

# Rahul Gandhi acting as mouthpiece of BJP in Kerala, says Rajeeve

Congress leader asking why Central investigation agencies have not taken action against Chief Minister has only weakened one of the major campaign planks raised by Opposition that BJP was misusing probe agencies: Industries Minister

The Hindu Bureau  
KOCHI

Rahul Gandhi acting as the mouthpiece of Narendra Modi and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) when visiting Kerala is shocking to all those who have reported faith in secularist forces and the INDIA bloc during this election, Industries Minister P. Rajeeve has said. Talking to reporters here on Friday, Mr. Rajeeve accused Mr. Gandhi of giving new weapons to the BJP to use against the Opposition through his

speeches in Kerala. Mr. Gandhi had not mustered the courage to criticize the BJP on serious issues such as the Citizenship Amendment Act, he said. Mr. Gandhi asking why the Central investigation agencies had not taken action against the Kerala Chief Minister had only weakened one of the major campaign planks raised by the Opposition that the BJP was misusing the investigative agencies for political purposes. It enabled Mr. Modi to question the Opposition allegation about the investigative agencies

during campaigning in Tripura, said Mr. Rajeeve. When Mr. Gandhi and Sonia Gandhi were questioned by the Central investigative agencies, the Left did not raise the question of why they were not arrested. "Instead, we criticized the action of the investigative agencies," said Mr. Rajeeve. **Telangana CM's remarks** Lashing out at Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy describing Pinarayi Vijayan as a communalist, he said that description

was best suited for Mr. Reddy considering his past as an AVBP leader. Recently, a leader who joined the Congress from the BJP claimed that he had done so at the instance of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh to defeat the Congress. Similarly, Mr. Reddy should reveal on whose instance he had joined the Congress, he said. Mr. Rajeeve said Mr. Gandhi had campaigned only once in Madhya Pradesh and Bihar where the first phase of election was held on Friday. Instead of realising the significance of

the fight against the BJP in the Hindi heartland, Mr. Gandhi continued to centre on Kerala and act like a local Congress leader. No star campaigner of the Congress had been to the Hindu heartland where the number of BJP seats needed to be brought down, he said. **Electoral bonds** Mr. Rajeeve said that being the only party not to have received electoral bonds, the CPI(M) had locus standi in the matter, which was upheld even by the Supreme Court.

# Austrian woman booked by police sent back from airport

The Hindu Bureau  
KOCHI

An attempt by an Austrian woman booked by the Fort Kochi police for reportedly destroying pro-Palestine boards and a banner put up by the Students Islamic Organisation of India (SIO) to leave the country failed after she was sent back by the emigration authorities at Cochin International Airport Limited on Thursday evening. It emerged that though her passport was not impounded, she faced a travel ban based on a lookout circular issued by the Kochi City police. The woman was booked by the police under Section 153 (wantonly giving

**Though the woman's passport was not impounded, she faces a travel ban based on a lookout circular issued by the Kochi City police.**

IPC Section 427 (Mischievous causing damage to the amount of fifty rupees) and Section 118 (Penalty for causing grave violation of public order or danger) of the Kerala Police Act.

**Press meet** "We don't want to strike a compromise, but want to pursue litigation. We have scheduled a press meet on the matter on Saturday," said Fuaad P.S, president, Kochi City, SIO. Meanwhile, the SIO restored the pro-Palestine board, which read "Silence is violence, stand up for humanity". A similar board mounted at Kama-lakkadavu near the Fort Kochi beach was allegedly torn down by the woman.

# Trains idling in weed-infested area of Ernakulam Children's Park

John L. Paul  
KOCHI

The Ernakulam Children's Park that was once the most popular park in the district is drawing much lesser number of children, despite the ongoing summer vacation and its strategic location.



Picture of neglect: The weed-infested rail track and renewable energy park at Ernakulam Children's Park are an eyesore for visitors. JOHN L. PAUL

This has widely been attributed to a pair of trains, which were a hit among children, idling during the past several months for want of timely upkeep. A visit to the park recently showed that the trains were parked in a semi-abandoned condition in the weed-infested western side of the park. The renewable energy park established jointly by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy and the State government's Agency for New and Renewable Energy Research and Technology (ANERT) too is in a similar condition.

The park is maintained by the District Council for Child Welfare (DCCW), while the Ernakulam District Tourism Promotion Council (DTPC) maintains a pond at one end of the premises where visitors can do pedal boating for a fee. Kerala Tourism had allotted ₹4 crore to renovate the premises, considering that hundreds of children used to converged here during evenings and through the day during weekends. "Children are left with just pedal boating and a few cycles as an activity option in the sprawling park," said Ayub from Aluva who recently visited the park with his family members. "My children were eager to take a ride in one of the trains. They now have to be content with playing in rides like roller coaster, in better-maintained parts of the park," he added. Susmitha, who also visited the park recently with her children, spoke of the need for kiosks that sold snacks and reactivating the arena on the park premises where cultural events used to be held.

