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KOLKATA | NEW DELHI | SILIGURI | BHUBANESWAR

PEOPLE'S PARLIAMENT, ALWAYS IN SESSION

## Evolve

USHA UTHUP MADE A COMEBACK TO TRINGAS, WHERE SHE PERFORMED 50 YEARS AGO AS A YOUNG MUSICIAN, AND HAD THE AUDIENCE ON THEIR FEET

## 8th day

JOANNE TAYLOR, AUTHOR AND ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN, TALKS ABOUT WHAT KOLKATA'S AGE-OLD BUILDINGS REPRESENTED DURING THE BRITISH RAJ

### WEATHER

Partly cloudy sky. Thundershower in some areas. Temperature will be in the range of 34-25 degrees Celsius.  
**RAINFALL:** NIL  
**RELATIVE HUMIDITY:** Max: 95% Min: 53%  
**TEMPERATURE:** Max: 34.4°C (+2) Min: 25.2°C (+1)  
**SUN RISES:** 05:36 hrs  
**SUN SETS:** 17:08 hrs  
**MOON RISES:** 22:13 hrs  
**MOON SETS:** 11:08 hrs  
**WAXING MOON QUARTER ON 21 OCTOBER**

### THUMBNAILS



An artist works on the face of a clay idol of the Hindu goddess Kali in Siliguri. **■ AFP**

**BJP Jawans' killings:** Easing confidence that the recent killing of a BJP jawan by a Bangladesh border guard won't have an impact on bilateral ties, the neighbouring country's home minister Asaduzzaman Khan said on Saturday he would talk to his Indian counterpart Amit Shah, if needed, to "defuse the situation". Khan also stated that an Indian fisherman, who was arrested on Thursday for trespassing into Bangladesh waters, will be released, in accordance with the norms. **■**

**Pak violators ceasefire in Jir's Kathua:** Pakistani Rangers violated ceasefire by targeting Forward posts and villages with small arms firing along the international border (IB) in Kathua district of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said on Saturday. The firing from across the border in Manjari-Chergal area in Hiranagar sector was unprovoked and started around 7.30 p.m. on Friday and continued intermittently throughout the night, the officials said. There was no report of any casualty or damage. **■**

## Haryana Assembly polls: It's BJP Vs Cong

While BJP led a high voltage campaign, Congress seemed to lack the firepower



**RANJEET JAMMAL**  
CHANDIGARH, 19 OCTOBER

**A**s the campaign for Haryana Assembly polls on 21 October came to an end this evening, it appears to be a direct contest between the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the main opposition party, Congress with smaller parties merely competing to register their presence in select areas. The high voltage campaign in Haryana saw the BJP's star campaigners including Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home minister Amit Shah, defence minister Rajnath Singh raise issues of national importance including abrogation of Article 370, while the party's state leaders harked on the achievements of the Manohar Lal Khattar government including corruption less governance and recruitment. On the other hand, the Congress lacked the firepower to match the BJP campaign with former party president Rahul

Gandhi addressing a few rallies towards the end of the campaign while party president Sonia Gandhi gave the party campaign a miss reportedly due to health reasons. As many as 1,83,90,525 voters will exercise their voting rights in the state to elect 90 Members of the Legislative Assembly. In all, 1,169 candidates are in the fray for these polls scheduled for 21 October. In most of the Assembly constituencies, the state is witnessing a direct contest between the BJP which has set a target of winning 75 seats for itself riding on the hype of the abrogation of Article 370 and the National Citizens Register (NCR) and the Congress. Among the smaller parties, the Dushyant Chautala-led Janavik Janta Party (JJP) is expected to make its presence felt in a few seats. The JJP, floated by grand grandson of late Devi Lal, is breaking away from the Indian National Lok Dal (INLD), and the INLD's traditional voters appear to be backing the JJP in

## Cong failed to abrogate Article 370: PM Modi

PM said

**PM** said that the Congress failed to abrogate Article 370 despite having promised it in Parliament in 1964. He was addressing a rally in Rewari on the last day of campaigning for the Haryana assembly polls. "During a debate in Parliament in 1964, the country's distinguished leader got upset there was division in the Congress. There was a demand that Article 370 be nullified and there be a debate on this issue in Parliament," he said. "At that time, Congress leaders, with folded hands, had said that their demand would be met and Article 370 would be nullified in

## Campaign for Maha Assembly polls ends

PM said

**THE** campaign for the Maharashtra assembly elections dominated by the aggressive narrative of nullification of Article 370 by the BJP which is seeking a second straight term under chief minister Devendra Fadnis, came to an end on Saturday evening. From Opposition's perspective, it was perhaps the most lacklustre canvassing with the exception of a few rallies addressed by Rahul Gandhi who highlighted issues like the economic slowdown, unemployment, "failure" of demonetisation exercise and GST rollout. On the other hand, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and top BJP brass of the BJP, including Union ministers, raised Article 370 and Opposition's objection to withdraw the special status of Jammu and Kashmir. The PM also spoke about "compromised" leadership of the Opposition. For its part, the Opposition camp raised the issues of economic slowdown and joblessness but appeared lacking in projecting itself as a strong alternative to the BJP narrative. The main contest lies between the "Mahayanti" or grand alliance led by the BJP and the "maha-aghadi" (front) led by the Congress and the NCP.

