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CM committed political hara-kiri by endorsing term 'Gorkhaland': Bimal



HM Correspondent

Darjeeling, May 11: Gorkha Janmukti Morcha President Bimal Gurung addressing an election campaign rally in Darjeeling on Thursday remarked that Mamata Banerjee henceforth should

visit Darjeeling Hills as a tourist and not as a Chief Minister.

"She has divided the Gorkha community hence she has lost the credibility of visiting the Hills as a CM, rather she should come as a tourist. What has she

done for the Hills? She has only indulged in divisive politics in the Hills" retorted Gurung.

The GJM Chief stated that his party would definitely win in all the four Hill Municipalities. "The TMC has started to panic

hence they are using the District Administration and the Police for their political gains. Yet they will not win. People will vote for us. They will vote for Gorkhaland" claimed Gurung.

Gurung further suggested Mamata Banerjee to be cautious stating that the BJP by 2019 would in all probability 'wipe out' the TMC from Bengal. "In fact, the Chief Minister by endorsing the term 'Gorkhaland' in the Gorkhaland Territorial Administration (GTA) nomenclature had on her part committed political hara-kiri. If ever the TMC comes to power in the GTA, the first thing they will do is change the nomenclature of Gorkhaland Territorial Administration to Gorkha Territorial Administration" stated Gurung.

Reacting to Gurung's statement TMC leader and West Bengal Tourism Minister Goutam Deb alleged that the separate

statehood demand is a tactic for the GJM to divert focus from many of the pressing and important issues concerning the hills. "They had been running the Hill Municipalities. They failed to do any development activities in the Hills. As they have nothing to show in their favor they are diverting this by resurrecting the issue of Gorkhaland. They play the Gorkhaland card in every election" remarked Deb.

Meanwhile an Executive Magistrate invoking Section 107 CrPC has issued a notice whereby all persons booked under Section 107 CrPC are restrained from the vicinity of the polling booths during polls on May 14 from 7am till the completion of polls. "If they are voters they can vote but they should not loiter around the booths and the vicinity. This is a routine procedure during elections" stated Joyoshi Dasgupta, DM, Darjeeling. There are more than 100 names in the list.

NBDC existed only on papers: Harka



Nisha Chettri

Kalimpong, May 11: A day after announcing his decision to resign from the post of vice chairman of North Bengal Development Council (NBDC) Dr. H.B.Chettri today officially communicated his resignation in writing to West Bengal Governor, NBDC chairman and state CM Mamata Banerjee. Chettri who is also the president of Jan Andolan Party (JAP) had announced his said decision yesterday

while addressing a press conference in Kurseong. The NBDC does not have an office nor was any work done by it. NBDC existed only on papers, Chettri said while speaking to reporters here.

When the council called a meeting on 13th April in Uttar Kanya this year, the representatives from all 8 districts (from Malda to Alipurduar) had come up with project proposals for their respective districts but Chettri, the NBDC vice chairman had no idea about

the development. It was known that an amount of 1 crore 91 lakh was released to repair Atisha Road, Gouripur House Road and Municipality Guest house without consulting Chettri the vice chairman, as claims Chettri.

"What disappointed me was when I asked the district magistrate about the funds and the projects and that why was I not consulted about the development, the DM replied that he had no knowledge of me being the VC of NBDC. At least Kalimpong and Darjeeling falls under my jurisdiction, my opinions and suggestions is supposed to be considered for being a Vice Chairman but I was there without any knowledge about the projects" said Chettri adding that Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee had appointed him as the vice chairman to have his opinions and suggestions about issues and developments pertaining to all eight districts.

Expedite RC verification: SABKM

HM Report

Rangpo, May 11: Sikkim Aam Bihari Kaliyan Manch have submitted a memorandum to the Chief Secretary of Sikkim grieving unnecessary delay in the verification process of residential certificate (RC) for old settlers of Sikkim by the Police Department and Sikkim Intelligence Bureau.

