

!! Continuations from Page 1 !! Foolish to seek...

was a state before 2019. We have been promised the restoration of statehood by the prime minister, the home minister and other senior ministers who have said that three steps will be taken in J-K - " delimitation, election and then statehood.

"Delimitation has happened, the elections have now taken place as well. So, only the statehood remains which should be restored," he added.

Asked how important was the need for coordination between the new J-K government and Centre, the NC leader said nothing can be achieved by having a confrontation with New Delhi.

"Let the government be formed first. This question should be posed to the chief minister. There should be a cordial relationship with New Delhi. My advice to him (CM) will be that we cannot address any issues by having a confrontation with the Centre.

"It is not that we will accept the BJP's politics, or that the BJP will accept our politics. We will continue to oppose the BJP, but it is not our compulsion to oppose the Centre," he said.

"It will be for the benefit of J-K and for the people of J-K to have a good relationship with the Centre," Abdullah said.

"The people have not voted for a confrontation. The people of J-K have voted because they want employment, they want development, they want the restoration of the statehood, they want to address electricity and other issues and that redressal will not happen by having a confrontation with New Delhi," he added.

To a question about whether the PDP would be a part of the coalition government, the NC leader said there were no discussions over that as of now.

"There has been no approach made to us by the PDP. We have made no approach to them. Given the results of this election, which I think is quite a setback to them, I think at the moment I can understand that there must be some internal discussion going on.

"At some points of time, if a channel of communication opens, we will sit down and talk to them. But it is not a priority for us at the moment," he said.

Abdullah said while he is humbled by the mandate of the people, he is also acutely aware of the responsibility that it places upon them.

"The people of J-K have gone unheard since 2018. Now the time has come for us to work for the benefit of the people of J-K. I am also acutely aware of the fact that there is a sharp divide between Kashmir and Jammu and therefore, the incoming government will have a major responsibility of giving a sense of ownership to the people of Jammu," he said.

The government that comes in the next few days will not be a government of the NC or of the alliance, or it will not be a government of those that voted for the alliance, it will be a government for every single individual of J-K, regardless of who they voted for, or whether they voted at all, the NC leader said.

"A special emphasis will be laid to give a sense of ownership and voice within the government to those areas from where MLAs in this coalition will be less in number," he added.

On the issue of the nomination of five MLAs by the LG, the NC vice president advised Manoj Sinha not to do it "because even with nominating those five MLAs, the BJP will not be able to form the government".

"You will only nominate five MLAs to sit in the opposition and there will be a row, because we will then have to approach the Supreme Court and file a case against it. While we want to have a cordial relationship with the Centre, this move will create tension right from day one.

"The nomination of five MLAs will not have any impact on government formation. Some independents who won the election are already in touch with us and they will join us and we will increase our lead. The BJP will not gain anything by nominating these five MLAs," he added.

NC legislature party...

However, NC president Farooq Abdullah asserted his supremacy over the choice of person who will head the government.

Reacting to his son's statement that the alliance will decide the Chief Minister, the NC patriarch said, "Whatever I have decided, only that will happen".

Farooq Abdullah said the aim of the NC-Congress government would be to minimise the differences between the two regions of the Union Territory and to build confidence among the Hindus.

In an apparent reference to the BJP, he said, "We have to minimise the differences that they have created between Jammu and Kashmir. Our endeavour should be that the Hindus there have this confidence in us that we will think about them in the same manner as about Kashmir".

"We will not differentiate between the two. So what if they did not vote (for us). It is our duty to solve their problems," Abdullah told reporters here.

Cong will introspect...

Karra said the party will be fighting for the restoration of statehood and "the struggle will now start afresh".

To a question whether there was some discussion over government formation between the two parties, the JKPCC chief said there have been no talks yet.

"We had only come to congratulate them on behalf of the party. We congratulated Abdullahs formally. Omar Abdullah has said that their legislature party meeting is to happen, then they will talk with the alliance partner. We have to wait for their legislature party to meet," he added.

