

# REVIEW OF URDU PRESS

Vol.: 6

Issue : 20

October 16-31, 2023

₹ 20/-

## Eight Former Indian Naval Officers get Death Sentence in Qatar



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- Resolution passed in UN General Assembly over ceasefire in Gaza
- Ban on wearing hijab in schools in Karnataka lifted

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Printed and Published by  
Manmohan Sharma on behalf of  
India Policy Foundation published  
at D-51, First Floor, Hauz Khas,  
New Delhi- 110016. Printed at Sai  
Printo Pack Pvt. Ltd., A-102/4,  
Okhla Industrial Area, Phase-II,  
New Delhi - 110020

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## Summary

Recently, Jordan had moved a resolution at the behest of Arab nations in the United Nations General Assembly regarding a ceasefire between Israel and Hamas. A total of 120 countries voted in favour of the resolution while 14 countries including the United States voted against this resolution. Whereas, 45 nations including Bharat did not take part in the voting. Israel has even refused to take cognizance of the resolution. Israel Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said the aggressor is Hamas and that the resolution has not condemned terrorism. He said our war will continue until we finish off Hamas. It is a very strange thing that majority of the Muslim, Congress and secular organisations are criticising the Modi government asking why it declared support to Israel? They also allege that the Indian government has changed its foreign policy of supporting the Palestinian cause. Whereas the Indian government has categorically said that even today it supports an independent Palestine but at the same time it is strongly opposed to terrorism.

The Yogi Adityanath government in Uttar Pradesh has sought information regarding the documents for registration and sources of funding from some madrasas in Muzaffarnagar district. In a notice issued to these madrasas by the primary education department, it has been mentioned that if they do not reply to the notice within the specified time, they have to close down their madrasas or a fine will be imposed on them. Along with this, the Uttar Pradesh government has also announced the constitution of a Special Investigation Team to probe the funds received from abroad and their expenditure by some madrasas located on the Indo-Nepal border. Muslim organisations have created a huge ruckus over this decision of the Uttar Pradesh government. A meeting of the management committee of All India Madrasa Islamia was organised in Deoband, where a resolution was passed alleging that this decision of Uttar Pradesh government is against Islam and the community. In this resolution, it has also been argued that the decision has also violated the Constitution of the country because there is a provision in the Indian Constitution that any community may set up educational institutions for religious education and the government has no right to interfere in it. This organisation has appealed to Islamic madrasas across the country that they do not accept any kind of government aid. If they take government aid, then the government will get an opportunity to make interferences in their internal affairs.

The decision of a court in Qatar to award death sentence to eight former officers of Indian Navy on charges of spying for Israel has evoked sharp reactions across the country. A spokesperson of foreign ministry has made it clear that legal and diplomatic help will be provided to the accused Indian citizens. Sensing an opportunity on this incident, some Urdu newspapers have alleged that since the Modi government has openly supported Israel in the Hamas-Israel war, the Qatar government has taken such a decision as a retaliatory step. In its editorials, these newspapers have targeted the Narendra Modi government on its foreign policy.

Pakistan's former Prime Minister Mian Muhammad Nawaz Sharif has returned to his native country after spending four-and-a-half years in exile. During the reign of Imran Khan government, various courts had awarded him seven years in jail and he had been declared ineligible for any public office in his entire life. Now, the cabinet of Punjab government has decided that the jail-term awarded to him by the court shall be kept in abeyance. Due to this decision, the possibility of Nawaz Sharif becoming active in politics has increased a lot. As soon as Nawaz Sharif landed in Pakistan, he organised a public meeting in Lahore displaying his show of strength, which has been claimed to be attended by lakhs of people. According to Pakistani newspapers, the all-powerful Army has decided to make Nawaz Sharif as the prime minister once again due to the deteriorating economic situation in the country. This is because the Pakistan Army has got disillusioned with Imran Khan and a number of corruption cases are currently being heard against him in different courts.

