

INDIA ELECTION BJP deletes X post accused of targeting Muslims

AFP, New Delhi

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's party yesterday deleted a cartoon video posted on social media platform X that was criticised for targeting Muslims during an ongoing national election.

India's election code bans campaigning based on "communal" incitement but the Hindu-nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has frequently invoked the country's main religious divide on the campaign trail.

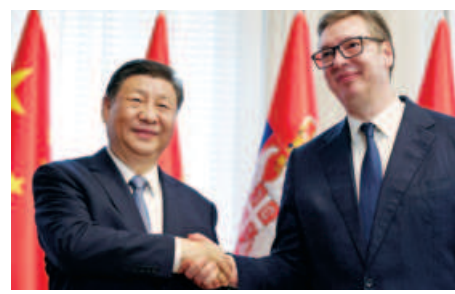
The video, posted by an official BJP account, featured caricatures of opposition politicians scheming to abolish special affirmative action programmes for marginalised Hindu groups and instead distribute them to Muslims.

The election commission wrote to the platform's Indian office on Tuesday saying the "objectionable" post violated Indian law. Yesterday, the original post had disappeared from the platform, with a notice saying it had been deleted.



Palestinians gather to receive food cooked by a charity kitchen, amid shortages of aid supplies, after Israeli forces launched a ground and air operation in the eastern part of Rafah in the southern Gaza Strip yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS



China, Serbia agree to follow a 'shared future'

REUTERS, Belgrade

China and Serbia yesterday agreed to follow a "shared future" as President Xi Jinping visited the Balkan country, part of his bid to forge stronger relations with allies at the edge of the European Union.

Xi's visit is part of his first European tour in five years, and is seen as an effort to strengthen ties with eastern European countries that are pro-Russia and large recipients of Chinese investment. He will fly to Hungary later in the day.

Patients, medics flee major Rafah hospital

The closure of Abu Youssef al-Najjar Hospital will endanger lives of 200 dialysis patients: WHO

REUTERS, Rafah

Fearful medics and patients are fleeing a hospital in Rafah and transfers of the sick and injured via a border crossing with Egypt are at a standstill due to Israel's military operation, doctors and residents said.

The Abu Youssef al-Najjar Hospital is located in an area of southern Gaza the Israeli army has designated a combat zone in a conflict that has seen repeated Israeli attacks on hospitals. The World Health Organization warned that only a third of health facilities in Gaza is still operational.

Israel justifies such attacks by saying that Hamas uses them for military purposes - a claim both hospital staff and Hamas deny.

Doctor Marwan al-Hams told Reuters on Tuesday that Israel had put Abu Youssef al-Najjar Hospital at the centre of the battle field. "Its threats to it resulted in people and



patients leaving the hospital," he said, adding that some medical crews had also left.

The dialysis department for patients with kidney disease remained open for now, he added.

World Health Organization spokesperson Margaret Harris warned that its closure would immediately endanger the lives of some 200 dialysis patients since it is the only one in Gaza.

New blow for PM Sunak

Second UK MP defects to Labour after losses for Tories in local polls

AFP, London

Britain's ruling Conservatives yesterday suffered their second defection to the main opposition Labour party in as many weeks, piling pressure on Prime Minister Rishi Sunak.

Natalie Elphicke crossed the floor in the House of Commons just moments before Sunak's weekly grilling by lawmakers, adding to his woes after heavy losses for the Tories in English local elections last week.

Elphicke is MP for Dover, on the south coast of England, which is heavily affected by the small boat crossings from northern Europe which Sunak has vowed to stop.

But she criticised the Tories "dramatic" lurch from the centre to the right since she was elected under Boris Johnson's leadership in 2019, and cited concerns over "housing and the safety and security of our borders" as prompting her move.

MP Dan Poulter -- a qualified medical doctor -- announced last month that he had defected to Labour, saying only they could be trusted to reform the state-run National Health Service (NHS).

