

## Human error may have led to Aero India crash

Agency  
New Delhi May 9,

A human error may have caused the mid-air collision of two planes rehearsing for an aerobatic show near Bengaluru's Yelahanka Air Force Base in February, according to two Indian Air Force (IAF) officials familiar with an ongoing investigation into the crash. One pilot was killed while the two others were injured in the crash of two Hawk advanced jet trainers of the Surya Kiran Aerobatic Display Team. The British-origin jets were rehearsing complex aerobatic manoeuvres to be performed during the five-day airshow, Aero India-2019. It was the second crash involving IAF aircraft in February since a Mirage 2000 trainer crashed in Bengaluru on February 1. Two

pilots were killed in that crash. One of the officials cited above, who requested anonymity, said the initial investigation points to a pilot error as the jets were flying in an "incorrect formation" while performing the mirror manoeuvre. In a mirror manoeuvre, it appears to spectators on the ground that one jet in the formation is flying inverted exactly above the other. But the planes in reality have to maintain minimum lateral separation to eliminate chances of a collision. "It is a very tight formation. But the pilots have to maintain a minimum lateral separation. It appears the jets did not maintain that separation that day. The Hawk flying below the inverted plane should not have been exactly under it," the second official said, also on

condition of anonymity. The jet flying below had two pilots in it. A single pilot flew the inverted one above. Footage of the collision showed that the aircraft on top descended rapidly with its nose crashing into the tail of the jet below before snapping off into pieces. Wing Commander Sahil Gandhi, who was flying the inverted jet, was killed in the crash. The two injured pilots in the other plane ejected and parachuted to the ground. An IAF spokesperson refused to comment saying the probe into the crash was still on. "However, the next course of action will be determined by the findings of the IAF probe. If found culpable, it could have serious implications for the erring pilot," an IAF official said. The Surya Kiran Aerobatic

Team consists of India's finest fighter pilots trained to perform death-defying stunts. It is equipped with Hawk Mk 132 trainers and carries out dazzling displays with its trademark nine-aircraft formation. The IAF inducted its first batch of Hawks in February 2008 to simplify the training of rookie fighter pilots from subsonic trainers to supersonic fighters. India ordered 123 Hawks, manufactured by defence and aerospace giant BAE Systems, of which 24 were delivered in flyaway condition while the remaining were license-produced at Bengaluru's Hindustan Aeronautics Limited. The Navy operates 17 Hawks while the remaining belong to the IAF.

## Priyanka Gandhi jibes PM Modi at Delhi roadshow

Agency  
New Delhi May 9,

Keeping aside her identities of "Congress president Rahul Gandhi's sister", "former prime minister Rajiv Gandhi's daughter" and the "Congress general secretary", Priyanka Gandhi Vadra Wednesday chose to hit the narrow lanes of Brahmapuri as a "Delhi girl", challenging Prime Minister Narendra Modi to fight the last two phases of the parliamentary elections on the issues of demonetisation, goods and services tax, women's safety and youth unemployment. "Modi ji came to Delhi only five years ago but I was born here. For 47 years, I have lived here and seen every nook and corner of this city. I can tell you what the people of Delhi want. You (Modi) wouldn't know, since you are cooped up in your Race Course Road bungalow," she said. PM Modi, at a rally on Sunday, had challenged the Congress to fight the final rounds of the Lok Sabha elections on Rajiv Gandhi's image. His remark calling the former PM "corrupt

number one" had given rise to a political slugfest. Standing atop a mini-bus Wednesday, Priyanka said, "The BJP is like that student who doesn't do his homework and when the teacher asks, he says that (Jawaharlal) Nehru ji took my sheet and hid it and Indira (Gandhi) ji tore my homework and made paper boats of it." Priyanka led her first campaign in the national capital for former Delhi chief minister and Congress candidate from North East Delhi Sheila Dikshit. "I am confident that voters living in all of these (along the route that Priyanka took) areas will make the Congress win with a huge margin," Dikshit said. Waving at the people who had turned up in huge numbers, despite the sweltering heat, to see her, Priyanka covered a distance of over 2.5km from Jag Pravesh Chandra Hospital to the Yamuna Vihar bus depot. "People say she (Priyanka) is a spitting image of her grandmother, Indira ji. They are right. She looks so much like the Indira Gandhi I

