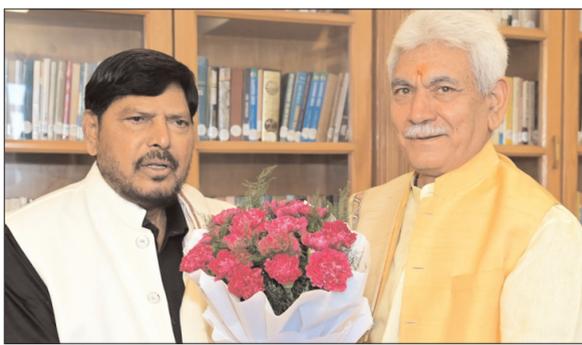


**!! Continuations from Page 1 !!
J&K statehood may...**



Union Minister Ramdas Athawale calling on LG Manoj Sinha at the Raj Bhavan on Thursday.

elections," he said. The president of the Republic Party of India also announced that his party would field 10-15 candidates in the assembly polls in the UT.

Athawale also said at the time of the abrogation of Article 370, Union Home Minister Amit Shah had assured the public that the statehood of J-K will be restored.

Earlier, Athawale had called on J-K Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at the Raj Bhavan here.

"The LG told me that there was peace in J-K, but some elements have tried to create disturbances. However, the administration has done a lot of work to make J-K stronger," he said.

Govt schemes bringing...

schemes so that deserving people take benefits and justice is ensured to the last man standing. He directed the officers to implement Central schemes at field level more effectively in Jammu and Kashmir.

Ramdas Athawale enquired about the population and the reservation benefits of the SC/ST/OBC people in Jammu and Kashmir and directed the concerned officers to take steps accordingly so that benefits percolate to the lower strata of the society.

Commissioner Secretary Social Welfare Department, Sheetal Nanda gave a detailed presentation of the factual position of the reserved community in Jammu and Kashmir.

She provided details about the scholarship scheme, prevention of atrocities act, old age homes, residential schools among other things and highlighted the various initiatives taken by government for welfare of reserved category population.

Sheetal Nanda said that 15 castes have been included in the list of OBC of Union Territory in addition to the existing 27 castes of OBCs. She maintained that the reservation in direct recruitment and admission in various professional institutions increased from 2% to 4% in 2020 & from 4% to 8% in 2024.

She said that in the last five years 215829 SC students and 84072 OBC students have been provided pre-matric or post-matric scholarships.

Commissioner Secretary also said that according to census data, the UT has a population of 361163 persons with disability out of which 192000 have been provided UDID cards and the rest of the cases are being followed.

Sheetal Nanda also informed that there are 16 old age homes running in JK out of which 10 are in Kashmir and 6 in Jammu.

Commissioner Secretary informed that during the last three years, 74 FIRs have been produced in Jammu and Kashmir to prevent atrocities and hate crimes against the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. She added that the department has nominated 44 legal advisors to help in those cases and also nominated special courts in this regard. She also said that department is providing pension on a monthly basis to more than 7 lakh people in different categories like old age, disability, widows.

Provide Ration Cards...

and Employment, the meeting was attended by Secretary, Law; Deputy Commissioners; Labour Commissioner; Director, FCS&CA, Kashmir/Jammu and other concerned officers.

During this meeting the Chief Secretary stressed upon the direction passed by Supreme Court of India vide Order dated 20.04.2023 in Misc. Application No. 94/2022 in SMW (C) No. 6/2020 wherein the State/UT Governments are directed to issue Ration Cards to the left out registrants of the e-Shram Portal.

Dullool while recapturing this direction from the Hon'ble Apex Court impressed upon the concerned to undertake the exercise to issue ration cards to the left out registrants on e-Shram portal by giving wide publicity and to approach e-Shram registrants through the offices of concerned DCs.

The Chief Secretary also advised the Deputy Commissioners to personally supervise and ensure coordination of the officers and officials of Labour Department and Department of Food Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs in their respective districts to achieve the desired results within the shortest possible time.

Moreover, it was also enjoined upon the concerned Administrative heads to monitor the progress of the issuance of ration cards in favour of left out e-Shram registrants on daily basis so that the SC directions are complied with, in letter and spirit in the UT.