The memorandum states that the two departments are taking too much time to complete the verification process with some verification taking more than 9 to 10 months to complete. The Manch has requested the Home Secretary to take note of the problem and take necessary steps so as to expedite the process of verification.

Mamata Banerjee says only West Bengal can fight and save India from divisive politics

Kolkata, May 11: Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Thursday said only West Bengal can fight and save the country from the prevailing "intolerance" and "divisive" politics and cannot be silenced by "threat and intimidation" by the BJP.

"The tactics of threat and intimidation cannot silence me. Other states like Bihar, Maharashtra may be silent but Bengal will not stop its fight and protest, whatever be the situation. Only West Bengal can fight against this communal politics and intolerance and save the country," she said while speaking at a meeting here on the occasion of Buddha Purnima.

Challenging the BJP to put her in jail, Banerjee said that she will continue her fight against them (the BJP) and even go to jail. She will not leave the fight and will protest till the end.

In a veiled reference to 2002 Godhra riots in Gujarat, she said "Butchers are born in slaughter houses, not the eunuch philosophers."

"I am in politics but it does not give me the right to dictate what others will eat or not. This is not the real religion. Religion does not teach us to do politics over it or kill people. Religion means faith, peace, love and brotherhood," she said.

Criticising the politics over beef and cow slaughter, she said threat and intimidation cannot silence her against intolerance.

Banerjee also lashed out

at the state BJP leadership for calling her a "eunuch".

"I have been even called an eunuch. I want justice. This is a shame. I may be a very bad person, but I still have the right to lead a respectable life. I want justice from the people," she added.

West Bengal BJP committee member Shyamapada Mondal had on 30 April described Banerjee a eunuch while addressing a party meeting at Chandrakona in West Midnapore district, accusing her of practising the politics of appeasement.

Late LD Kazi Memorial Football Tournament from May 17

Gangtok, May 11: Late L.D. Kazi Memorial Gold Cup State Level Inter School Football Tournament (Girls) 2016-17 is all set to kick-off from May 17.

The tournament is being organised by the Sports and Youth Affairs Department in collaboration with the Human Resource Development Department.

A total of 70 schools from across the state are participating in this year's edition of the tournament.

Speaking to media persons Minister of Sports Department R. B. Subba shared that the tournament aims to unearth and nurture potential budding football talents and to provide them a platform to showcase and hone their skills.

The participating teams have been divided into 16 clusters and one team from each cluster will qualify for the

Show-cause notice against Kurseong GJM candidates



HM Correspondent

Kurseong, May 11: Kurseong Sub Divisional Officer Debashish Chattopadhyaya, who is also the Municipality Returning Officer for the May 14 civic polls in Kurseong, has sent 'show-cause' notices to several Gorkha Jan Mukti Morcha (GJM) candidates, under section 125 of the Representation of the People's Act, 1951, U/S 153 A of IPC, and Guidelines of model

code of conducts (MCC) for writing "Gorkhaland Vs Bengal" and other slogans in the party's agitprops strewn across Kurseong Municipality area. As per orders of the Supreme Court, politicians cannot seek votes in the name of religion and caste. Addressing reporters here, Chattopadhyaya said that show-cause notices has been served to GJM candidates, who in the party's agitprops have portrayed this municipal election as a

"Gorkhaland Vs Bengal" fight and that the people should vote for the GJM for the bright future of 'Gorkhas'.

"By mentioning 'Gorkhaland vs Bengal' and other related slogans in their election campaign posters, the GJM candidates have been appealing to caste/language/ race and hence trying to foment divisiveness which is contravening the Act. It also tantamount to violation of MCC and is also against the tenets of the Constitution of India," the SDO added.

