

LAND ACT PROVISION

Bid to malign... my integrity clear before God: SC judge

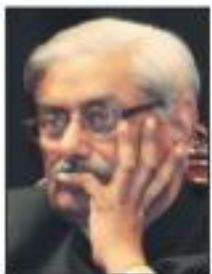
Justice Mishra questions demands for
recusal over matter he once ruled on

ANANTHAKRISHNAN G
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 15

TAKING STRONG exception to social media posts and demands for his recusal from a Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court which is hearing the interpretation of a provision of the land acquisition Act, Justice Arun Mishra Tuesday asked whether this amounted to maligning the court, and said “my conscience is clear, my integrity is clear before God, I will not budge”.

His remarks came after senior advocate Shyam Divan, appearing for some land associations, sought his recusal, pointing out that there may be some impropriety if he hears the matter.

Justice Mishra heads the five-judge Constitution Bench, also comprising Justices Indira Banerjee, Vineet Saran, M R Shah



Justice Arun Mishra leads Constitution Bench that will decide

and S Ravindra Bhat, which has been set up to examine the correctness of two conflicting decisions of the Supreme Court regarding interpretation of Section 24 of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 (also Land Acquisition Act, 2013).

One of these two decisions had come from a three-judge bench headed by Justice Mishra and also comprising Justices A K Goel (since retired) and Mohan M Shantanagoudar. The other

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Panel set to review cases against 23,000 tribals in Chhattisgarh Naxal belt

SEEMA CHISHTI
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 15

A COMMITTEE appointed by the Chhattisgarh government to “review cases against Scheduled Tribes and other residents of the Naxal region in the state” is set to begin its work this month. It will look at cases involving more than 23,000 tribals.

The committee of Justice A K Patnaik, a retired judge of the Supreme Court, will hold its first

meeting in Raipur on October 30 and 31 as it starts looking at cases of over 16,475 tribals accused by police in a range of cases and another 6,743 being held as under-trials, mostly in Bijapur, Sukma and Bastar districts.

Sources told *The Indian Express* that the committee will start work and refer to the state government, as per its terms of reference, cases that merit a relook or withdrawal of proceedings.

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Farooq Abdullah's sister Suraya and daughter Safiyah in Srinagar on Tuesday. Shuaib Masoodi

Srinagar: Farooq Abdullah's sister, daughter arrested during protest

Sent to Srinagar Jail along with wife of
former J&K High Court Chief Justice

BASHAARAT MASOOD
SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 15

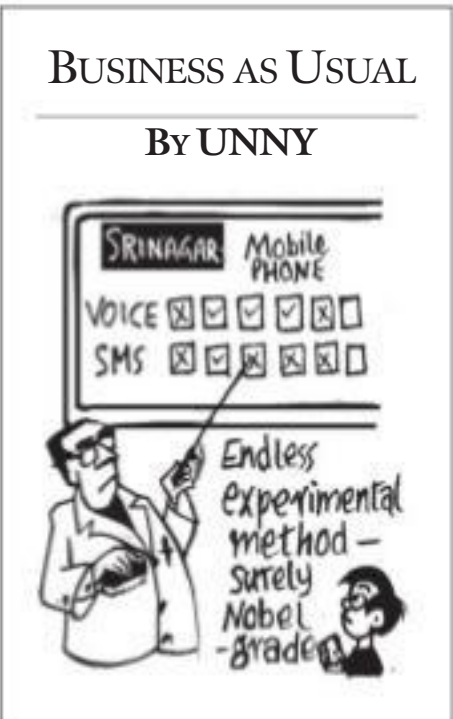
FORMER JAMMU and Kashmir Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah's sister and daughter were among a dozen women arrested by J&K Police Tuesday, after preventing them from holding a sit-in to protest the Centre's August 5 decision to scrap the state's special status and bifurcate J&K into two Union Territories.

All the women, including social activists and members of civil society, were booked under Section 107 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) — preventive custody — and shifted to the Srinagar Central Jail.

Those arrested include Abdullah's sister Suraya Abdullah.

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Praful Patel gets ED summons for Oct 18, says court receiver oversaw transactions

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 15

THE ENFORCEMENT Directorate (ED) Tuesday summoned NCP leader and former civil aviation minister Praful Patel to appear before the agency in Mumbai on October 18, in connection with an alleged money laundering case involving Iqbal Mohammed Memon, aka Iqbal Mirchi, a close aide of gangster Dawood Ibrahim.