The National Conference-Congress combine pulled off a spectacular victory in maiden elections in Jammu and Kashmir after abrogation of Article 370 in 2019.

However, the individual performance of the Congress has hit an all-time low as only one of its 29 candidates managed to win in the Jammu region, while its prominent leaders, including two working presidents lost the elections.

The Congress had said the result in Jammu region was not in accordance with the party's expectations and a detailed feedback would be sought on the debacle.

The Congress was fighting the elections in a pre-poll alliance with National Conference (NC) and had fielded 32 candidates, mostly in Jammu region, compared to 51 by the regional party.

Additionally, the CPI(M) and the Jammu and Kashmir National Panthers Party (JKNPP) have each been allocated one seat while both the Congress and NC had a 'friendly contest' on five seats.

ACB registers case...

to the students charged by recognized Institute. But the officers/officials of Tribal Affairs Department without checking the genuineness of the institutes as well as infrastructure/course contents provided by institutes, even without ensuring the end use of scholarship amount and guidelines, disbursed the scholarship fee of about Rs. 1,66,20,000 during 2014 to 2018 directly in the bank accounts of the institutes ; M/S National Computer Institute Surankot, Poonch, M/S NESSOW Institute Surankot, Poonch, M/S Infotech Institute of I.tech Management, Poonch, M/S Technopark College of Professional & Technical, Rajouri and M/S M.S Khan Computer Institute, Rajouri

The verification conducted further revealed that even one of the institutes namely M/S NESSOW computer institute Poonch was not having proper accreditation with NIELIT or other recognised body, but department of Tribal Affairs disbursed the scholarship fees amounting Rs. 33,30,000 to this institute also. Whereas, the rest of four institutes having accreditation with NIELIT, have not got conducted the examination of the candidates through NIELIT, rather issued the course certificates by itself, having no value, thereby defeated the very purpose of post matric scholarship scheme. Besides the course contents and duration of CHM"O" level and "O" level, provided by NIELIT was different from the course contents provided by Institutes on the diploma issued by the Institutes.

By acting in this manner, the officers/officials of Tribal Affairs Department namely Mohd Sharief Choudhary, then Director Tribal Affairs J&K, Muzaffar Hussain Wani, then Assistant Director, Gulzar Hussain, then Junior Assistant, Javed Ahmed, then Incharge Computer Assistant, Shaheen Naqishbandi, then Head Assistant, having prescribed duties, by abuse of their official positions and in lieu of criminal conspiracy hatched among themselves as well as with beneficiaries namely Mohd Javaid, son of Lal Hussain, resident of Gunthel Tehsil Surankote, Poonch (owner of National Computer Institute Surankot, Poonch & Infotech Institute of Computers, Poonch), Mohd Farooq, son of Mohd Abdullah, resident of Village Dodaj Sabzi Tehsil Darhal Rajouri (owner of Techno Park College of Professionals studies, Rajouri), Mohd Shakeel, son of Mohd Jameel, resi-

dent of Manjakote, Rajouri (owner of M.S.Khan Computer Institute, Rajouri) and Muddasir Ahmed, son of Ghulam Mohd Bhat, resident of Near High School Shamspora, Bijbehara Anantnag (owner of NESSOW Institute Surankot Poonch), as well as others, by way of manipulating record as well as violating guidelines of Post Matric Scholarship Scheme, misappropriated Government funds to the tune of Rs 1, 66, 20,000 as a result of which a huge loss has been caused to Government exchequer which prima-facie constitute offences of punishable U/S 5(1)(e)(d) r/w section 5(2) of J&K PC Act, Svt. 2006 and Section 120-B RPC. Accordingly, case FIR No. 05/2024 is registered in P/S ACB Rajouri and the investigation of the case is taken up.

BJP's impressive performance...

