



Modi assures full support of Centre to Andhra Pradesh for its development

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi has assured full support of the Centre to Andhra Pradesh for its development. Addressing a public meeting at Tirupati last evening, the Prime Minister said, Andhra Pradesh has infinite possibilities for growth and the Centre and the state government must work

together to take the state to newer heights. Prime Minister Modi said, even though the BJP did not secure victory in Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, his government will not lessen the efforts, but increase them to ensure happiness and betterment of the people of the two states. The Prime Minister reiterated BJP's stand of serving the people round the clock and not only during the elections.

He said, they are in politics not just to contest elections but to serve the people. Mr Modi asserted that BJP workers are committed towards nation-building. The Prime Minister also offered prayers at the famous hill shrine of Lord Venkateswara in Tirupati. He reached Tirupati after concluding a his two-nation visit to the Maldives and Sri Lanka. In a tweet, External Affairs Ministry

spokesperson Raveesh Kumar said, the visit demonstrated India's priority to the Neighbourhood First policy. Yesterday, in Sri Lanka, Mr Modi held a bilateral meeting with President Maithripala Sirisena. The two leaders held discussions on several issues including unity in efforts for eradicating terrorism, maritime security in the Indian Ocean Region and cooperation in economic development.

Fresh charges filed against journalist for post on UP CM Yogi Adityanath

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Police added fresh charges on Sunday against Delhi-based freelance journalist Prashant Kanojia, who was arrested for allegedly sharing an objectionable post on Uttar Pradesh chief minister Yogi Adityanath on social media. Police also sealed the premises of a private television news channel in Noida for allegedly running without a licence, a day after arresting its chief and editor, also for broadcasting content allegedly defaming Adityanath.

The police action has sparked outrage in media circles, and the Editors Guild of India on Sunday criticised what it described as the "authoritarian misuse of laws". Kanojia last week shared a video of a Kanpur-based woman making allegations against Adityanath. He was picked up from his Delhi home on Saturday morning and sent to jail in the evening. The aforementioned woman has also been arrested. Senior superintendent of police (SSP) of Lucknow, Kalanidhi Naithani, said the initial probe provided evidence against Kanojia under Section 505 of IPC for making, publishing or circulating false statements, report or rumour and under Section 67 of the Information Technology Act for transmitting obscene material in electronic form. The SSP said the FIR against Kanojia was earlier registered under Section 500 of the IPC

(defamation) and Section 66 of the IT Act (computer-related offences) at Hazratganj police station on Friday night. But police did not provide any corroborative evidence about the new sections, or whether a magistrate had signed off on the defamation charge, mandatory because Section 500 is a non-cognisable offence. Separately, Noida city magistrate Shailendra Mishra issued an order to seal for two months the premises of Nation Live, a day after Ishika Singh, channelhead and Anuj Shukla, editor, were arrested for broadcasting a video of a Kanpur-based woman making allegations against the CM. "The incident could have led to serious law and order problems in the future. So it is very important to take concrete action against the channel and in order to stop immediate broadcast, the premises in sector 65 will be sealed for two months starting June 9," said magistrate's order. Besides Singh and Shukla, two others were booked for allegedly carrying 'unverified' content. "Two of the [other] accused are absconding at the moment and we are working on locating and arresting them," said senior

superintendent of police Vaibhav Krishna. While one of them is an anchor, the other is a lawyer. Officials said that documents showed the channel had a licence for 'Network 10' and not 'Nation Live', making it illegal. A separate case was registered under various sections of the IPC. The arrests continued to spark outrage for a second day with many activists and lawyers saying the police action muzzled free speech. "The police action is high-handed, arbitrary and amounts to an authoritarian misuse of laws," the Editors Guild said. Senior lawyer and Congress leader Abhishek Manu Singhvi urged the Allahabad HC to take suo-motu cognizance of the matter. "The detention of Prashant Kanojia for posting a video which fell foul of actors of state government is illegal and a miscarriage of justice," he tweeted. "We express our collective outrage at the manner in which Prashant Kanojia, Ishita Singh and Anuj Shukla have been arrested by UP Police." Indian Women's Press Corps, Press Club of India, South Asian Women in the Media Press Association said in a joint statement.

