



“Success is getting what you want; happiness is wanting what you get.”

—W. P. Kinsella

Inking the Truth

One Nation, One Election ready by 2029: Panel Chief

PANAJI: The joint committee of Parliament examining the bills on simultaneous elections is working to create a mechanism that could make the 'One Nation, One Election' reform fully operational by the 2029 general elections, its chairperson said on Friday.

Speaking to reporters on the sidelines of the panel's two-day meeting in Goa, PP Chaudhary claimed that nearly 99 per cent of civil society stakeholders consulted so far have backed the proposal, which aims to curb an estimated Rs 7 lakh crore economic loss caused by frequent polls.

The committee began its deliberations in Goa on the Constitution (129th Amendment) Bill, 2024, with an interaction with Chief Minister Pramod Sawant and members of his cabinet, seeking their views on the challenges involved in implementing simultaneous elections and ways to address them.

"We had an ► P11

Future battles will be won by 'soldiers', not just AI: Rajnath

DM cites Op Sindoor as integration of capabilities



VISAKHAPATNAM: Future wars may be fought with Artificial Intelligence (AI), but they will still be won by national resolve, trained soldiers and robust military power, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Saturday.

Speaking at the commis-

sioning ceremony of INS Mahendragiri here, Singh also said Andhra Pradesh has emerged as a new powerhouse of India's defence and aerospace manufacturing.

Highlighting the government's balanced approach towards defence modernisa-

tion, Singh said India is investing in next-generation technologies while simultaneously strengthening conventional military capabilities.

He cited Operation Sindoor as an example of the effective integration of conventional and modern capabilities to safeguard national security.

"Future wars may be fought with Artificial Intelligence, but they will still be won by national resolve, trained soldiers and the capable military power. So, I would say that new technologies and conventional platforms are not opposed to each other, but supplement each other, complete each other. Without conventional platforms, new technologies are incomplete in themselves," he said.

According to Singh, it is certain that new ► P11



Peddler sent to jail; 4 others held with narcotics

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: An alleged drug peddler was detained under the PIT-NDPS Act in Udhampur district, while four more were arrested after they were caught with narcotic substances at different places in Samba, Kathua and Rajouri districts of Jammu and Kashmir, police said on

Saturday.

Sanjay Kumar alias "Sanju", a resident of Phalata village, was detained under the provisions of the Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (PIT-NDPS) Act in Udhampur, a police spokesperson said.

He said the detention order was issued by the com-

petent authority against the "notorious peddler" and was executed on Friday. Kumar has been lodged in District Jail Baderwah in Doda.

Anil Kumar, a resident of Ghagwal, was arrested along with 1.720 kg poppy straw while he was moving on a two-wheeler near his house in Samba district, the spokesperson said. ► P11

Rs 1.2 Cr worth asset attached

SRINAGAR: Police on Saturday attached a double-storey residential house worth over Rs 1.2 crore belonging to an accused in case under the NDPS Act in Srinagar, officials said.

The house, ► P11

NC pushes for J&K Statehood in show of strength ahead of Jantar Mantar protest

BJP offered Rs 20-30 Cr to MLAs to topple Govt: Omar

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Saturday accused the BJP of trying to bring down his government by engineering a split in the National Conference, claiming that his party MLAs were offered Rs 20-30 crore to switch sides.

Addressing a packed workers' convention at the mausoleum of his grandparents at Hazratbal on the 26th death anniversary of his grandmother, Akbar Jehan, Abdullah claimed the BJP was using money power to buy his MLAs.

"Attempts are being made to break the National Conference. After offering money and ministerial berths didn't work, the BJP is now telling my MLAs behind closed doors that 'come with us and we will give you statehood'," Abdullah claimed.

The chief minister also claimed that a National Conference (NC) MLA from Jammu told him that he was offered Rs 20-30 crore and a ministerial berth to switch sides to the saffron camp.

"God bears witness that one MLA from Jammu told me that a BJP office-bearer, who is also a Supreme Court lawyer, offered him Rs 20-30



crore, a ministry, and statehood after asking him to support them. They think people's faith is so weak," he said. Exuding faith in his party

colleagues, he asserted that NC MLAs will not sell themselves.

Abdullah said there is not a single legislator on the stage who will sell his integrity for Rs 30 crore, or even Rs 100 crore, because "we know that we are answerable to God".

Targeting the BJP, Abdullah added, "Don't think that we are so weak that you will make an entry through the back door. You will never reach the chair at the front through the back door. People have kept you at the back, and you will remain there."

Later, NC president Farooq Abdullah also said there were attempts to ► P11

FRS alert results in detention of OGW

SRINAGAR: Police on Saturday detained an over ground worker (OGW) in Anantnag district after he was flagged by the facial recognition system, installed ahead of the annual Shri Amarnathji Yatra.

