

Disturbed at trends of unruly behaviour in legislatures: VP

HYDERABAD, Mar 18:

Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu today said he was disturbed at the 'unruly behaviour' and 'unparliamentary language' in legislatures and stressed the need to move away from the current environment of settling scores and to make a new beginning.

Expressing anguish over the events (frequent disruptions) in Parliament and State legislatures, Naidu, quoting Mahatma Gandhi, said there was no place for violence in legislatures. "Let us recall Gandhiji's wise words: No perfect democracy is possible without perfect non-violence at the back of it. So let us abjure violent emotions, violent speech and violent actions. Let us discuss, debate and decide in a dignified manner," the Vice President said.

Though Naidu, who is also chairman of the Rajya Sabha, did not refer to any particular

legislature, his comments today come in the backdrop of the logjam in Parliament and the recent incidents in the Telangana assembly.

In the joint session of the Telangana assembly on March 12, an object flung at the dais by main opposition Congress members hit the legislative council chairman in his eye, injuring him.

The slogan-shouting Congress members had earlier accused the TRS Government of being "anti-farmer", torn papers and flung them in the air. Addressing the first National Consultation Conference on 'Swarajya to Surajya: Taking Forward the Good Governance Agenda' here, Naidu, according to an official release, urged legislators to argue with the force of logic and conviction, rather than stall the proceedings through brute force.

Stating that he was dis-

turbed at the trends of unruly behaviour and unparliamentary language in legislatures, Naidu said "We should move away from the current environment of settling scores in which each party adopts the strategy of 'I disrupt because you have done it before.'"

"Can we not end this spiral? I think we can and we should. Let us make a new beginning", the Vice President said.

Naidu reminded MPs and MLAs of their responsibility of ensuring the accountability of the executive, which includes good governance.

"Colonial rulers used to be blamed for everything going wrong then. There is no such excuse under own rule, i.e. Swaraj, except blaming ourselves for such things."

Parliament needs to emerge as a role model by setting high standards of performance and ensuring good governance, Naidu said. (PTI)



Industries Minister Chander Parkash Ganga inaugurating Shri Ram Universal School at Jakh in Samba.

Ganga inaugurates Shri Ram Universal School

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 18: Minister for Industries and Commerce, Chander Parkash Ganga has said that to build a strong nation, a sense of patriotism, social services, character building and leadership qualities must be developed among the children.

The Minister was speaking at a function after inaugurating the Shri Ram Universal School at Jakh in district Samba today.

The Minister emphasized that school education enables the students to perform well in their higher studies and also emerge as good citizens who contribute towards building a strong nation. "Schools should focus on

moral values rather than mere education to the students," he added. Ganga asserted that co-curriculum activities have pivotal role in promoting sense of brotherhood, commandership and devotion towards serving the society.

Earlier, the function started with the lighting of lamp and Saraswati Vandana followed by welcome address by the Principal of Shri Ram Universal School Ritula Singh.

MLA Samba Devinder Kumar Manyal, MLC Vibodh Gupta, Vice-Chairman SIDCO J&K Subash Jandial besides staff members, parents and children were present on the occasion.

The school also organised an event where activities like Stapu, Paper Boat racing, Wonder Time, Run for Fun and many more alike were played and enjoyed by the children.

None can raise question on Govt's integrity, intention: Rajnath

LUCKNOW, Mar 18:

Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh today said while there could be a debate on the performance of the BJP-led Government at the Centre, no one could raise a question on its integrity and intention.

After inaugurating a number of projects here, he said, "There is no need to tell anyone as regards how our Government is running the country. There can be a debate on whether more work has been done or less, but no one can raise a question on the integrity and intention of the Government."

Singh also added that "no one has been able to gather the audacity of levelling corruption charges, involving even a single paisa, against any of our ministers".

Stating that economists all over the globe had started believing that India was the fastest growing economy in the world, he said, "At this point of time, the GDP growth rate is 7.5 per cent. Global experts

have expressed confidence that in the coming years, it can touch double digits."

Stating that the pace of laying new railway tracks in the country had gone up by four times since the Government took over in 2014, the home minister said, "A target has been set to run all the trains using electricity by 2022. This will save around Rs 11,000 crore."

