

MUSTREAD

BJD will form stable govt in Odisha: Naveen

Bhubaneswar: Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik asserted on Saturday that the BJD will form a stable government in Odisha with the blessings of Lord Jagannath and the people of Odisha. "We will have a great victory in both the Lok Sabha and Assembly elections in Odisha," Patnaik told the waiting newsmen after exercising his franchise at the Aerodrome UP school under the Ekamra Bhubaneswar Assembly constituency.

Haryana Independent MLA dies of heart attack

Gurugram: Rakesh Daulatabad, an Independent MLA from Badshahpur Assembly Constituency in Gurugram district in Haryana died due to heart attack on Saturday. Family sources said that he complained of chest pain and was rushed to Manipal hospital in Palam Vihar area, where doctors declared him dead. Daulatabad, as an Independent Candidate, had defeated BJP's Manish Yadav in 2019 assembly election. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in a social media post on X, expressed grief over the sudden demise of the MLA and termed as a big loss for the state's politics.

Mobile phone ban in Odisha polling booths triggers ire

Bhubaneswar: Several voters in Odisha on Saturday expressed strong resentment over the decision to ban carrying mobile phones inside polling booths while exercising their franchise. The CEO's office has also banned smartwatches inside the booths. Those carrying mobile phones said there was no prior information from the Chief Electoral Officer about the restriction on bringing mobile phones inside polling booths. They also noted there were no proper arrangements for the safe deposit of mobile phones near the polling booths. Several voters returned home without casting their ballots.

BJP-RSS want to scrap the Constitution: Lalu

Patna: Rashtriya Janata Dal chief Lalu Prasad on Saturday threatened to destroy those nurturing evil intentions towards the Indian Constitution. Accusing BJP and RSS for mulling over scrapping of the Constitution he said that it will never happen. The veteran leader posted on social media account X and alleged on Saturday that Prime Minister Narendra Modi, BJP and RSS wish to finish the Constitution and reservation both, because it was penned down by Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar. "Why BJP hates the great personalities belonging to the oppressed section?" said Lalu Prasad.

One charred to death, 11 injured as bus catches fire

Etawah (UP): In yet another bus inferno, one passenger was charred to death while 11 others were injured when a sleeper bus caught fire after colliding with the divider in Etawah district of Uttar Pradesh, a senior police officer said here on Saturday. Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Sanjay Kumar said that the incident took place on Agra-Lucknow Expressway in Chaubiya area late Friday when the sleeper bus carrying 42 passengers to Delhi from Gorakhpur caught fire after colliding with the divider. He said that while the bus driver attempted to park the bus alongside the road, the passengers jumped out of the vehicle to save their lives.

Bottling Plant license suspended in Punjab

Chandigarh: The Punjab Excise Department has closed a number of vends supplying illegal liquor and registered FIR against the active partners under various provisions of the Punjab Excise Act 1914, an official said on Friday. The decisions were taken to ensure free and fair elections by establishing complete control over smuggling of liquor as well as illicit distillation. During this period a well-executed plan of the Excise department has resulted in registration of about 1058 FIRs. In addition to it, 937 arrests have been made, 16965 litres of illicit liquor detected, 27.57 Lakh litres of lahan recovered and destroyed, 108180 Bottles of PML/IMFL/Beer has been seized.

Modi ji has crossed 310 mark in 5th phase and will cross 400 in next two, claims Amit Shah

Shimla/Una (HP) (UNI)
 Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday claimed that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has crossed 310 in the fifth phase itself, and now has to cross 400 in the sixth and seventh. Addressing a huge election rally in Hamirpur constituency of Himachal Pradesh, Shah said, "The 5th phase of voting has been completed. The sixth phase of voting is going on today. Modi ji has crossed 310 in the fifth phase itself, and now Modi ji has to cross 400 in the sixth and seventh to be the Prime Minister again. The responsibility of crossing 400 is on the people."
 He said, "Our score is crossing 400, but Rahul Baba is once again falling below 40. Let our assembly by-election candidates also win and the BJP government will be formed here also."
 "Even if you search with a lamp,



