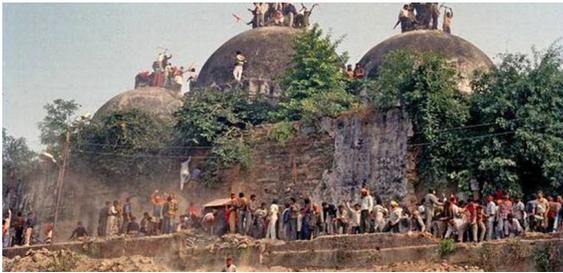


National news

SC dismisses plea seeking live streaming of Ayodhya dispute case



Agency New Delhi Aug 6,

The Supreme Court on Tuesday turned down former BJP leader and Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) ideologue KN Govindacharya's plea seeking live streaming or audio/video recording of the day-to-day proceedings in the Ayodhya dispute case saying it was not feasible now. In his plea moved on Saturday, Govindacharya had requested a bench headed by Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi for live streaming of the Ayodhya case proceedings, which began today.

The plea cited the Supreme Court's September 2018 judgement which ruled that SC proceedings must be live streamed. It said that despite around a year having gone by, the implementation of the SC ruling in the matter was yet to take place. Govindacharya, in his petition, said: "This case is a matter of national importance. There are crores of persons, including the petitioner, who want to witness proceedings before this court, but cannot do the same due to the present norms of the Supreme Court." "If live streaming is not feasible as of now, then the proceedings can be recorded on audio or video by the court

officers and transcripts of the court proceedings can be released on the top court website later on," the plea said. He said that people were desperate for early justice in the Ram Temple matter, wherein Lord Ram was kept in a makeshift tent for the past many years. "This matter has been pending in the Supreme Court for the last nine years, and the public at large is interested in knowing the reasons behind the delay in deciding the cases," the petitioner further added. Govindacharya said as a digital super power, India had the means to arrange for live streaming of the Ayodhya matter.

'Be ready': Amit Shah's phone call that began countdown to revoke Article 370

Agency New Delhi Aug 6,

The ground work had been done. The troops had been moved, the Israeli Heron drones were in place and military planes had flown scores of sorties to ramp up Kashmir's buffer stock for food supplies. Back in Delhi, the triumvirate of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah and National Security Adviser Ajit Doval had gone over their blueprint several times over. On Sunday evening, Home Minister Amit Shah made the phone call to the two intelligence chiefs: Arvind Kumar who heads the domestic spy agency Intelligence Bureau and Samant Goel, the chief of India's external spy agency, Research and Analysis Wing. Be ready, Shah told them. The two officials handpicked by Prime Minister Narendra Modi were clued in to many of the secret discussions that had preceded the decision to end the special status for Jammu and Kashmir. But this was probably the first time that the security establishment figured that PM Modi was going to go ahead with the plan, and now.

In the discussions that followed through Sunday evening in the security establishment, it was decided to restrict movements of the Kashmir valley's most prominent political leaders and subsequently, impose curfew. Leaders of the two regional political parties were expected to try to mobilize people because they would stand to lose the most. They were also, according to intelligence assessments, the most likely targets of terrorists backed by Pakistan because they were high-profile enough to attract international attention. Stripping Jammu and Kashmir's special status under the constitution had been a long-articulated stand of the Bharatiya Janata Party. Right from the time the BJP, then Jana Sangh, would only contest municipal elections. "Because we believed that Article 370 was wrong, not in national interest," Amit Shah told parliament in one of the many interventions during the debate. "This is not about politics... but the country," he told the Rajya Sabha. But it was National Security Adviser Ajit Doval who worked on this approach from a strategic perspective. The



argument was that revoking Article 370 and splitting the state into two union territories, would help in complete integration of the state with rest of the union. In terms of diplomacy, it would prove to be a game changer by changing the facts on the ground. In his report to the government after a quick visit to the Kashmir valley after Article 370 push became public, Ajit Doval told Prime Minister Narendra Modi that the public sentiment on the ground mostly matched their calculations. Home Minister Amit Shah's assurance in parliament to roll back the statehood issue had gone down well with the public who did realise that the state's politicians had been taking them for a ride. In internal discussions, PM Modi's government had

discussed the revocation of Article 35A more than once over the last few years. But it was the meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi with the Research and Analysis Wing's new chief Samant Goel that set the balling rolling this time. Goel indicated that there was a distinct possibility of a deal between the US and the Pakistan-supported Taliban by September 1 following which Washington could choose to reward Islamabad for its role with the resumption of military and economic aid. That could lead to an intensification of Islamabad's direct and indirect sponsorship of terror groups operating in Kashmir. If India had to make the move on J&K's special status that was on the government's agenda, there wasn't a lot of time to lose.

