

**Neelha**  
Multispeciality Institute

**Dr. Shitiz Gupta**  
M.S., M.Ch.(Plastic Surgery)  
Consultant Plastic & Aesthetic Surgeon

**Dr. Shikha Dhawan**  
M.S.(Obs. & Gynae.), D.N.B.(Obs. & Gynae.)  
Consultant Obstetrician & Gynaecologist

24-A, Shastri Nagar  
(at Dr. Bharat Bhushan Gupta's Clinic), Jammu.  
☎ 9419114877

# STATE TIMES

THE BOLD VOICE OF J&K

**J.K. PUBLIC SCHOOL**  
KUNJWANI, JAMMU  
The School with a Difference

**SOWING SKILLS**

**SHAPING INDIA**

RNI No. : 66908/96

Vol. 29 Issue 231 • Jammu • Wednesday • August 21, 2024 • Pages 12 • ₹ 5.00

Air surcharge 50 paise for Leh

**03** Agro Tech Aromatics Pvt Ltd: Pioneering Innovation in J&K with Comprehensive Testing Services

**05** ACB arrests VLW for demanding Rs 20, 000 bribe

**10** Record 1400 participation in J&K Athletics Championship

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

## ECI issues notification for 1st phase of J&K elections

Last date of filing nominations Aug 27, polling on Sept. 18

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

**SRINAGAR:** Election Commission of India (ECI), on Tuesday issued election notification for the 1st phase of the General Elections to the Legislative Assembly of Jammu and Kashmir.

24 Assembly constituencies (ACs) in the districts of Anantnag, Pulwama, Shopian, Kulgam, Doda, Ramban and Kishtwar shall go to polls in the first phase while polling for the rest shall be held in the second and third phases.

In Kashmir Division 16 Assembly Constituencies comprising 32- Pampore; 33- Tral; 34- Pulwama; 35- Rajpora; 36- Zainapora; 37- Shopian; 38- D.H. Pora; 39- Kulgam; 40- Devsar; 41- Dooru; 42- Kokernag (ST); 43- Anantnag West; 44- Anantnag; 45- Srigufwara -

**SSR of Photo Electoral Rolls concludes**

▶▶ Electorate reaches 88.03 lakh: 44.89 lakh male; 43.13 lakh female, 168 third-gender voters

▶▶ Polling Stations increased to 11,838 across UT

**SRINAGAR:** With the stage all set for the Elections to the Legislative Assembly of Jammu and Kashmir, the region has witnessed a significant increase of over 93 thousand new voters, courtesy the corresponding rise in the number of young and women voters, even as the number of polling stations across the Union Territory has also gone up by 209.

This came to fore as the Special Summary of Photo Electoral Rolls with qualifying date 01 July 2024 was successfully completed in all twenty districts of Jammu and Kashmir, the Chief Electoral Officer, J&K UT informed on Tuesday.

"With focus on ensuring accuracy, inclusivity, and purity of electoral rolls, the mammoth Special Summary Revision exercise has been completed successfully in Jammu and Kashmir. We have been able to include all the eligible citizens who have turned 18 or those who have registered for the first time, as well as to identify and remove ineligible voters, besides correcting errors and discrepancies, in order to improve the health and accuracy of electoral rolls," the CEO said on Tuesday.

The CEO reiterated the commitment to enhance voter participation and inclusivity as well as to ensure the integrity of electoral processes as he detailed

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Bijbehara; 46- Shangus - Anantnag East; 47- Pahalgam and in Jammu Division 08 Assembly Constituencies comprising 48- Inderwal; 49- Kishtwar; 50- Padder - Nagseni; 51-Bhadarwah; 52- Doda; 53-Doda West; 54- Ramban and 55- Banihal are scheduled to go to polls in the first phase of the electoral process.

As per the Notification, the last date for filing nominations is August 27, 2024. Scrutiny of the nomination papers shall take place on August 28, 2024 and last date of withdrawal of candidature is August 30, 2024.

The polling day for these Assembly constituencies is scheduled for September 18, 2024, and the Polling will be conducted from 07:00 AM to 06:00 PM, the notification reads.