you will not find an MP like Anurag Thakur. He not only cared about his area, but also worked to mobilise the youth across the country with the BJP and its ideology," asserted Shah. "Congress leaders are afraid of us not to talk about PoK because Pakistan has an atom bomb. Today I say

to Deybhoomi - Rahul Baba, we are from BJP, we are not afraid of the atom bomb. I say with a blow - POK belongs to India, it will remain and we will take it," reiterated Shah.
 "Rahul Baba and his sister come to Shimla for holidays, but they did not go to the consecration of Ram Lalla. They did not go because they are afraid of their vote bank," Shah stated.
 He said the Indi Alliance does not have a candidate for the post of Prime Minister.
 "A journalist asked him who will become your Prime Minister? So he replied that one person each will become one in turn for one year. Rahul Baba, this is not a grocery shop, this is a country of 140 crore people. In this election, on one side there is Rahul Baba who celebrates holidays every six months and on the other side there is Narendra Modi ji who

eats sweets with army soldiers on the border without taking any leave even for Diwali for 23 years," Shah averred.
 The Union Minister praised MP Anurag Thakur and also enumerated all the central projects given by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Himachal Pradesh, which are more than Rs 10,000 crore.
 Pointing his finger at the present Congress government, he said the present Congress government is false and useless.
 The Congress party has not fulfilled any of the guarantees promised in the first cabinet like giving one lakh rupees, Rs 1500 to women, cow dung purchase etc, he alleged.
 Anurag Thakur, local MP, who is contesting the seat for the fifth time, also addressed the rally and sought the support of the people for the party in the coming election.

Karnataka HM flays delay in impounding Prajwal's passport

Bengaluru: Karnataka Home Minister Dr G Parameshwara on Saturday criticised the Centre for the delay in handling the request to impound the diplomatic passport of absconding Hassan MP Prajwal Revanna.
 He questioned why a letter sent by Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to Prime Minister Narendra Modi in April, seeking the revocation of Revanna's passport, was only acted upon by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on May 21. "If the MEA received the request on May 21, what happened to the letter in the Prime Minister's Office?" Parameshwara asked.
 Prajwal, facing allegations of sexual assault, had left the country on April 27 on a diplomatic visa. The Karnataka government's request to cancel his passport aims to force his return to India.
 External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar confirmed that the MEA had initiated procedures upon receiving the request on May 21.

Vote to improve your life, protect democracy, Constitution: Rahul

New Delhi (UNI)
 Former Congress president Rahul Gandhi and General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Saturday appealed to voters to exercise their franchise as every single vote will not only improve their life but also protect the Constitution and democracy.
 The Gandhi family — Sonia, Rahul, Priyanka, besides her husband Robert Vadra and their kids Raihan and Miraya cast their votes together celebrating the festival of democracy along with all Delhiites.
 Later Rahul Gandhi shared a selfie with his mother and Chairperson of Congress Parliamentary Party Sonia Gandhi with their inked fingers.
 "Mother and I contributed to this great festival of democracy by casting our votes. All of you should also come out of your homes in large number and vote for your rights and future of your family," Rahul Gandhi posted on X. He said, "In the first five phases of voting, you have rejected lies, hatred and propaganda and gave priority to ground-level issues related to your lives".



He further said that every vote will ensure the youth get jobs, poor women are made financially stable, farmers get fair MSP for their crops and made debt-free, labourers get the minimum daily wage of Rs 400.
 His sister and party General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra after

voting said on X, "Voted to protect our Constitution, democracy and people's rights. You people must also take part in this festival of democracy by voting in large numbers".
 The entire Gandhi-Vadra family came out early and voted at their respective booths.