Waqf Bill referred...

its divisive politics but it is continuing with the same, keeping in mind the upcoming assembly elections in states such as Maharashtra. "It is a direct attack on freedom of religion....Next you will go for Christians, then Jains," he said.

Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav said the Bill was being introduced to appease the BJP's hardcore supporters. "What is the point of including non-Muslims in Waqf boards when this is not done in other religious bodies?" Yadav asked.

"The truth is that the BJP has brought this Bill to appease its hardcore supporters," the Kannauj MP said, adding that it was brought with politics in mind.

Nationalist Congress Party (NCP)-Sharadchandra Pawar MP Supriya Sule said her party opposed the Bill as it was against a particular minority community. "Look at what is happening in Bangladesh, there is so much pain. It is the moral duty of a country to protect minorities," she said.

"The government should clarify the intent and the timing of the Bill. We object, withdraw this Bill. Let's discuss it and then bring a Bill that is fair and just," she demanded.

All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen chairperson Asaduddin Owaisi claimed that the House did not have the competence to make the amendments. "It is a grave attack on the basic structure of the Constitution as it violates the principle of judicial independence and separation of powers," he said.

"You are enemies of Muslims and this Bill is evidence of that," Owaisi said. Strongly defending the bill and hitting out at the Congress, Rijju said the Waqf Act of 1995 did not serve its purpose and the amendments were necessitated as the Congress could not achieve the reform it should have.

"Because you couldn't do it, we had to bring these amendments...Some people have captured Waqf boards and this Bill has been brought to give justice to ordinary Muslims," he said. He claimed that many leaders in the opposition had privately told him that state Waqf boards had turned into a mafia.

"I won't take their names and destroy their political careers," Rijju said. He said in the earlier law, there was no provision to challenge or review the order or judgement of the tribunal. Now, provision was being made for verdicts to be challenged at higher courts, the minister said.

"In our country, no law can be a super law and that can't be above the Constitution. However, in the 1995 Waqf Act, there are provisions that are above the provisions in the Constitution. Shouldn't that be changed?" he asked.

"The wrongs which you have done, now, we are correcting those," Rijju said, hitting out at the Congress.

He asserted the government had conducted through consultations at all levels, and also cited cases such as an entire village in Tamil Nadu being declared Waqf land to underline the need for reforms in the law.

The opposition shouldn't see such issues through the prism of religion, he

said and accused it of misleading Muslims.

Similarly, the Surat municipal corporation headquarters was declared Waqf property, he said and asked how is this possible.

He assured Waqf board income will be used only for the welfare of the Muslim community. "It is my good fortune that being non-Muslim, I am getting opportunity to bring a Bill for welfare of Muslims," he said.

Rijju also introduced a Bill to repeal the Mussalman Wakf Act, 1923. Its statement of objects and reasons stated that the colonial-era legislation has become outdated and inadequate for effective management of Waqf property in modern India.

NDA allies JD(U), TDP, Shiv Sena and LJP backed the Bill amend the 1995 Act, saying it was aimed at bringing transparency in the functioning of the Waqf Boards and was not an attempt to interfere with the running of mosques.

Over 500 pilgrims...

at 3:30 am in a convoy of 17 vehicles escorted by the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and police, the officials said.

All the pilgrims opted for the shorter but steeper 14-kilometre Baltal route in Ganderbal district. The traditional 48-kilometre route passes through Pahalgam in Anantnag district.

The annual yatra commenced on June 29 and is scheduled to conclude on August 19.

Justice Tashi visits...

project and the construction raised so far. Justice Tashi expressed satisfaction with the progress made so far.

The new Court Complex, spread over 500 kanals of land, will house modern



Chief Justice (A) Tashi Rabstan during visit to the site of new High Court Complex at Rakh-i-Gund Aksha, Bemina.

courtrooms, judges' chambers, and state-of-the-art facilities for litigants and lawyers.

Chief Justice (A) emphasized the importance of providing a conducive environment for the administration of justice and praised the efforts of the architects, engineers, and contractors involved in the project.

Justice Tashi further stated that this project will meet the twin objectives of decongesting the Srinagar city while strengthening the judicial infrastructure which will house diverse legal facilities at one place.

