

Big projects meant for Maharashtra are being shifted to Gujarat : Rahul Gandhi

► Accuses Narendra Modi-led government in Delhi of pulling strings

New Delhi, Dec 19 (GNS) Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Monday said big projects that were supposed to be set up in Maharashtra were being shifted to Gujarat with the Narendra Modi-led government in Delhi pulling the strings. Stating that the TATA-Airbus plant set up in Surat was one such project, Gandhi, who was addressing a press conference in Mumbai, said there were mul-

tiply such projects that were to be set up in Maharashtra and were getting shifted to Gujarat at the instance of the Modi-led government. Youths of Maharashtra have lost six lakhs jobs in the process, Congress MP and Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha said. Polling for the Assembly elections in Maharashtra is slated to take place on Wednesday. The last date for campaigning in the state is

Monday. Ridiculing the prime minister's slogan "ek hei to safe hei" (you are safe when you are united), Gandhi said only industrialist Gautam Adani was safe under the BJP regime and by 'unity', Modi meant the unity between him and Adani. Gandhi said Modi was hell-bent on handing over the Dharavi Project to Adani from which the latter was expected to generate a profit of Rs 1 lakh crore.

He added none of the clauses of the tender meant for the protection of the residents of Dharavi would be adhered to once the contract was awarded to the Adani Group. On whether opposition to the Adani Group was a common threat binding the Congress to its MVA ally Shiv Sena (UBT), Rahul said both Shiv Sena (UBT) and Congress were keen to protect the interest of the people of Maharashtra and would foil designs hatched to deprive them of what was their due.



How PCOS and Hypertension Cause Infertility

Dr. Lipsa Mishra Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS) and hypertension are two prevalent health conditions that can significantly impact a woman's fertility. Both conditions interfere with the body's reproductive processes, making conception more challenging and sometimes leading to long-term complications. "Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS) and hypertension are two common health conditions that can significantly impact fertility. PCOS, characterized by

hormonal imbalances, irregular menstrual cycles, and ovarian cysts, can prevent ovulation, making conception more difficult. Similarly, hypertension can disrupt blood flow to the reproductive organs, affecting egg quality and implantation," says Dr. Lipsa Mishra, IVF Specialist at Birla Fertility and IVF, Bhubaneswar. PCOS is one of the leading causes of female infertility. It affects up to 10% of women of reproductive age, causing hormonal imbalances that result in irregular or absent ovulation. Without

ovulation, it is difficult for the sperm to fertilize an egg. The condition may also lead to insulin resistance, a risk factor for obesity, which can further disrupt hormonal balance and reduce fertility. Dr Lipsa mentions "Both conditions can also lead to complications such as insulin resistance or obesity, further reducing fertility. Managing these conditions through proper medical care and lifestyle changes can improve fertility outcomes, increasing the chances of successful conception for those affected."

Fracas on Parliament premises, 2 BJP MPs injured; NDA, Congress file police complaints

► The BJP charges the Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha with pushing an MP leading to injuries to two of its lawmakers.

New Delhi, Dec 19 (GNS) The acrimonious face-off between the opposition and ruling NDA over alleged insult to B R Ambedkar took an unprecedented ugly turn on Parliament premises on Thursday with claims of pushing and shoving involving MPs, leaving two BJP members hospitalised and a woman BJP MP accusing Rahul Gandhi of "misbehaving" with her.

The BJP charged the Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha with pushing an MP leading to injuries to two of its lawmakers, but Gandhi denied it and said it was he who was pushed by a ruling party member while Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge also accused protesting BJP members of shoving him and injuring his knees.

Both sides lodged complaints at Parliament Street police station, blaming each other for what must be a sordid incident without parallel involving MPs within the premises of Parliament. They also complained to the respective Chair in the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha against each other.

BJP MPs Mukesh Rajput and Pratap Chandra Sarangi sustained injuries and were admitted to the RML hospital, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi speaking to them over phone to enquire about their health. The hospital's Medical Superintendent Dr Ajay Shukla said they had sustained head injuries.

"We have filed a complaint against Rahul Gandhi for physical assault and incitement," BJP MP Anurag Thakur told mediapersons outside the police station. A number of MPs of the ruling BJP-led National Democratic Alliance were protesting at the steps of Parliament's 'Makar Dwar', an entrance and exit reserved for lawmakers, against the Congress's alleged insult of Ambedkar, while MPs from the Congress and its allies were demonstrating over Union Home Minister Amit Shah's remarks on Ambedkar and accused the BJP of slighting the architect of the Constitution.

BJP MPs claimed that Gandhi tried to push his way inside Parliament through the middle of the stairs where they were standing, ignoring a side passage, and caused injuries in the ensuing jost-



ling. However, some opposition MPs claimed that the BJP members refused to give way to Gandhi who was heading to the Lok Sabha to attend the House proceedings.

Rejecting the BJP members' charge, Gandhi told reporters, "I was trying to enter Parliament and the BJP MPs were stopping me, pushing me and threatening me." The incident happened minutes before both Houses were to convene at 11 am. The 69-year-old Sarangi, a BJP member from Balasore in Odisha and a former minister, suffered injuries on the left temple. BJP member Nishikant Dubey accused Gandhi of pushing the senior leader.

