

Gandhi Jayanti with a difference near Bhutan border



SANJAY AGARWAL

RANGO, OCT 4/-/ Near the international border with Bhutan, 75 kms from the capital town of Gangtok, a small village Loosing, under the Gnathang Machong Constituency celebrated the Gandhi Jayanti on Tuesday with an Open Volleyball Tournament which was organized by Maruni Eco Tourism.

The winning team Hangkuching took home a prize money of Rs 60,000 while the runners-up were awarded with Rs 30,000. Amidst different cultural presentations, Secretary, Sikkim Democratic Front Transport Forum G.M. Gurung was present as the chief guest. Beginning the event with the lighting of lamp, a village cleaning drive was observed prior to the volleyball match to observe Gandhi Jayanti. Gurung in his

address said for the State to maintain peaceful and calm environment, the efforts should start from the village level.

Following the Gandhian principles, a mission for keeping the surroundings clean and green should be followed. Encouraging the committee to organize more such events to empower villagers, Gurung donated them a printer.

BSP minister in Karnataka hits out at Cong, JDS over caste, inequality

BENGALURU, OCT 4 /-/- Lone Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) minister in Karnataka N Mahesh today hit out at ruling coalition partners Congress and JDS alleging that their existence is based on caste system and inequality.

Mahesh, who holds primary and secondary education portfolio, held Congress, BJP and JDS responsible for economic and social inequality in the country and projected BSP as the champion for the cause of the oppressed. "I'm saying this openly, whether it's Congress or BJP or Janata Dal, their workers will not understand the ideology that I'm speaking about. They don't need it because until there is this caste system and inequality,

Congress, BJP and Janata Dal will continue to exist," Mahesh said. Addressing a BSP event at Chamara Nagar, he said: "The day the caste system and inequality is eradicated, that day Bahujan Samaj Party, the party of Basavanna (12th century social reformer) will come to power."

BSP had contested the May assembly polls in alliance with the JDS. When the Congress-JDS coalition government was formed after the assembly polls, Mahesh, the lone BSP MLA who got elected from Kollegal constituency in Chamara Nagar district, was inducted into the

ministry. BSP had a pre-poll alliance with JDS. If Congress party had the "true intentions" to eradicate social and economic inequality, by now everyone would have lived with equality, Mahesh said, as he pointed out that Congress ruled the country for the longest period of time.

"As they did not do it, today Bahujan Samaj Party has come into existence," he said.

He accused BJP too of not doing enough to get rid of social and economic inequality. "Many smaller parties like Samajwadi party, Janata Dal and other regional parties also could not ensure social and economic equality," he added.



V Koteswaranna, EO, Durga Malleswara Swamy Varla Devasthanam, Vijayawada, inviting Andhra Pradesh and Telangana Governor E.S. Narasimhan for Dasasra festival as he called on the governor at Raj Bhavan in Hyderabad on Thursday.

J-K local body polls: 2 BJP 1 Cong candidate announce withdrawal of nomination
SRINAGAR, OCT 4 /-/- At least two BJP candidates and one from the Congress have publicly announced their withdrawal from the urban local body polls in Kashmir. "The BJP government has been there for the last 4.5 years but none of the promises made by it have been fulfilled. The people were sold dreams of free (domestic cooking) gas connections and Madra loans but nothing happened," Bhat said. He said his supporters have also resigned from the party and several other BJP candidates for the Doornu Municipal Committee have withdrawn from the polls.

EDMC sanitation workers stage protest near Kejriwal's residence

NEW DELHI, OCT 4 /-/- East Delhi Municipal Corporation (EDMC) sanitation workers, who are on strike for the last three weeks, today staged a protest near the residence of Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal to press for their demands, civic body officials said.

The employees are on strike since September 12 demanding regular payment of salaries and regularisation of workers. "Sanitation workers are protesting outside my residence. BJP has misled them. I am going to talk to them and present facts before them. I am really worried about the sanitation arrangements in the city and the workers. They have to protest every two months to get their salaries," Kejriwal tweeted. A senior official said a meeting was underway between the east Delhi Mayor and a sanitation union leader to resolve the issue.

The Delhi government on Wednesday told the Supreme Court that it would release Rs 500 crore within two days to civic bodies, which will help resolve the crisis that has arisen due to the ongoing strike by sanitation workers of (EDMC).

