

Prez of Bharat's G20 invite draws sharp reactions from JMM, Cong

Move Brought Disrepute To Country: INDIA

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Ranchi: Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM), a key member of the INDIA alliance, lashed out at BJP and its government at the Centre after visuals of President Droupadi Murmu's invite, with 'President of Bharat' inscription, sparked a political row across the country on Tuesday.

JMM, which leads the ruling coalition government along with Congress and RJD in the state, said the incident was an ominous sign for the country and said the Narendra Modi-led government had embarrassed the country on the world stage. "They embarrassed the country on the world stage, the G20 summit. At best, the invitation could have been extended in Hindi, which is our national language. This is a matter of grave



President Droupadi Murmu's G20 invitation, with 'President of Bharat' inscription, sparks a political row across the country on Tuesday

concern, and the people of our country must take note of it," JMM spokesperson Supriyo Bhattacharya said. On behalf of his party, Bhattacharya questioned the Centre's silence on the agenda of the Parliament's special session that has been convened later this month. "We fear that the Constitution will be murdered in the special session," he claimed.

The Congress leaders in Jharkhand claimed that the move had brought disrepute to the country. "BJP and its

government at the Centre is increasingly getting anxious of the growing strength and popularity of the INDIA alliance and resorting to such deeds. It also shows that the Rashtrapati Bhavan is now completely under the Prime Minister's control. Such tricks are being played out to divert the attention of the countrymen on the large-scale corruption under the Narendra Modi-led government's watch, which have begun tumbling out of the closet. This is an indicator that

the end of the Modi government is near," state Congress president Rajesh Thakur told TOI.

Meanwhile, AJSU-P, an ally of BJP in the NDA, stepped back from the brewing controversy. "The matter has been circulating on social media outlets. We do not have any information yet. So we cannot comment immediately," party spokesperson Devsharan Bhagat told TOI.

The BJP top brass in Jharkhand also ducked questions on the matter. Aditya Sahu, a Rajya Sabha MP and general secretary of the party's state unit, said, "I just returned from Dumri after overseeing the by-elections and have not seen the letter yet."

However, BJP insiders claimed that the move was deliberate. "Last year, on the 75th year of Independence, the PM had said that symbols of our colonial past would be taken down gradually. India is a name given by the British," a veteran BJP office bearer told TOI.

Isolate DMK, Babadham priests' group tells state political parties

Rajesh Kumar Pandey & ASRP Mukesh | TNN

Dumka/Ranchi: The priests of the Babadham in Deoghar on Tuesday expressed their anguish over the controversial remark made by Tamil Nadu minister Udhayanidhi Stalin, against the Sanatan Dharma recently.

While speaking at a conclave organised by the Tamil Nadu Progressive Writers' Forum on Saturday last week, Udhayanidhi, the son of Tamil Nadu chief minister M K Stalin, reportedly likened the Sanatan Dharma to dengue and malaria and stressed that it should not be merely opposed but eradicated. His statement triggered a nationwide outrage.

Alleging that Stalin junior's remarks had hurt the sentiments of scores of the Hindu community, the Babadham priests demanded that all political parties from Jharkhand, who are part of the INDIA bloc, should distance themselves from Stalin's party, DMK.

Opposition BJP, too, lashed out at chief minister Hemant Soren, who is also the executive president of the ruling Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM), for remaining silent over the matter



Sanatan Dharma row: The Pandas of Deoghar temple say they were never involved in political discourses until the attack by the TN minister

and sought his party's and his views on the issue.

Earlier on Monday, West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee said requested people of Tamil Nadu to respect every religion and its sentiments. "India is a secular and democratic country. I respect Sanatan Dharma. We go to temples, mosques and churches. We should not be involved in any matter which may hurt anyone." Her Jharkhand counterpart, Soren, and his party are yet to air their views, which upset the priests of Babadham.

Speaking to TOI, the general secretary of the Panda Dharmarakshini Sabha (priests' body at Deoghar temple), Kartik Nath Thakur, said, "Given the way the DMK leader spewed venom against the Sanatan Dharma that has around 80% fol-

lowers in country, it is high time for the disciples to raise their voices against the south Indian minister, in particular, and all political partners of DMK in general." Notably, the Deoghar priests' body does not have any political affiliation and never indulged in political mudslinging in the past, Thakur said.

"It seems that the organisers of the event where the minister spoke had purposefully planned the attacks on Sanatan Dharma. Hence, they should also be booked for hurting the religious sentiments of the majority of the people of the country," Thakur demanded, stressing that they would chalk out their next course of action against the statement soon. Meanwhile, state BJP president Babul Marandi demanded that Soren should clear his stand on the issue.

