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MARCH 24, 2019
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(₹ 8 PATNA & RAIPUR, ₹ 12 SRINAGAR)

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IDEA EXCHANGE PAGE 8
'OUR FIGHT WITH BANGLADESHI MUSLIMS IS ON ETHNIC LINES, NOT RELIGIOUS'
HIMANTA BISWA SARMA, Assam Finance Minister

SUNDAY STORY PAGE 9
Turbulence
Once a premier airline, Jet Airways is hobbled by debt, unpaid salaries and a grounded fleet. How it got this far — until it hit an air pocket



NEW LOKPAL TAKES OATH
Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi, Vice-President M Venkaiah Naidu and new Lokpal Justice Pinaki Chandra Ghose in New Delhi on Saturday. PPT

After attack, fearful Gurgaon family: Been here for 15 years, want to leave

SAKSHI DAYAL
GURGAON, MARCH 23

FIFTEEN YEARS after he first moved to Gurgaon from Panchi village in Uttar Pradesh's Baghpat district, Mohammad Sajid is contemplating leaving the city for good. On Thursday evening, a mob of "20-25 men" had barged into his home, attacked him and his relatives with rods and sticks, and told them to "go to Pakistan".



A video grab of the attack. RELATED REPORT, PAGE 3

people who will stand by us. We are entirely alone here," said Sajid, who owns a furniture repair shop in Gurgaon's Ghasola village, and had built a home for his wife and six children in Bhoop Singh Nagar colony in Dhumaspur village three years ago.

According to the FIR registered at Bhandi police station, the incident took place when Sajid's relatives had come to visit since Holi was a holiday.

MAN DIES IN CLASH OVER PLATFORM FOR MUHARRAM PAGE 7

something like this happens in our village, at least we will have 15-20

Navy gets a new chief, first chopper pilot to head top office



Vice Admiral Karambir Singh

RAHUL TRIPATHI & SUSHANT SINGH
NEW DELHI, MARCH 23

THE GOVERNMENT on Saturday named Vice Admiral Karambir Singh as the next chief of naval staff. Singh, who will succeed Admiral Sunil Lanba who retires on May 30, will be the first helicopter pilot to occupy the office of Navy chief.

Singh superseded Commander-in-Chief of the Andaman and Nicobar Command, Vice Admiral Bimal Verma, for the post. Verma, younger brother of former Navy chief Admiral Nirmal Kumar Verma, hasn't headed either the Western or the Eastern Naval command, which is considered essential for anyone to be considered for the top post.

In 2016, the government had elevated General Bipin Rawat as Army chief, superseding two senior Army commanders.

Though a new service chief is usually named around a month in advance, Singh's name was announced with two months still to go for Lanba's retirement. This, sources in the government said, was to ensure a smooth transition during the general elections. The announcement also lays to rest any uncertainty about the military hierarchy at a

DECISION 2019
CHALLENGE FOR UTTAR PRADESH GOVT
Cane dues cross Rs 10,000 cr, half from first phase poll seats

HARISH DAMODARAN
NEW DELHI, MARCH 23

SUGARCANE PAYMENT dues to farmers in Uttar Pradesh have crossed Rs 10,000 crore — over 45 per cent of this is from six of the eight constituencies scheduled to vote in the first phase of Lok Sabha elections on April 11.

According to data compiled by the Cane Commissioner's

Office in Lucknow, as on March 22, the state's sugar mills have bought cane worth Rs 24,888.65 crore during the current 2018-19 crushing season (October-September) at the state government's fixed ("advised") price of Rs 315 per quintal for normal and Rs 325 per quintal for early-maturing varieties. They were to pay Rs 22,175.21 crore within the stipulated 14-day period of taking cane delivery. But the actual

payments have been only Rs 12,339.04 crore, translating into arrears of Rs 9,836.17 crore. Adding the dues of Rs 238.81 crore from the previous 2017-18 season takes the total to Rs 10,074.98 crore.

Of the Rs 10,074.98 crore, as much as Rs 4,547.97 crore, or over 45 per cent, is due from mills in just six constituencies: Meerut, Baghpat, Kairana, Muzaffarnagar, CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

EXPLAINED
Optics, insurance

THE IDEA is to project Rahul Gandhi as a leader with acceptance in the North and South. Barring Karnataka, the BJP does not have a presence in the South. The Congress doesn't want Rahul to be tied down in Amethi, a sure Southern seat is a back-up.

Rahul may pick Kerala seat; driven out of Amethi: Smriti

MANOJ CG & SHAJU PHILIP
NEW DELHI, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, MARCH 23

TWENTY YEARS after Sonia Gandhi contested from two seats — Rae Bareilly in Uttar Pradesh and Bellary in Karnataka — Congress president Rahul Gandhi is said to be

actively considering contesting from a Lok Sabha constituency in South India besides his traditional seat of Amethi in Uttar Pradesh. The Congress in Kerala indicated that he could contest from Wayanad, which is considered a party stronghold.

The AICC did not deny the move, and neither did Rahul. While the AICC said a final decision is yet to be taken, top CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

BIG PICTURE
PAGES 10-11

All hands on deck

INSIDE
SHATRUGHAN'S SEAT GOES TO RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD
DEVE GOWDA TO CONTEST FROM TUMKUR
PAGES 5, 7

Last Islamic State village in Syria falls, caliphate crumbles

RUKMINI CALLIMACHI
MARCH 23

A FOUR-YEAR military operation to flush the Islamic State from its territory in Iraq and Syria ended on Saturday, as the last village held by the terrorist group was retaken, erasing a militant theocracy that once spanned two countries.

Cornered in Baghuz, Syria, the last 1.5-square-mile remnant of the group's original caliphate in the region, the remaining militants waged a surprisingly fierce defense and kept the American-backed forces at bay for months. They detonated car bombs and hurled explosives from drones. Suicide bombers ran across the front line under cover of darkness to attack the sleeping quarters of the American-backed coalition.

In the last weeks, the militants' families fled for their lives, their black-clad wives streaming into the desert by the tens of thousands, some of them defiantly chanting Islamic State slogans and lobbing fistfuls of dirt at reporters.

But after a grueling campaign, the last speck of land was finally wrested from the Islamic State, also known as ISIS.

"This is a big moment not just for us but for all of the world," said Kino Gabriel, a spokesman for the Syrian Democratic Forces, the American-backed militia CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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...Rahul Sir.

OUR RESULTS IN 2019 : 56 SELECTIONS ALREADY (TILL DATE)

DELHI JUDICIAL SERVICES RESULTS, 2019 - 27 Selections out of 32
M.P. JUDICIAL SERVICES RESULTS, 2019 - 22 Selections.

The Registration for English Medium Judiciary Batches for April, May, June & July, 2019, will take place online from 1st of April, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. (through our website www.rahulsias.com)

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