

HARASSMENT CASE

Police reinstate husband, kin of CJI complainant

She alleged Delhi Police suspended them because of her complaint; inquiry is still on, says Additional CP

MAHENDER SINGH MANRAL
NEW DELHI, JUNE 19

THE HUSBAND and brother-in-law of the woman who had accused Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi of sexual harassment have been reinstated as head constables in the Delhi Police — more than four months after they were suspended.

"The suspension order has been revoked. Both of them have been reinstated last week but the departmental inquiry against them is still pending," Additional Commissioner of Police (Delhi Armed Police) C K Mein confirmed to *The Indian Express*. Asked why was the order revoked, Mein declined to comment.

In an affidavit, the woman had alleged that the two men were suspended soon after her termination as a Supreme Court staffer.

In her 28-page complaint dated April 19, the woman alleged that on October 10 and October 11, 2018, the CJI made sexual advances in his residence office, where she was posted,

and touched her inappropriately. She claimed that she was transferred multiple times after the alleged incident, and on December 21, 2018, she was suspended from service in connection with an inquiry initiated against her for questioning the decisions of senior officers regarding change of her postings and for taking leave without authorisation.

In response to the woman's allegations, CJI Gogoi had said: "This is unbelievable. I should not stoop low even in denying it... There has to be a bigger, bigger force behind this."

A Crime Branch officer had earlier told *The Indian Express* that the woman's husband and brother-in-law were facing departmental inquiries — the former for allegedly calling the CJI's office, and the latter for allegedly concealing a 2015 police complaint against him over "unruly behaviour". The Crime Branch officer had said that a joint inquiry had been ordered against the two men and they had been suspended — both on December 28, 2018.

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'ONE COUNTRY, ONE ELECTION' AT ALL-PARTY MEETING

PM will form panel to look into simultaneous polls in country



Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the all-party meeting in New Delhi, Wednesday. Renuka Puri

21 of 40 invited parties attend meeting, 3 send letters; Congress, TMC, DMK, BSP, SP among those who boycotted

AVISHEK G DASTIDAR
NEW DELHI, JUNE 19

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi Wednesday said a committee will be formed to examine the issue of 'One Country, One Election', and come up with suggestions in a time-bound manner.

The issue of simultaneous polls to Lok Sabha and state

assemblies was one of five items discussed at an all-party meeting Wednesday. It was attended by presidents and chiefs of 21 of 40 parties invited to the meeting. Three parties, TDP, AAP and AIADMK, sent their comments through letters while NDA partner Shiv Sena did not attend because it was busy with its Foundation Day Wednesday.

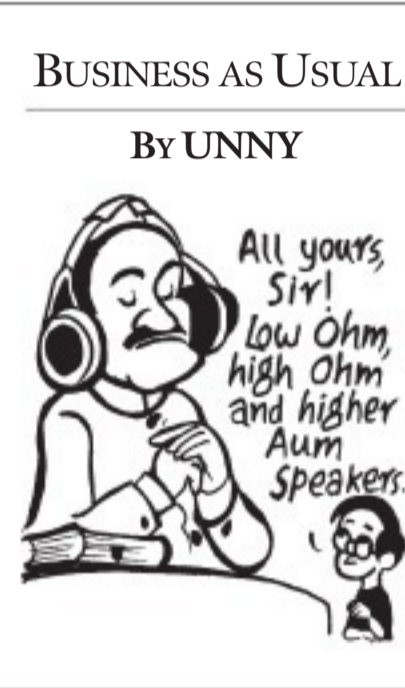
Those who boycotted the meeting included Congress

president Rahul Gandhi, TMC leader and West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, BSP chief Mayawati, SP president Akhilesh Yadav and DMK president MK Stalin.

