

TALKS FOR NAGA ACCORD

NSCN I-M returns to table, claims it can use flag at cultural events



R N Ravi with NSCN leader Thuingaleng Muivah to his right. Tweeted by former Nagaland Chief Minister TR Zeliang

ESHA ROY
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

WHILE THE government and NSCN (I-M) missed the October 31 deadline to sign the final agreement on a Naga peace accord ending decades of insurgency, a mutual understanding has been reached and the dominant Naga insurgent outfit has agreed to continue talks with Nagaland Governor and peace talks interlocutor R N Ravi.

Sources in the NSCN (I-M) claimed the deadlock over demands ended after the government agreed to allow the use of a Naga flag only at cultural events. This is a departure from the NSCN (I-M)'s demand for a separate flag and Constitution — the government had said no to both but NSCN (I-M) sources claimed that the issue of a separate Constitution will be discussed in the coming weeks. Meanwhile, the government

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7 days to seek mercy, Tihar tells Dec 16 rape convicts

PRITAMPAL SINGH
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

IN A notice to the four convicts on death row in the December 16, 2012 Delhi gangrape-murder case, the Tihar Jail authorities have informed them that they have "exhausted" all legal remedies, "except the provision of filing of mercy petition" before the President of India. And if they do not file a mercy petition within

seven days, the "jail administration will initiate further necessary legal proceedings as per law".

The notice to the four convicts — Mukesh (31), Pawan Gupta (24), Vinay Sharma (25) and Akshay Kumar Singh (33) — is signed by the Superintendent, Central Jail No. 2, Tihar Jail, and dated October 29.

"It is informed that all legal remedies in your case... as available in the Constitution of India

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Girish Chandra Murmu (left), Radha Krishna Mathur take oath as the first L-Gs of J&K and Ladakh respectively on Thursday. PTI

J&K SPLITS INTO TWO UNION TERRITORIES

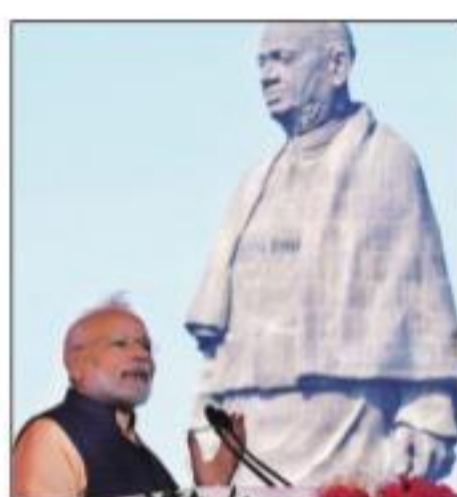
Art 370 temporary wall between Indians, now brought down: PM

AISHWARYA MOHANTY
KEVADIA COLONY (NARMADA), OCTOBER 31

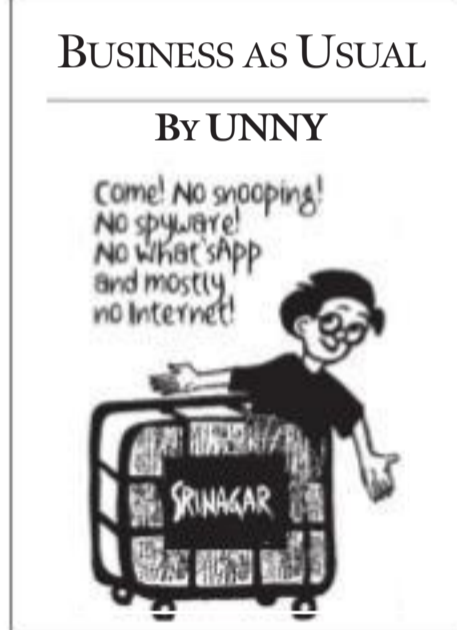
DEDICATING THE government's decision to abrogate Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Prime Minister Narendra Modi Thursday said that a "temporary wall" between Indians, which encouraged separatism and terrorism, has now fallen.

Addressing a gathering in Narmada's Kevadia Colony on Rashtriya Ekta Diwas, the birth anniversary of Sardar Patel, and also the day J&K state formally split into two Union Territories, Modi said: "For decades, Article 370 stood between us Indians like a temporary wall. Our brothers and sisters on the other side of this temporary wall would always be in a state of confusion. This wall that promoted separatism and terrorism in Kashmir, today, as I stand before this grand statue of Sardar saheb, I bow my head before him and with

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PM Modi in Kevadia Colony, Gujarat, on Thursday. ANI



China calls division of J&K unlawful, India says our internal matter

SHUBHAJIT ROY & SOWMIYA ASHOK
NEW DELHI, BEIJING, OCT 31

HOURS AFTER Beijing called the official bifurcation of the state of Jammu and Kashmir into the Union Territories of J&K and Ladakh as "unlawful" and "void", India Thursday responded sharply and said it doesn't expect China to comment on its internal matter, just as Delhi refrains from commenting on internal issues of other countries.

