

DANCE of DEMOCRACY

2 BATTLEGROUND 2024: LOK SABHA ELECTIONS

'Can't live in a democracy where oppn is suppressed'

Vivek Tankha Lashes Out At BJP, Says Congress Manifesto Promises Change In IT, ED, CBI Laws

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bhopal: Congress' Rajya Sabha MP Vivek Tankha on Wednesday said that he is not ready to live in a democracy where the Parliament does not function, suppresses the opposition and makes laws in an undemocratic manner. Tankha was among the top leaders of the state Congress who on Wednesday were explaining the various promises made in the party Lok Sabha manifesto titled Nyaay Patra.

Eminent lawyer Vivek Tankha argued that income tax laws and regulations for investigative agencies like the Enforcement Directorate (ED) and the CBI have to be simplified and purified if democracy is to be saved.

Tankha explained why the Congress' first promise in its manifesto is freedom from fear. "There should be changes brought in the Income Tax laws, the ED and the CBI," he argued. "Why is their independence being finished? You hold CMs by the neck and put them behind bars? You keep threatening leaders and ministers? If you have to save democracy, then we need to protect the country from such excesses. Govts will come and go, but if the system is based on fear, then I do not consider this to be a democracy. We have to simplify and purify the laws that govern these bodies," he said.

State Congress top brass on Wednesday addressed a press conference to explain the party's Nyaay Patra manifesto. The leaders who addressed the me-



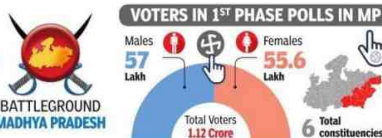
Congress' Rajya Sabha MP Vivek Tankha, former CM Digvijaya Singh, state party chief Jitu Patra, LOP Umang Singh and others with the party manifesto for the LS polls, in Bhopal on Wednesday

dia included former chief minister Digvijaya Singh. Rajya Sabha MP Vivek Tankha, state Congress president Jitu Patra, LOP Umang Singh, state Mahila Congress president Vibha Patel and party's state legal cell chief P Dhanopatia. Vivek Tankha said that he is against this democracy, then we need to change our procedures and thoughts," he said. "The Opposition cannot speak or protest in the House. In England, the Parliament runs for at least 100 days which means one-third of the year. How long does the Parliament here work? In England, the opposition is given one day every week to keep its agenda. Here the opposition is not given the opportunity to talk on its agenda," he said.

"Which of our amendment motions is accepted for discussion?" Vivek Tankha asked. "We cannot protest and if we walk to the well,

then they say that it is against Parliamentary ethics." He said that a letter he wrote to vice-President and chairman of the war, LOP Umang Singh, after the monsoon session was adjourned since the April 11 has been adopted for compiling the promise of Constitutional Justice in the Congress manifesto.

"I am glad that the recommendations mentioned in the letter to the vice-President have been accommodated in the manifesto that Parliament will function for at least 100 days and opposition will be given one day in the week to discuss its issues," he said. "There are three crore cases pending in the courts of law in India. How will the people get justice? Reality is that this is not the priority of the BJP. They are happy if the courts cannot work. The law minister of the country says that we are concerned how the Supreme Court is granting bail. If a person does not get bail, then he will approach the SC. Where else will he go? If CM Arvind Kejriwal does not get bail in the HC, where else will he go to seek bail?" Tankha said.



Lotus will bloom, CM Yadav announces on Nath's turf, calls Cong 'one-family party'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bhopal: In his fifth visit to Chhindwara constituency before the Lok Sabha election, chief minister Mohan Yadav led a road show and addressed public meetings in Damua, Jumarwar and Chaurameta in Panna. For the BJP, the top priority is Chhindwara which the party has won only once in a

On Thursday, BJP national president P Nadda will address a public meeting to appeal for votes for party candidate Vivek Bunt Sahu who has been pitted against MP Nalaku Nath. Attacking senior Congress leader Kamal Nath who represented this seat for nine terms in the Lok Sabha, the CM said, "Just like the Congress has become the



CM Mohan Yadav during a rally in Chhindwara on Wednesday

property of only one family in the same way Chhindwara has also been held in the chains of slavery by a single family." Congress candidate Nalaku Nath is the son of the veteran leader and former chief minister.

"But now the people of Chhindwara have become wise. They know what is good and what is bad for them. Kamal Nath says that he has been doing penance in Chhindwara for 45 years, but he is not doing penance for Chhindwara, rather he has become a problem for the constituency," Mohan Yadav said. "Congress has always ruled by lying. Lotus rains in their blood," he said.

