



Facebook censored anti-BJP content during election: Derek O'Brien
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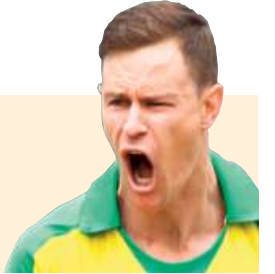
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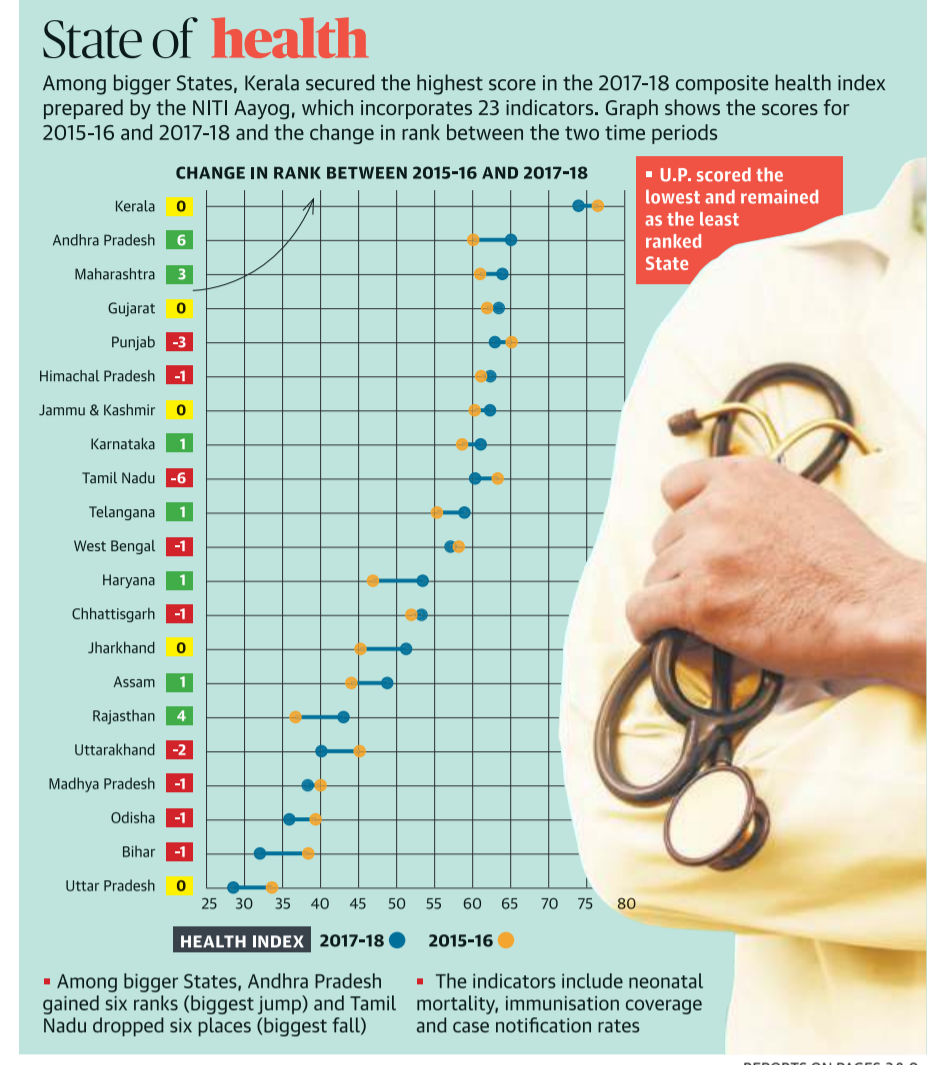
AAP MLA sentenced to three months in jail

NEW DELHI
 Rejecting a plea for lighter punishment, a court here on Tuesday sentenced AAP MLA Manoj Kumar to three months in jail for interfering in the election process during the 2013 Assembly polls. However, the court later granted him bail on a personal bond of ₹10,000 till July 25 after his counsel submitted that he wanted to challenge his conviction.

CITY PAGE 3

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OPPORTUNITIES PAGE 17



REPORTS ON PAGES 3 & 9

Help fulfil the dream of a safe, modern, inclusive nation: PM

Congress missed opportunities to establish true secularism, he tells Lok Sabha

NISTULA HEBBAR
 NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday called upon all parties to move forward together to fulfil the dream of a safe, modern and inclusive country, a call reflected, he said, in the positive mandate that his government received in the last election.