## Urdu media targets Sangh chief's Vijayadashami speech



**Urdu Times** (October 26) in its editorial said that RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat has delivered his traditional speech on the occasion of Dussehra. This speech is of much importance. This is because RSS was founded on Vijayadashami Day. In his speech, Mohan Bhagwat highly praised Modi government and claimed that there is all-round happiness in the country. He did not utter a word about inflation, unemployment, corruption, problems of farmers and the latest report on hunger index. However, Mohan Bhagwat definitely mentioned about Manipur. Overlooking the questions raised over the violence taking place in Manipur over the past seven months, and giving a clean chit to the government, he said the hands of 'foreign powers' were behind the violence in Manipur. The question here is who are these powers? And why are they deliberately weakening the alliance government in Manipur? In the BJP government, the theory about 'hands of foreign powers' is popular as never before. In whichever front the government fails to succeed, it blames it on the 'foreign

powers' and saves itself. In Manipur, the situation is out of control for the past seven months and all these are happening at a time when the 'double engine' government is in power. Even if one accepts that foreign powers are behind this, then what was the Central and state governments doing? Prime Minister Modi is considered as the most powerful and courageous prime minister till now. In his leadership, how could foreign powers turn a state of India into an epicentre of violence?

The newspaper said there was peace in Manipur before the formation of the BJP government. Then why it happened? There was even an uproar in the Parliament on the question of Manipur. But the Prime Minister did not utter a word. Now the situation is such that even the Mizoram chief minister said he would not share the dais with the Prime Minister. He cited the situation in Manipur for this decision. In order to find out who was behind the violence in Manipur, a 'fact-finding team' of Editors Guild visited Manipur. In its report, they blamed the state government for the violence. However, the BJP



government totally refused to accept this and filed a case against the members of this team. The BJP government in Manipur is against the report of a body like Editors Guild from our own country and Mohan Bhagwat is speaking about foreign hands. Not only this, Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan said after his visit to Manipur that the violence was between two communities and there was no hand of any foreign power in it. Now, whose words should we believe, that of RSS chief or that of our defence chief? RSS will be completing 100 years of its foundation and due to this kind of a reply, their role in politics is proving to be weak. This is because the Dussehra rally speech was totally a political one.

The newspaper said that Mohan Bhagwat, who will be involved in the centenary celebrations of the organisation next year, is stressing that caste-community is nothing and we are all Hindustanis. This can be true only when they go among the public. Otherwise, it is very good to talk about good things on the day of Dussehra, but eliminating evils will be something better than it.

**Hamara Samaj** (October 26) in its editorial said that on the occasion of Dussehra, a major function is organised at the headquarters of RSS in Nagpur every year. Here the Sarsanghchalak of RSS does puja of weapons in the traditional manner and then he delivers a speech. This year also same things took place. After the Shastra puja, while addressing swayamsevaks at Reshimbagh grounds,

Sangh Sarsanghchalak Mohan Bhagwat talked about violence in Manipur, Lok Sabha elections, inauguration of Ram temple in Ayodhya and Israel-Palestine war also. He said the world is tired of terrorism and it is looking at Bharat again and again for that formula of peace which will help establish peace in the entire world.

Bhagwat claimed that the violence in Manipur was a well-planned conspiracy. He said the Meiteis and Kukis were living together for several years. How did communal violence start between them? It is obvious that the hands of forces outside the state were behind this violence. An organisation like Sangh which is involved in public service for years was dragged into this violence for no reason.

However, one should understand that there could be benefits for foreign powers over unrest and instability in Manipur. The newspaper said that Mohan Bhagwat knows that the entire country will be keenly listening to his address. However, the people of the country are not that innocent that they do not even know that violence is raging in Manipur for the past seven months and the BJP's state government and the Modi government at the Centre are responsible for it. This is because the senior-most defence officer had given this statement earlier itself that the hands of foreign powers are not there in Manipur. The issue in Manipur is political and its solution could be found through political talks. But now Mohan Bhagwat sees foreign hands in Manipur. Its direct meaning is that we need to trust the statement of Mohan Bhagwat instead of our defence chief. RSS will go to any extent to improve its image. Whatever be the effect of the statements of those who talk about peace after doing worship of weapons, Mohan Bhagwat's statement will also have the same effect. This is because the day Mohan Bhagwat was declaring the RSS as a great organisation, the Travancore Devaswom Board, an organisation which



administers temples in Travancore region in Kerala, issued a circular banning the activities of RSS on temple premises. This circular was not issued by the present Communist government in Kerala, instead it was issued by the board which looks after hundreds of temples in Kerala in which it has been made clear that RSS has nothing to do with the sanctity of temples and they run their terrorist training camps there as well. That is why Mohan Bhagwat in his address not only looked for foreign hands in the violence that took place in Manipur but also targeted Leftist thinking as well.

