



Tej Bahadur Yadav moves Supreme Court

NEW DELHI
Dismissed BSF jawan Tej Bahadur Yadav, whose nomination to contest from Varanasi was rejected, moved the Supreme Court on Monday, saying he was cast out of the Lok Sabha election fray to orchestrate a “walkover” for PM Narendra Modi. Mr. Modi is the BJP candidate in Varanasi.

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‘Used to propagate MCC as model regulation’

NEW DELHI
In an apparent reference to the functioning of the Election Commission, whose handling of complaints of poll code violations has come under scrutiny recently, former CEC S.Y. Quraishi on Monday said he used to promote the model code of conduct as a model regulation, but had stopped it in the past 20 days.

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Justice Bobde panel gives CJI a clean chit

My worst fears have come true, says complainant

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL
NEW DELHI
The Justice S.A. Bobde in-house committee has found “no substance” in the sexual harassment allegations levelled by a former Supreme Court staff member against Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi.

A statement issued by the Supreme Court on Monday evening said the committee’s report would be kept confidential. As part of the in-house procedure, the report would not be placed in the public domain, the court added.

It said copies of the report were given to Chief Justice Gogoi and the “next senior judge competent to receive the report”, that is Justice Arun Mishra who is the fourth seniormost judge.

Justice Ramana, the third seniormost judge, was not handed the report as he had recused from the committee following allegations raised by the woman about his proximity to Chief Justice Gogoi.

Official sources in the Supreme Court said the report would go no further than Justice Mishra and Chief Justice Gogoi. There would be no Full Court meeting on the contents of the “informal” proceedings.

The inquiry was by nature



The In-House Committee has found no substance in the allegations contained in the Complaint dated 19.4.2019 of a former employee of the Supreme Court of India

SECRETARY GENERAL, Supreme Court





Today, my worst fears have come true, and all hope of justice and redress from the committee has been shattered

WOMAN COMPLAINANT

Indira Jaising vs Supreme Court of India of 2003 is the verdict quoted by the SC to keep the inquiry report confidential. It says the in-house power of inquiry is either moral or ethical and not in exercise of powers under any law. It is an exercise of moral authority. Hence, the report cannot even be sought by approaching a constitutional court through a writ petition

purely preliminary, ad hoc and only for the purpose of getting information. The report was “wholly confidential” and existed “only for the purpose of satisfaction that such a report has been made”.

‘Highly disappointed’
“Today, my worst fears have come true, and all hope of justice and redress from the highest court of the land has been shattered. In fact, the committee has announced that I will not even be provided a copy of the report, and so I have no way of comprehending the reasons and basis for the summary dismissal of my complaint of sexual harassment and victimisation,” the former Supreme Court staffer reacted.

The complainant said she was “highly disappointed and dejected” to learn that the in-house committee had found no substance in her complaint.

The Supreme Court on Monday quoted its reported decision of 2003 in *Indira Jaising versus Supreme Court of India*, which had held that an in-house inquiry report was “discreet” and “not for the purpose of disclosure to any other person”.

The 2003 decision, however, does not contemplate a situation when the Chief Justice of India is himself under inquiry as in this case.

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Fifth phase ends amid violence

Voting held in 51 constituencies across 7 States; Trinamool, BJP workers clash

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The fifth phase of the Lok Sabha election across 51 constituencies in seven States on Monday witnessed several incidents of violence in West Bengal and Jammu & Kashmir. The overall tentative turnout stood at 63.26% as against 61.75% in 2014.

More than 81% of the polling stations in this phase were located in rural areas. With the conclusion of this round, 78% of the Lok Sabha election is now over.

Dismal show in J&K
In Anantnag constituency of Jammu & Kashmir, where the polls were conducted in three phases, the turnout was a dismal 8.76%, while it was 28.54% in 2014. However, 71.1% voter participation was registered in Ladakh, close to last time’s figure.

Judicial order on Rafale was altered: CJI

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi on Monday admitted his “complete perplexity” at a mysterious sleight of hand that altered the contents of an April 30 judicial order concerning the Rafale review hearing.

On April 30, a Bench led by the Chief Justice of India, had dictated in open court that the Rafale review and the criminal contempt case against Congress president Rahul Gandhi – for attributing the slogan ‘*Chowkidar chor hai*’ to the court – would together come up for hearing on May 6.