Shahzad Azeem, Registrar General, M.K. Sharma, Principal Secretary to Chief Justice, Executive Engineer, PW R&B, Srinagar and the Project Manager of the Construction Company were also present on the occasion.

Justice Tashi also issued on the spot instructions to the executing agency to expedite the execution of the project and ensure its completion within the timeline.

Watch out India...

ness of modern day Indian Jaichands. Break India forces had set a cast well before the elections to create anarchy in the country. On March 28, United Nations spokesperson Stephane Dujarric had reflected the agenda of the India inimical big powers that elections in India are hoped to be held in a free and fair atmosphere. Rahul Gandhi has been indulging in 'Democracy in danger' rhetoric on foreign soils and seeking outside help to 'save India'. He knows how this has been damaging the Indian image in the global community. This is no more a secret how China, Canada, the US and some of their allies are visualizing India emerging as a global economic power, already having occupied the fifth slot and preparing to become third economic prowess. Modi continues to remain the single most popular world leader.

The recent elections cradled Narendra Modi to be the Prime Minister third consecutive time and this must have upset the world forces that have been hiding behind the Congress and some of its allies to break India. So caution remains a watch word. Salman Khurshed's sinister anticipation should not be undermined and so must not be the counseling of Yogendra Yadav. The Congress is putting its weight behind farmers to activate Shambu border again, introduction of Waqf Board amendments in Lok Sabha can be used to host Shaheen Bagh type stand-off, Maharashtra's quota bill can again be reignited and so may be Yogi's bulldozer action against rapists. The dirty Congress tricks can revolve around exploiting the divisive caste politics, unemployment, hoax on trampling the Constitution and so on. Already, the youth are being misled on Vinesh Phogat's disqualification from IOC competition. The Congress leaders and allies have started igniting Indians against the Modi regime. This morning, one of its senior leaders from Madhya Pradesh, hurled a contemptuous threat to the Prime Minister that what happened in Sheikh Hasina's residence can happen at Modi's residence also. Mehbooba Mufti's daughter Iltija Mufti went a step ahead by posting on 'X', "Does Lok Kalyan Marg have a swimming pool as well? Asking for a friend". 7-Lok Kalyan Marg is the official residence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. She uploaded a 2022 video when a rampaging mob indulged in mayhem in the presidential palace in Colombo with some youth swimming in the pool. Rahul Gandhi's Congress and alliance partners are building up euphoria over Bangladesh happenings and its possible replica in New Delhi. By the way, do they all suggest that India can also witness rape, plunder and killing of minority like Hindus in India? A big question they need to answer, as the violence and crimes against Hindus are alarmingly rising in Bangladesh for the third day today consecutively. Their cries are nowhere to be heard across the world, not even in India where pseudo seculars are busy devising destructive narrative for the nation.

NIA chargesheets Pak-based LeT handler, 3 others in Kashmir civilian's killing case

NEW DELHI: The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Wednesday four persons, including a Pak-based terrorist, for the killing of two non-local civilians by Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and its offshoot, The Resistance Front (TRF), in Kashmir in February this year.

The accused, Adil Manzoor Langoo, Ahran Rasool Dar alias Tota, Dawood, and their Pakistan-based handler Jahangeer alias Peer Sahab, have been charge-sheeted under various sections of the IPC and UA (P) Act.

The NIA special court, Jammu, has already issued an open-ended non-bailable warrant against absconding accused Jahangir alias Peer Sab.

All four accused were involved in the brutal killing of two civilians on the evening of February 7, 2024, at Karfali Mohalla, Shala Kadal, Srinagar. NIA took over the case in June this year and re-registered it as RC-01/2024/NIA/JMU.

NIA investigations revealed that Adil Manzoor Langoo, who had joined LeT in 2023, had been motivated by Pakistani handlers to boost the terror outfit's activities in Srinagar, Kashmir. He had also been involved in previous terror attacks in the Kashmir Valley.

He, along with his close associates Ahran Rasool Dar and Dawood, was working under the directions of Jahangeer, who had motivated them to unleash jihad in Srinagar area to spread fear and terror among the non-locals to wage war against the Government of India.