**Etemaad** (October 25) in its editorial said that whatever Sangh chief Mohan Bhagwat said while addressing the organisation's activists on the occasion of Dussehra, it looks like either he has learned to easily speak lies like Prime Minister Modi or he is too far from the current situation in the country that he has no idea on who is doing what in the country. Addressing the Dussehra rally of RSS in Nagpur, Bhagwat said he is proud about the activists of RSS who worked to establish peace in Manipur. He also said some people will try to incite the sentiments of people before the Lok Sabha elections in 2024 and try to collect votes. People should remain alert about them. The Sangh chief urged the people of the country to vote while keeping in mind the integrity, unity and development of the country.

The newspaper said that from the words of Mohan Bhagwat it could be assumed that either he is pretending ignorance or he is trying to mislead the common public through his speech. Doesn't Mohan Bhagwat know who are

inciting the sentiments of people through communal rhetoric before the elections to amass votes? From this statement of Mohan Bhagwat, it looks like he has already started the game to create the atmosphere for the Lok Sabha elections in 2024. If not, keeping in mind his statement, he should not support such elements who incite the feelings of people in order to collect their votes and who try to build a wall

of hatred. There is no doubt that Hindus are majority in the country and a large section of them are peace-loving. They also know it very well how to stay amicably in a multi-religious society. However, a handful of vested interests serve their political interests by spreading hatred in the society. If the RSS takes off its hands of blessings from their head, and come with those who love peace and unity, definitely those who provoke the feelings of people will get demoralised.

In his article published in **Avadhnama** (October 24), Dr Salim Khan said the Sangh chief, while discussing about the story of Ramayana, said in his Vijayadashami speech that Maryada Purshottam Ram was an embodiment of dharma. We have to follow his ideals and save the country from fundamentalism. This is because religious provocation arises from it. These words that came from the mouth of Sarsanghchak is like a Ramayana discourse delivered by Ravan. It is the main activity of Sangh Parivar to spread radicalism and provocation. This game is on from Ayodhya to Kashi and till Mathura. This is a case of 'advice to others, embarrassment to oneself.' According to Mohan Bhagwat, the picture of Bhagwan Ram is on the first page of the Constitution and his great temple is being built in Ayodhya. However, it is true that massive corruption is taking place in the temple being constructed on the land being forcibly seized from Babri Masjid.

The writer said that Mohan Bhagwat has announced the inauguration of Ram Mandir in Ayodhya on January 22 next year. The muhurt has been found four days

ahead of Republic Day. However, he has forgotten that Prime Minister Modi addresses people from Red Fort on Independence Day. Now if Modi addresses from the Red Fort on the Republic Day also, who will stop him? Mohan Bhagwat is not sure about being invited to the inauguration of the mandir. This is because Modi ji keeps the cameras focused on himself and does not tolerate the presence of anyone near him. Although the ghost of elections always haunts the Prime Minister, this time Sarsanghchalak Mohan Bhagwat delivered a purely political speech and made even Modi ji ashamed. Mohan Bhagwat said that the pride of the country is increasing every year. After G-20 summit, the whole world has realised the greatness of Indian hospitality.

The writer said that what is surprising is that Mohan Bhagwat, who was impressed by the hospitality of the world, is unable to see India's rising position in the field of starvation and neither does he feel sympathy to the people suffering in poverty. What kind of growth is this where Adani and Ambani are touching the heights of the sky while the unemployed youths are stumbling from pillar-to-post? What kind of political mastery is this where Rs 55 lakh crore loans of capitalist friends are written off but the farmers are forced to commit suicide? What his government has done to the women wrestlers who had won medals at international level is known to everybody. When these wrestlers were voicing their protests against sexual harassment, why the Sangh Parivar remained silent? When the police of the country's home minister were lathicharging them, where were the people belonging to Sangh Parivar then? If the BJP was not right, at least the RSS should have voiced its protest on this, but it remained silent like the Godi Media.

