



People enjoying pleasant weather in Srinagar on Sunday.

## Khattar bats for curbing power theft at event run on stolen electricity

**ROHTAK, APRIL 30 /-** Haryana chief minister Manohar Lal Khattar urged people to pay their electricity bills on time and use power legally, but ironically the event at which he made the appeal was allegedly being run on stolen electricity.

Some visuals surfaced purportedly showing a wire hanging from an electricity pole near the tent of the chief minister's function at village Mokhra here yesterday, causing embarrassment to the state

government Uttar Haryana Bijli Vitran Nigam (UHBVN) Superintendent Engineer S K Bansal said that it was found that the owner of the tent house had made a temporary arrangement from a nearby electricity pole illegally to supply power for the function.

"A theft case has been registered against the owner of tent house," he said. Khattar had delivered a speech on implications of electricity theft to residents of the village at

the event. The state government officials pinned the blame on the tent house owner while denying that electricity was stolen for the event.

Bansal said that all the electrical equipments used at the event were running on generators. Some residents of the village alleged that they were being punished despite having paid their electricity bills whereas the chief minister's own officials were involved in illegal activities. (PTI)

## 3 key accused in Jawahar Bagh case shifted from Mathura jail

**MATHURA, APRIL 30 /-** Apprehending trouble, three prominent accused in the Jawahar Bagh incident have been shifted, by authorities from Mathura jail, where a shoot-out involving prisoners had left one person dead in January. Police said that about 50 accused in Jawahar Bagh case are lodged in the jail and the three have been shifted as a precautionary measure. Vivek Yadav, the son of cult leader Ram Vriksha who was the kingpin in the violent standoff with authorities in June last year along with his key aide Prem Chand has been shifted to Aligarh Jail. Chandan Bose, the 'chief lieutenant' of Ram Vriksha, has been shifted to Agra Jail, P D Salonia, the Jail Superintendent of Mathura,

said. "In order to foil any groupism, the three were shifted from Mathura Jail yesterday," he said. Mathura Jail had witnessed a gang war in January this year between Rajesh Tonta and Brajesh Mavi.

Earlier, 25 of the accused in the murder case of SP Mukul Dwivedi and SHO Santosh Yadav were transferred to Agra Jail. 20 other accused were shifted to Aligarh Jail. More than 20 people, including the two police officials, were killed last year during a drive to evict squatters at Jawahar Bagh. The Uttar Pradesh government, in January 2014, granted permission to Ram Vriksha's organisation to hold a demonstration at the ground for two days. However, members of the cult went on to occupy the

sprawling public park for more than two years. Following a high court order, the squatters were evicted from the park amid large-scale violence. Meanwhile, Vivek Yadav, who was granted bail on April 20 by Chief Judicial Magistrate Alpana Shukla, has not been released yet as he could not furnish two sureties of Rs five lakh each and a personal bond of Rs five lakh as directed by the court, according to L K Gautam, counsel of accused Ram Vriksha.

"An appeal has been filed before the district judge and the matter will be heard on May 2," Gautam said, adding that since his client is an outsider, it is difficult to furnish the two sureties of Rs five lakh each. (PTI)



A Bengal Tiger yawns in his enclosure at a Zoo in Surat, Gujarat.

## Give poll tickets to those who help people in daughters' marriage: BJP MLA

**BHOPAL, APRIL 30 /-** A BJP MLA here today suggested that the elections to local bodies, the party should give candidature to such leaders, who help at least 100 families in solemnising marriage of their daughters. The legislator, Rameshwar Sharma, who represents Huzur assembly constituency in Bhopal, said his if his suggestion was brought into practice, it would discourage the leaders from adopting "unfair means" during the elections. "Candidates for local bodies elections

should be given to that leader, who would every year extend help to 100 families from his/her area in conducting marriage of their daughters. This would encourage good practices among the leaders," Sharma told PTI.

