Anti Violent protests rock Jamia

New Delhi: Violent protests erupted near Jamai Millia Islamia in Delhi and at the Aligarh Muslim University in Uttar Pradesh, while West Bengal plunged deeper into chaos on Sunday during the stir over the new citizenship law with

led government in Assam, decided it will move the Supreme Court against the amendments made in the Citizenship Act. In Assam's Guwahati, two more persons succumbed to gunshot wounds suffered in the police firing on



incidents of arson and loot reported from the state and the northeast, acts which Prime Minister Narendra Modi alleged were being instigated by the "Congress and its friends". An uneasy calm prevailed in Assam, epicentre of the agitation, as curfew was relaxed in Guwahati and Dibrugarh for several hours following improvement in the situation but peaceful protests were held amid calls by the Asom Gana Parishad (AGP) for resignation of its ministers.

The party, which is part of the BJP-

Thursday, taking the toll to four. However, protesters claimed that five persons have died in police firing. In the national capital, protesters torched four public buses and two police vehicles as they clashed with the police in New Friends" Colony near Jamia University during a demonstration against the amended Citizenship Act, leaving six cops and two firemen injured, officials said. Sources said that al least 31 students were brought to a nearby hospital after the violence and 11 of them were admitted.

Blacktown Council Launches Business Program

Dear Business Owner,

Blacktown City Council is launching its Business Success Program in February 2020.

This exciting new program is a series of affordable business education workshops to provide skills and knowledge to help local businesses succeed and grow. The program is proudly sponsored by CGU Insurance as part of its commitment to supporting the local community.

The workshops will be presented by Jeremy Carter of Rapport Leadership International. Some workshops will feature specialist industry guest presenters, providing additional industry perspective and expertise.

The program is suitable for:

anyone thinking of starting a business

those already running existing businesses who are looking to take the next step

those working in the not-for-profit

The workshop series covers a range of topics including:

Business Planning

Financial Essentials

Marketing

Social Media

Sales Training.

"At Blacktown City Council we're committed to being a more approachable and valuable resource for business. The Business Success Program is just the beginning, and we believe it could be a real game-changer for a lot of businesses, providing top notch business education that is practical, relevant and made easy" said Mayor Tony Bleasdale OAM.

All workshops will be held at the Max Webber Library Function Centre in Blacktown. The cost of attending each workshop will be just \$25. Registrations are now open at Tickets for our workshops.

The schedule for the first round of workshops is as follows:

NFP and Community Group Success Principles

4th February 2020 - 9:30am - 12:00noon

Getting Started in Your New Business

4th February 2020 - 6:00pm - 8:30pm

Getting to 'Yes', Essential Sales Skills

26th February 2020 - 6:00pm - 8:30pm

Marketing 101 - Define Your Target Market and USP

5th March 2020 - 1:00pm - 3:30pm

Marketing Plans and Effective PR Strategies

5th March 2020 - 4:00pm - 6:30pm

Social Media Made Simple

12th March 2020 - 1:30pm - 4:00pm

Tender and Grant Writing

16th March 2020 - 1:30pm - 4:00pm

Business Financials - Cash flow, Profits and Funding

24th March 2020 - 6:00pm - 8:30pm

Business Systems, Automation and Efficiency

21st April 2020 - 6:00pm - 8:30pm

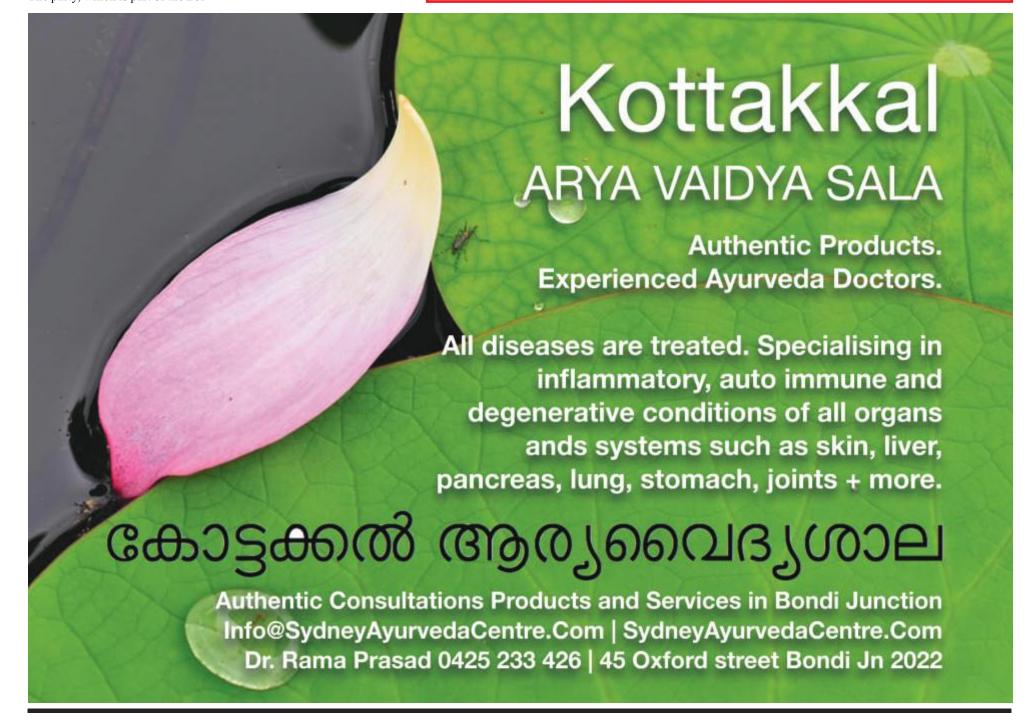
8:30pm Management Skills and

Understanding People 28th April 2020 - 6:00pm -

8:30pm Business Planning and Growth

12th May 2020 - 6:00pm - 8:30pm How to Scale Your Business Beyond \$1M

26th May 2020 - 6:00pm - 8:30pm Blacktown City Council's Economic Development Tea



Modi govt dividing people, destroying economy: Cong leaders allege at Delhi rally

leadership on Saturday launched an all-out attack on the Modi government over alleged attempts to "divide" the people of the country and "failures" on the economic front, with party chief Sonia Gandhi claiming the Citizenship Amendment Act would "shred" India"s soul and vowing to fight till the last breath to protect the nation, its democracy and the Constitution. Gandhi was speaking at the party"s mega "Bharat Bachao Rally" at the Ramlila grounds in the heart of the national capital, which was also addressed by other top leaders including Rahul Gandhi, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, Manmohan Singh, P Chidambaram, Ashok Gehlot and Kamal Nath.

The leaders hit out at Prime Minister Narendra Modi over the new citizenship law, situation in Kashmir, state of economy, escalating prices, "rising" crime against women and joblessness. A combative Congress leader Rahul Gandhi accused Prime Minister Narendra Modi of "burning the Northeast" and working towards weakening the country. He alleged that Modi was only interested in grabbing power and doing politics. Refusing to apologise for his "rape in India" remark, Rahul hit out at the ruling party, saying "my name is not Rahul Savarkar, my name is Rahul Gandhi.

I will die, but I will not apologise for speaking the truth and nor will any Congressman do so. "It is Narendra Modi and his assistant Amit Shah who have to apologise to the country for destroying India''s economy," he asserted. The BJP had demanded an apology from Rahul Gandhi after he had said at a Jharkhand rally that "Make in India" has become "rape in India" under Modi rule. Congress chief Sonia Gandhi said there is an atmosphere of "andher nagri chaupat raja (confused leader, chaotic State)" in the country and the entire nation is asking where is "sabka saath sabka vikaas". She alleged the "Modi-Shah" dispensation has no concern for the country and their sole narrow agenda was politics and to make people fight. She called upon the people to fight against injustice and pledged that her party will not retreat and will fulfil its duty towards saving the country, its democracy and Constitution till the last breath.

