HC to form spl bench for plea on L-G's power to nominate five MLAs

Ravi Krishnan Khajuria

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh high court chief justice Tashi Rabstan on Thursday agreed to constitute a special division bench on Monday to hear a public interest litigation (PIL) challenging the lieutenant governor's (L-G) power to nominate five members to the legislative assembly.

The decision comes days after the Supreme Court declined to consider the PIL, filed by Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress chief spokesperson Ravinder Sharma, but gave the petitioner the liberty to move the high court.

According to people aware of the details, chief justice Rabstan agreed to form the bench on Monday after the petitioner's counsel D K Khajuria pleaded for an early listing of the case.

"Khajuria also read out the order of the Supreme Court, which had given the petitioner the liberty to approach the high court in the matter," they added, asking not to be named.

In his plea, Sharma, a former Congress MLC, has contested sections 15, 15A, and 15B of the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019, which authorise the L-G to nominate five members to the assembly, potentially altering the elected body's composition.

Sharma then moved the top court, prior to the declaration of the recently held assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir, following a political row over a remark by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) United Democratic Front Bell Found that L-G Manoj Sinha would pick BJP members for all five slots. The National Conference (NC) emerged victorious in the recent elections, winning 42 seats in the 90-member assembly.

The Congress and Communist Party of India (Marxist) received six and one seat respectively, bringing the coalition's tally to 48.

The National Conference's position was further strengthened with support from several Independent candidates and the sole MLA from the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), pushing its numbers comfortably beyond the majority mark. Omar Abdullah was sworn in as the chief minister of the UT on Wednesday. On October 11, the top court declined to entertain Sharma's plea, saying, "They (L-G) may nominate, may not nominate... we don't know. Go to the high court. Not everything has to come to this court directly."

DECISION COMES DAYS AFTER THE SC DECLINED TO CONSIDER THE PIL, FILED BY CONG LEADER, BUT GAVE PETITIONER THE LIBERTY TO MOVE THE HC

EXPLOSIVE DEVICE SENT VIA DRONE RECOVERED NEAR INDO-PAK BORDER

FIROZPUR: An improvised explosive device (IED) sent via drone was recovered along the India-Pakistan border in Fazilka on Wednesday. The explosive, packed with RDX, also contained batteries and a timer, raising concerns about cross-border infiltration tactics.

Drone activity was detected near Bahadurpur in the Abohar sector, prompting the Border Security Force (BSF) to conduct a search operation in the area. Along with the device, a hand-written instruction manual was also found.

Sources reveal that the bomb contained approximately 1 kg of RDX, a detonator, and a digital timer. After its recovery, the device was handed over to the Bomb Special Operations Unit (BSOU) in Fazilka for further investigation. The IED was later neutralised by a bomb disposal and detection squad using a water disruptor.

Lakhbir Singh, AIG of BSOU, Fazilka, confirmed the recovery and stated that a case has been registered under sections 3, 4, and 5 of the Explosive Substances Act, 1908. No. 2) was lodged on October 16, 2024, at the BSOU police station, and investigators are set to determine the motive behind this.

CPCB cracks down on dyeing units in Hry's NCR cities

HT Correspondent

NEW DELHI: The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) cracked down on illegal textile dyeing units operating in NCR districts of Haryana — Sonipat, Faridabad, Gurugram and Jhajjar — that were contributing to pollution of the Najafgarh drain, and issued closure notices to 32 of 90 units involved in the activity in non-conducive zones, or residential areas, it said in a report submitted to the National Green Tribunal (NGT) on October 15.

"Days ago textile processing industries involving zero effluent or emissions generating processes including bleaching, dyeing, printing and colouring, are classified as Red category industries (polluting the most) and such industries are required to operate only with valid consent to operate (CTO) under the Water Act, 1974 and Air Act, 1981 and Authorisation under Hazardous & other Wastes (Management & Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016," the report said.

The Najafgarh drain is a 33 kilometre long network that originates from the Najafgarh lake near Kathpur in Haryana and enters the Capital at Dhansa in southwest Delhi, traversing its way across south, central, west, and north-west Delhi. Before entering the Yamuna near north Delhi's Wazirabad, concentrations of effluents, including total dissolved solids (TDS) and total suspended solids (TSS), should be between 50 mg/l and 200 mg/l.

Central Pollution Control Board was responding to a plea filed in National Green Tribunal by activist Varun Gulati, who alleged that over 300 illegal dyeing units based in Haryana were polluting Delhi.

CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD WAS RESPONDING TO A PLEA FILED IN NGT BY ACTIVIST VARUN GULATI ABOUT ILLEGAL DYEING UNITS

Gulati has noted that all industries from the Najafgarh lake near Kathpur in Haryana and enters the Capital at Dhansa in southwest Delhi, traversing its way across south, central, west, and north-west. Delhi. Before entering the Yamuna near north Delhi's Wazirabad, Concentrations of effluents, including total dissolved solids (TDS) and total suspended solids (TSS), should be between 50 mg/l and 200 mg/l.