The writer has claimed that earlier the BJP used to work under the leadership of Sangh but now the RSS is working at the behest of the government. Modi ji has



turned the chessboard upside down. During the violence in Manipur, though the Sangh chief visited Assam, neither did he visit the riot-hit regions nor did he make any comments about it? Yes, while addressing his swayamsevaks, he definitely asked that earlier Manipur was peaceful but all of a sudden how did this flame to destroy each other started? He asked this question to the wrong people. Instead of asking this question to swayamsevaks, he should have asked the same to the BJP's chief minister N Biren Singh. This is because it is his responsibility to maintain peace in the society. The chief of Kuki tribe accused the chief minister of spreading communal violence in the state. Mohan Bhagwat asked the second question whether terrorists from across the border were behind the violence in the Manipur? This question he should have asked the country's home minister or defence minister. This is because it is their responsibility to stop foreign terrorists from entering the country.

The writer said that even the chief minister of Manipur has raked up the theory of foreign powers after listening to the statement of Bhagwat. By the way, even if one accepts the statement of Mohan Bhagwat, what is the need for keeping such a chief minister in power who is unable to protect his own party legislatures from the attack of foreign powers in his own state capital? Shouldn't he be removed from the post? In the double engine government, the responsibility of both is with the BJP. The argument of Mohan Bhagwat has increased the difficulties of BJP.

## Row over closing down of illegal madrasas in Uttar Pradesh



**Mumbai Urdu News** (October 26) reports that the education department in Uttar Pradesh has issued a notice to nearly a dozen madrasas in Muzaffarnagar district and directed them that they produce documents regarding their registration within three days, otherwise a fine of Rs 10,000 per day will be imposed on them. This notice was issued by an official of primary education department. Sources in education department said the notice was issued to them since these madrasas are being run illegally without any permission. According to government sources, there are 24,000 madrasas in Uttar Pradesh, out of which 16,000 have recognition while 8,000 madrasas are unrecognised. In the notices which were issued to the madrasas, it has been stated that if these madrasas were being recognised under the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, then the managers of the madrasas shall produce the records of their registration. It is also said in the notice that if the managers of the madrasas fail to produce the documents of registration, then legal action will be taken against them.

The newspaper said that after receiving the notice, there was massive anger among the managers and teachers of

madrasas. Jamiat Ulema held a meeting with the managers of these madrasas. Secretary of Jamiat Ulema, Qari Zakir Hussain, said these religious madrasas give free education. He said these madrasas are being run since Independence and they do not come under the category of schools. Despite this, notice has been issued to the madrasas. A delegation of Jamiat Ulema in Muzaffarnagar met the district magistrate and handed him over a memorandum. The memorandum has protested the notice issued to the madrasas. Following this meeting, Qari Zakir Hussain said that the notice has been issued to madrasas under Free and Compulsory Education Act for children and the same Act has been amended in 2012 and it has been clearly mentioned in it that this law is not applicable for madrasas, Vedic Pathasalas and religious institutions.

**Avadhnama** (October 26) states that the chairman of Uttar Pradesh Madrasa Education Board Dr Iftikhar Ahmad Jawed said that after the constitution of minorities welfare department in 1985, all the madrasas which were running in the state had been transferred under it. Later, the Uttar Pradesh Madrasa Education Board Act, 2004 was also amended as per which a law has been created for the identification,

management and the service rules of the employees working in non-governmental Arabic and Persian madrasas. Since then, these madrasas have been functioning under the minorities department. In this law, there is no provision for the education department to issue any kind of notice or conduct an inquiry into these madrasas. If the education department issues any kind of notice to them, then it is illegal.

**Mumbai Urdu News** (October 22) reports that while addressing a meeting of the management committee of All India Madrasa Islamiya at Darul Uloom Deoband, the chief of Jamiat Ulema, Maulana Arshad Madani, said that these madrasas play an important role in the propagation of Islam and in imparting religious education to Muslims. However, the atmosphere that has been prevailing in the country is a difficult one for Islam, Muslims and Madrasas. He said that madrasas should not accept government grants. This is because the government will then get an opportunity to interfere in the affairs of madrasas.

**Inquilab** (October 26) states that Uttar Pradesh Madrasa Education Board as well as the organisation of madrasa teachers said the notice issued to madrasas by the Uttar Pradesh education department is unconstitutional. General Secretary of all-India organisation of madrasa teachers Wahidullah Khan Sayeedi said that some officials are hell bent on forcibly shutting down madrasas. Hence they are harassing the managers of madrasas in an illegal manner.