The trio had conspired with their handler Jahangir alias Peer Sahab to kill the innocents at Shala Kadal, Srinagar. On the directions of Jahangir, Adil and Ahran had received the arms and ammunition which were used subsequently by Adil to commit the crime. Dawood had helped Adil destroy the evidence of the crime.

Delay of appointment due to departmental lapses cannot be denied promotion: HC

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Justice Javed Iqbal Wani of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court ruled out that a direct recruit whose appointment is delayed due to departmental lapses cannot be denied retrospective appointment or promotion eligibility from the date on which other candidates from the same selection process were appointed.

Justice Javed Iqbal Wani observed that, "An individual cannot be made to suffer due to insufficiencies or laches on the part of the administrative authorities as the principle of fairness dictates that a candidate who has successfully cleared the selection process and whose appointment has been held solely due to the administrative laches should not be placed at a disadvantage compared to his peers."

In 2015, petitioner Dr Afaq Ahmad Khan applied for the post of Assistant Professor in Clinical Hematology following an advertisement by the Sheri-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS). Despite being selected, his appointment was delayed until November 27, 2019, while his peers were appointed in October 2018. This delay stemmed from a miscalculation of marks awarded to him by the selection committee.

Dr. Khan sought retrospec-

tive effect for his appointment from the date his peers were appointed to ensure his eligibility for future promotions. His representation to SKIMS led to a recommendation for a notional effect on his appointment. However, SKIMS declared him ineligible for promotion due to the shortfall in the requisite service period and publications.

Petitioner challenged the notification arguing that he cannot be made to suffer a perpetual loss of his seniority and be deprived of his seniority viz-a-viz those selected candidates owing.

Justice Javed Iqbal Wani emphasized that an appointment delayed due to no fault of the candidate but departmental errors must be given retrospective effect as this ensures the candidate is not unfairly deprived of seniority and promotion prospects and quoted the judgment of Apex Court C. Jayachandran v. State of Kerala, reinforcing that an employee should not suffer due to administrative delays and should be granted seniority from the date peers in the same selection process were appointed.

With these observations, High Court allowed the petition and ordered that the petitioner shall be deemed to have been appointed as Assistant Professor in the

discipline of Clinical Hematology with effect from 03.10.2018, i.e., the date on which the other candidates/selectees having faced the same selection process with the petitioner were appointed. The appointment of the petitioner with effect from 03.10.2018 till he actually joined the services pursuant to the order dated 27.11.2019 shall be notional not entitling the petitioner to any monetary benefits. The petitioner; however, shall be entitled to all other service benefits as also consequential consideration for promotion to the next higher post by reckoning his service from 03.10.2018. Respondents shall re-fix the seniority of the petitioner in view of above and in the process of such re-fixation the affected person/s, if any, be provided an opportunity to present his/her claim/s. The impugned notice vide No. SIMS302 07/XXXVIII/2022-2690-99 dated August 25, 2022 to the extent it declares the petitioner as ineligible for want of requisite service is quashed. Respondents shall consider the appointment and regularization of the petitioner as Associate Professor, if the petitioner otherwise fulfills the criteria in terms of the AMPS minus the length of the service as determined above.

DMO Jammu seizes 6 vehicles for illegal mineral transport

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a late-night operation conducted by District Mineral Officer Jammu, Dr. Gulshan Kumar, six vehicles were seized for illegal extraction and transportation of minerals in various areas of Jammu district. The operation, carried out under the direction of Deputy Commissioner, Sachin Kumar Vaishya, targeted the Sidra, Bajalta, Bahu and Domana areas.

During the crackdown, four vehicles with registration numbers JK02CX 1881, JK02CS 3205, JK02CQ 6647 and a vehicle with chassis number 1VY5105DTPJ45205 were seized in the Bajalta area. These vehicles were handed over to the incharge Chowki Officer Sidra, for safe custody. Additionally, a vehicle with registration number JK02DF 3150 was seized in the Kheri area and handed over to the SHO Domana. Another vehicle, with registration number JK21E 8632, was seized in the Bahu area and handed over to the SHO Bahu for safe custody until penalties are realised from the violators.

All the seized vehicles were found transporting minerals without valid e-challans, a violation of the legal requirements. The DMO emphasised that legal action will be taken against those engaging in illegal mineral extraction and transportation.