Former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh accused his successor Narendra Modi of

making "lofty promises" which he "failed" to fulfil. "Six years ago, Narendra Modi made lofty promises to people. Now it has

been proved that all these promises were false and he has failed in fulfilling all the promises made and the people of the country were misled," he said. Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra took a jibe at the BJP for its "Modi hai to mumkin hai" slogan, saying it is possible under Modi "to have

onion prices at Rs 100 a kilo, highest unemployment in 45 years, loss of 4 crore jobs and suicide of 15,000 farmers". Castigating the BJP for its "litany of injustices", she said those who don"t fight the prevailing situation today will go down in history as cowards.

"If you love India, please raise your voice. If we remain silent today, our revolutionary Constitution will be destroyed. The division of the country will start and we will all be as responsible for this division as any corrupt leader of the BJP and the RSS," Priyanka said. In an emotional speech at the jampacked venue, she recounted her meeting with the father of the Unnao rape victim and said how it pained her. "At present, a litany of injustices are happening....Today, someone who does not fight against this injustice will be called a coward," Priyanka said. Sonia Gandhi asserted the country will fight against the amended Citizenship Act as it "shreds" India"s soul. "They are not bothered that this new law will shred the soul of India, as is happening in Assam and other north eastern states," she said.

"Modi, Shah are not bothered about Parliament nor do they care for constitutional institutions. Modi and Shah have a single aim - they have a single narrow agenda. They only bother about politics. Their narrow agenda is "Logon ko ladao, aur asli muddon ko chhupao" (Make people fight and hide the real issues)." "It is our responsibility to come out of our homes and agitate against this. The time has come that to save the country, we have to struggle hard," she noted. She asked asked why there should not be a probe into where the black money is, for which

New Delhi: The Congress misleading the people by demonetisation was done. "The Constitution. "The Congress Modi of single-handedly greatest sin is to bear injustice. So raise your voice against the Modi-Shah government and tell



them that we are ready to give breath, we will fulfil our duty any kind of sacrifice for the towards protecting the country, at the rally, their Punjab protection of democracy. And democracy and the counterpart Amarinder Singh we are ready for any kind of Constitution" Sonia Gandhi was conspicuous by his struggle to protect the said. Accusing Prime Minister absence.

and only Congress has always

fought for people"s rights. And

today too, the Congress party is

"destroying" the country"s economy, Rahul Gandhi said, "All of India"s enemies wanted not going to retreat. Till our last that its economy, which is its

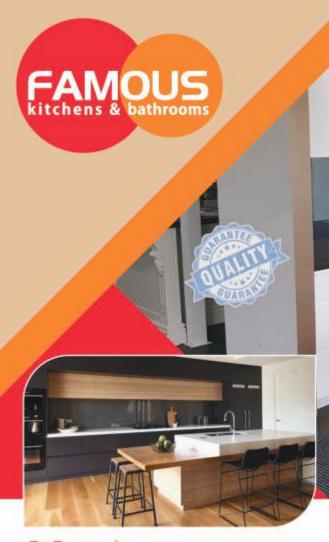
> strength, should be destroyed."

"That work (of destroying the economy) has not been done by the enemies, but by Prime Minister Narendra Modi himself. And, (he) still calls himself a patriot," he added. He said Modi only "thinks about one thing - that he has the power. They will do anything for power make the youth unemployed, destroy the economy and what not". While chief ministers of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh

and Chhattisgarh were present



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Koshy Mathew Managing Director

Legends The story of Bhartruhari

Bhartruhari was an eminent Sanskrit scholar deemed to have lived in the 5th century. His texts on Sanskrit grammar and poetry is said to be masterpieces and have earned him an unparalleled fame among the scholars. However, legend has it he was not always a scholar, and it took a life-changing event to make him see life differently.

Legend says that Bhartruhari was very much in love with his wife. He adored her and thought the world of her. He did all he could to please her and to give her a life of luxury and comfort.

