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STATE TIMES

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05 JK Public School Kunjwani organizes educational visit to Lemon Tree Hotel

10 Ranji Trophy Elite Group-A match: Auqib Nabi takes fifer; J&K earns three points

Website : www.statetimes.in, Email: statetimes1@gmail.com

LG invites CM-designate Omar Abdullah to take oath on Oct 16

STATE TIMES NEWS
 SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday invited National Conference leader Omar Abdullah to take oath as first chief minister of the union territory of Jammu and Kashmir on October 16.

This comes a day after the Centre revoked President's rule in Jammu and Kashmir.

In a letter to Abdullah, Sinha said, "I have received a letter of 11th October, 2024 from Dr. Farooq Abdullah, President, Jammu and Kashmir National Conference, wherein it has been informed that you have been unanimously elected as Leader of the Legislature Party."

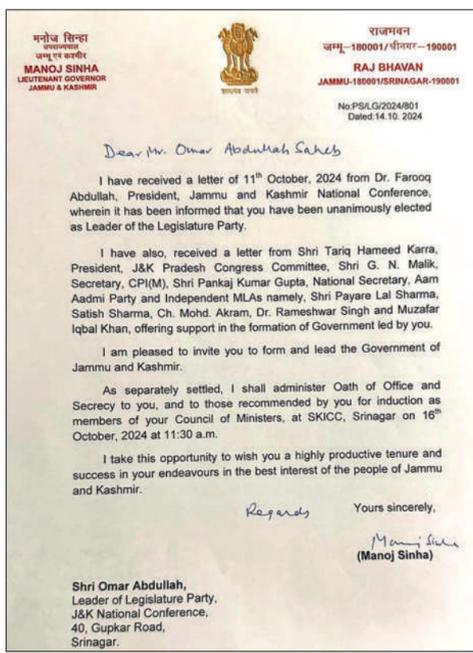
"I have also, received a letter from Shri Tariq Hameed Karra, President, J&K Pradesh Congress Committee, Shri G. N. Malik, Secretary, CPI(M), Shri Pankaj Kumar Gupta, National Secretary, Aam Aadmi Party and Independent MLAs namely, Shri Payare Lal Sharma, Satish Sharma, Ch. Mohd. Akram, Dr. Rameshwar Singh and Muzaffar Iqbal Khan, offering support in the formation of Government led by you."

"I am pleased to invite you to form and lead the Government of Jammu and Kashmir."

"As separately settled, I shall administer Oath of Office and Secrecy to you, and to those recommended by you for induction as members of your Council of Ministers, at SKICC, Srinagar on 16th October, 2024 at 11:30 a.m."

"I take this opportunity to wish you a highly productive tenure and success in your endeavours in the best interest of the people of Jammu and Kashmir."

He said he has also received a letter from Jammu and Kashmir Congress chief Tariq Hameed Karra, CPI(M) Secretary G N Malik, AAP national secretary Pankaj Kumar Gupta and Independent MLAs-elect



Payare Lal Sharma, Satish Sharma, Mohammad Akram, Rameshwar Singh and Muzaffar Iqbal Khan extending their support to the NC.

"I am pleased to invite you to form and lead the Government of Jammu and Kashmir."

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"I take this opportunity to wish you a highly productive tenure and success in your endeavours in the best interest of the people of Jammu and Kashmir."

The LG's emissary handed over the letter to Abdullah and informed him about the date and time of the

EAM Jaishankar set to arrive in Pakistan today to attend SCO meeting
STATE TIMES NEWS
 LAHORE: External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar is set to land in Pakistan on Tuesday to attend a conclave of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), in the first high-level visit from India in years amid continuing strain in ties between the two neighbours.

Shortly after he arrives in Islamabad, the external

GoC visits forward areas, reviews ops preparedness
STATE TIMES NEWS
 JAMMU: A General Officer Commanding of the Army's 16 Corps visited forward areas along Line of Control (LoC) in Rajouri district on Monday and reviewed the operational preparedness of the troops.