The ED had last week arrested Haroun Yusuf, a British national, and Ranjeet Singh Bindra, a Bandra-resident, on



NCP leader Praful Patel at the press conference in Mumbai on Tuesday. Ganesh Shirsekar

RELATED REPORTS, PAGES 10, 16

charges of money-laundering related to three properties allegedly owned by Mirchi.

On Tuesday, it claimed before

a Special Court in Mumbai that alleged dealings linked to Iqbal Mirchi's properties involve huge

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BJP poll pledge in Maharashtra: Bharat Ratna for Savarkar

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 15

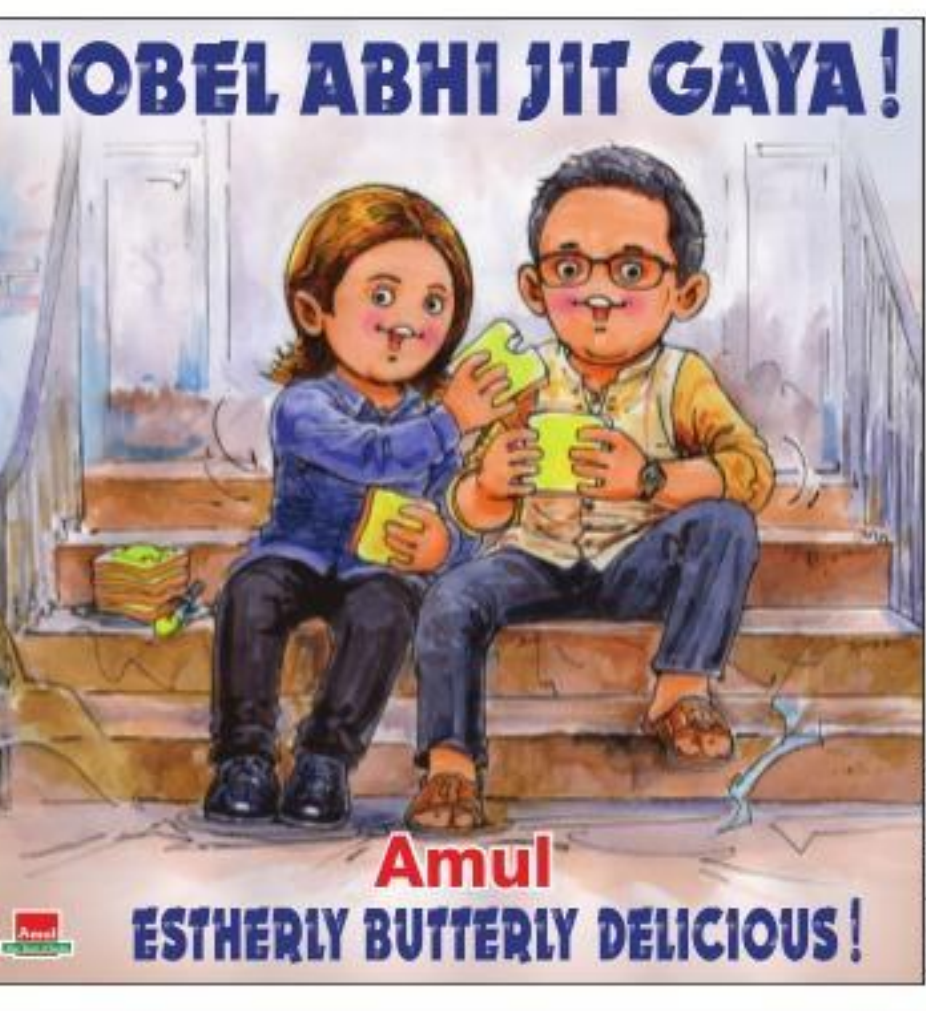
THE BJP has pushed for conferring the Bharat Ratna on Hindutva ideologue Vinayak Damodar Savarkar, popularly known as Veer Savarkar, in its manifesto for the Maharashtra Assembly elections released on Tuesday.

The party has also sought the honour for social reformers Jyotirao Govindrao Phule and Savitribai Phule.

“Mahatma Jyotiba Phule, Krantijyoti Savitribai Phule ani Swatantrata Veer Savarkar yancha Bharat Ratna gaurav vhawaya sathi prayatna karu (We will strive to honour Mahatma Jyotiba Phule, Krantijyoti Savitribai Phule and Swatantrata Veer Savarkar with the Bharat Ratna),” says the manifesto.