One day, a saint gave Bhartruhari a mango and told him that if he ate it, he could live for longer with no ailments or old age problems. He was happy to receive the gift from the learned man. However, as he adored his wife more than anything, he felt life would have no meaning if he outlived her.

So, the doting husband gave the mango to the wife and told her she will live a long healthy life if she ate it. However, the wife was not at all like the husband. The wife neither loved him nor was she loyal to him. She had an affair with the charioteer and felt there is no meaning to life if she lived on without her lover.

She wasted no time to give the mango to the charioteer and told him why the mango was special. could do nothing but lie on his bed Bhartruhari had understood the Although the man was happy to have it, he felt he owed it to his wife and so he gave her the mango, after appraising her about its specialties.

The poor lady happily took it from

her husband and was on her way to their home when Bhartruhari happened to see her with the mango. As soon as he saw the mango, he knew it was the same mango the saint gave him, and which he gave his wife. He casually asked her where she got the fruit from and she told him she got it from her husband.

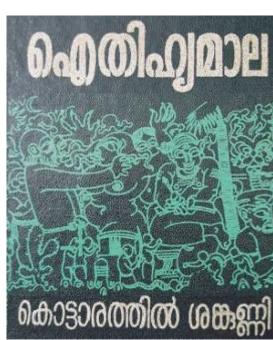
The news troubled Bhartruhari immensely, and he summoned the charioteer to question him. The man tried to avoid answers in all the ways he could but

in the end, had to tell the truth to his master. It devastated Bhartruhari to learn that his wife had given the charioteer the mango.

He assumed that he must have been special to her to have given him such a precious gift and was heartbroken. He reached home and

thinking of what a waste it had been to devote his love for such an undeserving woman.

The wife, in the meantime, came to know that the husband has discovered her true colours. She



was terrified of his reactions and so decided to finish him off before he killed her. She, assuming a nonchalant face, made a special dish and poisoned it.

She then approached her husband and invited him to try the tasty dish to get rid of his fatigue and hunger.

evil intention of his wife and knew she had poisoned the dish. He took the dish and hid it in a corner of the house. Then he took a flattened bowl and went off to lead the life of an ascetic. Legend has it that as soon as he left the gates of his

house, the house caught fire and everything (including the people) in it was reduced to ashes.

The man then led a life of austerity and often lived on the food people offered him. He never asked for anything, but people gave him food. Bhartruhari travelled from place to place and soon reached a great temple some say Chidambaram. He decided to stay there and pray. As another ascetic had already established his place at the eastern entrance, Bhartruhari took up a place at the western entrance of the temple.

Here too, he never asked for anything, but people often left him food and other offerings in the bowl which he had with him.

One day, a beggar went to the other ascetic and begged for something. He said I too am poor but the person sitting at the other end is richer than me, he can help you. So, the beggar went to Bhartruhari and told him that the ascetic told him he was rich.

The wise man understood that the

begging bowl is the wealth he has been attributed to and lost no time in smashing it. He understood that a real ascetic does not need even a bowl and so he freed himself from all worldly possessions. It is said that Bhartruhari spent the rest of his life in that temple premises and that all his great works were born

there.

VIKAS VARRIER

Although the truth cannot be corroborated in any way, we can assume that the story is trying to tell us we must let go of something if we must attain something else. If you want spiritual growth, you'll need to sacrifice your worldly ways and start doing things in a different way. Likewise, if you wish to succeed in something, it is perhaps time you spent less time on unproductive ventures and devoted your time and energy to productive ones.

Thus, the legends, no matter if they are true or not, serves to tell us what to do and how to do it. Great lessons of life are often packed in there in a cryptic manner. You need to open your eyes and mind to be able to decipher it. And when you do that, it ceases to be a mere legend. Instead, it becomes a life lesson. It is totally up to you if you want to learn the lesson or bypass it here to learn it the hard way. You always have a choice.

