

News

Brief

People gave you
mandate, govern
it with courtesy:
Pralhad Joshi

Ballary, Nov 8 (IANS) Union Minister for Food, Public Distribution and Consumer Affairs Pralhad Joshi on Friday slammed the Siddaramaiah-led Congress government in Karnataka, saying, people have given you mandate and power in a democracy, so "govern it with courtesy and decency". Union Minister Joshi made the statement while speaking at a public campaign meeting for BJP candidate Bangaru Hanumanth in Kurekupa village of Sandur Assembly constituency. He alleged that the Congress government in the state was deeply involved in scams, corruption, and appeasement politics.

Kishtwar
murders widely
condemned

Jammu, Nov 8 (IANS) The cold-blooded murder of two members of a Village Defence Committee (VDC) in Jammu and Kashmir's (J&K's) Kishtwar district on Thursday was widely condemned as a massive operation started to trace the killers on Friday.

Chief Minister, Omar Abdullah said in condemnation of the cowardly murder of two civilians, "Deeply saddened & concerned by the attack that resulted in the deaths of Kuldeep Kumar & Nazeer Ahmed Padder of Kuntwara in Kishtwar, members of the local Village Defence Committee.

AAP's Punjab
unit slams
Centre for
doubling fine on
stubble burning

Chandigarh, Nov 8 (IANS) The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) in Punjab on Friday criticised the Central government's decision to double the fine for stubble burning. AAP spokesperson Neel Garg said the farmers in Punjab have already been facing financial hardship, and now, on top of that, the Central government has imposed a double fine on them. Garg said the state government had sought Rs 1,200 crore from the Centre to tackle this issue and reduce incidents of stubble burning by providing financial incentives to farmers to discourage the practice. He questioned why the Centre had refused to provide this assistance if they were genuinely concerned about stubble burning. He claimed that due to the efforts of Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann and the AAP government, the number of stubble-burning incidents in the state had significantly reduced over the past three years.



BARAMULLA, Security forces takes position near the encounter site at Sopore in north Kashmir Baramulla district on Friday.UNI

78 lakh EPS pensioners to benefit as
new payment system clears pilot run

New Delhi, Nov 8 (IANS) Union Minister of Labour and Employment, Dr Mansukh Mandaviya, on Friday announced the successful completion of pilot run of the new Centralised Pension Payments System (CPPS) under the Employees' Pension Scheme 1995 aimed at enhancing pension services.

He said that the pilot run was completed on October 29-30 with the pension disbursement of about Rs 11 crore for October to more than 49,000 EPS pensioners of Jammu, Srinagar and Karnal regions.

The new system en-

ables pensioners to receive their pension from any bank, any branch, anywhere in the country. This addresses the long-standing challenges faced by pensioners and ensures a seamless and efficient disbursement mechanism, the minister said.

The new CPPS system will be fully rolled out as part of EPFO's ongoing IT modernization project Centralised IT Enabled System (CITES 2.01) by January 2025 and will benefit more than 78 lakh EPS pensioners of EPFO.

Earlier, during the announcement of the new

CPPS system, Mandaviya had said, "The approval of the Centralised Pension Payment System (CPPS) marks a significant milestone in modernization of the EPFO."

This is a crucial step in our ongoing efforts to transform the EPFO into a more robust, responsive, and tech-enabled organization, committed to serving the needs of its members and pensioners better."

The CPPS is a paradigm shift from the existing pension disbursement system that is decentralised, with each Zonal/Regional Office of

EPFO maintaining separate agreements with only 3-4 banks. In the new CPPS, there will also be no need for pensioners to visit the bank for any verification at the time of commencement of pension and the pension will be immediately credited upon release.

The CPPS system would also ensure disbursement of pension throughout India without any need for transfer of Pension Payment Orders (PPO) from one office to another even when the pensioner moves from one location to another or changes his bank or branch. This would be a great relief to pensioners who move to their hometown after retirement.



In Dhule, PM Narendra Modi met Jainacharya Ratnasundersurishwarji Maharaj Saheb. He told that, His contribution towards social service and spirituality is commendable. He is also admired for his prolific writing.

Ultras change strategies, we
must thwart conspiracy: Bashir

Jammu, Nov 8 (IANS) A day after two Village Defence Committee (VDC) members were kidnapped and killed by terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir (J&K's) Kishtwar district, National Conference (NC) leader Sheikh Bashir on Friday said a major conspiracy was underway.