In Beijing, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Geng Shuang said: "The Indian government officially announced the establishment of so-called Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory and Ladakh Union Territory which included some of China's territory

into its administrative jurisdiction. China deplores and firmly opposes that. India unilaterally changes its domestic laws and administrative divisions challenging China's sovereignty."

Geng said: "This is unlawful and void and this is not effective in any way and will not change the fact that the area is under Chinese actual control."

Noting the Chinese statement, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) spokesperson Raveesh Kumar said: "China is well aware of India's consistent and clear position on this issue. The matter of reorganization of the erstwhile State of Jammu & Kashmir into

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SURVEILLANCE VIA WHATSAPP

On snoop target list: Rights lawyers to activists, DU prof to Defence journalist

SEEMA CHISHTI & DIPANKAR GHOSE
NEW DELHI, RAIPUR, OCT 31

RIGHTS ACTIVISTS and lawyers working in tribal areas, an Elgar Parishad case accused, a Bhima Koregaon case lawyer, a Dalit activist, journalists reporting on defence and strategy and a Delhi University lecturer are among more than two dozen people in India whose phones have been alleged targets of surveillance by operators using Israeli spyware Pegasus via WhatsApp.

On Thursday, *The Indian Express* reported that Facebook-owned WhatsApp, which sued Pegasus-developer NSO Group in a US federal court Tuesday, confirmed it was aware that journalists and human rights activists in India were targeted

WhatsApp confirms Israeli spyware was used to snoop on Indian journalists, activists

The Indian Express report on October 31

EXPLAINED

SIMPLY PUT
MEET SPYWARE PEGASUS
PAGE 16

for surveillance and it had contacted each one of them. In the latest vulnerability, it is alleged that operators penetrated smartphones through missed video calls to install the spyware.

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Govt seeks privacy breach explanation, WhatsApp says it is taking action

KARISHMA MEHROTRA & MANOJ CG
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

ON THE day *The Indian Express* reported that WhatsApp had confirmed that Indian journalists and human rights activists were among targets of surveillance by operators using Israeli spyware Pegasus to take over phones via WhatsApp, the government,



'Committed to protecting privacy of all Indian citizens'

expressing concern over the "breach of privacy of citizens of India", asked the Facebook-owned messaging platform to

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THE EDITORIAL PAGE

ROADMAP TO TACKLE TERRORISM
BY SYED ATA HASNAIN
PAGE 14

How RSS, BJP agreed on Ayodhya: Many meetings before LS polls

RAVISH TIWARI
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

THE RSS decision to defer its meeting of pracharakas to hold a dialogue with the BJP leadership on Ayodhya — to harmonise their stance before the Supreme Court verdict — comes on the back of a four-month tussle over the temple between the two sides in the run-up to the Lok Sabha elections in May, *The Indian Express* has learnt.

On Wednesday, the Sangh's top brass deferred its once-in-five years gathering to facilitate its closed-door meeting with the

ruling party and VHP leaders. Last year, however, it took multiple meetings for the RSS and BJP to defuse tensions over taking the legislative route to construct the temple.

Thirty years after the BJP's resolution to build the temple, the issue emerged as an irritant between the party and RSS barely six months ahead of the announcement of 2019 general elections, according to sources briefed about the events.

Sources said the tussle was a throwback to the time when the NDA-I government led by A B Vajpayee found itself at

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E Bridging the gulf
THE AYODHYA dispute has been politically contentious. Those who championed it benefited electorally in the late 80s and early 90s. But the issue has always been an allbloss for the BJP when in power. The Vajpayee government was hobbled by the Sangh Parivar. The party has worked to avoid a repeat.

BCCI too will be under new uniform sports code: Rijiju



Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju at the Idea Exchange

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

THE SUPREME Court-appointed Committee of Administrators' three-year-long effort to convince the BCCI to adopt the

Justice R M Lodha-approved constitution may soon come to naught. The Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports, Kiren Rijiju, said on Thursday that once the proposed uniform sports code comes into force, the BCCI, like

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Employment falls first time — by 9 mn in 6 yrs: Study

UDIT MISRA
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

A NEW academic paper — written by Santosh Mehrotra and Jajati K Parida and published by the Centre of Sustainable Employment at the Azim Premji University on Thursday — has formally concluded that the total employment in India declined between 2011-12 and 2017-18.

