

On Bulldozer Action, Supreme Court Says Public Safety Is Paramount



The Supreme Court on Tuesday said that public safety is paramount and any religious structure encroaching upon a road, water bodies, or rail tracks must go. The court further stressed that India is a secular country and its directions for bulldozer action and anti-encroachment drives will be for all citizens, irrespective of the religion they follow. "Whether it be temple or dargah, it has to go. Public safety is paramount," the top court bench headed by Justice BR Gavai and Justice KV Viswanathan was hearing petitions challenging bulldozer action against people accused of crimes. While the state authorities using bulldozer action on the accused have maintained that only illegal constructions are being demolished in such cases. Solicitor General Tushar Mehta represented three states in the matter - Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh. "We are a secular country and our directions will be for all, irrespective of religion or community. Of course, for encroachment we have said... if it is on a public road, footpath, water body or railway line area, it has to go, public safety is paramount. If there is any religious structure in the middle of the road, be it gurudwara or dargah or temple, it cannot obstruct public," the court said. The apex court during the hearing questioned Mehta if being accused in a criminal case can be a ground for facing bulldozer action, the Solicitor General said, "Absolutely not, even for heinous crimes like rape or terrorism. Like my lord said it cannot also be that the notice issued is stuck one day before, it has to be in advance. "Earlier on September 17, the top court bench had said there will be no demolition of properties, including of those accused of crime, till October 1 without its permission.

Congress-backed Nirmala Devi wins Sissu bypoll by 354 votes



Congress-supported Nirmala Devi secured victory as the result for the District Council member byelection in the Sissu ward of Lahaul-Spiti district was announced today. Nirmala Devi emerged winner getting 794 votes. She defeated her nearest competitor Sarita by a margin of 354 votes, who polled 440 votes. Returning Officer and SDM Kelong, Rajneesh Sharma, stated that the total valid votes were 1,234. Five votes were rejected and eight were NOTA (None of the Above) votes. There were no invalid votes. After the announcement of election result, Congress workers took out a procession at Keylong to celebrate Nirmala Devi's victory. Nirmala thanked the voters for the overwhelming support in the election. She assured the residents of Sissu that she will do her best to ensure development in this ward. Lahaul-Spiti MLA Anuradha Rana congratulated Nirmala Devi for scoring an impressive victory. The post Congress-backed Nirmala Devi wins Sissu bypoll by 354 votes appeared first on The Tribune.

Massive Impact of Republic Expose, Siddaramaiah's Wife Writes To Return All 14 MUDA Lands

After the sensational expose by the Republic Media Network in the alleged MUDA scam prompting the Enforcement Directorate (ED) to book Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, his wife on Monday offered to surrender all the 14 plots to the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA). Siddaramaiah's wife, Parvathi, in her letter to MUDA, expressed her wish to surrender all the compensatory land sites allotted to her by the authority. The Karnataka CM's wife's letter offering to return the land plots comes hours after the ED booked her husband Siddaramaiah in the money-laundering case. Notably, Parvathi is one of the accused in a money laundering case linked to the alleged MUDA scam. Her letter reads, "Further, I wish to surrender and return the compensation plots by cancelling the deeds of 14 plots executed in my favour by the Mysore Urban Development Authority. I am also handing over the possession of the plots back to the Mysore Urban Development Authority. Kindly take necessary steps in this regard as soon as possible." "Returning 14 sites and giving the possession to Authority, kindly do the needful at the earliest. I don't want any wealth, sites, or land for me. The dignity and honour of my husband, and family are far more important to me than any wealth. I have not discussed this with my husband, son or any family member," she wrote in a letter.



ED Registers FIR Against Siddaramaiah Earlier in the day, the ED filed a case naming Karnataka CM Siddaramaiah and others. The federal agency has pressed sections of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) to book Siddaramaiah in its ECIR, which is the equivalent of a police FIR. Last week, the Lokayukta police registered an FIR against Siddaramaiah, Parvathi, brother-in-law Mallikarjun Swamy, and one Devaraj, from whom Mallikarjuna Swamy purchased land and gifted it to Parvathi. The FIR was lodged after a special court in Bengaluru ordered the Lokayukta police to probe against Siddaramaiah on accusations of irregularities in allotment of 14 sites worth Rs 56 crore to the chief minister's wife by the Mysuru development authority.

