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DECISION 2019

VOTING TODAY
MAHARASHTRA



Total Assembly seats: **288**
Total candidates: **3,247**
Total voters: **8.98 crore**
2014 Results: BJP **122** seats; Sena **63**; Cong **42**; NCP **41**
Voter turnout in 2014: **63.08%**

HARYANA

Total Assembly seats: **90**
Total candidates: **1,169**
Total voters: **1.83 crore**
2014 Results: BJP **47** seats; Cong **15**; INLD **19**; Independents **5**
Voter turnout in 2014: **76.54%**

BYPOLLS IN 51 ASSEMBLY, 2 LOK SABHA SEATS

REPORTS
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BUSINESS AS USUAL



THE EDITORIAL PAGE

JUDGE RECUSAL IS ABOUT DUE PROCESS
BY FAIZAN MUSTAFA P 10

Debt-laden DHFL loaned to firms tied to its promoters: ED probe

KHUSHBOO NARAYAN
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 20

DEWAN HOUSING Finance Corporation Ltd (DHFL) loaned a total Rs 2,186 crore to firms allegedly linked to its own promoters, including Sunbink Real Estate Pvt Ltd and its subsidiaries, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) has found. Investigators suspect the loaned money was subsequently diverted to firms directly or indirectly controlled by the promoters of DHFL.

Kapil Wadhawan and Dheeraj Wadhawan, popularly known as Baba Dewan, are the promoters of DHFL, a housing finance company that has a debt of Rs 1 lakh crore. One of the directors of Sunbink, Sunny Bathija, is the brother-in-law of Dheeraj Wadhawan, sources familiar with the ED case said.

Sunbink is also under the scanner for a Rs 225-crore land deal in Mumbai involving Iqbal Memon aka Iqbal Mirchi, a trusted aide of Dawood Ibrahim, who died in London in 2013. The ED has alleged that about Rs 190 crore of the Rs 225 crore was paid to Mirchi through the hawala route.

Generations will feel impact, go by values laid in Constitution: Mosque sides to SC

SEEMA CHISHTI & ANANTHAKRISHNAN G
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20



THE PARTIES arguing for a mosque at the disputed Ayodhya site have urged the Supreme Court to bear in mind that its judgment in the case would have far-reaching implications, and urged it to "mould" the relief in such a manner that it reflects "constitutional values".

"Since the judgment of this Court will have far-reaching implications, it is for the Court to consider the consequences of its historic judgment by moulding the relief in a fashion that will reflect the constitutional values that this great nation espouses... we hope that the Court, in moulding the relief, upholds our multi-religious and multicultural values in resolving the issues confronting it," the seven mosque parties said Sunday in a joint, one-page statement on the question of 'moulding' of the relief.

The statement came a day after several parties supporting a temple at the site objected to the mosque side filing written submissions on the question of relief to the Supreme Court in a sealed cover.

The five-judge apex court Bench, which wrapped up hearing in the Ayodhya case on October 16, had given the parties three days to file their written submissions in the matter.

In their statement, issued by

MORE REPORTS
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Assaults, murder of journalists: YSRCP men named in 4 FIRs

SREENIVAS JANYALA
HYDERABAD, OCTOBER 20



CM recently stopped a move to act against 'mala fide' news

WHILE THE Andhra Pradesh Cabinet has refused to take up a proposal by a state minister to initiate legal action against news reported with "mala fide intentions", leaders of the ruling YSR Congress Party have been accused of unleashing attacks on mediapersons who are seen to be critical of them, or of the state government.

The latest — and most serious — of these attacks took place on October 15, when a reporter of *Andhra Jyothi* newspaper was hacked to death while on his way home in the evening. Three days later, police registered an FIR against YSRCP MLA and party

Chief Whip in the Assembly, Ramalingeshwara Rao Dadiseti, in the journalist's killing.

The day after the reporter's murder, state Information and Public Relations Minister Perni Venkataramaiah submitted a proposal to empower "departmental secretaries having wherewithal to judge whether the news is true or false to file cases against defamatory content appearing in print, electronic and social media".

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EXCHANGE OF FIRE ACROSS LINE OF CONTROL

6-10 Pak soldiers killed, terror infra hit severely: Army Chief

First such incident after Article 370 move; India says retaliated to Pak ceasefire violation

KRISHN KAUSHIK, ADIL AKHZER & SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 20

IN THE first significant escalation of hostilities on the Line of Control since the abrogation of Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir, the Indian Army targeted several terrorist launchpads in Pakistan Occupied Kashmir. India said it was in retaliation to "unprovoked" firing by Pakistan, leaving two Indian soldiers and a civilian dead in border Kupwara district.

Army Chief General Bipin Rawat said the Indian side had "caused severe damage to terrorists' infrastructure across... Six-10 Pakistani soldiers have been killed, three camps have been destroyed". He added that they had information that terrorists had arrived at camps in the forward areas and said that, in the last one month, with Diwali approaching, repeated infiltration attempts had been made.

Pakistan summoned Indian Acting High Commissioner Gaurav Ahluwalia in Islamabad and lodged an official protest. Pakistan Army spokesperson Major General Asif Ghafoor

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Houses hit by shells in Jura village near the LoC in Pak Occupied Kashmir on Sunday. Reuters

EXPLAINED
Ceasefire strained

SIXTEEN YEARS after India and Pakistan signed a ceasefire accord, there has been a spike in the number of violations by Pakistan. July saw 296 such violations, August 307, and September 292. The corresponding figures for 2018 were 13; 44; 102.

Letters 'put on hold' as Pakistan stops mail from India for the first time

AMITAVA CHAKRABORTY
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

EVEN THROUGH Partition, three wars, and extended tension, and despite the circuitous route involving the Middle-East, one service did not stop between India and Pakistan. In the wake of abrogation of Article 370 however, Pakistan has stopped postal mail between the two countries. It's been more than one-and-a-half months since Pakistan last

accepted a consignment from India, on August 27, forcing the Indian postal authorities to put mail marked for the country "on hold". Said R V Chaudhary, the Director of Postal Services (Mail and Business Development), Delhi, "It was a unilateral decision on their part. This is the first time they have taken such a stand... We are not sure when the order will be lifted."

Of the 28 Foreign Post Offices (FPOs) across the country notified

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Tiwari killing: Police find bloodstained knife, clothes

MANISH SAHU & KAMAAL SAIYED
LUCKNOW, SURAT, OCT 20

A BLOODSTAINED knife that was allegedly used to kill Kamlesh Tiwari has been recovered from a hotel room that his two assailants occupied in Lucknow, police said on Sunday. Bloodstained *kurtas* worn by the two alleged assailants too, were recovered from the room in the hotel in the Lalbagh area of the city, police said.

Police said the alleged assailants checked into the room after reaching Lucknow from Gujarat on October 17, and after killing Tiwari, left without informing the hotel staff. Police sealed the room and collected footage from the hotel's CCTV camera network. Forensic experts collected the bloodstained clothes and a towel from the room, and lifted fingerprints.

Police said the men seen in the hotel footage were the same as the ones in the footage from near Tiwari's residence.

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THE GOVERNANCE PAGE



EDUCATION REFORM: DELHI'S SECRET SAUCE

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WORLD



PENTAGON CHIEF IN AFGHANISTAN AS US LOOKS TO RESTART TALIBAN TALKS P 13

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Chief Electoral Officer, Haryana