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In a nutshell

Sabarimala: Online booking only this yr
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: As the annual Mandalam-Makaravilakku pilgrimage season is just a month away in Sabarimala, the Kerala government said pilgrims would be permitted through online booking only this year and darshan would be ensured to a maximum of 80,000 people a day. PTI

Major glitch hits IndiGo operations
NEW DELHI: Low-cost airline major IndiGo on Saturday experienced a major network outage, disrupting flight operations and ground services across the nation. The glitch left several air travellers stranded across airports. The airline said in a statement that they are "currently experiencing a temporary system slowdown across our network, affecting our website and booking system." BUSINESS PAGE 8

Navratri: Muslim youth beaten up
KANPUR: A Muslim youth was allegedly beaten up by members of the VHP and Bajrang Dal here at a Navratri-related event. The incident happened on Friday at Lajpat Bhavan in Swaroop Nagar when private guards and volunteer staff were checking the visitors' identities to prevent any non-Hindus from entering the venue, police said. Police lodged an FIR against unidentified men for assaulting the youth. PTI

Israel steps up assault on Lebanon
TEL AVIV: Israel expanded its bombardment in Lebanon on Saturday, hitting Beirut's southern suburbs with a dozen airstrikes and striking a Palestinian refugee camp deep in the north for the first time as it targeted both Hezbollah and Hamas fighters. Tens of thousands of people in Lebanon continued to flee the widening conflict in the region. WORLD PAGE 9

CHICKEN RATES IN HYDERABAD

Farm.....	Rs. 114
Retail live.....	Rs. 136
With skin.....	Rs. 197
Skinless.....	Rs. 224
Egg Rates (12 eggs).....	Rs. 72

Ananya on getting cheated
Makes hilarious revelations in a video shared by Netflix

12

Congress likely to bag Haryana

Exit polls give an edge to NC-Congress in J&K

PTI
NEW DELHI

Several exit polls predicted a clear majority for the Congress in Haryana and gave an edge to its alliance with the National Conference in Jammu and Kashmir with the regional partner emerging as the single largest party.

'Dainik Bhaskar' predicted the Congress getting 44-54 seats and the BJP 15-29 seats in the 90-member Haryana Assembly. The Republic-Matrise poll put the Congress tally even higher at 55-62 seats as against the BJP's 18-24.

In Jammu and Kashmir, the C-Voter-India Today survey put the National Conference-Congress alliance at 40-48 seats and the BJP at 27-32 seats in the 90-member Assembly of the union Territory. Dainik Bhaskar pegged the NC-Congress alliance at 35-40 and the BJP at 20-25 in Jammu and Kashmir.



Congress' Vinesh Phogat and her mother show their inked fingers after voting at a polling station at Balali village. — Photo:PTI

Pollsters' Predictions

JAMMU & KASHMIR (SEATS: 90; HALFWAY MARK: 46)				
Source	BJP	Cong+NC	PDP	OTH
India Today-C Voter	27-32	40-48	6-12	6-11
Dainik Bhaskar	20-25	35-40	4-7	12-18
NDTV Poll of Polls	27	41	7	15

HARYANA (SEATS: 90; HALFWAY MARK: 46)						
Source	BJP	Cong+	JJP+	INLD+	AAP	OTH
India Today-C Voter	20-28	50-58	0-2	0	0	10-14
Dainik Bhaskar	19-29	44-54	0-1	1-5	0-1	4-9
NDTV Poll of Polls	26	55	0	2	0	7

Will not tolerate foul-mouthed attacks, KTR warns Revanth

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

Coming down heavily on the Congress government for cheating the people in the State, BRS working president KT Rama Rao on Saturday warned that the days were not far when Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy would have to incur the ire of the general public.

He would not be able to escape the wrath of the farming community that had borne the brunt of his misrule, he said while ad-

ressing a Mahadharna by farmers at Kandukur here.

