



Musharraf will say anything to find foothold in Pakistan. May be now some of our news channels & anchors will stop falling over themselves to interview this man... Clearly he will say anything to find a foothold in Pakistan.

—Omar Abdullah, former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister

SNAPSHOT

'Killing terrorists won't wipe out terror from J&K'



Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti

- 1 We need to understand the reason and the real problem behind militancy.
- 2 The police has to engage in parenting and counselling of these children. I had invited pellet victims to my home recently. I was surprised to know that most of them were minors (14, 15 or 16 years of age).
- 3 The job of the police is very sensitive in Jammu and Kashmir, as the challenges are much more than the usual policing in other parts of the country.
- 4 (On reports of assault on Kashmiri protesters in Tihar jail) The shameful incident not only maligned the name of the policemen and their state, but the entire police force.
- 5 In comparison, our (Jammu and Kashmir) police is doing a wonderful job despite being faced with difficult situations. They are dealing with stone-pelting and bullets (militancy) with great determination, discipline and restraint which is praise-worthy. There is no match for our police force.
- 6 Drug menace and a growing graph of violence against women are the biggest challenges in the Valley after terror attacks.

GPS '17 to launch cheap e-cars suitable for India

Japan ruling party chief to chair, RS MP Subhash Chandra to co-chair meet

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New Delhi: The Global Partnership Summit (GPS), a unique initiative by India and Japan scheduled to be held from December 11 to 14, will witness the roll-out of an 'affordable electric car' suitable for Indian conditions.

The event, to be held in New Delhi, will also propose an agriculture corridor from Amritsar to Dhanushkodi in Tamil Nadu to allow agriculture produce to reach anywhere in India within 24-hours. This step, if implemented, will raise incomes of farmers.

The summit is set to be chaired by Yoshihiro Niki, the secretary-general of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party, and co-chaired by Ra-



Vibhav Kant Upadhyay

jya Sabha MP Dr Subhash Chandra. It will provide an alternative developmental model that will call for partnership. Briefing mediapersons, GPS founder-chairman Vibhav Kant Upadhyay, who also heads India Centre Foundation, said apart from the various themes, the summit would focus on India-Japan-Africa partnership.

It's a one-of-a-kind effort to bring intellectuals, corporations, government agencies, NGOs and many others under one umbrella.

Vibhav Kant Upadhyay, GPS founder-chairman

"Africa has natural resources in abundance. China is already there. But their model is based on exclusivity and exploitation. People there now want partnership and participation. India and Japan will build partnerships and an inclusive model," he said.

The summit will be attended by about 3,000 delegates, who will hear the

views of about 200 speakers from varied fields, including politics, bureaucracy, diplomacy and corporate.

The US-Japan-India trilateral relationship was flagged off in Tokyo in 2006 by then Japanese Cabinet Secretary Shinzo Abe, now the Prime Minister of Japan. It led to GPS which held its first edition in 2011. According to Upadhyay, it has now transformed into a platform to integrate ideologies, ideas, initiatives, projects, processes, people and policies.

"It is one of a kind effort to bring intellectuals, corporations, government agencies, NGOs and many others under one umbrella. This summit will certainly bring out the best of the best in business, governance and civil society," he said.

Delhi HC raps state for proposal to use green fund to buy e-buses

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New Delhi: The Delhi High Court on Wednesday came down heavily on the AAP government after the latter informed it that it has proposed to buy 500 electric buses worth Rs 400 crore using the Rs 700 crore green cess collected for the mitigation of pollution.

A bench of Justice S Ravindra Bhat and Justice Sanjeev Sachdeva questioned this proposal of the Delhi government stating that the need for the buses has not risen from the court's orders, and added that the vehicles should be bought with government funds.

"The court is of the opinion that the government's proposal to use the Environment Compensation Charge (ECC) fund, which is meant for the mitigation of pollution, should not be used in the manner proposed," the bench stated.

It is not that the need of public buses has risen from the order of the court as that



Delhi High Court

proposal is pending with the government for a long time which otherwise would have been funded by the government," the court said.

The court was hearing a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) initiated by itself to curb air pollution in the national Capital. It has been issuing directions time-to-time in this regard.

Appearing for the Delhi government, its standing counsel Naushad Ahmed Khan filed an affidavit stating that a meeting presided by Delhi Transport Minister

Kailash Gehlot was conducted on November 28, on the issue.

The affidavit said that a proposal has been for the procurement of 100 electric buses worth Rs 220 crore. It added that another 500 electric buses shall be procured with a capital cost subsidy of Rs 1.2 crore per bus, with a total cost of Rs 600 crore of which Rs 400 crore may be incurred of the ECC.

This irked the court, which said, "The Green Cess is used for mitigation of pollution. Why is it being used to increase public transport?"