An offshoot of the Jaish-e-Mohammad terrorist organisation called the 'Kashmir Tigers' claimed responsibility for the attack in Kishtwar district. The terror group also shared images of the victims' bodies with their eyes blindfolded. Talking to IANS, Sheikh Bashir said,

"There is a major conspiracy which is happening in J&K. You may remember that about five months ago, incidents occurred in areas like Poonch, Rajouri, Kathua, Doda, and Kishtwar, where members of the Village Defence Committees (VDC) were attacked. A similar incident also took place in Basantgarh. "This is a very serious matter. These terrorists keep changing their strategies, and we need to stay alert. NC President Farooq Abdullah and J&K Chief Minister Omar Abdullah have condemned this incident. I believe there is a major conspiracy going on here. With an

elected government now established, there seems to be a plot to destabilise J&K. We must be prepared to confront such challenges," he concluded. Earlier on November 2, NC President Abdullah alleged that the terrorist attack in Budgam was a conspiracy to overthrow the current J&K government.

On November 1, two labourers from Uttar Pradesh were shot at by terrorists in Budgam district. The NC President said that the terrorists involved in the act should not be killed but rather questioned as to who was behind the attack.

Vote for Mahayuti for fast development,
oppose MVA which will put brakes: PM

Dhule, Nov 8 (IANS) Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday appealed to the voters of Maharashtra to re-elect the Mahayuti alliance comprising the BJP, Shiv Sena and NCP to increase the pace of development and oppose the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) which will put brakes on the state's growth. PM Modi asserted that the MVA would scrap welfare and development schemes brought out by the Eknath Shinde-led Mahayuti government in the state.

PM Modi, who started his poll campaign from tribal dominated Dhule, said Maharashtra trusts the NDA and will vote for the Mahayuti alliance in the upcoming elections. "I appeal to you to vote for the Mahayuti so that it will take the progress of Maharashtra to new heights in the next five years. Only the Mahayuti government can provide the good governance that Maharashtra needs."

"On the other hand, the Maha Vikas Aghadi vehicle has neither wheels nor brakes and there is a fight even for sitting on the driver's seat. The Mahayuti government, which has taken several decisions to speed up development, will continue to boost the state's growth and also promote the development of various sections. But be aware of the Congress and Maha Vikas Aghadi which are against development and bent on putting brakes on the state's growth," said the Prime Minister. He praised the

Mahayuti government's 'Vachannama (manifesto)' comprising 10 guarantees covering various sections and claimed that it is being discussed across the country. "Everyone has their own goal when they enter politics. People like us consider the public as a form of god and have come into politics to serve the people. Whereas for some people the basis of their politics is to 'rob people'."

When people like Maha Vikas Aghadi, who have the intention of looting people, come to power, they stop development and indulge in corruption in every scheme," claimed the Prime Minister. However, he said that the Mahayuti government has restored Maharashtra's pride and glory while marching on the development path.

The Prime Minister slammed the Congress party for hatching a conspiracy to divide the SCs, STs and OBCs by pitting various castes against

each other as the grand old party never desires these communities to develop and progress. However, he gave a call to remain united and foil the Congress party's game plan to divide castes. "Ek hain to safe hain (If you are united you are safe)."

We have to remain united and foil the dangerous game of Congress and keep moving ahead on the path of development," he said, amid slogans raised by the people at the rally. "A dangerous game of pitting one caste against another is being played by the Congress. And this game is being played because the Congress can never see the Dalits, Backward Classes and tribals progressing. This is the history of the Congress," he said. The Prime Minister also lashed out at the Congress and the INDIA bloc for the re-instatement of Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir while referring to the passage of a resolution in the Assembly there.

Jodhpur Police prepare to take
beautician's murderer to crime spot

Jaipur, Nov 8 (IANS) Jodhpur beautician Anita Chaudhary's murderer, arrested in Mumbai, would be taken to the spot where he chopped the 50-year-old woman's body and buried it in a pit, a police official said on Friday.

Gulamuddin Farooqui (42) was arrested in Mumbai on Thursday and Rajasthan Police took his transit remand from a court before bringing him to Jodhpur, said the official. On his arrival on Friday from Mumbai, the police plan to take him to the crime scene and question about the victim's gold ornaments that he allegedly stole after the murder.

Anita, who ran a beauty parlour in the Sardarpura area of Jodhpur, was brutally murdered in the afternoon on October 26. On Thursday evening, Jodhpur Police raided a house in south Mumbai and arrested Gulamuddin with the help of Mumbai Police. Gulamuddin was absconding since Anita's murder.

A team led by Additional DCP Nishant Bhardwaj was hunting for him for four days in Mumbai, said an official. Police claimed that Gulamuddin, whose shop faced the victim's parlour, killed Anita to steal her ornaments while she was returning home.

Her husband lodged a missing complaint at Sardarpura police station on October 27 after she could not be traced and her phone was switched off, the police said. Anita's husband Manmohan told police that she had known Gulamuddin for about 25 years, with the latter considering her as his sister.