2024 elections, the BJP secured 29 seats out of the 62 it contested, marking an increase of four seats compared to its performance in 2014. The party's vote share also rose by 2.66 percent, from 22.98 percent in 2014 to 25.64 percent in 2024, surpassing the National Conference's 23.43 percent vote share. The BJP's ability to mobilize a larger voter base, growing from 3.55 lakh votes to a total of 14.62 lakh votes, underscores its expanding appeal and strengthened foothold in the state.

Chugh further remarked, "The BJP's success is a result of the unwavering efforts of our dedicated party workers, the undisputed leadership of PM Narendra Modi, and our commitment to inclusive growth in the region. We will continue to work tirelessly to ensure that the aspirations of every citizen in Jammu & Kashmir are met, and that the region continues on its path to peace and prosperity."

Chugh also highlighted the historic third consecutive victory in Haryana after securing 48 seats in the 90-member assembly and thanked the voters of Haryana for their continued support and clear mandate.

He condemned the Congress party's usual theatrics of blaming the EVMs and the Election Commission after every election result, dismissing these claims as baseless and unrealistic.

Pak intruder arrested...

in Pakistani currency were recovered from Imran's possession, they said. During questioning, the intruder claimed that he had inadvertently crossed the border. After initial questioning, he was handed over to police for further necessary action, the officials said.

Minimising differences between...

The NC chief said there were many challenges before the new government. "The biggest challenges are inflation and unemployment. We have to create opportunities for our youth," he said.

Abdullah also asserted his supremacy over the choice of person who will head the government. On his son Omar's saying that the alliance will decide who will be the chief minister, the senior Abdullah said: "What I have decided, only that will happen." The NC president Tuesday said Omar Abdullah will be the chief minister of the new government.

Haryana verdict shows...

Modi said the Congress tried to spread lies among Dalits, but the community understood its dangerous intentions of snatching their reservations and to distribute it to its vote bank.

"Today, Dalits of Haryana have given a record support to the BJP and the OBCs of Haryana are with BJP looking at its development works. The Congress provoked farmers, but they know who gave them MSP (minimum support price) on their produce," he said.

The cultivators of Haryana are happy with the BJP's farmer welfare policies, he added.

Modi said the Congress has always followed the formula of divide and rule and continuously proven that it has become an irresponsible party.

"The Congress is still creating new narratives to divide the country. From time to time, it brings a formula to divide the society. Congress is not stopping itself from misleading voters of the country. Its formula is very clear - that is to instill fear in Muslims and convert them into vote bank," he said.

Modi said not a single Congress leader has ever said there are so many castes among Muslims and they lock their mouths when the question of Muslim castes arises.

But, when it comes to the Hindu community, the Congress always refers and talks about them on caste lines, he said.

"It is the policy of Congress to pit one Hindu community against another. Congress knows that it will benefit as much when Hindus get divided. Congress wants to ignite fire in the Hindu community by any way possible for political gains," Modi said.

The Congress implements this formula wherever there is an election in the country, he said.

Modi said the Congress is spewing poison in the society to strengthen its vote bank. It fights elections on the communal and caste lines, he said. "Breaking the Hindu community and making it a winning formula is the basis of Congress politics," said Modi.

Further targeting the Congress, the PM said it is suppressing the "sarva jan hitaye, sarva jan sukhae" (taking everyone's welfare and happiness together) approach of India and also suppressing the Sanatan Dharma tradition.

The Congress, which ruled the country for so long, has become so restless to come back to power that it is doing politics of hatred everyday, he said, adding the old generation leaders of Congress are so helpless looking at the condition of their party.

After independence, Mahatma Gandhi understood this situation of Congress that it will become the biggest factory of spreading hatred, Modi said.

That is why, Gandhi ji had said that Congress should be disbanded. However, Congress did not get finished, but is bent upon finishing the country today. "Hence, we need to be careful and alert," the PM said.

Modi further said the people of Maharashtra will not let conspiracies of dividing the society be successful.

He asked the people Maharashtra to vote unitedly for the BJP and Mahayuti for the country's development.

