

'J&K's financial scenario grim'

Omar rules out early Assembly polls, says NC-Cong on same page

Excelsior Correspondent
CHANDERKOTE, (RAMBAN), Sept 8: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today dismissed all speculation on early Assembly elections in the State saying that the National Conference-Congress coalition Government would

mony to lay the foundation stone of the Rs 3,113 crore Baglihar-II project. "Some people spread talk about early Assembly polls. People have voted us to power, which we are not going to relinquish before the due date," he said, maintaining that his Government would complete its



Chief Minister Omar Abdullah addressing a public meeting at Chanderkote in Ramban on Sunday.

complete its full tenure of six years before going in for polls. "All speculation regarding early Assembly elections are false. "People have voted NC-Congress coalition Government to power and it will complete its full term of six years," Omar told a large gathering at a cere-

lar-democratic credentials and to ensure equitable inclusive development of all regions. The two parties have joined hands not for power but to serve the people in accordance with their aspirations, he said. "The NC and the Congress are on same page to protect and

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Strike paralyses life in Kashmir
Curfew imposed in Shopian, Kulgam following protests

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Sept 8: Authorities imposed curfew in twin South Kashmir towns of Shopian and Kulgam as a precautionary measure following violence after four people were killed in Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) firing at Gagran in Shopian yesterday while life remained paralysed in Kashmir in response to a strike called by separatists against the killings.

Protests erupted in Shopian and other parts of South Kashmir yesterday after four people were killed near a CRPF camp at Gagran, Shopian. Police and para-military CRPF fired teargas shells and resorted to lathi-charge to disperse the demonstrators, who alleged that all the four deceased people were innocent civilians.

Three of the four deceased people were identified as Touseef Ahmad, Mohammad Yousuf and Tariq Ahmad. The authorities imposed curfew restrictions since early this morning as a precautionary measure in Shopian and adjoining areas and huge deployments were made overnight to stop the protests.

Indefinite curfew has also been imposed Kulgam town since early this morning as a precautionary measure. Residents of these towns said repeated announcements were being made that curfew has been imposed in the two towns.

Elsewhere in these districts, restrictions under Section 144 CrPC were being strictly implemented. Similar restrictions have also been imposed in Anantnag town to maintain law and order. The call for strike was given by separatist groups including Syed Ali Geelani and Mirwaiz Umar Farooq.

Amid strict restrictions and curfew, hundreds of people including women assembled in front of Gagran CRPF camp in Shopian and raised slogans against the CRPF demanding immediate shifting of the camp. Protestors defied curfew and did not give heed to the repeated directions from the police that town is under curfew. They sat sit-in and continuously protested against the killing of four youth.

"We are not going to end the protest till this Camp is not being removed from the area. (Contd on page 7 Col 6)

Matter to figure before party high command
Verbal spat between PCC chief, senior Minister from Valley

Mohinder Verma

JAMMU, Sept 8: The factionalism in the Congress has once again come to fore with Pradesh Congress Committee (PCC) chief and a senior party Minister from Kashmir valley entering into verbal spat over some party matter and the issue is going to figure before the Congress high command shortly.

During yesterday's meeting over LAHDC Kargil issue, Pradesh Congress Committee chief and a senior party Minister from Kashmir valley entered into verbal spat after the former questioned the latter on organizing public meetings without informing the party chief in the State, sources in Congress party told EXCELSIOR.

In an obvious reference to the recent meetings conducted by the Minister in Pulwama, Sopore, Tral and Srinagar, the PCC president, according to the sources, asked the Minister to explain why he had failed to give prior information to him and obtain his consent for such meetings.

"The party chief in J&K made it clear that party

Ministers will have to seek his permission before holding public meetings so that Congress workers' presence in such functions is ensured", sources said, adding "these remarks of the PCC chief shocked several Ministers as practically it is not possible to keep the PCC informed prior to convening each and every public meeting".

Countering PCC chief, senior Minister from Valley, according to the sources, said, "this has never happened in the history of Pradesh Congress Committee. However, I am well informing the district presidents, as per the standing instructions of the party, prior to convening public meetings".

