

BSF DIRECTOR GENERAL VISITS FORWARD AREAS ALONG LOC TO REVIEW OPERATIONAL PREPAREDNESS

Srinagar, Sept 7: Director General of BSF Daljit Singh Chawdhary on Saturday visited forward areas along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir's Kupwara district to review the operational preparedness of the force.

Chawdhary visited the forward locations along the LoC in the Kupwara district where he was briefed about the security situation and operational preparedness of the unit deployed there, officials said.

They said the BSF DG

lauded the professionalism and steadfastness of the personnel in executing their duties.

Chawdhary on Friday visited the Jammu and Kashmir Police headquarters here and interacted with Director General of Police R R Swain.

The two officials discussed the prevailing security scenario in Jammu and Kashmir, including the counter-infiltration measures put in place to prevent entry of terrorists into the Union Territory from across the LoC.

Nine FIRs lodged, five govt employees suspended for poll code violations in JK

Jammu, Sep 7: The Office of the Chief Electoral Officer has said nine FIRs were lodged and five government employees suspended for violations of the Model Code of Conduct in Jammu and Kashmir.

Twenty-three warnings were issued and inquiries were underway in 48 cases of poll code violations, the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) said in a statement.

The Model Code of Conduct for elections to the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly came into effect on August 16.

The statement from the CEO's office said 175 cases of poll code violations, including 96 against political parties and candidates and 53 against government employees, had been reported across Jammu and Kashmir.

However, 89 complaints were dropped as these were found to be "baseless and false", the statement said and added five government employees were placed under suspension by the authorities in Srinagar for participating in political activities and further inquiry was

initiated against them.

Warnings were issued to violators in 23 cases while FIRs were lodged in nine cases of violations of serious nature. Inquiries have been initiated in 48 cases, the statement said.

Elections to the 90-member Jammu and Kashmir Assembly will be held in three phases on September 18, September 25 and October 1, and the votes counted on October 8.

BJP has 'struck a deal' with regional parties, independents to form JK govt: Omar Abdullah

Srinagar, Sep 7: National Conference leader Omar Abdullah on Saturday alleged that the BJP has "struck a deal" with some regional parties and some independent candidates to be part of the government in Jammu and Kashmir.

Referring to remarks by Union Home Minister Amit Shah in Jammu, Abdullah said he was "silent" about Apni Party and People's Conference during his speech at the BJP's manifesto launch on Friday.

"...those who have struck a deal with Delhi will not fulfill your demands. If you need evidence for this, just look at the statement of Home Minister Amit Shah in Jammu yesterday," the NC vice president said. "The home minister listed the parties with which the BJP will not form the government. He was, however, silent about the independents because they are hand in glove (with them). He was silent about Apni Party and People's Conference," he said. Addressing an election rally in Ganderbal assembly segment, Abdullah added, "I thought he would at least name the party of Engineer Rashid (Awami Ittehad Party) but he did not."

While releasing the party manifesto in Jammu on Friday, Shah expressed confidence of forming the government in J-K. "There will be no government by the PDP, NC, and Congress ruled by dynasties.

Rest possibilities, BJP will explore," Shah said.

Abdullah is contesting polls from Ganderbal and Budgam assembly segments which will go to polls in the second phase of voting on September 25.

Abdullah reiterated his claim that people who are in jails are specifically contesting against him and cited the names of Awami Ittehad Party's Sheikh Abdul Rashid -- who defeated him in the Lok Sabha polls -- and separatist leader Sarjan Ahmad Wagay alias Barkati who is pitted against the NC leader in the upcoming assembly polls.

"I wonder why people in jail are after me and want to contest elections against me. What is the reason?" he asked. He had earlier suggested that Barkati, who was from Zainapora, Shopian, was contesting against him as part of "a conspiracy from Delhi", hinting again at the central government.

Abdullah said it was not a coincidence that these jailed people are contesting polls against him. "They want to target only one person -- the National Conference candidate from Ganderbal," he said.

In the assembly elections, Barkati is also seeking election from the Beerwah seat, which was represented by Abdullah from 2014 to 2018.

Barkati was a prominent face

at the protest rallies in the south Kashmir districts of Shopian and Kulgam after the killing of Hizbul Mujahideen commander Burhan Wani in 2016. Barkati was first arrested in 2016 and booked under the Public Safety Act. He was again arrested last year and is facing charges under the stringent Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA).