"Are you not ashamed, Rahul, you are resorting to rowdy behaviour ('gundagardi'). You pushed an old man," a furious Dubey told Gandhi. "He pushed me," Gandhi countered Dubey, walking off after having a cursory look at Sarangi, who was being attended to by fellow BJP members. Sarangi was later wheeled off to an ambulance. "Rahul Gandhi pushed an MP, who fell on me and I got injured," he told reporters as BJP members squatted at the Ma-

kar Dwar raising slogans against the Congress. Hitting out at Gandhi, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijju said appropriate action would be taken in the matter. "Parliament is not a place to show physical strength. It is not a wrestling ring," he said.

Dubey told reporters, "I am a four-time MP. I have seen something like this for the first time. I have never seen Congress leaders barging into the BJP's protest or BJP members doing the same when Congress protests. Why did the Congress disrupt the BJP's protest today? This shows that their only aim is hooliganism."

A number of ruling alliance MPs, including Union ministers, met their injured colleagues in the hospital as the incident blew up into a major row. Both Houses witnessed massive uproar amid 'Jai Bhim' chants from both sides and were adjourned without witnessing any transaction. Congress MPs met Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla and submitted a complaint against the alleged unruly conduct by BJP MPs against Rahul Gandhi and attempts to stop him from entering Parliament House.

Amit Shah would have been 'scrap dealer' if there wasn't Ambedkar's

Constitution: Siddaramaiah

► Says if Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar was really functioning under the Constitution, he should have immediately suspended Shah from the House



New Delhi, Dec 19 (GNS) Stepping up the attack against Union Home Minister Amit Shah for his comments on BR Ambedkar in Parliament, senior Congress leader and Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Thursday claimed that Shah would have been a "gujari" (scrap dealer) if there wasn't Ambedkar's Constitution. The chief minister further said that if Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar was really functioning under the Constitution, he should have immediately suspended Shah from the House. Reading out a detailed statement in the assembly amid din by both the BJP and Congress MLAs over the issue, Siddaramaiah said the entire country has heard the "derogatory" words spoken by the Home Minister about Babasaheb Ambedkar. Stating that there is nothing surprising

in the words spoken by Shah, Siddaramaiah said what was in the minds of the BJP and Sangh Parivar leaders has come out in the open. "First of all, I congratulate you (Amit Shah) for openly and courageously revealing the innermost opinion of the Bharatiya Janata Party about Babasaheb Ambedkar before the country and for finally telling the truth in your lifetime," he said. He said that if there were no Constitution, Shah would have been a "scrap dealer" in his village and not the Home Minister of the country. Shah on Wednesday accused the Congress of twisting facts and distorting his comments on B R Ambedkar in the Rajya Sabha, asserting that its malicious campaign after the discussion on Constitution "established" the opposition party as being "anti-Ambedkar and anti-reservation".

TTD BOARD RESOLUTIONS

Hyderabad, Dec.19 (NSS) The Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) board in its maiden meeting under the Chairmanship of B R Naidu has taken some important decisions on Monday. After the completion of the board meeting at Annamaiah Bhavan in Tirumala, the TTD board Chief along with the EO J Syamala Rao briefed the decisions to the media. Some excerpts. Reducing the darshan time of Sri Venkateswara Swamy from 20-30 hours to 2-3 hrs using Artificial Intelligence and advanced technology by taking the Experts' advice. Merging of SRIVANI Trust into TTD Account and verifying the possibilities to change its name while continuing the Scheme. The board has given a nod to dispense with the Tourism Corporations

Darshan quota of various states after a thorough examination of the complaints regarding irregularities in the issue of SED tickets under this category. The piled up debris in the Dumping Yard at Tirumala to be cleared within 3-4 months. Srinivasa Setu Fly Over to be renamed as Garuda Varadhi. Board to request the State Government to hand over the 20-acre land given to Tourism at Alipiri to TTD near Devlok Project. Writing a letter to the State Government for taking an appropriate decision about the non-Hindus working in Tirumala. Providing Darshan to Tirupati locals on the first Tuesday of every month. No political statements in Tirumala and action will be taken legally if needed against such persons as well on those who

propagate them. Keeping in view the safety of TTD deposits, a decision will be taken in the next board meeting to deposit them in the Nationalized banks by withdrawing the already deposited ones from Private banks. Using the enhanced quality of ghee in the preparation of Srivari Laddu. Introducing one more tasty recipe in the every day menu at Annaprasadam Complex in Tirumala for the devotees. As the Visakha Sarada Peetham has violated the rules of TTD, following the Experts Committees' report the lease of the Mutt will be cancelled. The repairs of leakages in the age old Potu-temple kitchen in the Srivari temple along with the modernization of Vengamamba Annaprasadam Complex will be taken up by the TVS company.

New Delhi, Dec 19 (GNS) Former Aam Aadmi Party leader and Delhi transport minister Kailash Gahlot on Monday joined the BJP in the presence of top saffron brass led by union minister Manohar Lal Khattar. While inducting Gahlot into the BJP, Khattar said "this is the turning point in Delhi politics". Khattar said Gahlot had joined the BJP after comparing internal systems and policies of the two parties, and seeing the spirit of service of the BJP and PM Narendra Modi to the nation.

Khattar said that Gahlot being Najafgarh MLA for two terms is closely linked to Haryana as Najafgarh may geographically be in Delhi but for all other purposes it is part of Haryana. Gahlot, meanwhile, rubbished the AAP allegations that he had joined the BJP under duress and said he had never acted in his entire life under force. "I have willingly joined the BJP looking at PM Modi's policies and

Day after quitting AAP, Kailash Gahlot joins BJP



after getting disillusioned by AAP the people of Delhi but completely which came into existence to serve compromised on its values.