remember—the hair, the cotton saree and the confidence," 78-year-old Mehruina Begum, who had come for the roadshow with her 10-year-old grandson, said. As Priyanka entered the bylanes of the Muslim dominated colonies, voters pledged their support for the Congress throwing rose petals on the route to welcome her. Despite many in the crowd claiming that the voters in areas such as Shahdara, Seelampur, Brahmapuri, and Yamuna Vihar have always pledged their allegiance to the Congress, some believed that the triangular fight with the AAP and the BJP is likely to split the anti-BJP votes. Along the route of the roadshow, posters of, "Dear Sheila ji, you rejected the alliance (with the AAP), we reject you", could also be seen. "We wanted that the BJP be defeated this time but the Congress said no to an alliance with AAP. The anti-BJP votes will get split and it will benefit the BJP," 19-year-old Mohammad Azhar said.

## IAF's Balakot strikes killed 130-170 JeM cadres, 45 being treated

Agency  
New Delhi May 9,

In a fresh revelation, an Italian journalist has claimed that 130-170 Jaish-e-Mohammad terrorists may have been killed in the February 26 Indian Air Force airstrike at Balakot in Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province. The Indian Air Force had carried out an airstrike in the dead of the night 13 days after the deadly suicide bombing at Pulwama on February 14 in which 40 CRPF jawans had been killed. In a new report on the website stringerasia.it, Italian journalist Francesca Marino, claims that among the 130-170 JeM terrorists killed in the

strike included "...11 trainers, ranging from bomb makers to those imparting weapons training. Two of these trainers were from Afghanistan." She also claims that as many as 45 of the terrorists are undergoing treatment near the camp's location and that 20 others may have died while undergoing treatment. In her report she says that around 6 am, two and a half hours after the 330 am IAF airstrike, an army unit from their camp in Shinkari arrived at the camp. "Immediately after the Army unit arrival, the injured were taken to a Harkat-ul-Mujahideen camp, located in Shinkari and treated by Pakistan Army doctors. Local

sources say around 45 persons are still undergoing treatment in this camp, while around 20 have died during treatment due to serious injuries. Those who have recovered are still in custody of the Army and have not been discharged," she writes. In her report, titled, "Balakot: more details revealed", she also suggests that in order to prevent news of the fatalities from leaking through statements of family members of the killed cadres, a JeM group visited the families of those killed and "handed over cash compensation to them". In her report, Marino quotes sources as saying that a freshly painted signboard at the foothill from where one starts the trek

to the JeM camp indicates the presence of the Taleem-ul-Quran on the hilltop. "Unlike the earlier board, all links to JeM leader and now internationally proscribed terrorist Masood Azhar has been removed," she claims, further saying that the camp area is still under the Army's control and that access to the dust track leading to the camp is still restricted, even to the local police. Apart from a few children and 3-4 teachers, the camp has been cleared of any traces of it earlier being a JeM camp. She also indicates that the JeM leadership has assured its cadres that the group "will take its revenge when the time is ripe."

## SC Collegium reiterates elevation of two judges objected to by government; sends two more names for promotion

Agency  
New Delhi May 9,

The collegium for the appointment of judges on Thursday resent names of two justices to the government for elevation to the Supreme Court, overlooking the Centre's objection to the two names it had recommended.

The collegium also recommended two more names for promotion to the top court — Justice BR Gavai of Bombay High court and Suya Kant, chief justice Himachal Pradesh High Court. The Centre had returned the Supreme Court collegium's recommendation to elevate Jharkhand high court Chief

Justice Aniruddha Bose and Gauhati high court Chief Justice AS Bopanna, asking the body to reconsider its decision. Justice Bose, whose parent high court is Calcutta, is at number 12 in the all-India seniority of judges. Justice Bopanna, whose parent high court is Karnataka, stands at number 36.

