

## Karnataka coalition gets time, Speaker says nine quit letters not in order

**JOHNSONTA & VISHWAS WAGHMODE**  
BENGALURU, MUMBAI, JULY 9

IN A breather for the precarious Congress-JD(S) coalition government, Karnataka Speaker K R Ramesh Kumar Tuesday rejected the resignations of nine of 14 coalition MLAs on the ground that they were not tendered in the correct format.

The Speaker has fixed dates over the next six days to meet and interview the five MLAs whose resignations were found to be in order.

The Speaker's decision gives the Congress-JD(S) combine breathing room to pull the government back from the brink of

BUSINESS AS USUAL

By UNNY

Next to Karnataka, cut out for resort tourism. Local MP to note...



collapse — if the resignations were accepted, the alliance would have been reduced to a

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



## To BE CONTINUED... TODAY

Rain stopped the World Cup semi-final between India and New Zealand at Old Trafford Tuesday. It will resume Wednesday with New Zealand at 211/5 in 46.1 overs. Reuters REPORT, P24

## PROCEDURES COMPLETED Swiss banks: Indian details to be transferred

Pointing to volume, Swiss office says several dispatches may be needed

**RITUSARIN**  
LAUSANNE, NEW DELHI, JULY 9

THE STAGE is set for the first exchange of banking information between India and Switzerland before the September 30 deadline. This follows the Automatic Exchange of Information (AEOI) agreement signed between the two countries, and which came into force January 2018.

In written replies after *The Indian Express* contacted officials in the Swiss Finance Ministry and the Swiss Federal Tax Administration (ESTV) in Berne, the Federal Tax office stated that "several dispatches might be necessary" in the case of India, giving an indication of

the volume of details to be shared with Indian tax authorities of all Indians with bank accounts in Switzerland as of 2018 beginning.

According to the two Swiss agencies, India is among 73 countries with whom information on bank accounts will be shared this year — AEOIs were implemented with 36 countries last year.

Significantly, the Swiss authorities have confirmed that legislative and Parliamentary procedures that need to be carried out prior to the exchange of banking information have concluded, paving the way for the exchange of banking details.

Hundreds, if not thousands, of banking account details are on

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## Budget curbs stay, FinMin restricts access to the press

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, JULY 9

IN AN unprecedented move, the Ministry of Finance has decided not to let even government-accredited journalists enter its premises in North Block without prior appointment.

This restriction had so far been placed only ahead of the Budget when the entire Ministry is quarantined to maintain secrecy. In the past, the restrictions were lifted on the very first working day after the presentation of the Budget.

At present, only the Prime Minister's Office and the Ministry of External Affairs, alongside offices of investigative and regulatory agencies, require prior appointment.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman met journalists Tuesday after they sought an appointment with her following access restriction to North Block since Saturday, the day after the Budget.

"Entry of media persons, including those holding PIB accredited card, will be on the basis of

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## THE EDITORIAL PAGE

### MARATHA QUOTA CHALLENGE

BY SUHAS PALSHIKAR  
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### EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

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## In line with nudge policy, Rlys finalising give-it-up option for ticket subsidy

**AVISHEK G DASTIDAR**  
NEW DELHI, JULY 9

THE RAILWAYS is finalising an option for passengers to voluntarily "give up", either in part or full, the subsidy component in tickets, following its commitment to the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) to launch the initiative within the first 100 days of the NDA government's second term.

In line with the government's "nudge policy" to "gently steer people towards desirable behaviour even while preserving their liberty to choose", as described in the Economic Survey, the "Give It Up" policy in Railways

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## 'Extreme left, right have captured public debate'



Author Amish at the Express Adda. Neeraj Priyadarshi



**SURBHIGUPTA**  
NEW DELHI, JULY 9

"PUBLIC DEBATE in India has got captured by two groups — left-wing extremists and right-wing extremists — who tend to approach things simplistically. Truly, both the groups are a 'Ram banaye jodi' (made for each other) because they feed each other and actually need each

other to be alive. But the sad part is that those of us in the centre, which in my opinion is a vast majority, don't speak enough, so perhaps we should attempt to speak more."

That was author Amish, a

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## In Gujarat, Dalit man hacked to death by upper caste in-laws as officials watched

**VAIBHAV JHA**  
AHMEDABAD, JULY 9

A 25-YEAR-OLD Dalit man was murdered, allegedly by his upper-caste in-laws, in Varmor village of Ahmedabad district Monday evening. Police said Hareesh Kumar Solanki was hacked to death by eight men outside his wife Urmila's house



Hareesh with wife Urmila who is carrying their child

in the presence of a women's helpline team attempting to negotiate with her parents.

According to police, none of the eight has been arrested and Urmila's father, Dashrathsinh Zala, has been named the prime accused.

Solanki, from Gandhidham in Kutch, married Urmila Zala almost six months ago but her

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