IIM releases environmental sustainability report

Lucknow: Indian Institute of Management Lucknow (IIML) recently conducted a comprehensive environmental sustainability report, shedding light on resource footprints and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions across both its Lucknow and Noida campuses. The assessment undertaken for the year 2023 as the baseline will not only serve as a fulcrum to identify avenues to curtail its ecological footprint but also shows its unwavering commitment to integrating sustainability in theory and practice when it comes to imparting an environmentally and socially conscious learning process by a reputed Indian B-School.
 The report has been prepared by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) and the institute's project was spearheaded by Prof. Kaushik Ranjan Bandyopadhyay and Prof. Dipti Gupta at the Centre

for Business Sustainability (CBS), a Centre of Excellence at IIM Lucknow. The assessment employed a mixed-method approach, amalgamating qualitative and quantitative data analysis based on questionnaire-based surveys, insights from secondary literature, and comprehensive onsite assessments. The assessment's scope spanned a wide arena including: Estimation of energy consumption and GHG emissions; inventory of carbon sink to assess the carbon sequestration potential and GHG emission avoided through renewable energy usage etc.
 Speaking about the Report, Prof. Kaushik Ranjan Bandyopadhyay, Chairperson, Centre for Business Sustainability, IIM Lucknow, stated, "The institute has taken a critical step to chart out a path to internalise the concerns of sustainability in a holistic manner."

Congress dubs Modi Govt's rain relief claims "baseless"

Shimla/Mandi (UNI)
 The Congress has criticised Prime Minister Narendra Modi for accusing the Congress government of mis-managing crores of rupees, purportedly given as rain relief to Himachal Pradesh, calling the claims a "damp squib" with no evidence to support them.
 Public Works Department Minister and Congress candidate Vikramaditya Singh as the concerned minister stated on oath that not a single penny had been handed over to the state by the central government.
 He condemned the Prime Minister's statement during the election campaign, describing it as a matter of serious concern that voters would address in the elections.
 Singh responded to the Prime Minister's statements made at a rally in Mandi, attended by actress Kangana Ranaut.
 Singh asserted that only the routine sum of Rs 300 crore, allocated from the state's share in the SDRF and NDRF relief funds, had been paid to Himachal Pradesh.
 He emphasised that no special central package or rain relief had been transferred to the state during



the monsoon season.
 "There is not an iota of rupee being transferred to Himachal Pradesh during the monsoon season," said Singh.
 He challenged the Prime Minister to verify his claims, highlighting that no additional assistance had been received from the central government.
 Singh further noted that a resolution demanding Rs 12,000 crore in relief had been submitted to the Centre, but the Prime Minister "falsely" accused the state of a scam involving thousands of crores.

Modi's previous birth was in Yadava clan, claims Pushpanjali Swamiyar

Thiruvananthapuram: Prime Minister Narendra Modi's previous birth was in Lord Krishna's Yadava clan, according to Pushpanjali Swamiyar, highest spiritual authority of world's richest 'Sree Padmanabha Swamy temple,' apparently echoing the reincarnation concept in Hindu religion.
 The curious observation of Pushpanjali Swamiyar gained political significance after Prime Minister Modi's recent comment that he was sent to earth by God and that God will guide him in whatever he does.
 In a recently released coffee table book on Pournamikkavu temple, Pushpanjali Swamiyar wrote that "Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who has brought our country to the top of the world today, and Home Minister Amit Shah, who ensures national security, all belong to the Lord Krishna's Yadava clan."
 It is a historical truth that the rulers of the Yadava clan bring great glory and prosperity to the nation, Pushpanjali Swamiyar, who is considered the de facto religious head of the princely state of Travancore, said in the book released three months ago.



Voted against dictatorship and inflation: CM Kejriwal

New Delhi (UNI)
 Aam Aadmi Party national convener and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Saturday cast his vote along with his father, wife Sunita Kejriwal and children at a polling booth in Delhi Transport Authority in Civil Lines area amid tight security.
 Urging people to exercise their right to cast vote, Kejriwal who has been allowed bail till June 1, said, "I voted against dictatorship, unemployment and inflation."
 In his social media post on X, Kejriwal said, "I voted today with my father, wife and children. My mother is very ill. She could not go. I voted against dictatorship, unemployment

and inflation. You too must go and vote."
 Kejriwal, an accused in a money laundering case related to the now scrapped new Delhi Excise Policy, was arrested by the Enforcement Directorate in March and spent 50 days in jail, before given conditional interim bail by the Supreme Court from May 10 to June 1.
 He will return to Tihar Jail on June 2 and has been directed not to officially discharge any duty as chief minister.
 BJP has rued the fact that special treatment was given to the AAP chief to campaign in the Lok Sabha polls.

