



**NEARBY**



**'Govt. has ignored benefits of cannabis'**

NEW DELHI  
There is not a single document which shows that cannabis is lethal to humans, a social cause litigation has claimed before the Delhi High Court in its pursuit to bring an end to various existing laws in India that prohibit and criminalise its use.

CITY ► PAGE 2

**GS TEST SERIES-2020** 21<sup>st</sup> Start  
**PRELIMS** 6,000+ **MAINS** 14,000+  
**44 TEST** **46 TEST**  
**HISTORY**  
**MALUKA IAS** © 99101 33084  
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FRIDAY REVIEW ► 8 PAGES  
(TABLOID)

## Karnataka CM asked to prove majority by 1.30 p.m. today

Govt.'s fall appears imminent as Governor sets deadline; rebels to skip session

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
BENGALURU

In what came as a shock to the Congress-Janata Dal (Secular) government in Karnataka, Governor Vajubhai Vala has directed Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy to prove his majority by 1.30 p.m. on the floor of the Assembly on Friday.

With the rebel MLAs resolute in their stand that they will not attend the session, the fall of the 13-month-old government appears imminent.

The Governor's direction came after the House adjourned earlier on Thursday amid a heated debate without a vote on the confidence motion moved by the Chief Minister.



**Sleeping over:** B.S. Yeddyurappa sleeping in the Assembly Hall in protest on Thursday. \*SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

This was despite the Governor sending a message to Speaker K.R. Ramesh Kumar, expressing a desire that the House complete the pro-

cess by the end of the day. The ruling party leaders, who had argued that the Governor's message was an infringement on their rights,

also opposed the deadline he set for the Chief Minister. However, the Opposition BJP, which had petitioned the Governor against the "delay" in putting the confidence motion to vote, welcomed his directive.

In the night, the entire BJP Legislature Party, led by Leader of the Opposition B.S. Yeddyurappa, slept in the Assembly, protesting against the delay in the motion being put to vote. Mr. Yeddyurappa called it a "diversionary tactic" to prolong the trust vote.

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**SC REMOVED WHIP-ISSUING POWER: CONGRESS** ► PAGE 12

## SC to hear Ayodhya title dispute cases from Aug. 2

Mediation panel told to submit report by August 1

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

A Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court, led by Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi, on Thursday fixed the Ayodhya title dispute cases for hearing from August 2.

It asked the Registry to keep the case records ready and the mediation committee, led by the former Supreme Court judge F.M.I. Kallifulla, to submit by August 1 a report on the outcome of the proceedings till July 31. The mediation is the court's initiative to amicably resolve the dispute. The order came after the court perused a progress report filed by the committee earlier this week. It was filed on the basis of a July 11 order.

"Taking into account what has been brought to

**Work in progress**

**Jan. 8:** Supreme Court sets up a Constitution Bench to hear the case

**Jan. 29:** Centre moves court seeking permission to return the 67-acre acquired land around the disputed site to owners

**Feb. 26:** Court favours mediation, fixes March 5 for order on whether to refer matter to the mediator

**March 6:** Court reserves order on whether the dispute can be settled through mediation

**March 8:** Court refers the dispute for mediation by a panel headed by former judge F.M.I. Kallifulla



**July 18:** A Constitution Bench fixes the cases for hearing from August 2. It also asks the mediation committee to submit by August 1 a report on the outcome of the proceedings till July 31

our notice by the report, we fix the hearing of the cases on and from 2.8.2019. The Bench will assemble again on the said date, i.e., 2.8.2019, at 2.00 p.m. Office to make the cases ready...

We request the mediation panel to inform the court the outcome of the proceedings as on 31.7.2019 by 1.8.2019..." the order read.

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## Owner of Saravana Bhavan dies

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
CHENNAI

Owner of the Saravana Bhavan chain of restaurants P. Rajagopal, 72, who was ailing, died in a city hospital on Thursday. Last week, he surrendered in a sessions court to serve the life sentence awarded to him for abduction and murder of an employee in 2001. The court later allowed him to be shifted to a private hospital for treatment.

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## Stranded at home



Assam's 28 districts remained affected by the floods, which claimed nine lives on Thursday. The Kaziranga National Park is still under the Brahmaputra and its tributaries, forcing one-horned rhinos to take refuge on a mound of land. • REUTERS (PAGE 9)

## FinMin expects no flight of FPIs on higher tax

Companies won't be hit, she says

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

The increase in tax on high net worth individuals, announced in the Union Budget, will not result in an outflow of Foreign Portfolio Investments (FPIs), Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman informed the Lok Sabha on Thursday.

The higher tax will only apply to individuals and FPIs registered as trusts, which are also treated as individuals. The FPIs that are registered as companies will

not be affected, she said.

"The increase in the effective tax rate is only on individuals who are earning above a certain amount per year, and this includes forms of FPIs that are registered as trusts, which are treated as individuals," Ms. Sitharaman said in her reply during the debate on the Finance Bill in the Lok Sabha.

The House passed the Finance Bill after the debate.

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## Release Jadhav forthwith, India tells Pakistan

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

A day after the International Court of Justice (ICJ) asked Pakistan to review the death penalty given to former naval officer Kulbhushan Jadhav, India called upon Pakistan to release him forthwith.

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, making a statement in both Houses of Parliament, said India would vigorously continue its efforts to bring him back.

Mr. Jaishankar described the verdict as a vindication of India's position and a reiteration of the rule of law.

"We once again call upon Pakistan to release and repatriate him forthwith. Pakistan was found to have deprived India of the right to communicate with Shri Jadhav, have access to him, visit him in detention and arrange his legal representation. The government will vigorously continue its efforts to ensure his safety and well-being, as well as his early return to India," Mr. Jaishankar said.

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**A REPRIEVE** ► EDITORIAL

## Wayanad's tribal hamlets one step from 100% literacy

E.M.MANOJ  
KALPETTA

After making two successful forays into the tribal hamlets of Wayanad, Kerala's State Literacy Mission (SLM) is all set to earn the '100% literate' badge for the outlier region, which has the highest tribal population among all districts. Tribal pockets are among a handful of areas where full literacy remains elusive in the State.

As part of its efforts, the SLM drew up the Wayanad Literacy Equivalency and Attappadi Literacy Equivalency programmes, besides Samagra, a framework to develop effective schooling strategies. They addressed gaps in literacy programmes for marginalised people.

"The initiatives were a huge success and we were inspired to pursue 100% literacy among tribal people in Wayanad by end-2020," SLM Director P.S. Sreekala said.

So far, the literacy campaign has touched the lives of people in 483 remote tribal hamlets among 2,000 such habitations in the district. In 2017, when the first phase began, there were 4,309 learners from 283 hamlets.

Ahead of the second phase, the SLM surveyed 4,371 houses in 200 tribal hamlets and found that 5,342 individuals, including



Some residents of a tribal hamlet in Wayanad working on lessons in class.

3,133 women, were illiterate. With help from educators, 3,179 residents, including 2,590 women, made progress and took the literacy test recently.

The project is now focussed on the remaining 1,517 hamlets in the third phase, and it has attracted wide public participation, Dr. Sreekala said. Classes will begin soon here.

**Instructors' role**  
Instructors play a key role in spreading literacy, and they are to be recruited from among the residents themselves.

The quest is to identify those who speak various indigenous languages as they get a good response from the learners.

"The programme has helped many tribal people," said M. Geethanandan, State coordinator, Adivasi Gothra Mahasabha.

"It has helped school dropouts continue their studies, and the SLM should have programmes for such aspirants," he added.