The former chief minister said if the only criticism against him is that he does not live in Ganderbal, then it would be injustice against the people of the constituency. Candidates who have nothing to talk about raise issues like "local versus outsider", he said.

"Wherever I may come from, I have worked in Ganderbal. I was MLA for six years from here and the MP three times. Leave aside that my grandfather was MLA from here, my grandmother was MP and my father was both MLA and MP for this segment.

"My request to my detractors is to put forth what they have done for Ganderbal and I'll list my work here... Do you have anything to compare with the district hospital, the central university, the roads, physical education college and new administrative units? If you have done something to match these works of mine, I bear witness before God that I will leave the contest," he added.

Freedom of speech or Freedom of abuse? Election campaigns unchecked



ASIF AHMAD DAR

Nowadays, election campaigns are becoming rough, with many politicians and their supporters using bad language. This is a serious issue because it not only harms our democracy but also creates division among people and takes away from the real issues that matter.

During elections, politicians are supposed to talk about their plans and how they will solve problems like education, healthcare, or jobs. But, instead of focusing on these things, some politicians start attacking each other personally. They spread lies, make false claims, and use language that is meant to make people angry or scared, just to get more votes.

When this happens, the focus shifts from the real issues that affect people's lives to unnecessary fights and insults. This makes the election campaign feel more like a personal battle than a discussion on important topics. It also makes people lose trust in politicians

and the political system itself. Politicians are not the only ones using bad language. Their campaign workers and supporters often follow their lead and make things worse. With social media platforms like Facebook, Twitter, and WhatsApp, it's very easy for these supporters to spread mean comments, rumours, and lies quickly.

Sometimes, supporters get carried away and use even harsher language than the politicians themselves. This creates a very negative environment, both online and offline, making it hard for regular people to talk about real issues without facing insults or attacks.

The use of abusive language during elections is harmful in many ways:

For a healthy democracy, we need respectful debate. But when politicians focus on insults, it destroys the chance for meaningful conversations about real issues. Instead of talking about policies, we only see personal attacks.

Many voters get frustrated and turned off by the constant negativity. They may feel that elections have become about fighting, not about solving problems, and they might stop caring or even voting.

When politicians use abusive language and get away with it, it sends a message that this kind of behaviour is okay. This makes it more likely that future politicians will use the same dirty tactics.

Instead of bringing people together, bad language creates deeper divisions. People start taking extreme sides, making it harder to agree or work together on important issues.

There are several reasons why abusive language has become so common during election campaigns:

Elections are very competitive, and politicians sometimes feel that they need to do whatever it takes to win. They may think using abusive language will get them more attention or votes.

The media often focuses on negative or dramatic stories because they attract more viewers. So, when a politician says something mean, it gets a lot of coverage, encouraging more of that behaviour.

Platforms like Twitter and Facebook allow people to share their thoughts instantly. While this can be good, it also means that bad language and lies can spread quickly.

To stop the use of abusive language during election campaigns, a few things can be done:

Politicians need to take responsibility for their words. They should lead by example and avoid using bad language. If their supporters use abusive language, they should speak up against it.

The media should stop giving so much attention to negative stories and focus more on reporting the real issues. When the media focuses on the poli-

cies and plans of each candidate, it helps people make informed decisions.

Governments and election bodies should introduce stricter rules during election campaigns. Candidates who use abusive language should be fined or even disqualified from the race.

Voters also need to understand the importance of respectful debates. They should reject candidates who use abusive language and focus on those who discuss real issues and offer solutions.

Abusive language during election campaigns is a big problem that hurts democracy. When elections are full of insults and personal attacks, it takes away from the real issues that need attention. It also makes people lose trust in politicians and the political system, discouraging them from voting.

By promoting more respectful and issue-focused election campaigns, politicians, the media, and the public can help ensure that elections are about solving real problems, not just about who can shout the loudest.

**Author : Asif Ahmad Dar
LLM Scholar Asia Pacific
University Green Road Dhaka.
BALLB from School of
Law university of Kashmir.**

SHABROZ MALIK

JD(U) J&K Raises Concerns Over Rejected Nomination of Khanshab Candidate

SHABROZ MALIK

Srinagar: GM Shaheen, President of Janata Dal United (JD-U) Jammu and Kashmir, has expressed concerns after the party's candidate, Advocate Azhar Lodhi, had his nomination form for the Khanshab Constituency rejected by the Returning Officer. The rejection has reportedly left Lodhi in shock and distress, according to Shaheen.