"Sanitation workers are protesting outside CM's residence. There has been no instance of violence between protesters and police," another official said. The EDMC has around 16,000 workers, half of whom are permanent employees. The BJP-led EDMC on September 26 had decided to begin the process for permanent employment of contractual sanitation workers who were recruited after March 31, 1998.

UP Police not trigger-happy, lack of training behind killing of Apple executive: DGP

LUCKNOW, OCT 4 /-/- Uttar Pradesh Police is not trigger-happy but people-friendly, state Director General of Police (DGP) P Singh said today, holding lack of professional training responsible for incidents such as that of the shooting of Apple executive Vivek Tiwari last week. Singh also said it has been decided that refresher course would be held for constables recruited between 2013 and 2017. To a question on the killing of Tiwari (38) in Lucknow, he said, "The two constables (involved in the incident) are not brand

ambassadors of the state police." "We are not trigger-happy but people-friendly. Why did they shoot a person without a firearm? They have been arrested and dismissed (from service). A few such in the force should not be defining the culture of the force," Singh told PTI. Tiwari was shot dead early on September 29 by a policeman when he allegedly refused to stop his car for checking in Lucknow's posh Gomti Nagar neighbourhood. Two constables, Prashant Chowdhury and Sandeep Kumar, were arrested after an FIR was

lodged on basis of a complaint by Tiwari's colleague Sana Khan, who was travelling with him. Holding lack of professional training responsible for such incidents, Singh said, "For the past couple of years, training was not imparted properly. It was failure of leadership of the force. The training was not professional and there was no emphasis on behavioural training." Elaborating further, the DGP said the training for constables in 2013 were held in three phases. First was for six months in which 20,166 recruits were

trained, the second was between July 1, 2016, to Dec 31, 2016, in which 15,814 were trained and in the third phase from August 20, 2016, to February 2017, in which 3,798 recruits were trained, he said. "We are going to hold refresher course for these constables. It will start from October 9 in Lucknow and will be done across the state, during which besides retired and serving officers, people from other walks of life will interact with constables. Besides other aspects, our emphasis will be on behavioural training," Singh said.

Mining dependents to sit on hunger strike in Goa today

PANAJI, OCT 4 /-/- Mining-dependent people in Goa would sit on a day-long hunger strike here on Friday over their demand for resumption of the industry in the state. Goa Mining People's Forum (GMPPF), an umbrella organisation of people dependent on the mining industry, has been protesting against the closure of the iron ore extraction activity since March 16 this year. The Supreme Court had in February quashed the second renewal of 88 mining leases following which the state's key revenue generating industry came to a halt. GMPPF president Puri Gaonkar said that they were holding a 'chain hunger strike' at five places across the coastal state since last 94 days.

"We have now decided to sit on a mass token one-day hunger strike at Panaji on October 5 to highlight the plight of people dependent on this industry for their livelihood. We expect around 3,000 mining-dependents to participate in the protest," Gaonkar said.

He said people want the central government to come up with an immediate solution to the crisis by amending the existing law concerning the mining leases could be renewed. Gaonkar invited MPs from Goa Shripad Naik and Narendra Sawarkar (both Lok Sabha) and Vinay Tendulkar (Rajya Sabha) to support people in their protest.

The state Assembly had on July 24 passed a resolution urging the Centre to amend the Goa, Daman and Diu Mining Concessions (Abolition and Declaration as Mining Leases) Act.

NSS to file review plea against SC's Sabarimala verdict

KOTTAYAM, OCT 4 /-/- The Nair Service Society, a body of Kerala's influential Nair Community today said it would file a revision petition in the Supreme Court against its order permitting women of all groups to enter the Lord Ayappa temple at Sabarimala.

Since the NSS had been a party to the case from the very beginning itself, it has decided to file a revision petition in the Supreme Court in the matter, NSS general secretary G Sukumaran Nair said in a statement here. Nair termed as "disappointing" the stand taken by the Kerala Government and the Travancore Devaswom Board (TDB) that they would not file a review petition in the apex court against its verdict. Slamming the TDB over the issue, the NSS said the board, which is an independent body managing Lord Ayappa temple and 1200 other temples, has the responsibility to protect customs and traditions of these shrines.