Singh, who is also the Lok Sabha MP from Lucknow, further said, "A Rs 1,910-crore project to re-develop the Gomatnagar railway station as a world-class one has been approved. A fund of Rs 1,800 crore has also been sanctioned for the re-development of Charbagh station."

He added that the

Alamgar station, on the outskirts of Lucknow, was declared a satellite station.

The re-development of the Gomatnagar and Charbagh railway stations is being executed by NBCC (India) Ltd.

In a statement issued here today, the chairman-cum-managing director of the company, Anoop Kumar Mittal, said, "The re-development work related to the expansion and modernisation of railway stations, beautification of railway premises and building world-class infrastructure is in line with the Government's thrust to make the railways the preferred choice for travelling."

"We will deploy the best of manpower and resources to mark these as iconic structures of Lucknow city." (PTI)

DC sets May 20 deadline for declaring Kangan, Gund ODF

Excelsior Correspondent

GANDERBAL, Mar 18: District Development Commissioner Ganderbal, Dr Piyush Singla today convened a meeting of officers from Urban Development Department to review the progress achieved, so far, under centrally-sponsored Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) in the Kangan and Gund Blocks of District Ganderbal.

Speaking on the occasion, the DDC stressed upon the officers to work with missionary zeal so that the target of 20th May to declare Kangan and Gund Blocks of district

Ganderbal Open Defecation Free (ODF). He said the officers who perform the best to achieve the target shall be felicitated.

The DDC also asked the officers to interact with the gen-

eral public of the concerned villages and make them aware about the benefits of the construction of IHHL under SBM.

Reviewing the status of IHHL in Kangan block, it was given out that as per the baseline survey of October 2014, there was a requirement of construction of 10370 IHHL, out of which 2686 IHHL have been constructed while as remaining 7684 IHHL will be considered during upcoming months. Similarly, in Gund Block, total requirement of construction of 4719 IHHL out of which 1812 IHHL have been constructed so far.

The Sub Divisional Magistrate Kangan, Mehraj-uddin, District Panchayat Officer Ganderbal, Kundan Beer Kaur, concerned BDOs, Panchayat Inspectors, VLWs and GRS, were present on the occasion.

Deputation from Pouni meets Bali

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 18: A deputation of prominent persons under the banner of "Tehsil Pouni Development Forum" in the leadership of BJP State secretary and local leader, Sanjay Barumet Health Minister, Bali Bhagat and apprised him of the issues of the area related to Health Services.

The deputation asked the Health Minister to raise the health infrastructure in tehsil Pouni. They apprised the Health Minister of the very scanty availability of emergency health services in the area. The deputation said that the area caters to

the needs of about 80,000 souls. Also in addition to the local population, the area boasts of providing the services to the thousands of pilgrims visiting the famous shrine of "Shiv Khori".

They apprised the Health Minister that there is no major hospital nearby and the ailing and the ill have to move distances for availing simpler surgical purposes. As such they requested the Health Minister to recommend for the upgradation of existing Primary Health Centre in the area.

Bali Bhagat assured the deputation, that the matter will be taken due care in swift and prompt manner.

5 burglars arrested, stolen items recovered

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Mar 18: Police solved a burglary case by arresting five accused persons involved in the crime and recovered stolen items from them in Ganderbal district today.

A Police spokesman said that one Shamim Ahmad Baba reported in Police Station Gund that on Feb 3, some burglars looted his mobile shop at Kullian in Ganderbal.

He said a case with FIR number 04/2018 under Section 380, 457 RPC was registered in Police Station Gund and investigation was started.

"During the course of investigation, five accused persons identified as Liakat Ahmad Tadwa, Shah Nawaz Ahmad Waar, Kaiser Ahmad Khan, all residents of Raizan, Irshad Ahmad

Khatana, a resident of Yash Hama Mamar and Irshad Ahmad Raina, a resident of Hariganiwan were arrested and at their instance, stolen items including 16 smart phones, one coil electric wire, 05 pen drives, 06 mobile chargers, 4 wrist watches, 2 solar lanterns, 19 mobile batteries, dried tray namkeen of 5kg and 2 carrying bags were recovered," he said.