KATHMANDU, A devotee worships the rising sun on the occasion of the Chhath festival in Kathmandu, Nepal, Nov. 8, 2024. The Chhath festival is dedicated to the sun with devotees making offerings to the setting and rising sun. UNI

K'taka govt ensuring welfare of Waqf: Surya
after FIR against him over social media post

Bengaluru, Nov 8 (IANS) Reacting strongly to the FIR against him over his recent post quoting media reports regarding the suicide of a farmer eight years ago over a notice by the Waqf, BJP National Youth President and Bengaluru South MP Tejasvi Surya stated that the Karnataka government was ensuring the

welfare of the Board and not the growers. Speaking to reporters in Hubballi on Friday, MP Tejasvi Surya stated, "I had posted the message to warn the state government about the existing situation and woes of farmers."

The government thinks that it is absolutely okay if farmers commit suicide, but the Waqf Board should not be affected in any manner. "During the recent visit to Karnataka of the Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) on the Waqf Amendment Bill, a petition was received from a farmer from Haveri stating that one Rudrappa had committed suicide. Based on the petition, the post was made, Surya stated.

"Minister for RDPR, IT and BT Priyank Karge has no job but to wait and file FIRs against political opponents. The Supreme Court will rap them for their FIRs," Surya slammed. The Karnataka government on Thursday filed an FIR against Tejasvi Surya for posting the message alleging suicide by a farmer eight years ago after the Waqf Board issued a notice claiming ownership of

his property. According to a statement by the Chief Minister's Office on Friday, the FIR was filed by the Cybercrime, Economic Offences, Narcotics (CEN) police in Haveri district of Karnataka. The case has been booked under Section 353(2) of the Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita - 2023. A case has also been booked against the Editor of Kannada Duniya e-paper and the Editor of Kannada News e-Paper regarding the matter. The FIR stated, "Tejasvi Surya on his social media handle stated that a 'farmer in Haveri commits suicide after finding his land taken over by the Waqf."

In their haste to appease minorities, CM Siddaramaiah and Minister Zameer Khan have unleashed catastrophic effects in Karnataka that are becoming impossible to contain with every passing day," which was based on a false report by Kannada Duniya e-paper. "The report published by Kannada Duniya and Kannada News e-Paper on their portals stated that in Rudrappa, a farmer who was a resident of Hanara-

gi village in Haveri district committed suicide eight years ago. It alleged that Rudrappa ended his life after his four acres of land was shown as a Waqf property in the land records.

However, after the media report triggered a major storm in Maharashtra politics, Bhujbal rejected all the claims made in the book. He also said that he did not give any

Bhujbal denies media reports claiming NCP
leaders joined Mahayuti to escape ED

Mumbai, Nov 8 (IANS) Amid the ongoing Assembly election campaign, NCP leader and senior minister Chhagan Bhujbal on Friday cut a sorry figure after reports in the media claimed that Ajit Pawar and his party functionaries deserted Sharad Pawar and joined the BJP-led Mahayuti in July 2023 to get rid of probes by central agencies including the Enforcement Directorate (ED). A section of the media quoted Bhujbal's revelation referring to his interview in a book written by leading journalist Rajdeep Sardesai.

However, after the media report triggered a major storm in Maharashtra politics, Bhujbal rejected all the claims made in the book. He also said that he did not give any

interview to a Marathi daily 'Loksatta' which has boldly carried the news report in this regard on Friday, when Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah are campaigning in Maharashtra. "I am denying the allegation that I am afraid of going to jail. I and other party legislators came together for development."

There are 54 people with us. Not all of them had ED cases against them. In my Yevala constituency, development works worth Rs 2,000 crore are under various stages of implementation. We have participated in the government, it has benefited to increase the pace of development," said Bhujbal.

"Now I will read this book and also let our lawyer read the book and af-

ter eight days I will decide the future course of action," said Bhujbal while expressing doubts about the intention of publication of the said book in the backdrop of the Assembly elections.

"I did not give any such interview to 'Loksatta'. We have been accused for many days that we all went with the BJP to get rid of the ED. The court has given me a clean chit in the Maharashtra Sadan case. This clean chit was given when Uddhav Thackeray was Chief Minister and at that time I also gave sweets to Sharad Pawar and Uddhav Thackeray," said Bhujbal. However, as per media reports, Bhujbal purportedly said, "Every one heaved a sigh of relief after joining the BJP-led Mahayuti."



JAMMU, BJP Mahila Morcha activists holds protest against JAK Government for passing the resolution of Special status, in Jammu on Friday.UNI


વેસ્ટર્ન ટાઈમ્સ ગુજરાતી આવૃત્તિના
આગળના પાના વાંચવા માટે
નીચેની લીંક પર ક્લિક કરો

વેસ્ટર્ન ટાઈમ્સ

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