Making it clear that foul-mouthed attacks targeting the BRS leadership would no longer be tolerated, Rama Rao said he would file a defamation case soon against the Chief Minister. His Cabinet colleague, who ventured to talk ill about him, also would not be spared until she tendered an unconditional apology. Besides a civil defamation case, a criminal case would also be filed against her. The BRS leadership did not yield

to the threats of even Prime Minister Narendra Modi. There would be no question of being cowed down by the tactics of Revanth, he said.

Pointing out that right from the Chief Minister to the Industries Minister, everyone in the government had gone on record that the Pharma City project was scrapped, he said Congress leaders assured farmers that the 14,000 acres of land acquired by BRS government over a seven-year period for the project would be returned to them. (SEE PAGE 2)

Seer's remarks spark row, mob attacks Maha PS

AMRAVATI

Controversial priest Yati Narsinghanand has been booked again for hate speech after he allegedly made objectionable remarks against Prophet Muhammad that sparked protests in the Ghaziabad district of Uttar Pradesh and other States.

His aides claimed on Saturday that he had been detained in Ghaziabad but there was no official word on it. A large crowd had gathered outside the Dasna Devi temple in the district where he presides to protest against him on Friday night after videos of his inflammatory remarks appeared online, following which security was stepped up around the premises. Police complaints were filed in several States, including in Telangana. An FIR was registered against the priest in Maharashtra's Amravati city, which saw violent protests against his remarks outside the Nagpuri Gate police station in which 21 police personnel were in-

CASE BOOKED IN NAMPALLY

HYDERABAD: The Nampally police registered a case against Ghaziabad-based Saint Yati Narsinghanand for allegedly making blasphemous remarks against Prophet Mohammed during a programme. The case was booked under Section 196(1), 299, 351(2), 352 of BNS. Congress leader Mohammed Perwaiz Khan alias Rashed Khan lodged the complaint on Friday. (SEE PAGE 2)

jured and 10 police vans were damaged during stone pelting by a mob on Friday night, according to officials.

A case under BNS sections 299 (deliberate and malicious acts, intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs), 302 (intentionally uttering words to deliberately wound the religious sentiments of another person), 197 (actions that harm national integration) and others was registered against Yati Narsinghanand. (RELATED REPORTS PAGE 3)

EAM rules out India-Pak talks

NEW DELHI

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Saturday ruled out any India-Pakistan dialogue during his upcoming visit to the neighbouring nation for the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Summit and said that it was rather a multi-lateral event.

Jaishankar acknowledged that his visit to Pakistan will draw enough media atten-

tion, given the nature of the relationship between both nations but clarified that this was not intended for any talks but rather necessitated by the 'compulsions' of SCO Summit.

"It (visit) will be for a multilateral event. I'm not going there to discuss India-Pakistan relations. I'm going there to be a good member of the SCO," he said at the sidelines of an event in the

national capital. "But, you know, since I'm a courteous and civil person, I will behave myself accordingly," he added. Pakistan is hosting the SCO Council of Heads of Government (CHG) meeting on October 15 and 16. Further elaborating on his visit, the External Affairs Minister said, "I am scheduled to go to Pakistan in the middle of this month." (SEE PAGE 2)

Man loses Rs 24.58L to cyber fraudsters

CITY BUREAU
Hyderabad

A retired employee from Secunderabad was duped of Rs 24.58 lakh by cyber fraudsters. The victim received a phone call from an unidentified person who claimed to be an executive manager at FedEx. The caller informed him that a

parcel, containing diabetic drugs and 100 grams of MDMA drug, was dispatched by the victim to some person in Iran. The fraudster said that their company had informed the NCB authorities about it and the anti-drug trafficking agency would follow it up with him as a case was registered in Mumbai. (SEE PAGE 2)

Anti-naxal op in Chhattisgarh biggest in 24 years

STATE BUREAU
Kothagudem

Friday's exchange of fire between the CPI (Maoist) party and security personnel in Chhattisgarh, in which 31 naxalites were killed in the forests of Nendur-Thulathuli in south Abujmad area on the borders of Narayanpur-Dantewada districts on Friday, is said to be the biggest one in the 24-year history of the State of Chhattisgarh and among the biggest in the anti-extremist operations in the country so far.