Bihar woman booked under NDPS Act

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Daltonganj: Town police arrested a woman identified as Puja Kuar of Baingahi village under Nabi Nagar police station in Aurangabad district of Bihar on Tuesday with 3.42 kg narcotic substance that looked like marijuana, in Daltonganj town. The consignment was in two packets weighing 1.830 grams and 1.590 grams respectively, police said. Police have also seized her cell phone. A press note issued by town police said that the woman has been booked under relevant sections of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act.

Officer in-charge of town police station Abhay Kumar Sinha said, "Cops had questioned her regarding the recovered substance. She was caught at NH 75 planning to sell the consignment." This is the first time here that a woman was caught with contraband substance. Investigation is on and police is yet to find out how the woman arrived here with the consignment, whether she has any criminal links or a local source and to whom she was going to sell the consignment.

Women voters more than males

Continued From P 1

He, however, highlighted the high female voter turnout and said, "Encouragingly, the female turnout was 72.77% compared to their male counterparts which stood at 57%." The low turnout of male voters could be because they may have migrated to other places for work given the poor monsoon." Lakra stressed that the entire voting process remained peaceful without any untoward incidents or major EVM malfunctioning. "Everything went according to plan and there are no reports of untoward incidents or issues of recasting of votes and so on," he added.

The counting will take place on September 8. The seat fell vacant after the death of then education minister and JMM MLA, Jagannath Mahto, early this year. The JMM-Congress-RJD combine has fielded Jagannath's widow Bebi Devi, who was already inducted in the state cabinet a month ago with a view to retain the seat. The NDA camp comprising BJP and AJSU-P has fielded Yashoda Devi of AJSU-P as their joint candidate. Yashoda contested in the 2019 assembly election from the seat from the same party ticket but lost to Jagannath.

Lok Sabha panel summons ex-DC, chief secy after Nishikant's plaint

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Jharkhand chief secretary Sukhdev Singh will have to appear on September 21

Ranchi: The Lok Sabha's Committee on Privileges has asked former Deoghar deputy commissioner Manjunath Bhajantri and Jharkhand chief secretary Sukhdev Singh to appear before it in person on September 21 and present their oral evidence on a notice of breach of privilege moved by Godda's BJP MP Nishikant Dubey in September 2022. An office memorandum issued by the Lok Sabha Secretariat's privileges and ethics branch on Tuesday, a copy of which is with the TOI, asked the Union ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions to ensure that both the civil servants appear before the committee on the scheduled date and time.

Dubey, a three-term MP from Godda parliamentary constituency in Jharkhand, had filed four breach of privilege notices against Bhajantri, a graduate engineer from IIT Mumbai and a 2011 batch IAS officer, between 2021 and 2022 accusing the latter of misusing his official position. Bhajantri, now posted as the

deputy commissioner of East Singhbhum district, had reportedly sent a written response to the committee in June this year which was in violation of the Lok Sabha procedures. Bhajantri and Singh's offices did not respond to TOI's calls when contacted. The Lok Sabha's standing committee on privileges is currently headed by Sunil Kumar Singh, the incumbent BJP MP from Chatra Parliamentary constituency in Jharkhand.

"The officer had, out of personal vendetta, implicated me and my family members, including my wife, children and mother in false cases. He insulted me, a people's representative on sev-

eral occasions. My constituency is made up of three districts, and I generally do not interact with their DCs and SPs," Dubey said.

The face-off between Dubey and Bhajantri began in April 2021 when the officer wrote to the Election Commission accusing the former of violating the model code of conduct during the Madhupur by-elections. Dubey accused the officer of working at the behest of the ruling Jharkhand Mukti Morcha.

Dubey then accused Bhajantri, then Deoghar DC, of filing 37 FIRs against him and his family members accusing them of inking forged land deals. The MP also accused Bhajantri of curtailing his security. The fight between the duo peaked in August 2022 when Dubey was booked along with eight others for allegedly obtaining clearance by force for a flight to take off from Deoghar airport on the evening of August 31 despite the airport not having night take off or landing facilities. The duo made sharp exchanges on X (then known as Twitter) and Dubey lodged an FIR against Bhajantri in New Delhi.

Animesh Jain takes over as CGM of NTPC's coal mining HQ in Ranchi

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Ranchi: Animesh Jain, the head of NTPC's Chhatti Baratu coal mining project in Hazaribag, took over as the chief general manager (in-charge) of NTPC's coal mining headquarters in Ranchi on Friday, the public sector unit (PSU) said in a statement.

Jain will head the NTPC's coal mining division and look after its coal mining projects in Jharkhand, Odisha and Chhattisgarh, the statement said.

