

Evening News Script

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:::THE HEADLINES:::

1. Centre clarifies that India has one of most stringent standards of Maximum Residue Limits for food items in world.
2. Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar gives an overview to seventy-five international delegates of various facets of gigantic election exercise.
3. Union Home Minister and senior BJP leader Amit Shah says, it was under PM Modi's leadership that 80 crore people got free ration under PM-Garibh Kalyan Yojana.
4. And, Campaigning for the third phase of Lok Sabha Elections ends.

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Centre has clarified that India has one of the most stringent standards of Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) in the world and MRLs of pesticides are fixed differently for different food commodities based on their risk assessments. Agriculture Ministry in a statement said that media reports claiming that the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) allows 10 times more pesticide residue in herbs and spices are false and malicious. Pesticides are regulated by Ministry of Agriculture through Central Insecticide Board and Registration Committee constituted under Insecticide Act, 1968. Agriculture Ministry said, Scientific Panel on Pesticides Residues of FSSAI examines data received through Central Insecticide Board and Registration Committee. It recommends MRLs after performing risk assessment considering the dietary consumption of the Indian population and health concerns with respect to all age groups. The statement said that the MRLs are dynamic in nature and regularly revised based on scientific data.

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Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar today gave an overview to seventy-five international delegates of various facets of the gigantic election exercise in the world's largest democracy. Kumar addressed the international visitors from Election Management Bodies of twenty-three countries in New Delhi this afternoon. The delegates arrived in India yesterday to witness the Lok Sabha elections. They attended

the International Election Visitors Programme of which the inaugural session was held today. Election Commission invited these delegates to witness democratic excellence firsthand. The delegates will embark on visits to six states to observe polls and related preparedness in various constituencies. The programme will end on the 9th of this month.



Union Home Minister and senior BJP leader Amit Shah said that it was under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership that 80 crore people got free ration under PM-Garibh Kalyan Yojana and 50 crore people got five lakh rupees health insurance coverage under the Ayushman Bharat Scheme. Participating in a campaign this afternoon at Hindupur Loksabha constituency in Andhra Pradesh, Shah reminded the people that the COVID-19 vaccine was provided to 130 crore people in the country free of cost. He criticised the incumbent Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh YS Jagan Mohan Reddy for neglecting development and failing to attract investments to the state. He said that experienced leaders like Chandrababu Naidu who laid the foundation for Andhra Pradesh post-bifurcation must be elected to ensure holistic development of the State. He appealed to the public to vote for NDA to achieve the goal of Viksit Bharat by 2047.



Prime Minister and Senior BJP leader Narendra Modi today came down heavily on Samajwadi party and Congress on the COVID issue in an election rally at Etawah in Uttar Pradesh. He said that these parties tried to instigate people and spread lies during COVID period, while his government and scientists were trying hard to save each and every life. Etawah is hometown of Samajwadi Party Chief Akhilesh Yadav. The Prime Minister raised the issue of nepotism here and said that some families think that certain areas are their personal property but this is not going to happen this time.



Campaigning for the third phase of Lok Sabha Elections ended this evening. Political leaders held rallies back to back in favour of their party candidates. Voting in this phase will be held on 7th May in 93 Constituencies spread over 10 states and the Union Territories of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu. In Uttar Pradesh, high-pitched political battle were seen where many candidates for the third phase of elections held road shows and door-to-door campaigns. Electioneering has intensified for the other phase of elections also. Senior BJP leader and Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the political rallies in Etawah and Dhaurahra constituencies. Meanwhile, Congress in charge of Uttar Pradesh Avinash Pandey held a rally in favour of the Party candidate in Kaushambi.



Congress has released a list of six candidates for the upcoming Odisha Assembly Elections. The party has fielded Sudarshan Das in place of Debi Prasanna Chand from the Jaleswar Assembly seat whereas Akshaya Acharya will contest from the Nilgiri

seat. Umma Ballav Rath will contest from Puri Vidhan Sabha constituency in place of Sujit Mahapatra. The party has fielded Sudarshan Sahoo from Athagarh and Himanshu Chaulia from the Athmallik seat.



In Chhattisgarh, 35 Maoists have surrendered in Dantewada district today. Three of the surrendered Maoists had reward on their head. These Maoists, influenced by the Lon Varatu campaign being run by Dantewada Police, surrendered before DIG Police of Dantewada range Kamalochan Kashyap and senior officers of CRPF and Police. All these Maoists were said to be active in Bhairamgarh and Katekalyan Area Committee of Maoist organisation. These Maoists are accused of being involved in many Naxalite incidents including road blocking. On surrendering, these Maoists will be given an amount of twenty-five thousand rupees each as incentive under the surrender and rehabilitation policy of the government. So far, 796 Maoists have surrendered under the Lon Varatu campaign of Dantewada Police.



The District Sports Office Wokha and District Sports Council Wokha presented a PCP Air Rifle to the Wokha District Rifle Association today, marking a significant moment for the association. District Sports Officer Wokha Libemo Jami, highlighted the Association's dedication despite equipment challenges, crediting Deputy Commissioner Wokha and District Sports Council Chairman Ajit Kumar Ranjan for his support. Jami also mentioned the council's focus on empowering women in sports. President, Wokha District Rifle Association T Renphyo Humtsoe expressed gratitude for the equipment and shared the association's vision of scouting talents, particularly among women. He expressed optimism about nurturing more shooters with the rifle's availability through regular practice sessions.



The death toll from torrential rains in southern Brazil's Rio Grande do Sul has risen to 60 while thousands are still stranded. Rescue officials said another 67 people are missing in the state. The record-breaking floods devastated cities and forced thousands to leave their homes. More than 23,000 people had to leave their homes due to the worst floods in 80 years. On Thursday, a dam at a hydroelectric plant between the cities of Bento Goncalves and Cotipora partially collapsed and entire cities in the Taquari River valley, such as Lajeado and Estrela, were completely overtaken by water.



India Meteorological Department predicts heavy rainfall spell accompanied with thunderstorms & gusty winds very likely to continue over Northeast India till 7th May. Fairly widespread to widespread light to moderate rainfall accompanied with isolated thunderstorm, lightning and gusty winds are very likely over Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura during next seven days. Meanwhile, Kohima today recorded a maximum temperature of 25.2 degree Celsius and a minimum temperature of 13.3 degree Celsius.

