

Election training, interaction session for females, specially-abled, postal ballot poll personnel held

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The District Election Office (DEO), Srinagar on Sunday conducted General Election Training and Interaction Session for females, home-voting poll personnel and specially abled employees whose services will be utilised at female-only and PwD-managed Special Polling Stations, besides for Postal Ballot voting in all eight Assembly Constituencies of Srinagar District.

The Training cum Interaction sessions were held on the directions of the District Election Officer Srinagar, Dr Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat in wake of upcoming General Elections to Legislative Assembly-2024.

During the sessions, the Master Trainers deputied by the DEO delivered exhaustive



Master Trainer speaking at programme at Srinagar.

training sessions to equip the participating female employees with skills and knowledge to ensure operation of Polling Machinery smoothly on the day of Polling. Coordinator of Trainings, Dr. Manzoor Ahmad Reshi, took the participating Employees through sensory training particularly on operation of machinery and safety measures to be taken inside polling stations, material and voters. In addition to this, he also trained the Employees how to handle

emergencies, manage crowds and to address issues of security.

With exhaustive presentations, the trainers ensured that the female Polling Staff have a clear understanding of the Election laws, rules and regulations which, as the Election staff, have to follow in the Election process.

The special instructions were conveyed to the participating employees for strictly following the poll guidelines for free and fair Assembly Elections in

Srinagar. Besides, the employees were also oriented towards the proper management and the adherence to the Model Code of Conduct enforced by the Election Commission of India (ECI). In the afternoon session, a detailed presentation was delivered by the Dr. Reshi for home-voting Poll Personnel and outlined the step-wise procedures for home-voting and postal ballot polling

during the process of elections.

The trainings are being conducted under Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) Cell of Srinagar District, with the objective to lay a strong base of well skilled manpower for the smooth and hassle-free Elections in all 8 Assembly Constituencies in Srinagar District. Meanwhile, District Election Office, Srinagar is setting up Eight Special Pink Polling Stations in the District which will be entirely managed by the female Employees.

Besides, Eight Special PwD-managed Polling Stations are being set up in the District which will be managed by the specially-abled Employees from Srinagar.

138 senior citizens, PwDs to vote through Home Voting in Shopian

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SHOPIAN: In compliance with the Election Commission of India (ECI) guidelines, Returning Officer, 36-Zainapora and 37-Shopian have notified the Home Voting process in their respective Assembly Constituencies.

As per the notification, home voting shall be conducted from September 11 to 13. The Special teams shall visit the voters at their homes to register their vote.

A total of 138 persons in both ACs of the district have applied through Nodal Officer, Home Voting after submitting the Form 12D for availing the

home Voting facility. 87 voters have applied in Shopian AC, out of which 23 are senior citizens (above 85 age) and 64 are specially abled persons (or PwDs). In Zainapora, 15 seniors Citizens, above 85 age and 36 Specially abled persons (PwDs), comprising a total of 51 voters shall vote at their homes during the three day process, Nodal Officer, Home Voting (DSWO) Shopian apprised.

The entire process shall be video-graphed and conducted in a very cordial, transparent, free and fair manner, in accordance with the guidelines in the presence of recognised

agents of political parties and contesting candidates.

All contesting candidates have been informed to designate polling agents that will visit along with polling parties. DEO Shopian, Mohammad Shahid Saleem Dar while reviewing the home Voting with concerned officers, instructed all stakeholders to ensure efficient management of the entire process at all 51 polling stations.

All Security, transport, videography and other logistics arrangements shall be put in place by Returning Officers and Nodal Officers to see its successful culmination.

Cleanliness drives conducted at various polling stations



Cleanliness drive carrying out at the polling station in Chandilora, Tangmarg.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BARAMULLA/SHOPIAN: Following the directions of District Election Officer Baramulla, Minga Sherpa, a cleanliness drive was successfully conducted on Sunday at the polling station in Chandilora, Tangmarg.

This initiative is part of ongoing efforts to ensure that polling stations are well-maintained and hygienic in anticipation of the upcoming Assembly elections 2024. The drive focused on cleaning the premises, ensuring waste disposal, and enhancing sanitation measures at the polling station. Volunteers and local administration officials participated in the activity, showcasing their commitment to keeping public

spaces clean and voter-friendly.

