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## NEARBY



### Goel back as Speaker of Delhi Assembly

NEW DELHI  
Aam Aadmi Party MLA Ram Niwas Goel was re-elected Speaker of the Delhi Assembly on Monday. Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia proposed Mr. Goel's name and he was elected unopposed. Newly elected Delhi MLAs also took oath as members of the House. Some legislators took oath in the name of Hanuman, Allah, and Bharat Mata.

CITY PAGE 2

### JMI tweets: court rejects clean chit to Sisodia

NEW DELHI  
Rejecting an action-taken report that gave a clean chit to Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia, a court here on Monday directed the Police Commissioner to file a fresh report on a plea seeking an FIR against the AAP leader for allegedly spreading fake news on Twitter in connection with the violence near Jamia Millia Islamia during the anti-CAA protests. The police chief has been asked to file the report by March 17.

CITY PAGE 4

## GS PRELIMS

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# Policeman among 5 killed in Delhi violence over CAA

Vehicles, shops set ablaze in northeastern suburbs

SAURABH TRIVEDI  
HEMANI BHANDARI  
NEW DELHI

A police head constable and four protesters died in violence that erupted over opposition to the Citizenship (Amendment) Act in the Jaffrabad, Maujpur and Bhajanpura areas of northeast Delhi on Monday.

The violence took a communal colour and spread to other parts of northeast Delhi as organised groups attacked each other, setting shops and vehicles on fire.

Tensions escalated hours before U.S. President Donald Trump was scheduled to reach Delhi for bilateral talks as part of his first state visit to India. While Mr. Trump will stay in central Delhi, more than 20 km from the violence, he is scheduled to travel to Rashtrapati Bhavan and Raj Ghat in Old Delhi.

Head constable Rattan Lal, 42, succumbed to head injuries after being hit by a stone in Gokulpuri. He had been trying to control the situation along with his contingent, when he was hit. DCP, Shahdara, Amit Sharma was among the 11 police personnel injured.

DCP Sharma, ACP (Gokulpuri) Anuj and head constable Chatarapal also suffered injuries and were hospitalised. Additional Medical Superintendent, Guru Tegh Ba-



Taking aim: A protester seen with a gun during clashes in Jaffrabad, Delhi, on Monday. \*ANI

hadur Hospital, Dr. Rajesh Kalra said five persons, including head constable Rattan Lal, died during the violence. He added that over 50 persons had sustained injuries, which were due to stone-throwing and firing.

Several members identified as belonging to the minority community were thrashed by a mob in the area, according to eyewitness accounts. During the violence, a group of anti-CAA protesters torched two cars and an e-rickshaw in the Jaffrabad area and in retaliation, pro-CAA protesters set four shops ablaze and pelted stones at other shops after identifying them as belonging to members of the minority community.

The violence erupted in the presence of nearly 100 policemen, who seemingly did not respond to the situa-

tion. The violence over the CAA spilled over from Sunday. On Monday, fresh cases of stone-throwing were reported from near the Babarpur-Maujpur metro station. Later, a similar incident was reported from Khajuri Khas.

### Man with gun held

A senior police officer said in the evening that a man who was seen firing during the violence in the Jaffrabad area, had been identified as Shahrukh Khan and detained. The police also recovered a pistol from him.

The police fired tear-gas shells to disperse the protesters and also appealed to residents to maintain peace and harmony. Stone-throwing continued till late in the evening in the Khajuri Khas area.

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# Donald Trump calls Modi a 'true friend', lavishes praise on PM

'Story of Indian nation is a tale of astounding progress, a miracle of democracy'

MAHESH LANGA  
AHMEDABAD

U.S. President Donald Trump, on his maiden two-day visit to India on Monday, heaped praise on Prime Minister Narendra Modi, calling him a "true friend", and said his rise from a humble background as a tea-seller to India's Prime Minister "underscores India's limitless promise".

The President also described Mr. Modi as a "tremendously successful leader".

Mr. Trump's lavish praise, while addressing a mammoth crowd at the Motera stadium in Gujarat, reflected the bonhomie shared by the two leaders.