North and Central regions continue to be in grip of heat wave

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There has been no relief from heat wave in North and Central regions of the country even as the Monsoon advanced in the southern state of Kerala yesterday. Sri Ganganagar in Rajasthan was the hottest place in the country at 48.5 degrees Celsius. Churu and Kota districts of the state followed close behind, recording a maximum temperature of 48.3 degrees Celsius each. In Delhi, the maximum temperature settled at 43.8 degrees Celsius, four notches above the season's average. Narnaul in Haryana settled at 47 degrees, four notches above normal, while Bhiwani sizzled at 45.9 degrees, and Hisar at 45.3 degrees Celsius. In Punjab, Amritsar recorded 44 degrees, four notches above normal. In Uttar Pradesh, mercury in most of the places hovered around 44 degrees Celsius. AIR

correspondent reports that Banda was the hottest place in the state with 48 degrees Celsius, five notches above the normal. Allahabad recorded 47.7 degrees and Jhansi 47.5 degrees. The high temperature has badly affected normal life in the state. A large number of heat stroke, skin burn and dehydration cases have been reported at different hospitals. Incidents of fire due to high temperatures have also increased. Jammu also reeled under heat wave, recording a high of 43.1 degrees Celsius, while in the hill state of Himachal Pradesh heatwave conditions prevailed, despite rains in isolated parts on Saturday evening. In Madhya Pradesh, the maximum 48 degree temperature was recorded in Khajuraho and Naogaon. State capital Bhopal sizzled at 45.7 degrees, and Gwalior 47.3 degrees. "The MeT department said, the heatwave will prevail in north and central India this week, and

predicted severe heatwave in Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan over the next two days. Maharashtra experienced pre-monsoon showers in various parts yesterday giving respite from scorching heat. The showers hit hilly regions of Satara district, slowing down traffic on National Highway connecting Mumbai and Bengaluru. The MeT department said, some parts of Aurangabad and Jalna received showers accompanied by thunderstorms. Pune, Baranati and Indapur towns also experienced rain and lightning. Shirdi in Ahmednagar district received heavy showers along with gusty winds and lightning. The pre-monsoon showers led to power outages in some parts of the state, trees were uprooted

and houses were damaged in rural areas. In Kerala, there was moderate rain at several parts of the state yesterday, a day after Monsoon arrived, even as a low pressure area formed over the Arabian Sea. The MeT department said the low pressure was expected to intensify into a depression in the next two days and subsequently, into a cyclone. After a lay of a week, the monsoon hit the Kerala coast on Saturday, marking the official commencement of the four-month rainfall season in the country. This has also delayed its arrival in different parts of the country. The MeT department said, a delay in the arrival of Monsoon has pushed the country's rainfall deficiency in the first nine days of June to 45 per cent.

Wife of journalist moves SC challenging his arrest for post on Yogi Adityanath

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The wife of journalist Prashant Kanojia, who was arrested on Saturday for sharing a post on Uttar Pradesh chief minister Yogi Adityanath, moved the Supreme Court on Monday. The court agreed to hear the plea on Tuesday. Prashant Kanojia last week shared a video of a Kanpur-based woman making allegations against Adityanath. He was picked up from his Delhi home on Saturday morning and sent to jail in the evening. The woman has also been arrested. Senior superintendent of police (SSP) of Lucknow, Kalanidhi Naithani, said the initial probe provided evidence against Kanojia under Section 505 of IPC for making, publishing or circulating false statements, report or rumour and under Section 67 of the Information Technology Act for transmitting

obscene material in electronic form. The SSP said the FIR against Kanojia was earlier registered under Section 500 of the IPC (defamation) and Section 66 of the IT Act (computer-related offences) at Hazratganj police station on Friday night. But police did not provide any corroborative evidence about the new sections, or whether a magistrate had signed off on the defamation charge. On Sunday, police added fresh charges against Prashant Kanojia. Police also sealed the premises of a private television news channel in Noida for allegedly running without a licence, a day after arresting its chief and editor, also for broadcasting content allegedly defaming Adityanath. The police action has sparked outrage in media circles. The Editors Guild of India has criticised the arrest as "authoritarian misuse of laws".

