

Tharoor's "squeamish" tweet kicks off controversy

Agency
Thiruvananthapuram,
Mar 30,

Congress MP Shashi Tharoor found himself on a sticky wicket Saturday as his tweet following a visit to the fish market here kicked up a row, with the ruling CPI(M) and BJP alleging he had insulted the fishermen community and demanded an apology. The former Union minister, who is trying to score a hat-trick from the prestigious Thiruvananthapuram Lok Sabha constituency, had visited a fish market in the state capital recently and

spoken to the women selling fish there and had also posted some pictures of his visit. "Found a lot of enthusiasm at the fish market, even for a squeamish, vegetarian MP," Tharoor had later tweeted. As controversy erupted over the use of the word "squeamish", Tharoor in another tweet quoted the meaning of the word from an online English-Malayalam dictionary. "For those Malayali leftist politicians who are currently having difficulty understanding my English!" In another tweet, Tharoor

wrote "order delivered" and put its word by word Malayalam translation as "Kalapana prasavichu" (Kalapana has given birth) to pinpoint the pitfalls in translations. The CPI(M) and BJP attacked the Congress MP, saying he had insulted the fishing community by his choice of words. BJP candidate Kumanam Rajasekharan said Tharoor should apologise and said his act of "humiliating" the fishermen community through the social media was "extremely deplorable." He had insulted the

fishermen community who had saved several lives during the devastating floods in August last year, the former Mizoram Governor said. Fishermen have taken out marches in Kochi, Kollam and Kozhikode protesting the tweet, saying they had been insulted. During the August floods last year, it was the fisherfolk who had saved thousands of lives, they said and demanded an apology from the two-time sitting MP. When reporters sought his reaction, a visibly upset Tharoor, said he was busy with campaign work and did not wish to

comment. Tharoor had in February this year recommended Kerala fishermen, whose deeds of courage were the main highlight of the rescue operations during the 2018 Kerala floods, for the Nobel Peace prize. "It was during the height of this tragedy that fishermen groups of Kerala, at great risk to their lives and potential damage to the boats that are the source of their livelihood, jumped into the fray to save their fellow citizens," Tharoor had written to the chairperson of the Norwegian Nobel committee.

Akhilesh Yadav Refuses To Placate UP Giant Killer Who Called Off Alliance

Agency
Lucknow, March 30

The Samajwadi Party has officially confirmed the end of its alliance with an eastern UP party whose Ghatak killing act on the Gorakhpur Lok Sabha seat in the 2018 bypolls cemented Akhilesh Yadav's alliance or "gathbandhan" with Mayawati's Bahujan Samaj Party. Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav and Mayawati had launched a test version of their alliance on the Gorakhpur and Phulpur Lok Sabha seats by taking on the BJP jointly in bypolls to the seats of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and his deputy Keshav Maurya. In a result they shocked many, the SP-BSP joint candidates had won both seats. The victory was astonishing in Gorakhpur, where the Samajwadi Party fielded Praveen Nishad of the Nishad Party, which has support from the OBC Nishad community, on a Samajwadi Party symbol. Mr Nishad managed to defeat the BJP on a seat Yogi Adityanath held

continuously for over two decades. However, the Nishad party now seems set to switch over to the BJP, in what could be a blow to the Akhilesh Yadav-Mayawati-Ajit Singh coalition in Uttar Pradesh. Akhilesh Yadav, meanwhile, has announced a new candidate for the Gorakhpur Lok Sabha seat - a Nishad community leader from his party. The developments are in sharp contrast to just two days ago, when Akhilesh held a press conference in Lucknow, with Nishad Party leaders besides him, and announced that the Nishad party would be part of the UP gathbandhan. There was speculation that Praveen Nishad would be given the ticket from Gorakhpur again, but Akhilesh Yadav did not announce it. But within 48 hours, the Nishad Party chief met with UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and told the media his party was not with the gathbandhan anymore. "Akhilesh Yadav had said he'll make announcement on seats for our party. But they didn't put our name on poster/

