

Ramdev in SC line of fire over misleading ads, "degrading" allopathy

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Tuesday warned yoga guru Ramdev and his aide Balkrishna against any attempt to "degrade allopathy" and permitted them to tender a "public apology and show contrition" within a week in the contempt proceedings in the misleading advertisements case against Patanjali Ayurved Ltd.

The court, however, made it clear that it is not letting them "off the hook" yet.

The apex court is hearing a plea filed in 2022 by the Indian Medical Association (IMA) alleging a smear campaign against the Covid vaccination drive and modern systems of medicine.

The counsel appearing for Ramdev and Balkrishna, who both were personally present in the court and tendered an unconditional and unqualified apology, told a bench of Justices Hima Kohli and Ahsanullah Amanullah that they were willing to give a "public apology to show contrition".

"Do what you have to do by way of an advertisement, we are not commenting on it. But at this moment, we are not saying they are off the hook," the bench told senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi, who appeared for the duo.

While noting Rohatgi's submission that to redeem themselves and demonstrate their bonafides, Ramdev and Balkrishna propose to take some steps unilaterally, the bench granted them one week and posted the matter for hearing on April 23.

During the hearing, the bench interacted with Ramdev and Balkrishna and asked them why they acted in violation of the undertaking given to the court and orders passed by it.

"We want to understand. Baba Ramdev and Acharya Balkrishna are both here. You have lot of prestige... people look at you, appreciate your works. You have done so many things for Yoga," Justice Kohli told Ramdev.

"I want to say that whatever mistake I have done for that I have tendered an unconditional and unqualified apology," Ramdev said in Hindi with folded hands.

Justice Kohli asked him about the press conference he addressed after the November 21 last year SC order which had noted the undertaking given by the counsel appearing for Patanjali Ayurved.

In that order, the apex court had noted that Patanjali's counsel had assured that "henceforth

there shall not be any violation of any law(s), especially relating to advertising or branding of products manufactured and marketed by it and, further, that no casual statements claiming medicinal efficacy or against any system of medicine will be released to the media in any form".

The top court had said Patanjali Ayurved Ltd is "bound down to such assurance".

During the hearing on Tuesday, Ramdev said he never had the intention to disrespect the court in any manner.

The Yoga guru said they should not have done what they did at that point of time and will keep this in mind in future. He said it happened in their zest for work.

Balkrishna also apologised for the mistake.

"You can't degrade allopathy. You do your work. You are doing very good work," Justice Amanullah observed.

The bench said it had passed the November last year order after Patanjali's counsel gave an undertaking.

"You did all this when there was a court order. You were not so innocent that you were not aware what has happened in the court," the bench said, adding, "So much

innocence does not work in court".

"If you are thinking that your lawyer has given apology, we have not made up our minds yet whether to accept your apology," it said.

The bench got irked when Balkrishna, the managing director of Patanjali Ayurved Ltd, said Ramdev has nothing to do with the day-to-day affairs of the firm.

"You are again adamant on your stand," Justice Amanullah told Balkrishna, adding that the apology does not appear to be coming from the heart.

Rohatgi told the court at the very outset that they are willing to make a public apology.

"I had made a suggestion that I am willing to make a public apology to show contrition and to tell the public that it is not only that I am doing some lip service to the court," he said.

"Ask your clients to step forward," Justice Kohli said, gesturing the duo to move closer to the bench. "Let us hear what they have to say," she said.

The bench told them there are many medical streams like Ayurved, Yoga, allopathy and Unani in India and the public uses them all. It said calling one stream bad and

should be done away with is not correct.

Ramdev told the bench that such conflicts between two streams of medicine have existed for quite some time and his intention was not to disrespect allopathy.

Ramdev and Balkrishna had earlier tendered an "unconditional and unqualified apology" before the top court over advertisements issued by the firm making tall claims about the medicinal efficacy of its products.

In two separate affidavits filed in the court, they had tendered unqualified apology for the "breach of the statement" recorded in the November 21 last year order of the apex court.

Non-observance of the specific assurances made to the court and subsequent media statements by the duo had irked the bench, which later issued notice asking them to explain why contempt proceedings be not initiated against them.

While hearing the matter on April 10, the court had refused to accept their affidavits tendering unconditional apology and come down hard on the Uttarakhand State Licensing Authority for its inaction on the misleading advertisements issue.

GDCW Kathua releases News Letter Iravati-II and College on Wheels



STATE TIMES NEWS
KATHUA: Government Degree College for women, Kathua today released its Edition of News Letter "Iravati-II" for the month of January to June 2023 and College on Wheels -J&K Gyanodaya Express.