## MCI pulls up doctors on dog's dialysis

KOLKATA, 19 OCTOBER

**MEDICAL** Council of India (MCI) has pulled up Dr Nirmal Maji, president of West Bengal Medical Council (WBMC) and state minister in Mamata Banerjee's cabinet, professor (Dr) R Pandey, vice chancellor (VC) of West Bengal University of Health Sciences (WBHS) and Dr Pradip Kumar Mitra, former director of medical education (DME) for their involvement in conducting a dialysis of a dog at the state-run SSKM Hospital in 2015. Following a complaint lodged by the US-based NRI Dr Kunal Saha with the MCI four years ago the council has condemned the move by pulling up Dr Maji, Dr Mitra, who was the director of SSKM as well as Institute of Post Graduate Medical Education & Research (IPGME&R) in 2015, and Dr Pandey, health university VC and head of nephrology department at the hospital. Dr Mitra had decided to conduct the dialysis on the dog after Dr Maji recommended them to start the medical treatment on the animal at the nephrology department of SSKM. Dr Arpita Roychowdhury, another professor of the nephrology department at SSKM, had reportedly protested against the move. "The MCI ordered said, 'The Committee deliberated upon the matter and perused the document available and noted that the three doctors were involved in hatching a plan to perform dialysis of a pet dog using the dialysis machine at SSKM Hospital, Kolkata.' The MCI Ethics Committee has issued a recent order against Dr Maji, Dr Pandey and Dr Mitra for their deliberate attempt to perform dialysis of a pet dog at SSKM Hospital in 2015," Dr Saha said. **■**

## Shed for UP Hindu leader's murder

**SNS & PTI**  
AHMEDABAD, LUCKNOW, 19 OCTOBER

**F**ive people, including three in Surat, have been detained in connection with the murder of Kamesh Tiwari, the president of a little-known Hindu Samaj Party, police said here on Saturday. The Anti-Terrorist Squad (ATS) in Gujarat has arrested three people suspected, acting swiftly on intelligence inputs from Lucknow, the Gujarat ATS team led by Superintendent of Police Himanshu Shukla nabbed the three accused from Limbat area of Surat in the wee hours of Saturday. The arrested trio are being handed over to the Uttar Pradesh police soon. The three arrested per-

sons include a Maulavi, Mohsin Sheikh along with Faizan Pathan and Shamim Pathan. The other two, identified as Bihar residents Mohammed Mufti Naem Kazmi and Imam Maulana Anwarul Haq, were booked on the murder charge on Friday after Tiwari's wife named them in her complaint to police. Tiwari's wife Kiran had alleged that both had announced a cash reward of Rs 1.5 crore on her husband's head in 2016. "They have killed my husband by hatching a conspiracy," she had alleged. The CCTV footage of the accused purchasing sweets from a shop in Udhna locality of Surat has reportedly proved to be a vital clue to the arrests, the police sources said. Pathan, aged 23 years, was

## Mufti Naem Kazmi and Imam Maulana Anwarul Haq were booked on Friday after Tiwari's wife named them in her complaint to police.

**A**n expert in computer and is a tailor by profession, Mohsin Sheikh, 24, worked in a saree showroom in Surat and the third person, Faizan, worked in a shoe shop, also in Surat, the police claimed. Though the three had connections in Lucknow, the police claimed. The accused had reportedly hidden their weapons in the box of sweets they had bought from the shop in Surat before

proceeding to Lucknow to commit the murder. Top police officers of Gujarat are in touch with their counterparts in Uttar Pradesh to join up the missing links of the murder conspiracy. The arrests were made in the party city of Surat in Gujarat in the intervening night of Friday and Saturday. The police have ruled out a terror angle in Tiwari's killing. The police has described the case as prima facie one of "radical killing" as an objectionable remark made by Tiwari in the year 2015 purportedly served as the trigger for the crime. CCTV footage showed that the two assailants were dressed in saffron kurta and were carrying a box of sweets to Tiwari's office in the afternoon on