"We used to hear during the elections that liquor was distributed to attract voters. But such practices (his suggestion) would encourage the leaders to do philanthropic activities instead of using illegal means to win elections," he added. Sharma said that the people

remember for long even if the leaders even attend the marriage in their family. "It was seen that people remember for a long time, if a leader even attends the marriage of their family members. Therefore, it would have a wider impact, if a leader extends help in solemnising marriage of a girl. Such altruistic steps also help spiritually," he added. This way, a leader can extend help in solemnising 500 marriages in five years. "It would increase the popularity of the leader as well," he added. (PTI)

"The government will take an appropriate decision after taking into consideration all the matters related to it," the chief minister said. "The problem is for those who expect orders to be implemented the next day (after verdict is delivered)," he said. Senkumar, who was removed as state police chief after the LDF government came to power in 2016, had obtained a favourable verdict from the apex court recently on his reinstatement.

## Govt will take appropriate decision on SC order on Senkumar's reinstatement: Vijayan

**MALAPPURAM (KER), APRIL 30 /-** Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan today said the government will take an appropriate decision on the Supreme Court order reinstating senior IPS officer Senkumar as DGP after taking into consideration all matters related to the issue. Responding to reporters on the matter here, Vijayan said "In matters of law, the Supreme Court verdict is final. But the government has to consider other things

before implementing it." "The government will take an appropriate decision after taking into consideration all the matters related to it," the chief minister said. "The problem is for those who expect orders to be implemented the next day (after verdict is delivered)," he said. Senkumar, who was removed as state police chief after the LDF government came to power in 2016, had obtained a favourable verdict from the apex court recently on his reinstatement.

# Madras HC asks Pondyvarsity to award grace marks to 9 MBBS students

**CHENNAI, APRIL 30 /-** The Madras High Court has annulled a Pondicherry University rule going away with the award of grace marks to nine MBBS students and asked the university to give the relief to nine final year students who had failed in a sole practical examination. A division bench of justices Hulanadi G Ramesh and S Vimala struck down the new rule, which discontinued the practise of awarding the grace marks from May 2016, terming the same as "arbitrary and discriminatory." The bench gave its ruling on an appeal

by the students against the 15th verdict of a single-judge bench, which had turned down their pleas for the grace marks. The division bench said the decision to "deviate from its earlier practice of granting grace marks up to five in our view without any basis or reasonableness and therefore discriminatory and arbitrary in nature." Accordingly, the bench asked the university's controller of examinations to revise examination results of the students after awarding the grace marks. While rejecting the students' plea for the grace marks, the

single-judge bench had ruled the university's rule, doing away with the practice of awarding grace marks from May 2016. In their appeals to the division bench against the single-judge ruling, the students had submitted that they had joined the MBBS course in 2012 and had appeared for the examinations of four subjects in December 2016. They cleared all subjects, but failed in a practical exam due to shortage of to eight marks. They said when they had joined the course, the university regulations provided for the

grace marks. The MCI regulations too, amended up to October 8, 2016, provided for the award of grace marks up to five to a student who failed only in one subject but passed in all others, they said. The university, however, on June 29, 2016 decided to amend the regulations to the effect that there would be no revaluation and award of the grace marks to theory and practical examinations from May 2016, thus prejudicing the students' plea, the division bench held that the grant of grace marks was part of the course and various factors leading to

the conferment of the degree that were in force at the time of affected students' admission in 2012. It must remain the same till the student completed the course in accordance with those very rules, the bench said. "The law does not permit alteration of the same when the candidate is half-way through," the bench said. The university has to exercise vested discretion keeping in view the interest of the student who performed well in all his subjects, but unfortunately in one subject alone was unable to get the pass marks, it said. (PTI)

## Factional feud in Karnata unit: BJP eases out 4 office-bearers

**BENGALURU, APRIL 30 /-** Cracking down on the feuding factions of the party's Karnataka unit, the BJP central leadership has relieved two office bearers each from the state President B S Yeddyurappa and senior leader K S Eshwarappa camps, of their posts. Also, four party members from participating in the activities of Rayanna Brigade, an apolitical forum of Dalits and backward classes floated by Eshwarappa in an apparent show of strength, and also asked them not to talk about party's internal affairs in public and in media. The crackdown comes following a series of meetings held by BJP national general secretary and Karnataka in-charge Muralidhar Rao with party officials yesterday and today. The party's factional feud had intensified on April 27 with Eshwarappa holding a convention to "save" the organisation in defiance of the warnings by Yeddyurappa's camp against it. In a late night move, state BJP general secretary N Ramakrishna announced that the state unit vice presidents, Bhanuprakash and Nirmal Kumar Surana, Raitha