BJP's 'Hindurashtra' agenda exposed: SP MLA

Mumbai: The BJP's 'Hindurashtra' agenda has been exposed once again with inclusion of Manusmriti, Bhagavad Gita, along with other Hindu texts, in curriculum of the Maharashtra State Education Board, alleged Samajwadi Party legislator Rais Shaikh on Saturday.
 Under the guise of National Educational Policy (NEP), BJP-ruled states are working towards the sanitisation of education, but they will vehemently oppose any such move, he asserted.
 Shaikh objected to seeking of suggestions and objections on the draft school curriculum when the election code of conduct is in force, stating it is against the rules.
 "Religion and education are separate matters. The Indian Constitution does not allow introduction of religion into education. By incorporating verses from Manusmriti and the Bhagavad Gita, among others, into the school curriculum, the State Council of Educational Research & Training (SCERT) has completely violated the Indian Constitution," he alleged.
 The SP legislator stated that in context of new curriculum, the right to expel students for any misbehaviour has been left to the school administration.

Those with 'tainted past' in 'preventive custody' in Anantnag: J&K Police

Srinagar/Anantnag (UNI)
 Soon after PDP chief and party candidate from the Anantnag-Rajouri LS seat Mehbooba Mufti on Saturday staged a sit-in alleging her party workers' arrest in a "repeat of 1987 rigging", the Jammu and Kashmir Police issued a statement that "very few having 'tainted past' were taken into 'preventive' custody."
 "Claims made by a political party that their workers have been detained are a 'very few and those who have a tainted past taken into preventive custody', Anantnag police posted on X.
 "Firstly, detentions are very few and restricted only to those who have a tainted past and based on credible inputs of potential threats to law and order and security on polling day," the police said.
 They said "mostly they are Over Ground Workers (OGWs) and are taken into preventive custody for ensuring safe and peaceful elections," the police said on X.
 Earlier, Mufti staged the sit-in protest in Bijbehara against the arrests of her party workers and polling agents and alleged they were lodged in police stations in Anantnag and



other districts of south Kashmir without any reason since last night.
 "They are not revealing the reason... It looks like the Lieutenant Governor, Director General of Police and Deputy Inspector General of Police south Kashmir are hand in glove," Mehbooba told reporters and added, "if they feel so scared of Mehbooba Mufti reaching Parliament, the Lieutenant Governor should have told me not to fight the elections."

"Why are they repeating 1987?" the former Jammu and Kashmir CM said and added, "Their leader and former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee had given an assurance to the people of Jammu and Kashmir through the voting process..these people are damaging all and repeating 1987".
 Mehbooba also alleged: "There are reports of Electronic Voting Machines (EVM) being deliberately defanged at many polling stations."

LS Elections: Fear and Unrest prevailing in Punjab: Jakhar to CEO

Chandigarh: Punjab BJP President Sunil Jakhar on Friday said an atmosphere of fear, intimidation and unrest is currently prevailing among voters in Punjab, especially in the rural Areas, that could be detrimental to the democratic process underway.
 In a letter to the Chief Electoral Office (CEO) Punjab, the state BJP chief, while seeking a slew of measures including the deployment of the Central forces in the rural and sensitive areas, said certain miscreants and opposition party workers, under the guise of participating in the farmer's protest, were targeting and attacking BJP workers and leaders, particularly in the rural areas of Punjab.
 "This situation has escalated to a point where it is causing significant fear and unrest among our party members and the voters of the state of Punjab," Jakhar said.
 "There have been many incidents where the perpetrators, masquerading as farmers in the protest, disrupted the meetings of the candidates, prevented them from entering villages and even stopped the BJP party workers from attending the rally of PM Modi at Patiala on May 24," he said.