Friday. Initial reports said that Tiwari was shot before being repeatedly stabbed by the assailants. While the shooting angle was later ruled out by the police, Tiwari was stabbed about 10 times and his throat was slit. The assailants sped away in the bylanes of Khurshedbagh after executing the crime. Tiwari was rushed to the trauma centre at King George's Medical University, Lucknow where the doctors pronounced him 'brought dead'. The UP director general of police said the box of sweets recovered from the scene of the crime served as an important clue. Since the sweets were brought from a shop in Surat, the police was convinced of a Gujarat angle to the plot to eliminate Tiwari. Let us come together as democrats to end this debilitating feud. Let us come together as democrats behind this deal, the one proposition that fulfils the verdict of the majority but which also allows

## TRIPPING ON A TON



Rohit Sharma celebrates his century with teammate Ajinkya Rahane during the first day of the final Test match between India and South Africa in Ranchi on Saturday. **■ AFP**

## British MPs vote for Brexit delay in historic 'Super Saturday' Parliament session

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA**  
LONDON, 19 OCTOBER

**I**n a historic weekend Parliament session, the first in 37 years, British MPs on Saturday voted back a motion that delays the vote on British Prime Minister Boris Johnson's Brexit deal struck with the European Union (EU). In a setback to Johnson, the 322 versus 306 vote on an important amendment means that the UK prime minister is bound by the Benn Act passed earlier by the parliamentarians to write to the EU by midnight on Saturday seeking a delay to the 31 October deadline as no new deal has been passed in the Commons by the 19 October cut-off date. While Johnson and some of his team have previously said that the will abide by the rule

of law, it remains unclear what next steps are expected to see it through in time for after Saturday's vote that he will not be seeking an extension to the end of October Brexit deadline, adding that he would do all in can to get Brexit done by 31 October. At the special Parliament session, dubbed 'Super Saturday' because of its significance, UK MPs backed an amendment tabled by Conservative Party MP Oliver Letwin demanding that no new Brexit deal be voted on until the requisite legislation is passed on Friday after Johnson's 31 October deadline was in place. The government had already indicated that it would pull its own motion on Johnson's great new deal and move it to next week if MPs were to

back the delay amendment, introduced as an insurance policy against a default no-deal Brexit crash-out by the month-end deadline. Johnson stressed that he was neither daunted nor dismayed by the vote and that the government would place the required legislation around his new EU withdrawal agreement next week, expected to be tabled on Monday and then voted on Tuesday. Opposition Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn declared that the 'Super Saturday' vote was a clear message from MPs that they have declined to back the prime minister's deal. Earlier, MPs began debating the new Brexit deal motion, which was to be followed by a vote on whether to proceed as a knife-edge vote in the



A video grab from footage broadcast by the UK Parliament's Parliamentary Recording Unit (PRU). **■ AFP**

House of Commons on the so-called divorce arrangements between the UK and the 27 remaining members of the economic bloc. Johnson opened the session with a plea for all sides of the House to come together behind

the great deal. Let us come together as democrats to end this debilitating feud. Let us come together as democrats behind this deal, the one proposition that fulfils the verdict of the majority but which also allows

to bring together the two halves of our hearts, to bring back a full and united country, our nation, said Johnson in his statement to the Commons. In reference to the 52 per cent versus 48 per cent vote in favour of Brexit in the June 2016 referendum, he said: Let's speak now both for the 52 and the 48. Let us go for a deal that can heal this country, let's go for a deal that can heal this country and allow us all to express our legitimate desires for the deepest possible friendship and partnership with our neighbours. A deal that allows us to create a new shared destiny with them. And a deal that also allows us to express our confidence in our own democratic institutions, to make our own laws, to determine our own future, to believe in our-

selves once again as an open, generous global, outward-looking, free-trading United Kingdom. The complex arithmetic in the Commons for Johnson's minority government means that he is not assured of the magic 320 MP mark required for his Brexit deal to cross the parliamentary hurdle in a fully sitting house. That number varies depending on the number of MPs voting and also how many choose to abstain. The Northern Irish Democratic Unionist Party (DUP), which props up the Conservative Party government, has refused to back the new Brexit withdrawal agreement on the grounds that it goes against its unionist principles because of different customs arrangements to be imposed on the

island of Ireland post Brexit. Anti-Brexit MPs and most of the Opposition Labour Party will also be voting against, leaving a handful of Labour MPs representing Leavers supporting constituencies in the UK who are prepared to defy their party's official line and vote with Johnson. It is this group that could hold the cards for Johnson after the headline Brexiteer group within his own Tory party, called the European Research Group (ERG), came out in support of the deal just as the Super Saturday session got underway. The new deal secured at a Brussels summit on Thursday gets rid of the controversial Irish backstop from the repeatedly defeated former Prime Minister Theresa May's agreement.