

Kashmir: Voting under Coercion

The feeling of alienation in the valley has been reinforced by the way in which securitymen ensured voter turnout

by Harinder Baweja



Residents queuing up to vote in the shadow of the gun in Anantnag.

THE force unfolded just when things were showing signs of changing. When there was a faint glimmer of hope...

'We were not even allowed to drink our morning tea,' said Ghulam Hassan, one of the crowd of hundreds making its way to the polling booth...

The message of security personnel was this: Cast your vote, we will be back to inspect your marks.

not come calling on voters. But those who did were the men in olive green. Descending on village after village in the early hours of May 23...

The two constituencies of Baramulla and Anantnag saw unexpectedly high turnouts of 35 and 43 per cent but the voters came, not to give their mandate for the return of peace and democracy...

They had no choice — for if they could have done as they wished, the turnout would have been 10 to 20 per cent as estimated by the Home Ministry...

afternoon was reserved for the women who were brought out in the 'second phase' — a dead giveaway that people were not coming out voluntarily...

voted. Why troops should be moving around with these lists was a question Khan could not answer, his only reply being 'I have not received any complaints'.

custody of the security forces, revealed that the voters had been brought there forcibly and, aware of the fear that had gripped the Kashmiris...

Nazir said as he retraced his steps to his village. It is in this context that the Government will have to consider whether it was right in congratulating the people for what it interpreted as 'enthusiasm'...

The militants have found an emotional issue to try and bring people out of their homes again.

to disarm some of them, leading to dissensions within the ranks, with some of them threatening to go back to their parent organisations. Having served their purpose by taking on the pro-Pakistan groups and clearing areas which were once dominated by them...

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Begum Sufia Kamal — A Living Legend

by Prof Roushan Ara Hoque



THURSDAY, June 20, was the 85th anniversary birth of poet Sufia Kamal whose lifelong dedication to the cause of the distressed has ultimately been integrated into a national movement for establishment of democratic rights of the people.

Nazrul and began to write poems herself. And in course of time she wrote 15 books and kept constant touch with the freedom fighters and used to supply them food over the hind wall of her residence.

war of 1971. On 23rd March, 71, during the meeting called by Yahya Khan, her strong arguments in favour of provincial autonomy of the then East Pakistan had surprised him.

and said that she was not ready to go even to heaven leaving her motherland behind. She kept constant touch with the freedom fighters and used to supply them food over the hind wall of her residence.

After the liberation, Begum Sufia Kamal became the first president of the Women's Rehabilitation Centre of Mirpur and tried her best to rehabilitate the tortured women of the war.

against similar communal uprising in Bangladesh. Even at the octogenarian stage of her life, and after serious illness, she had declared her solidarity with the nation-wide movement for the cause of democracy during 1995-96.



A voter showing his ink mark to a jawan in Baramulla. Democracy takes a beating

had boycotted the poll. The troops installed not confidence but fear and loathing. They were out in strength — the valley crawling with over one lakh of them...

belied all such claims. As the hours wore on, it became clear that the administration had carefully plotted its strategy. Herding the voters to booths was only the first step in the drama that unfolded under the overcast skies.

The Daily Star Entertainment Guide

Saturday 22nd June (All programmes are in local time. We recommend programmes printed in bold. There may be changes in the programmes.)

BTV 3:00pm Opening Announcement At Quran 3:10 Recitation from the Tugrik 3:15 Movie of the Week 4:00 News in Bangla 5:00 News in Bangla 5:25 Banshori: Folk Songs 6:00 News in Bangla 6:05 Angika 6:30 Moner Mukure 7:00 News in English 8:00 News in Bangla 8:30 Mati-e-Manush: Programme Based on Agricultural Development 9:00 Anirban 10:00 News in English 10:30 Shasthakar: Health Programme 10:35 Drama Series: Dynasty 11:30 News in Bangla 11:35 Tomorrow's programme summary 11:40 Close down

10:30 Time Out: Auction 11:00 BBC World News 11:20 This Week 12:00am BBC World News 12:20 Face To Face 1:00 BBC World Headlines 1:05 Horizon 2:00 BBC World News 2:30 Time Out: Top Gear 3:00 BBC World News 3:25 Window On Europe 4:00 BBC World News 4:25 This Week 5:00 BBC World News 5:20 Face To Face

7:00am Asian Top 20 VJ Name 9:00 Big Bang Weekend VJ Alexandra 10:30 Billboard US Countdown 11:00 News Vision 2:30 The Ride VJ Jay 3:00 Revind VJ Sophia 4:00 House Of Noise VJ Luke 5:30 (V) 1: 8:00 The Vibe Weekend VJ Luke 8:00 BPL Dye! 9:00 The Ticker 9:30 Tenax Time Pass 11:00 Videocom Flashback 11:30 Club X VJ Sophia 12:00am News Vision 12:30 The Ticker 1:00 The Ride VJ Jay 2:00 Music Update Tellyn 2:30 Over The Edge VJ Sophia 3:30 Big

STAR Sports 6:00am The Asian Football Cup 7:00 Live 1996 Ciba Asia Cup Badminton Semi Finals From Seoul, Korea Feed Times HK: Local Time 12:20 1996 College World Series Men's Championship Game Semi Finals 3:00 High 5 III 3:30 NBA Inside Stuff 4:00 Trans World Sport 5:00 World Wrestling Federation Action Zone 6:00pm Asia Sport Show 6:30 1996 Ciba Asia Cup Badminton Semi Finals From Seoul, Korea 12:00 NCAA Outdoor Tracks & Field 1:30 World Wrestling Federation Action Zone 3:00 1996 College World Series Men's Championship Game The Final 5:30 High 5 III