**PDP chief spokesperson Suhail Bukhari quits**

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

**SRINAGAR:** PDP chief spokesperson Suhail Bukhari on Tuesday quit the party ahead of the Assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir.

Bukhari was apparently miffed at not being given the mandate to contest the polls.

He had hoped to contest the polls from Wagoora-Kreeri, but the return of former minister Basharat Bukhari to the PDP last month diminished his chances of getting the ticket. Bukhari, a

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

## Ram Madhav, G Kishan Reddy appointed as BJP in-charge for J&K Assembly Polls

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

**NEW DELHI:** The BJP on Tuesday appointed its former national general secretary Ram Madhav and Union minister G Kishan Reddy as in-charge for the upcoming assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir.

A statement to this effect was issued by party national general secretary Arun Singh here.

"BJP national president JP Nadda has appointed Ram Madhav, former national general secretary,



and Union minister G Kishan Reddy as election in-charge for upcoming assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir," it said. "This appointment comes into effect immediately," the statement said.

**Two back-to-back earthquakes strike Baramulla**

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

**SRINAGAR:** Two back-to-back earthquakes jolted Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday morning causing panic across the Valley, but there were no reports of loss of life or damage to property, officials said.

The first earthquake of magnitude 4.9 on the Richter Scale struck at 6:45 am at a latitude of 34.17 north and a longitude of 74.16 east at a depth of 5 km with the epicentre in Baramulla district of north Kashmir, the officials

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

**Four children, women among 12 injured in stray dog attack**

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

**MENDHAR/JAMMU:** Twelve people, including two each of school children and women, were injured when a rabid dog attacked them in Poonch district on Tuesday, officials said here.

According to the officials, the incident took place in Mendhar town of the border district between 8 am and 8.30 am.

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

**WEATHER**

**Temperature (Jammu)**  
Max: 32.1°C Min: 21.0°C

**Humidity**  
Max: 98 Min: 76

**Temperature (Srinagar)**  
Max: 27.5°C Min: 18.9°C

**Humidity**  
Max: 96 Min: 50

Sunset : 19:10 Hours  
Sunrise : 05:57 Hours

## CS takes stock of security, other arrangements for upcoming polls



Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo chairing a meeting at Srinagar.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

**SRINAGAR:** Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo on Tuesday held a meeting of top Civil Administration and Police Department to take stock of the security arrangements made for smooth conduct of assembly elections here in the UT.

Besides the DG Police and Principal Secretary, Home the meeting was also attended by Spl DGP; Spl DG Crime; ADGPs; Divisional Commissioner,

Kashmir/Jammu; Secretary, Transport; IGP Jammu/Kashmir; Transport Commissioner; DIGs; Deputy Commissioners; SSPs and other concerned officers.

Outstation officers participated in the meeting through video conferencing.

The Chief Secretary took this occasion to impress upon the concerned to make robust arrangements for additional companies of CAPFs required in each district.

He asked for identification of feasible locations for camping these security forces which are amenable in terms of basic amenities like

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

## SC raps WB Govt over doc's rape, murder; forms panel for safety of medical professionals

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

**NEW DELHI:** Amid spiralling nation-wide protests over the rape and murder of a trainee doctor at Kolkata's RG Kar Medical College and Hospital, the Supreme Court on Tuesday constituted a 10-member National Task Force (NTPF) to formulate a protocol for ensuring the safety and security of doctors and other health care professionals.

Termining the incident as "horrific", the apex court excoriated the state government over the delay in filing the FIR and allowing thousands of miscreants to vandalise the state-run facility.

It also asked the West Bengal government to not unleash the "power of the State" on peaceful protesters

and to deal with them with "great sensitivity in this moment of national catharsis".

The 10-member task force headed by Vice Admiral Arti Sarin has been asked to submit its interim report within three weeks.

The Supreme Court, which directed the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to submit a status report on the progress made in its investigation into the killing, also asked the state government to submit a report on the action it has taken against the vandals.

