

## News

## Brief

### J&K: Uri infiltration bid aimed at disturbing peace & election process, says Army

Srinagar, April 6 (IANS) The Army said on Saturday that the infiltration bid on the line of control (LoC) in Uri sector was aimed at disturbing peace & election process in Kashmir.

A defence ministry statement said, "An infiltration bid by terrorists was successfully foiled along the LoC in Uri Sector on 5 April 2024 in a joint operation led by the Indian Army.

"Numerous inputs were earlier received from multiple Intelligence agencies regarding terrorist groups planning and intending to infiltrate across LoC in Uri Sector. Based on these inputs, the surveillance and counter-infiltration grid was reviewed and strengthened.

"In the wee hours of April 5, own ambushes close to LoC spotted a group of terrorists moving towards the LoC. Own forces continuously tracked the hostile movement and established contact resulting in heavy exchange of fire.

### TN Forest Department steps up operation to capture elusive leopard in Mayiladuthurai

Chennai, April 6 (IANS) The Tamil Nadu Forest Department has set up thirteen teams to catch the leopard that was spotted near Mayiladuthurai town on April 2. However, the leopard is elusive for the fifth consecutive day on Saturday.

The Department has also deployed an infrared drone to locate the leopard but so far, there has been no success as the big cat could not be traced.

Forest officials told IANS that the pug marks of the animal were detected at the neighbouring Arockiathapuram village. The Department has installed 16 cameras in Mayiladuthurai and surrounding villages of Arockiathapuram, Sem-mangulam, Oorkudi and Sitharkadu. The villagers, on Thursday, had night spotted the body of a goat mauled supposedly by the leopard in Sitharkudi village.

### Assam Cong chief Borah a joker, looking to join BJP: Min Mallabaruah

Guwahati, April 6 (IANS) Courtroom controversy, Assam BJP Minister, Jayanta Mallabaruah on Saturday called state Congress chief, Bhupen Borah, a "joker" and asserted that he is looking to join the BJP once the Lok Sabha elections are over.

Mallabaruah told IANS on Saturday, "We should stop reacting to Bhupen Borah's comments. He is a joker in state politics. The Congress leader has been busy collecting donations in the name of polls. Once he is done with this job, Borah will join the BJP." Bhupen Borah had claimed recently that the top brass of the BJP would change the Chief Minister in Assam within the next four months. Reacting to this, the Assam minister said that one should not take Borah's comments seriously.

# Modi slams Congress' election manifesto



**GANDERBAL, Gang of burglars busted in Jammu and Kashmir's Ganderbal, three held with valuables, on Saturday. UNI**

## Bengal Police registers FIR in NIA assault case

Kolkata, April 6 (IANS) The East Midnapore District Police in West Bengal have registered an FIR and launched an investigation into the assault on National Investigation Agency (NIA) personnel in Bhupatinagar district.

The case has been lodged against the local Trinamool Congress leader Monobrata Jana and his associates.

Sources said that the FIR has been registered at Bhupatinagar Police Station on the basis of the complaints filed by the NIA officials under Sections 341 (wrongful restraint), 332 (voluntarily causing hurt), 353 (assault on public servant) 186 (obstructing public servant from discharging duty), 427 (mis-

chief causing damage) and 34 (acts done by several persons in furtherance of common intention).

The FIR has also incorporated Section 3 (mis-chief causing damage to public property) of the Prevention of Damage to Public Property Act, 1984.

Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has accused the NIA of provoking the locals of Bhupatinagar.

"Why did they not inform the police before going there? The villages have reacted naturally by spotting unknown people in the locality during the odd hours. Why are they arresting and harassing our people before the Lok Sabha polls? Does BJP want all booth agents to be

arrested before the elections? They are giving oxygen to the BJP. I will appeal to the entire world to be vocal against such vindictive politics pursued by BJP," the Chief Minister said.

The Leader of the Opposition (LoP) Suvendu Adhikari said that the law & order has crumbled completely and since the control is right now with the Election Commission of India, it is high time that the commission takes proper action against the officer-in-charge of Bhupatinagar Police Station, the sub-division police officer of Contai, district police superintendent of East Midnapore District and the Director General of Police. --IANS

### Kavitha challenges CBI's plea seeking to interrogate her in jail

New Delhi, April 6 (IANS) Bharat Rashtia Samithi (BRS) MLC K. Kavitha on Saturday moved a Delhi court opposing the CBI's plea seeking to interrogate and record her statement in Tihar Jail in connection with a money laundering case related to the alleged excise policy scam. Notably, the court on Friday allowed the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to question Kavitha in Tihar Jail. On Saturday, Kavitha's counsel Nitesh Rana told the court that the probe agency thwarted the due process of law by filing the plea "behind her back". "I have grave apprehension that the CBI may not have divulged the true facts to obtain a favourable order from the court," Rana told the court, as he urged it to keep the order in abeyance until Kavitha's side is heard. The court is likely to hear her plea later on Saturday. Kavitha, who has been accused of being actively involved in the payment of kickbacks to the tune of Rs 100 crore and has been termed a kingpin of the 'scam' by the ED, is currently in judicial custody till April 9. The Enforcement Directorate (ED), which is also probing a case of money laundering related to the alleged liquor policy scam in the national capital, had arrested Kavitha on March 15 after searches at her residence in Hyderabad. It has been claimed that Kavitha was involved in establishing the money laundering ecosystem, i.e., M/s Indo Spirits, through her proxy, which generated proceeds of crime worth Rs 192.8 crore.

### Isudan Gadhvi to lead symbolic fast to protest Kejriwal's arrest

Ahmedabad, April 6 (IANS) Aam Aadmi Party's Gujarat unit, led by state president Isudan Gadhvi, will hold a symbolic one-day fast on Sunday to protest against what they claim as the wrongful arrest of Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal in connection with the excise policy case.