CM Yadav claimed that this time the "lotus flower" will bloom in the square that has been spread in Chhindwara for 45 years. Seeing the huge crowds on the streets of Jumarwar, Yadav said, "This time the lotus flower will definitely bloom in Chhindwara. Why did the people of Chhindwara remain as someone's slaves all their lives? They also want to come out of slavery." Yadav argued that on one hand Kamal Nath says that

he has been developing Chhindwara for 45 years, but 35 mines in the constituency have been shut down. "The people of Chhindwara and the state gave a chance to Congress in the year 2018. The government was in power for 15 months, but Kamal Nath could not get the mines here started," he alleged. Mohan Yadav said that the people of Chhindwara have suffered broken shoulders while carrying Kamal Nath for 45 years while he did not even take care of them.

"Is there only one family in Chhindwara, which has the right to be in politics? Has Chhindwara become the property of just one family? Nephewism does not work in BJP here even our workers get their rights," he said.

CM Yadav said that Congress ruled ruling the country and the state for years through untruthful propaganda. "They kept forming the government by telling lies. At the state gave a chance to Congress in the year 2018. The government was in power for 15 months, but Kamal Nath could not get the mines here started," he alleged. Mohan Yadav said that the people of Chhindwara have suffered broken shoulders while carrying Kamal Nath for 45 years while he did not even take care of them.

"I want to ask whether anyone is living there on Kachatheeru island. These are baseless talks without any substance. He (PM Modi) is free to say whatever he wants to

Digvijaya Singh
Cong Leader

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji's thinking is, Sabka Saath-Sabka Vikas-Sabka Vishwas-Sabka Prayas... The aim of BJP workers is to win the trust of every section of the society

YB Sharma / MP
BJP President

THE TIMES OF INDIA, BHOPAL | THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2024

RSS leader sent me to Cong as part of strategy, says 2023 polls candidate now back with BJP

Says He Sacrificed Himself As Usha Thakur Was Feared To Lose; RSS Denies

Rajesh Jaurhi

Mhow: A statement by BJP-turned-Congress-turned BJP leader Ramkishore Shukla has triggered a political storm in Madhya Pradesh. Shukla, who switched from BJP to Congress just before the 2023 assembly elections and was promptly fielded by the opposition party in the constituency of Mhow, said on Wednesday that he was "sent by RSS to Congress".

Shukla finished third, bagging 29,144 votes, and lost his deposit. BJP veteran Usha Thakur won the seat, defeating independent candidate, ex-Congressman Anir Singh Darbar by a margin of 34,382 votes. Darbar had won the Mhow seat twice but contested as a rebel in 2023 after Congress gave the ticket to the just-in-Shukla. Both of them are now in BJP. Anir Singh Darbar switched over last month, and Shukla had his homecoming four days ago.

On Wednesday, while talking to mediapersons in Mhow, Shukla said, "I switched to Congress just before the assembly elections. I did so under the directions of a senior leader in the last year."

He went on to explain: "The reason for this was the weak presence of BJP candidate Usha Thakur. There was large-scale opposition from within the party. Former Congress MLA Anir Singh Darbar was fighting

as an independent, and looking at all these equations, I got ready to sacrifice myself." Shukla alleged that Darbar was also fielded by BJP as an independent candidate. "All this was done as part of a poll strategy and I did so under the directions of a senior leader in the last year."

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Voting for Betul seat now on May 7

New Poll Schedule After Death of BSP Candidate

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bhopal: Election in Betul parliamentary constituency, which was scheduled on April 26, during the second phase of polls, has now been rescheduled for May 7 — the third phase of elections in state.

ECI announced the new schedule of elections on Wednesday, the election in this constituency was adjourned as before as the candidate of BSP Ashok Bhalavi, 49, died of heart attack.

Parliamentary elections in Betul constituency were adjourned after the death of the BSP candidate Ashok Bhalavi Tuesday. The election was adjourned under section 52 of RP Act which says that if candidate of a constituency dies before the election is held, the election is postponed for 7 days of information.

ECI on Wednesday announced that elections will be held in Betul on May 7. Now Betul elections will be held during the third phase of elections in state along with 8 other constituencies namely Morva, Bhind, Gwalior, Guna, Sagar, Vidisha, Bhopal and Rajgarh.

As per the new schedule for Betul that has been announced by ECI, notification for the election will be published on April 12, and April 19 will be the last date for making nomination by candidate sponsored by BSP. Only the submitted nomination papers will be scrutinized on April 20 and April 22 will be the last date for withdrawal of candidature. And polls will be held on May 7.

Amargesh Singh
@timesgroup.com

Bhopal: Among the candidates of BJP and the Congress who are in the fray across six constituencies — earlier there were seven constituencies, but after postponement of Betul polls, there are only six constituencies in second phase — which are going to polls during second phase on April 26, Congress candidate from Hoshangabad, Sanjay Sharma is the richest of them all.

Sanjay Sharma alone owned a five-times more assets than are cumulatively owned by all the six candidates of BJP in the constituencies.

As per the affidavit submitted before the EC, Sharma individually owns — without considering assets of spouse — total assets worth Rs 70.68 crore. While if the assets individually owned by all the six candidates of BJP are taken cumulatively, they together own assets worth Rs 13.8 crore.