"During further investigation, these arrested accused persons also confessed that they have jointly committed burglaries in two more shops of Mobile & accessories and Grocery shops at Ganiwan and Kullian areas respectively. The items looted from these shops were also recovered," he added.

Punjab resident arrested with poppy straw

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 18: Pacca Danga police under 'Operation Sanjeevani' arrested a Punjab resident and recovered poppy straw from his possession.

As per police sources, on reliable information, a team from Pacca Danga Police Station laid a naka at Manda and intercepted a vehicle, which was on its way to Jammu from Srinagar.

During checking, police recovered 5.140 kilograms of poppy straw from the possession of a person and arrested him.

The arrested person has been identified as Shinder, son of Rana, a resident of Punjab. A case under FIR Number 39/18 under Sections 8/15 Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act has been registered at Police Station Pacca Danga and investigations started.

Police team led by SHO Pacca Danga SI Dheeraj Nagpal made the arrest under the supervision of SDPO City Varun Jandial, SP City Dr Vinod Kumar and SSP Jammu Vivek Gupta.

Natrang stages globally acclaimed

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 18: The magic of an electrifying performance was visible all over when the versatile actors of Natrang vibrated Abhinav Theatre stage with its globally acclaimed Dogri play 'Ghumayee' written and directed by Padamshree Balwant Thakur.

Basant Rath, IGP Traffic, J&K was the chief guest on the occasion.

The play brought Dogri language and culture in global limelight and has the honour for being the first Dogri play which has been selected for being presented in the Theatre Olympics-2018.

anti- Dogri and anti Dogra that is smacks of conspiracy to divide the State on linguistic and regional lines. It appears that there are forces in the Government machinery who are bent up on crating misunderstanding among the communities he urged Government to remain vigilant against such elements.

He also stressed that the Government should fulfill its obligations towards promotions and developments of Dogri quoting the data, he raised that though an order teach Dogri at primary level in the schools was issued by the Government way back in 2006; to introduce Dogri has been taken in negligible numbers of schools.

Zorawar Singh Jamwal, chairman Team Jammu said, "It is not just Dogri language which is getting step-motherly treatment instead every Dogra be it Hindu, Muslim or of any caste or community is being given step-motherly treatment by Kashmir centric mindset of the successive Governments.

The programme was conducted by well-known Dogri poet Sushel Begana. Vote of thanks was presented Dr Nirmal Vinod, general secretary of Sanstha.

becomes strenuous, her thirst intensifies and repeated entreaties end up in assurance of water at next available source. A stage is reached when thirst becomes unbearable and (Doli is put down) journey is put to halt. All and one are requested to do the needful and arrange for water.

In the quest a water source is sited but is miles deep down in a gorge, which is extremely difficult to reach. Repeated requests of bridegroom fail to evoke any response, as the job requires superhuman effort. The plight of 'Dulhan' prompts a young man to volunteer for the job. All present warn him of the probable consequences but he is undeterred.



A scene of Dogri play 'Ghumayee'.

'Ghumayee' has already created a history for being the first Indian play which featured in Frankfurt Theatre Festival, Germany in the year 2009.

It also has the distinction of having been featured during the Commonwealth Games in the year 2010. Produced in the year 2000, this Dogri play has given a new intellectual identity to this part of the world. In past eight-teen years, it has been staged in over 50 National and International theatre festivals and have won accolades all over the world.

'Ghumayee' is a play based on Dogri Folk Tale of a hilly village and opens with a 'Vida' scene after the solemnization of marriage and bride is being carried in a 'Doli' to her in-law's place.

As the tough climb begins, thirsty 'Dulhan' asks for water. Her request is laughed away and no heed is paid. As the track

He makes 'Dulhan' quench her thirst before taking his last breath because of exhaustion.

'Dulhan' declares herself a widow and cries out a wail (Ghumayee) sanctifying the significance of human relationship over the most prized relationship of marriage bound by mere rituals.

Performance of Vikrant Sharma, Yuva Bismillah Khan Sangeet Natak Akademi Awardee and versatile Anil Tickoo was a delight to watch. Amongst senior actors who gave powerful performances included Suresh Kumar, Neeraj Kant, Subash Jamwal, Sumeet Sharma and Rahul Singh. Gauri Thakur in her performance as 'Dulhan' was successful in justifying the challenging role. She was equally supported by Simral Jara, Vanshika Gupta, Vrinda Sharma, Meenakshi Bhagat and Sanchita. The show was conducted by Kusum Tickoo.