“Savarkar was a great revolutionary and freedom fighter... Why should we look at such great persons with a narrow political prism. Let the nation unite and graciously bestow the award which he truly deserves,” said Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis.

Criticising the BJP, Congress spokesperson Manish Tewari said: “On the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, if this government considers any such thing, than all I want to say is that God save this country.”



ED will question Chidambaram in Tihar Jail today



P Chidambaram being produced in court on Tuesday. PTI

ANAND MOHAN J
& ANANTHAKRISHNAN G
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 15

ALLOWING THE Enforcement Directorate to question Congress leader and former Union Minister P Chidambaram in an alleged money laundering case involving the INX Media, a Delhi court Tuesday said he can be questioned Wednesday in Tihar Jail and, if required, arrested.

Meanwhile, seeking bail in the INX Media case with the CBI for which he is in judicial custody, Chidambaram Tuesday told the Supreme Court that “this is like: an operation is successful but the patient has died”.

Pointing out that all other accused have been granted bail in the case, Chidambaram's lawyer Abhishek Manu Singhvi told the bench of Justices R Banumathi, A S Bopanna and Hrishikesh Roy that the Delhi High Court had denied him bail merely on the “apprehension” that he may influence witnesses. He also said there was a “game plan” by the agencies to keep him in custody.

In the Delhi court, Special Judge Ajay Kumar Kuhar told Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, who appeared for the ED, that the agency's plea seeking custodial interrogation was premature, and the “application would be considered only if the accused

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BY MADAN B LOKUR
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EXPRESS NETWORK

NEIGHBOUR HELD FOR BENGAL TRIPLE MURDER: POLICE
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In battlefield Kurukshetra, a hockey star hopes to score first goal for BJP in his debut poll foray



MANRAJ GREWAL SHARMA
PEHOWA (KURUKSHETRA),
OCTOBER 15

SANDEEP SINGH, the former India hockey captain once known as Flicker Singh for his drag flicks, is playing a different game these days. And it's the



Former hockey captain Sandeep Singh is the BJP candidate for the Pehowa constituency. Jaipal Singh

children who are cheering the loudest for him.

Fielded by the BJP from Pehowa constituency in Kurukshetra for the Haryana assembly polls on October 21, the 33-year-old six-footer towers over a motley crowd at Dera Baajigariyan Da as he shouts: “Bharat Mata Ki...”. The restive gathering has been waiting for over two hours to meet the star, but the children shout back: “Jai”.

The low-roofed panchayat building, where this village meeting is taking place, is dingy but the vibe is warm. “Sabko Ram

Ram. I come here as your son, brother... I won't make promises of roads and drains that you have been hearing for 40 years. But I promise to do all that I can to better the future of your children.”

Once again, the children lead the applause as the adults smile at the enthusiasm. Singh goes on to promise a stadium in every village, and a coach. “Vote for me, and I promise I will be there to lend you an ear. Even your children will be able to approach me,” he says.

Hailing from the hockey hub of Shahabad in Kurukshetra,

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Sanjay Gulati; Fattomal Punjabi

ECONOMY

IMF LOWERS INDIA GROWTH TO 6.1%
EXPORTS DROP 6.5%
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technician Sanjay Gulati died after having a meal at his home in Oshiwara Monday night while

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बैंक ऑफ महाराष्ट्र
Bank of Maharashtra
भारत सरकार का उद्यम
एक परिवार एक बैंक

Head Office : Lokmangal, 1501, Shivaji Nagar, Pune 411005

Public Notice

In the last few days, a completely false and baseless report on the financial health of our bank, first published in an ill-informed website purportedly with malicious intentions, is circulating in the social media. The news appeared in the website is not correct and inferences are drawn without knowing the facts. The Bank has initiated police/ legal action against the website and rumor mongering individuals for their ulterior motives.

While the bank approached the Reserve Bank of India for a mere accounting adjustment of earlier losses with its reserves, by not doing so the financials of the Bank will remain sound and unchanged.

In this context we would like to assure all the stakeholders that our bank is well capitalized with more than 92 percent of share held by Government of India and the financial health of the Bank is sound. We request all the stakeholders not to believe in the rumors being spread, containing misleading and wrong information with the motive of causing disrepute to the bank.

We sincerely thank our customers, shareholders and the public in general for their continued patronage and support in our service to the nation for 84 years and we commit ourselves to its sustained growth and development.

M.G. Mahabaleshwarkar
General Manager
Resource Planning

15th October 2019
Pune