"Fake" voter I-card row hits Karnataka ahead of election

BENGALURU, MAY 9 /--/ A massive controversy has rocked Karnataka after nearly 10,000 "fake" voter ID cards were seized from a flat in Rajrajeshwari Assembly seat, prompting the BJP to demand countermanding of the election claiming Congress was behind the racket, a charge dismissed by the latter as a "lie".

With just three days left before Karnataka goes to poll, the BJP and Congress, the two main contenders for power, went after each other's jugular, each claiming the flat belonged to a woman associated with the rival party. Addressing a press conference, Union minister Prakash Javadekar claimed Congress candidate and sitting MLA Munirathna Naidu was behind the alleged racket, which was exposed by BJP worker Rakesh. Congress spokesman Rajdeep Singh Surjawala hit right back, alleging that the flat owner Manjula Nanjamari and Rakesh had BJP connections and both contested Bengaluru Municipal Corporation elections on the tickets of the saffron party.

Karnataka's chief electoral officer Sanjiv Kumar had called a press conference on Tuesday night where he said besides the cards, form 6A (application for inclusion of name in electoral roll by an overseas elector) with counterfoils were found. He said that the colour in the counterfoil appeared unusual, and that an inquiry was on. Javadekar said thousands of fake cards with hologram, lamination machines, and computers were seized by police after BJP workers informed it about the racket, and demanded a thorough forensic inquiry. "This is the philosophy of the Congress....if voters do not vote for you, create fake voters," he said, claiming a "fake voter ID printing factory" was being run in Manjula's flat. Manjula, he said, was once associated with the BJP but was now with the Congress, and demanded her immediate arrest.

He alleged she had campaigned for the sitting Congress MLA from the seat and its candidate for the current Assembly election Munirathna Naidu in the last polls. The Congress hit back with a vengeance, claiming BJP was making such allegations because it was aware of its imminent defeat. "They are making such allegations because of their imminent defeat, and after their workers and leaders were caught red-handed influencing voters in collating and collecting fake ID cards in order to influence the results of the elections," Surjewala told newspersons. (PTI)

Normalcy returns to Kashmir as separatists call off strike

SRINAGAR, MAY 9 /--/ Normalcy returned to most parts of Kashmir Valley today as the separatists called off their three-day strike against the death of six civilians during clashes with security forces, in which eight militants were also killed.

A police official said there were no restrictions in most parts of the summer capital today, with shops and other business establishments getting back to business.

He said public transport also resumed services. Similar reports were received from district headquarters of the Valley, except in Pulwama and Shopian districts of south Kashmir, the official said. He said markets in main towns of Pulwama and Shopian remained shut, while the public transport was also suspended. The official, however, said the situation remained peaceful in these areas.

The Joint Resistance Leadership (JRL), an amalgam of separatist groups spearheaded by Syed Ali Shah Geelani, Mirwaiz Umar Farooq and Mohammad Yasin Malik, had on Tuesday called off their three-day strike, and asked the people to resume normal activities. JRL has asked the people to resume normal activities, but at the same time people from all walks of life should hoist black flags and display black arm bands to show their commitment to the movement," a spokesman of the separatist amalgam said in a statement on Tuesday. Five Hizbul Mujahideen militants, including an assistant professor of the Kashmir University, were killed in an encounter in the valley on Sunday.

Five civilians, who were protesting near the encounter site, also died during clashes with security forces. Another civilian youth, who was injured in the clashes, succumbed to injuries on Tuesday. The police official said most of the colleges and higher secondary schools in various districts of the Valley continued to remain shut for the third consecutive day today as a precautionary measure.

He said the universities in Kashmir, however, resumed classes this morning, while most of the schools across the Valley also reopened.

"But the restrictions continue in Pulwama and Shopian districts where the educational institutes remain shut," the police official said. Mobile Internet services are also curtailed in south Kashmir and Ganderbal district, he added. (PTI)

An aerial view of Lal Chowk in Srinagar on Wednesday as normalacy resumed after three day general stike in the Kashmir valley.

Chhagan Bhujbal's son meets Shiv Sena chief

MUMBAI, MAY 9 /--/ Senior NCP leader Chhagan Bhujbal's son Pankaj Bhujbal today met Shiv Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray at his residence here.

