

!! Continuations from Page 1 !!**India, China carry...**

the number of troops kept changing depending on the overall situation in the region.

India has been consistently maintaining that peace and tranquility along the LAC were key for the overall development of the bilateral ties.

The eastern Ladakh border standoff erupted on May 5, 2020, following a violent clash in the Pangong lake areas.

Both sides gradually enhanced their deployment by rushing in tens of thousands of soldiers and heavy weaponry.

As a result of a series of military and diplomatic talks, the two sides completed the disengagement process last year on the north and south banks of the Pangong lake and in the Gogra area.

The disengagement in the Pangong Lake area took place in February last year while the withdrawal of troops and equipment in Patrolling Point 17 (A) in Gogra took place in August last year.

HC restrains ED...

2022 was passed by Adjudicating Authority after the expiry of 180 days from the date of passing of Provisional Attachment Order i.e. January 31, 2022. Counsel for the petitioners further submitted that the reliance placed by the Adjudicating Authority on the aforesaid order of the Supreme Court is misplaced because the extension of the period of limitation has been granted in terms of the aforesaid order only in respect of institution of proceedings and not in respect of termination of the proceedings.

Ninety faculty members...

Kumar, Dr. Ravi Kumar Parihar, Dr. Koushal Kumar, Dr. Deepi Gupta, Dr. Rajat Gupta, Dr. Bharti Devi Thakur, Dr. Shamiya Sadiq, Dr. Sanjeev Verma and Dr. Vikrant Singh as Assistant Professors.

As per order in GMS Srinagar, Associate Professors Dr. Bashir Ahmad Shah, Dr. Shaheena Parveen, Dr. Abdul Hakim, Dr. Manzoor Ahmad Latoo, Dr. Showkat Ahmad Showkat, Dr. Samiya Mufti, Dr. Samina Sultan, Dr. Imtiyaz Hussain Dar, Dr. Naseem Ul Gani, Dr. Shafat Ahmad Tak, Dr. Rehana Tabassum, Dr. Zaid Ahmad Wani, Dr. Yasir Hassan Rather, Dr. Manzoor Ahmad Bhat and Dr. Mushtaq Ahmad Chalkoo have been promoted as Professors; Assistant Professors Dr. Yasmeen Jan, Dr. Anka Amin, Dr. Fauzia Shifaat, Dr. Ihsan Ali, Dr. Suhail Amin Patigaroo, Dr. Arsalan F. Rashid, Dr. Peer Maroof Ahmad, Dr. Mohammad Umar Mumtaz, Dr. Asif Nazir Baba, Dr. Abdus Sami Bhat, Dr. Umer Amin Qureshi, Dr. Adil Hassan Siddique, Dr. Shagufta Parveen, Dr. Riyaz Ahmad Lone, Dr. Naseer Ahmad Khan and Dr. Mohd Iqbal Pandith as Associate Professors; Lecturers Dr. Manmeet Kour, Dr. Basharat Farooq, Dr. Rayees Najib, Dr. Insha Quraishi, Dr. Shazia Jelani, Dr. Sheikh Javeed Sultan, Dr. Aleena Shafiq Jallu, Dr. Mohd Umar Shah, Dr. Danish Zahoor, Dr. Sabahat Rasool, Dr. Asima Afzal, Dr. Shazia Ashraf Khan, Dr. Parveena Fareed, Dr. Samina Ashraf, Dr. Aalia Rasool Sufi, Dr. Musadis Malik, Dr. Shafaat Rashid, Dr. Mohammad Ishaq Malik, Dr. Fahim Manzoor, Dr. Gausia Rahim, Dr. Summiya Farooq, Dr. Syed Sajad Hussain, Dr. Mohammad Younis, Dr. Rayees Ahmad Wani, Dr. Junaid Nabi, Dr. Nissar Hussain Hamdani, Dr. Mudasar Hussain Rather as Assistant Professors; and Sr. Physiotherapist Mohammad Muzaffar has been promoted as Head Physiotherapist.

Right to contest...

proposer proposing his name.

The petitioner claimed that since his candidature without the proposer was not accepted, his fundamental right to free speech and expression and his right to personal liberty was infringed.

"We find that the writ petition before the high court was entirely misconceived and so is the present special leave petition. The right to contest an election is neither a fundamental right nor a common law right. It is a right conferred by a statute," the apex court said in its order passed last week.

The bench, which referred to a previous judgement delivered by the top court, noted that the petitioner did not have any right to contest election to the Rajya Sabha in terms of the law made by Parliament.