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2 HELD FOR HUSHING UP NOIDA SCHOOL ASSAULT

Arun Singh

NOIDA: Days after a three-year-old girl was sexually assaulted at a private school in Noida Sector 27, police on Thursday arrested the school's security in-charge and the girl's class teacher for allegedly trying to hush up the incident.

Police said the girl was assaulted multiple times in the first week of October, but the incident came to light only on October 10, when the girl complained of pain in her genitalia. Following which her family took her to a doctor who confirmed sexual assault. The accused was arrested the same day, after the parents approached police.

Now, officers said a probe revealed the school's security in-charge and the girl's class teacher were aware of the incident. "As it was revealed that they tried to hush up the matter, they were arrested on Thursday night," said a senior police officer, adding that the school too could be booked for lapses in the entire episode.

| CHARTS FIRST CABINET MEETING |

Bridging gap between people, govt a top priority: Omar

HT Correspondent

SRINAGAR: Chief minister (CM) Omar Abdullah on Thursday chaired the first cabinet meeting of the new government in the civil secretariat, emphasising the bridging between the people and the administration will be a top priority.

Omar noted that a gap has emerged between the people and the government in recent years, but expressed his commitment to ending it.

"Our administration's approach will be people-friendly. We have entered the civil secretariat with a positive mindset, focused on delivering the best for the people of Jammu and Kashmir," Omar said at the meeting while emphasising that bridging the gap between citizens and the government is a top priority.

"Democratic governments are preferred all over India for this very reason, and we will work tirelessly to bring people closer to the governmental and institutions," he added.

J&K CM Omar Abdullah and deputy CM Surinder Choudhary during a meeting in Srinagar on Thursday. HT

Abdullah also praised the officers for their role in ensuring peaceful elections in Jammu and Kashmir and emphasised the immense faith the people of the region have placed in democracy, the government and its institutions.

"We must rise to the occasion and meet the expectations that have been placed on us," Abdullah told officers, adding there is focus on governance and also reiterated the need for a people-first approach, highlighting that the government's primary role is to serve the citizens and address their concerns.

The meeting was attended by deputy CM Surinder Kumar Choudhary along with ministers Sakینہ Itoo, Javid Ahmad Rana, Javid Ahmad Dar, and Sofi Shaving Chief secretary Atul Dulloo briefed the CM and ministers about the issues. After assuming his office, the CM on Wednesday had also held an extraordinary meeting with the administrative secretaries to set the tone for his new administration.

Visits fire-hit Mulwawan in Kishtwar

CM Omar Abdullah visited Mulwawan village in Marwah area of Kishtwar and assured every possible help to the affected families, who lost their houses in a major fire incident on October 14. Addressing the affected families, Omar said, "You don't have roof over your heads, what would you do with special recruitment drive? You don't have rations in your houses, what would a current job offer can talk about other issues later. The first priority is to provide you houses, we will also explore possibilities under PM's Awas Yojana," he said. Considering frequent fire incidents in Marwah-Warwan region during winters, the chief minister said that his government would set up fire fighters with adequate fire-fighters the tariff action.

Dalai Lama congratulates Omar

The Dalai Lama wrote to congratulate Omar Abdullah on his coalition's success in the recent assembly elections, and his appointment as the CM.

"As I have mentioned before, I have had the privilege of knowing three generations of your family from the days of Sheikh Abdullah to you. I treasure our friendship. I wish you every success in meeting whatever challenges may be ahead and the opportunities arise to fulfil the hopes and aspirations of the people of Jammu and Kashmir," he wrote.

With inputs from IANS, Dharamshala

IN WEEK-LONG OPERATION, COPS BUST INTERSTATE HEROIN CARTEL

NEW DELHI: Three people were arrested for allegedly supplying and peddling drugs, police said, adding they recovered heroin and marijuana commodity worth ₹1.51 crore from them.

The suspects were identified as Devender Kumar, 36, a native of Azamgarh in Uttar Pradesh; Bablim Yadav, 27, a resident of Mansarovar Garden, and Gopal Kumar, 32, a native of Nainital.

On September 30, police arrested Devender Kumar from Vasundhara area based on a tip-off and recovered 9.600 grams of heroin. According to police, interrogation of Devender Kumar led them to the two others. Devender Kumar told police he procured the substance from Babloo Yadav and another person, identified as Ajay alias Lambu, from west Delhi.

On October 2, Babloo Yadav was arrested from Kirti Nagar cluster. He allegedly told police he received the substance from Gopal Kumar in National, following which police conducted raids and arrested him on October 6. ANI

Traders turn to Australia for lentils amid Canada row

Zia Haq

NEW DELHI: India's import of lentils from key supplier Canada has been steadily so far despite deepening diplomatic tensions between the two countries but traders are increasingly turning to Australia to diversify away from north American producer.

Pulses, a volatile group of commodities, are a significant part of Indian diet and the country relies on imports of nearly 17% of its annual requirement. Canada is a major supplier of lentils (masur) and yellow peas. India spent nearly $4 billion on pulses imports in 2023-24.

Stable supplies are vital to keep a lid on inflation, which continues to be dented by sticky food prices, especially of pulses. In September, retail inflation rose to a three-month high of 5.49%, driven by a food inflation rate of 9.24%, which could delay a cut in interest rates by the central bank.