The meeting comes five days after Chhagan Bhujbal, the former deputy chief minister of Maharashtra, was granted bail by the Bombay High Court in a money laundering case. Pankaj Bhujbal today met Thackeray at the latter's residence 'Matoshree' in suburban Bandra. "It was just a 15-minute courtesy call by Pankaj Bhujbal. There was no political discussion during the meeting," a Shiv Sena legislator told news agency PTI. The leader recalled that Chhagan Bhujbal, despite quitting the Sena in 1991, had made a courtesy call on late party supremo Bal Thackeray in 2007.

Asked if there was a possibility of Chhagan Bhujbal shifting his political ideology after having been granted bail, the leader said it was highly unlikely. "(NCP chief) Sharad Pawar did a lot for Chhagan Bhujbal even after he was jailed. There is a slim chance of him betraying Pawar now," he said. Bhujbal, 70, in jail since March 2016, was granted bail on May 4 by the Bombay High Court after it took into consideration his old age and deteriorating health. Notably, the Sena had on Tuesday said Bhujbal's arrest in a money laundering case and subsequent incarceration was "fate's revenge" against him for his bid, when he was the state Home minister, to put Sena founder Bal Thackeray behind bars. (PTI)

Maratha quota: Panel to submit report to Maharashtra govt soon

THANE, MAY 9 /--/ The Maharashtra State Backward Class Commission would soon submit its report to the government on the Maratha reservation issue, an official said.

The politically influential Maratha community, largely engaged in agriculture, has been demanding reservation in educational institutions and government jobs under the OBC (Other Backward Classes) category. Several Maratha organisations had earlier held massive 'silent marches' across the state to press for their demands. The survey undertaken by the commission to ascertain the economic backwardness in the Maratha community is in its final stages, the panel's chairman, Justice (retd) M G Gaikwad, told newspersons here on Tuesday evening.

The report based on the survey would soon be submitted to the government, he said. The report will be based on findings of the sample survey conducted at five villages in every district and the figures on the community available with the government, Gaikwad informed. The commission held a day-long public hearing in Thane on Tuesday on the quota issue. The panel's team received about 1,850 representations from the district in this connection, the panel chairman said. The survey has been completed in the Marathwada region, and in Nagpur, Amravati, Ahmednagar and Solapur districts, he said, adding that the exercise is on in other parts of the state.

Woman alleges rape by BJP MLA's son, lawmaker dismisses charge

SHAHJAHANPUR, MAY 9 /--/ After a woman alleged rape by the son of a BJP MLA and demanded justice, the UP lawmaker today clarified that it was an "old matter" that was probed and found to be fake by the police even as he accused the Opposition Samajwadi Party (SP) of playing politics to malign his image.

"It's an attempt by the Samajwadi Party to malign my image. On November 23, 2016, the CB-CID had filed the final report in the matter and termed the matter as fake. The woman had herself given a statement before a magistrate that neither was she abducted nor was she raped and my son's name was included under pressure from SP leaders," BJP MLA Roshanlal Verma told newspersons here. The woman had also given an affidavit to the police in the matter, disclosing names of the SP leaders who were behind the conspiracy, claimed Verma.

The woman, who had staged a dharna at the collectorate office here on Monday, alleged that she was raped by the MLA's son and threatened to "commit suicide" if she did not get justice. She alleged that the MLA's son Manoj Verma had not only raped her but also held her captive. The incident, she said, was of 2011.

Goa govt to appoint agency to collect disaster-related data

PANAJI, MAY 9 /--/ The Goa government plans to appoint an agency for collection of disaster-related data to avoid any untoward incident in the upcoming monsoon season.

The government will float a request for proposal (RFP) by the end of this month to appoint a private player for the task of data collection. State revenue minister Rohan Khaunte gave this information here today. The southwest monsoon generally arrives in Goa in the first week of June. "The state government would be floating RFP for collection of data on disaster management by the end of May to invite bids from private players," Khaunte said. "They will have to collect all the data related to disaster management and submit it to the state.