"The Representation of People Act, 1950 read with the Conduct of Elections Rules, 1961 has contemplated the name of a candidate to be proposed while filling the nomination form," it said.

"Therefore, an individual cannot claim that he has a right to contest an election and the said stipulation violates his fundamental right, so as to file his nomination without any proposer as is required under the Act," the bench observed.

The apex court dismissed the petition with a cost of Rs one lakh and said the cost be paid to the Supreme Court Legal Aid Committee within four weeks.

EWS quota breaches...

Supreme Court was told on Tuesday.

The quota for the Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) is a "deceitful and a backdoor attempt" to destroy the concept of reservation, a lawyer submitted before the court, which was told it also excludes the poor belonging to the SCs, STs, and OBC category and defeats the creamy layer concept. The 10 per cent EWS quota is in addition to the 50 per cent reservation for the SCs, STs, and OBCs.

A five-judge Constitution bench headed by Chief Justice Uday Umesh Lalit, which commenced the hearing on a batch of pleas challenging the validity of the 103rd Constitution amendment that provided for the EWS quota, heard the submissions during a day-long hearing of arguments by three lawyers appearing for the PIL petitioners opposed to the EWS quota.

The EWS quota is a deceitful and a backdoor attempt to destroy the concept of reservation by granting this to the forward class," academician Mohan Gopal, who opened the arguments, told the bench which also comprised justices Dinesh Maheshwari, S Ravindra Bhat, Bela M Trivedi and JB Pardiwala.

The citizens who are educationally and socially backward as well as SCs and STs cannot take the benefit of reservation even if they fall within the economically weaker sections. This is wholly impermissible as it shows that special provisions have been made in favour of the economically weaker upper classes only, the apex court was told.

Senior advocate Meenakshi Arora, appearing for one of the petitioners, referred to the constitutional schemes and said, the reservation is a class-based remedy to correct the historic injustice and wrongs done to a class of people and it cannot be done on the basis of economic criteria alone.

Senior advocate Sanjay Parikh said the exclusion of poor belonging to Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs) and Other Backward Classes (OBC) made this provision for forward classes only and hence it was violative of the principle of equality and other fundamental rights as envisioned by the framers of the Constitution.

The EWS quota provides for vertical reservation to a particular class of citizens on economic grounds alone and excludes the poor of other classes, Parikh said, adding that in other reservations such as quota for ex-servicemen, physically handicapped persons, the persons are not deprived on the grounds of castes or classes.

By excluding Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and Other Backward Classes (the target groups under Articles 15(4) and 16(4)), the impugned provisions deny 10 per cent opportunities to these groups, and in effect reduce the open seats to only 40 per cent for them, while keeping open seats as 50 per cent for the

communities other than SCs, ST, and OBCs, he said.

Even the reservation granted to Persons with Disabilities under Article 16(1) does not categorically exclude members of backward classes, he said, adding that thus, the impugned amendment provides vertical reservations for EWS of the advanced classes to the exclusion of the EWS of the backward classes and hence led to the emergence of an iniquitous phenomenon.

The principle of equality enshrined in our Constitution is an essential part of democracy, which is a basic feature of the Constitution. The impugned Amendments violate the equality code and, therefore, are unconstitutional, he added.

At the outset, Gopal submitted that the EWS quota reversed the actual concept of reservation which was thought as a tool of representation for the disadvantaged groups and converted it into a scheme for financial upliftment.

"We must see 103rd amendment as an assault on the Constitution. It seeks to nullify and neutralize the Constitution's idea of treating unequal unequally. It stabs the Constitution in the heart," the professor said.

Terming the EWS quota to be an example of the "easte-based reservation", he said the existing quota for SCs, STs and OBCs are based on social and educational backwardness and were granted due to their lack of representation in public employment and admissions to government institutions.

Gopal submitted that the Article 15(6), which came into being on account of the Constitutional amendment, violates the fundamental right of equality as it says the EWS quota is for those who are not covered under other reservation schemes.

He said the financial condition of a person or the family may change by events like winning a lottery or losing a gamble and moreover, the impugned quota policy is individual centric.

On the issue of economic criteria, he said the upper limit of Rs 8 lakh per year for availing the EWS quota benefit meant that a family having a monthly income of about Rs 66,000 is eligible.

Ninety-six per cent families earn monthly income below Rs 25,000, he said, adding this quota scheme has a wide coverage range.

The court would resume hearing on Wednesday.

Earlier, the top court had fixed three broad issues for adjudication arising from the pleas challenging the Centre's decision to grant 10 per cent reservation to EWS in admissions and jobs through the amendment to the Constitution, in 2019.