Moncha vice president M P Renukacharya and spokesperson G Madhusudan have been relieved of their responsibilities to the party with immediate effect. While Bhanuprakash and Surana had shared the stage with Eshwarappa at the convention, Renukacharya and G Madhusudan considered close to Yeddyurappa had made public statements targeting national joint general secretary (organisation) B L Santhosh. Yeddyurappa has earlier too blamed Santhosh, perceived to hold significant sway over the party affairs in the state, for scripting dissidence activities. After meetings with Muralidhar Rao, another BJP state general secretary, Aravinda Limbavali today said the party's central leadership was closely observing the recent happenings in Karnataka unit. Clarifying that there was no link or relationship between the BJP and the Rayanna Brigade, he said in a statement that the BJP office bearers, leaders and workers are strictly barred from participating in the Rayanna Brigade's activities. The party's

central leadership has instructed the functionaries not to organise any activity connected with any brigade or other kind of organisations, he added. Also stating that airing views on party's internal affairs in public and in media has been prohibited, Limbavali said that strict disciplinary action will be taken in the event of anyone violating these instructions. Meanwhile, the party sources said Eshwarappa, who was scheduled to meet Muralidhar Rao today, has decided to skip the meeting. Speaking to the reporters in Tumkur, Eshwarappa, the leader of the opposition in the legislative council, ruled out the possibility of the party taking any action against him.

The senior leader said he was deeply pained by the action against Eshwarappa, noting that they have served the organisation for years. "What is there to seek report about me from Muralidhar Rao? There is nothing, some one is creating such things. Every one at the centre knows about my contribution to the BJP organisation since the

## UP BJP meet to discuss GST, BHIM app

**Lucknow, April 30 /-** The much-hyped Goods and Services Tax and BHIM app are likely to be elaborately discussed at the two-day meeting of the working committee of the BJP's UP unit beginning here tomorrow. Party leaders said that the upcoming civic bodies' election along with the 2019 Lok Sabha election will also come up for discussion. "Special sessions will be held on Goods and Services Tax (GST) and BHIM (Bharat Interface for Money) app at the two-day meeting of the state working committee here. In addition to this the party will also discuss on different aspects of the Uttar Pradesh urban local bodies' elections and cordially frame its strategy.

The 2019 Lok Sabha elections will also come up for discussion as well," a senior UP BJP leader and member of the state working committee said. He further added that revamping of the party organisation in the state and selection of the new UP BJP chief are other issues, which may be discussed upon. "The two-day state working committee meeting will be held on May 1 and May 2 at the Scientific Convocation Centre. Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath will inaugurate the meeting at 4.00 pm tomorrow. UP BJP spokesperson Rakesh Tripathi said. In the meeting, BJP national president Amit Shah, CM of Bihar, Bihar BJP president Keshav Prasad Maurya and national office bearers belonging to Uttar Pradesh, state office bearers, permanent invitee members of the state among other office bearers will participate. A total of 500 delegates are likely to participate in this meeting. Apart from this, the meeting is likely to deliberate upon the achievements of the state government in the past 30 days and also the achievements of the Centre. (PTI)

## EAC grants environmental clearance for Bhogapuram intl airport

**HYDERABAD, APRIL 30 /-** An Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has given environmental clearance for the construction of Bhogapuram International Airport in Andhra Pradesh. The proposed greenfield airport site lies on the border of Visakhapatnam and Vizianagaram districts and is about 45 km from Visakhapatnam city. As per minutes of the EAC meeting held earlier this month, the airport, is proposed to be developed as a PPP project under a Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer (DBFOT) concession framework. It will have a total investment outlay of Rs 2260.73 crore. The committee noted that the issues raised in the public hearing have been satisfactorily responded by the project authority and suggested to incorporate it in the final EIA-EMP report," the EAC said.