Syed Altaf Hussain Musvi, Returning Officer for the 11-Gulmarg Assembly Constituency, emphasized the importance of such efforts and stated that it is essential to maintain cleanliness and a welcoming environment at polling stations to facilitate a smooth voting process. He urged all citizens to actively participate in maintaining cleanliness at polling stations and other public spaces, as it is a collective civic responsibility.

Meanwhile, comprehensive cleanliness drives and pit digging for plantation events were initiated across the Shopian district. The drives were conducted under the supervision of DEO Shopian, Mohammad

Shahid Saleem Dar. The cleanliness efforts were closely monitored by Mohammad Shabir, CEO Shopian who also serves as the Nodal Officer for SVEEP. During these special drives, many polling stations were thoroughly cleaned by school staff. The digging of pits also commenced at various polling stations to facilitate plantation drive during the Assembly Election. At every polling station, during the drive, a minimum of 10 plants will be planted. The comprehensive cleanliness and plantation drive not only ensures hygienic conditions but also promotes the importance of eco-friendly practices as the district moves towards a greener future.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

ANANTNAG: Principal Secretary Culture, Suresh Kumar Gupta, on Sunday conducted an extensive tour of shrines and monuments in Anantnag and reviewed the progress of ongoing works being carried out under "Revival, Restoration, and Maintenance of Heritage" scheme.

He was accompanied by senior officials, including Sheikh Arshad Ayub, Director Libraries J&K, Kuldeep Krishan Siddha, Director Archives, Archaeology and Museums J&K; Sanjeev Rana, Additional Secretary, JKAA-CL, Mustaq Ahmad, Deputy Director, Archives, Archaeology and Museums; and other officers and officials from PWD (R&B). During the visit, the



Principal Secretary Culture, Suresh Kumar Gupta interacting with officials.

Principal Secretary inspected the ongoing works at Ziyarat Sharief Resh Moul Sahib (RA), Devibal Temple, and Ziyarat Sharief Zain-ud-din Wali (RA), significant heritage sites being developed under the scheme.

He was informed that work

on the Devibal Temple has been completed, while progress is ongoing at the other shrines.

Furthermore, the Principal Secretary visited the District Library, Anantnag, where he interacted with the staff and visitors, patiently listening to their concerns and demands.

During his tour, Principal Secretary also visited Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)-protected monuments, Avantishisvara, Avantiswami, Martand Sun Temple, and Bamzav Cave Temple where he interacted with the staff and reviewed the conservation

efforts.

His visit culminated at the Mamleshwar Temple in Pahalgam, a Union Territory-protected monument, where he emphasized the importance of continued conservation efforts.

During his visit, he emphasized the vital importance of preserving Jammu and Kashmir's rich cultural and historical heritage. He urged for the timely completion of restoration projects while maintaining the highest standards of conservation. The Principal Secretary also highlighted the need for collaboration between departments and agencies to safeguard these culturally and historically significant sites.

He noted that efforts to restore these heritage landmarks would contribute in maintaining the cultural identity of Jammu and Kashmir.

District Treasury Officer Bandipora urges pensioners to complete physical verification

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BANDIPORA: The District Treasury Officer Bandipora has called on all pensioners receiving their pensions from the District Treasury Bandipora, Sub Treasury Sumbal, and Sub Treasury Gurez to undergo physical verification at their respective treasuries.

This step is crucial to ensure the smooth continuation of pension disbursement.

Pensioners who are aged 80 or above, as well as those with physical challenges that prevent them from attending in person, are advised to contact, 7006039058 and 7889883611 to arrange

home visits at their convenience.

Till date, more than 75% of pensioners have completed the verification process.

The District Treasury Officer encourages the remaining pensioners to complete this process promptly to 100 percent verification.

In addition, the District Treasury Officer has directed all Treasury Officers in the Bandipora district to expedite the verification process, prioritizing the comfort and convenience of all pensioners.