letter or anything. My party workers, authorities, core committee were upset," Mr Nishad said, adding that his party was now free to either contest independently or go with another formation. The Nishad Party is no more in alliance with the Samajwadi Party," Nikky Nishad, also known as Riteash Nishad, media in-charge of the party told news agency PTI in Gorakhpur. "There was conflict between the two parties on Maharajganj seat as Nishad Party wanted to contest with its own party symbol whereas Samajwadi Party was not ready for it," he added. The party workers were not willing to contest on the Samajwadi Party symbol and many of them began quitting, he said. "So, our national president Sanjay Nishadji went to Lucknow and on late Thursday, it was confirmed that the Nishad Party is no more a part of the alliance," he said. Sources say the Nishad Party is angry at not getting the Gorakhpur seat despite them getting the shock victory there.

Delhi Will Get Nothing by Reelecting Narendra Modi, or Making Rahul Gandhi PM: Arvind Kejriwal

Agency
New Delhi, March 30,

AAP chief Arvind Kejriwal attacked both Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Congress president Rahul Gandhi, alleging their parties did nothing for the national capital and the people of Delhi would get nothing by electing them as PM. Addressing a rally at Okhla on Friday, Kejriwal accused Modi of pitting different communities against each other and

urged the people not to commit the "mistake" of bringing him back. "Modi destroyed the communal harmony in our society. He poisoned the minds of the people. Don't commit the mistake of bringing him back," he said. "Let us handle the Delhi Police and you (PM) take care of Pakistan. You are not able to handle Pakistan, how can you be expected to handle Delhi Police?" Kejriwal said, without elaborating.

Accusing the Centre of creating hurdles in Delhi's development, the AAP leader said he faced obstructions at various stages to get clearances from the central government. "Delhi would get nothing by making Congress president Rahul Gandhi a prime minister or reelecting Narendra Modi. Their parties did nothing for the national capital," Kejriwal said. He said the people of Delhi pay Rs 1.5 lakh crore as Income Tax and receive only Rs 325 crore from the Centre. "Why should we pay so



much and get so less in return? What have Delhiites done to the central government to deserve this? The situation is similar to the time before India got independence. "First Britishers looted us, now the central government is looting us," the chief minister said. "Just for political rivalry, PM Modi stopped the

development work for the common man of Delhi. Last time you voted for him, but this time do not vote for him. Otherwise he would not let me work for development," he added. The ruling Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) in the city is fighting the Lok Sabha election on the agenda of granting full statehood to Delhi.

Swachhata Pakhwada by All India Institute of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation

PIB
Mumbai, March 30,

All India Institute of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, under Directorate General of Health Services, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare is observing Swachhata Pakhwada during April 1 - 15, 2019. The programme is being inaugurated on 1st April. On 3rd April, there will be a talk on menstrual cycle, by a medical doctor. This will be followed by a poster and slogan

competition on 4th April. On 5th April, street plays will be held. On 8th April, there will be a competition on the theme "Best out of Waste". 9th April is earmarked for Rangoli and drawing competitions. Various events like elocution competition, tree-guard painting, Q & A session and demonstration on how to make manure, will be arranged from 10th to 15th April. The event will end on 15th April, 2019 with prize distribution ceremony.

After Pakistan's F16 'Misadventure', Jaish Terrorists in Kashmir Found With US-made Rifle

Agency
New Delhi, March 30

Indian security forces on Friday seized a US-made M4 rifle - used by the Pakistani army - after the encounter with two top Jaish-e-Mohammed terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir's Budgam district. Suspected to be Pakistani nationals, the Jaish operatives were killed during a search operation by security forces, the Hindustan Times reported. The operation was part of the crackdown by the

security forces in the aftermath of the February 14 Pulwama bombing that killed 40 CRPF soldiers. The seizure of the American rifle, the senior official cited above said, again establishes a link between the terror group and the Pakistan Army and its Special Forces. In the last six months, the Friday encounter is the second case when an M4 carbine was seized in the Kashmir valley, the Hindustan Times reported. The first occasion when security forces found an M4 carbine from a terrorist

in Kashmir was in September 2017 when security forces found the US-made firearm after the encounter involving the nephew of JeM chief Masood Azhar, Talha Rashid. Last year, another nephew of Azhar, Usman Haider, who was among the three terrorists killed in the 31 October 2017 gunfight, was found carrying a similar American rifle. The Hindustan Times has reported that 6 top terrorists have been killed and a seventh, arrested in Jammu and Kashmir over the last 24 hours.

