WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2020





Rajya Sabha functions amid protests against **Anurag Thakur**



SC to hear Zakia Jafri's plea against SIT's clean chit to Modi on April 14



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I wish to serve all

Jaiswal helps India defeat Pakistan in U-19 World Cup semifinal





Sri Lankans, says President Gotabaya



Nirbhaya case: HC to decide on plea today

NEW DELH The Delhi HC will on Wednesday pronounce its verdict on the Centre's plea challenging the stay on execution of the four convicts in the December 16, 2012. gang rape-and-murder case. Justice Suresh Kumar Kait had on February 2 reserved order on the Centre's plea.

Rahul attacks BJP, AAP on unemployment

NATION > PAGE 9

NEW DELHI Former Congress chief Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday accused Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal of trying to divide the country by spreading hatred and violence instead of trying to solve the problem of unemployment. "Mr. Modi and Mr. Kejriwal are not concerned about the future of the youth of the nation,' he said at a rally here. **CITY** ▶ PAGE 3

an AAP member: police

The Delhi police on Tuesday claimed that Kapil Baisala, who allegedly opened fire at the Shaheen Bagh protest site on February 1, is a member of the Aam Aadmi Party. The announcement kicked off a political storm. CITY ▶ PAGE 2

'THE HINDU" SHORT NOTES

T EXHAUSTIVE REVISION ₹ 599

OPPORTUNITIES ▶ PAGE 15

Shaheen Bagh shooter

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No decision yet on pan-India NRC, Minister tells Parliament

During NPR, no verification of citizenship or document collection: Nityanand Rai

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The government informed the Lok Sabha on Tuesday that till now it "has not taken any decision to prepare National Register of Citizens (NRC) at the national level".

Minister of State for Home Nityanand Rai was responding to a question by Lok Janshakti Party's (LJP) Chandan Singh and Telangana Rashtra Samithi's (TRS) Nama Nageswara Rao on whether the government had any plans to introduce the NRC all over the country.

While replying to another question, Mr. Rai said the "government is in discussion with the States having concerns in regard to the preparation of National Population Register (NPR)".

Mr. Rai said in a written

Govt. is in discussion with the States having concerns in regard to the preparation of National Population Register NITYANAND RAI. MINISTER OF STATE FOR HOM There is no need to create a background for NRC; we are

reply that "during the exercise of updation of NPR, no verification is done to find individuals whose citizen-

background

clear that NRC ought to be done in

this country, our manifesto is the

AMIT SHAH, UNION HOME MINISTER ON DEC. 9, 2019

ship is doubtful". Several Opposition-ruled States have vociferously opposed the NPR, slated to begin from April 1 onwards along with the decennial

Census. According to the Citizenship Rules, 2003, the NPR is the first step towards the compilation of the NRC.

Form not finalised

The NPR form is yet to be finalised and notified but the trial form last year collected details from 30 lakh respon-

dents on 21 parameters, including the place of birth of father and mother and the last place of residence.

On December 9 last year, Union Home Minister Amit Shah had told Parliament that "there is no need to create a background for NRC; we are clear that NRC ought to be done in this country, our manifesto is the background."

To a question on whether the government had finalised the questionnaire for the NPR, Mr. Rai said, "The demographic and other particulars of each family and individual are to be updated/ collected during the exercise of updation of NPR. No document is to be collected during this exercise."

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Why no action on pleas on T.N. MLAs' disqualification, asks SC

Court gives Speaker a week to inform when he will decide

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL

NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday gave Tamil Nadu Speaker P. Dhanapal a week's time to inform when he will take cognisance of the disqualification petitions filed under the Tenth Schedule (anti-defection law) against Deputy Chief Minister O. Panneerselvam and 10 other AIADMK MLAs for voting against the confidence motion moved by Chief Minister Edappadi Palaniswami in February 2017.

A three-judge Bench, led by Chief Justice of India S.A. Bobde, asked Tamil Nadu Advocate General Vijav Narayan and Additional Advocate General Jayanth Muthuraj to confer with the Speaker and report back on February 14.

