



Centre is bent upon subverting RTI Act, says Sonia Gandhi

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ED examining cases of land grab against SP leader Azam Khan

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UN Envoy on Climate Change Luis Alfonso de Alba meets Javadekar

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Li Peng, hardline Chinese leader in Tiananmen crackdown, dies at 90

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NEARBY



SC moves to rein in fraudulent builders

NEW DELHI
The Supreme Court on Tuesday directed the Union and State governments to move against builders defrauding homebuyers even as it cancelled the registration of Amrapali Group under the Real Estate Regulatory Authority and directed the State-owned National Buildings and Construction Corporation to complete the unfinished housing projects of the company in a relief for over 40,000 homebuyers.

NATION PAGE 9

Order to grant land rights in illegal colonies soon

NEW DELHI
The order to implement the Centre's proposal to grant ownership rights in 1,797 unauthorised colonies in Delhi is likely to be issued in a month, according to the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

CITY PAGE 4

JNU sedition case: court grants police more time

NEW DELHI
A Delhi court on Tuesday granted police two more months to get sanction from the city government to prosecute former Jawaharlal Nehru University Students' Union president Kanhaiya Kumar and others in a sedition case.

CITY PAGE 3

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OPPORTUNITIES PAGE 15

Kumaraswamy govt. loses trust vote

Confidence motion moved by the Congress-Janata Dal (Secular) coalition is defeated by 6 votes

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The 14-month-old Congress-Janata Dal (Secular) government in Karnataka collapsed on Tuesday, with Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy losing the confidence motion in the Assembly by six votes. He later tendered his resignation to Governor Vajubhai Vala.

With the BJP deciding to stake a claim to form the government, the return of its State president B.S. Yeddyurappa as the Chief Minister is imminent.

Heated debate

The motion was put to vote late in the evening, six days after Mr. Kumaraswamy moved it and after a protracted and heated debate on the issue of 15 resignations from the ruling parties, allegedly engineered by the BJP. Though the outgoing Chief Minister was aware that the numbers were stacked against him, he said he "would not run away" from the House and resign, but



Long-drawn battle: B.S. Yeddyurappa and other BJP MLAs celebrating after the vote of confidence in the Karnataka Assembly on Tuesday. ■ K. MURALI KUMAR

put the motion to vote.

As Mr. Yeddyurappa also demanded that there be a division of vote, Speaker K.R. Ramesh Kumar counted the votes row by row. While 99 MLAs expressed confidence in the government, 105 opposed the motion. He an-

nounced that the motion was defeated, and adjourned the House *sine die*.

In a House of 225 MLAs (including one nominated), 20 MLAs were not present at the time of voting. They were the 15 rebel MLAs who have resigned – 12 from the Con-

gress and 3 from the JD(S) – 2 Congress MLAs who abstained for health reasons, 2 Independents and the lone BSP MLA.

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INSTABILITY WILL HAUNT YOU, SAYS KUMARASWAMY PAGE 8

BJP will stake claim, says Muralidhar Rao

NEW DELHI

With the BJP defeating the confidence motion moved by the H.D. Kumaraswamy government, it will stake its claim to power in the State.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, national general secretary P. Muralidhar Rao said the party would take stock of the situation and make the next move. "We will not shirk the responsibility that the trust vote has thrust upon us," he said.

"As per the directions of the parliamentary board, decisions will be taken," he said.

"State unit chief B.S. Yeddyurappa is the fittest to be the next Chief Minister," a party source said.

The indications were clear that no snap polls would be called.

Assam NRC final publication deadline extended to August 31

No 'sample re-verification' though as Supreme Court turns down pleas of Centre and Assam



Doubts raised: The Centre and Assam said many names were wrongly included in and excluded from the draft NRC.

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday extended the deadline for the publication of the final National Register of Citizens (NRC) for Assam from July 31 to August 31.

A Special Bench of Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi and Justice Rohinton F. Nariman, however, did not accede to the "fervent" pleas of the Union and Assam governments for a "sample re-verification" of the names included in and excluded from the draft, which was pu-

lished on July 30 last year. Both governments said many names had been wrongly included and excluded, and a sample re-verification was necessary to quell the "growing perception" that lakhs of illegal immigrants might have made it to the list, especially in districts bordering Bangladesh.

"This is too great a matter... People's lives will be affected. We have to be 100% right. There cannot be a speck of doubt on the entirety of the NRC exercise... The error percentage in the bor-

der districts is just over 7%, while in other districts the average is over 12%," Attorney General K.K. Venugopal said.

