

Jadhav review: Pak says looking at legal options

SAJJAD HUSSAIN
ISLAMABAD, NOVEMBER 13

ISLAMABAD IS considering various legal options for the review of death row convict Kulbhushan Jadhav's case, the Pakistan Army said on Wednesday amid reports that its government was preparing to amend the Army Act to implement the ICJ's verdict.

Pakistan Armed Forces spokesperson Major General Asif Ghafoor, however, termed as "speculation" the reports that the government was planning to amend the Army Act to allow

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

'POTENTIAL CONFLICT' IN DECIDING CHALLENGE TO FINANCE ACT

SC has doubts over Aadhaar as money Bill, turns to big Bench

Says 2018 ruling did not discuss effect of 'only' in Art 110(1) on money Bill

APURVA VISHWANATH
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 13

EXPRESSING DOUBTS over the correctness of a five-judge Constitution Bench's 2018 verdict upholding the Aadhaar Act which had been passed as a money Bill, a five-judge Constitution Bench, hearing a challenge to certain provisions of the amended Finance Act, 2017, Wednesday decided to refer the question to a seven-judge Bench.

Like the Aadhaar Act, the amended Finance Act, 2017 too had been passed as a money Bill.

The Bench said "the analysis in K S Puttaswamy (Aadhaar-5) makes its application difficult to the present case and raises a potential conflict between the judgements of coordinate Benches". Incidentally, petitions seeking review of the Aadhaar Act ruling are still pending in the Supreme Court.

"It is clear to us that the majority dictum in K S Puttaswamy (Aadhaar-5) did not substantially discuss the effect of the word 'only' in Article 110(1) and offers little guidance on the repercussions of a finding when some of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Finance Act: Tribunal rules struck down, Govt told to draw fresh norms

APURVA VISHWANATH
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 13

IN A setback to the government, a five-judge Constitution Bench, headed by Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi, Wednesday struck down provisions of the amended 2017 Finance Act, passed as a money Bill which altered the structure and functioning of various tribunals. It directed the government to formulate fresh

norms on the appointment of tribunal members.

The Bench, also comprising Justices N V Ramana, D Y Chandrachud, Deepak Gupta and Sanjiv Khanna, said the amendments are struck down in entirety as these are "contrary to the principles envisaged in the Constitution as interpreted by this Court".

On the issue of whether the amendments could have been

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Supreme Court opens itself: Office of Chief Justice under RTI

Rider: Need to factor in judicial independence

ANANTHAKRISHNAN G
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 13

THE SUPREME Court Wednesday ruled that the office of the Chief Justice of India was a "public authority" under the Right to Information Act but with the rider that "when the public interest demands the disclosure of information, judicial independence has to be kept in mind while deciding the question of exercise of discretion".

A Constitution bench of Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi and Justices N V Ramana,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

EXPLAINED
E Big step, details matter

THE VERDICT underlines the balance Supreme Court needs between transparency and protecting its independence. The step is significant because it opens the doors to RTI requests that will test the frontiers of what has been a rather opaque system. What new red lines are drawn will decide how effective the step is.

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PAGES 10, 16

Financial deals with Ranbaxy brothers, admits Beas sect head

AASHISH ARYAN & PRABHA RAGHAVAN
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 13

THE HEAD of Radha Soami Satsang Beas, Gurinder Singh Dhillon, has, for the first time, admitted to financial transactions between himself and ex-Religare Enterprises (REL) promoters Malvinder and Shivinder Singh.

In an affidavit filed with the Delhi High Court dated November 12 and reviewed by *The Indian Express*, Dhillon admitted that the Singh brothers had in 2010, through RHC Holding (a company controlled by the brothers), approached him and his family to subscribe to a rights issue of REL that was not fully subscribed "at that moment". A part of the rights issue was funded by RHC and the Singh brothers, who

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Kohli on depression: 'Had a phase, thought it was end of the world'

SRIRAM VEERA
INDORE, NOVEMBER 13

DEPRESSION HAS mostly been a taboo subject in Indian sport. But on Wednesday, cricket captain Virat Kohli opened up on the topic to reveal that during a tough phase in his career five years ago, he thought "it was the end of the world".

Kohli was speaking to reporters on the eve of the Test against Bangladesh in Indore — and days after Australian allrounder Glenn Maxwell's



Virat Kohli in Indore on Wednesday. PTI

decision to take a break from the game, a day after he had scored an international hundred,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Minister-diplomat Jaishankar will deliver RNG Lecture in Delhi today

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 13

AT A time when India is negotiating its way through a dynamic geopolitical landscape — from the US to China and Pakistan to the Middle East — External Affairs Minister Subrahmanya Jaishankar has been entrusted with the task of translating the government's foreign policy objectives into concrete outcomes.

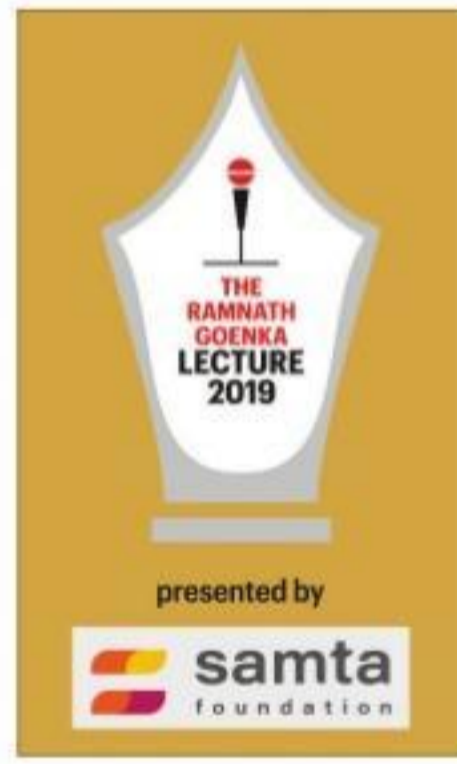


External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar

Five months into his new role, Jaishankar will deliver the 4th Ramnath Goenka Memorial Lecture Thursday in New Delhi. The Ramnath Goenka Memorial Lecture was instituted in 2016 by The Express Group to mark 25 years of the passing of its founder.

After the first three RNG

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



SC: 17 Karnataka MLAs remain disqualified, but can contest Dec 5 bypolls

ANANTHAKRISHNAN G
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 13

THE SUPREME Court Wednesday upheld the disqualification of 17 Congress-JD(S) MLAs in Karnataka but allowed them to contest the December 5 Assembly bypolls to 15 seats, setting aside the Speaker's July order which disqualified them till the end of the term of the Assembly in 2023. The rebellion of the MLAs — 14 from Congress and 3 from JD(S) — led to the fall of the H D Kumaraswamy government and the return of the BJP.

Stating that "the satisfaction

of the Speaker is subject to judicial review", the bench of Justices N V Ramana, Sanjiv Khanna and Krishna Murari said "it is clear that the Speaker, in exercise of his powers under the Tenth Schedule, does not have the power to either indicate the period for which a person is disqualified, nor to bar someone from contesting elections".

It said "neither under the Constitution nor under the

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