Lieutenant General Navin Sachdeva also inaugurated a community learning centre in the forward area along the LoC. General Officer Commanding of the

SC refuses to entertain plea against LG's power to nominate 5 MLAs in J&K assembly

STATE TIMES NEWS
 NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Monday refused to entertain a plea challenging the power vested in the Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor (LG) to nominate five members to the Legislative Assembly of the union territory.

A bench of Justices Sanjiv Khanna and Sanjay Kumar asked the petitioner Ravinder Kumar Sharma to approach the high court.

"In cases where we have entertained a petition at the first instance, we find that many things are left out," the bench said as it gave liberty to the petitioner to approach the high court.

In the recently concluded election, Jammu and Kashmir National Conference-Congress alliance got a majority with 48 seats in the 90-member assembly.

The bench said it is not inclined to entertain the peti-



tion under Article 32 of the Constitution and clarified that it has not expressed any opinion on the merits of the issue.

Senior advocate Abhishek Singhvi, appearing for the petitioner, said that such nomination could throttle the electoral verdict and it was an issue, which dealt with the basic structure of the Constitution.

"We are three above the majority. The total of all the others is 42. If you nominate five, they become 47 and I

Tarun Chugh criticises Kejriwal, praises Maharashtra Govt

STATE TIMES NEWS
 JAMMU: BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh on Monday expressed strong criticism of Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, likening his political situation to being an outsider at a wedding.

Chugh emphasized that Kejriwal has plunged Delhi into chaos and left Punjab grappling with significant debt. Despite these challenges, Kejriwal continues to position himself as a teacher of political



virtues, a stance that Chugh finds questionable.

"The people of Jammu and Kashmir, along with those in Haryana, have clearly voiced their discontent with Kejriwal's leadership."

India withdraws high commissioner, other officials from Canada; expels 6 Canadian diplomats

STATE TIMES NEWS
 NEW DELHI: India on Monday expelled six Canadian diplomats and announced withdrawing its high commissioner and other "targeted" officials from Canada after strongly dismissing Ottawa's allegations linking the envoy to a probe into the killing of Sikh extremist Hardeep Singh Nijjar, in a major downturn in already frosty ties between the two nations.

India's decision to recall High Commissioner Sanjay Verma and some other diplomats came shortly after the Canadian Charge d'Affaires

Stewart Wheelers was summoned to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA). Wheelers was bluntly told that baseless "targeting" of the Indian envoy and other officials was "completely unacceptable".

The Washington Post, quoting unnamed Canadian officials, reported that Canada on Monday ordered six Indian diplomats to leave the country, including Verma and the top consular official in Toronto.

In a late evening statement, the MEA said India has asked six Canadian diplomats including Charge

d'Affaires Wheelers and Deputy High Commissioner Patrick Hebert to leave India by or before 11:59 pm on October 19.

The other diplomats expelled are Marie Catherine Joly, Ian Ross David Trites, Adam James Chuijka and Paula Orjuela (all first secretaries).

In its reaction to Canada's charges against Verma, New Delhi described them as "concocted" and "preposterous imputations" and ascribed the allegations to the "political agenda of the Trudeau government that is centred around vote bank

J&K LSA felicitates CJ Tashi Rabstan

STATE TIMES NEWS
 SRINAGAR: A team of officers and officials of Jammu & Kashmir Legal Services Authority led by Amit Kumar Gupta, Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority on Monday felicitated Justice Tashi Rabstan on his appointment as the 37th Chief Justice of High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, (Patron-in Chief of J&K Legal Services Authority) during a function held at Srinagar.

The Chief Justice acknowledged the unwavering efforts of the Legal Services Institutions in promoting

access to justice for all, especially the marginalized and underprivileged communities. He emphasised the requirement and importance of continued outreach activities of the Authority and raising awareness on legal rights and services available to the public.