It had said the bench will also decide whether the Constitution (One Hundred and Third Amendment) Act breached the doctrine of the basic structure of the Constitution by allowing the state to make such special provisions.

Yuwaah action plan....

34.47 percent of the population is a part of work force and the youth participation rate is 40.9 percent lower than Indian average of 41.4 percent. Besides, 66.81 percent of young people have been enrolled in Secondary Education, 58.6 percent of young people in Senior Secondary education and 24.8 percent of young people have been enrolled in higher education.

Principal Secretary stressed upon the concerned authorities to understand the interest of youths and requirement of present market where the youth will be engaged and provided employment opportunity in their home districts.

Dr Samoon emphasized upon them to ensure speedy completion of the exercise of survey skill mapping of youths of JKUT so that the government could provide them different platforms as per youth skills. He said that the data source is very important in order to find out the job opportunity in different potential sectors of Jammu and Kashmir.

Dr Samoon said that agriculture, construction, manufacturing, forestry, wholesale and retail trades, repair of motor vehicles and education have broad potential for maximum placement. He said that proper counseling and interaction with youth has crucial role in choosing better skill courses.

PDP's self-rule formula can resolve J&K issue: Mehbooba

KP employees suffering due to BJP's refusal to change its K-strategy

STATE TIMES NEWS

PDP President Mehbooba Mufti felicitates newly appointed Gen Secy Abdul Rashid Malik & Provincial Youth President Haji Parvez Waffa.

JAMMU: Accusing the BJP of turning Jammu and Kashmir into a prison, Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) president Mehbooba Mufti on Tuesday said her party's self-rule formula has the potential to resolve the issue of Jammu and Kashmir without compromising the sovereignty of India and Pakistan.

The former chief minister also said that her party would take a decision on pre-poll alliance only after the bugle for the assembly elections is sounded as she insisted that their coalition under Peoples Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD) was meant for restoration of Article 370.

Addressing a press conference here after felicitating newly appointed general secretary Abdul Rashid Malik and provincial youth president and coordinator of all frontal organisations Parvez Waffa, she said the self-rule started the day former prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee opened Muzaffarabad-Uri and Rawalakot-Poonch cross-LoC routes.

Billed as the biggest confidence-building measure, the bus service was started on the Srinagar-Muzaffarabad route in Kashmir in April 2005 and the Poonch-Rawalakot route in the Jammu region on June 20, 2006 to facilitate divided families on either side of the LoC to meet each other. The cross-LoC trade between the two sides started in October 2008.

However, the cross-LoC trade and bus service remained suspended since April 2019 after India cited misuse of the trade routes by Pakistan-based elements for supplying weapons, fake currency and narcotics.

"Nobody can stop the self-rule...if you want to resolve the issue of J&K under the constitutional framework, self-rule is the only option which can find a solution to the issue without changing the boundaries or compromising the integrity of both India and Pakistan," Mehbooba said.

Earlier during a programme, the Party President felicitated newly appointed General Secretary Abdul Rashid Malik & Haji Parvez Waffa, Provincial Youth President and Coordinator of All Frontal organization of PDP Jammu Province. Mehbooba Mufti hoped the Abdul Rashid Malik & Haji Parvez Waffa will work with more commitment and dedication in strengthen the Party at grass roots level. Haji Parvez Waffa, in his address, thanked the party leadership for reposing faith on him and assured to stand on the expectation of the Party.

He said will not leave no stone unturned in forwarding the agenda of the Party and will continue his fight for the restoration of Article 370 to protect the land and job rights of people of Jammu and Kashmir.

Uncontrolled bus hits three vehicles, 3 injured**STATE TIMES NEWS**

UDHAMPUR: An uncontrolled bus hit three vehicles in Udhampur area due to which three persons got injured on Tuesday.

As per details, a bus (JK14D-6857), on way from Udhampur to Ramban on reaching Krishna Palace hit a car, auto and a bike, as driver lost control over it. Acting swiftly, locals launched rescued operation and rescued three injured which included an auto driver and two bike-borne youth. They were shifted to hospital for treatment and identified as Mukesh Chand (40), son of late Munshi Atal, resident of Adarsh Colony, Udhampur; Arvind Atal (14), son of Deep Singh, resident of Adarsh Colony and Vikas Bhagat, son of Ravi Bhagat, resident of Gol Puli, Udhampur. Police has registered a case and started investigation.