The tender would be awarded in the month of June," he added. The minister said the state government is also working on setting up control rooms at taluka, district and state levels. All the helplines of various departments would be integrated so that the people have single point of access in case of disaster during rains, he said. "In the last one year, the government has taken several initiatives to ensure that disaster management plan is in the right place," the minister said. According to him, different government agencies have been asked to give their inputs to avoid any disaster during the monsoon. "The National Highways Authority (NHA) has been told to look at the areas prone to flooding. Vulnerable areas would be given special attention," he said. "Desilting of the drains will begin across the state. Pruning of trees near highway and others will be taken up. The reports would be taken from panchayat on these issues," he said. "From May 15 onwards, the road digging work will be stopped except in exceptional cases. Precautionary measures will be taken up by health department for vector-borne diseases," he said.

Tender & Notice

Tanker collides with car in Gujarat, 7 from MP die

VADODARA, MAY 9 /--/ Seven members of two families, including three children, were killed when a tanker collided with their car head-on in Gujarat's Chhotaudepur district in the early hours today, the police said. The incident occurred at Rangpur village in Chhotaudepur when the members of the two families, all from Dhar district in Madhya Pradesh, were going to a hospital in Vadodara for the treatment of a child, a police official said. Around 6 am, a tanker coming from the opposite direction hit their vehicle on a road outside the village, located about 140 km from here, sub-inspector G N Parmar said. The tanker driver fled after the accident.

Cop's son found dead in suburban Goregaon

MUMBAI, MAY 9 /--/ A 20-year-old son of a police officer was found dead in suburban Goregaon this morning, police said. The deceased, Atharva Shinde, was son of inspector Narendra Shinde of the Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of MUMBAI POLICE, an official said. The Shinde family resides in Thakur Complex in Kandivali, but Atharva's body was found lying in bushes near the film city in Aarey Colony area around 10.30 am, the official added. Some injury marks were found on his neck and eyes, he said. DCP (Zone XII), Vinay Kumar Rathod, said: "The body has been sent for post-mortem and the cause of the death will be known only after the autopsy report."

Chardham Yatra resumes as weather clears up

DEHRADUN, MAY 9 /--/ A day after snowfall in the higher reaches of Uttarakhand disrupted the Chardham Yatra and claimed the life of a porter, the pilgrimage resumed today as the weather cleared up and traffic restored along the main routes. The Chardham Yatra comprises the Himalayan shrines of Kedarnath, Badrinath, Gangotri and Yamunotri. The inclement weather on Tuesday has claimed at least one life with a porter from Nepal buried in an avalanche while returning to Gangotri from Kedartal along with a team of 31 tourists, Gangotri National Park Deputy Director Shravan Kumar said.

Six pilgrims from Kerala killed in TN road mishap

PALANI, MAY 9 /--/ Six people from Kerala on their way to the famous Lord Muruga temple here were killed and two others seriously injured in a car-lorry collision today, police said. The six, including two women, died on the spot when the car in which they were travelling and a lorry collided head-on near here early this morning, they said. The injured had been hospitalised. The occupants of the car from Kottayam district in Kerala were on a pilgrimage trip to the hill shrine of Lord Muruga here in Dindigul district, over 110 kms from Madurai, police said.

Goa Church says its monuments can't be in heritage scheme sans its NoC

PANAJI, MAY 9 /--/ The Goa Church said here today that the inclusion of its monuments in the 'Adopt a Heritage' scheme will not be allowed unless it gives its No Objection Certificate (NoC).

Six monuments from the state, including two churches Basilica of Bom Jesus and Se Cathedral both located in Old Goa near here are listed in the scheme. Goa archives and archaeology minister Vijai Sardesai recently held a meeting with the representatives of the church and government officials to clear apprehensions surrounding the Centre's scheme. During the talks, representatives of the Archdiocese said the church, being the owner of the Catholic religious sites in Old Goa, cannot be ignored or excluded from any MOUs that may be inked between the Centre and the private entities under the scheme.

In a joint statement issued today, Goa church spokespersons Fr J Loiola Pereira and Fr Valerino Vaz said that during the meeting chaired by Sardesai it was agreed that the Archdiocese, as the owner of the monuments, would give an NoC listing all the conditions, restrictions and safeguards which it might deem fit in each case. "Therefore, no intervention at the selected church sites would be allowed without the consent of the Diocesan Authority, which would draw up this NoC after due consultation at various levels," the statement said. "It was also agreed that the Archdiocese would also figure in the proposed 'Monument Committee' that would among other things, monitor the execution of the said NoC," it added.

