

**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  
30  
SOWING SKILLS  
SHAPING INDIA

RNI No. : 66908/96

Regd. No. L-29/JK-346/22-24

Vol. 29 Issue 239 • Jammu • Thursday • August 29, 2024 • Pages 12 • ₹ 5.00

Air surcharge 50 paise for Leh

**03** Jan Dhan Yojana not only for financial inclusion, also for socio-economic transformation: Dr Jitendra

**03** Mehbooba Mufti offers unconditional support to NC & Congress if they support PDP 'Agenda': Will they?

**10** JKIIANS shine in Inter-School Roller Skating Championship

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

## J&K Assembly Election Phase-1

# 244 nominations found valid during scrutiny, 35 rejected

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In accordance with the election schedule issued by Election Commission of India (ECI) for the conduct of Jammu and Kashmir Assembly Elections 2024, the scrutiny of nomination papers for 24 Assembly Constituencies which are going to polling in phase 1st was held on Wednesday, in the office of the respective Returning Officers across seven districts.

During the scrutiny of the nomination papers filed by 279 candidates, candidature of 244 candidates was found valid as per the guidelines of the Election Commission of India, while nomination papers of 35 candidates, which were found invalid, were rejected.

A statement from the office of the Chief Electoral Officer detailed the scrutiny process held today.

Nomination papers of 67 candidates were found valid in Anantnag district, followed by 46 in Pulwama district, 34 in Doda district, 29 in Kishtwar district, 26 in Kulgam district, 21 in Shopian district, while

## Permissions for political parties, candidates simplified

JAMMU: In the spirit of facilitating smooth and transparent elections, the Office of Chief Electoral Officer J&K has issued a detailed communication to all concerned stakeholders on the flow of various permissions that would be required during the course of ongoing General Elections to Legislative Assembly UT of Jammu and Kashmir.

The permissions placed at the level of CEO Office include vehicle Permission for transport of campaigning material by political parties across UT, vehicle permission for star campaigners and party office bearers across districts/ UT and permissions for video Vans across districts at UT level.

Similarly the permissions placed at the level of District Election Officer include- Application for Air Balloons. Construction of Rostrums/ Barricades, Permit to take out procession with loud speaker, application for setting up of Temporary Party office, Application for rally, application for door to door canvassing, Application for permission of Video Van(within district), Vehicle permission for District Level office bearer of Political Party (within District), permission for helicopter and helipads and application for Load Carrier for transport of publicity material by political parties (within district).

The majority of permissions have been placed at the disposal of Returning Officers. These include permit for street corner meeting with Loud speaker, permission to hold meeting without loudspeaker, one vehicle for complete AC for the candidate, one vehicle for a complete AC area for the election agent of the candidate, one vehicle per AC for the party/ party

nomination papers of 21 candidates have been found valid and accordingly accepted in Ramban district. In Kishtwar district, nomination

papers of 12 candidates were found valid in 48-Inderwal AC; 10 candidates in 49-Kishtwar AC; while nomination papers of 7 candidates have been accepted in 50-Padder-Nagseni AC.

In Doda district, nomination papers of 14 candidates were accepted in 51-Bhadarwah AC; 11 candidates in 52-Doda AC; and 9 candidates in 53-Doda West AC.

In Ramban district, a total of 12 nomination papers were found valid and accepted in 54-Ramban AC; while nomination papers of 9 candidates have been accepted in 55-Banihal AC.

Similarly, in Pulwama district, nomination papers of 14 candidates were accepted in 32-Pampore AC; 10 candidates in 33-Tral AC; 12 candidates in 34-Pulwama AC; and 10 candidates in 35-Rajpora AC.

In Shopian district, a total of 10 nomination papers were found valid and accepted in 36-Zainapora AC; while nomination papers of 11 candidates have been accepted in 37-Shopian AC.

## PM chairs Council of Ministers meet; issues affecting women, poor discussed

### STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday chaired a meeting of the entire Council of Ministers where issues affecting women and timely delivery of various policy measures figured prominently, sources said.

The five-hour meeting, held at the Sushma Swaraj Bhawan here, also took stock of the progress made on the first 100 days agenda of the third term of the BJP-led NDA government.

Measures for the four castes -- women, poor, youth and farmers -- were stressed during the meeting that was also attended by secretaries of various government departments.

A key thrust of the meeting was on spreading awareness about new schemes and policy decisions made since the gov-



ernment assumed office in June, including the new infrastructure projects.

Initiatives taken by the government for the social sector also figured prominently in the meeting.

Officials from various departments also made presentations on the progress made by their respective ministries on the 100-day agenda.

Keeping its focus on infrastructure development, the NDA govern-

ment has approved projects worth more than Rs 2.30 lakh for building new railway lines, ports, airports, and industrial smart cities to achieve the goal of Viksit Bharat by 2047.