US denies 'spying' on India's ASAT missile test, experts claim otherwise

Agency
Washington, March 30

The Pentagon has strongly denied the US spied on India's anti-satellite (ASAT) missile test by sending a reconnaissance aircraft from its base in Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean to monitor the event. It, however, said the United States was aware of India's first test-fire of an anti-satellite missile. "No US assets were spying on India. In fact, the US continues to expand its enduring partnership with India, resulting in enhanced interoperability and stronger economic ties," US Defense Department spokesperson Lt Col David W Eastburn told PTI. Aircraft Spots, which

monitors military air movements, had said that a US Air Force's reconnaissance aircraft from its base in Diego Garcia went "for a mission in the Bay of Bengal to monitor India's anti-satellite missile test". This was interpreted by many that the US spied on Indian ASAT test. "I don't think that it implies coordination between India and the US," astronomer Jonathan McDowell from the prestigious Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics told PTI on the Aircraft Spots report. "This implies that the US intelligence community were aware of the test in advance because to some extent they're spying on India," he alleged. "Everybody spies on their friends as well as their enemies. That's the way the world works these days. It would be surprising if the US were not detecting or observing the launch site and aware of activities preparing for the test. So one assumes that they knew it was coming," he claimed. McDowell, who is a staff member at the Chandra X-ray Center and author and editor of Jonathan's Space Report, an e-mail-distributed newsletter documenting satellite launches, said he has not looked into the issue of the aircraft, but it is certainly not surprising that the US would fly a sensor aircraft to try and observe the test. The Pentagon, however, strongly denied the spying allegation. "It's a relationship so strong that no topic is off limits,"

Eastburn said. "Both nations enjoy shared principles regarding our respect of sovereignty, free and fair trade, adherence to international norms, and peaceful resolution of disputes," he said. Air Force Space Command Commander Lt Gen David D Thompson told lawmakers Thursday that the US was aware that India's ASAT test was coming. "First of all, we knew it was coming because of flight bans that India had announced and information they published previously. The launch occurred at 1:39 AMEST," he told members of the powerful Senate Armed Services Subcommittee on Strategic Forces during a Congressional hearing. "First of all, it was detected, characterised and reported by Air Force Missile Warning systems and Airmen at Buckley AFB. Immediately after the test (it struck the target vehicle), the Joint Space Ops Center and USAF 18 Space control Squadron began collecting information about the breakup of the vehicle," Thompson said. Prime Minister Narendra Modi had on Wednesday announced that India successfully test-fired an anti-satellite missile by shooting down a live satellite, describing it as a rare achievement that puts the country in an exclusive club of space super powers. The test made India the fourth country in the world after the US, Russia and China to acquire the strategic capability to shoot down enemy satellites.

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) Degree Awarded by Manipur University



Miss Arambam Bebina Devi, D/O ShreeArambamHemba Singh and Smt.(Late) NingthoujamShabitr Devi of Lilong Chajing MairengkongLeikai, Imphal West has been conferred the degree of **Doctor of Philosophy** in Adult Continuing Education and Extension by Manipur University vide order no. MU/9-26/18/Exam/1428 dated 30 March, 2019 for her research work - **Job Satisfaction of Women Teachers in Higher Education: A Comparative Study**. She did her research work under the supervision of Dr.SoibamBirhari Singh, Associate Professor and Head, Department of Education, Y.K. College, Wangjing. She has cleared UGC-NET (JRF),Dr.ArambamBebina Devihascontributed research articles in reputed journals. To her credit, she has an edited book, **ResearchLine** (2017). She was Vice - President of Manipur University Students' Union (MUSU) in 2014-15.

PEACE CRAFTS EXHIBITION

Date : 27th March to 5th April, 2019
Venue Nambol Bazar, Bishnupur

Items : Hand Embroidery, Woolen Shoes, Artistic Textile, Cane, Bamboo & etc.



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