The court also expressed its deep concern over the name of the victim, her photographs and video clips showing her lifeless body having been splashed all over the

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

## UPSC drops latest lateral-entry recruitment drive

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

**NEW DELHI:** The UPSC on Tuesday cancelled its latest advertisement to fill key posts in government departments through lateral entry, amid a political row over the lack of a reservation provision for those positions.

The move came after Union Minister of State for Personnel Jitendra Singh wrote to Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) Chairperson Preeti Sudan to cancel the advertisement, so that marginalised communities get their rightful representation in government services.

The commission had, on August 17, issued a notification for the recruitment of 45 posts -- 10 of joint secretaries and 35 of directors

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

## Major underground terrorist hideout busted in Rajouri

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

**RAJOURI/JAMMU:**

Security forces Tuesday busted a major underground terrorist hideout in the Rajouri district of Jammu and Kashmir, recovering a large quantity of daily use items and some ammunition, officials said.

The well-built hideout was unearthed during a cordon and search operation by a joint party of police, Army and CRPF at Sagrawat forest in the Darhal area of the border district, the officials said.

A police spokesman said the underground hideout was covered with soil for camouflage.

He said the search of the hideout led to the recovery of



four cooking gas cylinders, six empty AK rifle magazines, one pistol magazine with 13 bullets, one INSAS rifle magazine with 19 rounds, one communication set, one solar light with plate, one pair of hand gloves and wheat flour.

Other items seized from the hideout included dry fruits,

five and two litres capacity cookers, 30 pencil cells, two blankets, three bags, 40 litre water can, three power banks, one data cable, one adaptor, pair of shoes, one wire cutter, one screwdriver, one tiffin, one body warmer set, six hand grips, two torches, one pack of washing

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

## NC manifesto shows Abdullahs flogging dead horse: Chugh

'Hand-in-glove with Pak ISI, promoting disruptive agenda'

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

**SRINAGAR:** BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh on Tuesday trashed the election manifesto of National Conference as a disruptive and deceptive piece of paper.

In a statement here, Chugh said Abdullahs are living in a "fools paradise" and trying to hoodwink people of Jammu and Kashmir by giving them



false and misleading promises.

He said J&K has gone far

beyond the disruptive ideas like autonomy and Article 370.

A new era of growth and development has come about under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and people here are looking forward to good job avenues and prosperity, he said.

"Abdullahs are still flogging a dead horse and people of J&K will teach them a good

lesson in the coming elections", he said while ridiculing the idea of Abdullah for talks with Pakistan as a figment of dreamland. He said it clearly exposed Abdullahs' close links with the Pakistan ISI.

The BJP has written a new chapter of development and progress and it's time Abdullahs take retirement from the politics, Chugh added.

**INTRODUCING**

**LIC's Jeevan UTSAV**

Plan No.: 871 UIN: 512N363V01

**GUARANTEED REASON FOR CELEBRATION**

**with Lifetime Guaranteed Returns**

Also Available Online

**Whole Life Insurance with flexibility to choose benefits**

- Limited Premium Paying term 5 to 16 years
- Guaranteed Additions during Premium Paying term
- Regular Income Benefit / Flexi Income Benefit
- Minimum Basic Sum Assured ₹ 5 lacs

A NON - LINKED, NON - PARTICIPATING, INDIVIDUAL, SAVINGS, WHOLE LIFE INSURANCE PLAN

Download LIC Mobile App | Visit: licindia.in | Call Centre Services (022) 6827 6827 | Our WhatsApp No. 8976862090 | Buy Hi!

For details, contact your Agent/Nearest LIC Branch or SMS YOUR CITY NAME to 56767474  
Follow us : f y t i c LIC India Forever | IRDAI Regn No.: 512

**LIC**  
भारतीय जीवन बीमा निगम  
LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION OF INDIA

Har Pal Apke Saath

BEWARE OF SPURIOUS PHONE CALLS AND FICTITIOUS / FRAUDULENT OFFERS. IRDAI is not involved in activities like selling insurance policies, announcing bonus or investment of premiums. Public meeting such phone calls are requested to lodge a police complaint. For more details on risk factors, terms and conditions, please read sales brochure carefully before concluding a sale.