The meeting came against the backdrop of incidents of atrocities against women in West Bengal, Maharashtra and some other parts of the country that triggered protests.

## ISM Doctor Zahoor Tantray gets 2-year jail term for impersonation

### STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: A Srinagar court has sentenced Dr. Zahoor Ahmad Tantray, a Medical Officer in the Department of Indian System of Medicine (ISM) from Kupwara, to two years of imprisonment for filing false RTI applications under someone else's name. The judgment was delivered by Magistrate Ahtaz Ahmed.

The court delivered the sentence after hearing arguments on the quantum of punishment. The prosecution, represented by Advocate John Mohammad, sought the maximum sentence, citing the impact of

the crime on the general public and emphasizing that the convict was a repeat offender. In defense, the convict's counsel, M.A. Peerzada, argued for leniency, highlighting Dr. Tantray's approaching retirement. The case has faced legal scrutiny for more than 11 years, starting in 2013.

The court sentenced Dr. Tantray to one year of simple imprisonment and a fine of Rs 25,000 under Section 419 of the Ranbir Penal Code (RPC), with an additional three months of imprisonment in case of non-payment of the fine. Similarly, for

CONTD ON PAGE 9

## Chugh visits BJP's election war room in Channi Himmat



BJP National General Secretary and Prabhari J&K Tarun Chugh during visit to election war room in Channi Himmat.

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: BJP National General Secretary and Prabhari J&K BJP Tarun Chugh on Wednesday visited the party's election war room established at Channi Himmat for the ongoing

assembly elections in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. Accompanied by senior party leaders, Chugh extensively inspected the arrangements made for press

CONTD ON PAGE 9

## BJP disciplined party; workers work together like family: Chugh

JAMMU: In a move to show the unity and the strength of the organization, BJP leader from Katra Rohit Dubey on Wednesday visited the party headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu, and posed with Baldev Raj, the BJP's candidate from Mata Vaishno Devi Assembly constituency, and other senior leaders of the party.

Tarun Chugh, National General Secretary, BJP and Prabhari of J&K BJP, Ravinder Raina, President, J&K BJP, Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union MoS, Jugal Kishore Sharma, MP (Lok Sabha) and Convenor Election Management Committee, Sarb Singh Naag, Kuldeep Raj Dubey, and many other senior leaders of the party were present on occasion.

Lauding the gesture of the party leaders, Chugh said the BJP is a disciplined party of ground-level workers, who work together like a family.

"Together we are strong and the BJP is set to make history in the Assembly elections in the J&K", Chugh said, adding that the BJP is working with the mission to make Jammu and Kashmir an example of peace

CONTD ON PAGE 9

## Encounter breaks out in Kupwara



### STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: An encounter broke out between security forces and terrorists in the Tangdhar area of Jammu and Kashmir's Kupwara district on Wednesday, officials said. The exchange of firing

began at the Khushal Post in the Tangdhar area, near the Line of Control, they said.

There are no reports of any casualties so far, the officials said.

Further details on the incident are awaited, they added.

## Dumper plunges into gorge in Ramban; driver killed

### STATE TIMES NEWS

BANIHAL/JAMMU: A 40-year-old dumper driver was killed when his vehicle skidded off the road and plunged into a deep gorge in Ramban district on Wednesday, police said.

The accident took place around 8 am near Hanjoos on under-construction Siran-Sirachi link road in Khari tehsil, said a police official.

The driver, Mohammad Iqbal Khan, a resident of Chanpara village of

CONTD ON PAGE 9

## Ex-Srinagar Mayor Junaid Mattu quits AP

### STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Former Srinagar Municipal Corporation mayor Junaid Azim Mattu resigned from the Jammu and Kashmir Apni Party on Wednesday.

"It is with a heavy heart, and with all humility at my command, that I announce my decision to part ways with the J&K Apni Party. I extend my gratitude to our President Syed

CONTD ON PAGE 9

**WEATHER**  
Temperature (Jammu)  
Max: 30.6°C Min: 24.6°C  
Humidity  
Max: 97 Min: 77  
Temperature (Srinagar)  
Max: 20.5°C Min: 18.0°C  
Humidity  
Max: 92 Min: 90  
Sunset: 19:00 Hours  
Sunrise: 06:02 Hours

## Govt to set up 12 new industrial cities to boost mfg; outlay Rs 28,602 cr

### STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The government on Wednesday approved 12 new industrial cities in 10 states on the lines of Greater Noida in Uttar Pradesh and Dholera in Gujarat to boost domestic manufacturing with an estimated investment of Rs 28,602 crore.

