

## 'Oppn alliance built on negativity' **NDA will bag more than 50 pc votes: PM**

NEW DELHI, July 18: Prime Minister Narendra Modi slammed the new opposition front today, saying alliances built on negativity have never succeeded and asserting that the NDA will return to power for a third consecutive term, bagging more than 50 per cent of the vote share.

Addressing a meeting of the 39 NDA constituents, Modi said the ruling alliance recently completed 25 years, which was the legacy of former prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee shaped by L K Advani, who continued to guide the group.

Modi acknowledged the contributions made by veteran leaders, such as Parkash Singh Badal, Balasaheb Thackeray, Sharad Yadav, Ajit Singh, George Fernandes, Ram Vilas Paswan, saying they gave strength to the National Democratic Alliance (NDA).

"The true followers of Badal and Thackeray are also here amongst us," he said, referring to the presence of Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde

**\*True followers of Badal, Thackeray with us**



Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his address at the NDA leaders meet in New Delhi on Tuesday.

and Shiromani Akali Dal faction leader Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa at the meeting.

Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) leaders Ajit Pawar and Praful Patel, the newest entrants to the NDA, were also present at the meeting.

In NDA, "N" stands for a "New India", "D" for a "Developed Nation" and "A" for the "Aspirations" of people and regions, Modi said and described the coalition as one of contribution and not of compulsion. "I can make mistakes, but I

will not do anything with ill-intention," he said.

"I assure you that I will leave no stone unturned in my hard work and efforts. Every particle of my body, every moment of my time is dedicated to the country," he added.

Launching a broadside against the opposition, Modi said in Kerala, the Left and the Congress are baying for each other's blood, but in Bengaluru, they are hugging each other. He said in West Bengal, the Trinamool Congress (TMC) is attacking the Left and Congress workers, but the leaders of those parties are mum. "Their reality is for the people to see. They can come close but cannot walk together," the prime minister said.

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## DC orders inquiry to ascertain lapses, fix responsibility 2 labourers buried alive, 6 injured as landslide hits construction site

Nishikant Khajuria which is purportedly owned by a contractor from Ramnagar. The incident took place around 11.45 at Ward number

**\*Watch video on www.excelsiornews.com**

21, Kaller Himti, near Vegetable Mandi where a double storey building was being constructed by cutting a hillock.



Rescue work in progress after the landslide hits under construction site in Udhampur.

Deputy Commissioner Udhampur has ordered an inquiry to ascertain cause behind the mishap and fixing responsibility for the lapses, if any, while police has also registered a case in this connection.

The DC also ordered stoppage of work at the site of under construction building,

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## Were in possession of Chinese and Pak made weapons 4 Pak militants gunned down in Surankote, involvement in Mendhar attack not ruled out

**\*Para commandos used in gun battle, terror strikes averted**

Sanjeev Pargal

JAMMU, July 18: In a major success, security forces today eliminated four Pakistani militants at Sindhara Top in Surankote tehsil in Poonch district and thwarted their plot to carry out terror attacks on security personnel and civilians.



Arms and ammunition recovered from slain militants in Surankote on Tuesday. Another pic on page 4.

The militants were in possession of Chinese made AK rifles and Pakistan make pistols and possibility of their involvement in Bhatta Durrian attack on Army truck on April 20 this year in which five soldiers sacrificed their lives is not ruled out.

**\*Watch video on www.excelsiornews.com**

Officials told the Excelsior that heavily armed militants were confirmed Pakistanis but their identity hasn't been established so far as they were not being named in the intercepts. Moreover, no identity cards have been recovered from their possession.

"The militants were camping in Surankote for past few

days. However, it is yet to be ascertained whether they had shifted hideouts from Mendhar to Surankote or were freshly infiltrated group," the officials said, adding for past three days, Army, police and Intelligence agencies were monitoring their movement and finally they were trapped between Sindhara and Maidana areas last evening.

Recovery of Chinese made AK rifles and Pakistan made pistols clearly indicated that they were Pakistanis and had entered into this side to carry

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## PM to address UNGA session in Sept

UNITED NATIONS, July 18: Prime Minister Narendra Modi is likely to address the annual high-level session of the UN General Assembly in September, according to a provisional list of speakers issued by the UN here.

The high-level General Debate of the 78th session of the UN General Assembly will begin September 19, 2023, with Brazil as the traditional first speaker of the session, followed by the US.

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## 4 LeT associates arrested

SRINAGAR, July 18: Security forces today arrested four associates of Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT) in Budgam district.