On this occasion Dr. Savi Behl, Principal of the college, was the chief guest. The news letter was compiled by newsletter committee headed by Dr. Rachna Devi with active support of committee members, Prof. Romika Bassin, Prof. Surbhi Gupta, Dr. Mukesh Kumari, Dr. Ajay Sanotra and Dr. Satish Khajuria, Dr. Gopal Sharma, Dr. Rachna Devi, Convener Newsletter committee, delivered wel-

come address and expressed gratitude to Principal for her guidance, support and cooperation. She also thanked the committee members for their dedication and hard work. Chief guest of the event, Dr. Savi Behl in her speech congratulated the whole team of news letter committee for timely completion of the work and motivated the students and faculty members to showcase their achievements and various activities organised by the institution because news letter is said to be the mirror of the institution.

Dr. Savi Behl also appreciated the efforts of the students who have participated in college on Wheels -An initiative by Government of

J&K in which 5 students of the College participated. The College on Wheels initiative, spanning November 19 to December 2, 2023, provided a kaleidoscope of experiences encompassing India's historical, cultural, scientific, and social dimensions. The goal is to facilitate the discovery of the student's inner passions and life's purpose through immersive, collaborative, project-based learning experiences to address real-world challenges.

Proceedings of the program were conducted by Prof. Romika Baasin along with vote of thanks. Dr. Yashpaul and Prof. Sachin Jeet Singh were also present at this program.

Agnipath scheme 'insult' to youth who dream of protecting country: Rahul



STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: Hitting out at the Modi government over the Agnipath military recruitment scheme, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday alleged that this scheme was formulated in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's office and imposed on the armed forces.

Gandhi said that as soon as the INDIA bloc's government is formed at the Centre, the

Agnipath military scheme will be scrapped and the old permanent recruitment process be brought back.

In a post in Hindi on X, Gandhi said, "The Agnipath scheme is an insult to the Indian Army and the brave youth who dream of protecting the country. This is not a scheme of the Indian Army but a scheme that was formulated in Narendra Modi's office which has been

imposed on the Army."

"Martyrs cannot be treated differently, every person who makes the supreme sacrifice for the country should be given the status of a martyr," he said.

"As soon as the INDIA government is formed, we will immediately scrap this scheme and bring back the old permanent recruitment process," the former Congress chief said.

In June 2022, the Centre rolled out the Agnipath scheme for short-term induction of personnel into the armed forces with an aim to bring down the age profile of the three services.

The scheme provides for recruiting youngsters in the age bracket of 17 years and a half to 21 years for a four-year period with a provision to retain 25 per cent of them for 15 more years.

Election officials, EVMs airlifted to four remote polling booths in Arunachal

STATE TIMES NEWS
ITANAGAR: The first batch of 40 election officials including police personnel were airlifted to four remote polling stations in Arunachal Pradesh's Kra Daadi district to conduct polling for the simultaneous Lok Sabha and Assembly elections in the northeastern state on April 19, an official said on Tuesday.



The polling officials along with Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) and Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trails (VVPATs) were airlifted on Monday to the polling stations located at Pip-Sorang Circle in the remote district bordering China, the official said.

"They were airlifted in two sorties by an MI-172 chopper operated in the state by Skyone airways," Toko Babu, officer on special duty (OSD) to the state's Chief Electoral Officer (CEO),

said on Tuesday. Airlifting of more polling teams to remote polling stations where road communication is not conducive, would be done as per requirements of respective district electoral officers (DEOs) of various districts, he said.

"The polling teams airlifted on Monday will be stationed at Tali, the ADC headquarters in the district, from where they will undertake a foot march to reach Pip-Sorang circle," Babu said.

Tali assembly constituency which falls under Arunachal West Parliamentary seat, is one among the 10 assembly seats won unopposed. Jike Takku of BJP had won the seat uncontested this time.

Each polling team consists of 10 persons on an average including, a presiding officer, two polling officers, one polling attendant besides, security personnel, the official said, and added that the four polling stations in the Pip-Sorang circle include,

Tedung, Pip-Sorang, Kharsang and Korapu. The OSD added that remaining polling stations in the state, which require the polling teams to undertake a foot march, will start leaving for their respective polling booths on April 17 from the respective district headquarters.

There are altogether 228 polling stations in the state out of the total 2,226, which could be reached only through foot march. Out of these, to reach 61 polling stations it requires two days of foot-march, while in seven other booths, polling officials have to march for three days to reach their respective destinations.

The northeastern state will go to simultaneous polls for two Lok Sabha seats - Western Parliamentary and Eastern Parliamentary constituencies along with 50 assembly seats in the first

phase on April 19.

There are a total of 60 assembly seats in the state out of which, BJP won 10 seats unopposed.

A total of 8,92,694 voters including, 4,54,256 female, will decide the fate of 143 candidates contesting for the 50 assembly seats and 14 candidates vying for the two Lok Sabha seats.