The new chief general manager (in-charge) has had a career spanning over three decades and served as the managing director of the Bangladesh-India Friendship Power Company Ltd (BIFPCL) in 2020-21 and continues to be a board member till date.

He is a mechanical engineer graduate from NIT along with a master's degree in information systems and



Animesh Jain, the new chief general manager (in-charge) of NTPC's coal mining

Jain will head the NTPC's coal mining division and look after its coal mining projects in Jharkhand, Odisha and Chhattisgarh

engineering management from George Washington University in the USA. He also completed his mini-MBA from the Management Cent-

re Europe, Belgium, and attended global leadership programmes at the University of Maryland, USA, Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Kolkata and IIM, Ahmedabad.

He has worked extensively in the area of business development both in India and abroad on merger and acquisition, risk management, strategic management and corporate affairs.

In his responsibility as executive director of the World Energy Council, India, from 2021 to 2023, he has developed a holistic view of the power sector, including the energy transition underway both in India and across the globe.

A veteran in the power generation and coal mining sector, Jain is a firm believer in the empowerment of his team and strives for excellence with the principle of "meticulous planning and flawless execution", the statement added.

NEWS DIGEST

Surprise checks at East S'bhun police stations

Jamshedpur: Acting on the reported spike in incidents of crime, East Singhbhum SSP Prabhakar Kumar conducted surprise inspections at three police stations and the composite control room early on Tuesday to check the professionalism of the personnel. The SSP visited Sidhgora, Sitaramdera, and Telco police stations and inquired about the progress of the action taken on complaints lodged.

He directed the in-charges of the police stations to speed up the arrest of wanted criminals, if any. **3 more held in CPM leader murder case**

Ranchi: Three more persons were arrested in connection with the killing of CPM leader Subhas Munda in Ranchi on July 26. So far, seven persons have been nabbed in this case. Ranchi SSP Kishor Kaushal on Tuesday said that the special investigation team led by DSP (HQ) Praveen Kumar Singh nabbed Nageshwar Paswan, Pintu Kumar

and Praveen Kumar from Ranchi. An automatic pistol, two cartridges, five phones and a four-wheeler used for keeping an eye on Munda were seized. He added that Paswan is an accused in 12 cases filed with several police stations in Ranchi and Simdega.

Palamu court recruitments yet to begin

Daltonganj: Six months after an advertisement (number 01/2023) seeking applications for 60 posts of drivers, orderlies, gardeners, night guards, fax operators, generator operators and peons in the civil court of Palamu was issued on February 7, 2023 with the last date of filing applications on March 10, the recruitment process has not been taken up yet.

1 out of three villages skip PTR's relocation meet

Daltonganj: Latu villagers from Palamu Tiger Reserve's core area did not attend the district-level implementation committee meeting on Monday in Latehar to discuss the relocation of three villages - Latu, Kujrum and Jaigeer Pahar. The reason of their absence was unknown, Kumar Ashish, PTR deputy director (south) and member secretary of the committee, said.

Forest dept to resurrect vulture breeding project at Muta

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Ranchi: The state department of forests, environment and climate change has resurrected its efforts to make operational a vulture conservation project on the outskirts of Ranchi which has been dragging its feet for more than a decade. The move comes at a time when the "The Status of India's Birds Report 2023", released on August 25 this year, has marked the white-rumped vulture and Indian vulture as vulnerable and in the "highest on the priority list in need of conservation" in Jharkhand.

Department authorities have pitched in the idea of joining hands with the Bombay



The proposed vulture conservation centre will be built on the premises of the now-defunct crocodile breeding centre in Muta

Natural History Society (BNHS), a Mumbai-based charitable organisation associated with biodiversity research for operationalising the conservation centre at Muta village in Ormanjhi, nearly 27 km northeast of Ranchi. The department tried run-

ning the facility on its own by bringing in a few vultures from Pinjore in Haryana but failed. Interestingly, the proposed centre at Muta village was a crocodile breeding site until March 25, 2018. After crocodile breeding at the site failed, the centre has been

languishing for nearly half a decade now.

Talking to TOI on Tuesday, chief conservator of forests (wildlife) S R Natesha said, "We obtained clearances from the Central Zoo Authority for our proposed vulture conservation centre at Muta a few years ago. However, there have been some administrative hurdles which have led to delays in obtaining clearances from the state government. A fresh proposal has been moved and the government's queries have been answered. We are hopeful of making it operational very soon."

