

Western Times

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News Brief

SC allows termination of pregnancy

New Delhi, April 22 (IANS) The Supreme Court on Monday allowed termination of the 30-week pregnancy of a minor who was a victim of rape.

Allowing the Special Leave Petition, a Bench presided over by Chief Justice of India (CJI), DY Chandrachud, overturned a decision of the Bombay High Court which had dismissed the plea for Medical Termination of Pregnancy moved by the 14-year-old rape survivor's mother.

The Bench, also comprising Justice JB Pardiwala, noted that the pregnancy allegedly emanated from sexual assault and the minor was unaware of her pregnancy until a very late stage.

Fayaz stabbed Neha 14 times in 30 seconds

Hubballi, (Karnataka) April 22 (IANS) The post-mortem report of Neha Hiremath has revealed that she was stabbed 14 times in just 30 seconds, police sources confirmed on Monday.

The report said that the accused Fayaz had stabbed her chest and neck. "Neha was stabbed in the neck many times and as a result, her blood veins were cut resulting in severe bleeding, following which Neha succumbed," Police sources, quoting the post-mortem report, told IANS. Sources said that the accused first attacked Neha on the chest and abdomen but as she collapsed, he started stabbing her continuously all over her body. The accused had also attempted to slit her throat.

Germany arrests 3 suspected of spying for China

Berlin, April 22 (IANS/DPA) Three Germans have been arrested on suspicion of spying for the Chinese secret service, federal prosecutors said.

Two men and a woman were arrested in the western German cities of Dusseldorf and Bad Homburg on Monday, the Federal Public Prosecutor General said.

They are alleged to have been working for the Chinese secret service since June 2022 at the latest and to have violated the Foreign Trade and Payments Act in this context. The case concerns the transfer of information on military technology to the Chinese secret service. At the time of their arrest, the suspects were in negotiations about research projects that could be useful for the expansion of China's maritime combat power in particular, according to the prosecutors.

Israel's military intelligence director resigns

Tel Aviv, April 22 (IANS/DPA) The head of military intelligence, Major General Aharon Haliva, has resigned, the Israeli army announced on Monday.

The army said that Haliva wanted to fulfil his leadership responsibilities following the "events of October 7."

Militants from the Palestinian Islamist Hamas movement and other groups murdered more than 1,200 people in their massacre on October 7 last year and abducted around 250 and took them to the Gaza Strip. Israel's Defence Minister Yoav Gallant agreed to the request for his resignation.

Lok Sabha Polls 2024 : BJP opens account before counting as

Surat BJP candidate wins unopposed

Surat, April 22 (IANS) Even as campaigning for the second phase of Lok Sabha elections on April 26 gains momentum, the BJP on Monday opened its account with Mukesh Dalal being declared winner from the Surat parliamentary constituency after several withdrawals and disqualifications of opposition candidates.

Asserting that the development symbolises the beginning of a comprehensive victory for the party in Lok Sabha polls, Gujarat BJP President C.R. Paatil expressed his joy on social media, heralding the unopposed election of

Dalal as a historic win not just for Surat, but also for the BJP's prospects across India.

"Surat has offered the first lotus to Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Congratulations to Surat Lok Sabha candidate Mukeshbhai Dalal for being elected unopposed," Paatil posted on X.

In an interesting turn of events, the nomination papers of Congress candidate Nilesh Kumbhani and his substitute were rejected by the Returning Officer (RO), Surat Collector Sourabh Pardhi, due to alleged discrepancies in the signatures of their pro-



posers. The candidatures were dismissed under Section 36(2) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, which permits the RO to examine and reject nominations based on valid objections.

The situation escalated when eight other candidates, including Pyarelal Bharati of the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP), withdrew their nominations under unclear circumstances, effectively leaving Dalal as the lone contender. Meanwhile, the withdrawals have prompted allegations of foul play from the opposition, with

Gujarat Congress chief Shaktisinh Gohil claiming the nomination was sabotaged by the BJP, describing the incident as a "murder of democracy".

Gohil also said that the Congress would challenge the RO's decision in the high court, alleging a conspiracy to eliminate the opposition through procedural tactics.

"This is not just a setback for the Congress, but a blow to the democratic fabric of our nation," Gohil said during a press conference. The remaining 25 Lok Sabha seats in the state will go to the polls on May 7.

PM Modi congratulates chess prodigy Gukesh, says his journey to top will inspire millions

New Delhi, April 22 (IANS) Congratulating 17-year-old Indian prodigy D Gukesh, the youngest World Chess Championship Challenger in history, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Monday that his outstanding performance and journey to the top will inspire millions.