The state chief secretary explained that the scheme envisages to enhance the cultural importance of the heritage sites and to provide world-class tourist facilities at various sites across the country, the statement said. "This would include basic (and wherever needed, advanced) amenities, illumination, surveillance, etc. with safety and security to visitors within permissible guidelines of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)," it said.

Corporates and individuals, to be called 'Monument Mitras' (friends of monuments) would be invited to provide peripheral facilities to the visitors, without touching the core of the monument or carrying out any conservation or restoration works, which would remain vested with the ASI or the state archaeology department as the case may be, the statement reads.

Goa Police nabs woman and her 3 friends for killing husband, chopping body into pieces

PANAJI, MAY 9 /--/ Four people, including a woman, were arrested by the Goa police for allegedly killing her husband and then disposing of the body in a forest area after cutting it into pieces, an official said today.

The woman, identified as Kalpana Bassu (31), killed her husband Basauraj Bassu (38), a casual labourer, about a month back and then disposed of the body after cutting it into three pieces with the help of three of his friends, police inspector Ravindra Desai said. The incident came to light after the wife of one of the accused men (name not specified by the police) suspected something amiss in her husband's behaviour and informed the police about it. Based on suspicion, the police questioned the man who then spilled the beans about the crime. Subsequently, the deceased's wife and the three men - Suresh Kumar, Abdul Karim Shaikh and Pankaj Pawar - were arrested yesterday after all of them confessed to their involvement in the crime, Desai said.

The accused woman, a housewife, and her husband lived in a house at Curchorem village in South Goa district, about 80 kms from here, along with their two minor children. About a month back, the woman had a petty quarrel with her husband, Desai said. The woman told the police that after the fight, she strangulated her husband to death at their residence, the inspector said, adding that she did not disclose the exact date of the crime. The woman then informed about the incident to her husband's three friends, following which the three men volunteered to help her in disposing of the body, he said. The four accused cut the body into three pieces and packed it in gunny bags, the official said. They then took the bags in a car and threw the body parts at an isolated spot in a forest near the Goa-Karnataka border, he said. Acting on the information provided by the accused, a police team on Tuesday went to the spot in the forest where they dumped the body, and recovered some partial remains which would be sent for forensic examination, Desai explained. (PTI)

Goa Guv disposes of disqualification plea against former MLA

PANAJI, MAY 9 /--/ Goa Governor Mridula Sinha has disposed of a disqualification petition against Caetano Silva, former MLA of Goa Vikas Party, who was accused of acquiring Portuguese citizenship. The plea, which was filed in November 2013 by a local John Fernandes, was disposed of by the Governor earlier this week on the ground that Silva is no more part of the new state Legislative Assembly. Silva, who represented Benaulim constituency between 2012 and 2017, had lost last year's Goa Assembly elections. The disqualification petition was filed by Fernandes based on the order passed by the Ministry of Home Affairs dated November 20, 2013 declaring Silva a Portuguese national. In his complaint, Fernandes had alleged that since Silva is a Portuguese citizen, he cannot contest elections in India and hence should be disqualified. The Governor had earlier sought the opinion of the Election Commission of India (ECi) on the issue. In her order, Sinha said, "Acting on the opinion tendered by the ECI, as required under Article 192(2), I hereby order that after the dissolution of the previous Goa Legislative Assembly in 2017 and after the constitution of the new House in Goa, the reference has become infructuous as Caetano R Silva is no more a member of the Legislative Assembly of Goa."

LOADING & UNLOADING OF LINE BOXES

e-Tender **(e-Tender Notice No. ELS-G-15-2-Box Boy-AAP-R dated 03.05.2018)** is invited by Sr. DEE/OP/Adra, for and on behalf of The President of India for the following works as mentioned below in Elect(OP)/Adra division as per undermentioned details: **Description of works:** 'Loading, Unloading & Stacking of Line boxes of Loco pilots & guards' at ADRA, ANR & PRR'. **Tender Value** (excl. GST): ₹ 90,64,826.10. **EMD:** ₹ 1,81,300/-. **Tender Document cost:** ₹ 5,900/-. The closing date and time of above e-Tender is on **14.06.2018 at 15.00 hrs. and opening on 14.06.2018 after 15.00 hrs.** Details of above e-Tenders may please be seen at website **www.ireps.gov.in.** **(PR-167)**