This is the first time such a decline has been recorded in independent India's history.

While this point has been made by the same authors as well as some others, such as Himanshu of Jawaharlal Nehru University, this is the first formal paper to this effect. According to Mehrotra and Parida, the "total employment during 2011-12 and 2017-18 declined by 9 million. This happened for the first time in India's history".

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In Karnataka, digital land records project to check dodgy transactions hits govt wall

PAGE 1 ANCHOR

JOHNSON T A
BENGALURU, OCTOBER 31

A LANDMARK project in Karnataka to create digitised, geo-referenced and unique identity records for property in urban areas, and issue property cards to owners, has stalled in the pilot phase itself, official records reviewed by *The Indian Express* show.

The Urban Properties Ownership Record (UPOR) project was launched in 2014 in Shimoga and Mangalore, on a pilot basis, following clearances from previous BJP and Congress governments. The objective: Prevent cheating in land deals and protect government land from fraudsters.

But on September 30, ignoring objections from the Revenue Department, the new BJP government cancelled an order issued four years ago, making UPOR cards mandatory for property registration under the project.



Officials say project a success, BSY cites public reservations

The latest order follows a letter from Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa on September 9 to the Principal Secretary of the Revenue Department: "The UPOR project is being implemented in the city of Shimoga on a pilot basis. Many members of the public have expressed reser-

vations over the project making property cards mandatory for carrying out land transactions." But government sources say there is more to it than meets the eye.

Speaking to *The Indian Express* on condition of anonymity, a government official said: "A system like the UPOR project and digitised cards are the only way to save properties on lakes, drains, parks, forest areas or even coastal zones from being fraudulently sold to innocent people. It seems the government does not have

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An excellent chance to own Institutional Plots in Noida Corporate Offices and Nursing Home

Yogi Adityanath Chief Minister, U.P. **Satish Mahana** Minister of Industrial Development, U.P.

e-BIDS INVITED for Corporate Office Plots and Nursing Home Plot

85 Nos. Corporate Office Plots: Sectors 153
1 No. Nursing Home Plot: Sector 50

Scheme Code Corporate Office Plots: 2019-20 (01)
Scheme Code Nursing Home Plot: 2019-20 (02)

How to participate/other details:

- Interested parties will need to register and obtain user ID and password on the portal <https://property.etender.sbi> and thereafter deposit non-refundable and non-adjustable amount separately against each property for participation in the e-auction through online payment on or before **21.11.19 by 5.00 pm** as detailed below. NOIDA will not be responsible for any payment after that and such bid will not be considered.
- For Corporate Office Plots and Nursing Home Plot: e-brochure document fees of Rs. 5,000/- and processing fees of Rs. 20,000/-.
- It will be the sole responsibility of the bidder/participant to obtain a compatible computer terminal with internet connection to enable him/her to participate in e-bidding process. Ensuring internet connectivity at the bidder's end will be the sole responsibility of the bidder. Any request/complaint regarding the connectivity of internet at the bidder's end will not be entertained in any form and shall not be a basis of cancellation of the bidding process.
- Group of plots/sites having the same size and same earnest money, are likely to be put up for e-auction on a particular day. Bidders are required to deposit a separate EMD for each advertised property.
- The Authority may without assigning any reason withdraw any or all the sites from the e-auction at any stage and is not bound to accept the highest bid or all bids even if they are above the reserved price.

NOIDA announces e-auction for the allotment of Corporate Office Plots and Nursing Home Plot as per the terms and conditions prescribed in the online brochure.

Detail of Corporate office Plots:

- Plots up to 1500 sq.mtr. Category (total plot nos. 38), **Sector 153.**
- Plots from 1501 to 2000 sq.mtr. Category (total plot nos. 40), **Sector 153.** Plots from 2001 to 4000 sq.mtr category (total plot nos. 07), **Sector 153. Reserved price for all Sectors' plot Rs. 71,000 per sq.mtr.**

Detail of Nursing Home Plot:

- 1090.86 sq.mtr (total plot no. 01), **Sector 50. Reserved price Rs.92,950 per sq.mtr.**

Online registration of the scheme
Scheme opens: 01.11.2019
Scheme closes: 21.11.2019

Date and Time for Download of brochures, submission of technical bids and deposit of EMD 01.11.2019 to 21.11.2019 up to 5.00pm
Date and Time for Opening of technical bids: 22.11.2019 at 10.00 am
Date and Time for financial at e-auction 29.11.2019
Only technically qualified bidders will be able to participate in financial e-auction

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