Musharraf calls himself 'biggest supporter' of LeT

Islamabad/Dubai: Calling himself the 'biggest supporter' of Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT) and its founder Hafiz Saeed, Pakistan's former dictator Pervez Musharraf, who was the brain behind the 1999 Kargil conflict, has said he backs the terror groups' role in 'supporting' the Indian Army in Kashmir.

"The Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT) and the Jamaat-ud Dawra (JuD) are the backbone of the Mumbai terror attack for which India blamed Pakistan. —PTI

in Kashmir, and I have always been favouring for pressuring the Indian Army in Kashmir. This (LeT) is the biggest force, and they have been declared terrorists by India along with the US," Musharraf stressed while explaining his stance.

Musharraf also categorically denied that LeT was involved in the Mumbai terror attack for which India blamed Pakistan.



Pervez Musharraf

Poonawalla challenges Rahul elevation

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New Delhi: The biggest challenge to the dynastic politics in the Grand Old party of India and to the hegemony of the Nehru-Gandhi family has come from within and that from a Muslim face.

Shehzad Poonawalla — long time rights activist and a relative of the Gandhi family — who claims not to discriminate between Hindus and Muslims, has led from the front. He has thrown the gauntlet to the Gandhis. Poonawalla is the younger brother of Tehseen Poona-

walla who is the brother-in-law of land baron Robert Vadra, the husband of Rahul Gandhi's sister Priyanka Vadra and the son-in-law of Congress supremo Sonia Gandhi.

"Enough of dynastic politics in the Congress. I am raising an issue nobody in my party — the Congress — will ever have the guts to raise. My conscience will not allow me to stay quiet anymore on dynasty and sycophancy," Poonawalla told DNA.

Poonawalla also said that he did this without the knowledge of Tehseen, a decision which had weighed long on his con-



Shehzad Poonawalla

science and which he could defer no more. On a personal note, he told DNA, "Had I told Tehseen, he would have talked me out of it. But I am not ready for this any more. Congress

had stood for open democracy since Gandhiji's time and time has come to honour it in modern India."

Poonawalla is deeply disturbed about the absence of democracy and transparency in the Congress and the sense of entitlement of the Gandhi family. "Who are we then?" says Shehzad who was disowned. "For those who think this is about my grievances- I want nothing from Congress — no ticket — no post. Just the rule-one parivar one ticket.. is this wrong? And a fair election, not selection."

Rahul Gandhi's elevation that seemed imminent, is no longer uncontested.

Total freedom still eludes me, says Hadiya

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Chennai: Kerala woman Hadiya said on Wednesday that she wants total freedom and also wants to meet her husband.

On Monday, the Supreme Court allowed the 24-year-old to go to Tamil Nadu's Salem to continue her homeopathic studies, away from parental supervision.

A day after arriving at the college, Hadiya said she is only asking for her fundamental rights. "I asked for freedom from the court, freedom to meet people whom I like... I do not know whether I got it... I have no phone,



For representation

haven't contacted anyone whom I like (so far)," she told reporters.

Her marriage had been annulled in May by the Kerala High Court on her father's

COURT'S ORDERS

- On Monday, the Supreme Court allowed Hadiya to go to Salem to continue her homeopathic studies.
- It also allowed her to stay away from parental supervision and study under the name Akhila Ashokan — her name before conversion.

and she was to be sent to Syria.

For the past six months, she said, "I was talking to people (parents) I did not like because of their harassment," she said.

Jahan has challenged the High Court order and also a sanction given by the apex court to the National Investigation Agency (NIA) to probe allegations of Hindu women being lured by members of terror outfits.

The larger issue on the court's right to intrude on an individual's autonomy and the reports prepared by NIA on the dangers of forced radicalisation will be taken up in the third week of January.

BJP leader who offered bounty for beheading Deepika resigns

Chandigarh: Haryana BJP leader Suraj Pal Amu, who reportedly offered a Rs 10 crore bounty for beheading *Padmavati* actor Deepika Padukone and director Sanjay Leela Bhansali, on Wednesday resigned as the chief media coordinator of the state unit of the party.

The resignation comes days after the party's Haryana unit served a show-cause notice to him seeking explanation over his controversial remarks.

In his resignation letter which he forwarded to state BJP chief Subhash Barala over WhatsApp, Amu stated



Suraj Pal Amu

that he was upset over Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar allegedly skipping a meeting with representatives of the Karni Sena on Tuesday.

Though the CM's schedule did not specify any such appointment, the Rajput leader maintained that he had given time for a meeting.

Amu stated in his resignation letter that he had worked with full dedication for the party over the past few years, but felt that "CM Khattar does not need dedicated workers and office bearers. Khattar is surrounded by a coterie which is taking him away from dedicated workers for the last three years."