"After detailed deliberations, the committee recommended the project for environmental clearance (EC)," it said. The AP government has created a special purpose vehicle Bhogapuram International Airport Corporation Ltd for the project. The committee proposal is for phase-I of the airport where their strip will be developed to cater to the operation of Airbus-A380

type of aircraft, the EAC said. It will also involve construction of a new runway with all allied facilities like terminal building, apron, apron shoulder, taxi track, runway shoulder, boundary wall, perimeter roads and parking facilities. "The airport will decrease the air traffic load at the existing Visakhapatnam Airport as its capacity will be exhausted in next few years if it further said. Outlining the benefits of the facility, the EAC said there will be improvement in all-weather connectivity of the region with rest of the state and country from strategic and commercial point of view. (PTI)

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## Expedite probe into Gagneja murder: Punjab RSS chief

**JALANDHAR, APR 30 /-** Punjab RSS chief Brij Bhushan Singh Bedi today demanded the state government ask the CBI to expedite its probe into the killing of the body's senior leader Jagdish Gagneja. The RSS leader was shot by two motorcycle-borne assailants on August 6 last year. He later succumbed to the injuries at a hospital here. "It has been eight months since the probe was handed over to the CBI. However, the agency is yet

to find out anything substantial," he said. The probe must be sped-up and the assailants must be identified and arrested, Bedi said.

"The CBI, usually, does not take much time in gathering evidence and making arrests. However, the case is not so in Punjab," he said. The state RSS chief claimed, "I think the CBI is not getting anything because there was a delay in handing over the probe to them." (PTI)

## Overcharging rail passengers won't be tolerated: Luthra

**PHAGWARA (PB), APRIL 30 /-** A zero-tolerance policy will be adopted towards overcharging passengers at railway stations and in trains, Northern Railways Chief Divisional Commercial Manager (Pererozpur division) Monu Luthra said today. He said that any complaints regarding overcharging in catering of various items, including food, will be taken seriously and meted with strict punishment. He said that special care will be given to quality, hygiene and cleanliness in catering of provisions, especially food, to passengers at all 260

railway stations of Pererozpur division. Luthra disclosed that paid toilet facility will also be started at railway stations in the division. "The stations having maximum flow of passengers and categorised as A and 'A' stations will have special toilets for the physically-challenged persons," he said. "These will include provisions of wheelchairs, ramps, low-height drinking water and toilets, specially designed toilets," he said. Maintaining that plans are afoot to boost railway income through non-fare-related (NFR), Luthra said that Divisional Railway

Manager Vivek Kumar had set up two committees for the purpose. A three-member committee is being headed by Luthra and has received two offers of innovative advertisement displays by two parties. Under the non-fare revenue scheme, the Railways will allow use of the space at a price for advertisements at railway stations, rail bridges and gates, he said. Luthra also informed that all unannounced rail crossings in Pererozpur division will either be eliminated/merged or provided limited-height substays by 2020 in order to prevent accidents. (PTI)

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**EASTERN RAILWAY**  
Open Tender Notice No. : MC-116.  
Lorry Hiring-HW-17. Date : 25.04.2017. E-tenders are invited by Senior Divisional Mechanical Engineer (Carriage & Wagon), Eastern Railway, Howrah for the following:- Name of work : Hiring of Diesel operated Lorries for transportation of materials under the control of Carriage and Wagon Department, Eastern Railway, Howrah. Tender Value : ₹ 38,95,236.69. Period of contract: 36 months from the date of commencement of work. Earnest Money : ₹ 79,910. Website will be held on the website of tender online: www.reps.gov.in. Period for submission of tender online: From 19.05.2017 upto 14.00 hrs. on 02.06.17. Address: (HW-150017-16), Eastern Railway, Howrah. Details of Eastern Railway's website : www.indianrailways.gov.in