A total of 11,130 polling officials have been deployed to conduct the polling process while 6,874 EVMs would be used for conducting Lok Sabha and Assembly elections.

As many as 80 companies of central armed police forces (CAPF) have been deployed in the northeastern state to manage law and order.

Counting of votes for assembly elections would be held on June 2, while that of Lok Sabha polls on June 4, respectively.

CRIMEREPORT

Two bootleggers nabbed, 55 bottles of illicit liquor sized

STATE TIMES NEWS
REASI/RAMBAN: Continuing the drive against drug abuse and illicit liquor, Reasi Police recovered illicit liquor and arrested the bootlegger involved in smuggling of illicit liquor.

Police party of Police Check Post Balini, during checking and frisking apprehended one person namely Bansi Lal alias Bittu, son of Lt Ram Saran, resident of Dhirti Katra District Reasi and recovered 18 quarters of 250 ml JK Special Desi whisky from his possession.

In this regard, cognizance taken and FIR No. 107/2024 U/S 188 IPC stands registered at Police Station Katra. Further investigation of the case is in progress.

Ramban Police also arrested one bootlegger and recovered illicit liquor 37 bottles of alcohol, each bottle measuring 250 milliliters from his possession in the jurisdiction of Police Station Ramban.

The arrested accused persons have been identified as Rishpal Singh, son of Prem Singh, a resident of Aadhwa Tehsil and District Ramban.

A police party of Police Station Ramban comprising of SHO PS Ramban under the supervision of DySP Hqrs Ramban and Additional SP Ramban while on patrolling duty near Market, Ramban arrested one bootlegger who was illegally selling liquor and recovered illicit liquor from his possession.

A FIR No. 82/2024, pursuant to Section 48(a) of the Excise Act has been registered at Police Station Ramban and investigation set into motion.



Two brothers among 4 arrested, 39 bovines rescued

STATE TIMES NEWS
SAMBA: Continuing its drive against bovine smugglers, Samba Police has foiled three more bovine smuggling attempts in the jurisdiction of Police Station Ghagwal and Police Station Samba, arrested fourbovine smugglers and rescued thirty nine bovines.

A Police team of Police Station Samba headed by SHO PS Samba during vehicle checking at Naka Nud, signalled to stop a truck bearing registration No. JK02CB-5411 for checking. On seeing Police Party, the driver abandoned the said truck few meters away from the Naka Point and fled away from the spot. During checking of the vehicle, thirty one bovines were found laden inside the vehicle which were tied in a cruel manner and were being transported illegally without any valid permission.

A case FIR No.100/2024 U/S 188 IPC, 11 PCA Act has been registered at Police Station Samba and investigation started.

Similarly, in another incident of bovine smuggling, a police party of Police Station

Samba headed by SHO PS Samba acting on reliable information, has successfully foiled bovine smuggling attempt and rescued five bovines which were being smuggled by foot in a very cruel manner from Nud area.

The arrested bovine smuggler has been identified as Abdul Wahid, son of Ghulam Hasan, resident of Kulgam at present Samba and Layqit Ali, son of Wali Jaan, resident of Patyari Sarna.

A case FIR No.99/2024 U/S 188 IPC, 11 PCA Act has been registered at Police Station Samba and investigation started.

Likewise in the jurisdiction of Police Station Ghagwal, a Police team of Police Station Ghagwal headed by SHO PS Ghagwal while performing vehicle checking duty at NHW Naka Tappal, intercepted a Mahindra load carrier bearing registration number JK02BU-4542 for checking. During checking, three bovines were found laden inside the vehicle which were tied in a cruel manner and were being transported illegally without any valid permission.

The bovine smugglers identified as Shafi Mohd and Sadam Hussain both son of Gulam Rasool, resident of Chack'ara, tehsil Bishnah district Jammu have been arrested and the vehicle used for illegal transportation of bovine has also been seized.

A case FIR No. 46/2024 U/S 188 IPC, 11 PCA Act has been registered at Police Station Ghagwal and investigation started.

4 drug peddlers arrested; contraband/psychotropic substances recovered

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Continuing its efforts to eradicate the menace of drugs from the society, Police have arrested four drug peddlers across the valley and recovered contraband substances from their possession.

In Baramulla, a police party of Police Station Kreeri headed by SHO PS Kreeri at a checkpoint established at Guage Crossing Kreeri, intercepted one person identified as Ishtiyaq Ahmad Wani @Jana son of Gh Mohd resident of Waripora Bala. During search, 50 grams of contraband charas like substance was recovered from his possession. He has been arrested and shifted to PS Kreeri where he remains in custody.