Wenty League Badminton Tournement in Sydney



Winners (Dennis Devasia, Jinaraj Kombilath, Rakesh Mathath, Shiv Manikandan)



Runners-up (John c john, Byju Kurian, Navin Zachariah, Rajesh Nair)



Commons.

Boris Johnson Johnson wins historic UK election, vows Brexit by Jan 31

London: Election-weary British voters Labour was down to just 203 gave Prime Minister Boris Johnson a seats, a disastrous performance "powerful new mandate" in the historic General Elections as his Conservative Party on Friday won a commanding majority in Parliament to allow him to finalise UK"s divorce deal with the European Union next month. Johnson, 55, who vigorously campaigned on a simple slogan "Get Brexit done," vowed that he will work "flat out" to repay the trust of the voters after the Conservatives" most emphatic majority since the 1980s under Margaret Thatcher. A 365-seat haul gave the Conservative Party a solid 79-seat majority in the 650-strong House of

The Conservatives won St Ives - the final seat to declare - by 80 votes, Skynews reported. Addressing a victory rally, Johnson hailed a "new dawn" which Labour Party passed an emergency "unarguably" broke the Brexit deadlock and vowed not to let down the "sacred trust" placed in him by the voters, who turned out for the first winter election in decades to register a 67 per cent turnout. Johnson, who won his own seat in London's Uxbridge and South Ruislip, hailed the Conservative Party"s triumph as a "powerful new mandate" to move forward with his deal to leave the 28member economic bloc on January 31.

Fed up with the prolonged political turmoil over Brexit, voters gave Johnson the huge mandate so that he can get the UK out of the European Union by January -- no ifs, no buts. "It does look as though this One Nation Conservative government has been given a powerful new mandate to get Brexit done and not just to get Brexit done but to unite this country and to take it forward," he said. "We did it, we pulled it off didn"t we? We broke the deadlock, we ended the gridlock, we smashed the roadblock," Johnson, who was accompanied by his girlfriend Carrie Symonds and their pet dog Dilyn at the rally. "With this election I think we"ve put an end to all those miserable threats of a second referendum," he said, as he got the crowd to repeat "Get Brexit Done" numerous times during an energetic victory speech. Johnson had an audience with Queen Elizabeth II at Buckingham Palace to formally seek her permission to form the next government. The Opposition for the party in decades which resulted in leader Jeremy Corbyn announcing that he would not lead the party in the next election. "It has been a very disappointing night for Labour... I will not lead the party in any future General Election campaign," said Corbyn, 70, as he won his own seat in London's Islington North constituency. It marked a crushing defeat, which is almost entirely being blamed on Corbyn"s leadership and his failure to take a clear stance on Brexit as well as counter growing allegations of anti-semitism within the party ranks.

A perceived anti-India stance since the motion calling for international intervention in Kashmir is also likely to have swayed some of its traditional

connect with the Indian diaspora voters. Prime Minister Narendra Modi quickly congratulated Johnson on his re-election with a thumping majority. "I wish him the best and look forward to working together for closer India-UK ties," Modi tweeted. The Conservatives have taken a string of former Labour strongholds, with Labour having lost seats in the north of England, Midlands and Wales in areas that voted to leave the EU in the 2016 referendum.

"This has been a hardfought election in a very cold time of the year because we needed a functioning Conservative majority," said Priti Patel, the senior-most Indianorigin minister in Johnson"s last Cabinet, in response to the exit poll which predicted an impressive victory for the Conservatives. "We are committed to deliver on



priorities and getting Brexit done is a priority. The deal is there, we want to move forward," she said. Labour, which headed for its worst performances since 1935 as the so-called "red wall" of the party"s heartlands towards the north of England suffered significant chancellor John McDonnell said.

knockdowns, conceded that voters seemed to have voted strongly on the basis of Brexit. "Brexit has dominated this election. If the results are anywhere near the exit polls, this is an extremely disappointing result," Labour"s shadow







Best wishes for a Merry Christmas

Thank you for the continuous support







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