The 2023-10 Nijar a weather pattern whose effects ripple around the globe, including a patchy monsoon in India, resulted in a sharp rise in the prices of three widely consumed pulses varieties: pigeon pea (tur), black gram (urad) and chickpea (chana).

Canada has been a traditional source for India for lentils but increasing friction between the two nations has traders worried but currently trade is continuing normally, analysts said. Neither country has put any restrictions on trade so far, they added.

"So far, there has been no impact on trade and we continue to import lentils from Canada because there are no curbs from us or their government. In case new tests or tariffs are imposed, then there will be an impact," said Bimal Kothari, vice-chairman of the India Pulses and Grains Association.

"We are now buying a lot of yellow peas from Russia and lentils from Australia. It is not just a question of hedging but also competitive pricing," Kothari said.

In 2023, India imported 487,504 tonnes of lentils from Canada, which accounted for 83.40% of total imports of pulses, while Australia's share stunted Canada's for the first time at 51,205 for 175,304 tonnes of import of the item.

This year January to July 2024, Australian lentil exports have risen to 300,833 tonnes, or 66.3% of India's total lentil imports.

According to Kothari, Russia has supplied 2.2 million tonnes of yellow peas to India so far this year, which will cut down reliance on Canada.

India exports several merchandise goods to Canada, although it is a relatively small market. In 2023-24, India exported merchandise worth $4.17 billion to Canada.

CANADA HAS BEEN A TRADITIONAL SOURCE FOR INDIA FOR LENTILS BUT INCREASING FRICTION BETWEEN THE TWO NATIONS HAS TRADERS WORRIED: ANALYSTS

Classifieds

CHANGE OF NAME

PUBLIC NOTICES

COURT NOTICES

COURT NOTICE
IN THE COURT OF
Ms. Prabhjot Kaur
Judicial Magistrate - 1st Class, Hoshiarpur
Avtar Singh S/o Sarwan Singh R/o Village Mehna, PS Tahali and Distt. Hoshiarpur
...Complainant
Vs.
Prabhjot Singh Jaggi, Jaggi Trading Co. Ltd. License No. 2109, R/o A-200, New Sabzi Mandi, Azadpur, Delhi-110033.
...Accused
CNR No. PBHC03-000911-2020
Next Date:-19-11-2024
PUBLICATION ISSUED TO
Prabhjot Singh Jaggi, JAGGI TRADING CO. LTD. LICENSE NO. 2109, R/O A-200 NEW SABZI MANDI AZADPUR, DELHI-110033
In above title case, the accused could not be served. It is ordered that accused should appear in person or through counsel on 19-11-2024 at 10.00 a.m.
For details login to https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?lang=en&district_police&district=hoshiarpur
Dated: the day of 16.10.2024
Judicial Magistrate 1st Class, Hoshiarpur

Rajasthan State Mines & Minerals Limited
E-TENDER DOCUMENT

Notice Inviting Bid
Rajasthan State Mines & Minerals Limited

Director Principal
Government Medical College
Circular Road, Amritsar-143001
Government of Punjab
Senior Resident Recruitment Notice

AHMEDABAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
(BRIDGE PROJECT DEPARTMENT)
E - TENDER NOTICE
Name of Work
Estimated Tender Cost
Rs. 2,36,70,36,482.03 (Without GST)
Date 21.10.2024
Date 18.11.2024 at 5.00 Pm
tender.nprocure.com
Dy. Municipal Commissioner (Road/Bridge Project) (AMC)

gmb Housing
E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY (IKS)
Registered Office : 3th Floor, Kothari Bhawan, Sector 17 C, Chandigarh
Description of the Properties
Authorised Officer, Bhu PNB Housing Finance Limited

MUNICIPAL CORPORATION CHANDIGARH
TENDER NOTICE
Name of Work
Bid Submission Schedule (Online)
Opening Technical Bid (Online)
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER - Horticulture Division No. 1
1. Detection of Agency for "Construction of Foot Bridge across N-Choe at Leisure Valley, Sector 10, Chandigarh after demolishing existing damaged foot bridge."
DNIT Amount : Rs. 14,06,804/- Earnest Money : Rs. 28,100/-
Tender Fee : Rs. 2,000/- Time Limit : 02 Months
18.10.2024 To 25.10.2024 at 03.00 PM
28.10.2024 at 03.00 PM
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER - Roads Division No. 1
2. Providing and laying M.S. Flat railing on center verge of V-3 road Sector 18/20 Chandigarh. Head : Improvement of roads / parking (Header & Infrastructure Facilities.
Est. Cost : Rs. 38.16 Lacs Earnest Money : Rs. 1,16,400/-
Time Limit : 04 Months
18.10.2024 To 25.10.2024 upto 12.30 noon
28.10.2024 at 12.30 noon
Note :- 1) Tender Notice alongwith detailed terms and conditions is available/uploaded on website at www.chandigarh.gov.in or www.eprocure.gov.in
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
Head Division No. 1 and Roads Division No. 1, M.C. Chandigarh