3 drug peddlers arrested; contraband substances recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KULGAM: Continuing its efforts to eradicate the menace of drugs from the society, police have arrested 03 drug peddlers in Kulgam and recovered contraband substances from their possession. A police party of Police Station Qaimoh established a specific checkpoint at village Khudwani and during checking two suspicious persons were intercepted. After search, officers were able to recover 06 grams of Brown sugar and 1 Kg of Poppy Straw like contraband substances concealed in a nylon bag. They have been identified as Zahid Mohiuddin Bhat son of Ghulam Mohiuddin Bhat resident of Gufbal, Qaimoh and Talib Gull son of Gull Mohd Shah resident of Qaimoh. They have been arrested and shifted to police station where they remain in custody. Moreover, police party of Police Station Devsar during patrolling at Cheyan, Adigam apprehended one suspicious person identified as Naseer Ahmad Shan son of Mohd Hussain Shan resident of Kilam and recovered grinded Cannabis weighing 1 Kg and Poppy Straw weighing 600 grams like contraband substances concealed in a nylon bag. Accordingly, cases under relevant sections of law have been registered at respective police stations and further investigation have been initiated.

Notorious narco smuggler nabbed with heroin

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

REASI: In a continued drive against drug abuse, District Police Reasi, under Operation Jeevandan, has intensified its efforts to curb illegal drug activities through surprise checkpoints and thorough inspections.

During a surprise naka at Reasi Vijaypur Road, a team from Police Station Reasi intercepted a vehicle bearing registration no. JK02AP3800, driven by Ashok Kumar S/O Bodh Raj R/O Vijaypur Reasi. Upon searching the vehicle, 4.46 grams of heroin-like substance was found hidden in the dashboard. In this regard a case FIR No. 128/2024 under sections 8/21/22 of the NDPS Act has been registered at Police Station Reasi and investigation is ongoing to uncover further connections within the drug network. The entire operation was led by SHO Reasi under the supervision of Dy.SP Hqrs Reasi. SSP Reasi Mohita Sharma, while sharing the details of the operation, stated that Reasi Police is employing a multipronged strategy to tackle the issue of drug abuse. This includes organizing awareness programs throughout the district and regularly booking drug peddlers under the PITNDPS Act.

DB upholds PSA of Narco Smuggler

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A Division Bench of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court comprising Justice Atul Sreedharan and Justice Puneet Gupta uphold the detention of Gourav Khajuria an alleged Narco-Smuggler.

DB after hearing AAG Amit Gupta appearing for the UT, observed that it cannot be said that there was no basis for forming a subjective opinion that the appellant if not detained would not pose a threat to the well-being of society. There is one fact that distinguishes detention under the Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1988 from other detention laws. For detention under this Act, the sense of anxiety and seriousness on the part of the State is far greater than what is under other preventive detention statutes. All preventive detention statutes cannot be placed on the same pedestal when it comes to ascertain "subjective satisfaction" of the detaining authority.

While far greater material and evidence may be required to form a subjective satisfaction under other detention laws, the requirement and degree of evidence in material required to form a subjective satisfaction under this Act may be far lesser depending upon the circumstances. In other words, no rule of thumb can ever be laid down as to how much material would be sufficient to form subjective opinion that the appellant if not detained would not pose a threat to the well-being of society. There is one fact that distinguishes detention under the prevention of illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances Act, 1988 from other detention laws. For detention under this Act, the sense of anxiety and seriousness on the part of the State is far greater than what is under other preventive detention statutes. All preventive detention statutes cannot be placed on the same pedestal when it comes to ascertain "subjective satisfaction" of the detaining authority.

formed its subjective satisfaction. The order of detention does not require any interference of this Court. This Court is of the opinion that the material placed before the detaining authority was not so feeble and desolate that a reasonable man could not form the subjective satisfaction under the special Act to detain the detenu.

With these observations, DB found no reason to interfere with the order passed by the Single Judge and the appeal was dismissed.

NOTICE

I, Tarika Nini (Old Name), W/o Hitesh Gupta R/o Plot No.26, Lakkur Mandi, Janipur, Jammu has changed my name from Tarika Nini (old name) to Tarika Mahajan (New name). I do hereby assume from this date the name / surname Tarika Mahajan (New Name).