Pensioners are urged to cooperate fully to ensure a smooth and efficient verification process.

Literacy Week celebrations culminate with vibrant event held at GGHSS Kothibagh



Participants at Literacy Day event being held in GGHSS Kothibagh,

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The celebration of Literacy Week culminated today with a vibrant Literacy Day event held in the auditorium of GGHSS Kothibagh, organized by Chief Education Officer, Srinagar Shabina Keysar.

The district-level seminar, along with painting and slogan writing competitions, brought together an inspiring group of educators, students, and community members dedicated to promoting literacy. The event was attended by Anjum Raja, District Education Planning Officer; Ghulam Nabi Sheikh, Zonal Education Officer, Srinagar; Showkat Hussain, District Nodal Officer ULLAS, Hina Amin, District Cultural Coordinator, Nazrana, Coordinator; students of different schools of District Srinagar and officials, educators, new learners & volunteers.

Anjum Raja welcomed participants and acknowledged the enthusiastic participation from schools during the Literacy Week celebrations. "ULLAS is a ray of hope for us, enabling us to significantly increase the literacy rate in our district," she stated.

DEPO Srinagar emphasized the importance of community involvement, urging the educated class to volunteer for ULLAS and contribute to

societal development. "It is high time we all understand our responsibilities as citizens," she added.*

Showkat Hussain highlighted the progress of the ULLAS initiative throughout the district, while Ashiq Hussain, ZNO Rainawari discussed its aims and objectives.

Nazrana from BHSS Gulabbagh focused on the significance of female literacy, and Geetanjali, ZNO Srinagar provided insights into the technical aspects of ULLAS registration.*

The event concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks delivered by Ghulam Nabi Sheikh, Zonal Education Officer Srinagar.

Newly registered volunteers and learners were recognized for their commitment, alongside the District and Zonal team members for their tireless efforts in identifying new learners and developing teaching-learning materials.

The competitions showcased the talent and creativity of students while winners of different categories were felicitated.

This event marks a significant step towards enhancing literacy and education in the Srinagar district, fostering a sense of community and shared responsibility among all participants.

Sufi Poet Ahad Zargar's annual day observed at Narwara Srinagar

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The annual commemoration of Ahad Zargar, the renowned Sufi poet of Kashmir, was observed at his birthplace Narwara Srinagar, today. The event was organized by the Ahad Zargar Memorial Research Centre in collaboration with the Cultural Unit of the Department of Information. On the occasion noted folk singer of Kashmir Abdul Gafar Kanihami presented Sufi kalam of Ahad Zargar. The function was attended by a galaxy of scholars, poets, and literary personalities. It is believed that Zargar started intensely fervent Sufi poetry at the age of 20. His early renunciation of the world and aristocracy enthralled the think tanks of all times. Eminent scholars in their speeches threw light on the life & poetry of Ahad Zargar. Zargar was the shining stalwart to continue traditional Sufi poetry after centuries old mystics like Lalla Ded and Nund Reshi. Ahad Zargar Memorial Research Centre hailed the Cultural Unit of DIPR for conducting and supporting in organising the programs where Sufism and local culture is promoted.

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Defeat Dengue
"Each one can do one action for everyone"
Everyone besides personal protection can do a little action to protect Community
Examples
 ➤ filling a pit, which could stagnate water and breed mosquitoes,
 ➤ Emptying a pit with water logging,
 ➤ Spread awareness by word of mouth,
 ➤ Give a lecture in a School/Anganwadi Center/Urban slums regarding dengue awareness,
 ➤ Report a drinking water pipe leak stagnating water, to PHE by sharing it's Geo - tagged video,
 ➤ Report a Drain block, stagnating water to Municipal Corporation by sharing it's Geo - tagged video,
 ➤ Use of Social Medias i.e X (Formerly Twitter), Instagram, Facebook & Whatsapp etc for Awareness of fellow community members & for Flagging the issues that need to be addressed.
 ➤ In the fridges with drip pan/defrost trays, dry and wipe these once in 7 days.
 ➤ Turn upside down any thrown away disposable glasses/bottles stagnating water during your morning/evening walks.
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