Wife of ex-Pak PM moved to jail on her request

REUTERS, Islamabad

A court in Pakistan yesterday granted a request by the wife of former prime minister Imran Khan to be moved to jail, her lawyer said, instead of the house arrest ordered by the government. In her petition to the Islamabad High Court, Bushra Bibi had accused authorities of violating her privacy and serving contaminated food in her home cell, which she and her lawyers said was dominated by men, a charge the prison staff has denied. Bibi says she has been detained in one room at Khan's hilltop mansion in Islamabad since the couple's January conviction on charges of illegally selling state gifts. Through her lawyers Bibi had asked to be shifted to jail, which authorities complied with shortly after the court issued the order, her party said. The court ordered authorities to shift her to Adyala jail in the garrison city of Rawalpindi, where Khan, 70, is serving his 14-year sentence. The party said Bibi's shift to jail will answer critics that her stay at home instead of prison was part of some deal to seek concessions from government. Pakistan army spokesperson Major General Ahmed Sharif said on Tuesday that it was not possible to open talks for any deal with a party that had been involved in attacks against the state institutions.

HK court bans protest anthem

REUTERS, Hong Kong

Hong Kong's Court of Appeal yesterday granted an application by the government to ban a protest anthem called "Glory to Hong Kong", overturning a lower court judgment that had rejected such a ban because of its possible "chilling effects" on free speech.

The ruling comes amid what critics say is an erosion in Hong Kong's rule of law and individual rights amid a sweeping national security crackdown by Beijing that has jailed scores of opposition democrats and shut down liberal media outlets. The case has implications for internet freedoms and the operations of firms including internet platform operators (IPOs) and technology firms such as GOOGL.

Court of Appeal judges wrote that the composer of the protest song had intended it to be used as a weapon.

Australia raises minimum savings for student visa

REUTERS, Sydney

Australia said yesterday it would raise the amount of savings international students will need to get a visa and warned several colleges of fraudulent student recruitment practices, as part of efforts to rein in migration. From Friday, international students must show proof of savings of at least A\$29,710 to get their visa, the second increase in seven months. It was raised to A\$24,505 from A\$21,041 in October. English language requirements for visas were increased in March.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer, Department of Public Health Engineering
Rajbari District, Rajbari.
Web-www.dphe.gov.bd

Invitation for e-Tender

Memo- 46.03.8200.061.16.007.20-1365 Date: 08/05/2024

1	Ministry/Division	Local Government Division
2	Implementing Agency	Department of Public Health Engineering
3	Project/Program Name	Not Applicable
4	e-Tender IDs	980563
5	Description of Works	Installation of 05 nos Shallow tube well(100*38)mm with submersible pump and 05 nos deep tube well(100*38)mm with submersible pump
6	This is online Tender, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. Interested persons/firms can see details in website : www.eprocure.gov.bd	
7	Tel. No. -0641-65428 ee.rajbari@dphe.gov.bd	(Md. Abu Zakaria) Executive Engineer, DPHE, Rajbari District.

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GD-747

Afghan blast kills 3 Taliban security personnel

REUTERS, Kabul

Three Taliban security personnel were killed when a motorcycle carrying an explosive device blew up near a military vehicle in northern Afghanistan being used in opium poppy eradication operations, an interior ministry spokesman said yesterday.

"The explosion took place as the police convoy was passing for the purpose of opium poppy eradication," said an interior ministry spokesman, adding that five others were injured.

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DO/FARID/ADMIN-46(04)/2023-2024/OTM/Package-05/2250 Date: 28.04.2024

e-Tender Notice (OTM)

This is to notify all concern that the following e-Tender is invited in National e-Government Procurement Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>).

SL	Tender ID	Name of tender	Tender publication date and time	Tender document last selling date and time	Tender closing and opening date and time
01.	978300	Supply and Installation of 14 Nos. Money Counting Machines for Branches/ Offices of Bangladesh Krishi Bank, Faridpur Division.	Date: 30-Apr-2024 Time: 09:00am	Date: 19-May-2024 Time: 03:00pm	Date: 20-Dec-2024 Time: 12:00pm

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-Government Procurement Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-Government Procurement Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e Government Procurement Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) and you can also ask help from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

অন্যায় করে পার পেতে পার, জানবে না কেউ কিছু
কিন্তু তোমার বিবেক আছে, ছাড়বে না সে পিছু।
-আখতার হুসেন

Md. Khurshed Alam
General Manager (In Charge)

GD-750

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