Several senior cadres, including Dandakaranya Special Zonal Committee (DKSZC) member and east Bastar in-charge Niti alias



Jawans combing the area after during the encounter with naxals, in Dantewada, Chhattisgarh on Saturday. — Photo:PTI

Urmila carrying a bounty of 25 lakh, were eliminated in a single anti-naxal operation. As many as 1,500 security personnel were said to have attacked the Maoist camp from all sides during the 48-

hour operation. The security personnel reached their designated spot on motorbikes and jeeps to carry out the operation. Speaking to the media on Saturday, Inspector General of Police,

Bastar range P Sundarraj, said bodies of 18 men and 13 women naxals were recovered from different locations in the forests.

Of the 31 dead, 16 were identified so far. Divisional committee members Suresh Salam and Meena Madkam, platform party committee members (PPCM) Arjun, Sundar, Budhram, Sukku, Phulo, Basanti, Somo, Jamila alias Budhri (PM) of PLGA Company 6, Barusur area committee member Sohan, ACMS Ramder, Suklu alias Vijay, Jamli and Sonu Koram were those who have been identified besides Niti. Many members of PLGA Company 6 carried a Rs 8 lakh reward on their heads.

One LMG rifle, four AK 47 rifles, six SLR rifles, three INSAS rifles, two .303 rifles, many other calibre rifles and locally fabricated weapons were recovered from the encounter spot, Sundarraj said.

There was a possibility that a larger number of naxals were either injured or killed in the encounter. A joint party of DRG and STF from Narayanpur and Dantewada had left for Govel, Nendur, and Thulathuli two days ago following information about the presence of top naxalites of Niti and Kamlesh, the IGP said. During the ongoing anti-naxal campaign, 188 naxalites were killed and 706 were arrested while 733 had surrendered.

Girl raped, killed in Bengal; villagers torch police outpost

KOLKATA

The body of a 10-year-old girl, allegedly raped and murdered, was found in West Bengal's South 24 Parganas district on Saturday after which locals torched a police outpost and vandalised vehicles parked there, a senior officer said. Police said one person has been arrested in connection with the rape and murder incident.

Villagers said the girl had been missing since Friday evening and the police "did not act on their complaint immediately". After the body of the girl was recovered by locals from a marshy land in Jaynagar area on Saturday morning, a mob torched the Mahismari police outpost and pelted policemen with stones. They

also vandalised several vehicles parked outside the outpost and the policemen were forced to leave the premises, a senior officer said. A huge police force was sent to the area and tear

lodging the FIR and as a result, valuable time was lost in tracing the girl," a family member of the girl claimed.

Superintendent of Police, Baruipur Police District, Palash Chandra Dhali said,

those accused in the rape and murder of our minor daughter are arrested and convicts are punished. We also demand action against those who responded to the complaint late, which might have resulted in her death. Had the police acted promptly, the girl could have been rescued," Ganesh Dolui, a villager, said.

Dhali, however, said the action was taken immediately after the complaint was received and an accused was arrested in connection with the alleged rape and murder of the girl. "After lodging the complaint at 9 pm on Friday, police swung into action and arrested an accused this morning after an initial probe. Investigation is underway and we are with the family of the deceased," the officer added. PTI

We lodged a complaint at the Mahismari outpost but police refused to convert it into an FIR and did not act on the complaint immediately, say victim's kin

gas shells were fired to disperse the mob which tried to confine the SDPO and other senior personnel at the spot. "The family members of the girl lodged a complaint at the Mahismari outpost in the area but the police refused to convert it into an FIR and did not act on the complaint immediately. They insisted we go to Joy-nagar police station for

"We will ensure that the culprit gets capital punishment. We have supported the family throughout and the probe started even before the FIR was lodged." The police responded in the "same manner" as they did after the body of a woman doctor was found at R G Kar hospital in August, another villager alleged. "We will continue with our agitation till all

FINAL TOUCHES



An artisan paints an idol of Goddess Durga in Nadia district, West Bengal, on Saturday. — Photo:PTI