The PM asked the people of Maharashtra to give a bigger mandate to the Mahayuti compared to the win in Haryana.

The Congress made poverty as the fuel of its politics and always kept the poor as poor, Modi said, adding that his government lifted 25 crore people out of poverty in last 10 years.

Next logical step...

later this week and wish him a very successful tenure," he said.

The next logical step is to restore full statehood to Jammu and Kashmir, Singh added. "This has been a commitment of the Government of India to the Supreme Court and I would urge that it be done without further delay while the political atmosphere is still vibrant," Singh said.

Domiciliary provisions should be introduced on the lines of those prevailing in Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh regarding acquisition of property, Singh said. "Building on the work done during the (Lieutenant) Governor's rule, the new government will have to ensure that administrative discipline continues and there is no room given to corrupt practices. It is now my hope that the beautiful state created by my ancestors will move into a new phase of harmony and all-round development," said Singh, the son of erstwhile ruler of Jammu and Kashmir Hari Singh.

Air Vice Marshal ...

the College of Air Warfare, Secunderabad. He is an alumnus of the prestigious National Defence College, New Delhi, the spokesman said in a statement here.

During his illustrious career of 33 years, Air Vice Marshal Sharma has tenanted many important assignments, including as the commanding officer of a fighter squadron, air officer commanding of an operational frontline fighter base in the eastern sector and the prestigious Networked Tactical Node, according to the statement.

Apart from operational assignments, Air Vice Marshal Sharma was also India's defence attache to the Kingdom of Thailand, the spokesman said.

Prior to taking over the present appointment, he was the senior officer in-charge of administration at the Southern Air Command.

For his distinguished service, Air Vice Marshal Sharma was awarded the Vayu Sena Medal in 2011, the spokesman added.

Industrialist Ratan Tata...

and guide". For the past few days, he was admitted to the Breach Candy Hospital in south Mumbai. Billionaire Harsh Goenka also tweeted about Tata's demise, calling him a "titan".

JNV students experience Legacy and Learning at GGM Science College



Students along with faculty members during the event.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Career Counselling and Placement Cell of GGM Science College, a prestigious institution renowned for its rich history and academic excellence, organized a visit of students from P.M SHRI School Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Samba in the Campus.

The visit was part of an educational excursion aimed at familiarizing the students with the historical significance of the college and providing them with a hands-on experience in scientific learning.

The students, accompanied by their teachers Sumit Kumar, Satya Parkash and Maheshvari Verma, were welcomed by the faculty and student volunteers of the college.

Principal Dr. Romesh Kumar Gupta while interacting with the visiting students briefly introduced the outstanding reputation and rich cultural legacy of the college.

He enlightened them on the value of higher education as well as the range of pro-

fessional options available for them after schooling.

The students were divided into small groups for a guided tour of the key sites within the campus by the committee members, Dr. Devinder Kumar Sharma (Convener), Dr. Ashaq Hussain, Prof Brinder Kumar, Prof. Bal Krishan, Prof. Sanjay, Prof.Reetika Rani, Dr. Nisha, Dr. Sukhdeep Singh Sasan and Prof. Arvind Kumar.

In the Zoology museum which houses a diverse collection of preserved specimens, skeletons, and models of various animal species.

The museum staff, along with professors from the Zoology Department, gave the students a detailed explanation of the different specimens on display, including rare species and extinct animals.

Engaging with them Prof. Bal Krishan spoke with them about the significance of the evolutionary history of certain species, the importance of conservation, and the role of zoology in modern scientific research. The students asked insightful ques-

tions, showing a keen interest in understanding the biodiversity preserved in the museum

In the Geology Museum, the students were introduced to a vast collection of minerals, fossils, and rock samples from various geological eras. The Geology Department's experts Dr Mateen Haffiz, Prof. Arjun Singh Rathore and Prof. Sumit guided the students through the exhibits, explaining the processes of rock formation, fossilization, and the significance of different minerals on display of ancient fossils, including a well-preserved dinosaur footprint and samples from the Paleozoic era.