24-yr old youth dies in mishap**STATE TIMES NEWS**

KATHUA: A 24 years old youth died in a road mishap near CTM at Lakhnupur on Tuesday.

As per details, one Rozar Kashyap, son of Vijay Kumar Mani, resident of ward-4 and Mamta Sharma, son of Vijay Sharma, resident of Ward-7, Lakhnupur got injured after the car they were travelling in, hit a divider near CTM. They were shifted to hospital where doctors declared Rozar Kashyap as brought dead.

Woman killed, 2 injured in landslide**STATE TIMES NEWS**

UDHAMPUR: A woman was killed while two other got injured in landslide in village Rang Morha Lehri on Tuesday.

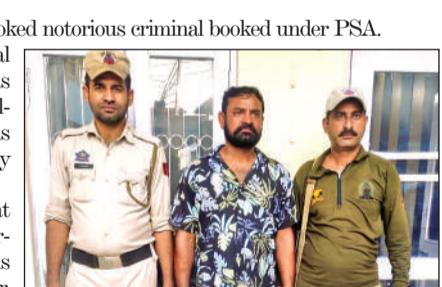
As per details, a landslide occurred while digging work was carried out by some locals in village Rang Morha Lehri, due to which three persons including two women came under it. Locals immediately rescued them and shifted to nearby hospital from where they were referred to Ramban hospital. It was informed that one of them later succumbed to injuries.

Notorious criminal booked under PSA**STATE TIMES NEWS**

MIRAN SAHIB: Police on Tuesday booked notorious criminal booked under PSA.

As per details, a notorious criminal namely Pankaj Singh alias Panku alias Raja, son of Gopal Singh, resident of village Kotli Mian Fateh, Miran sahib was arrested under Public Safety Act by Police Station Miran Sahib.

It is pertinent to mention here that accused is a notorious criminal of desperate character and involved in 11 heinous cases like murder, attempt to murder, snatching etc. Warrant of arrest under PSA was issued against accused, which got executed and accused was shifted to Central Jail Kot Bhalwal.

**Two drug-peddlers arrested with Charas****STATE TIMES NEWS**

DODA: Police on Tuesday nabbed two drug-peddlers and recovered Charas from their possession.

As per details, a party from Police Post Bhalra laid a Naka at Balote falling in jurisdiction of Police Station Bhalra and apprehended two notorious drug-peddlers namely Majid Ayoub, son of Mohd Ayoub, resident of Dandi Bhalra and Saqib Ahmed, son of Tanveer Ahmed, resident of Chakka Bhalra. During search, narcotic substance (Charas) was recovered from their possession. Duo was arrested and FIR No. 148/2022 under relevant sections of law was registered against them at Police Station Bhalra.

**Illegal LPG counter sealed; Rs 34.9K fine recovered from erring shopkeepers****STATE TIMES NEWS**

SRINAGAR: A team of Food Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs on Tuesday recovered a penalty of Rs 34,950 from erring shopkeepers for violation of Essential Commodities Act 1955 besides sealing an illegal LPG counter at Mijgund. The action against erring traders was taken during checking of 369 business establishments.

Meanwhile, during current financial year, an amount of Rs 55,19,850 was collected as fine from 11,793 erring traders. Besides, 184 establishments were sealed and police complaints against 12 erring traders were lodged. The drive will continue with same passion in future as well and whosoever is found violating the norms will be booked under rules. The public is hereby informed that in case of any complaint, they can contact on toll free number 1800180701.

Wild Bhang destroyed over 150 Kanals land**STATE TIMES NEWS**

PULWAMA: Continuing efforts to eradicate menace of drugs, the Excise Range Pulwama on Tuesday destroyed wild Bhang spread on 150 Kanals of land in Pampore and adjoining areas. The drive was carried out by a team led by officers from Excise range Pulwama along with officers from District Administration on the directions of Deputy Commissioner, (DC) Pulwama, Baseer Ul Haq Choudhary.

Earlier, a comprehensive survey of all potential areas of possible illicit cultivation and wild growth of Bhang was conducted by Excise officials, so that the menace is rooted out from the society. General public of the area have appreciated the action of the Excise department and have urged to continue such drives in nearby areas also.

Two arrested; poppy straw, Charas, heroin recovered**STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Continuing drive against drug trafficking and substance abuse, Jammu Police achieved success by arresting two drug peddlers and recovered 3 Kg 700 gm poppy straw at Suketar Jhajjar Kotli Naka, 44 gm Charas while on patrolling duty in Pacca Danga and 6 gm heroin in Bagh-e-B