These temples are managed by the trustees the offerings being made by the devotees and not using money contributed by the government, it said.

Parental counselling programme by Rangpo School



SANJAY AGARWAL

RANGO, OCT 4 /-/- Government Junior High School Rangpo Bazar organized a SAATHI parental counselling programme on Thursday. Deputy Director, HRDD Rangpo Subdivision B.K. Gazmer was the chief guest. The programme was the initiative of SAATHI team of the school. Headmaster of the school Suren Tamang extended thanks to all the guests.

consumption of drugs. There was also a cultural programme, a talk on Juvenile Justice Act by Rangpo police and a talk about ill effects of tobacco and drugs by the Rangpo primary health centre. SAATHI coordinator Prakash Sharma highlighted about the objectives of SAATHI programme and the role of parents in preventing drug addiction among students. Headmaster of the school Suren Tamang extended thanks to all the guests.

Marwari society rewards Gangtok municipal workers on Gandhi Jayanti



SANJAY AGARWAL

RANGO, OCT 4 /-/- Members of Marwadi Yuva Manch Prerna Branch Rangpo marked the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi keeping in mind the campaign for Swachh Bharat Abhiyan by felicitating two workers

from Gangtok Municipal Corporation: Laxman Biswakarma and Manu Tamang who work with the GMC at the grassroots level as 'safai karmachari'. Members of Prerna felt that they although they were engaged in an important job, somehow they did not get the get the

recognition that they really deserved. Prerna felicitated them by offering each a shawl, a memento and a cash award of Rs. 5,100. The programme was chaired by MLA Gangtok Pintsu Chopel Lepcha, along with Mayor Shakti Singh Choudhury.

Sikkim Bihari Jagran Manch Rangpo election



SANJAY AGARWAL

RANGO, OCT 4 /-/- The election of Sikkim Bihari Jagran Manch Rangpo Branch was held at Rangpo samaj Ghar on Thursday, in the presence of delegates from Singtam and Deorail branch. There were two candidates

each for all the five posts that were on contest. Sukdev Prasad was again elected as the president of SBJM Rangpo while Manoj Prasad elected as vice president, Ajit Sharma as general secretary, Sashi Sekhar Prasad as joint secretary and Tun Tun Prasad as cashier of Rangpo SBJM Branch.

Haryana BJP MP's car attacked

CHANDIGARH, OCT 4 /-/- Rebel BJP MP from Haryana's Kurukshetra Raj Kumar Sainies escaped unharmed when a group of nearly 30 persons allegedly stopped, surrounded and repeatedly hit his car on Wednesday evening while he was passing through Palwal district, police said.

Police have booked over 30 persons in connection with the incident. Palwal's superintendent of police Waseem Akram said.

State Notes

Police busts Hizb module in north Kashmir, nabs 2

SRINAGAR, OCT 4 /-/- Police today said it has busted a module of overground workers of Hizbul Mujahideen militant outfit by arresting its two members in Jammu and Kashmir's Kupwara district. "Police busted an OGW module of banned terrorist outfit HM that was operating in the Lolab area of Kupwara," a police spokesman said. Acting on a specific input, police detained two persons - Shaker Ahmad Wani and Ghulam Mustafa Sheikh, both residents of Tekipora in Lolab - for questioning, he said.

"The module was engaged in providing logistics support to terrorists apart from luring youth into the path of terrorism," the spokesman said, adding that "after sustained questioning of the duo, a pistol was recovered on their disclosure". A case has been registered and investigations are on, he said.

2 scribes killed, 2 hurt in MP road accident

KHANDWA, OCT 4 /-/- Two freelance journalists were killed and as many others received injuries when their car hit a culvert on the Khandwa-Indore road here in Madhya Pradesh this morning, a police official said. The journalists were on their way to Indore when the mishap took place near Dodhwada village. Chaitagon police station in charge OP Ojha said.

The car driver lost control over the wheels following which the vehicle hit the culvert, Ojha said. One of the victims died on the spot while the other one succumbed to his injuries on way to hospital, he said. "The deceased were identified as Abhay Tamor (23) and Ranjan Sharma (35), he said, adding that the injured persons were undergoing treatment at the district hospital. All of the four men worked as freelance journalists, he added. n (PTI)