



*Jehlum Post News Network/Jammu/Jan 28, 2015/Senior Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad was among seven candidates, including two each from BJP and PDP, for the four seats of Rajya Sabha going to polls next month in Jammu and Kashmir. Seven candidates filed their nominations Wednesday for the biennial election to the Rajya Sabha, an official spokesman said. Those who filed nominations are Mir Mohammad Fayaz (PDP), Sajjad Ahmad Kichloo (NC), Shamsher Singh (BJP), Nasir Aslam Wani (NC), Nazir Ahmad Laway (PDP), Chander Mohan Sharma (BJP) and Ghulam Nabi Azad (INC), he said.*

*The scrutiny of nomination papers will be held tomorrow. The election of four Rajya Sabha seats is scheduled to be held on February 7, he added. PDP and BJP are hopeful of winning four seats by fighting polls jointly. "Our two candidates have filed their nominations for the Rajya Sabha seats...", BJP National General Secretary Ram Madav, who held an indoor-meeting of the party leaders here, told reporters. Azad, who filed his nomination as a joint candidate of NC-Congress, hoped to win the seat. When asked they fought the Assembly elections against each other, he said that "there was fight between personalities from time to time and even in families, but once it comes to principles, two parties have same basic principles". On fighting the Rajya Sabha elections jointly by PDP and BJP, NC Provincial President Devender Singh Rana said "BJP and PDP are fighting Rajya Sabha elections in coalition. So we have also jointly fielded three candidates to give them a tough contest". While PDP spokesman Nayeem Akhtar said, "We cannot win even a seat on 28 MLAs. So it becomes necessary to fight elections in coalition with some other party so is it for BJP to fight elections jointly with some party." "There is a limited purpose. Our purpose is that we should win two seats each. So we have done seat sharing arrangements (with BJP)," Nayeem said. "It will also conform in forming the government with BJP, if there is any honest effort on the two sides," he said. "Our two candidates have filed nomination papers for elections. We hope both of them will get success," the PDP spokesman said. "BJP and PDP cannot win seat individually but we feel that through our joint efforts, we can win two-two seats each," he said. Agency*