"India is exceptionally proud of D Gukesh on becoming the youngest-ever player to win the FIDE Candidates! Gukesh's remarkable achievement at the Candidates in Toronto showcases his extraordinary talent and dedication. His outstanding performance and journey to the top inspires millions," PM Modi posted on X.

Gukesh scripted histo-

ry by winning the 2024 edition of the FIDE Candidates Tournament.

The remarkable feat means that Gukesh will now face reigning world champion Ding Liren in a match later this year, making him only the second Indian after Vishwanathan Anand to fight for the Classical World Championship title. "Congratulations to D Gukesh for becoming the youngest challenger. The @WacaChess family is so proud of what you have done. I'm personally very proud of how you played and handled tough situations. Enjoy the moment," Anand said in his congratulatory post on X. Union Sports Minister Anurag Thakur also lauded the 17-

year-old Grandmaster's tremendous achievement.

"Congratulations to the 17-year-old Grandmaster D Gukesh for becoming the youngest player ever to win the Candidates Tournament, surpassing the record of Chess Great Garry Kasparov, who claimed this title at 22 years of age. With this win, you have not only made history but also reclaimed India's place in the World of Chess. This stellar achievement will go a long way in inspiring the younger generation. As you prepare to challenge the World Champion after this win, the entire country stands by you. Wishing you the very best," said Thakur.

Siachen no ordinary land but India's capital when it comes to valour, sacrifice and courage: Rajnath Singh

New Delhi, April 22 (IANS) Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Monday that Siachen, the world's highest battlefield, is no ordinary land as it represents the sacrifice, valour and determination of Indian soldiers who serve in extremely harsh terrain and inclement weather to protect the motherland.

Interacting with the Armed Forces personnel deployed at Kumar Post, one of the world's most inhospitable locations, Singh thanked them for

placing the call of duty above everything while safeguarding the country's sovereignty and perseverance.

"The land of Siachen is not an ordinary land... Like New Delhi is our political capital, Mumbai our commercial capital and Bengaluru the technological capital, Siachen is the

country's capital when it comes to valour, sacrifice and courage," said Singh. The Indian Army marked Siachen Day on April 13 as 'Operation

Meghdoot' -- launched on April 13, 1984 -- completed 40 years.

Remembering the feat which is considered unparalleled in the history of high-altitude warfare, Singh said that it remains a golden chapter in the history of the Indian Armed Forces.

Accompanied by Chief of the Army Staff General Manoj Pande, Singh said that he believes that the festivals should first be celebrated by and with the protectors of the country.

"I urge the Chiefs of the three Services to establish a new tradition of beginning the celebrations of the festivals with the soldiers a day before," he said.



ALIGARH, PM Narendra Modi addresses a public meeting for Lok Sabha elections, in Aligarh on Monday. UNI

NIA raids nine locations in Srinagar

Srinagar, April 22 (IANS) The National Investigation Agency (NIA) was raiding nine places on Monday in J&K's Srinagar district. Officials said that these raids were being carried out in the district in connection with a militancy-related case being investigated by the agency. The raids started early morning on Monday as sleuths of the NIA assisted by the local police and the CRPF started searches at these locations.

Officials said after the raids are concluded, details would be shared with the media. So far, there are no reports of any arrest or recovery made during these raids. It must be recalled that the NIA has been investigating terror funding cases in Kashmir since 2019. Many separatist leaders, including Shabir Shah, Nayeem Khan and others, are in prison following the startling disclosures made during the NIA investigations in various terror-related cases. The agency said these so-called separatist leaders acted as agents of the enemy by receiving funds from across the border and using the same for terror-related activities and for furthering their fortunes. NIA also moved the high court seeking the death penalty for Yasin Malik, chief of JKLF, who is serving a life sentence in Tihar Jail after the agency presented a charge sheet against him in the trial court.

Delhi Police hold inter-state meet on security ahead of LS polls

New Delhi, April 22 (IANS) Ahead of Lok Sabha polls in the national capital, the Delhi Police officials held an inter-state meeting with their counterparts from the neighbouring cities and discussed strategies to intensify border surveillance, joint patrolling and strengthening checkpoints.

Voting for all seven Lok Sabha seats in Delhi is scheduled to take place on May 25.

According to police, Special Special Commissioner (law and order) Madhup Tewari held the meeting on April 18 with counterparts from Noida (Uttar Pradesh), and Gurugram, Faridabad and

Jhajjar (Haryana).

"The meeting was aimed to foster cooperation and synergy among law enforcement agencies by seamless exchange of intelligence and extend support to ensure the sanctity of the electoral process," said Joint Commissioner of Police (southern range) S.K. Jain.