He was speaking in the Lok Sabha, replying to the debate on the motion of thanks to the President for his address to both Houses of Parliament. Mr. Modi criticised what he termed the Congress's "missed opportunities" in the past to establish true secularism. He said the mandate that his government received was a validation that it was moving in the right direction, a direction, he said, that valued both welfare and progress.

He extensively quoted

I challenge you to find a single instance, in any function of the past UPA government, of any contribution by late Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee having been remembered, whereas I have, twice from the ramparts of the Red Fort, said all those who came before me contributed to where we are today as a nation. So, Vajpayeeji may have been from the BJP, what about the contributions of P.V. Narasimha Rao or even Dr. Manmohan Singh?..

NARENDRA MODI, Prime Minister



from the speeches of Mahatma Gandhi, Ram Manohar Lohia and Jawaharlal Nehru, and said his own government's direction, including in the field of sanitation and water, emanated from their words.

Mr. Modi made a strong rebuttal of the Opposition's accusations that he was not mindful of those who came before him. Instead, he ac-

cused the Congress of only promoting the Nehru-Gandhi family at the expense of other leaders. "I challenge you to find a single instance, in any function of the past UPA government which remembered any contribution by late Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, whereas I have, twice from the ramparts of the Red Fort, said all those who came before me

contributed to where we are today as a nation. So, Vajpayeeji may have been from the BJP, what about the contributions of P.V. Narasimha Rao or even Dr. Manmohan Singh? Former President Pranab Mukherjee was in another party all his life, but it was the NDA government that acknowledged his contributions and awarded him the Bharat Ratna. The contributions of leaders other than those belonging to a particular family are undermined," he said.

The Congress hit back, saying the Prime Minister was still in campaign mode. Its leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhary said the party was glad that Mr. Modi at least had been compelled to quote Pandit Nehru.

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 MARAN, MOITRA HOG
 PRIME TIME PAGE 12

Antigua not providing Mehul safe haven, says its PM

'His citizenship will be revoked; he will be extradited once he exhausts his legal options'

A step ahead

A timeline of events that followed Mehul Choksi's escape to Antigua and Barbuda



July 2018 MEA receives information that Mehul Choksi, a key accused in the alleged PNB scam, has taken refuge in Antigua and Barbuda (A&B)

Aug. 2018 India seeks extradition of Choksi who holds an A&B passport

Nov. 2018 Choksi says he can't return, cites multiple chronic ailments

Dec. 2018 On CBI's request, Interpol issues a Red Notice against Choksi

Jan. 2019 He surrenders Indian citizenship

June 25, 2019 PM Gaston Browne says that Choksi will be extradited to India after he exhausts his legal options

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
 NEW DELHI

Antiguan Prime Minister Gaston Browne has said diamond merchant Mehul Choksi, a prime accused in the ₹13,578 crore Punjab National Bank fraud case, will be extradited to India after he exhausts all his legal options there.

As reported by *Antigua Observer*, Mr. Browne also said Choksi's citizenship would be revoked in "short order".

"His citizenship was processed; he got through but the reality is his citizenship

will be revoked and he will be repatriated to India; so there is recourse. It's not a case that we are trying to provide any safe harbour for criminals, for those who are involved in financial crimes," he was quoted as having said over the weekend.

Mr. Browne said: "We have to allow for due process. He has a matter before the court and as we said to the Indian government, criminals have fundamental rights, too, and Choksi has a right to go to court and defend his position. But I can assure you, after he has ex-

hausted all of his legal options, he will be extradited."

Asked about Antigua's decision to revoke Choksi's citizenship, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar on Tuesday told the reporters: "I do not have information on this matter. I would not like to comment on it."

According to a source in the Ministry of External Affairs, nothing has been conveyed officially to New Delhi by the Antiguan government on the issue.

(With agency inputs)

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

Man 'crushes to death' two Dalit women

Local hooligan and accomplices deliberately ran over them: kin

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
 GHAZIABAD

Two Dalit women were killed and two of their male relatives seriously injured when a car ran over them in the Chandpur area of Bulandshahr on Monday night.

While the police initially described it as an accident, the relatives of the women alleged that local hooligan Nakul Thakur and four unidentified accomplices deliberately ran over Urmila Devi, 42, and Santo Devi, 38, after Ms. Urmila's daughter, Saroj, 22 (name changed) spurned Nakul's

advances.

Irate family members blocked NH 91 for three hours.

In the FIR, Ramvir Singh, a relative of the victim, complained that around 10 p.m., Nakul tried to molest and abduct Saroj. When the family and relatives foiled his attempt, he returned with his friends in a car and ran over her mother, her aunt (Santo), her cousin Jitendra, 20, and Tribhuvan, a close relative.