After the museum tours, the students were led on a Heritage Walk around the college campus and JKCA Ground. The college, which was established in 1905 boasts remarkable colonial-era architecture and several historical landmarks.

The students expressed their gratitude for the opportunity to explore the rich academic and historical resources at GGM Science College.

129 Inf Bn (TA) organises workshop on Environment Conservation

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: 129 Inf Bn (TA) Eco JAK LI conducted workshop on Environment Conservation,



Officials of Territorial Army along with students during the workshop.

which was followed by Walkathon and mass plantation drive to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee Territorial Army on Wednesday. The event saw enthusiastic participation of 350 students and teachers, which include NCC Cadets, NSS volunteers and students of Govt Degree College, Bhargava Degree College and Army Public School Samba. The students were motivated to conserve the environment by implementing small changes in day-to-day activities.

On the occasion Pardeep Chandra P Wahule, IFS, Conservator of Forests, East Circle Jammu delivered a lecture followed by Question and Answer Session.

Two-day Induction programme for new students culminates at MIER College

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: MIER College of Education organized a two-day induction programme for the new batch of students enrolled in B.A. Honours Psychology, Political Science and English, M.A. Political Science, and M.A. Clinical Psychology and Counseling.

The first day of induction programme commenced with registration, followed by a warm welcome address by the principal, Prof. Adit Gupta.

He proudly highlighted the college's achievement of being ranked the number one autonomous College in J&K for five consecutive years by Education World Magazine.

He shared the institution's key milestones, including the introduction of the B.Ed. programme and BA honours courses in various disciplines in the private sector. He emphasized the use of ICT and MOOC platforms for effective learning and encouraged students to fully utilize the college's resources, such as the library, online journals, periodical, research facilities and the psychological laboratory. He

also delivered a session on transforming lives at MIER College.

Dr. Renu Gupta, Chairperson MIER, offered her blessings to the new students and encouraged them to give their 100% effort throughout the programme.

She shared her "eleven mantras of success," motivating the students to strive for excellence. Dr. Gupta wished everyone success in their academic and learning pursuits.

A video presentation showcasing MIER College was shared with the students, followed by an introduction session where they got to know each other. The event also featured various fun-filled games that allowed students to share and display their talents.

Two distinguished alumni, Naman Mansotra and Nirbhay Khajuria, interacted with the students, reflecting on their academic journey at the college.

They expressed heartfelt gratitude for the transformative education and invaluable experiences they gained during their time at the institution.



EMPLOYEES' PROVIDENT FUND ORGANISATION
Ministry of Labour & Employment, Govt. of India
Office of the Addl. CPFC (HQ), Zonal Office, New Delhi
Regional Office Jammu



NOTICE INVITING APPLICATIONS FOR EMPANELMENT OF ADVOCATES FOR THE BLOCK YEAR 2024-2027

Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO), a statutory body of the Ministry of Labour & Employment, Government of India, proposes to empanel Panel Counsel(s) for its Regional Offices in UT of Jammu & Kashmir to represent cases before the High Court, CGIT, CAT, DCDRF, SCDRC, NCDRC,NCLT, NCLAT and Lower/ District Court under the Jurisdiction of Zonal Office (Delhi, Uttarakhand, J&K and Ladakh).The practicing advocates who are registered with the Bar Council of India/ State Bar Council having minimum seven years of experience are eligible for empanelment for High Court and other Courts. For NCDRC, NCLAT and NCLT the eligibility period is 10 years.

The prescribed application format and other details may be downloaded from the website EPFO's at www.epfindia.gov.in. The last date of submission of application in the prescribed proforma along with supporting documents is 30.10.2024 till 18:00 hours.

Sd/-
Manish Kumar Singh
Regional P F Commissioner-I (Legal)
(Zonal Office, Delhi,Uttarakhand and J&K and Ladakh)