Meanwhile, Yogendra Rai, the senior GJM leader cum sabhasad, Gorkhaland Territorial Administration (GTA) said that the GJM has been demanding a separate state of Gorkhaland under the article and rights of the Indian Constitution. "The Bengal Chief Minister cum Trinamool Congress (TMC) supreme Mamata Banerjee seeks votes in the name of 'Sonar Bangla' and has violated the MCC guidelines on several occasions. However, no action whatsoever has been taken against the TMC party and its leadership. This clearly shows the blatant partisan approach of the administration. It is a one-sided law only implemented against the GJM party," Rai alleged.

44 houses sanctioned for North Sikkim under PMAY (G)



Mangan, May 11: A total of 44 sanction letters were handed over to the beneficiaries of North Sikkim under the central Government's affordable housing scheme "Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana", (Grameen) (PMAY) during an orientation-cum-sensitization programme of beneficiaries under PMAY at the conference hall of NDZP, Mangan, North Sikkim today.

The programme was organised by the Rural Management Development Department, North District. Minister for Forest, Environment and Wild Life Management-cum-Area MLA, Lachen-

Mangan, T.W. Lepcha attended the programme as the Chief Guest along with Deputy Speaker, SLA-cum-Area MLA, Dzongu, S.G. Lepcha and Parliamentary Secretary-cum-Area MLA, Kabi, Ugen Nedup as the guests of honour.

ADC (Dev), Mangan, Tashi Choppel Lepcha while presenting the guidelines of PMAY stated that PMAY-G is a revamped version of Indira Awas Yojana which was renamed earlier this year under which financial assistance of Rs 1.30 Lakh would be provided for the construction of each house in the hilly region. Further, each benefi-

ciary will also be provided an additional amount upto Rs. 50 thousand for ground leveling and Rs. 12 thousand to build toilet, along with wages of 90 days through MGN-REGA, informed Lepcha.

The construction work will commence from the month of June with a deadline of three months. The financial assistance will be credited in the account of the beneficiaries in four installments.

At first Rs.10 thousand will be credited, in second Rs.30 thousand and Rs.45 thousand in the third and last installment.

Furthermore, 30 pieces of GIC sheets would also be provided to the beneficiaries during the forthcoming 'Janta Mela 2017'.

Chief Guest, Minister T.W. Lepcha in his short speech urged the beneficiaries to follow all necessary guidelines while constructing the house. Further, he urged the panchayat members to supervise and monitor the work in their respective areas.

The State Government is all set to carry forward holistic development of the state with an inclusive growth, Lepcha added.

Similarly, Deputy Speaker also urged the beneficiaries to take full advantage of the scheme and follow the guidelines seriously. Further, he suggested the beneficiaries to work in close co-ordination with the nodal department.

Parliamentary Secretary, Bhutia also urged to the beneficiaries to go for quality work and advised the pan-

Justice Karnan maybe in Nepal or Bangladesh, we want President to appeal to ICJ: Legal aide

New Delhi, May 11: Calcutta high court judge CS Karnan might have escaped to Nepal or Bangladesh and his team is preparing to approach the President for relief, his legal adviser said on Thursday, the latest twist in an unprecedented face-off in India's higher judiciary.

The revelation came as police forces scrambled across cities to catch hold of the elusive Karnan, who is facing six months in jail for contempt of the Supreme Court.

"We want the President to refer the case to the International Court of Justice, just as was done in the case of Kulbhushan Jadhav," W Peter Ramesh Kumar, an advocate at Madras high court, told HT.

"We are preparing for the next level of legal battle and he needs to be in hiding until that time."

His legal team also filed a petition in the top court seeking a recall of his conviction and arrest order. Karnan has repeatedly alleged that



he was being unfairly singled out because he is Dalit.

"Justice Karnan is entitled to protection of the Constitution of India and the laws of the land. He is invoking the remedies open to him in law by instituting petitions," his counsel Mathews J Nedumpara said

in a statement. The judge retires next month.

The apex court convicted Karnan on Tuesday, attempting to end months of defiance by the judge who had sentenced Chief Justice of India JS Khehar and six other SC judges

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