More State News

Assam Rifles Conducts Mega Health Awareness Camp

IGAR (South) Imphal Aug 6,

Thoubal Battalion of 9 Sector Assam Rifles under the aegis of IGAR (South) organised a mega health awareness camp at Yairipok. The health awareness camp commenced with an informative lecture on 'Health, Hygiene and Sanitation' followed by an interactive session during which various queries raised by the attendees were clarified by the unit medical team. The locals were also enlightened on basic healthcare issues including precautions against common viral diseases as well as importance of hygiene and sanitation for maintaining a healthy lifestyle. As part of the camp, the unit medical team provided necessary medical assistance



to the locals of the areas in an around Yairipok. In addition, to the medical checkup, consultation on various diseases and health related issues as well as free medicines were distributed to the needy patients. As a goodwill gesture, 16 doctors from various departments of the Thoubal District medical authority voluntarily participated and assisted the

battalion in the camp. The health awareness camp received positive and overwhelming response from the local populace with over 400 people attending the camp. All the attendees conveyed their heartfelt gratitude to the Assam Rifles for their sincere endeavour and requested for more such camps in the near future for the benefit of the entire community.

Fisheries Minister Kayisii Inaugurates 1st Fish seed Fingerlings Mela at Senapati

DIPR Imphal, August 5,

Fisheries Minister N. Kayisii today inaugurated the 1st Fish Seed Fingerlings Mela at Senapati Mini Stadium. Addressing the gathering as the Chief Guest, Minister Kayisii said that about ninety percent of the population in the State consume fish and fish products. Despite being a small department, fisheries department is tasked with a crucial responsibility of meeting these demands, he stated. Reiterating the State's goal of attaining self sufficiency in fish production by eliminating fish import by 2022, Kayisii expressed gratitude to the honourable Chief Minister for allocating rupees 1.5 Crores through additional funding for promoting fish farming. Expressing satisfaction on the overwhelming response



towards the mela, Kayisii opined that the Fish Seed Mela will help place Senapati in becoming one of the leading fish producers in the State. Kayisii also interacted with local fish farmers following the inauguration ceremony and assured all possible assistance to promising fish farmers of the district. Altogether, more than one lakh sixty thousand good quality fish fingerlings were stockpiled by the District

Fishery Office for the Mela. The Fish Seed Fingerlings Mela, the first of its kind in the State, drew a huge crowd and keen participation from over 400 intending fish

farmers, DLOs, community leaders, officials and staff from fisheries department. The mela was organized by District Fishery Office, Senapati.

A R Conducts Security Meets



IGAR (South) Imphal Aug 6,

To review the security situation in the area, in view of upcoming Independence Day Thoubal and Tulihal Battalions of 9 Sector Assam Rifles under the aegis of IGAR (South) conducted security meets at Khongjom and Tulihal Company Operating Bases

(COBs). The security forums were attended by village Pradhans, ward members, councilors, members of village youth club, and locals of the respective areas. During the meets the locals were sensitised and updated on the current situation existing in the area of responsibility. An interaction was carried out on necessary measures to be

undertaken for maintaining a strict vigil in the area against illicit activities. In addition, future action plan in respect of civic action projects like medical camps, recruitment in the Assam Rifles and the Indian Army as well as career counseling for youth was also carried out. The security meets concluded with tea and refreshments for all the attendees.

A R Conducts Friendly Football Match

IGAR (South) Imphal Aug 6,

Tulihal Battalion of 9 Sector Assam Rifles under the aegis of IGAR (South) organised a friendly football match at Mayang Imphal. The match was organised by Mayang Imphal Company Operating Base and played between Brave Boy's Association and Mayang Imphal Football Club. The match was aimed at fostering competitive spirit and sportsmanship

amongst youth of the area. The match was played with full vigour and enthusiasm showcasing true team spirit by the teams. Both the teams gave their best efforts on the field. The match was applauded by over 100 locals who had come to witness the match from nearby villages. At the end of the match, both the winning and the runners up teams were felicitated with tokens of appreciation. The event concluded with tea and refreshments for all.

Assam Rifles Organises Community Service



IGAR (South) Imphal Aug 6,

Mantripukhri Battalion of 9 Sector Assam Rifles under the aegis of IGAR (South) organised a community service at Laikot Kom Baptist Church of Yaingangkopki. As part of the community service an interaction was organised with the locals to familiarise and orient troops of the Assam Rifles with the locals as well as identify with their local customs and traditions. The

event commenced with offering of prayers followed by an interaction with the villagers. The interaction proved to be of immense significance as over 60 villagers willingly shared their various issues of concern. The villagers expressed their profound gratitude towards Assam Rifles for connecting with them and extending their support to the villagers. Tea and refreshments were provided to the villagers after culmination of the event.