

AS PER SUPREME COURT VERDICT

PM announces Trust for building Ram temple in Ayodhya, it gets 67 acres

UP marks 5 acres for mosque off highway, Muslim groups say wish it was in Ayodhya



PM Narendra Modi at DefExpo in Lucknow. Vishal Srivastava

PM: \$5 BN DEFENCE EXPORTS IN 5 YEARS PAGE 7

LIZ MATHEW & MAULSHREE SETH
NEW DELHI, LUCKNOW, FEBRUARY 5

THE UNION Cabinet has approved the setting up of a Trust for the construction of a Ram Temple in Ayodhya, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced in Lok Sabha Wednesday. The Trust, named Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Tirtha Kshetra, will take decisions in-

dependently on the construction of a Ram temple and related issues and will be handed over the whole of the 67.703 acres acquired "to maintain the sanctity of Ayodhya and for the con-

struction of the temple, keeping in mind the needs of crores of devotees," Modi said.

On November 9 last year, a five-judge Constitution Bench of

Parasaran first trustee, 15-member Trust office has his home address

HARIKISHAN SHARMA
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 5

A FORMER Attorney General during the Congress government and the lead lawyer of the Hindu side in the Ram Janmabhoomi case, K Parasaran, will host the Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust which was approved by the Union Cabinet Wednesday.

A notification issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs shows the Trust's registered office at

"R-20, Greater Kailash Part-1, New Delhi, 110048" which is the residential address of Parasaran.

Sources said the Trust will operate from the residence of Parasaran. However, the Board of Trustees shall, in the first meeting, decide on a permanent office of the Trust which may also be moved as the trustees may deem fit.

Parasaran, 92, who represented the Hindu side in the Ayodhya case, was nominated a member of Rajya Sabha in 2012



SOURAV ROY BARMAN, MALLICA JOSHI & RAHUL SABHARWAL
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 5

UNDER ATTACK from the top BJP leadership, which has questioned his patriotism, called him a terrorist and linked him to Pakistan, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said on Wednesday that "the time has come" for people to "choose what patriotism is", and that "21st Century India cannot be a product of hatred among people".

In an interview with *The Indian Express*, the AAP chief said: "Is educating children patriotism (*deshbhakti*) or is it stressing on the Hindu-Muslim debate? Is providing affordable healthcare patriotism or is it Hindu-Muslim? Is improving electricity, water and roads patriotism or is it instigating riots and abusing?"

Kejriwal also said that Home Minister Amit Shah's campaign, which revolved around "saying



THE EXPRESS INTERVIEW

EC acts against police officer for linking gunman to AAP

ARANYA SHANKAR
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 5

THE ELECTION Commission (EC) on Wednesday barred Deputy Commissioner of Police (Crime Branch) Rajesh Deo from poll duty, a day after he gave a statement to the media saying that the Shaheen Bagh shooter had joined the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) last year. The poll panel said Deo's statement was "totally uncalculated" and could "adversely impact elections".

BUSINESS AS USUAL
By UNNY



Azamgarh protests: UP police arrest 19 for sedition

ASAD REHMAN
AZAMGARH, FEBRUARY 5

UP POLICE Wednesday arrested 19 protesters on charges of sedition and fired tear gas shells to disperse a protest against the CAA and the proposed nationwide NRC at a park in Azamgarh.

Those arrested were among 35 persons named in the FIR, police said, including a woman identified as Munni Bano who was released "as she is a heart patient". All those arrested were sent to jail, police said.

The protesters, including a number of women, alleged that

EXPLAINED
E Underlines hard line

THE UP Police's action is in line with their crack-down on the protests in which 20 have been killed. Several have been released on bail after the court indicted police for lack of evidence.

they were pelted with stones by police who also launched a

2 Depts object, Thackeray OKs land for Pawar-run Trust at nominal rate

SANDEEP ASHAR
MUMBAI, FEBRUARY 5

THE UDDHAV Thackeray-led government in Maharashtra Wednesday allotted a 51-hectare government plot, valued at Rs 10 crore, in Marathwada's Jalna to NCP president Sharad Pawar-chaired Vasantdada Sugar Institute on nominal rates as a "special case."

In the process, the Thackeray Cabinet, which sanctioned the proposal, overruled objections raised by the state's Revenue Department and the Finance



Pawar chairs Vasantdada Sugar Institute

Department and ignored an opinion submitted by the state's Advocate General's office.

The land in question, measuring 51.33 hectares, and situated in Patharwala village in Jalna, was originally acquired by the state's Agriculture department for a state seed farm. As per an official communication, the state's offi-

cial valuers estimated the plot's market worth at Rs 9.99 crore.

A public trust formed by co-operative sugar barons in 1975, the Pune-based VSI is counted among India's premier sugar research and educational institutes.

While Pawar is VSI chairman, sitting Maharashtra ministers Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar, Excise Minister Dilip Walse-Patil, Finance Minister Jayant Patil (Nationalist Congress Party), and Revenue Minister Balasaheb Thorat (Congress) are among the Board of Trustees while two other ministers Rajesh Tope

WORLD



VIRUS DEATH TOLL RISES TO 490, CRUISE SHIPS PUT IN QUARANTINE PAGE 14

I-T DEPT ALLEGED EVASION

Haryana Govt clears Lavasa's family in stamp duty case

RITIKA CHOPRA & SUKHBIR SIWACH
NEW DELHI, CHANDIGARH, FEBRUARY 5

THE BJP-RULED Haryana government has given Election Commissioner (EC) Ashok Lavasa

and his family members a clean chit in a case of alleged stamp duty evasion referred to it by the Income Tax (IT) Department.

On December 27, *The Indian Express* had first reported the IT Department's inquiry into the transfer of an apartment in

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SHIVA AUTO: DILSHAD GARDEN: 8929172582

WEST DELHI

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SRI DURGA: MOTI NAGAR: 7290055624

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