"Prime Minister Modi, you are not just the pride of Gujarat. You are living proof that with hard work and devotion Indians can accomplish anything, anything at all, anything they want," Mr. Trump said, amid loud cheers from the audience at the mega 'Namaste Trump' event.

### Democracy, diversity

In his long speech, sprinkled with praise for not only Mr. Modi but also for India's democracy, pluralism and diversity, Mr. Trump highlighted the country's achievements and what its



Picture perfect: U.S. President Donald Trump and First Lady Melania posing in front of the Taj Mahal in Agra on Monday. \*AFP

democracy offers to citizens. "The story of the Indian nation is a tale of astounding progress, a miracle of democracy, extraordinary diversity and above all, you noble people. India gives hope to all of humanity. In just 70 years, India has become an economic giant, one of the largest democracies ever to exist and one of the most amazing nations anywhere in the world," President Trump said.

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MORE REPORTS ON PAGE 13

## It's a far greater, closer relationship, says Modi

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
AHMEDABAD

Addressing the 'Namaste Trump' event here in the presence of visiting U.S. President Donald Trump on Monday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said India-U.S. relations were no longer just "a partnership, but a far greater and closer relationship."

"There is so much that we share: shared values and ideals, shared spirit of enterprise and innovation, shared opportunities and challenges, shared hopes and aspirations," he said.

Mr. Modi opened the mega event with chants of 'long live India-U.S. friendship'.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

## Shaheen Bagh interlocutors file report

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL  
NEW DELHI

Supreme Court-appointed interlocutors Sanjay Hegde and Sadhana Ramachandran on Monday handed over a report of their four-day endeavour to coax Shaheen Bagh protesters into shifting their agitation against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act to an alternative site.

A Bench of Justices Sanjay Kishan Kaul and K.M. Joseph took the yellow-enveloped report in the courtroom. "We will go through the report. We will list the case for hearing day after tomorrow [Wednesday]," Justice Kaul said.

The court refused to give a copy of the report to petitioner-advocate Amit Sahni. "We are not even putting it [report] on record... Let's go through it first," Justice Kaul said.

DETAILS ON PAGE 12

## Now, BJP's Kapil Mishra appeals for peace

He aggravated situation, says AAP MLA

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

A day after he set a three-day "deadline" for the Delhi police to ensure that the streets of Jaffrabad and Chand Bagh were cleared of those protesting against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, BJP leader Kapil Mishra appealed for "peace" on Monday.

On Saturday evening, the BJP leader tweeted a video alleging that the main Jaffrabad road had been "occupied", followed by another tweet, on Sunday morning, ostensibly showing a stage being erected in the area for the protest. Mr. Mishra later visited the area.

### 'Three-day ultimatum'

On Sunday, Mr. Mishra had said, "A three-day ultimatum to Delhi Police - get the streets of Jaffrabad and Chand Bagh cleared. After this don't explain anything

to us. We will not listen to you. Just three days."

Mr. Mishra's appeal for peace on Monday, however, was followed by a tweet in which he alleged that anti-CAA protesters are running riot in Bhajanpura, Chand Bagh, Karawal Nagar, Maujpur, Babarpur and Jaffrabad. "Petrol pumps, homes, temples are being subjected to damage and arson. The situation is horrifying. The police should immediately forcefully remove them [protesters] from Chand Bagh and Jaffrabad," he said.

AAP's Abdul Rehman, the MLA of Seelampur constituency of which Jaffrabad is a part, on Monday blamed Mr. Mishra for aggravating the situation. "All this violence happened after Kapil Mishra came here and flared up the situation with his statements," he said.

## Back to school



Girls attending school in Srinagar on Monday. Over 10 lakh students of the Valley donned their uniforms for the first time in seven months as schools reopened after a three-month-long winter break that coincided with months of disruption in the wake of withdrawal of the special status of Jammu and Kashmir in August last year. \*NISSAR AHMAD

## Sunni Waqf Board accepts five-acre land for mosque

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
LUCKNOW

The Uttar Pradesh Sunni Central Waqf Board on Monday decided to accept the five-acre land allotted to it for building a mosque following the Supreme Court verdict in the Babri Masjid-Ram Janmabhoomi title suit.

The State government had earlier in February allotted the land in Dhannipur village in Sohawal tehsil of Ayodhya, around 25 km from the site where the Babri Masjid once stood.