Casteist slurs

Mr. Singh also alleged that Nakul showered the family

with casteist slurs. Locals said that during the altercation, Mr. Jitendra had slapped Nakul and the latter warned the family to be prepared to face the consequences. The victims were taken to the government hospital, where the women died during treatment.

Bulandshahr SSP N. Kolanchi said that CCTV footage from a nearby mall suggested that it was a case of accident but when the relatives described it as targeted killing, relevant sections of the IPC and Section 3(2)V of SC/ST Act were added to the FIR.

SC declines plea for CBI probe into lawyer's murder

Issues raised in the petition should be heard by 'jurisdictional High Court': Bench

STAFF REPORTER
 NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday declined to entertain a petition seeking a CBI inquiry into the murder of advocate Darvesh Yadav, who was allegedly shot dead on the Agra court premises during a victory procession after her election as Uttar Pradesh Bar Council president.

A Vacation Bench of Justices Sanjiv Khanna and B.R. Gavai said the issues raised in the petition should be heard by the "jurisdictional High Court", that is the Allahabad High Court.

"All prayers are pertaining to the incident and U.P. Bar Council...Move the Alla-



Darvesh Yadav

bad High Court...This is a specific matter, let's not generalise the whole thing," the Bench said.

Ms. Yadav, the first woman president of the State Bar Council, was shot thrice by another lawyer Manish Sharma, who allegedly had

been her long-time acquaintance.

Mr. Sharma reportedly shot himself immediately, said the petition filed by advocate Indu Kaul.

"Ms. Yadav succumbed to her injuries on the spot. Mr. Sharma was taken to the hospital where he died later," the petition said.

Police security

Ms. Kaul sought direction for providing police security to women advocates on court premises and for women-friendly amenities beyond court working hours throughout the country.

She highlighted other incidents of suffering by women advocates in the Su-

preme Court, the Delhi High Court and districts courts in Delhi.

'File separate writ'

To this, the Bench said the petitioner could file a separate writ petition on the issue.

Ms. Kaul argued that safety of women lawyers on court premises and at chamber blocks should be paramount or else incidents like these could be discouraging for the new woman entrants in this honourable profession.

She had sought a direction to the U.P. Bar Council to pay a compensation of ₹25 lakh to the family of Ms. Yadav.

Cold-blooded murder, says Tabrez's family

SATYASUNDAR BARIK
 SARAIKELA

"My son-in-law would have been alive had the administration showed a little bit of sympathy and given him the minimum medical attention," says Shehnaz Begum, mother-in-law of Tabrez Ansari, the victim of a mob lynching in Jharkhand.

"First, it was the religiously motivated mob that meted out instant justice, and second, the administration committed a cold-blooded murder by letting Tabrez die of excruciating pain," Ms. Begum said.

FULL REPORT ON PAGE 13

High Court nod to screen Patwardhan's film

Centre had denied permission to screen 'Vivek' at the Kerala film festival

K.C. GOPAKUMAR
 KOCHI

The High Court on Tuesday allowed the Kerala State Chalachitra Academy (KSCA) to screen Anand Patwardhan's documentary *Vivek* (Reason) at its ongoing International Documentary and Short Film Festival of Kerala (IDSFFK) in Thiruvananthapuram.

Justice Shaji P. Chaly granted the academy permission, subject to clause 2(i) of the guidelines for the certification of films for festivals.



Patwardhan's documentary deals with the rise of ultra-nationalism in the country.

As per the clause, exemption from certification can be granted for screening at film

festivals of non-commercial nature and before delegates which should include film-makers, media students, critics, film theorists, film-lovers, and all those associated with the production and business of films and members of the media duly registered with the festival authorities.

The court made it clear that the academy and the film-makers had not been granted permission to screen the film at any other place without the certification or consent of

the Union Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

'Provide protection'

It also directed the State government to provide protection for the screening in case any law and order problem arose at the venue.

The order was passed when a writ petition filed by the KSCA and Mr. Patwardhan, challenging the action of the Centre in denying permission for screening the documentary, came up for

hearing.

Vivek talks about the murders of rationalist scholars such as Narendra Dabholkar and Govind Pansare, the rise of ultra-nationalism in the country, the oppression of Dalits and Muslims, caste-based discrimination, and the suicide of Rohith Vemula.

The petitioners said the Information and Broadcasting Ministry had turned down a request of the academy for exempting the film from certification under Section 9 of the Cinematograph Act.

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