Pakistanis or locals.

7 flights get bomb threats The sources said an X handle issued threats on Tuesday to

seven flights - an Air India Express flight from Jaipur to Bengaluru via Ayodhya (IX765), a SpiceJet flight from Darbhanga to Mumbai (SG116), an Akasa Air flight from Bagdogra to Bengaluru (QP 1373), an Air India flight from Delhi to Chicago (AI 127), an Indigo flight from Dammam (Saudi Arabia) to Lucknow (6E 98), an Alliance Air Amritsar-Dehradun-Delhi flight (9I 650) and an Air India Express flight (IX 684) from Madurai to Singapore.

The X handle has since been suspended by the platform after the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) wrote to cyber-security agencies.

An Air India Express spokesperson in a statement that they, along with a few other operators, received a "specific" security threat from an unverified social media handle.

"In response, security protocols were promptly activated as directed by the government-appointed Bomb Threat Assessment Committee. The flight landed safely, and the aircraft will be released for operations following all mandated security procedures," the spokesperson said.

The SpiceJet aircraft landed safely at the Mumbai airport and was directed to an isolation bay as a precautionary mea-

"All passengers disembarked normally and security agencies were immediately notified. After thorough security checks, the aircraft has been cleared for further operations, a SpiceJet spokesperson said.

An Akasa Air spokesperson said their flight received a se-

"The captain followed all required emergency procedures and landed safely at the Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru at 13:39 hours. All passengers were deplaned and the local authorities undertook the necessary safety and security checks after which the aircraft was released for operations," the spokesperson said.

The Air India flight was diverted to the Iqaluit airport in Canada after it became the "subject of a security threat

"The aircraft and passengers are being re-screened according to the laid-down security protocol. Air India has activated agencies at the airport to assist the passengers until such time that their journey can resume," an AI

Indigo said in a statement that it was "cognisant of a situation involving flight 6E 98 from Dammam to Lucknow".

"The safety and security of our passengers and crew is our highest priority and we are working closely with the relevant authorities and taking all necessary precautions as per the guidelines," a spokesperson for the airline said.

The Dammam-Lucknow flight landed at the Jaipur airport following its diversion. The aircraft has been sent to an isolation bay, an official at the Jaipur airport said.

An Alliance Air official said all "precautionary measures" were being taken for the Amritsar-Dehradun-Delhi flight, which was undergoing security checks at the Dehradun air-Air India Express sources said their Madurai-Singapore

flight was awaiting an approval from Singaporean authori-The suspect X handle tagged the respective airlines' and

these planes, the sources said. Four different X handles issued a similar threat to three international flights originating from Mumbai on Monday.

some police handles, claiming that bombs were placed on

All the messages on Monday were declared a hoax after security and intelligence agencies as well as airline and airport operators carried out stipulated anti-terrorist security drills that are activated in case of bomb or hijack threats,

Officials said the BCAS has sought the help of Indian cyber-security agencies and police to trace the person or people behind these threats.

LMD fines pvt hospital

violating provisions of the Legal Metrology Act, which mandates a set of accurate information, and the use of standard units of measurement in all commercial transactions, including medical devices.

The instant case came to light following a special inspection conducted by a team of Legal Metrology Department Jammu District on the directions of the Controller Legal Metrology Department J&K, Anuradha Gupta, for regulating commercial transactions in the healthcare sector as well and to enforce the compliance of the Legal Metrology Act/rules to protect against fleecing of the consumer by the Hospitals, ensuring fair trade practices.

During the investigation, it was discovered that the hospital was using non-standard units of measurement in its billing for medical services and devices. Discrepancies were particularly noted in transactions related to the quantity (in terms of weight, measure, or number) of surgical materials or dressing supplies used during the surgical procedures, and as reflected in the patient billing.

Upon registration of case for breach of relevant provisions of the Legal Metrology Act, the hospital management pleaded guilty to the violation and opted for departmental compounding of the case by paying a fine of Rs 20,000.

Dhankhar expresses concern over 'growing threat of demographic disorder'

said

He said the shared cultural heritage is being attacked. There should be an "ideological and mental counter-attack" on forces trying to attack the shared cultural heritage,

"Attempts are being made to portray it as our weakness. Under this, there is a plan to destroy the country. There should be an ideological and mental counter-attack on such forces," the vice president said.

"We, as a majority, are all-embracing tolerant, generate a soothing ecosystem and we have a counterpoint, written on the wall. The other kind of majority is brute, ruthless and reckless in its functioning, believing in trampling all the values of the other side," he said, terming it "alarmingly worrisome".

"We, therefore, all have to work with passion, in a missionary mode to build a cohesive society that thinks in necessary terms and is not divided by factions of caste, creed, colour, culture, conviction and cuisines," he added.

The vice president stated that "Bharat" must remain a stabilising global force.

"This force has to emerge. This century has to belong to Bharat and that will be good for humanity that will contribute to peace and harmony on the planet. However, it would be a disservice to the nation if we turn a blind eye to the dangers of demographic upheavals that are taking place in this country," he said.