ELECTRICAL WORKS

e-Tender **(e-Tender Notice No. e-24-DYCEE(G)PW-AMFD-17-18 Dated: 08.05.2018)** is invited by the Dy. CEE(WS)/KGPW, S.E. Railway for and on behalf of The President of India for the following work before 15.00 hrs. on the date mentioned below and will be opened at 15.30 hrs. **Name of the Work:** Electrical work for Augmentation of maintenance facility in Diesel POH Shop No. 21 Kharagpur Workshop. **Approx. Cost of Work:** ₹ 5,06,464.72 inclusive of GST @ 18%. **Earnest Money:** ₹ 10,130/-. **Cost of Tender Document:** ₹ 2,000/-. **Date & Time of Closing e-Tender:** 12.06.2018, 15.00 Hrs. **Website Particulars: www.ireps.gov.in.** Tenderers may visit website **www.ireps.gov.in** for full details, description, specification of the Tenders and submit their bids online. **Offer Submission Period:** From fifteen days prior to closing date of tender to date and time of closing of tender, during which tenderers can submit their offer. **(PR-172)**

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CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS

E-TENDER NOTICE

Tender Notice No.: COS/CLW/KOL/ E-Procurement/16-17/46, Dated: 08-05-2018. The Principal Chief Material Manager on behalf of the President of India invites electronic bids from established reliable manufacturer for supply of the followings. The following E-Tender/s is/are for supply of materials for manufacture of Electric Locomotive. The Prospective/likely suppliers are requested to look up the website **www.ireps.gov.in**. These are E-Tenders; manual offers bid for these tenders will not be accepted under any circumstances; only electronic offer bids shall be accepted. For detailed instructions please refer to website. **Sl.No.; Tender No.; Description of Stores; Qty.; Due On; Cost of Tender (₹): [845];** 3718392**8;** Wiper Assembly Complete with Motor with water Spraying Arrangement for WAG-9/ WAP-7/WAP-5 Locos; **As per tender document; 12-06-2018**; 2863.00. **[846];** 2**7183896;** Fire Extinguishing System for 22.5 kg. CO2 with Accessories for WAG-9 / WAP-7, Fire Extinguishing System for 22.5 kg. CO2 with Accessories for WAP-5 Loco to Drg./Specn. No. CLW/MS/3/108, Alt.6 (consisting 15 & 11 respectively items as per annexure-A & B uploaded]; **As per tender document; 12-06-2018;** 2863.00. **[847];** 34182588; Tractive/ Breaking Effort Meter Bogie to Specn No. CLW/ES/3/0071; **As per tender document; 31-05-2018;** 1500.00. **[848];** 34182543; Circuit Breakers without Auxiliary Contacts(Type-1) to Specn. No. CLW/ES/3/0037/E; **As per tender; 06-06-2018;** 2500.00. **[849];** 34182937; Key Switch Simulation in SB-1 to Specn. No. CLW/ES/3/0079/A; **As per tender; 13-06-2018;** 1500.00. **[850];** 34182595; Head Light Lamp to Specn. No. CLW/ES/3/0655 , ABB Identification No. 15601709; **As per tender; 08-06-2018;**1500.00. **[851];** 34182594; CAB Heater/ Ventilation Assembly to Specn. No. CLW/ES/3/0109/F; **As per tender; 04-06-2018;** 2500.00. **[852];** 34182585; Catenary Voltmeter, Voltmeter Battery to Specn. No. CLW/ES/3/0073; **As per tender; 11-06-2018;** 1500.00. **[853];** 34182652; Set of Non-Metallic Pipe (Smoke Detector Pipe) for WAG-9, Set of Non-Metallic Pipe (Smoke Detector Pipe) for WAP-5 to Specn. No. CLW/ES/3/0413/B. (Set details uploaded in Documents); **As per tender; 04-06-2018;** 1500.00. **[854];** 34182950; Rotary Switch for CAB Heater / Fan to Specn. No. CLW/ES/3/0108; **As per tender; 12-06-2018;** 1500.00.

Principal Chief Material Manager
PPS-053 **CLW/Kolkata**