Five Eyes' future on Pompeo's Asia-Pacific agenda

Mike Pompeo ends on Monday his latest tour of Asia-Pacific after key stop offs in Thailand and Australia. In the Sydney leg on Saturday and Sunday, a key bilateral agenda item was the future of Five Eyes, one of the world's most successful intelligence gathering and sharing partnerships, now under new stress over Chinese participation in 5G telecommunications networks.

The origins of Five Eyes stem from the remarkable intelligence relationship that the United States and United Kingdom enjoyed in the Second World War which was institutionalised in the 1946 BRUSA (later UKUSA) Agreement. Canada, Australia, and New Zealand, as former UK dominions, began representing themselves in the intelligence pact in the late 1940s and 1950s.

To be sure, the United States has other intelligence relationships with key allies from G7 states like France and Germany to Japan. And in the Middle East it has intelligence sharing ties with allies, including Jordan, Egypt and Turkey.

Yet, the closest cooperation is among the Five Eyes countries bonded by decades of strong security, economic, political and cultural ties, with their geographical spread across the globe meaning that members neatly divide intelligence-gathering responsibilities by region. The United Kingdom, for example, leads on the Middle East, and Europe too.

Yet, in recent years, the mutual trust that is the foundation of these exchanges has been challenged by several developments, including the Edward Snowden leaks during the Obama administration. Most recently, there are potential diver-

gences over the use of Chinese 5G telecommunications technology, specifically Huawei. Washington and Canberra have been most vociferous in their opposition to Huawei with both nations banning the Chinese-headquartered telecoms firm from supplying equipment to their 5G networks. Australia led the way, in 2018, under then-prime minister Malcolm Turnbull, when it became the first country to ban Chinese firms from the national 5G network, followed by a de facto US ban on Chinese 5G technology. Should there be a breach now between the United Kingdom and United States plus Australia on this [5G] issue, intelligence sharing could possibly be curtailed, creating possible gaps in collection, analysis and dissemination.

- Andrew Hammond

This alignment of stance was celebrated by Pompeo in Sydney at the weekend. He asserted that almost 70 years since the 1951 ANZUS treaty, US-Australia relations remain strong built upon a core foundation of shared military and intelligence ties.

However, the Fives Eyes powers are not (yet at least) unified on this 5G issue, with New Zealand, Canada, and the United Kingdom having more nuanced positions. Take the example of London where, despite security and defence having long been at the core of the special relationship with Washington, tensions surfaced between the Trump team and the former government of Theresa May over Huawei. In the final weeks of the May government, a decision was reached in principle in the UK National Security Council that Huawei would be allowed a limited role in building "non-core" parts of the nation's 5G network. However,



that interim conclusion was leaked — allegedly by then-defence secretary Gavin Williamson, who denies this — and he was subsequently sacked by May.

Diplomatic balancing act

Part of the reason for the sensitivity of this issue is that London allowing even restricted use could create gaps in the intelligence and research shared among the Five Eyes members given the stance of Washington and Canberra on the issue which might potentially lead other members of the alliance to exclude or severely limit its use too. And it is therefore no coincidence that US officials has warned UK counterparts that it may limit intelligence sharing if they allow Huawei to build part of its 5G high speed mobile network. This decision, which has now been kicked out to May's successor Boris Johnson, is a high stakes diplomatic balancing act for London given its desire to form closer post-Brexit economic ties with China. David Cameron, May and now Boris Johnson figure that President Xi Jinping could be in power well into the 2020s, and they and fellow ministers view that there is an opportunity to develop a relationship that could make a significant contribution to UK prosperity for a generation to come. Yet, the new prime minister has also placed a super-priority too on building stronger ties with Donald

Trump, including a new bilateral trade deal, after the coolness of the latter's relationships with May.

Should there be a breach now between the United Kingdom and United States plus Australia on this issue, intelligence sharing could possibly be curtailed, creating possible gaps in collection, analysis and dissemination given the UK's focus on Europe and the Middle East. Meanwhile, London could lose access to information collected by other Five Eyes powers in other areas of the globe, including South America and Asia-Pacific.

While the new UK government of Johnson thinks through these issues, Canada looks likely to postpone a final decision on this thorny issue until after October's federal election. Meanwhile, New Zealand is looking for a 'third way' path. After initially following Australia's lead, the Government Communications Security Bureau now allows firms to demonstrate that they can mitigate national security concerns before potentially using Huawei equipment in 5G networks. Taken overall, Huawei represents a significant challenge to the future of Five Eyes. Much could now depend upon the stance of Johnston on the issue which may also help shape direction of policy in Canada and New Zealand, plus other allied nations outside of the alliance.

Gaza as cinematic metaphor

Since the Great March of Return began on Land Day, March 30 last year, initiated by independent activists in Gaza, 260 Palestinians have been killed, and at least 10,000 injured, many maimed for life. Last Saturday, four others were shot and killed.

Why do these Gazans keep coming back to the border that separates their tiny strip of land from what was once their ancestral homeland? And as we watch endearingly quaint images of protesters wielding slingshots, with the sombre abandon and amused majesty of ancient warriors, we ask why it is that, in a killing field where imminent death is writ large, they mock the lethal power of their enemy. And who is out there these days to articulate the depth of that sensibility?

We read the dispatches of news reporters and these solicit from us dispersed, shallow attention. We gaze at arresting pictures shot by photojournalists and we find even these a mere paraphrase. Only in cinematic art, in this case the film documentary, that the spirit of Gaza appears to be genuinely resurrected.