### Trust for mosque

Waqf Board chairperson Zulfar Faruqi, after a meeting, said the board had accepted the five-acre land and would constitute a Trust to construct a mosque at the site.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

## Dissenter not anti-national, says SC judge

'A party getting 51% mandate in polls doesn't mean the 49% must remain silent'

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

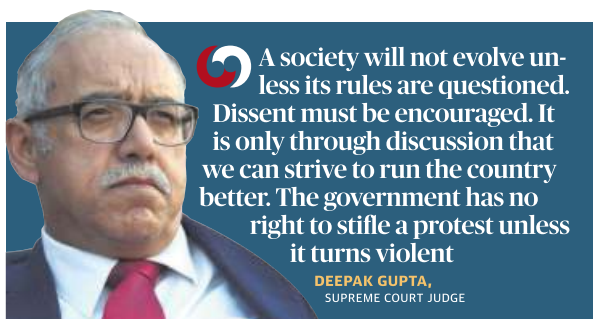
A dissenter is not an anti-national. Holding a contrary view to that of the government does not make one an anti-national, according to Supreme Court judge Justice Deepak Gupta.

Justice Gupta made the observation during a lecture organised by the Supreme Court Bar Association on "Democracy and dissent" on Monday. His speech received a standing ovation.

### Rise in sedition cases

Justice Gupta red-flagged the hike in sedition cases against activists, lawyers and students and branding voices of dissent as "anti-national".

Expressing dissent to go-



A society will not evolve unless its rules are questioned. Dissent must be encouraged. It is only through discussion that we can strive to run the country better. The government has no right to stifle a protest unless it turns violent

DEEPAK GUPTA,  
SUPREME COURT JUDGE

Act in various parts of the country, most prominently at Shaheen Bagh in the national capital.

### Rule of law

His observations follow shortly after Justice Arun Mishra accoladed the "versatile genius" of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to "think globally and act locally" at an international judges conference on Saturday.

Justice Gupta said governance did not mean carrying out the whims of a few, but following the rule of law. The government was not always right. Citizens had the right to come together, protest and dissent peacefully.

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## 'Identify policemen who caned AMU students'

Allahabad High Court directs State government to compensate six students

OMAR RASHID  
LUCKNOW

The Allahabad High Court on Monday directed the Uttar Pradesh police chief to identify policemen and those of the Provincial Armed Constabulary seen in CCTV footage "damaging motorcycles and unnecessarily caning the apprehended students" of Aligarh Muslim University.

The case pertains to the protests at AMU against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act on December 15, 2019.

"The police force should be sensitised and special training modules prepared to inculcate professionalism in the personnel while handling such situations," the court observed.

A Division Bench of Chief Justice Govind Mathur and

The police force should be sensitised and special training modules prepared to inculcate professionalism in the personnel while handling such situations

HC DIVISION BENCH

Justice Samit Gopal passed the order on the recommendations of the National Human Rights Commission. The court had last month directed the NHRC to conduct an investigation into the allegations of police brutality at AMU. The order was passed on a public interest litigation petition filed by Aman Khan. The court asked the Direc-

tor General of CRPF to identify the Rapid Action Force men who were allegedly involved in incidents of violence and excesses. "The RAF, a specialised force set up to deal with riots and handle law and order situations, should show utmost professionalism in such crisis situations, while respecting the human rights of civilians."

### SIT probe

The court directed the Chief Secretary to provide compensation to six students, commensurate with their injuries on humanitarian grounds. It also directed the Director General of Police of U.P. to make sure that the SIT probed the case on merit and in a time-bound manner. Another recommendation

made by the NHRC was to direct the AMU Vice-Chancellor and Registrar to establish a line of communication with students so that they are not "influenced by outsiders and rusticated unruly students".

All the officials were asked to submit a report on compliance at the next hearing scheduled for March 25.

Petitioner Aman Khan said he was happy with the NHRC recommendations. "I wish they will be complied with as per the HC order," he said.

Former AMU Students' Union president Salman Intiaz, who has also filed a petition on the same lines, said, "The NHRC report has vindicated the views of the AMU students."

(With inputs from Anuj Kumar)