They were arrested in the Beerwah area of the central Kashmir district and have been identified as Mushtaq Ahmad Lone, a resident of Gondipora Beerwah, Azhar Ahmad Mir, a resident of Chewdara Beerwah, and Irfan Ahmad Sofi and Abrar Ahmad Malik - both residents of Arwah, Beerwah.

A police spokesman said that they are linked to the proscribed terror outfit LeT.

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## SHO Shopian attached after attack

SRINAGAR, July 18: Days after attack on three migrant workers from Bihar in Shopian district, police attached Shopian Station House Officer (SHO) Ghulam Jeelani Bhat to Range Police Headquarter (RPHQ) Anantnag, pending an inquiry.

"In view of the incident occurred on 13-7-2023 at about 2030 hours at Gaegren Shopian, Inspector Gh Jeelani Bhat (SHO P/S Shopian) PID No ARP-

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## PDP leader booked for rape

JAMMU, July 18: A People's Democratic Party (PDP) leader was booked for allegedly committing rape with a police constable in the jurisdiction of Police Post Pouni Chak today, police said.

They said Mohammad Shafi was booked in case FIR number 222/2023 under Sections 376, 506, 504, and 323 of the IPC registered at Police Station Domana.

As per sources, the complainant constable is posted in

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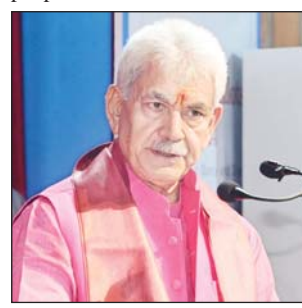
## Cinemas to open in Bandipora, Kulgam, Ganderbal People defeat Pak designs in Kashmir, contribute for creation of new atmosphere: LG

Fayaz Bukhari

SRINAGAR, July 18: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha today said that some forces from Pakistan or within Jammu and Kashmir tried to target the communal harmony of this place but the people have defeated their designs and are actively contributing to the creation of a new atmosphere.

**\*Watch video on www.excelsiornews.com**

While inaugurating the 3-day long Amrit Yuva Kalotsav, organised by Sangeet Natak Akademi, New Delhi and J&K Academy of Art, Culture & Languages, at Tagore Hall,



"Throughout history, all religions have been interwoven in a single thread, and each strand in this tapestry is invaluable.

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Unfortunately, certain forces, whether from neighboring country or within our own ecosystem, have targeted and attacked this way of life. Their efforts have aimed to stifle the dreams and aspirations of our people. However, today, I can proudly say that the youth or people of this region are once again dreaming and actively contributing to the creation of a new atmosphere," he said.

The LG said that peace is essential for art to thrive. "It is essential to remember that art can only flourish in a peaceful environment, and where there is no peace, art cannot thrive," he said.

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## GAD writes to Admn Secys, others; gives one week time MHA seeks from J&K details of employees occupying sensitive posts beyond 3 years

Mohinder Verma

JAMMU, July 18: Union Ministry of Home Affairs has sought from the Government of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir the details of the employees occupying sensitive posts beyond three years and acting swiftly the General Administration Department (GAD) has sent communication to all the Administrative Secretaries asking for compliance within one week positively as delay in this regard will be viewed seriously by the Ministry.

The Ministry of Home Affairs vide its Communication No.14016/21/2021-UT dated July 5, 2023 has drawn the

of persons occupying such posts beyond three years.

Acting swiftly, the General Administration Department has sent a communication to all the Administrative Secretaries, Director Anti-Corruption Bureau, Divisional Commissioners, all Heads of the Departments, Managing Directors of Public Sector Undertakings and all Deputy Commissioners asking them to submit complete details of all employees posted, deputed and attached, who are occupying sensitive posts beyond three years.

"The details shall be furnished in the devised format within a week's time positively

attention of the Chief Secretary of Government of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir towards Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) Letter C-11020/1/2015-Vig dated 14/09/2015 regarding the implementation of rotational Transfer Policy in the departments and attached/subordinate offices in the respective segments and also identification of sensitive posts and the number

of persons occupying such posts beyond three years.

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"The details shall be furnished in the devised format within a week's time positively

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## Both parties to share power 50:50 NC, Cong enter into pre-poll alliance for Kargil Council

Excelsior Correspondent

KARGIL, July 18: National Conference and Congress today struck pre-poll alliance for upcoming elections to Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC) Kargil which are scheduled to be held in September and a notification is expected to be issued in first week of August.