Sources further said, "the Minister told the PCC chief that everybody in the Congress wants to strengthen the party and Ministers have every right to convene meetings in order to inform public about the achievements of the Government, to which Congress is a partner". "On one side the party high command cautions Ministers against restricting their movements to own constituencies only and on the other side we

Capitation fee illegal: SC

NEW DELHI, Sept 8:

Private technical and medical colleges demanding capitation fee from students is illegal and unethical, the Supreme Court has said and asked the Centre to make laws to put an end to such practices which deny admission to meritorious financially poor students in those institutions.

"Collection of large amount by way of capitation fee running into crores of rupees for MBBS and post-graduate seats, exorbitant fee, donation etc, by many of such self-financing institutions, have kept the meritorious financially poor students away from those institutions," it said.

"Pressure, it is also seen, is being extended by various institutions, for the additional intake of students, not always for the benefit of students," it said.

(Contd on page 7 Col 4)

BJP, RSS, VHP leaders meet

NEW DELHI, Sept 8:

Leaders of BJP and Sangh outfits RSS and VHP held a key meeting today but the issue of taking a decision on declaring Narendra Modi as BJP's Prime Ministerial candidate did not come up for discussions amid indications a final announcement may be made by September 20.

The two-day meet convened to finalise a coordination strategy for the 2014 Lok Sabha polls started against the backdrop of RSS' announcement yesterday that it has conveyed its opinion to BJP on the Prime Ministerial candidate.

Top BJP leaders LK Advani, Sushma Swaraj - both of whom are said to be against Modi's projection -- Arun Jaitley, Murli Manohar Joshi besides party President Rajnath Singh participated

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Rangers open firing on BSF

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Sept 8: The Pakistani Rangers today again violated ceasefire on the International Border by firing at Maljodha post of the Border Security Force (BSF) at Pargwal in Akhnour sector.

Official sources said the Rangers resorted to sniper fire on Maljodha post of 32 BSF from their MA Ali post at 12.45 pm when the BSF jawans were changing guards.

The BSF retaliated silencing the Pakistani guns. There were no casualties or damage on the Indian side in Pakistani firing that lasted five to 10 minutes only, sources said.

Muzaffarnagar violence toll 21

MUZAFFARNAGAR, Sept 8:

At least 10 more people were killed in spiralling violence in Muzaffarnagar today, taking the toll to 21 in the western UP district where the Army staged flag marches and thousands of anti-riot police personnel were deployed to restore law and order.

"As it (violence) is going on in several villages, it is taking time to defuse the situation," Additional Director General of Police Arun Kumar, who took stock of the situation in the affected areas, told reporters here.

District Magistrate Kausal Raj Sharma said that 21 people have died in the violence so far. However, in Lucknow, UP Home Secretary Kamal Saxena said that 19 people have so far been killed in the violence, including 11 yesterday.

(Contd on page 7 Col 4)

No fun of fighting over minor issue: Farooq
NC opts out of race, clears decks for Cong to form Kargil Council

Excelsior Correspondent

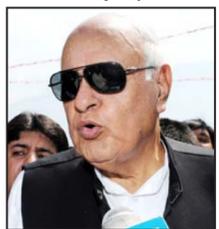
JAMMU, Sept 8: Ending 10 days long suspense over majority in Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC), Kargil, which had brought both Alliance partners—National Conference and Congress at loggerheads, the NC today opted out of the race leaving the field open for the Congress to stake claim for majority and elect its leader Asgar Ali Karblaie as the new Chief Executive Council (CEC).

"What is the fun of fighting over a small issue? Both NC and Congress are running the coalition successfully for past four and a half years. There is no fun of fighting over a trivial issue of getting majority in LAHDC Kargil," Dr Abdullah told the Excelsior over telephone from Srinagar.

He said: "we have to run the coalition in large interest of nation and the people of Jammu and Kashmir and we will do that. The coalition has completed

four and a half year smoothly and it will complete the remaining period in the similar way".

Announcing that the National Conference was opting out of the race for formation of majority in the



LAHDC Kargil, Farooq, who also happened to be NC president, said: "the Congress had the people's mandate there. Therefore, we are opting out. This is a non-issue".