After the meeting, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said: "All

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MORE REPORTS PAGE 7



BUSINESS AS USUAL
By UNNY



At a dam site in parched Beed in Marathwada. Amit Chakravarty

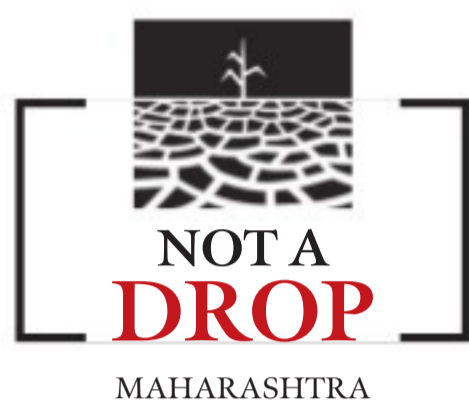
Zero rabi crop, bone dry wells, serial hunger strikes in despair

In Beed, groundwater down 3 metres from 5-year average for Marathwada

KAVITHAIYER
BEED, MUMBAI, JUNE 19

TWICE OVER the last six months, residents of Chaklamba village in Beed district's Georai taluka have gone on a relay hunger strike in 43-degree temperatures, spending scorching afternoons in the shade of a flimsy cloth tent on the outskirts of the village, a banner behind them stating their demands. During February's 12-day hunger strike, the mood was still hopeful. Then April rolled around and the step-well located on Satish Patil's land, a century-old structure that had never failed the village, ran dry.

When villagers decided to undertake a second hunger



NOT A DROP
MAHARASHTRA

strike by the end of May, it was once again to press for a subcanal from the Jaykawadi dam to serve their farmland. But this time, the protestors were despairing at local officials' disinterest. "Every well has run dry here, there is not a single source of water for the crop. If we don't get substantial rain, we cannot

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SRIRAM'S IAS 2020 GENERAL STUDIES CSAT, ESSAY OPTIONALS
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Now track your stolen mobile: Govt ready to roll out IMEI database

PRANAV MUKUL
NEW DELHI, JUNE 19

IN A bid to curtail the rampant cloning and theft of mobile phones across the country, the Telecom Ministry is ready to roll out a Central Equipment Identity Register (CEIR) — a database of IMEIs, the 15-digit numbers that uniquely identify each mobile device.

Once implemented in the coming weeks, consumers in India whose mobile phones are lost or stolen can inform the Department of Telecom (DoT) via a helpline number after filing a report with police. The DoT can then blacklist the IMEI (International Mobile Equipment Identity) number, effectively blocking the mobile device from accessing any cellular network in the future. Alongside

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THE IDEAS PAGE



MUST STAND UP TO POPULIST FORCES

BY CJI RANJAN GOGOI PAGE 13

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Gujarat: Dalit dy sarpanch waited for security, killed by suspected upper caste men

GOPAL KATESHIYA
RAJKOT, JUNE 19

MANJI SOLANKI, a Dalit deputy sarpanch of a village in Gujarat, whose application for police security was pending for almost two weeks, was murdered, allegedly by a group of men from upper-caste Kshatriya community on Wednesday.

From Jalila village in Ranpur taluka of Botad district, Manji was riding his motorcycle when it was knocked down by a car whose occupants then beat him up with clubs and iron pipes, said Manji's son Tushar Solanki. He died en route to a hospital in Ahmedabad.

R N Nakum, Deputy Superintendent of Police of Botad division, which covers Ranpur, said information shared by the victim's family about the sequence of events appeared plausible. "We have sent a team to Ahmedabad to collect infor-



Solanki had survived 4 previous attacks

mation and then register an offence. But the crime scene suggests that what the victim's family is saying looks prima facie true," Nakum said.

Botad Superintendent of Police Harshad Mehta told *The Indian Express* that Manji did make a representation to his office on June 6. "He had approached us with a request to give him personal security officers. As part of the due process, the police station concerned was undertaking a threat assessment," he said, adding that the Dalit family did not have any police protection as of Wednesday.