In Sopore, a police party of Police Post Bus Stand headed by IC PP Bus Stand under the supervision of SDPO Sopore Shri Sarfaraz Bashir-JKPS and SHO PS Sopore, at a checkpoint established at Iqbal Market Sopore, apprehended two persons.

On their search, contraband/psychotropic substances including 110 grams of charas like substance, 242 tablets/capsules of banned drugs and cash ₹35,000/- was recovered from their possession. They have been identified as Jahangir Ahmad Shah son of Ghulam Muhammad Shah resident of Neharpora Sopore and Owais Ahmad Shah son of Nour Muhammad Shah resident of Neharpora Sopore A/P Batsuma Dangiwaacha Rafiabad.

Meanwhile, in Kulgam, a police party of Police Station Manzgam during patrolling near ITI KB Pora, intercepted a suspicious person who tried to flee from the spot but was apprehended tactfully. During search, 4.446 Kgs of Ganja like contraband substance concealed in a nylon bag was recovered from his procession. He has been identified as Mohd Abass Shah son of Ghulam Mohiuddin Shah resident of KB Pora.

Accordingly, cases under relevant sections of law have been registered at respective police stations and investigation have been initiated.

Absconder evading his arrest from decades arrested
STATE TIMES NEWS
PULWAMA: Continuing its drive against wanted criminals, Police in Pulwama arrested an absconder who was evading his arrest from the last 34 years in Case FIR No. 179/1990 of Police Station Pulwama.

Warrant under section 512 CrPC issued by Hon'ble Court special Mobile Magistrate Pulwama was executed against accused person namely Mushtaq Ahmad Wagay son of Mohd Siddique Wagay resident of Banderpora A/P Khonmoh, who was evading his arrest from decades in Case FIR number 179/1990 under section

7 houses evacuated, 35 lives rescued in Handwara

STATE TIMES NEWS
KUPWARA: Following heavy rainfall, a major overnight rescue operation was carried out under the supervision of Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan in the sub division Handwara.

The rescue operation led by Additional Deputy Commissioner Handwara, Aziz Ahmad Rather was carried out along with the team of Irrigation & Flood Control Department and SDRF.

Accordingly, one family which was stuck in the flash floods at Magam Pothwari was rescued by the team.

Later, on receiving SOS from Kawari village where Pohru Nallah had engulfed the village, the Rescue Team evacuated 7 houses and more than 35 persons were rescued through the help of SDRF boats and were shifted to safer places.

Moreover, operations were also carried out at Machipora and Handwara main town.

Two missing women traced, reunited with families

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Police on Tuesday traced two missing women and reunited them with their families.

As per details, an information was received at PS Kanachak about the missing of lady (name Withheld) resident of District Rajouri & missing report was entered at PS Kana Chak on January 20, 2024.

Acting upon this, a police team of PS Kana Chak led by PSI Baljeet Parihar put strenuous efforts and with the help of technical assistance as well as human intervention traced out the missing lady and after completing all legal formalities the said lady has been handed over to her legal heirs.

Meanwhile, On April 13, 2024 a complaint was received at Police Station Chanderkote regarding missing of one lady resident of peerah Tehsil and District Ramban. On this a Missing Report was entered at Police Station Chanderkote.

A special team was constituted by SSP Ramban Anuj Kumar to trace out the missing lady. The police team by making the best possible efforts traced out the missing lady from Fethaygarh sahib, Punjab. The missing lady was handed over to her legal heirs after completing all legal formalities required under law. The missing report has been closed as traced.

The missing lady was traced by police team of PS Chanderkote under the guidance of SHO PS Chanderkote, under the supervision of DySP Hqrs Ramban, Adl.SP Ramban and overall supervision of SSP Ramban.

Jammu's cyber cell recovers online defrauded Rs 50k

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Cyber Cell of District Police Jammu has demonstrated its unwavering commitment to combating cybercrime by successfully solving a case and recovering money amounting to Rs. 50,000/- of Rohit Khajuria of Bishnah.

Brief facts of the case are that complainant received a call from unknown person and after sharing information by complainant the amount started deducted from the bank account of the complainant.

During the investigation, the Cyber Cell DPO Jammu, exhibited hectic efforts which ultimately led to the successful recovery of the amount of Rs.50,000/- SSP Jammu Dr.Vinod Kumar reiterated in his appeal to the general public to remain extra vigilant and report promptly to the National Helpline number 1930 or Cyber Cell DPO Jammu helpline number 8899537995.

SSP Jammu also encouraged citizens to lodge cyber complaints online at www.cybercrime.gov.in. and www.ceir.gov.in for lost/ Stolen Mobile.

Emphasizing the importance of awareness and collaboration in effectively combating cyber threats.

District Police Jammu, equipped with advanced technology and skilled personnel, remains at the forefront in the fight against cybercriminals.