The Chief Justice expressed his resolve and commitment towards ensuring that the judiciary and Legal Aid Institutions, work in unison to provide speedy and effective justice to the people of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. "Elevation of Justice Tashi

Five Accounts Officers transferred

STATE TIMES NEWS
 JAMMU: The government on Monday transferred five Members of J&K Accounts Service.

According to the order issued by Santosh D Vaidya, Principal Secretary, Finance Department, Pankaj Gupta, Accounts Officer, awaiting orders of adjustment, has been transferred and posted as Accounts Officer, District Jail Udhampur; Mohd Yousuf Najar, I/C Accounts Officer, awaiting orders of adjustment, has been transferred and posted as Accounts Officer District Fund Office Kulgam; Shamim Ajaz, I/C Accounts Officer, holding look-after charge of Accounts Officer, Addl. Commissioner State Taxes (A&E) Srinagar, has been posted on full time basis; Mohd Yasin Sofi, I/C Accounts Officer, holding look-after charge of Accounts Officer, District Fund Office Srinagar, has been posted on full time basis; and Shakti Bhushan I/C Accounts Officer, temporarily deployed to

SC's expansion about building capacity for justice: CJI

STATE TIMES NEWS
 NEW DELHI: Chief Justice of India (CJI) D Y Chandrachud on Monday said that expansion of the Supreme Court premises was a reflection of the collective commitment to the ideals of justice and the rule of law apart from building capacity for justice for the citizens.

Speaking during the ceremony for the expansion of the apex court, the CJI said it was not about adding space but expanding the capabilities to deliver justice in a timely and dignified manner.

"Today, we lay the corner-



stone for the future of our justice system. A future that promises progress, accessibility and modernity. As the nation evolves, so do the challenges that our legal system face," he said.

Besides the CJI, Union Housing and Urban Affairs

Minister Manohar Lal, Union Minister of State, Law and Justice (independent charge) Arjun Ram Meghwal, apex court judges, Justices Sanjiv Khanna and B R Gavai, also addressed the gathering.

"This event is not only a symbol of growth, but also a testament to the evolving journey of justice in our country," the CJI further underlined.

He said the expansion of the apex court was designed to accommodate the increasing case load, new judicial benches and the

Hunt against drugs, narco trade will continue with no laxity: Amit Shah

STATE TIMES NEWS
 NEW DELHI: A day after seizure of cocaine worth Rs 5,000 crore in Gujarat, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said on Monday that the hunt against drugs and narco trade will continue with no laxity.

Shah said the Modi government is committed to building a drug-free Bharat by protecting the youth from the scourge of drugs.

"I congratulate Delhi Police for the series of successful operations seizing drugs worth Rs 13,000 crore, including the recent one with Gujarat Police

ED attaches assets of J&K CET-2012 medical paper leak case accused

STATE TIMES NEWS
 JAMMU: The Enforcement Directorate on Monday issued a fresh attachment order for properties worth Rs 1.31 crore in connection with its money laundering investigation into the alleged leak of medical exam paper Jammu and Kashmir CET-2012.

Four immovable properties Sajad Hussain Bhat, Mohd Amin Ganie, Suhail Ahmad Wani and Shabir Ahmad Dar located in Srinagar and its nearby places have been frozen after a provisional order

was issued by the agency under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

The money laundering case stems from an FIR of the Jammu and Kashmir Police was filed against Mushtaq Ahmed Peer, the then Chairman of the Board of Professional Entrance Examination (BOPEE), and others.

Assets of Peer, worth Rs 60 lakh, were attached by the ED earlier and a chargesheet was also filed under the PMLA.

A special anti-corruption court based in Srinagar had earlier convicted the four persons whose properties have been attached under the anti-money laundering law, the ED said.

Peer and others -- among them Farooq Ahmad Ito, Sajad Hussain Bhat, Mohd Amin Ganie, Suhail Ahmad Wani, Shabir Ahmad Dar -- were involved in the sale of the "leaked" question papers of JK CET 2012, the agency said. By selling question papers of JK CET-2012, they generated proceeds of crime to the tune of Rs 2.50 crore and utilised them, it said.

WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
 Max: 31.3°C Min: 19.7°C

Humidity
 Max: 76 Min: 54

Temperature (Srinagar)
 Max: 26.0°C Min: 8.5°C

Humidity
 Max: 71 Min: 56

Sunset : 17:59 Hours
 Sunrise : 06:33 Hours

Khel Khatam ! Ab ? Jammu State?

PROF. NUTAN K. RESUTRA
 "Sahebaan, Kadardaana, Meharbaan. Khatam hotahai Elections ka Khel Aalishaan! Jamure; uth aur sab ko karSalaam. Chal ab Maharashtra chalte hain! Wahan bhi elections announce hone waley hain."

Jamure: "Magar Ustad, ab Jammu ka Kya hoga?"
 Ustad: "Tum ne woh gana nahin suna: Arey paagal wahi hoga, jo manzooore Khudahoga."
 Jamure: "Aisa?"
 Ustad: "Bilkul vaisa!"
 Jamure: "Magar yeh situation tu Jammu ke logon ke saath na-insafi hai."
 Ustad: "Yeh na-insafi kab nahi thi Jamure? Dogra rule khatam hone se dekhte aa rahein hain. Kahin pe nigahen, kahin pe nishana: Kurbani dene ko Jammu aur khush karney ko woh. Magar tu aaj kaisi baate inkar raha hai. In se mujhey politics ki boo

was at the mercy of even the lowest of the official hierarchy. I once happened to talk to the district chief of a particular party, who lamented that even a Chief Education Officer was not ready to oblige them on petty issue of change of zone of a teacher. But now we all do have a ray of hope.

The new government will be formed and departments entrusted to the Ministers, who would try their best to make improvements in existing system and usher in new projects with vibrant. The routine shall continue as it was a decade before. Good. Let God help us in making the State; Oops; Union Territory a better one! But the election results have raised some serious issues as well.

There is clear emergence of vote polarisation. Reason? We will not discuss here. While in Jammu Province BJP got lion's share, so did the NC in Kashmir. The Congress seemed to be washed out in Jammu, it's otherwise a stronghold. Not even the stalwarts could make a comeback.

But the non-existence of Congress is not the issue: the issue is whether to now?

Where are we headed, and what are the writings on the wall.

I want to admit frankly before my highly intellectual readers that I am no Pandit or expert of politics; nor am I a part of the so-called think-tank that dwells upon the plans, policies and strategies of the party. I am just a common man. But it goes without saying that a common man who does not speak more, decides more. And as a common man I feel that now Jammu as a whole stands totally sidelined, secluded and irrelevant in the corridors of power. The media claim that the man from Bani or Chhamb, who recently joined the NC could be inducted into cabinet to give supposedly representation to Jammu Province also. Bravo!!

The message of elections is crystal clear. The Valley has outrightly rejected the Central policies and has given its own verdict: no more now. The greater number of Assembly seats even after delimitation process; a folly on the part of the Centre to please the Valley; has surely maintained their edge. And legally they are hundred percent right.

I have a different feeling; a different view.

I do not just think, but I strongly believe that now is the right time to start proceeding seriously towards the making of Jammu State!

And this is indeed the right time to do so. There is another aspect too to my proposition, which is quite simple.

The people of Ladakh, after having fought for umpteen years for the UT got it; but now they want to go back to the Statehood. They are being led by Sonam Wangchuk, an environmentalist and a Magsaysay Awardee. With all respect to Wangchuk, I want to recall my readers that Arvind Kejriwal had also been conferred with the same award and the history and behind-the-scene-players of this award are too dubious. Why is Wangchuk and others too desperate to go back to the old system? Let readers decide.

My solution to both issues is; once again introduce an Amendment in the Constitution whereby Statehood is conferred upon both Ladakh and Kashmir Province by making them one State which can be named

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