And so many astute documentarians from the West have descended on Gaza in recent years, beginning with James Langley, who directed the touching Gaza Strip (2002), about the travails of a 13-year-old grade school dropout eking out a living in that impoverished strip of land.

Their films, in essence, deal with the lyrical abstraction of how a people, when denied a voice, resort to making stones speak for them. Langley's effort was soon followed by the sombre Death in Gaza (2004) whose first scenes open in the West Bank but then it moves on to Gaza, where the crew spent their time shooting footage in a refugee camp — that is till, the producer-director, James Miller, while filming, was shot dead by an Israeli soldier.

The death was later woven into and made a part of the film narrative. Since then, there has been a torrent of prize-winning documentaries shot by truly talented documentarians, each with his unique vision of how two million people, under siege by land, sea and air, whose suffering is beyond all rational understanding, can still find the time and the will to dance, sing love and socialise.

Incredibly vibrant film

The most recent is called simply Gaza, a rich cinematic portrait full of poignant detail, including the scene of a teenage girl fetchingly playing her cello on a hill overlooking the timeless Mediterranean.

The film, which premiered in January at the Sundance Film Festival, a venue that usually attracts 50,000 attendees each year, got raves across the board.

The Financial Times reviewer, for example, was particularly struck by the scene with the young cellist. "She sits there like a lamenting angel," he wrote, "sounding her earthy harp ... [where an apartment block] has been impaled by a keeled-over minaret, as if religion itself has been brought tumbling".

The co-director, Andrew McConnel, a photojournalist and professional documentary filmmaker who grew up in Ireland, told reporters: "The heart of this film is about what it's like to live in this extraordinary strip of land. Gaza is incredibly vibrant, colourful and boisterous. It's one of the most unique places I've ever been to ... For us the focus of the film was to capture the essence of the everyday lives as lived in this much misunderstood, complex and beautiful place".

Pain and resilience

Samoni Road, which premiered in Paris in February and had won the best documentary award at the Foreign Press Film Awards there, is directed by Italian filmmaker Stefano Savona, who spent nine long years trying to piece together what happened during Israel's 2009 ground offensive, when a farming community in the north of Gaza was razed to the ground by the special forces, who killed 29 civilians, mostly huddled together in one house.

The film, said Savona, was a look at the "pain and resilience of these people".

Two weeks ago, at Spain's National Goya Awards, another film, also called Gaza, which won for best short, depicts the destruction heaped on the Strip during the dreadful 2014 war.

The director, Julio Perez del Campo, dedicated it to "those suffering under Zionist terrorism", bluntly called for resistance against "Zionist apartheid" and for "adherence to the international boycott of Israel". Oh, yes, in Spain you can tell it like it is. In the US, not so much.

An empty narrative on secularism

There is a spate of seminars and round tables hosted by illusive think tanks and intellectual groups operating out of India - often with the collaboration of foreign-based strategic analysts - on the likely directions the Modi government in its second tenure may be taking to advance its nationalist agenda. Like in the past, the discussions are couched in scepticism about such matters as 'secularism', 'intolerance', 'pluralism', 'majoritarianism' and 'inclusiveness'. It seems the convincing political victory of Modi's leadership in the last General Election has not deterred the detractors of his regime from taking to non-political platforms for running it down on nebulous issues in an attempt to rebuild a constituency for the opposition. Each of these markers of politics needs to be critically examined. Projection of the alleged rise of a 'Hindu Rashtra', suppression of dissent and a sense of insecurity amongst the Muslim minority are being banded about to make a spurious argument of the advent of 'majoritarianism' in India. In a democratic state, adult franchise establishes the principle of 'one man one vote' which indeed was violated by the caste and communal groups who benefited from the unequal weightage enjoyed by the voters loyal to them. It is natural that communities will have votes according to their numerical strength but it is the sectarian leaders trying to seek positions of power on the strength of their 'vote banks' who had invented the term 'majoritarianism' to further consolidate their grip on their constituents. In the last General Election, there was a certain degree of backlash against the intense campaigning of the opposition to woo the Muslim minority. What added to this blowback was the fear of the new global terror that advocates violence and seeks to root it in notions of faith. In the Indian context, many leaders of the minority community instead of rejecting upfront the call for jihad in Kashmir or elsewhere took to defensive pleas - for political reasons - to put up with religion-based militancy. The backlash of this helped BJP quite a bit without that party having to suggest establishment of a 'Hindu Rashtra' in India. With the return of Narendra Modi as Prime Minister on a far bigger electoral strength, his emphasis on nationalism through the call of 'India First' is being misrepresented as a devious way of bringing in 'majoritarianism' that would presage the 'Hindu Rashtra'. The character of democratic polls in

India, however, is in no danger of being altered in favour of giving a new denominational label to our Republic. Anti-Modi forces have discovered another instrument of combat - 'pluralism' - to attack the regime. In a democratic rule, the state is governed by a political executive that does not carry a party or community tag after elections, even if the electoral process might have allowed communal appeals to come into play. 'Pluralism' in a multi-community scenario like what obtains in India operates at the socio-cultural level and not at the level of the political apex ruling the country that did not recognise any community stamp on governance. The proxies for the opposition are trying to tinker with the non-sectarian functioning of the national government's set up by demanding exemption from the Constitutional duty of showing respect for national symbols or from adherence to working hours of the government for performing religious chores. This becomes even more blatant in the narrative on 'secularism' that the opposition has tried to build over time. In terms of political history, the fact that this borrowed concept was incorporated in our Constitution more than two decades after the adoption of the original, also perhaps provides the answer as to how secularism was subjected to a dubious interpretation to get added political advantage for India's largest minority. When the adjectives 'secular' and 'socialist' were added in the Preamble by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, she was perhaps negotiating India's positioning in the Cold War era in the strategic interest of the Republic. The original Constitution of India did not carry these labels for a good reason - a democratic state is inherently secular and equitable for it wields the two powerful instruments of secularism of providing development to all and ensuring the same protection of law to every citizen. Secularism defines the relationship of neutrality or equidistance between the state and religions. Between the two models of secularism - the state not taking cognisance of religion or showing equal respect for all religions, India opted for the latter. Incidentally, while the tag of 'socialism' could be easily assimilated in the functioning of a welfare state that India has had to be all this while, 'secularism' soon became a ploy for certain parties to play up minority politics. Interpretation of 'secularism' has been further twisted by putting it in conjunction with the call of



