

Rahul quits as Cong chief: Hard decisions, accountability needed

MANOJ CG
NEW DELHI, JULY 3

ENDING WEEKS of speculation and owning up responsibility for the disastrous Congress performance in the Lok Sabha elections, Rahul Gandhi Wednesday resigned as party president without naming a successor, and let the rank and file know that "at times, I stood completely alone" while taking on "the Prime Minister, the RSS and the institutions they have captured".

In a four-page statement which he uploaded on Twitter, Rahul, who took charge of the Congress in December 2017, called for accountability in the party: "As president of the Congress party, I am responsible for the loss of the 2019 election. Accountability is critical for the future growth of our party. It is

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By UNNY



for this reason that I have resigned as Congress president."

Although he had made it known at the Congress Working Committee meeting on May 25 that he would no longer lead the

party, his resignation Wednesday without naming a successor added to the turmoil in the party as he underlined that "rebuilding the party requires hard decisions and numerous people will have to be made accountable for the failure of 2019".

At the CWC meeting, Rahul had said that most senior leaders of the party did not support his "chowkidar chor hai" campaign against the Prime Minister over the Rafale fighter aircraft issue. In his resignation statement, he said "it would be unjust to hold others accountable but ignore my own responsibility as president of the party".

"Many of my colleagues suggested that I nominate the next

SUCCESSOR NAMES FLOAT PAGE 7

THE EDITORIAL PAGE

THE SHIFT TO 5G BY RAJAT KATHURIA PAGE 14



NDRF personnel and local trekkers search for people washed away after the Tiwari dam in Chiplun breached following heavy rain in Ratnagiri, Maharashtra. Arul Horizon

Repaired weeks ago, Ratnagiri dam breaches, 23 feared dead

SUSHANT KULKARNI & SANDEEP ASHAR
CHIPLUN (RANTAGIRI), MUMBAI, JULY 3

AT LEAST 14 people were killed and another nine reported missing after several houses in Chiplun taluka of Ratnagiri dis-

tributed in Maharashtra were swept away when the wall of the Tiwari dam breached Tuesday night following heavy rain over the last 48 hours.

The Tiwari dam, located off the Karad-Chiplun Road, had undergone major repairs just two months ago but around 5 pm Tuesday, a minor irrigation tank,

constructed only in 2004, started leaking again. Amid the incessant rain, the dam breached around 9.30 pm, flooding seven villages downstream.

According to an initial investigation report submitted to the state government, almost the whole length of the dam was

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TERROR FINANCING

Under pressure, Pakistan books Saeed, aides for funding Lashkar

Islamabad moves after global terror finance watchdog set Oct deadline

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, JULY 3

MORE THAN a week after it was rapped on the knuckles by global watchdog Financial Action Task Force (FATF), Pakistan Wednesday lodged 23 cases on charges of terror financing and facilitation against Jamaat-ud-Dawa (JuD) chief and 26/11 mastermind Hafiz Saeed and a dozen members of the terror group, as well as five banned outfits masquerading as charity organisations.

Pakistan's Punjab Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) said it registered the cases in Lahore, Gujranwala and Multan for collection of funds for terror-financing through assets or properties in the names of trusts or non-profit organisations.

"Large scale investigations launched into financing matters of proscribed organisations Jamaat-ud-Dawa & Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) in connection with the implementation of UN Sanctions against these Designated Entities & Persons as directed by NSC (National Security Committee) in its Meeting of 1st January 2019



23 cases filed against 26/11 attack mastermind Hafiz Saeed and his 12 aides

chaired by the PM Imran Khan..." the CTD said in a statement reported by local media.

Daily Times quoted CTD as saying that it registered the cases on July 1 and 2 against the leadership of JuD, LeT & FIF (Falah-i-Insaniyat Foundation) for gaining assets from terrorism financing through Dawat ul Irshad Trust, Muaz Bin Jabal Trust, Al-Anfal Trust, Al Hamd Trust and Al Madina Foundation Trust.

It also named the leaders of JuD and LeT who have been booked, including Saeed and his aides Abdul Rehman Makki, Malik Zafar Iqbal, Ameer Hamza, Muhammad Yahya Aziz,

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INSIDE

CABINET DECISIONS

■ Paddy MSP raised to Rs 1,815 per quintal
■ Central Armed Police Forces get organised cadre status
■ Approval for introduction of Surrogacy (Regulation) Bill

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Ignored second time, Rayudu ends his dream



Thank Dhoni, Sharma, especially Kohli!

SHAMIK CHAKRABARTY
KOLKATA, JULY 3

AMBATI RAYUDU's painfully long struggle to live up to the promise he showed as a 16-year-old first-class debutant in 2001 is finally over.

The one-time 'Next Sachin Tendulkar', this millennium's first big batting hope, retired from all forms of cricket

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Attacks on Gujarat Dalits: Assailants on bail, parole

GOPAL KATESHIYA, VAIBHAV JHA & PARIMAL DABHI
RAJKOT, BOTAD, THANGADH, JULY 3

LESS THAN a week ago, Piyush Sarvaiya, a 29-year-old Dalit from Una town, was assaulted by two men who were among 11 convicted by a special court last November for the murder of his brother in 2012. The two were

out on parole and this was a revenge attack for the punishment handed to them by the court.

This was the fourth such case in less than two months in Saurashtra where those accused of murder returned to attack the family members of their victims or against whom they had a grudge. The incidents preceding Una were reported from Rajkot, Surendranagar and Botad districts and each time, the

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SEBI wants a seat on RBI board and more powers

AMITAV RANJAN & SANDEEP SINGH
NEW DELHI, JULY 3

AFTER THE Finance Ministry shot down a proposal by SEBI to remove the RBI nominee on its board, the capital market regulator has now changed tack and instead sought a place on the RBI board. It has suggested that the RBI Act, 1934 be amended to

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Explained

A solution exists

FOR EFFECTIVE coordination, the Financial Stability and Development Council, the existing mechanism which is headed by the Finance Minister, can be strengthened to resolve inter-regulatory issues.

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