Amu, however, said that he will continue to work as an ordinary BJP worker.

Ganga dredging issue referred to Law Min

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New Delhi: To resolve their differences over the question of environmental clearance for dredging River Ganga as part of National Waterway-I (NW-1), the Ministry of Environment and Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) and Shipping Ministry have decided to refer the matter to Law Ministry, top officials of the environment ministry confirmed. The decision to refer the issue to the law ministry was arrived at 'mutually' after a meeting between Union Minister of Shipping Nitin Gadkari and Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Dr Harsh Vardhan.

The meeting between the two ministers happened late last month and during the meeting, Gadkari contested MoEF&CC's view that maintenance dredging for inland waterway navigation requires environmental clearance (EC). Environment Secretary CK Mishra said that MoEF&CC has not disagreed with the view right now.

"It was mutually agreed that we will examine this issue afresh. It has now been referred to the law ministry and we will proceed accord-



ABOUT PROJECT

- The 1,620-km long NW-1 is one of the flagship projects of the NDA government.
- The estimated cost is Rs 5,369.18 crore.

ingly," CK Mishra told DNA.

The meeting of the two ministers comes in the backdrop of MoEF&CC's letter to Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWA) in June that maintenance dredging for inland waterway navigation is not exempt from environmental clearance. The ministry had also said that as per recommendations of an expert committee, the EIA notification should be amended to include inland waterways, jetties and multi-modal terminals under the activities that need a prior EC.

J&K al-Qaeda leader Musa releases video

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Srinagar: Security forces are on alert after Zakir Musa, chief of al-Qaeda affiliate outfit Ansar Ghazwat-ul-Hind in Jammu and Kashmir, released a fresh video showcasing heavily armed cadres patrolling jungles with winter stocks.

It is after a long time that Musa released a video showcasing his cadres in Kashmir. Musa had withdrawn and avoided social media after security forces dealt a major blow to terrorists of different outfits in the Valley.

A 3.2-minute-long video showing Musa leading a band of terrorists in dense jungles have gone viral on social media and WhatsApp groups. Shot in an undisclosed dense forest area, the gun-wielding cadres are seen patrolling and raising their index finger (symbolising Allah's oneness).

Security forces, however, dismissed the video as a psychological warfare unleashed by the terror outfit to show their presence after being hit hard.

The fresh video has been posted at a time when security forces have gone all out against terror outfits.

Murder case filed against Mulayam

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Lucknow: Twenty seven years after the firing in Ayodhya in 1990, a widow of a kar sevak has filed a case of conspiracy and murder against then Chief Minister and Samajwadi Party patriarch Mulayam Singh Yadav.

Gayatri Devi, whose husband Ramesh Kumar Pandey was killed in firing in Ayodhya on November 2, 1990, has filed a case against Mulayam Singh Yadav under Sections 120-B and 302 of the Indian Penal Code 27 years after the firing on kar sevaks on the orders of then CM Mulayam



Mulayam Singh Yadav

Singh Yadav.

In her petition filed in the Court of the Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate (ACJM) in Ayodhya, Gayatri stated that Mulayam Singh has on a number of occasions publicly admitted that he had

AYODHYA FIRING

A total of 28 kar sevaks were killed in the firing when they tried to march towards Babri mosque on October 30 and November 2, 1990.

ordered for the firing.

"Since he (Mulayam) has publicly admitted to issue orders for firing on kar sevaks in which my husband was also killed, he (Mulayam) should be charged with murder and conspiracy for killing my husband and others," she pleaded.

The counsel also pleaded

Fan urges Prince Harry to have India honeymoon



File photo of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle —REUTERS

Mumbai: Boman Kohinoor, a cafe owner and arguably India's biggest fan of the British royal family, wants Prince Harry and Meghan Markle to honeymoon in India and have lots of children.

The 95-year-old, who met Harry's older brother William and wife Catherine when the royal couple visited India's commercial capital last year, said he was delighted to hear news of the engagement.

"I wish them a very long and happy married life. And

may all their troubles be little ones," the nonagenarian said at Mumbai's famous Britannia & Company restaurant where his love of British royalty is plain to see.

On one wall hangs a large framed photograph of Queen Elizabeth II, next to a portrait of Indian independence hero Mahatma Gandhi.

Kohinoor spent around 10 minutes with the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge at Mumbai's Taj Mahal Palace hotel in April 2016 after they became aware of a social me-

dia campaign encouraging them to meet him.

Kohinoor, clutching a photo of the three of them from that meeting, said he now hoped to meet Harry, 33, and American actress Markle, 36, after they get married at Windsor Castle next spring.

"I hope they will visit me or I will invite them to visit me. My invitation is open for all of the royal family," he explained, adding that he would serve them Britannia's famous berry pulao, a popular Parsi dish. —AFP