'inclusiveness', which is something as undefined as anything could be but is used again to create the impression that the ruling dispensation was discriminating against minorities. The political apex governing democratic India does not, as already mentioned, identify itself with any denomination nor can it be allowed to turn into a conglomeration of entities serving individual communities. The demand that minorities should have representation in the cabinet is a dangerous projection of religion into politics. India cannot entertain it after the traumatic experience of Partition. It is for the leaders of communities to see that their faith and culture did not breed exclusivism and did not come in the way of social interactiveness. Democracy ensures that every one has the same right of freedom to choose his or her candidate in an election - this symbolises political inclusiveness - and that the criminal law worked for every body overruling whatever might have been legitimised by the civil law or a community's code of ethics, to establish equality of all citizens before the state. Criminalisation of Triple Talaq should be seen as a move to give legal protection to a large segment of Indian women who were exposed to a hanging threat of total deprivation justified by interpretations of faith - the legitimate process of seeking a divorce was in place in all such cases. On the whole 'inclusiveness' is being cleverly used as a slogan to show the regime in the wrong without evidence and to keep certain vote banks intact. 'Secularism', 'inclusiveness', 'pluralism' and 'majoritarianism' all converge on the same strategic aim of the opponents of Modi - of projecting his rule as a pro-Hindu regime where the Muslim minority felt unprotected. Some cases of mob violence against individual Muslims on the issue of cow slaughter or refusal to hail

Hindu Gods as figures of reverence have given enough fodder to them to mobilise public opinion against the Modi dispensation. The state governments must go after the culprits in these cases with full force. The anti-Modi campaigners are relying heavily on some forces abroad to paint a picture of India as a country that was fast becoming an 'intolerant' regime out to enforce its own idea of mono-cultural India, put down dissent and generally suppress the 'liberal values' of our times. What causes concern is that for these liberals even the counter-terrorism drive in Kashmir is a violation of human rights. They do not say a word against the planned infiltration of Mujahideen into the Valley from across the LoC. Anti-India lobbies are active also in the UN and it is only appropriate that our foreign policy establishment has responded sternly to defamatory attempts directed from there against India on the issue of human rights. So long as the Modi government pursues a policy of development of all and takes care to strictly enforce law against crimes motivated by sectarian thoughts there is no reason why it should not be able to forge ahead with policies that do the country good. Even though law and order is a state responsibility, the Centre should appear to be active in putting its full weight against sponsors of mob violence of any kind. The common men of all communities share the same problems of livelihood, healthcare and security. The General Election of 2019 has demonstrated that the people judge a leadership on performance dedicated to the general good and are not taken in by motivated propaganda of political opponents who exploited community sentiment for the sake of power. The people expect the Modi government to just concentrate on Development and Security in all their dimensions.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah should be sacked and his membership of Parliament revoked

▶ Amit Shah should immediately apologize to all the people of the country

Sangareddy District December 19 : Union Home Minister Amit Shah condemned the inappropriate comments made by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar on Ambedkar in the Rajya Sabha in Sangareddy District Center under the auspices of Social Public Associations. A protest rally was held from IB to New Bus Stand, holding Ambedkar's photos and carrying placards, from IB to New Bus Stand, demanding that the Government of India remove him from office and cancel the membership of the Parliament. Amit Shah, who is serving as the Home Minister after taking oath on the Constitution of India, said that

the entire Rajya Sabha condemns the inappropriate comments made by the Mahaneyu on the Constitution maker Dr. BR Ambedkar. Ambedkar has dedicated his life for the downtrodden and it is not right to speak inappropriately against such a great person, while the BJP has been paying tributes to Ambedkar from the beginning. He said that they are trying to destroy the Constitution of India and they are trying to replace the Constitution with Manuwad. Dr. BR Ambedkar demanded that Amit Shah apologize to all the people of the country for insulting him and immediately remove Amit Shah from

the post of Home Minister. BC Association National General Secretary Biraya Yadav Ashok Eminent Advocate Rama Rao SC ST Monitoring Committee Members Immayya Chandrasekhar Advocate Lakshmi spoke. In this program leaders of Dalit Social Public Associations All India Ambedkar Youth Association District Honorary President B Ashok Senior Leaders Anantiah, Ramulu Lakshmaiah Jaipal Naik Rajender Naik Former Sarpanch Sagar Nagaraj Prabhudas Praveen Pawan Baswaraj Nagesh Dasu Krishna Balraj Dattu Uday Yadagiri Sagar Suresh Suresh Naik Akhil and others participated.