The National Conference had 18 seats in previous LAHDC Kargil in the House of 26 while the Congress had 8. In August 22 elections, the NC was reduced to eight and Congress

to 10 while Independents grabbed eight seats. Four Independent Councilors each had sided with the two parties taking Congress tally to 14 and NC to 12.

However, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah using his Constitutional powers nominated four NC leaders as Councilors to the LAHDC Kargil tilting the balance in favour of his party but, in the process, irking the Congress, which took strong exception to the Alliance partner's move describing it as 'unilateral and arbitrary decision' and demanding its immediate withdrawal.

While Congress was of the view that the NC and Congress should have shared two nominations each, NC claimed that the Congress had taken its share of four nominations in LAHDC Leh and now it was its turn to nominate its four members to the LAHDC Kargil.

Both factions of Congress put up a united front and held meetings of the Ministers under

(Contd on page 7 Col 1)

Steiner misled us: Nikolaus

German Ambassador in dock over concert

Fayaz Bukhari

"We were misled by German Embassy. We will raise this issue with the German Government that art can't be



exploited by anyone, be it Governments or by Embassy or any political group. It is art, it speaks itself", said angry

SRINAGAR, Sept 8: The Srinagar concert by renowned conductor of Bavarian State Orchestra, Zubin Mehta, has been marred by fresh controversy posing diplomatic embarrassment for German Ambassador, Michael Steiner, the organiser of the event.

General Manager of the Bavarian State Opera and Bavarian State Orchestra, Nikolaus Bachler, in an exclusive interview to the Excelsior described the Shalimar Garden concert as an Embassy concert for elites and accused German Ambassador of misleading the Bavarian State Orchestra.

The General Manager said that musicians waived off their fee for people's concert and not for elites who could have afforded the tickets.

"The musicians, all the 80, waived the fees for Kashmiri people and not for an elite event. We didn't waive the fees for an Embassy concert. Be sure this will be an issue in Germany", said Nikolaus.

He said that it was a people's event but German Embassy made it VIP concert. "It was from artists, from Musicians to give concert for Kashmiri people. And this was the idea of Zubin Mehta and the Musicians to come here was music and to

meet in the language of music. But what German Embassy made out of it was a VIP event which I find is completely against the art and against what it could be", he added.

Nikolaus called German Ambassador as over ambitious. "And in my opinion this is the consequence of over ambitious German Ambassador who overrules this and so it becomes a political issue which I understand, because it suddenly becomes State's statement. This is contrary to what it is. So, I just wanted people to know that our goal is different. The goal is to meet the people, to play for the people and not for the selec-

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> After years of neglect ...Page 8 Pak's deceptive launch pads ...Page 3 Flawed elections led to militancy in Kashmir ...Page 3 EJCC appeals employees to observe strike on Sept 10, 11 ...Page 3 J&K have ample talent, caliber to bring laurels for State: Bhalla ...Page 5 NC won't allow peace inimical elements to divide J&K people: Rana ...Page 5 Uthappa slams century in India As comprehensive win ...Page 14 	<p>JAMMU</p> <p>Possibility of light rain/ thundershowers.</p> <p>TEMPERATURE</p> <p>Max: 31.0 Degree C</p> <p>Min: 22.3 Degree C</p> <p>RELATIVE HUMIDITY</p> <p>Highest: 96.0 per cent</p> <p>Lowest: 66.0 per cent</p> <p>Sunset on Monday: 06.47 p.m.</p> <p>Sunrise on Tuesday: 06.13 a.m.</p> <p>KASHMIR</p> <p>Possibility of light rain/ thundershowers.</p> <p>TEMPERATURE</p> <p>Max: 29.5 Degree C</p> <p>Min: 17.4 Degree C</p> <p>RELATIVE HUMIDITY</p> <p>Highest: 79.0 per cent</p> <p>Lowest: 53.0 per cent</p>



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The Land Acquisition Bill provides assured arrangements for livelihood, rehabilitation and financial benefits for the affected people

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Union Cabinet approved the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Bill on 5th Sept 2011. The bill has been passed by the Parliament and is awaiting the assent of the President.