He said the low error percentage in the border districts was suspicious, especially when over the years these areas had seen people cross the border illegally and settle down in the State, thus spoiling the opportunity of the natives to make a life for themselves.

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VERDICT HAILED PAGE 13

Modi did not seek Trump's mediation in Kashmir: Centre

Both Houses in disarray as Opposition demands clarification from PM Modi

No such request had been made by the Prime Minister to the U.S. President... Any engagement with Pakistan would require an end to cross-border terrorism. Shimla Agreement and Lahore Declaration are the basis for resolving all issues

S. JAISHANKAR, External Affairs Minister

The Rajya Sabha should not be compared to the Lok Sabha. If this government wants to run Parliament like a department, we shall not let it happen. It can be run only as per the established principles and rules

GHULAM NABI AZAD, Leader of the Opposition

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Both Houses of Parliament witnessed disruptions on Tuesday as Opposition members demanded that Prime Minister Narendra Modi himself clarify on Donald Trump's remarks that he had asked the U.S. President to mediate on the Kashmir issue.

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar said in the Rajya Sabha that he "would like to categorically state that no such request has been made by the Prime Minister to the U.S. President."

Mr. Trump made the remarks while meeting Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan in Washington on Monday.

Mr. Jaishankar said all outstanding issues between India and Pakistan "can be discussed only bilaterally".

"Yesterday evening, after the House adjourned, we heard remarks by President Donald Trump at a meeting with Prime Minister of Pakistan Imran Khan...that he is ready to mediate if re-

quested by India and Pakistan on the Kashmir issue. I would like to categorically assure the House that no such request had been made by the Prime Minister to the U.S. President... I would further underline that any engagement with Pakistan would require an end to cross-border terrorism. Let me conclude by emphasizing that the Shimla Agreement and the Lahore Declaration provide the basis for resolving all issues between India and Pakistan bilaterally," he said.

As soon as the Upper House assembled for Question Hour mentions, members of all Opposition parties, including the Congress, the SP, the BSP, the DMK, the Trinamool Congress and the CPI(M), demanded that the Prime Minister come to the House and explain.

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SURPRISED BY INDIA'S STAND, SAYS IMRAN PAGE 13
WHAT SUITS TRUMP EDITORIAL

Have wheels, will run — made in India aids for pets

DEBORAH CORNELIOUS
MUMBAI

Just two months after bringing his pet pug Sheru home, Vikas Chawla noticed the puppy consistently wobble. Very quickly, the dog lost all mobility in his hind legs.

"Veterinarians were unable to understand the problem, let alone diagnose it," recalls the 51-year-old Kolkata resident.

Chasing doctors

For a whole year, the Chawla family chased doctors, took Sheru for physiotherapy and even swimming classes. "But there was no improvement and it was tormenting Sheru," says Mr. Chawla, who was advised by several veterinarians to euthanise his puppy.

Instead Mr. Chawla decided to buy him a wheelchair. With international manufacturers quoting a whopping ₹40,000 for a clunky product, he turned to Gujarat-based web-designer-turned-animal prosthesis maker Bhumit Vyas.

Sheru today has a wheelchair built for just ₹8,000.

"My dog's life has changed. He's so happy running around," says Mr. Chawla.

Mr. Vyas has always been an animal lover, but the idea of building economical



Sheru is happy running around with a wheelchair built for just ₹8,000. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

and sturdy wheelchairs for injured pets was sparked three years ago by the plight of a stray dog that had been hit by a vehicle. Even though it was taken in by a local shelter, Mr. Vyas recalls that it was heartbreaking to see the dog drag itself across the shelter's rough floors.

Ever since, he has worked on designing and building custom-made animal wheelchairs, extending a lifeline to pets with few other options in the country.

100 pets get help

Earlier this year, Mr. Vyas established Mintbowl Inc, offering custom-built wheelchairs for animals as small as kittens and as large as St. Bernards. He has since sold more than 100 such prosthetic aids across the country, with orders from as far away as the Andamans.

The parts are imported from China and South Korea and assembled by Mr. Vyas.

Boris Johnson to become Britain's next PM

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
LONDON

Boris Johnson won the race to become Britain's next Prime Minister on Tuesday, heading straight into a confrontation over Brexit with Brussels and Parliament.

The former London

Mayor easily beat his rival, Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt, in a vote of members of the governing Conservative Party.

He is expected to be confirmed as Prime Minister on Wednesday, when Theresa May formally tenders her re-

signation to Queen Elizabeth II.

U.S. President Donald Trump was the first world leader to offer his congratulations, saying: "He will be great!"

AVOWED BREXITEER PAGE 14