TNGOS district president Md.Javid Ali paid tribute to Ambedkar

Sangareddy District. December 19 : Dr. BR Ambedkar, the founder of Constitution of India, was commemorated by garlanding the statue of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar in Sangareddy District Center under the leadership of TNGVOS District President M.D. Javid Ali. M.D. Javid Ali spoke on this occasion, Ambedkar said that India has made great progress in all fields in the last 75 years due to the constitution written by Ambedkar and has given equal rights to all the people of the country. He praised the Indian Constitution as the reason why everyone is united regardless of caste and religion. He said that all the people of India believed in Babasaheb's doctrine and will always remember Ambedkar. In this program, district associate presidents Kasini Srikanth, P. Venkata Reddy,



treasurer G. Srinivas, Nirmala Rajakumari, MD. Gous Hashmi, Shakeel, Badri Prasad, Shankaraiah, Mujahid and others participated.

Road safety awareness for poor drivers and vehicle owners

Pragati Express/Shankar Palli : In view of the recent incidents, Shankarpally Police and RTO officials have come together to create awareness among the drivers and owners of private buses in Shankarpally at Shankarpally Police Station.



Especially when private vehicles and taxi plate vehicles belonging to other states come into Telangana state, the drivers here take the law into their own hands and stop the vehicles from neighboring states causing trouble to the passengers. Kondapur MVIK said that it is a crime under the law and if any

such incidents come to their notice they should inform the concerned RTO officials who will catch them at the RTO checkposts near the interstate borders and fine them as per law. Sunita informed. Shankar

Pally Police Station CI K Srinivas Goud has informed that those who stop the buses and cause trouble to the passengers will be registered and investigated and strict action will be taken against them.

Amit Shah should be sacked

▶ BC Welfare Association National General Secretary Biraya Yadav

Sangareddy District December 19 : Sangareddy- National General Secretary of BC Welfare Association Biraya Yadav has demanded that Union Home Minister Amit Shah should apologize to the country for insulting Constitution maker Dr. Ambedkar in Parliament. On this occasion, a rally was organized with the Dalit Bahujan Sanghas in District Center Sangareddy and Rastaroku was held at the new bus stand. On this occasion, Birayya Yadav said that how much interest does the BJP have in the RSS, and demanded that Amit Shah, who insulted the constitution in the full house, should resign as he is unfit to continue in the post. Dalit community



leaders Bindla Ashok, Rama Rao, Anantiah, Lakshya, Jaipal Naik, Rajender Naik, Anwar, Pawan, Srikanth, Akhil Dalit Bahujan leaders participated in this program.

PICTALK

The Publication Department of APJ Abdul Kalam Welfare Society, Hyderabad, informs that a three-day exhibition of international currency notes, coins, and rare items, stamps, paintings will be held in the historic city of Hyderabad Deccan on 23, 24, 25 December 2024 from 9 am to 7 pm. The venue will be opposite Urdu House, Asri Hospital, Mughalpur, Hyderabad, in which the exhibition of rare items from international currency notes of previous periods to national ones has been organized by Dr. APG Abdul Kalam Welfare Society. The spokesperson of the society, Mr. Syed Khwaja Qadirullah Qadri, has requested all the gentlemen to participate in this occasion. Admission will be free.



For more information and details, you can contact the Secretary of the Society, Mr. Abdul Hai, Chief Engineer, on the phone number 850021230. The exhibition will be inaugurated on 23 December, in which the special guest will be a notable guest. Mir Zulfiqar Ali, Member of Assembly, Char Minar constituency, Ms. Nasreen Sultana,

Corporator, Mughalpur, Mr. Kazim Hussain Khan, President, Primary Majlis Ittehadul Muslimeen, and others will also participate. Today, Kazim Hussain Khan was laid to rest by the society at the hands of Mr. Dr. Samad Usmani. On this occasion, Qari Sultan Mirza, Secretary, Congress Party, and others were also present.



TNGS Central Union, President Maram Jagadeeswar and General Secretary Dr. S. M. Hussain (Mujeeb) on the orders of Hyderabad District President Mr. S. Telangana Gazetted Officers Association President Sri. Eluru Srinivasa Rao, General Secretary A. Satyanarayana, Central Association President Maram Jagadeshwar, General Secretary Dr. Mujib started. Hyderabad District President of Gazetted Officers Association Mr. M.B. Krishna Yadav, Kendra Sangha Associate President Kas-

turi Venkat, Leaders Muhammad Nazir, Boligidda Shankar, Rangareddy President Sri. Laxman, City Unit Secretary Harikrishna, Former Secretary G. Prabhakar, Former Member Smt. Janaki, special guests Smt. Seema Mujeeb participated. Among the women's sports competitions held today were caroms, chess and shuttle. As part of the Swaminathan Cricket Memorial Tournament, on the third day, CRO team over the dental team, DEO team over the irrigation team, Hyderabad Youth

Force team over the stamps registration, CTO over the IG team. Team, Agriculture University team won against Excise team, Central Central Library team won against Gandhi Hospital team. Hyderabad district members KR Raj Kumar, Kurradi Srinivas, Khalid Ahmed, Vaidik Shashtra, Mukeem Qureshi, Sridhar Naidu, Geeta Singh, Sujata and Mohammad Waheed participated in the programme. Meal facilities were provided to all the employees who attended the sports competition program.