This is the third incident in less than a month in the

Lacks rigour, simplistic: PM advisory team rejects ex-CEA GDP downgrade

Choice of indicators, overlooking tax data among flaws: PMEAC

ENSE ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, JUNE 19

EIGHT DAYS after former Chief Economic Adviser Arvind Subramanian wrote in *The Indian Express* about his new research that the country's growth has been overestimated by around 2.5 percentage points between 2011-12 and 2016-17, the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister Wednesday issued a 12-page note to rebut it.



He cut GDP growth estimate by 2.5 pc points

Rejecting the findings, the contributors of the note Bibek Debroy, Rathin Roy, Surjit Bhalla, Charan Singh and Arvind Virmani wrote: "Having closely read the paper and taking into account all information available

until June 19, 2019, the primary contributors of this note reject the author's methodology, arguments and conclusions in the said paper."

The note said that while a critique of official GDP estimates must specifically critique coverage or methodology, "the author does neither".

While Subramanian had said that the motivation of his paper was not political and was focused on technical aspects, the

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Govt clears two judges as CJs, sits on another name Collegium sent

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 19

JUSTICES V Ramasubramanian and R S Chauhan were Wednesday appointed Chief Justices of the High Courts of Himachal Pradesh and Telangana respectively after the government cleared their elevation.

With this, three of the four names recommended by the Supreme Court Collegium on May 10 have been cleared by the government — Justice D N Patel was named Chief Justice of Delhi High Court on May 22.

The government is still to decide on the fourth recommendation — the Collegium decision to elevate Justice Akil Kureshi as Chief Justice of Madhya Pradesh High Court. The most senior judge of the parent High Court of Gujarat, he is currently with the Bombay High Court.

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In J&K, administration goes to the doorstep: 4,500 officers to spend time in villages — among people

PAGE 1 ANCHOR

BASHARAT MASOOD & ARUN SHARMA
SRINAGAR, JAMMU, JUNE 19

FROM THE arid mountains of Damchok on the India-China border to the precincts of terraced Teetwal, right on the Line of Control (LoC) in Kupwara, and RS Pura on the border between India and Pakistan, about 4,500 officers of the Jammu and Kashmir state administration will take governance to the

doorsteps of people beginning Thursday.

In a massive outreach programme 'Back to the Village', bureaucrats across the hierarchy — from Principal Secretaries to entry-level gazetted officers — will visit every panchayat of the state, stay overnight and spend two days listening to peoples' grievances and their needs. The programme will last for a week beginning June 20. Officers will participate in various activities in the village and the panchayat during the period.

"It is a unique and ambitious initiative, the first of its kind in Jammu and Kashmir. We have

Bihar starts socio-economic mapping of AES-affected families as toll reaches 114

SANTOSH SINGH
MUZAFFARPUR, JUNE 19

AS THE toll due to Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES) rose to 114 in Muzaffarpur district, the Bihar government has ordered a socio-economic survey of over 450 people whose children have either been

affected by or died of the disease.

State Chief Secretary Deepak Kumar has directed Jeevika workers to conduct the survey days after Chief Minister Nitish Kumar said that a socio-economic survey of the families affected and the sanitation status of the AES-hit areas could help find a long-term solution to the disease. Saraiya, Minapur, Mushahari and

Kanti are worst AES-hit blocks of Muzaffarpur district.

At Ground Zero in Muzaffarpur, *The Indian Express* found that families battling the outbreak are struggling to cope — from a seven-year-old who died en route to a bigger hospital too far away to a father looking for daily-wage work to feed his



Back to Village awareness programme in Bandipora. Express

4,483 panchayats in the State and every panchayat will be attended to by a gazetted offi-

cer," said Rohit Kansal, Principal Secretary, Planning, Development and Monitoring.

"This is probably for the first time that such a large number of officers are going to every nook and corner of the State and will stay with the people," he said.

Divisional Commissioner, Jammu, Sanjeev Verma, said the state has suffered hugely since the connect between officials and the people has broken over the years due to security reasons and also because of the difficult mountainous terrain. The feedback obtained from villagers will help tailor Central and state government schemes based on their needs, he said, adding that the occasion will

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