Girish Karnad, veteran actor and playwright, dies at 81

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Jnanpith award winning playwright, actor and director Girish Karnad died at his residence in Bengaluru early Monday morning, aged 81. Karnad was a prominent playwright for four decades, often using history and mythology to tackle contemporary issues. His plays have been translated into English and several Indian languages and directed by directors like Ebrahim Alkazi, BV Karanth, Alyque Padamsee, Prasanna, Arvind Gaur, Satyadev Dubey, Vijaya Mehta, Shyammanand Jan, Amal Allana and Zafer Mohiuddin. He was conferred the Padma Shri and Padma Bhushan by the Government of India and has won four Filmfare Awards, of which three are Filmfare Award for Best Director - Kannada and



the fourth a Filmfare Best Screenplay Award. Karnad was born Girish Raghunath Karnad in Matheran, in present-day Maharashtra, in 1938. After working at the Oxford University Press, Kolkata, he decided to become a full-time writer. Karnad made his acting as well as screenwriting debut in the Kannada movie, Samskara (1970), based on a novel by UR Ananthamurthy and directed by Patabhirama Reddy. The film won the President's Golden Lotus Award for Kannada cinema. In television, he played the role of Swami's father in the TV series

Malgudi Days (1986-1987), based on RK Narayan's books. He also hosted the science magazine Turning Point on Doordarshan, in the early 1990s. He made his directorial debut with Vamsha Vriksha (1971), based on a Kannada novel by SL Bhyrappa. It won him National Film Award for Best Direction along with BV Karanth, who co-directed the film. Later, Karnad directed several movies in Kannada and Hindi, including Godhuli (1977) and Utsav (1984). He has several documentaries, on the Kannada poet DR Bendre (1972), Kanaka-Purandara (English, 1988) on two medieval Bhakti poets of Karnataka, Kanaka Dasa and Purandara Dasa, and The Lamp in the Niche (English, 1989) on Sufism and the Bhakti movement. He served as director of the Film and Television Institute of India (1974-1975) and chairman of the Sangeet Natak Akademi, the National Academy of the Performing Arts (1988-93).

NIA arrests Sabiruddin from Malda for conspiring to circulate fake currency in Bengaluru

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The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has arrested a person, identified as Sabiruddin from Malda, West Bengal, for allegedly conspiring to procure Fake Indian Currency Notes (FICN) from Bangladesh and supply it to Bengaluru and other parts of Karnataka. He was produced before the CJM Court, Malda, West Bengal today which granted the investigation

agency four days transit remand of the accused. The investigative agency said that the accused is being taken to Bengaluru where he will be produced before the special NIA Court. During the investigation, it was revealed that accused along with his associates had conspired to procure FICN from Bangladesh and supply it from Malda in West Bengal to Bengaluru and other parts of Karnataka for circulation using couriers.

Assam Rifles Conducts security meet

IGAR (South) Imphal June 9,

Tulihal Battalion of 9 Sector Assam Rifles under the aegis of IGAR (South) conducted a security meet at Tulihal Company Operating Base (COB). The security forum was attended by the Pradhans, Ward Councilors along with representatives of local youth clubs. During the meet the locals were sanitised and updated on current situation existing in the area of responsibility. There was also an interaction carried out on necessary measures required to be undertaken by locals in synergy with Assam Rifles for maintaining a strict vigil against illicit activities in the area. In addition to the security



issues, future action plan in respect of civic action projects like medical camps, recruitment in Assam Rifles and Army and career counseling for youth were also discussed during the

meet. The locals expressed their gratitude and appreciated the efforts of Assam Rifles for conduct of such security meetings and ensuring peace in

the area and assured their commitment and assistance in maintaining the same. The security meet concluded with tea and refreshments for all the attendees.

India calls upon G-20 countries to urgently resolve issue of taxing profits made by offshore digital companies

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India has called upon the G-20 countries to urgently fix the issue of taxing profits made by digital economy companies in countries where they do not have significant physical presence. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman addressed the two-day meeting of the G-20 Finance Ministers and central bank Governors at

Fukuoka in Japan yesterday. In a statement, the Finance Ministry said, as offshore digital companies such as Facebook, Google and Netflix have little presence in India, taxing their profits is not possible. This prompted the government to roll out equalization levy as a tax deducted at source on payments made to them by Indian firms with effect from June 2016. The statement said, the aim

is to bring offshore companies with significant economic presence in India into the tax net to address the shortcomings in taxing the digital economy. However, India opposed attempts by developed countries to formulate an e-commerce policy outside the World Trade Organization framework. The meeting of G-20, grouping of developed and developing countries, concluded yesterday.