## What is the difference between Modi of 2014 and 2019? This is what the PM said

Agency  
New Delhi May 9,

Prime Minister Narendra Modi in an exhaustive interview with Hindustan Times specified the main difference between Modi of 2014, when he led the Bharatiya Janata Party to a majority on its own, and that of 2019 Lok Sabha elections. "My digestion powers have increased. I can digest insults more easily," the Prime Minister said as he spoke to HT in his 7, Lok Kalyan Marg residence. Talking about the quality of discourse in this election, one of the most bitterly-fought, PM Modi said: "I can give

you a list of what various important people of the Congress, including those of the family (the Nehru-Gandhi family) and people close to the family have called me. I have been called Duryodhan by Priyanka Gandhi, Aurangzeb by Sanjay Nirupam, a Hindu terrorist by Deen Dayal Bairwa, a Namard (impotent person) by Narayan Rane. Even in the past, I have been called names. In 2016, Rahul Gandhi said I am a Dalal (broker) in the blood of soldiers. In 2007, Sonia Gandhi called me merchant of death. There's more. Many of these were targeted at a sitting Prime Minister."

if we speak of respect for the post, then it's the same for everyone. "It is true for (former PM Manmohan Singh) whose government's order, was torn in public (by Rahul Gandhi). If you are speaking of respect for the post, then what about former Andhra CM Anjaiahji, a Dalit, who was humiliated in Hyderabad airport (by former PM Rajiv Gandhi). So anyone complaining now has to see the whole thing in perspective." Speaking on the comments made at election rallies by West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee, the PM said: "As far as Mamata-ji is concerned, you should decide, as a journalist, whether you are fine with her tone and tenor of speaking. Her

language. Ask reporters in Bengal whether such statements do anything for the state." The Prime Minister added that these elections were special as it was the first time those born in the 21st century were voting. "These youngsters are not burdened by the past, they are in pursuit of a better future. These youngsters do not want to be bogged down by dynastic shenanigans, they want a nation where merit is recognised. They do not want old-school caste politics, they want a new age development agenda," the 68-year-old Prime Minister said.

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**NOTICE**  
Imphal the 9<sup>th</sup> May 2019

It is hereby informed to all the members of the Thrift and Credit Co-operative Society Ltd, Singamei Wangma Kongba Road, Imphal East, that the Annual General Body Meeting of the Society will be held on Friday the 24<sup>th</sup> May, 2019 at 10:00 am at the Auditorium. So, all the Member are requested to attend the meeting timely without fail.

**AGENDA**

- 1) To read and confirm the proceedings of the last Annual General Meeting held on 30-04-2018.
- 2) To consider and adopt the Managing Committee for Annual Report on the working of the Society for the period ending 31-03-2019 accounting year (2018-19)
- 3) To consider and adopt the Audited Statement of Account including Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss Account year ended 31-03-2019.
- 4) To consider appropriation of Net Profit for the year ended 31-03-2019 as per Bye-Law Clause No. 59 of the Society.
- 5) To consider and adopt the Annual Performance for the period from 01-04-2019 to 31-03-2020.

For and On behalf of the Managing Committee

Sd/-  
P Bebi leima  
Secretary  
Imphal the 9<sup>th</sup> May 2019

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## Amarinder Singh takes a dig at Sunny Deol over his Balakot remarks

Agency  
Samana (Patiala) May 9,

Chief minister Amarinder Singh on Wednesday took a dig at the Bharatiya Janata Party for picking Sunny Deol and other actors as its candidates to portray them as symbols of its nationalist agenda in the elections, slamming Deol for his ignorance about the Balakot airstrikes. "This shows the calibre of the people the BJP is seeking to impose on the people of India. While Modi has been taking credit for Balakot, this man (Deol) does not even know what

actually happened there," he said while addressing an election rally at Samana in support of his wife and Congress' Patiala candidate Preet Kaur. "These actors are just showpieces. Hema Malini did not open her mouth once in the Lok Sabha when she represented Mathura for five years," the chief minister added. Amarinder Singh also slammed Modi over his remarks on former PM late Rajiv Gandhi and his bid to take credit for the achievements of the armed forces. "The Modi regime is

nothing but a saga of failed promises. Demonetisation failed to end black money while GST broke the back of thousands of small traders," he added. In her address, Preet described demonetisation as the harbinger of misery to the common man. "The Modi government's policies have been anti-people. People should vote out the BJP in their own interest and the interest of the nation," she said. Later, talking to media persons, Amarinder Singh said the state government will compensate the farmers if the Centre does not meet

their demand for withdrawal of value cut on the minimum support price (MSP) in the procurement of wheat due to damage to crops by unseasonal rain. This came two days after Amarinder announced to advance paddy sowing from June 20 to June 13. The Food Corporation of India (FCI) has imposed a cut of Rs 4.60 per quintal if the loss of grain lustre is above 10 percent, even as the farmers have been opposing the move. The CM said he would ensure the farmers are not penalised or burdened for no fault of theirs.