The vice president also spoke about the threat posed by those whom he called the "champions of anarchy.'

"These elements, driven by selfish interests, are sacrificing national unity for petty partisan gains. They seek to divide us on the basis of caste, creed, and community and these forces are actively working to compromise Bharat's social har-

Dhankhar said that some in politics have no difficulty in sacrificing national interest for newspaper headlines or getting some minor petty partisan interest served. These "misadventures" need to be neutralised to change the landscape,

He said India's developmental journey is stunning the

"However, this economic rise is fragile if social unity is disturbed, if the fervour of nationalism dies, or if anti-national forces within and outside continue to sow divisiveness in the country. Everyone should remain mindful of these threats," he said.

Vice President Dhankhar expressed concern about the disregard for the rule of law by some people.

"There was a time when some people thought they were above the law. They were privileged, but things have changed. Even today, we see responsible people in constitutional positions who do not care about the law, do not care about the nation. These are sinister designs orchestrated by forces inimical to Bharat's progress," he said.

"We cannot be crazy for political power. Political power has to emanate from the people through a democratic process that is sanctified," he added.

Jaishankar reaches Islamabad to attend SCO meeting

Nur Khan airbase by senior Pakistani officials.

It is the first time in nearly nine years that India's foreign minister travelled to Pakistan even as the ties between the two neighbours remained frosty over the Kashmir 'issue' and cross-border terrorism emanating from Pakistan.

The last Indian Foreign Minister to visit Pakistan was Sushmaa Swaraj. She had travelled to Islamabad in December 2015 to attend a conference on Afghanistan

Earlier in the day, India said it remains actively engaged in various mechanisms of the SCO.

Pakistan is hosting the two-day SCO Council of Heads of Government (CHG) summit on October 15 and 16.

"The SCO CHG meeting is held annually and focuses on the trade and economic agenda of the Organisation," the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said.

"External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar will represent India at the meeting. India remains actively engaged in the SCO format, including various mechanisms and initiatives within the SCO framework," it said in a brief statement

In the evening, Jaishankar is likely to attend a banquet reception to be hosted by Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to welcome the delegates from the SCO member nations, people familiar with the matter said.

Both sides have already ruled out any bilateral talks between Mr. Jaishankar and his Pakistan counterpart Ishaq Dar on the sidelines of the SCO heads of the government

Jaishankar's visit to Pakistan assumes significance as it is seen as a significant decision on New Delhi's part.

In his recent address at an event, Jaishankar said "like with any neighbour, India would certainly like to have good relations with Pakistan."

"But that cannot happen by overlooking cross-border terrorism and indulging in wishful thinking."

The decision to send the senior minister is seen as a display of India's commitment to the SCO.

Early trends on counting day nonsense: CEC

8:10 am. This is nonsense. My counting starts at 8:30 am," Kumar said, wondering whether the initial trends were shown in the media to justify exit polls.

The CEC said the Election Commission starts putting out trends or results on its website from 9:30 am onwards at two-hour intervals.

Kumar said that a correspondent of a media organization at counting stations can get results early, but the poll authority has to display the result on the screen, get the polling agents to sign it, and offer justification to ob-

"It may take 30 minutes for the results to come on the official website," he said.

"So, when the actual results start coming in, there is a mismatch. That mismatch can lead to serious issues sometimes. The gap between expectations and achievements is nothing but frustration," the CEC said.

The Congress had questioned the delay in displaying results on the Election Commission website in the recently concluded Haryana assembly polls.

Elections were held in the UT of J&K in three phases on September 18, 25 and October 1. Results were declared on October 8 along with the result of Haryana assembly. All the exit polls had proved wrong.

During the 2024 Lok Sabha elections also, the exit polls had proved totally wrong.

India rejects Canadian PM Trudeau's charges the burden of denial on India," it added.

The sources also rejected attempts by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) to link Indian agents to the Bish-

At the RCMP press briefing, assertions were made about connections of certain individuals to India. In no case were any specifics provided, the sources said.

There was also talk about holding people accountable.

But it was never made clear who and for what, they said. The sources also slammed Canada for targeting the Indian high commissioner to Ottawa.

It is absurd that after intensively engaging the High Commissioner over the last year, the Canadian government now chooses to target him, they said.

Cong appoints G A Mir as CLP leader

a new CLP leader, he has appointed G A Mir as the new CLP leader of Jammu & Kashmir," the order issued by K C Venugopal reads.

Mir is among the six Congress MLAs who won from the valley in the recently concluded assembly polls in J&K.

India inks big-ticket Predator drone deal with US

launch a modified version of the Hellfire missile that eliminated al-Qaeda leader Ayman al-Zawahiri in the heart of Kabul in July 2022.

While the Navy will get 15 Sea Guardian drones, the Indian Air Force and the Army will each get eight Sky

The high-altitude long-endurance drones are capable of remaining airborne for over 35 hours and can carry four Hellfire missiles and around 450 kgs of bombs.