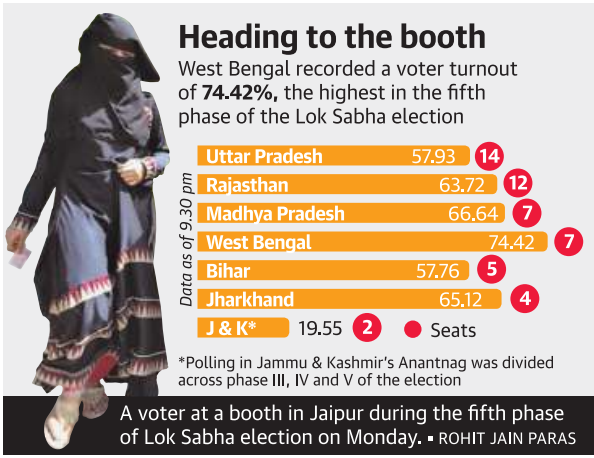
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Cong. moves EC on Modi speech

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Monday approached the Election Commission of India against Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s comment on former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, describing him as ‘bhrashtachari [corrupt] number one’ at a rally in Uttar Pradesh last week.

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A grenade exploded in Anantnag, but no one was injured. “A grenade was hurled at another place too, but it did not explode,” said an EC official.

Monday’s highest of 74.42% turnout was reported from seven constituencies in West Bengal, which is lower

than the corresponding 81.37% recorded in 2014.

3 candidates attacked
Three candidates, two from the BJP and one from the Trinamool Congress were attacked in the State. The BJP candidate from North 24 Parganas’s Barrackpore seat,

KCR begins outreach to Opposition parties

Calls on Kerala CM Pinarayi Vijayan

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM/
HYDERABAD

In a fresh bid to bring on a common platform non-Congress and non-BJP parties in a “real federal front” after the general elections, Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao called on his Kerala counterpart Pinarayi Vijayan here on Monday.

The leaders are understood to have discussed the national political situation. Sources privy to the discussions told *The Hindu* that Mr. Vijayan said communalism promoted by the Bharatiya Janata Party “is perhaps the biggest challenge faced by the nation”. He stressed the need for the unity of re-



gional parties to address it. They are understood to have reached an understanding to cooperate on developmental issues.

Mr. Rao will call on DMK leader M.K. Stalin at his residence in Chennai on May 13.

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Up in smoke



Firemen dousing flames at a tobacco godown on the outskirts of Guntur in Andhra Pradesh on Monday. Hundreds of tobacco bales were destroyed in the blaze that was put out after a seven-hour effort. • T. VIJAYA KUMAR

13 students share top rank as CBSE declares Class 10 results

Eight of them are from schools in Uttar Pradesh; overall pass percentage at 91.1; girls outperform boys

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The overall pass percentage for the Central Board of Secondary Education’s Class 10 examinations is back at above 90%, with 91.1% of the 17.6 lakh candidates clearing the examination. This is 4.4 percentage points higher than the 86.7% pass percentage of 2018, which was a dip from the 2017 pass percentage of 90.95%.

Thirteen students shared the first rank, all scoring 499 out of 500, with eight of them from schools in Uttar Pradesh

“I studied for seven to eight hours at least during

the exam time,” says Apoorva Jain, from the Uttam School for Girls, Shastri Nagar, Ghaaziabad, who wants to become a computer engineer. “My advice to students is not to take on mental pressure. That’s what helped me.”

Shivani Lath of the Mayoora School in Sector-126, Noida, wants to become a chartered accountant and then join the civil services. “I want to serve the nation,” she said. “I had no particular timetable, just consistent study throughout the year.”

Bhavana N. Sivasadas of the Palghat Lions School in Palakkad, Kerala, plans to become an engineer. “I’m car



Students after the CBSE results in New Delhi on Monday. • PTI

crazy and I enjoy the development of technology, so I think this will be a good choice for me,” she said. “I had a great support system

from family, friends and teachers and I was able to make the best use of it.

The other toppers were Siddhant Pengoriya, Divyansh Wadhwa, Yogesh Kumar Gupta, Ankush Mishra, Vatsal Varshney, Manya, Aryan Jha, Taru Jain, Ish Madan and Divjot Kaur Jaggi.

The second rank was shared by 24 students, while 58 shared the third rank. The first rank in the category of children with special needs went to Dilwin Prince, a hearing impaired student from Kerala.

Southern regions performed best in terms of overall pass percentages. While

Trivandrum achieved a pass percentage of 99.85%, it was closely followed by the Chennai region where 99% of students cleared the examination.

Girls continued to outperform boys although the gap was marginally smaller than in 2018. The pass percentage for girls was 92.4%, and 90.14% for boys.

As compared to other schools, students from Kendriya Vidyalayas and Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas had higher than average pass percentages of 99.5% and 98.6% respectively.

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Naveen draws praise for Fani work from PM

SATYASUNDAR BARIK
BHUBANESWAR

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday announced an assistance of ₹1,000 crore to Odisha for carrying out restoration work in cyclone Fani-hit regions.

After an aerial survey, Mr. Modi said, “The Naveen Patnaik-led government has done a commendable job in evacuating the coastal areas to avoid loss of lives.”

He also held a meeting with senior officers of the State and the Central government at the Biju Patnaik International Airport.

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