

CM WANTS CONFIDENCE MOTION ON JULY 17

Karnataka heats up after SC orders status quo on rebel MLAs, Kumaraswamy seeks trust vote

CM says it's not right to continue without majority; SC underlines weighty issues, directs Speaker to wait until July 16

JOHNSONTA & ANANTHAKRISHNAN G
BENGALURU, NEW DELHI,
JULY 12

AS THE Supreme Court directed Karnataka Speaker K R Ramesh Kumar not to take any decision on the disqualification or resignation of 10 rebel Congress-JD(S) coalition MLAs until July 16, more political uncertainty loomed in the state Friday with Chief Minister H D Kumaraswamy announcing that he will seek a trust vote in the Assembly.

In a move intended to counter the rebellion in the coalition ranks, Kumaraswamy diverged briefly from a condolence message he was delivering at the start of the state monsoon session and told the Speaker: "It would not be appropriate for me to continue without proving my

EXPLAINED

Rebel MLAs face two choices: letters accepted or disqualified

IF THE Speaker accepts the resignations of the rebel MLAs, they can contest elections on any party ticket. They can also be inducted as ministers, but have to get elected within six months. If their resignations are not accepted and the House votes on the trust motion, the MLAs will be given a whip from their parties. If they violate the whip, their parties can approach the Speaker to disqualify them. An MLA disqualified under the Tenth Schedule cannot be inducted as a minister or appointed to a remunerative post until re-elected.

majority. I am not someone who would like to hang on to my seat if there is lack of confidence in my government."

Kumaraswamy later met the

Speaker at a business advisory council meeting and asked him to schedule a confidence motion for Wednesday, July 16, the day

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Karnataka Chief Minister H D Kumaraswamy with his deputy G Parameshwara during the assembly session in Bengaluru, Friday. PTI

Staggered patrols, meetings, new drills lower Sino-Indian border tensions

New rules of engagement along Line of Actual Control post-Wuhan summit

SUSHANT SINGH
NEW DELHI, JULY 12

TENSIONS ON the Sino-Indian border, which snowballed into a crisis at Doklam in 2017, have come down dramatically after the informal summit between the leaders of the two countries at Wuhan in April 2018. The new rules of engagement between the two militaries by President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Narendra Modi after the Wuhan summit, have meant that face-offs between soldiers on both sides of the disputed boundary have reduced significantly.

Top government officials told *The Indian Express* that even though minor differences still remain, particularly in eastern Ladakh near the strategic Darbuk-Shayok-Daulat Beg Oldie (DSDBO) road, "50 per cent of the friction areas between the two militaries on the contentious border have been reduced". The changes were effectively felt on the ground by August-September last year, officials said.

The new rules of engagement include changes in drills and procedures of patrolling by the two sides and control of aggressive behaviour, besides increased number of meetings between the local commanders on the disputed border. These changes have been specific to



Modi, Xi met in Wuhan in April 2018. File

each area, depending on the peculiarities of each place on the boundary, and were done after mutual discussions and agreements between the two militaries at the local level.

"The change has happened because some kind of new rules of engagement have been formed by commanders on the ground. Strategic guidance percolated down to the lowest level and induced behavioural changes. Both sides equally understand the situation and guidance was also available to the Chinese side, which led to this sharp drop in face-offs," the official said.

According to officials, "depending on the complexity of the place, the solution was found". Thus, there was a different model found for each sector

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Life savings put in flats ordered razed, these Kochi residents have nowhere to go

SHAJU PHILIP
KOCHI, JULY 12

FOR TWO decades, engineer Joyson E Pallen toiled in the shipping sector, setting aside money for a home in Kochi. Twelve years ago, he bought an apartment in an all-new complex in Maradu, part of the Kochi urban conglomeration, and moved in with his family. This was where he would spend the rest of his life. Or, so he thought.

Two days ago, when the Supreme Court rejected petitions seeking review of its May 8 order to tear down five apartment complexes in Maradu for violating Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) norms, Joyson's



4 apartment complexes are to be razed for CRZ violation

world started falling apart. Like Joyson, uncertainty has gripped residents of some 350 apartments of Alfa Serene, Holy Faith H2O, Golden Kayaloram and Jain Housing — the fifth developer never built the complex though he had the initial

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Mehul's latest: Typhoon in Antigua delayed courier, letter to court

KHUSHBOO NARAYAN
MUMBAI, JULY 12

FUGITIVE DIAMOND trader Mehul Choksi has blamed an "untimely typhoon" in Antigua and Barbuda for his inability to send legal documents to his lawyer in India to challenge a January 31 special court order in the Bombay High Court within the mandated 30-day period.



Choksi currently resides in Antigua and Barbuda

On January 31, a special court in Mumbai had rejected Choksi's plea seeking examination of witnesses, based on which the Enforcement Directorate (ED) wanted to declare him a fugitive economic offender under the Fugitive Economic Offenders Act, 2018. Choksi now wants to challenge this order in the High Court.

Choksi, who took up citizenship of Antigua and Barbuda in

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By UNNY



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No stay on Maratha quota, but SC says can't be retrospective



Day earlier, Fadnavis govt said quota retrospective

ANANTHAKRISHNAN G & ZEESHAN SHAIKH
NEW DELHI, MUMBAI, JULY 12

A DAY after the Maharashtra General Administration Department (GAD) said reservation for Marathas in education and jobs will also be applicable to those who had applied for it between July 9 and November 14, 2014, the Supreme Court Friday made it clear that the quota cannot be applied with retrospective effect.

Declining to stay the Bombay High Court order which last month upheld the constitutional validity of the quota for the Maratha community, the bench of Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi and Justices Deepak Gupta and Aniruddha Bose said "we will examine" the matter and issued notice to the Maharashtra government.

In Mumbai, GAD Secretary Shivaji Daund said: "Today's statement by the SC will not have any bearing on the GR (government resolution) that was issued yesterday. Yesterday's GR was issued to safeguard the rights of individuals who had applied when the earlier ordinance was in effect."

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