The Sea Guardian drones are being procured as they can carry out a variety of roles, including maritime surveillance, anti-submarine warfare and over-the-horizon targeting among others.

Inviting outside forces dents efforts for unity: Rajnath on maritime security

INS Kattabomman Radar Station at Tirunelveli in Tamil Nadu was the first of its kind, a Telangana government re-

Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, Union Minister Bandi Sanjay Kumar and other dignitaries were pre-Earlier in the day, while addressing mediapersons in

Hyderabad, Union Minister G Kishan Reddy said it was a proud moment for Telangana as the project (radar station) is important in terms of national security. Refuting the allegations made by BRS leader KT Rama Rao, that his party is opposing the construction of the

radar station in Vikarabad district as it would create ecological imbalance, Reddy said it was the previous K Chandrasekhar Rao-led regime which gave land and permis-"In December 2017, Telangana Government's Forest

and Environment Department gave the clearance. As per the GO issued then, 2,900 acres of land at Dhamagundam Forest area were given for the project," the Telangana BJP

Reddy further said the project was conceptualied in 2010 when Manmohan Singh was the Prime Minister.

Probe can't be thwarted by quashing FIR if materials show prima facie case: SC stated that the accused took Mallick's truck on hire be-

tween July 14, 2014 and March 31, 2016 on a monthly rent of Rs 33,000, but did not continue paying the rent after the first month despite false assurances.

"The allegation that rent was not paid by itself, in ordi-

nary course, would presuppose retention of possession of the vehicle by the accused. In such circumstances as to what happened to that truck becomes a matter of investigation. If it had been dishonestly disposed of by the accused, it may make out a case of criminal breach of trust. Therefore, there was no justification to quash the FIR at the threshold without looking into the materials collected during the course of the investigation," the top court held.

It said that existence of "mens rea" (criminal intent) was a question of fact which may be inferred from the act in question and the surrounding circumstances apart from the accused's conduct.

As a sequitur, when a party alleges that the accused, despite taking possession of the truck on hire, has failed to pay hire charges for months altogether while making false promises for its payment, a prima facie case, reflective of dishonest intention on the part of the accused, is made out which may require investigation," the bench noted.

In such circumstances, the court observed if the FIR was quashed at the very inception, it would be an act "thwarting a legitimate investigation".

The top court further said that a petition seeking quashing of the FIR would not become infructuous on submission of a police report under provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure. However, when a police report is submitted, the court must apply its mind to the materials before deciding if the FIR and proceedings thereafter ought to be quashed, it added.

"In our view, the high court ought to have considered the materials collected during the investigation before taking a call on the prayer for quashing of the FIR, the cognisance order and the proceedings in pursuance thereof," the court said.

While setting aside the high court order, the apex court remitted the matter back to the high court to decide the quashing petition afresh in accordance with law and after considering the materials collected by the investigating agency

Court extends Er Rashid's interim bail in terror-funding case

the order on Rashid's regular bail plea in the case till Oc-

The counsel for the accused told the court that this was the last time that his client was seeking an extension.

No violation of any of the conditions by his client was alleged by the NIA, the lawyer said.

India set to lead global 6G revolution: Jyotiraditya Scindia



NEW DELHI. OCT 15: India is ment -- India followed the world in resolved to lead the world in 6G, communications minister Jyotiraditya Scindia said on Tuesday, terming the telecom sector of the country as 'aggressive' and 'ambitious'.

Scindia, speaking at the inauguration of India Mobile Congress and World Telecommunication Standardization (WTSA) 2024, said with the Bharat 6G Alliance, India hopes to contribute at least 10 per cent patents to 6G standardisation.

"It is our belief and our commit-

4G, we marched with the world in 5G, but we shall lead the world in 6G," the minister asserted.

With the fastest 5G rollout in India wherein 98 per cent of districts and 90 per cent of all villages were covered in a span of just 21 months, Scindia said it is the Prime Minister Narendra Modi's effort of not just embracing, but bracing the country to become the first-mover in 6G technology.

"It is noteworthy that the Indian

tional 6G Symposium demonstrates both local and global advancements in 6G, and also design principles that will shape the future of telecom," he further said.

The recent changes to the Telecommunications Act 2023 have been designed in such a way so as to modernise India's telecom framework, drawing light upon hitherto unaddressed areas such as the high potential sector of satellite communications, addressing the challenges of the

Mobile Congress and the Interna- digital era, the most important being cyber security, Scindia said.

"The telecom sector, much like other growth-critical sectors in India, is aggressive, is ambitious, and its outlook in our journey from Amrit Kaal to Shatabdi Kaal is to lead the world." he said.

India Mobile Congress (IMC) is an annual event organized by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) and the Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI)

IMC 2024 will see participation

from over 400 exhibitors, nearly 900 startups, and participation from 120+ countries

About 3,200 delegates from over 160 countries are part of the WTSA assembly. 'We are confident that this

(WTSA), along with the Indian Mobile Congress in its 8th edition... Will serve as a breeding ground for innovation, but also showcase India's impending but inevitable emergence as a global hub for telecommunications across the world," Scindia said.