PICTALK

Sangareddy District. December 19: V. Srinivas Reddy nominated for the 6th time from NNR Group on behalf of Workers Union Register No. 1 in VST Parishram at the Labor Office at the Collectorate... On this occasion, VSR said that they have won the last 5 times in the VST industry and have nominated for the 6th time. We have been winning in the VST industry for the past 5 years, he said. He said that all the workers should vote for the lion symbol and win their union which works for the welfare of the workers by solving



the problems of the workers. General Secretary Prabhakar Vice President Sylvester Babi, Deputy General Secretary Ravi Yadav and members

Madhusudan. Krishna Srinivas Hathik Madhu Ravinder Reddy Shankar Madhusudan and others participated in the nomination program...

Inspections on RMP First Aid Centers in Nawabuppette Mandal

▶ Two first aid centers are under siege income strata.
▶ Warning for two more clinics
▶ Nawabuppette Mandal Medical Officer Dr. Rohit

Pragati Express Vikarabad : Nawabuppette Mandal Medical Officer Dr. Rohit conducted surprise inspections on first aid centers in Nawabuppette mandal center as per the orders of District Medical Officer (DMHO). On this occasion, Dr. Rohit, Medical Officer of Nawabuppette Primary Health Center said... According to the orders of DMHO, the hospitals in the mandal center and within the limits were inspected on Thursday. He said that after checking the three hospitals in

Nawabuppette mandal centre, one of them, Rukmini, was identified as a first aid centre. He said that Rukmini First Aid Center was seized by treating an MBBS doctor instead of the treatment that should be done in the first aid center. He said that it is not okay to give glucose to patients without any permission and to give treatment to small children in the first aid center without permission. It is not correct to add glucose as per will. He said that the absence of a pharma-

cist even to give tablets to the patients during the inspection was done by the RMP. Also, a person named Kumar, who has been providing first aid in a setter for the last five years in Phul Mamidi village under the mandal, said that while he was doing medical treatment in the name of medicine, he was identified as Pake RMP and seized. When a person named Kumar was asked to show the medical certificate, he said that he did not have any certificate, and as a fake RMP was found, he said that the center had seized the medicine required for his treatment without his permission. He said that two more hospitals in Nawabuppette mandal center have been alerted. He said that if the certificate is in one's name, it is not right to



provide medical treatment to another. He said that if the certificate required for medical treatment is in their name, they should do it. He warned that if a person without

any certificate practices medicine, legal action will be taken. Community Health Officer Rafiq and others participated in this surprise inspection.

'No regrets' about retiring, says Ashwin on return to Chennai

Chennai, Dec 19 (GNS) R Ashwin has "zero regrets" about his sudden decision to retire from international cricket at the end of the Gabba Test, stating his desire to play for Chennai Super Kings for "as long as I can" because "I don't think Ashwin the cricketer is done".

After announcing his retirement in Brisbane on Wednesday afternoon, Ashwin was back in Chennai by Thursday morning and was received at home by his family and friends amid much fanfare, which included flower garlands, autograph hunters and a band.

"I never thought so many people will come here. I just wanted a quiet entry, and was looking forward to relax at home. But you have made my day," Ashwin told the crowd gathered near his residence. "I have played Test cricket for so many years, but the last time (I saw something) like this was after the 2011 World Cup. It's emotional for a lot of people, and may be it will sink in (in some time) but for me, personally, it is



a great sense of relief and satisfaction," Ashwin said of his decision to retire. "It was very instinctive and it has been running in my head for a while. I just felt (it) on day four and I just called it a day. "To be honest, we all go through a lot in our career, not only for cricketers but in general. Generally, when I go to sleep I re-

member a lot of things like taking wickets, making runs, but those memories are not there in the last two years. So, that was a clear indication that we need to take a different route now. I have not set any new goals, as I just want to relax now. Actually, it's difficult for me to stay inactive, but I want to try that now."

CT deadlock ends; India to play its matches at neutral venue



Dubai, Dec 19 (GNS) The deadlock over the hosting of Champions Trophy finally ended on Thursday when the ICC announced that India will play their matches of the 50-over event at a neutral venue instead of in the host country Pakistan, which will have a similar arrangement for tournaments to be held in India till 2027. "The ICC Board has approved that

all matches between India and Pakistan played at ICC events during the current rights cycle from 2024 to 2027 (which are to be hosted in India or Pakistan) will be played at a neutral venue proposed by the tournament host," said the ICC in a statement. The arrangement will apply to the Champions Trophy 2025 (Pakistan), next year's women's Cricket World

Cup in India and the T20 World Cup in 2026 in India and Sri Lanka. India had refused to travel to Pakistan for the event scheduled in February-March due to security concerns. India have not played in Pakistan since the 2008 Mumbai terror attacks. "The schedule for the ICC Champions Trophy 2025 is set to be confirmed soon," the ICC stated.

India hope misfiring top order will come good after Gabba jailbreak

► India snatched a draw in the rain-blighted third Test in Brisbane despite yet another top-order debacle that left them reeling at 74-5 in reply to Australia's 445

New Delhi, Dec 19 (GNS) A jailbreak at the Gabba has brought a palpable sense of relief in the India camp, while giving rise to hope their misfiring top order will finally come good in more batting-friendly conditions in the final two tests against Australia.

India snatched a draw in the rain-blighted third Test in Brisbane despite yet another top-order debacle that left them reeling at 74-5 in reply to Australia's 445. Number seven batter Ravindra Jadeja inspired a spirited rearguard action and India's final pair of Akash Deep and Jasprit Bumrah combined in a 47-run partnership to stave off follow-on.

While India managed to keep the five-test series level at 1-1 heading into the Boxing day test in Melbourne, the fragility of their top order remains a major concern for the tourists. In five completed innings so far in the series, only once have India managed an opening stand of more than 12 runs.