STAR MOVIES 7:30 Romance: Romantic Under taking? (Arabic Subtitles) 9:30 Western: Frontier Marshall 12 (Arabic Subtitles) 11:30 Comedy: Hot Rock (Hindi Subtitles) 1:30 Adventure: Beneath the Planet of the Apes 12 (Hindi Subtitles) 3:30 Classic: Blackmail PG (Hindi Subtitles) 5:30 Adventure: Curse of the Crystal Eye 15 (Hindi Subtitles) 7:30 Family: Time Warrior: Eggs from 70 Million Years BC (Hindi Subtitles) 9:00 Bollywood 9:30 Battle Cries: D Day, The Sixth Of June 12 (Hindi Subtitles) 11:30 Comedy: The Adventures Of Precilla Queen Of The Desert 16? (Hindi Subtitles) 1:30 Distant Night: The Dark Hall 16 (Hindi Subtitles) 3:30 Thriller: Mongoose 16 (Hindi Subtitles) 5:30 Action: Engine 18 (Hindi Subtitles)

ZED-Management 8:00 ZED-Naya A To Z 8:30 All Out for No Loss 9:00 Dourvita Quiz Contest 9:30 Bhujans 10:00 Ad Mad Show 10:30 Gaane Anjane 11:00 Captain Cook Shahi Dawat 11:30 Cartoons 12:00 Philips Top Ten 1:00 Tol Mai Ke Bol 1:30 Asian Sky Show 2:30 Nevolar Ashana 3:00 Positive Health Show 3:30 Zaika Ka Safar 4:00 No Problem 4:30 TVS So Ra Ga Ma 5:00 Galaxee 5:30 Gane Anjane 6:00 Commander 6:30 Tumhare Lipe 7:00 FLU 7:30 Sur Teal 8:00 Helpline 8:30 Maa 9:00 Asian Paints Yaadon Ke Rang 9:30 Tara 10:00 Tanasy 10:30 The News Round Up 11:00 Ghoosha Aana 11:30 Action HFF 1:30 Colgate Gel Yoodle Yo 2:00 Shakti 2:30 TMM

EL TV 00:30 Rajesh Khanna Special 01:30 Bachche Man Ke 02:30 Sur Sargam 03:30 Guzara Hua Zamana 4:30 Dance Dance 5:00 Rajesh Khanna Special 6:00 Bachche Man Ke 7:30 Sur Sargam 8:30 Guzara Hua Zamana 9:30 Dance Dance 10:30 Lakkhan Advance Booking 11:00 Zero Se Hero 11:30 Shudh Detargant Karz 12:00 Asha Bhonsle Special 1:00 Pyar Hi Pyar 2:00 Guzara Hua Zamana 3:00 Fat Dr Fit 3:30 Karri 4:00 Teri Bhi Chup, Meri Bhi Chup 4:30 Moov Usha Ushup Show 5:00 Society Navras 5:30 Devotional Music 6:30 Chhannendra Special 7:30 Zaika Ka Safar 8:00 Jawab Do 8:30 Frooti Its My Choice 9:00 Wonder Wings Amar Prem 9:30 Fantasy Kal Bhi Aay Bhi 10:00 People's Club 10:30 Liberty Public Demand 11:30 Hit Pairs

8:30 Khabran 8:45 Visitors Book 9:10 Phool Khushboo 9:25 Das tarikhwan 9:40 Melman 10:05 Aap Ki Anwar Maqsood 10:30 English Film: Tarzan 10:55 Milli Naghma 11:00 Khabran 11:10 Meri Pasand 11:35 Jaun 12:55 Quran-E-Hakeem 1:02 Bismillah 1:15 Grand 2:05 Larwal Ep 31 2:55 Husad-E-Insaaf & Sports Coaching 3:20 TV Encyclopedia 3:40 Sports Time 4:05 Daastak 5:05 Medicine 5:25 Computers 6:20 Aasu Coages 7:00 English News 7:20 PTV Music Library

SONY ET 8:30 am K... 9:00 Tausin Ki Baarid 9:30 Cine Mall... Hindi Feature Film 12:30 Page 1:00 Siddhi 1:30 Kaash

2:00 Sunday Ki Sunday 2:30 The Nripal Rasi Show 3:30 Khoya Khoya Chand 3:30 Movie Maza 4:30 Humse Barkar Gong 5:00 Rangela Re 5:30 Mere Massage Meri Geet 6:00 Aama 6:30 Video CD Premier 7:00 Good Shot 7:30

8:00 Chor Chor 8:25 Uru Katu Madna 9:00 Jeevan Setu 9:00 Katha O Kahin 10:00 (Drama) 10:30 News and Bengali Sambad

DD 7 8:10am Shastriyo Sangeet 8:25 Brodton 8:30 Gaan Suthu Gaan 9:00 Adhnik Gaan 9:30 Darshakar Darbare 10:00 Light Music 10:15 Rajankanter Gaan 10:30 ETV Prog. 1:00 Aparadh 1:30 Gaan Suthu Gaan 2:00 Chalachchitre Rabindronath 2:25 Prathinsa 3:30 Bengali Tele 3:45 Show 5:05 Dhitang Dhitang joke 5:30 News 6:00 Ankur 6:30 Western Classical Music 7:00 Saptahiki 7:30 Bangla Sambad

ZEE CINEMA 8:30 Tarana 9:00 Hit Hai Fiftha 9:30 Pavitra Papi 12:15 Shooting Shooting 12:45 Manzil Manzil 3:30 Na Jane Kyan 4:00 Ram Bhairav 6:45 Geet Gaya Patharone 9:30 Songs 10:00 Commando 12:15 Anbaan 12:45 Param Dharan