The court questioned the

Offering support: A file photo of AIADMK leader K. Pandiarajan with O. Panneerselvam at the latter's residence in Chennai

Speaker's inaction, repeatedly asking why he kept the disqualification petitions pending for three whole years without even issuing notice.

"The three-year delay was unnecessary. You [Speaker] needed to have taken action. Prime facie, if there is inaction on the part of the Speak-

er, it has to be cured," Chief Justice Bobde addressed Mr. Narayan.

However, the court made it clear that it had no intention to "go wandering into the Speaker's jurisdiction" of deciding anti-defection petitions.

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'Love jihad' not defined under law, says Centre

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The Centre on Tuesday said the term 'Love Jihad' is not defined under the law, and no such case has been reported by any of the Central agencies.

Union Minister of State for Home G. Kishan Reddy said Article 25 of the Constitution provides for the freedom to profess, practice and propagate religion subject to public order, morality and health. "Various courts, including the Kerala High Court, have upheld this view," he said in a writ-

"The term 'Love Jihad' is not defined under the extant laws. No such case of 'Love Jihad' has been reported by any of the Central agencies," Mr. Reddy said to a question by Congress MP Benny Behanan on "whether Central agencies have reported any case of 'Love Iihad' from Kerala during the past two years and if so, the details thereof?"

Mr. Reddy, however, said two cases from Kerala involving inter-faith marriage had been probed by the National Investigation Agency.

FIRM ON STANCE ▶ PAGE 8

Two in quarantine for nCoV flee to Saudi

Efforts on to trace duo from Kozhikode, who were advised isolation for 28 days

STAFF REPORTER

Two persons who had returned from China recently and were under observation for novel coronavirus (nCoV) infection in Kozhikode, Kerala, have left the country for Saudi Arabia, violating the State Health Department's instructions to remain under home quarantine till the end of the 28-day incubation period of the virus.

District Medical Officer V. Jayasree said efforts were being made to trace the two

Speaking at a special council meeting convened



putting on protective apparel on Tuesday. • AFP

by the Kozhikode Municipal Corporation to discuss steps to be taken on the ground to contain the outbreak, Dr. Jayasree urged councillors to be alert and keep a watch on people in their respective wards who had returned from China and other nCoV-

affected countries.

tees, headed by the councillors, would consist of health workers and anganwadi and ASHA workers, she said. A source said the depar-

The ward-level commit-

ture of the two potentially infectious persons had left the health administration, charged with ensuring that proper healthcare facilities were extended to all, redfaced. The health authorities also faced reluctance from air passengers returning from abroad to disclose their travel history for fear of being asked to go into quarantine at their homes. **CONTINUED ON ▶** PAGE 12

CHANAKYA

AAP promises 24-hr markets in manifesto

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

A compensation of ₹1 crore to the families of safai karamcharis who die on duty, doorstep delivery of rations, and 24x7 markets on a pilot basis in key commercial areas are among the main promises made in the 28-point Delhi Assembly elections manifesto released by the Aam Aadmi Party on Tuesday.

Delhi Jan Lokpal Bill, Delhi Swaraj Bill and full statehood for Delhi have also been included in the manifesto.

CHANAKYA

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DETAILS ON ▶ PAGE 3

Recovery of lost Kishore Kumar film has buffs agog

SHOUMOJIT BANERJEE

For decades, collectors of rare Indian film memorabilia and aficionados of the music of legendary Bollywood composer duo of Shankar-Jaikishan have been doggedly searching for prints of a "lost" 1957 film starring Kishore Kumar, which uniquely featured a song picturised on Jaikishan himself.

For Indian film cineastes, the haunting melody Ae Pyase Dil Bezubaan from the film Begunah, sung by the great Mukesh, had Jaikishan playing the piano in the song sequence.

It was considered the 'Holy Grail' of rare collectibles as it was believed that prints of the film did not exist any more. Now, in a fortunate

stroke of serendipity, the Pune-based National Film Archive of India (NFAI) has come into the possession of two 16 mm reels of Begunah, totalling around 60 minutes of the film's footage but more vitally, the iconic song picturised on Jaikishan.