An announcement for pre-poll alliance was made by senior leaders of National Conference and Congress including Qamar Ali Akhoun, Feroz Khan and Asgar Ali Karbalaie at a press conference here this afternoon. Number of Councilors of the LAHDC Kargil hailing from NC



NC and Cong leaders announce pre-poll alliance at a press conference in Kargil on Tuesday.

while four Councilors are nominated by the UT Ladakh administration.

While seats to be shared by National Conference and Congress will be decided later, both parties have agreed to share power equally in the Council i.e.

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## IAS, JKAS officers transferred; given adtl charge

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, July 18: The Government today ordered transfer and posting of IAS and JKAS officers and assigned additional charge to others.

Ashok Kumar Parmar, Principal Secretary to the Government, ARI and Trainings Department has been transferred and posted as Principal

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## Sahu, BK Singh posted at Centre

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, July 18: The Appointments Committee of Cabinet (ACC) today ordered posting of two AGMUT cadre officers at the Centre.

Ajeet Kumar Sahu, an IAS officer of AGMUT-JK cadre, who was posted as Commissioner/Secretary GAD and other departments in the Union Territory of Ladakh, has

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## SIA searches 10 places

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, July 18: The State Investigation Agency (SIA) today carried out searches at 10 places in South Kashmir in the ongoing investigation into the killing of Kashmiri Pandit earlier this year.

**\*Pic on page 4 Video on www.excelsiornews.com**

The SIA during its third round of searches and raids in a minority killing case today conducted search and raids at 10 places in three districts of South Kashmir. The raids were conducted at five locations in district Anantnag, one location at Kulgam and four locations at Shopian in the wee hours.

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## UP priest walks 700 kms to reach Amarnath cave

PULWAMA, July 18:

A priest from Uttar Pradesh walked over 700 kilometers to pay obeisance at the holy cave shrine of Amarnath in the south Kashmir Himalayas.

Rahul Sharma, a resident of Badhoo village in Saharanpur district, said he will visit Kedarnath in Uttarakhand on his way back home. He started his journey on May 30 and reached the cave shrine on July 11.

Sharma said he also paid obeisance at the revered Mata Vaishnodevi shrine in Jammu region before embarking on the arduous trek to the cave shrine

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## Fight against ideology, thinking of BJP: Rahul 26 Oppn parties form INDIA to unitedly take on NDA in 2024

BENGALURU, July 18:

Setting the tone for their 2024 Lok Sabha campaign, 26 opposition parties today formed a coalition --Indian National Developmental Alliance (INDIA)--

to unitedly take on the ruling NDA with Congress leader Rahul Gandhi asserting that the fight will be "between INDIA and Prime Minister Narendra Modi".

Announcing the name of the opposition bloc at a press conference here after a nearly four-hour-long meeting of the 26 parties, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge said, "We'll fight the 2024 Lok Sabha elections unitedly and we will come out with great success." He said a committee of 11 members will be set up for coordination, and a convener will be selected at the next meeting in Mumbai.

Kharge also said a secretariat will also be set up in Delhi for campaign management of the alliance and specific committees will be formed for separate issues. He said the dates for the Mumbai meeting will be announced soon.

## Rohingyas clash with police, demand release from Hiranagar 'holding centre'

Excelsior Correspondent

KATHUA, July 18: Lodged at a "holding centre" here for the past over two years, over 200 Rohingyas from Myanmar today held a protest and clashed with guards inside Hiranagar Sub-Jail demanding their release.

The Hiranagar Police has registered a case under relevant Sections of the law and also started investigation into the matter.

Official sources said that Rohingyas tried to take hostage a staff member and resorted to stone pelting inside the holding centre. However, the situation was brought under control with quick police action which resorted to mild lathicharge to defuse the situation.

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## Pilgrims' rush further picks up 16,000 pay obeisance at holy cave, number mounts to 2.67 lakh

Avtar Bhat

JAMMU, July 18: With unabated rush of pilgrims continuing, 16,000 yatris drawn from different parts of country paid obeisance to naturally formed Ice Shivalingam in Himalayan cave in South Kashmir's district of Anantnag today.

Officials said 16,016 yatris performed darshan at cave shrine from twin tracks of Baltal and Nunwan-Pahalgam by this evening. With this, 2,67,499 pilgrims visited 3888 metre holy cave in deep Himalayas in last 18 days since the 62 day yatra started from twin tracks on July 1 this year.

Officials said that the weather remained pleasant during the



Two pigeons spotted near holy cave on Tuesday. Another pic on page 4.

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