The lone exception came in the second innings of the series opener in Perth where Yashasvi Jaiswal and KL Rahul forged a 201-run partnership to set up their comprehensive victory. The poor starts meant on three out of those five occasions, India posted sub-200 scores, including twice in the day-night second Test in Adelaide, which Australia won by 10 wickets.

There is a growing feeling in the camp, though, that the worst is behind them and that batting will be easier in the last two Tests in Melbourne and Sydney. "Whatever happened today, it gave us confidence ahead of Melbourne,"



India captain Rohit Sharma told reporters on Wednesday. "We're aware we have to start from scratch, conditions are different there and the ball may not move around so much there like it did here." Rohit's own struggle with form is symptomatic of the greater malaise afflicting the Indian top order. The 37-year-old, who missed the opening test to be with his newborn son in Mumbai, has just one fifty in his last 13 test innings. The opener has moved down to the middle order in his bid to regain form but managed a highest score of 10 in

three innings. "I have not batted well, there is no harm in accepting that," Rohit said, denying he was feeling under pressure. "As long as my mind, my body and my feet are moving well, I'm pretty happy with how things are panning out for me." India need to win both matches to make the World Test Championship (WTC) final for the third time in a row without having to rely on other results. Champions Australia need two wins and a draw in their next four Tests, which include two in Sri Lanka, to be sure of qualification.

Jadhav beats Olympians to win 50m 3P gold



New Delhi, Dec 19 (GNS) In one of the biggest upsets of the ongoing National Shooting Championships, Navy's Kiran Jadhav saw off two of the biggest Indian stars in the 50m 3 positions final in Bhopal. Though a shock result for everyone, it was normal business for Jadhav, who had already won the national prize in 2021 with both reigning world champion Swapnil Kusale and two-time Olympian Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar in that final field.

On Wednesday, Jadhav went under the radar during the first two disciplines of kneeling and prone and stayed in touch with early pace setters, including Kusale. He then hit his strides in the standing position to win the big prize.

He shot 465.8, finishing 2.7 points ahead of second placed Tomar. Kusale, who led the final till the 40th shot, finished third with a total of 451.8 points. "I am not as strong in kneeling and prone positions so my focus was to be steady to stay in the running. When the standing rounds came I could rise

in the rankings as it is my strongest discipline," Jadhav told.

This is not his first dig as the 29-year-old chief petty officer of the Navy has won the World Championships team gold alongside Arjun Babuta and Rudranksh Patil. Shooting came to him after he shifted to Mumbai from Bhatamwadi village in Satara. Once he joined the Pillai College he got drawn to the sport as the Lakshya Shooting Club has a tie-up with the institution. Former shooter and acclaimed coach Suma Shirur saw potential and all his needs were taken care of.

"He came from a humble family in Satara. We saw a lot of potential in him and he was fully sponsored by our club," Shirur said. "He joined the Navy as he had to have a job but even now he comes and trains when he can," she added. Jadhav has no qualms in accepting the big role played by Shirur in his career. "I come from a village that has a population of 1,500. My father is a farmer. We do not have the money for this sport. It is very expensive," Jadhav said.

Real Madrid beats Pachuca in Intercontinental Cup final

Lusail (Qatar), Dec 19 (GNS) Real Madrid defeated Mexican team Pachuca 3-0 in the Intercontinental Cup final on Wednesday, making Carlo Ancelotti the most decorated coach in the club's history. This victory marked Ancelotti's 15th title with the Spanish powerhouse, surpassing the 14 trophies won by both him and Miguel Muñoz, who coached the team in the 1960s and 70s. "Very happy, it's a triumph," said the 65-year-old Ancelotti, who was named men's coach of the year at FIFA's The Best awards just the day before. "We didn't get off to a good start but finished well, showing great attitude."

Madrid claims fourth Intercontinental Cup
Kylian Mbappé, Rodrygo and Vinicius Júnior each scored a goal as Madrid clinched their fourth Intercontinental Cup title. They previously won the prestigious competition in 1960, 1998 and



2002. Pachuca, which has never won the tournament, was defeated by the European champions in the final. The competition, which brings together the champions of all six soccer confederations, is being played in a new format after FIFA expanded the Club World Cup to 32 teams for 2025.

Mbappé, Rodrygo,

Vinicius seal win

Mbappé, who started after recovering from a left-thigh injury, opened the scoring in the 37th minute with an assist from Vinicius. Rodrygo added a second goal in the 53rd minute, shooting into the corner and Vinicius, named the FIFA men's player of the year on Tuesday.

Bonmati goal helps Barcelona qualify as group winner in Women's Champions League

Barcelona, Dec 19 (GNS) Fresh off winning another global award, Spain playmaker Aitana Bonmati scored a crucial goal to help defending champions Barcelona secure a 3-0 victory over Manchester City in their Group D encounter on Wednesday. The win ensured Barcelona finished top of the group, advancing to the quarterfinal.

Bonmati's goal came in the 57th minute when she raced through and slotted the ball between the goalkeeper's legs, doubling Barcelona's lead. The victory saw both teams finish group play tied on 15 points; however, Barcelona progressed as group winners due to a superior goal difference.

Bonmati, who won the last two Ballon d'Or awards in women's soccer, was also named the women's player of the year at FIFA's The Best awards on Tuesday — marking the second consecutive year she received the prestigious



honor. Arsenal secured their place as the fourth group winner and the second from England after defeating Bayern

Munich 3-2, with Spain striker Mariona Caldentey scoring a match-clinching penalty in the 86th minute.