Of all hard-to-find Indian film items, Begunah has a particularly interesting history as it was a knock-off of a 1954 Hollywood film from Paramount Pictures, titled Knock on Wood, starring famous comedian-musician Danny Kaye. A little more than a week after its

CM YK



A still from Begunah showing music composer Jaikishan.

■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT release, Paramount Pic-

tures got wind of the Hindi rip-off and filed a copyright suit in a Mumbai court. The court, with alacri-

ty, then directed that all prints of the Hindi film to be destroyed. "While it may have been the Mumbai Metropolitan Court, we do not

exactly know in which Mumbai court the copyright suit was filed by Paramount. The court directed all prints of Begunah to be destroyed on grounds of plagiarism. The film is especially interesting as it features Kishore Kumar, who was a darling of Indian film distributors in his acting heyday. Most fascinatingly, the famous song sung by Mukesh Ae Pyase Dil Bezubaan that was picturised on maestro Jaikishan marks his only substantial appearance in any movie," said NFAI director Prakash Magdum, speaking to The Hindu.

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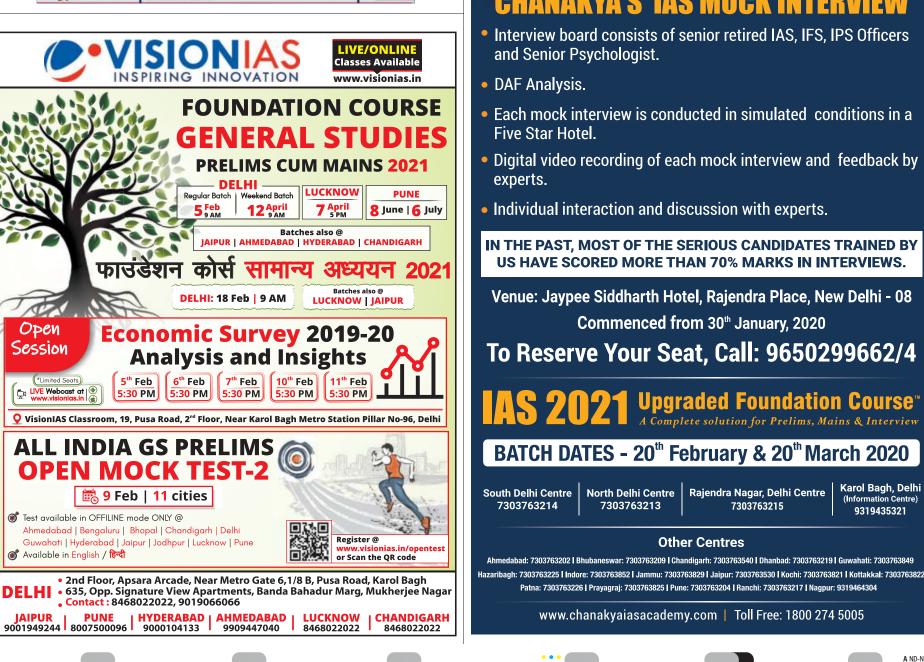




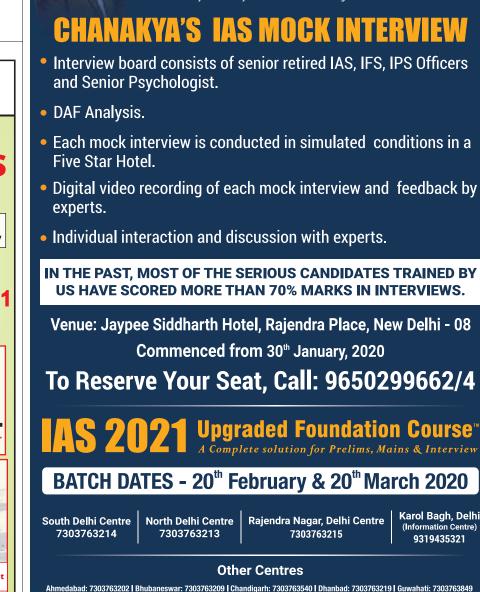
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