During a press conference in Srinagar, Shaheen addressed the issue, stating, "We have serious concerns about the rejection of our candidate's nomination. Advocate Lodhi is deeply affected by the decision and we are seeking clarity on the grounds for this rejection."

Shaheen informed that he has officially written to the Election Commission, calling for external observers to oversee the process. "We urge the Election Commission to deploy observers from outside the region,



as local trust in the system has been eroded," he said.

Highlighting the importance of the upcoming General Assembly elections, which are being held after a decade, Shaheen stressed, "This is a critical moment for Kashmir. It's essential that the elections are conducted in a transparent and fair manner."

JD(U) is participating in the elections and, according to Shaheen, is confident of securing a significant number of seats.

KTA delegation meets LG Sinha, raises key business issues

Srinagar, Sep 07: A delegation of the Kashmir Trade Alliance (KTA), led by its president Aijaz Shah-dhar, met with Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Manoj Sinha at

Raj Bhawan to discuss a range of issues affecting the traders and business community of Kashmir. According to a statement issued to the news agency—Kashmir News

Observer (KNO) the meeting focused on various matters that require urgent government intervention to support the local economy.

Adv. Shabir Ahmad Najar Joins JD(U) and Secured Candidacy for Gulmarg-11 Constituency

SHABROZ MALIK

Srinagar, Sept 7— In a notable political development, Adv. Shabir Ahmad Najar has officially joined the Janata Dal (United) [JD(U)] party. The induction ceremony took place in the presence of GM Shaheen, the President of JD(U), at a high-profile event that underscored Najar's significant entry into the party.

Adv. Najar, a prominent legal expert and political figure, was welcomed into JD(U) with a formal announcement of his candidacy for the Gulmarg-11 con-

stituency in the upcoming elections. This strategic move aims to bolster JD(U)'s presence and influence in the region, reflecting the party's commitment to strengthening its electoral base.

During the ceremony, GM Shaheen expressed confidence in Najar's ability to represent the party effectively and to address the key issues facing the Gulmarg-11 constituency. "Adv. Najar's extensive experience and dedication to public service make him an ideal candidate for our party. We are confident that he will be a strong contender and will work diligently to address the needs of the people in Gul-



marg-11," Shaheen stated.

Adv. Shabir Ahmad Najar, in his acceptance speech, highlighted his commitment to the principles of JD(U) and outlined his vision for the constituency. "Joining JD(U) is a step towards

bringing meaningful change and development to Gulmarg-11. I am dedicated to working with the party to ensure that our constituency's needs are met and that we achieve significant progress," Najar remarked.

The nomination of Adv. Najar is anticipated to have a considerable impact on the upcoming electoral race, as his entry could potentially shift the dynamics of the competition in Gulmarg-11. Political analysts suggest that his background and alignment with JD(U)'s objectives will enhance the party's prospects in the region.

IN THE FORUM OF THE AUTHORIZED OFFICER, J.V FOREST DIVISION, BARAMULLA

Extract of order passed by the Authorized Officer—Cum- Divisional Forest Officer, J.V Forest Division Vide No. DDP/JV/A/2024-25/308-11 Dated 07-9-2024. In connection with case No. SS-25/JV/A/11/11/11 of Baramulla Forest Range

XXX XXXXXX

"Therefore, I am of the opinion that justice will be done by confiscating the seized vehicle along with the timber. I therefore issue order under sub sec 3 of sec 52 of IFA 2020 that the seized Tractor bearing Regd No. **JK05B/1382 (Engine No: NA, Chaises No: NA)** along with the **Kail Sawn (windows in finished form) 45 in number equal to Nos = 18.33 Cft** is confiscated to the UT. The confiscated vehicle along with its relevant document is lying with Range Officer Half Wrought Factory Baramulla as custodian of the concerned confiscated asset. The Range Officer concerned will report compliance of order to this forum latest by 15- 10 - 2024. The timber be handed over to FDC Baramulla. The copy of this order be communicated to the Conservator of Forest, North Circle Sopore. The copy of this order be also communicated to accused persons. The copy of this order be published in two leading newspapers having wide circulation in the Union Territory. The file be consigned to records after its due completion"

DIPK-5346-24

3

(Satyendra Maurya) IFS
Authorized Officer-Cum- Divisional Forest Officer
Jehlum Valley Forest Division,
Baramulla