Gurugram Commissioner of Police Vikas Aroha, Faridabad CP Rakesh Arya, Noida Additional CP Babloo Kumar, and Assistant Commissioner of Police, Jhajjar, accompanied by a team of Deputy Commissioner of Police and Excise Officers from Faridabad attended the meeting. Among others, Joint

Commissioners from the Southern, Western, and New Delhi Ranges, along with District Deputy Commissioners of Police, DCP/ Crime, and DCP/Special from the Delhi Police participated in the deliberations.

"Key topics of deliberation encompassed strategies to intensify inter-state border surveillance, implementation of joint patrol and checkpoints, decisive action against illicit bootleggers, and seamless intelligence sharing mechanisms," said the Joint CP.

Voting for all seven Lok Sabha seats in Delhi is scheduled to take place on May 25.

How VIP culture vanished under Modi government

New Delhi, April 22 (IANS) Prime Minister Narendra Modi leads by example and makes it a point to abide by the old adage 'practise what you preach'.

From ending VIP culture to cutting down red tape to promoting ease of doing business, several trailblazing initiatives form the hallmark of the Modi government. And, the Prime Minister has led from the front in setting and achieving all these milestones.

In a video shared by Modi Bharsa, a popular X handle, the PM recounts many instances where he took the lead in furthering his call and effort to dismantle the VIP culture.

Recalling his mother's demise, PM Modi says she passed away in a government hospital and her cremation was also done at a state government-run crematorium.

Talking about the vaccination drive against Coronavirus, PM Modi says that he could have got the vaccine administered early but waited for his number.

"I could have taken the

vaccine early but I decided to take it only when my number comes," says PM Modi.

Talking about ending VIP culture during Republic Day celebrations, PM Modi says that the shramiks and workers, who built the Central Vista, were made special guests at the occasion.

Talking about University convocations, PM Modi says that he always advocated for participation of the poor children in those events.

"I used to tell the organisers that the first 50 seats in the convocation ceremony should be reserved for students, belonging to the marginalised class. They should also have an opportunity to witness the grand event," says the PM.

In the past 10 years of the Modi government, many ground-breaking and pioneering initiatives designed on the lines of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas' have paved the way for taking the 140 crore population along.

The disappearance of red beacons from vehicles of government servants

was one of the first moves to end VIP culture.

PM Modi, in his Mann ki Baat address, in 2017 itself, had given a call for ending the VIP culture with EPI (Every person is important) culture.

"The last time I came to Aligarh, I urged you to lock up the factories of nepotism, corruption and ap-

PM Modi asks people to put a strong lock on nepotism, corruption and appeasement

Aligarh (UP), April 22 (IANS) Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Monday that the time had come to free the country from corruption, nepotism and appeasement.

"The last time I came to Aligarh, I urged you to lock up the factories of nepotism, corruption and ap-

peasement. You put such a strong lock that the two 'shehzades' have not yet found the key. For your good future and Viksit Bharat, keep the key with you," he said while addressing an election rally here.

Urging voters to vote for BJP, the Prime Minister

said "When you press the lotus button, the vote goes straight to Modi."

He said that he was aware that people are busy with harvesting, wedding season and then there is the heat wave. "But you must ignore all this and put the nation first and cast your vote in the morning

because every vote counts," he said.

The Prime Minister said that earlier there used to be regular firing at the borders and soldiers were being killed. "All that has stopped. Earlier, terrorists had not even spared Ayodhya and Kashi but today the atmosphere is peaceful," he said. He further said, "The first-time voters may not be aware but there was a time when there used to be advertisements asking people not to touch unidentified objects and to inform the police if they see any such objects. This was because there used to be bomb blasts. It is Modi-Yogi ka kamaal that all this has stopped."

"These parties followed the appeasement policy but also made sure that the social, economic and political condition of Muslims did not improve. When I spoke about Pasmanda Muslims, these parties were unnerved. Modi brought in the ban on triple talaq and this came as a relief to families who were in distress because of their daughters and sisters. The Haj quota was less and there was corruption in it so I spoke to the Saudi government and got the quota increased.



TIRUMALA (AP), On the second day of the ongoing annual Vasanthotsavam in Tirumala, Sri Malayappa along with Sridevi and Bhudevi took out a celestial ride on the Golden Chariot. The deities blessed devotees along the Mada streets. UNI

वेस्टर्न टाइम्स गुजराती आवृत्तिना
आगणना पाना वांचवा भाटे
नीचेनी **लींक** पर **क्लिक** करो

वेस्टर्न टाइम्स

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