

BJP's Om Birla elected speaker of Lok Sabha, PM Modi calls him an 'inspiration'

Agency
New Delhi June 19,

Two-time BJP MP Om Birla was elected as the speaker of the Lok Sabha on Wednesday. The 56-year-old is a member of Parliament from Rajasthan's Kota and succeeds Sumitra Mahajan. The motion to choose Birla as the speaker was moved by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who is also Leader of the House, and passed by a voice vote. "That Shri Om Birla, a member of the House, be chosen as the

Speaker of this House," read the motion. The motion was seconded by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh. Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated Birla for his election and called him an "inspiration" for the House. Birla's name was supported by all major opposition parties, including Congress, Trinamool, DMK and BJD. His election as the speaker was a foregone conclusion given that the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance has a clear majority of 353 members in the 543-member

Lok Sabha. A three-term Rajasthan assembly member, Birla served as parliamentary secretary to the state government from 2004 to 2008. He is considered to be close to both PM Modi and home minister Amit Shah. He won his first Lok Sabha election in 2014 and was again elected this year from Rajasthan's Kota-Bundi seat. Birla defeated Congress's Ramnarayan Meena with a margin of over 2.5 lakh votes in

the recently concluded general election. Birla was the national vice president of BJP's youth wing, the Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha (BJYM). He also headed BJYM in Rajasthan for six years. A social worker, he has worked for the welfare of differently abled people and women. He led a relief team of over 100 volunteers including doctors to help the victims of the January 2001 Gujarat earthquake.

Election of Lok Sabha speaker to be held today

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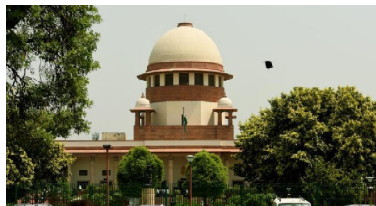
The Election of the Lok Sabha speaker will be held today. BJP has nominated its MP Om Birla for the post. Mr Birla who is a two-time MP from Kota, Rajasthan filed his nomination yesterday. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Ministers Rajnath Singh, Amit Shah and Nitin Gadkari proposed the name of Mr Birla.



The parties including BJD, Shiv Sena, Akali Dal, LJP, YSR Congress, JD(U) and AIADMK have supported his

nomination. Congress has also moved a motion supporting the ruling party candidate for the post of Speaker of Lok Sabha. The decision was taken at a meeting of the UPA allies in parliament last evening.

S C notice to E C on plea against separate by-poll for 2 RS seats



Agency
New Delhi June 19,

The Supreme Court on Wednesday sought a response from the Election Commission by June 24 on a plea of the Gujarat Congress, challenging the poll panel's decision to hold separate bypolls to two Rajya Sabha seats in the state.

A vacation bench of justices Deepak Gupta and Surya Kant listed the matter for hearing on June 25, saying the issue required to be heard.

The bench said, "It is not an issue which can be taken up through an election petition

and therefore, requires to be heard." Senior advocate Vivek Tankha, appearing for the Gujarat Congress, said there were judgments of the Delhi High court which were in their favour.

To this, the bench said, "We are not saying anything for now. We need to decide whether it is a casual vacancy or a statutory vacancy. This matter requires hearing." The Rajya Sabha seats fell vacant following the election of BJP chief Amit Shah and Union minister Smriti Irani to the Lok Sabha from Gandhinagar and Amethi respectively.

Union Minister Prahlad Patel's son booked in attempt to murder, arrested

Agency
New Delhi June 19,

Union Minister Prahlad Patel's son Prabal Patel has been arrested on charges of attempt to murder. Six others have also been arrested along with Prabal Patel.

The complainants were then taken to the house of one Shivam Rai and thrashed there too. Shivam's father, Ishwar Rai, who is a home guard jawan tried to intervene but was thrashed as well.

The police claim that firing took place during the altercation in which Himanshu Rathore sustained a bullet injury on his arm.

Those booked include Prabal, Monu, Durgesh, Ballu Vishwakarma, Saurabh Patel, Rajesh Jharia, Mohit Sen, and Nilesh Sen.

Prahlad Patel, the BJP MP from Damoh, is currently the union minister for Culture and Tourism. His brother Jalam Singh Patel also has a number of criminal cases against him.