Issue notification to implement 7th Pay Commission: NMC

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 18: President of the National Mazdoor Conference (NMC) Subash Shastri today appealed to Finance Minister Syed Altaf Bukhari to issue SRO or notification regarding implementation of the 7th Pay Commission report in respect of Government employees and pensioners so that benefits of the same accrue to them from April 2018.

Retd cops hold meet

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Mar 18: Police Retired Officers Association Non Gazetted (PROANG) held a meeting at District Police Lines Ganderbal today.

A Police spokesman said the meeting was chaired by vice president of PROANG, Farooq Ahmad and district president Ganderbal, Mohammad Jamal was also present on the occasion.

"During the meeting, various issues and problems being faced by the retired police personnel were discussed. The Association has thanked the DGP J&K, S.P Vaid, AIG Welfare, Manoj Kumar Pandit and SSP Ganderbal, Fayaz Ahmad Lone for upbringing the PROANG Association," he said.



Dogri Sanstha president Prof Lalit Magotra and others releasing Dogri poetry book in Jammu on Sunday.

Book on Dogri poetry released

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 18: Dogri Sanstha Jammu and Team Jammu jointly released a book on collection of Dogri poetry entitled "Dogri Kanne Matreya Bartaa" (Step motherly treatment with Dogri), in a function marked by the presence of senior Dogri writers and other intellectuals.

All poems contained in the book express the anguish and pain of Dogri poets at the callous attitude of the Government toward Dogri by not giving it a due place in the education system of the State. The book has been published by Team Jammu Province. The poets where poems are in the collection include Chhatrapal, Randhir Singh Raipuria, MS Kamra, Abdul Qadir Kundria, Gianshwar, Shusheel Begana, 'Arsh' Om Dalmotra, Dr Padam Dev Singh and Vijaya Thakur. The poets recited their poems in the function, which charged the atmosphere with the fervour for love of mother tongue (Dogri) and motherland (Duggar).

Prof Lalit Magotra, president of Dogri Sanstha, who presided over the function, said that lately the attitude of the Government has turned so much

Voltas introduces new range of ACs, fresh Air Coolers

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 18: Voltas, renowned AC brand from the house of the Tatas, fortified its leadership position by introducing the 2018 range of 'All Star Inverter ACs' and 'Fresh Air Coolers'.

Based on the unique "Two Stage Steady Cool

Director and Chief Executive Officer, Voltas Limited, said, "Voltas has the highest brand equity in cooling and comfort domain, and is the No 1 brand in AC category. Consumers have developed a preference for Inverter ACs which are now the fastest growing category in the AC industry".

Further building on the



Compressor", the AC, unlike other ordinary Inverter ACs has two stage expansion of the refrigerant under two stage compression, which leads to "Steady Cooling & Steady Savings". This year, Voltas has launched over 120 SKUs in the AC domain which includes Inverter ACs, Split ACs and Window ACs.

The new range of inverter ACs can cool up to 55 degree Celsius, run silently at 18 dB (A). It also comes with other features like advanced air purifier and 5D DC motor technology (all the motors in the AC work on DC principle). In addition, the product range also comes with a "5 year comprehensive warranty", "free standard installation" and "5% cash back through credit & debit cards".

Commenting on the occasion, Pradeep Bakshi, Managing

existing 'All Weather' brand equity, Voltas has also introduced a new and improved range of All Weather ACs with key features of high ambient cooling, intelligent heating and active dehumidifier. These features help the consumer to run the AC throughout the year across all kinds of weather conditions.

The Company has introduced the new range of 'Voltas Fresh Air Coolers' with a unique value proposition of "Har Garmi Ka Cooler" (A cooler which works in any kind of heat). It is powered by a "Smart Humidity Controller" which optimizes the humidity in the ambient air and gives balanced cooling. This is coupled with other features like turbo air throw & anti-microbial tank. Voltas Air Coolers come with an attractive "0% consumer finance" scheme.