

!! Continuations from Page 1 !! Modi dares Congress...

of partition. It was the Congress which accepted the country's partition for the sake of power," he said.

The Congress had gifted Katchatheevu island to Sri Lanka nearly 30 years ago as it was their personal property, he said.

"If Sardar Patel was not present, Junagadh would have gone to Pakistan. The Congress will create a dangerous situation for the country if it comes to power. They may give away the Kutch desert claiming no one lives there," he said.

The Congress just does not care and had given away several uninhabited islands, the PM pointed out, adding "if given a free hand" that party will "sell off the Himalayan peaks".

Attacking Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge over a recent remark pertaining to Lord Ram and Lord Shiva, the PM said the opposition party had declared this election is a fight against Lord Ram.

"The Congress president said his objective was to defeat Lord Ram and that Lord Shiva will defeat Lord Ram. What are they thinking? The Mughals destroyed Ram Temple in Ayodhya and Somnath Temple with this same mentality," the PM asserted.

Speaking about reservation for Muslims, Modi said after Independence it was decided following careful deliberations that religion-based quotas would not be given. "Those deliberations went on for months. And no BJP or RSS leader was in the picture. Learned Congress leaders as well as Babasaheb Ambedkar took part in the discussion. After deliberations, they decided reservation will not be granted on the basis of religion," he said. The Congress now wants to snatch such quota and give it to others, Modi said.

Rahul's Bharat Jodo...

Secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, and SP's Akhilesh Yadav did not attend the Ram Temple consecration ceremony in Ayodhya fearing their going may alienate their vote bank.

"The 'shehzade' (prince) of 'ghamandia' INDI Alliance started his election campaign with Bharat Jodo Yatra but on June 4 (counting day), it will end with a 'Congress Dhoondho Yatra'," Shah said.

He said Rahul and Akhilesh called COVID vaccine "Modi ki vaccine" and "did politics" on it when the country was battling a pandemic. "Akhilesh himself went in the night and took the vaccine with Dimple Bhabhi," he said.

"In the first two phases, Congress is nowhere, while Narendra Modi has made a century and taken a lead in the '400 race' (race to 400 seats)," he said.

Shah hit out at the INDIA bloc partner Samajwadi Party, saying it indulges in dynastic politics, for its president Akhilesh Yadav has given tickets to five members of his family in the current election.

He said that while Akhilesh is contesting from Kannauj and his wife Dimple Yadav is in fray from Mainpuri, Akshay Yadav, Aditya Yadav, and Dharmendra Yadav, all three his family members, are contenders from Firozabad, Budaun, and Azamgarh.

"Had he given a ticket to some Yadav youths, it would have been better," he said.

Shah said that for the past 70 years, Congress had been stalling the Ram Temple construction, a task the BJP finished.

"When you made Modi PM for the second time, within five years, we won the case, did the groundbreaking, and performed the consecration ceremony of the temple on January 22. Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav, Dimple, Rahul and Priyanka, all were invited by the temple trust but they did not attend the consecration ceremony because of the fear of their vote bank," Shah said.

"You all know who their vote bank is," he added.

Shah claimed that Uttar Pradesh was riven with communal riots till 2017, when Yogi Adityanath came to power, made it riot-free, and stopped residents' exodus from western UP.

"In Yogi's regime, it is the hooligans who are migrating," he said.

In Samajwadi Party's UP, factories forged country-made pistols, but now they manufacture tanks and missiles that will be fired on Pakistan, he said.

Claiming that the Opposition's INDIA bloc is torn with internal differences, he said, "Akhilesh wants to become a chief minister. Sonia ji wants his son (Rahul Gandhi) to become the prime minister. Those who are working to make their family members PM and CM, can they think of the poor's welfare?"

In Budaun, Shah referred to renovation and other work done on religious places by the Modi government.

"Be it 'Mahakal ka darbar', Kedarnath Dham, Badrinath Dham or covering with gold of Somnath temple, Modi made places of faith more energetic. Will SP, BSP and Congress do that?" Shah said.

Addressing a public meeting in Sitapur, Shah said, "When the Sonia-Manmohan government, supported by SP-BSP, was in power, incidents of terrorism, facilitated by infiltrators, were rampant. They used to enter the country and carry out bomb blasts.

"There was minimal response. However, post-2014, when Pakistan attempted incursions in Uri and Pulwama, under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, just in 10 days, we entered Pakistan and eliminated the terrorists by carrying out surgical and air strikes."