"The involvement of multiple stakeholders and lack of accountability could be among the reasons for the trains and other amenities not being optimally used. The park must at least live up to the name of being located on Park Avenue Road in the city's hub," she said. **Library at park** The vacant lending library on the premises, that has a collection of mostly Malayalam books, is proof of inadequate footfall in the park. The membership fee is ₹100, while ₹50 is the monthly fee (payable during months when books are borrowed). On the increasing need for children to play out-

doors and to have face-to-face interactions with their peers in public parks and open spaces, P.M. Chacko, physician-cum-psychologist, said humans were created as social beings and hence the need for connection with fellow human beings. "Such face-to-face interactions help in the formation of empathy, which, studies show, is 45% less among today's generation as compared to the previous generation. No amount of online interactions can be a substitute for this." There was need for more public places such as safe and well-maintained parks that helped foster much-needed connectedness, he added.

# Lok Sabha polls: myth vs reality register

The Hindu Bureau  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Voters can visit the 'Myth vs Reality Register' of the Election Commission to fact-check information on the Lok Sabha polls. Part of the Commission's efforts to safeguard the electoral process from misinformation, the register can be accessed on mythvsreality.eci.gov.in It has a user-friendly format and covers myths and

misinformation concerning the EVMs and VVPAT machines, voters' lists and services and the conduct of elections. **FAQs on topics** Continuously updated, it provides information on election-related facts, information circulating on social media platforms, busted fakes and also features FAQs on important topics and reference material under different sections.

# UPSC exams: metro service from 7 a.m. on Sunday

The Hindu Bureau  
KOCHI

Kochi metro trains will begin service at 7 a.m. on Sunday (April 21) from terminal stations at Aluva and Thripunithura to help can-

didates appearing for UPSC exams reach their exam centres on time, Kochi Metro Rail Limited has informed. The trains generally begin service from 7.30 a.m. on Sundays.

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**E - AUCTION SALE NOTICE**

Ref: RO/JJK/SAR/0104/SN/03/2024-25 Date: 19.04.2024

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) and 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

(1) Anoop P.G. S/o. Gopi, Puthuparambil House, Near Thirumandhamkundu Temple, Pallipuram, Cheral, Ernakulam 683514. (2) Neethu V.R. W/o. Anoop P.G. Puthuparambil House, Near Thirumandhamkundu Temple, Pallipuram, Cheral, Ernakulam 683514. (3) Rathinam, W/o. Gopi, Puthuparambil House, Near Thirumandhamkundu Temple, Pallipuram, Cheral, Ernakulam 683514. (4) Venugopal K.S. S/o. Subran, Kalihalappilly House, Kuzhipilly, Cheral, Ernakulam, 683501

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the borrower/guarantor that the below described immovable property mortgaged to the South Indian Bank Ltd, Branch Chennamangalam (Secured Creditor), the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of The South Indian Bank Limited (Secured Creditor), will be sold on "as is where is" basis, "as is what is" and "whatever there is" condition on 23.05.2024 for recovery of an amount of Rs.63,39,046.24/-(Rupees Sixty Three Lakhs Thirty Nine Thousand Forty Six and Paise Twenty Four Only) as on 18.04.2024 with future interest, costs and expenses etc. thereon due to The South Indian Bank Limited, Branch Chennamangalam (Secured Creditor), from the above mentioned Borrower(s) and guarantor(s).

Name of Property Owner: Mrs. Rathinam

Description of property: All that piece and parcel of land measuring 3.24 Acres together residential building (measuring 2098 sq.ft (approximate)) standing therein bearing Door No. LX419 of Pallipuram Grama Panchayat with all other improvements therein, in Sy.No.4032, Re.Sy.No.363/18, Block No.2 of Pallipuram Village, Kochi Taluk, Kuzhupilly Sub District, Ernakulam District, Thandapeer No.4703/1 owned by Mrs. Rathinam W/o.Gopi, more fully described under the Sale Deed No.728/1989 dated 05.05.1989 registered with Kuzhupilly SRO. North: Property of Vinudja. South: Property of Nandakumar East: Property of Dil Jayan. West: Concrete Way

Reserve Price: Rs.41,25,000/- (Rupees Forty One Lakhs Twenty Five Thousand only)

Earnest Money Deposit (EMD): Rs.4,12,500/-

(Rupees Four Lakhs Twelve Thousand Five Hundred only)

EMD shall be deposited on or before 22.05.2024 till 5.00 PM

Bid Increment amount: Rs.10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand only)

Date and time of auction: 23.05.2024 from 11.00 AM to 12.00 Noon (with 5 minute unlimited auto extensions till sale is concluded)

Encumbrances known to the Bank: Nil

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in web portal of South Indian Bank Ltd. (Secured Creditor) website i.e. www.southindianbank.com. Details also available at <https://bank.auctions.in/>. For any further clarification with regards to inspection of property, terms and conditions of the e-auction or submission of bids, kindly contact South Indian Bank Ltd on contact number: +91 9946669386, (+91) 9745244078, (+91) 755897963, (+91) 480 2829336. Date: 19.04.2024 Place: Irinjalakuda Authorised Officer The South Indian Bank Ltd.