Ukhrul Baby League Football Cup - 2019 Launched By A R

IGAR (South)
Imphal June 19,

Somsai Battalion of 10 Sector Assam Rifles under the aegis of IGAR (South) in conjunction with Ukhrul Football Club launched the District Level 7-a-side (under-12) Baby League Football Cup 2019 at Ukhrul today. The Baby League to be conducted

from 18-22 June 2019 has been widely received by the locals. The first match kicked off in the morning amidst cheering parents and excited supporters. A total of 6 teams have registered for participation in the tournament. It is worth mentioning that the Assam Rifles has been instrumental in reinforcing the football culture of Ukhrul District. The inaugural Baby League was organised by Assam Rifles under the banner of Late Major Bob Khathing Football Tournament in February 2019.

Since then there has been great anticipation from young players for next edition of the tournament. The Assam Rifles has also been offering sports scholarships to budding talent. This tournament will further promote the sports culture in Ukhrul district and encourage the efforts of local clubs like Ukhrul Football Club in harnessing young talent.

A R Conducts Security Meet

IGAR (South)
Imphal June 19,

Mantripukhri Battalion of 9 Sector Assam Rifles under the aegis of IGAR (South) conducted a security meet at Yaingangkopi Company Operating Base. The security forum was attended by the meira paibis, ward councillors 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.

Joint Team Apprehends Cadre Involved In Ambush On Assam Rifles

IT News
Imphal June 19

In a major breakthrough, Assam Rifles Battalion along with Imphal West Commandos in a joint operation led to a path breaking success wherein, SS 2nd/Lieutenant Laisharam Priyokumar @ Ibomcha Meitei @ Amuthoi of the proscribed group People's Liberation Army (PLA) was apprehended from Imphal on 12 June 2019. The individual has been evading apprehension from security forces for the last one and half years. The apprehendee had participated in the ambush against 4 AR in general area Chamol on 15 Nov 2017. The individual has revealed that



he led the operation as SS Sergeant Major in which one soldier of 4 AR was martyred and two UGs were killed.

The apprehension by the joint team is credited as a major success of security forces against the UG outfit.

The apprehendee has been handed over to police for detailed interrogation and further legal action.

AES Outbreak: Team of 14 additional doctors to reach Muzaffarpur today for better treatment

Agency
New Delhi June 19,

In Bihar, 14 additional doctors from Patna and Darbhanga Medical College Hospitals will today join the team of doctors at SKMCH, Muzaffarpur for better treatment of encephalitis affected children.

Chief Minister Nitish Kumar has asked for 24 hrs availability of doctors at SKMCH, Muzaffarpur which is overburdened with the footfall of AES affected children.

Already 34 doctors have been pressed into service to treat the ailing children.

On Tuesday 15 new patients of AES were admitted in Muzaffarpur and 175 are undergoing treatment. 04 suspected cases of AES have been also reported from Begusarai.

"List of deceased show that the majority of victims of AES are girls and they belong to poor families. Out of 109 casualties in Muzaffarpur 85 are girls. Chief Minister asked

officials to provide them help under Mukhya Mantri Kanya Uthana Yojna.

Those families living in thatched houses will be given pucca houses under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna and state-sponsored schemes. Affected children show a low level of glucose in their body so, grass root level health workers like ASHA, Anganwadi workers have been tasked to spread awareness that kids should not go to sleep in the night on an empty stomach

Trump to hold extended talks with Xi on sidelines of G20

Agency
New Delhi June 19,

US President Donald Trump has said, he will hold an extended meeting with his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping on the sidelines of the G-20 summit. The move is seen as a major development amid the ongoing trade war between two of the world's largest economies.

Trump met with Xi at the previous G-20 at Buenos Aires in Argentina last December. The two leaders discussed the trade dispute and tariffs besides other issues. Trump said in a tweet today, both the leaders will be having an extended meeting next week at the G-20 in Japan.

Their respective teams will

begin talks prior to the meeting. Trump's tweet came after his telephonic conversation with Xi. Leaders of top 20 economies of the world, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the head of the European Union, are scheduled to meet in Osaka, Japan for the biannual G-20 Summit next week.

Telangana CM says Andhra, Telangana to work together to utilise Godavari, Krishna waters

Agency
New Delhi June 19,

Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrababhan Naidu has said that Andhra Pradesh and Telangana together can explore possibilities of utilising over 5 thousand TMCs of water in Krishna and Godavari rivers, which is currently being wasted.

He was speaking to the media after a cabinet meeting in Hyderabad last evening. He added that the



official level discussions will begin on the 27th of this month in Hyderabad and will continue in

Vijayawada. He said, both the governments have decided to work in close cooperation on various other areas. Mr Rao also announced that the multi-stage lift irrigation project, Kaleswaram will be fully operationalised by next year and that 5 pumping stations will be switched on in the presence of Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh chief Ministers on the 21st of this month.