While Natesha did not give a timeline, sources in the department said efforts were

underway to ink an MoU with the BNHS by September-end. "Thereafter, the centre could be made operational within the ongoing financial year," a senior official told TOI. The provisions of the MoU entail that the BNHS would provide technical expertise while the state government would fund the project. As per BNHS estimates, there are nine species of vultures in India and their cumulative population was 40,000 earlier this year. Jharkhand, home to two species out of the total nine, has anywhere between 350 to 500 in its wild. Hazaribagh, Koderma and Saranda are home to a bulk of the state's vulture population.

CONGRATULATIONS
and welcome to the circle of smarts!

Winners of the TOI Crossword contest dtd. 3rd September

- A. Vigneshwaran, Chennai
- Brijesh Kashyap, Delhi
- Bruno Souza, Panjim
- Dr Sunil Kumar Singh, Patna
- Durgaparameshwari, Badiadka
- Junayd Ahmed, Cuttack
- K Srinidhi, Mumbai
- Mallangi Uthama Reddy, Hyderabad
- Mohinder Singh Verma, Delhi
- Neville Patrick Dsouza, Mumbai
- Sparsh Sinha, Bengaluru
- Suhaib Salim, Oachira
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THE TIMES OF INDIA
EVERY SUNDAY
CHANGE Begins Here

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PUBLIC NOTICE - 16TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING TO BE HELD THROUGH VIDEO CONFERENCING / OTHER AUDIO - VISUAL MEANS (VC/OAVM)

Notice is hereby given that the 16th Annual General Meeting ('AGM') of ESL Steel Limited is convened to be held on **Thursday, 28th September, 2023 at 10:30 A.M. (IST) through Video Conferencing or Other Audio-Visual Means (VC/OAVM)** in compliance with applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 read with General Circular No. 20/2020 dated 5th May, 2020, General Circular No. 02/2021 dated 13th January, 2021, General Circular No. 02/2022 dated 5th May, 2022 and General Circular No. 10/2022 dated 28th December, 2022 issued by The Ministry of Corporate Affairs, (MCA).

The Notice of AGM along with the Annual Report of the Company are available on the website of the Company at <https://www.eslsteel.com/> and on the website of Kfin Technologies Limited (Kfintech) at <https://evoting.kfintech.com/>. Members can attend and participate only through the VC/OAVM facility provided by Kfintech or view live webcast of AGM, the details of which have been provided in the Notice of the AGM. Please note that in compliance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2013 and Rules made thereunder no physical presence of members at Common venue is required and the attendance of the Members attending the AGM through VC/OAVM will be counted for the purpose of reckoning the quorum.

The Notice of the AGM along with the Annual Report 2022-23 have been sent through electronic mode on Tuesday, 5th September 2023 to those Members whose e-mail addresses are registered with the Company/Depositories/Registrar & Share Transfer agent.

Pursuant to Section 91 of the Companies Act, 2013, the Register of Members and the Share Transfer Books of the Company will remain closed from Friday, 22nd September 2023 to Thursday, 28th September 2023 (both days inclusive).

Members who have not registered their e-mail address are requested to follow the processes mentioned in AGM Notice, for registration of their e-mail addresses to receive the Notice of AGM and Annual Report electronically and to receive login Id and password for e-voting.

The Company is providing to its members, the facility of remote e-voting before the AGM and during the AGM in respect of the businesses to be transacted at the AGM and for this purpose, the Company has appointed Kfintech to facilitate voting through electronic means. The remote e-voting for AGM will commence on Monday, 25th September 2023 (10.00 A.M.) and ends on Wednesday, 27th September 2023 (5.00 P.M.). The remote e-voting for AGM shall be disabled thereafter. The Members attending the Meeting, who have already cast their vote by remote e-voting, shall not be allowed to vote during the Meeting. A person whose name is recorded in the Register of Members / Register of Beneficial Owners as on the Cut-Off Date i.e., Friday, 22nd September 2023 shall be entitled to avail the facility of remote e-voting before / during the AGM. Any person who acquires shares and becomes a Member of the Company after the dispatch of the Notice of AGM and holds shares as of the cut-off date, may obtain the login ID and password for remote e-voting by sending a request at evoting@kfintech.com. The instructions for voting through remote e-voting are provided in the Notice for AGM.

In case of any query(ies) and/or grievance(s), in respect of voting by electronic means, Members may refer to the Help & Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and E-voting user manual available at the download section of <https://evoting.kfintech.com/> (Kfintech Website) or contact Ms. C Shobha Anand at evoting@kfintech.com or call Kfintech's toll free No. 1800-309-4001 for any further clarifications.

By Order of Board of Directors of ESL Steel Limited
Manish Kumar Chaudhary
Company Secretary

Place: Bokaro
Date: 6th September, 2023