Bareilly and Budaun will go to poll in the third phase on May 7 while polling in Sitapur is on May 13.

CIK arrests youth...

these hybrid OGW in connivance with Pak terrorist handlers are planning a terrorist recruitment drive in the valley," they added.

The officials said that based on these inputs the target youth was identified as Waseem Ahmed Sheikh and accordingly detained for questioning.

"During preliminary investigation, it was revealed that Sheikh was in constant touch with Pak based terrorist handlers through virtual mode identified as aliases Zakir Bhai, Sulfe Bhai, Gazez Hams, Nisar Kaloch, Rizwaan Baie, Anzar Bhai, Wahid Baie, Hyder Bhai and Saifulla Baie. He was about to join AuGH terrorist outfit by forming a new group," they said.

The officials said that Sheikh was assigned to identify a group of youth willing to join terrorism with AuGH terrorist outfit.

"Investigation further revealed that he was a part of many WhatsApp/Telegram groups associated with terrorist outfits. Further investigation is on to identify other members of such groups to take further legal action against them," they added.

Intruder might have...

to advance aggressively. Even after being challenged twice more, the intruder did not halt, leading to the troops firing at him," BSF Inspector General (IG) D K Boora told reporters during his visit to a forward post here.

He said the intruder might have been sent to conduct reconnaissance of the area and assess the security along the border.

"There is a gap in the embankment near the spot of the incident and also a gate, which is usually closed. He attempted to breach the border. There is a possibility that he was being followed by more individuals from across (the border) but they were not visible (to the troops)," the officer added.

Voicing suspicion that the intruder could have been part of an infiltration plan, the IG said, "He might have been sent to probe the area. Had he succeeded in sneaking in from across the border, others who might have been observing him would have followed him. Such tactics are employed at the border."

Lauding the troops, the IG said, "Our alert troops neutralised the intruder. That is our duty. Such actions also serve to demoralise the enemy."

Responding to concerns raised by police about two groups of terrorists, who recently infiltrated from across the border, reportedly hiding in the Basantgarh hills, the officer said, "I can only comment on this particular incident. Basantgarh is not within our operational area, it is quite distant. Police are investigating and we will learn of the outcome in due course."

Asked about potential infiltration attempts along the IB, he dismissed any such incidents, saying, "We have no information about any infiltration attempts along the International Border."

CS calls for...

agricultural prosperity in Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting, attended by senior officials and representatives from the Agriculture Production Department, lead bank, and other stakeholders, focused on enhancing support for farmers through efficient utilization of available resources.

Principal Secretary, Agriculture Production Department, Shailendra Kumar, presented an overview of the current credit-linked schemes designed to benefit the farmers.

During the meeting, emphasis was laid on understanding the intricacies of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM KISAN) scheme, particularly regarding land seeding dependencies, and outlining measures to mitigate any associated delays. Deliberations also encompassed the status of Kisan Credit Card (KCC) programme, including the sanctioned amounts and total outstanding balances, with a spotlight on issuance of fresh KCCs in the current fiscal year.

The meeting assessed progress made in the past three months regarding the Agri Infrastructure Fund (AIF), as well as discussions on the Animal Husbandry

Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF), PMFME, HDP, RGM, National Livestock Mission, and other pertinent schemes.

Nine more candidates...

Kashmir People's Democratic Party, Farooq Ahmad Bhat from National Youth Party J&K Unit, Irfan Ahmad Chack from Bharat Jodo Party filed their nomination papers before the RO for 1-Baramulla Parliamentary Constituency.

Similarly, Khurshed Ahmad Shah from Rashtriya Jankranti Party, Mehraj Uddin Najar, Independent Candidate; Basharat Hussain Najar, Independent Candidate and Abdul Hamid Gajree from Aam Janta Party Democratic submitted their nomination papers at the office of the RO, 1-Baramulla Parliamentary Constituency.

A total of 19 candidates have so far filed their nomination papers to contest election from 1-Baramulla Parliamentary Constituency. Pertinently, the last date for filing of nomination papers to contest Lok Sabha elections 2024 for 1-Baramulla Parliamentary Constituency is 3rd of May till 3:00 PM.

Regional parties dividing...

its unwavering focus on development, progress, and unity. He said the party is dedicated to addressing public issues in Parliament without discrimination against any community.