As part of the robust security arrangements for the ongoing Shri Amarnathji Yatra, the Facial Recognition System (FRS) deployed by Anantnag Police generated a timely alert at the X-Ray Point, Nunwan Base Camp, leading to the detention of one Over Ground Worker (OGW), a police spokesman said. ► P11

Prove or apologise: BJP's ultimatum to CM Omar over 'poaching' charges

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: J&K BJP launched a scathing attack on Chief Minister Omar Abdullah over his public allegation that a BJP office-bearer allegedly offered money to lure a National Conference MLA, terming the statement "baseless, irresponsible and politically motivated".

This was stated by senior BJP leader and MLA Udhampur East Advocate R.S. Pathania, accompanied by BJP Media Incharge Dr. Pardeep Mahotra, and Spokesperson Dr. Hari Dutt Shishu, while addressing a press conference at party headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

R.S. Pathania said that the



BJP will be constrained to initiate appropriate criminal and other legal proceedings if Omar Abdullah fails to tender an unconditional public apology and substantiate his allegation with verifiable evidence.

Pathania questioned why, if such a serious attempt to bribe a legislator had indeed taken place, neither the alleged recipient nor the Chief Minister reported the matter to the Jammu & Kashmir Police, the ► P11

Fresh batch of over 9K pilgrims leaves for Shri Amarnathji Yatra



■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: The 10th batch of 9,182 pilgrims, including 2,435 women, left the Bhagwati Nagar base camp here on Satur-

day to pay obeisance at the holy Shri Amarnathji cave shrine in south Kashmir Himalayas, officials said. The pilgrims also included 256 Sadhus, 46 Sadhvis and 31 children. They left for

the twin base camps of Nunwan-Pahalgam in Anantnag and Baltal in Ganderbal in separate convoys under tight security arrangements in the early hours of the day, they said. While 5,877 pilgrims are heading for the Pahalgam base camp in a convoy of 206 vehicles, 3,305 pilgrims onboard 127 vehicles have preferred the Baltal route, according to officials. The 57-day annual pilgrimage to the 3,880-metre high cave shrine started from the two routes on July 3 and is scheduled to end on August 28, coinciding with the Raksha Bandhan festival. Over two lakh pilgrims have so far visited the shrine this year.

Cop dismissed over 'unlawful' absence for duty

JAMMU: A police constable has been dismissed from service in Kathua district for remaining absent from duty for more than two-and-a-half years without obtaining requisite authorisation, police said on Saturday.

Kathua Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Mohita Sharma has ordered dismissal of Selection Grade Constable Bachan Sharma, a resident of Dhaloti village of Marheen, posted at District Police Lines (DPL) Kathua, a spokesman said. He said the official was appointed as ► P11

SIA secures Interpol red corner 'notice' against Hizbul terrorist

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: The State Investigation Agency (SIA) of Jammu and Kashmir Police has secured an Interpol Red Corner notice against designated Hizbul Mujahideen terrorist Intiyaz Ahmad Kandoo in a 2013 terror case, officials said on Saturday.

They said this marks a significant milestone in the investigation into the terrorist attack at the Tarzoo area of Baramulla district, in which four police personnel were killed.

"In a breakthrough in its sustained counter-terrorism efforts, the SIA Kashmir has secured an Interpol Red Corner Notice against designated Hizbul Mujahideen terrorist

Intiyaz Ahmad Kandoo alias Fayaz alias Sajad," officials said.

Kandoo, a resident of Kraltang in Sopore, has been an active member and commander of the proscribed terrorist outfit since 2010. The Indian government designated him as a Designated Individual Terrorist in October 2022, they said.

Officials said the Red Corner Notice will facilitate international law enforcement agencies in locating and detaining Kandoo, and initiating legal proceedings for his extradition to India.

The case, which was initially registered at Tarzoo police station in Sopore, was transferred to the SIA Kashmir in 2024. ► P11

Sing National Anthem, Song Right; MHA cracks the whip

NEW DELHI: The Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has said there should be strict adherence to the correct script and text, and diction and pronunciation while playing or singing the National Song and the National Anthem.

In a fresh order to all central government and governor offices, the ministry reiterated the rules related to the playing and singing of the National Song and the National Anthem.

The MHA said its orders contain an exhaustive list of occasions on which the National Song and the National Anthem of India "shall be played or sung" and the occasions on which they "may be sung or played".

The order dated July 9

said the National Song shall be sung on the occasions of civil investitures; on the arrival of the president at formal State functions and other functions organised by the government, and on his departure from such functions; immediately before and after the president addresses the nation over All India Radio (AIR) and television.

It shall also be played on the arrival of the governor and Lieutenant Governor (LG) at formal State functions within his state and Union Territory (UT) and on his departure from such functions and when the National Flag is brought on parade.

"It is to be noted that while singing or ► P11

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