What Is MUDA Scam? The Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) is among Karnataka's first urban planning and development bodies. However, in the last few weeks, it has faced intense public scrutiny over allegations of irregularities in compensatory allotment of residential sites to land losers. The uproar

gained political steam when it was alleged that Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's wife, Parvathi, was allotted 14 sites in an affluent residential layout in lieu of her land acquired by MUDA. In the MUDA site allotment case, it is alleged that compensatory sites were allotted to Siddaramaiah's wife in a prime area of Mysuru, which has a higher property value than the location of her land that was "acquired" by MUDA. The MUDA had allotted plots to Parvathi under a 50:50 scheme in exchange for 3.16 acres of her land, where it developed a residential layout. Under this controversial scheme, MUDA allocated 50 per cent of the developed land to landowners in lieu of undeveloped land acquired for residential layouts. It is alleged that Parvathi did not have legal title over the 3.16 acres of land located at survey number 464 in Kasare village, Kasaba hobli of Mysuru taluk. Siddaramaiah and Congress leaders claim the site allotment to Ms. Parvathi was legal, and within the framework of the 50:50 scheme introduced by the erstwhile BJP Government, but also released a list of other MUDA beneficiaries that name several JD(S) leaders, including Union Minister HD Kumaraswamy. A virulent, no-holds-barred attack by NDA allies BJP and JD(S) has taken the form of protests, night-long dharnas and, currently a 10-day long padayatra from Bengaluru to Mysuru. As things stand, the government has set-up a one-man judicial commission to probe into the scam. Amid all these developments, a show cause notice by Governor Thawar

Will Modi-Led NDA Government Complete Full Term?

Prashant Kishor Says Longevity Depends On....

The Narendra Modi government at the Centre is dependent on Nitish Kumar's JDU and Chandrababu Naidu's TDP for its survival. The opposition is well aware of the poll arithmetic and even INDIA Bloc leaders have claimed that the Modi 3.0 won't complete its full term. Now, political analyst and Jan Suraj Party founder Prashant Kishor says that the declining popularity of the BJP and the Modi government depends on several factors for survival. "It is clear that the popularity and power of Modi ji and this (NDA) government has decreased. The longevity would depend on the elections in 9 states including Jammu and Kashmir, Delhi, Haryana, Maharashtra, Jharkhand and Bihar in the next 2-2.5 years. If results are against BJP then questions will definitely be raised about the stability of the gov-

ernment. If the BJP performs well in these states, then its power will remain," said Kishor. Talking about the BJP and JD(U) tie-up, Kishor said that even the BJP workers know that they cannot win the polls on the face of Nitish Kumar. "In Bihar, the BJP has lacklustre leadership, neither they have a face in the state nor they are putting any efforts. No one is talking about them. They have surrendered their leadership before Nitish Kumar. Every worker of the BJP is aware that they cannot win the polls in the name of Nitish Kumar," said Kishor. The Jan Suraj founder further hinted that the BJP is locked in a tricky situation in Bihar. "BJP's compulsion is that they cannot remove Nitish Kumar from the post of Chief Minister as they have to run a government (with Nitish Kumar's support) in Delhi. They also know that they



cannot win elections in Bihar with Nitish as the Chief Minister. They are aware of the problems with the Bihar government but cannot do anything," said Kishor. Jan Suraj has also announced to contest the Bihar polls, scheduled to be held in November 2025. The BJP will contest the poll in alliance with the LJP and JDU while the Congress will go into the polls with the RJD and the CPIM. There are 243 assembly seats in Bihar assembly and the majority mark is 122.

Why is Sadhguru encouraging women to live like hermits when his daughter is well-settled?: Madras high court

Judges of the Madras high court wondered why does Sadhguru Jaggi Vasudev, founder of Isha Foundation, encourage women to tonsure their heads and live like hermits when he ensured that his daughter is married and well-settled in life, NDTV reported. The observation by a bench of SM Subramaniam and V Sivagnanam came while hearing a habeas corpus petition of a retired professor, who alleged that his well-educated daughters, aged 42 and 39, respectively, have been brainwashed by Jaggi Vasudev to live at Isha Yoga Centre in Tamil Nadu's Coimbatore permanently.



Justices raise doubts The two daughters, however, appeared before the court and claimed to be residing at the centre out of their own choice. The foundation argued that the court could not expand the scope of the case, but the court decided to probe the case as judges raised certain doubts regarding the case. "We want to know why a person who had given his daughter in marriage and made her settle well in life is encouraging the daughters of others to tonsure their heads and live the life of a hermitess," wondered Justice Sivagnanam. The foundation argued

that it could not understand the court's concern when two independent adults are 'free to choose' their own path in life. "You will not understand because you are appearing for a particular party. But this court is neither for nor against anybody. We only want to do justice to the litigants," replied Justice Subramaniam as per The Hindu report. In his petition, the professor alleged that some kind of food and medicine is being administered at the centre to his daughters, which made them lose their cognitive abilities. He also explained that his elder daughter is an M.Tech graduate from a university in the UK and was employed by the same institution for a salary of around ?1 lakh in 2004. She began attending yoga classes at the foundation after her divorce in 2008. Soon, the woman's younger sister also joined her to reside at the centre.