"As MP and Leader of Opposition, I advocated for all citizens, irrespective of their religious or cultural background," Azad said.

"Whether it's Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs, or Christians, we stand firm against discrimination of any form", he said, adding: "We believe in a society where every individual's rights and dignity are respected. Our commitment remains steadfast in championing the cause of unity, progress, and inclusive development for all."

Azad pointed to the establishment of colleges, schools, hospitals, and roads as key achievements, emphasizing the imperative to continue such initiatives.

"As Chief Minister, our government prioritized development projects across Jammu and Kashmir without any form of discrimination," he remarked, adding that establishment of educational institutions, healthcare facilities and infrastructure exemplifies our unwavering dedication to fostering progress and prosperity.

Azad stressed the importance of sustaining and expanding these efforts to uplift all regions and communities within Jammu and Kashmir:

"Our singular agenda remains resolute: to propel the region towards comprehensive development," Azad said, asserting that the DPAP is dedicated to advancing initiatives that improve the lives of all residents, regardless of their backgrounds.

On the recent departure of several leaders from the Congress, Azad voiced apprehension about the potential depletion of the party's ranks even before the announcement of results.

Azad attributed the exodus to disillusionment with, what he described, as a pattern of appeasement and ineffective leadership.

Misleading leaders with inaccurate feedback is counterproductive, and a loyal leader would never deceive the high command, he observed, adding that if the high command fails to heed or act upon constructive advice, it's preferable to step down rather than endure humiliation.

Azad urged the people to support his Lok Sabha candidate, Adv. Saleem Parray, in the upcoming election.

Describing Parray as a beacon of honesty, youthfulness, and full of unwavering dedication, he exuded confidence in his ability to represent the people effectively in Parliament.

"I wholeheartedly endorse Adv. Saleem Parray as a candidate, who embodies integrity, youthfulness, and a steadfast commitment to public service," Azad declared.

"I assure you that he will advocate for your concerns in Parliament with the same fervor and diligence that he has demonstrated in the past", he said.

Among others present on the occasion were General Secretary R.S Chib, Riyaz Naz Secretary and others.

Greater Kailash Murder...



his land grabbing business will not operate anymore", said social activist Amandeep Singh Boparia.

"We demand a CBI inquiry in this murder case keeping in mind the involvement of several people. A CBI inquiry is must otherwise we will not receive justice. If government wants then anything can be brought to light in Avatar's murder case", an RTI activist Balwinder Singh said.

EX-DDC Taranjit Singh Tony also demanded action against revenue officials. All the accused who supported Gola in his land encroachment business, should not be spared. He also demanded CBI inquiry.

"We are trying to gain the confidence of deceased's family members on our side. We can understand resentment of the people against police and the inaction happened by the police side has been dealt by law. The probe in this murder case is going in a fast track manner. We request locals to tell us about more involved people and we are thoroughly probing the indulgence of influential people in this case. We know and are knowing more about this case and we want public support to hold accountable the culprits in this murder case", a senior police official on the sidelines of agitation said.

ADGP Jammu Anand Jain, DIG Jammu Sunil Gupta SSP Jammu Vinod Kumar, SP South Ajay Sharma visited the dharna site and assured the protesters that fair investigations will be conducted to book all those who are part of this conspiracy and negligence of part of police deployed on the spot.

The protesters lifted the dharna on the assurance that the action will be taken

against all involved in the murder case.

Stop registering voters...

various surveys for their proposed beneficiary schemes and cautioned that it amounts to a corrupt practice under the electoral law.

The poll panel pointed out that some political parties and candidates have been engaging in activities that "blur the lines between legitimate surveys and partisan efforts" to register individuals for post-election beneficiary-oriented schemes.

In an advisory to all national and state-level political parties, the commission asked them to immediately "cease and desist" from any activity that involves registering people for such post-election schemes through advertisements, surveys or mobile applications.

At the same time, the poll panel acknowledged that "generic and general electoral promises" are in the realm of permissibility.

It said the act of inviting or calling upon individual electors to register for post-election benefits may create an impression of the requirement of a one-to-one transactional relationship between the elector and the proposed benefit, and has the potential to generate a quid pro quo arrangement for voting in a particular way, thereby leading to inducement.

The EC also noted that such activities obscure the distinction between authentic surveys and biased attempts to enrol people in programmes for political gain -- all while masquerading as legitimate survey activities or efforts to inform about government programmes or party agendas related to potential individual benefits.