The event will be held at the party's state office on Sunday. Manoj Sorathiya, the General Secretary of the AAP's Gujarat unit, said, "No matter how much the BJP 'misuses' the ED and CBI, Arvind Kejriwal and the AAP will never succumb to their pressure." The fast will be observed from 10.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.



**NEW DELHI, BJP National President JP Nadda pays tribute to the bust of Syama Prasad Mukherjee and Madan Mohan Malaviya during the 44th Foundation Day celebrations of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), at party headquarters in New Delhi on Saturday. UNI**

## PM Modi boasts about BJP's fulfilled promises on Ram Mandir, Article 370 and Triple Talaq at Saharanpur rally

New Delhi, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday spoke at length about achievements and realisation of its electoral promises under the NDA government while describing his ten years of work as a mere 'trailer'.

Addressing a huge gathering at Saharanpur rally, PM Modi said that scrapping Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir, constructing the grand Ram Mandir in Ayodhya and revoking Triple Talaq was party's mission and the BJP government turned them into reality. "This year, Ram Navami will be celebrated inside the grand Ram Mandir complex, stone-pelters in Kashmir have now joined the mainstream while Muslim women are gunning ever since the scrapping of Triple Talaq," PM Modi elaborated while explaining how these steps were benefitting the public.

Prime Minister said that Muslim women and daughters will continue to bless him for generations for the path-breaking initiative on Triple Talaq.

He said that BJP is a mission and objective-based party and it goes

at great length to fulfil its promises, unlike the INDIA bloc which drags its feet on every issue and also doesn't hesitate in taking anti-India stand for its benefit.

"BJP believes in Rashtrianiti and not Rajniti. Nation First is our biggest priority and we continue to abide by it even in adverse scenarios,"

PM Modi told the gathering, drawing loud applause from the crowd.

Listing out milestones of the last ten years and also the 'sankalp' of BJP government in making people's lives easier, he said that his government was working day and night to realise the dream of Viksit Bharat while the Opposition is desperate

for power.

Further taking a jibe at the fractured INDIA bloc, he said that the rival parties have lost clear vision, because of the outpouring of support for the BJP and they are now fighting to lower the victory margin rather than thinking of dislodging the incumbent government from power. --IANS



**HYDERABAD, Telangana Irrigation, Food and Civil Supplies Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy along with Ministers Jupally Krishna Rao, Ponnamp Prabhakar addressing the media at Gandhi Bhavan in Hyderabad on Saturday. UNI**

## India is not property of a few people, belongs to everyone: Sonia Gandhi

Jaipur, April 6 (IANS) Chairperson of the Congress Parliamentary Party (CPP) Sonia Gandhi on Saturday said that India is not the property of a few people but belongs to everyone.

"This country is not the property of a few people. It belongs to everyone. Our ancestors have watered it with blood," Sonia Gandhi said while addressing a massive rally on the launch of 'Nyay' manifesto for the Lok Sabha 2024 elections in Jaipur. She said that for the last 10 years, the country has been in the hands of a government which has left no stone unturned in promoting unemployment and economic crisis. "Whatever the Modi government has done is in front of us. This time is full of despair but know that with despair hope is also born. I have full confidence that our Congress colleagues will light the lamp of justice and will move ahead braving thousands of storms," she said.

She said that PM Modi considers himself great but the (BJP government) is violating democratic norms and instilling fear in the entire system.

"This is a dictatorship. Our democracy is in dan-

ger," Sonia Gandhi said.

Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge and General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi were also present on the occasion.

Kharge attacked PM Modi, saying that he has been taking credit for everything without doing anything. "Is it PM Modi's job to take credit without doing any actual work? This man goes everywhere and says I did this, I did that. How many guarantees have they given to us before?" Kharge asked.

He said that in the first guarantee, PM Modi told the youth that he would provide two crore jobs every year. "20 crore jobs were to be given in 10 years. Have the youth of the country got 20 crore jobs? He said Rs 15 lakh will be deposited in everyone's account. Has this amount been deposited to the accounts? Modi is PM. How can he lie," Kharge asked. He said that PM Modi has been confusing people, he did nothing for the country and yet says

that Congress did nothing for the country in 70 years.

He said that IIT, airport and AIIMS have been brought by Congress and PM Modi still says that he is developing the country.

Congress General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi said that unemployment is at its highest.

"You have seen how the BJP government has worked in the last 10 years. What have they done to eradicate the nation from the evil of unemployment," she asked.

## EC seeks detailed report on violence during last year's panchayat polls in Bengal

The Election Commission of India (ECI) on Wednesday ordered to furnish details on the incidents of violence during last year's panchayat election in West Bengal to district election officers (DEOs) and general observers ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha election. The poll panel has also sought information on the Assembly constituencies and booths in which people were stopped from casting their votes and where national parties failed to keep polling agents.

A senior ECI official

said, "We will map the sensitive area category-wise after getting the full list. Many Opposition parties alleged to us that violence not only occurred during the panchayat polls but also before and after it.

We also got information that in many areas, especially where the ruling party has a strong hold, general voters were stopped from casting their votes.

Also, polling agents were stopped in various areas. The ECI wants to take strong and necessary action against these

malpractices and that is why we sought information." He added, "After getting information, we will accordingly deploy central forces and election observers to control such violence so that people can cast their vote in a peaceful environment. In such a manner only can we ensure a level playing field for polling." Violence and murders were reported almost every day from the day of issue of notification for the election on June 8 to the day of polling on July 9 and even on the day of counting on July 11.



  
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