Thus, Sharma has five-times more assets than assets owned by all the BJP candidates in second phase cumulatively.

After Sharma, it is another Congress candidate from Rewa, Neelam Abhay Mishra who is the second richest among the contesting candidates of Congress and BJP during the second phase of polls in state. As per the affidavit submitted before the EC, Neelam Abhay Mishra individually owns assets worth Rs 17.78 crore. This is two more than the total assets owned by all the six BJP candidates.

Overall, though there

Congress candidate richer than all 6 of BJP in phase-1

CANDIDATES & THEIR ASSETS			
Constituency	Congress	BJP	
Hoshangabad	Candidate	Sanjay Sharma	Darshan Singh Choudhary
	Liquid Assets	₹18.81 Cr	₹18.31 Lakh
	Immovable Assets	₹51.87 Cr	₹85.35 Lakh
TOTAL		₹70.68 Cr	₹93.49 Lakh
Satna	Candidate	Siddharth Kishore	Ganesh Singh
	Liquid Assets	₹48.15 Lakh	₹2.6 Cr
	Immovable Assets	₹98 Lakh	₹54.8 Lakh
TOTAL		₹146 Cr	₹3.14 Cr
Rewa	Candidate	Neelam Abhay Mishra	Janardan Mishra
	Liquid Assets	₹2.7 Cr	₹1.27 Cr
	Immovable Assets	₹15.08 Cr	₹2.2 Cr
TOTAL		₹17.78 Cr	₹3.47 Cr
Tikamgarh	Candidate	Pankaj Ahirwar	Virendra Kumar
	Liquid Assets	₹762 Lakh	₹8.7 Lakh
	Immovable Assets	₹80 Lakh	₹1.34 Cr
TOTAL		₹8.62 Lakh	₹1.42 Cr
Khajuraho	Candidate	NA	Y D Sharma
	Liquid Assets	NA	₹1.44 Cr
	Immovable Assets	NA	₹2.2 Cr
TOTAL		NA	₹3.64 Cr
Damoh	Candidate	Tarwar Singh Lodhi	Rahul Lodhi
	Liquid Assets	₹78.12 Lakh	₹30.93 Lakh
	Immovable Assets	₹25.42 Lakh	₹90 Lakh
TOTAL		₹1.03 Cr	₹1.2 Cr

(Only assets owned individually by contesting candidates as per the affidavit submitted before EC is considered)

are only five Congress candidates who are in the fray against the six BJP candidates — as Congress had fielded only five candidates. The Khajuraho field the seat to SP under INDIA bloc, though SP candidate's nomination was rejected during scrutiny — thanks to Sanjay Sharma and Neelam Abhay Mishra, the five Congress candidates cumulatively own assets worth Rs 118.8 crore, which is far above the total Rs 13.8 crore assets owned by all the six BJP candidates.

On the occasion, CM Yadav took a dig at senior Congress leader Rahul Gandhi by claiming that he is not 'fit' in politics and by consuming Mahua, he has revealed his 'hobbies'.

Under the leadership of PM Narendra Modi, BJP's family is expanding day-by-day and I am happy with it that these Congress leaders have chosen the path of India's development. I have assured them of considering their valuable suggestions and will confer them due respect," the CM said.

THIS WILL ONLY MAKE SOMEONE'S DAY

BUT THE REAL GIFT WILL MAKE SOMEONE'S LIFE.

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NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice

Divisional Railway Manager (Works) North Central Railway, Jhansi for and behalf of President of India invites sealed "Open Tender" through online (E-Tendering) for the following work:

E-Tender No. JHS-ENGSC-2024-52 Approx Cost: ₹25,79,000.74

Description of work: P.W. works for extension of Shed at Loco Shed, Jhansi under sanction of S.D. JHS.

Estimate Money: ₹20,00,00,00,00 Date of closing Tender: 07/05/2024 at 10.00 hrs. Date of completion/award from issue acceptance letter: 03 Months. Tender on line can be submitted up to 10.00 hrs. on 07.05.2024. For full details and submission of bid please see the Indian Railway website www.indianrailways.gov.in

Corrigendum

Hiring of Media Monitoring Agency By IEC Advisory Committee under PMFBY-Extension of last date for Bid submission

Open Tender No. TSU/04/2022-PMFBY (FTS-117899)

With Reference to above-mentioned tender, it has been decided to extend the last date for Bid submission till 16.04.2024 by 1530 hours. For more details please visit AIC's website - www.aicofindia.com OR <https://eprocure.gov.in/cppp/>

Date: 11.04.2024 Place: New Delhi

General Manager

ACRI

AGRICULTURE INSURANCE COMPANY OF INDIA LIMITED

Regd. Office: Plot B & C, 3rd Floor, Block 1, East Kirti Nagar, New Delhi-110029. CIN: 4749902/2002PLC1181123

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Date: 11.04.2024 Place: New Delhi

General Manager

Ratlam dist Congress chief joins BJP

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