The election watchdog has directed all district election officers to take appropriate action against any such advertisement within the statutory provisions, including section 127A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 (which prohibits printing or publishing of any election pamphlet or poster which does not bear the name and addresses of the printer and publisher).

The other provisions the EC has asked its officials to use to clamp down on such practices are section 123 (1) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 (corrupt practices), and section 171 (B) of IPC (accepting gratification).

The EC also cited examples of activities which "obscure the distinction between authentic surveys and biased attempts to enrol people in programmes for political gain".

These include newspaper advertisements calling upon individual voters to register themselves for benefits by giving missed calls or calling a phone number.

The poll body also cited the distribution of guarantee cards in the form of pamphlets giving details of prospective individual benefits along with an attached form asking for details of voters such as name, age, address, mobile number, booth number and constituency name.

It flagged the distribution of forms seeking details of voters such as name, ration card number, address, phone number, booth number, bank account number constituency name and number in the name of "socio-economic survey" of prospective beneficiaries for expanding an ongoing government benefit scheme.

Bhupinder gets...

Bhupinder Kumar, IAS. "Consequent to the approval of the Competent Authority in the Department of Personnel and Training, Government of India, Bhupinder Kumar, IAS (AGMUT:2011) is appointed to the post of Director of Census Operations (DCO)/ Director of Citizen Registration (DCR) for the Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh under the Central Staffing Scheme on additional charge basis, with immediate effect, in addition to his own duties, upto December 31, 2025 or until further orders, whichever is earlier," reads an order issued by Sanjeev Verma, Commissioner/ Secretary, General Administration Department.

LG calls for expediting work on Transit Accommodations for PM Package Employees



Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha chairing a meeting at Srinagar.

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Thursday chaired a meeting with senior officials and reviewed the ongoing construction work of the Transit Accommodations for PM Package Employees.

The Lt Governor took appraisal of the progress of Transit Accommodations across the Kashmir Division.

He directed the officials to accelerate the pace of work and complete the construction and associated infrastructure, approach roads, water and power supply and other basic amenities.

The meeting was attended by Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Dr Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lt Governor; Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; G Prasanna Ramaswamy, Secretary Revenue Department; Bupinder Kumar, Secretary, Public Works (R&B); Anil Koul, Secretary to Government, Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation & Reconstruction Department and other senior officials.

DEO Srinagar organizes 'Jashn e Jugalbandi' under SVEEP at historical Polo View Market

CEO J&K presides over as chief guest; appeals voters' especially first time voters to cast their vote on May 13

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: A musical evening 'Jashn e Jugalbandi' under Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) was on Thursday organised by the District Election Office at Polo View market, here.

Chief Election Officer (CEO), J&K, Pandurang K Pole was the chief guest, while District Election Officer (DEO) Srinagar, Dr: Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din; Nodal Officer SVEEP, Chief Education Officer Srinagar, officers from District Administration, Information and Public Relations, Tourism, Excise and Taxation, Education besides other departments also attended the event.

On the occasion, suffi songs with Jugalbandi were presented by the artists with main attraction being Sanson ki Maala, Chaap Tilak blended with voter motivational lyrics in jugalbandi. People also grooved on popular Punjabi suffi number Dum Gutkoo. Speaking on the occasion, the CEO said that the objective of this event is to enhance voter awareness and boost the public participation in the upcoming Lok Sabha Elections particularly sensitizing the young voters about the value of vote.

He said our constitution has given us the right to vote to choose the candidate of our choice and appealed voters' especially first time voters, to cast their vote on 13th May 2024, the day 02-Srinagar Parliamentary Constituency is undergoing polls.

Pole appreciated Kashmiri talented youth, students and the guest performers.

Several banners, posters and SVEEP selfie stands were placed at the venue by the District Election Authority Srinagar where participants and passersby captured memorable selfies. Later speaking to the media, the CEO said that a great enthusiasm is found among voters especially our youth. Their vote is going to satisfy them in terms of employment, development and prosperity. The historical Polo View Market was decorated in such a way that it exhibited a festive ambience. Meanwhile, people flock the venue in large numbers to watch the musical evening, and were equally mesmerized by the suffi performances. Students and guest performers were awarded by the chief guest. The CEO released the Tricolour balloons in air as a mark to cheer up young voters to exercise their franchise. An election mascot was also displayed that captivated the participants and enthused them for voting.