These industrial areas will be in Khurpia in Uttarakhand, Rajpura-Patiala in Punjab, Dighi in Maharashtra, Palakkad in Kerala, Agra and Prayagraj in UP, Gaya in Bihar, Zaheerabad in Telangana, Orvakal and Koppurthy in

## 'Nod for e-auction of 730 FM channels in 234 cities'

NEW DELHI: Seeking to expand the reach of FM radio, the government on Wednesday approved a proposal to hold a third batch of ascending e-auctions for 730 channels in 234 new cities with an estimated reserve price of Rs 784.87 crore under Private FM Radio Phase III Policy.

The Union Cabinet, at a meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, also approved a proposal to charge an annual license fee (ALF) of FM channel as four per cent of gross revenue excluding GST.

"The Cabinet decision on the rollout of Private FM Radio to 234 cities and towns will enhance access to diverse and local content, thus encouraging creativity and encouraging local languages as well as cultures," Prime Minister Modi said in a post on X. Union Information

AP, and Jodhpur-Pali in Haryana. A decision in this regard

CONTD ON PAGE 9

## 'Enough is enough': Prez Murmu asks nation to wake up, end crimes against women

### STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Declaring that "enough is enough", President Droupadi Murmu on Wednesday said it is time for India to wake up to the "perversion" of crimes against women and counter the mindset that sees women as "less powerful, less capable, less intelligent".

"Those who share such views then go further and see the female as an object... We owe it to our daughters to remove the hurdles from their path of winning the freedom from fear," Murmu said in an exclusive signed article for PTI.

Referring to the August 9 rape and murder of a junior doctor in a Kolkata hospital, a "dismayed and horrified" president said what is even



more depressing is that it is part of a series of crimes against women.

Murmu said no civilised society can allow daughters and sisters to be subjected to such atrocities. "The nation is bound to be outraged, and so am I," she wrote.

The hard-hitting and per-

sonalised article, titled "Women's Safety: Enough is Enough", is the first time the president has articulated her views on the August 9 Kolkata incident that has once again shaken the conscience of the nation and led to widespread,

CONTD ON PAGE 9

was taken in a meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi here.

The Cabinet "has approved 12 new project proposals under the National Industrial Corridor Development Programme (NICDP) with an estimated investment of Rs 28,602 crore", Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnav said after the meeting.

NICDP is expected to generate significant employment opportunities, with an estimated one million direct

CONTD ON PAGE 9

## EC transfers SSPs, SP in J&K as part of admin tone-up

### STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: In an administrative tone-up ahead of assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir, the Election Commission has directed the transfer of senior superintendents of police of Baramulla and Kupwara and the SP of Handwara and has asked the administration to send a panel of IPS officers to be posted there, sources said on Wednesday.

The poll authority has also approved relieving of SSP Srinagar Ashish Mishra, an IPS officer who was transferred from Jammu and

Kashmir to Delhi Police in June 2023 but could not be relieved due to administrative reasons.

The Commission has directed the Union territory administration to provide a panel of IPS officers for the post of SP/SSP Srinagar, Baramulla, Handwara and Kupwara by Thursday evening.

The EC has also cleared the appointment of IPS officer Nalin Prabhat as DG (Operations and Security) of J-K Police till September 30. He is currently on inter-cadre deputation and posted as Special DG, J-K till

September 30. It also gave its nod to the extension of inter-cadre deputation tenure of IAS officer Syeed Fakhruddin Hamid, the deputy commissioner of Anantnag, for a period of two years. He had completed his tenure on July 8 this year.

CONTD ON PAGE 9

The sources said Baramulla SSP Gurinderpal Singh, Handwara SP Dawood Ayoub, and Kupwara SSP Shobhit Saxena have been transferred out.

Jammu and Kashmir will go for assembly polls in three phases.

Death toll rises to 3 in Ramban cloudburst, search on for 4 missing

### STATE TIMES NEWS

RAMBAN/JAMMU: The body of a six-year-old girl was recovered in a village in Jammu and Kashmir's Ramban district on Wednesday, taking the death toll in the incident to three, even as the search operation to locate the remaining four people continues, officials said.

The cloudburst occurred in Panchayats Kumate, Dhraman and Halla in Rajgarh tehsil late Monday afternoon, causing flash floods in Tanger and Dadi streams, they said.

Seven people of three different families were reported missing in the flash floods, Tehsildar Rajgarh Major Singh told PTI.

Shazia Bano's body was recovered by rescuers three

kilometres downstream from her Dugar Dhandla village on Wednesday afternoon, the officials said.

Earlier, the bodies of two persons -- Yasir Ahmad (20) of Gadgram and Khalid Ahmed Parihar (12) of Suli-Kumate -- were retrieved on Monday and Tuesday.

Tehsildar Singh, who is supervising the rescue operation, said the rescue teams comprising police, State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) and local volunteers, are making all out efforts to locate four other missing persons -- Yasir's mother Naseema Begum (42) and six-year-old sister Shazia Bano and Khalid's mother Gulshan Begum (42) and eight-year-old sister Seerat Bano.

CONTD ON PAGE 9