**Mumbai Urdu News** (October 24) states that the Uttar Pradesh government has constituted a three-member Special Investigation Team (SIT) headed by the Additional Director General of Police of Uttar Pradesh ATS to look into the financial aid received by the madrasas in the state from abroad. Additional Director General of Police of Uttar Pradesh ATS, Mohit Agrawal said that we will investigate whether the financial aid being received from abroad by these madrasas are being utilised for the madrasas or for other

activities. He said that no time-limit has been set for the investigation into this matter. The SIT has decided to probe the madrasas being run on the Indo-Nepal border initially. These madrasas which are receiving money from foreign countries are running without any government recognition. These madrasas are located on the border areas of Lakhimpur Kheri, Pilibhit, Shravasti, Siddharth Nagar and Bahraich. It has been found that there is a huge increase in their number recently and they are getting huge funds from foreign sources. A complaint has also been received that these funds are being utilised for other activities apart from education.

**Siasat** (October 23) reports that a principal of a primary school in Uttar Pradesh capital Lucknow has been suspended for giving permission to a group of students to offer namaz on school premises. Basic Shiksha Adhikari Arun Kumar said that an information has been received that some children were given permission to offer namaz on the premises of a primary school in Lucknow. He said that as per the directions of the government, namaz cannot be offered in any government schools. Following investigation, the principal of this school, Meera Yadav, has been suspended and two other teachers were given stringent warning.

Commenting on this news, **Siasat** said that the policy of the Uttar Pradesh government is quite strange. At one level, the principal of a school in Lucknow had been suspended for giving permission to offer namaz in school. Whereas, at a function organised in a college in Ghaziabad, when a student raised slogans of Jai Shree Ram on the dais, a teacher told him to get down from the dais and that teacher was suspended.

**Mumbai Urdu News** (October 25) in its editorial said that madrasas have once again become the target of Yogi government. As per the latest reports, an investigation will be conducted into the foreign aid being received by madrasas in Uttar Pradesh and an SIT has been

constituted for the same. This is not the first time that the Yogi government is investigating the affairs of madrasas. In the past also it had done a survey of madrasas across the state. However, it was stated that time that through this survey it would be found out whether these Islamic madrasas are functioning as per the prescribed rules of National Child Rights Protection Commission or not? However, the original aim of the government was to find out the source of income of these madrasas and which organisations were running these madrasas? Then why all of a sudden a campaign has been unleashed on madrasas in the name of foreign funding? The madrasas are being harassed in this manner.



The newspaper said that the track record of Chief Minister regarding Muslims has not been a good one. Hence if it is now said this investigation is being done with bad intentions, it will not be wrong. This apart, the managers of these madrasas will have to dig into their background. The newspaper asked a question to madrasas as to whether it is not true that there are several such madrasas in Uttar Pradesh whose records are not in order? Is it not correct that the managers of these madrasas brought lands in their names instead of in the name of madrasas? Is it not correct that there is massive embezzlement in the funds being received by these madrasas? The question here is why the madrasas which are found unregistered were not registered till now?

**Etemaad** (October 27) in its editorial said that in Hindustan, the religious madrasas play an important role in the religious and primary education of

poor and destitute children. For the BJP government, it is perturbing that these madrasas play an important role in the growth and propagation of Islam. After Assam, now the religious madrasas are targeted in Uttar Pradesh once again. The newspaper alleged that the BJP is targeting Islamic madrasas in order to collect Hindu votes in view of the forthcoming Assembly elections in five states. The administration has claimed that the funds that these madrasas receive from foreign sources are being used for terrorist activities and conversion. Uttar Pradesh minister for minorities welfare department Dharmpal Singh said that there are more than 4,000 Islamic madrasas on Indo-Nepal border which are getting foreign funds regularly and their managers have failed to produce records for the same. The newspaper claimed that these madrasas are being run as per the Indian Constitution which provides freedom to the followers of all religions to receive their religious education. It is very important to realise the importance of these madrasas. They should not be viewed only through the prism of religion.

## Ban on wearing hijab in schools in Karnataka lifted



**Aurangabad Times** (October 24) states that after coming to power, the Congress government in Karnataka has given a huge relief to the Muslim students. The new Congress government in Karnataka has lifted the ban imposed by the previous BJP government on wearing of hijab in schools and colleges in the state. The Muslims breathed a sigh of relief due to this decision. The Karnataka government has decided that students can wear hijab and sit for examinations. Karnataka Education Minister M C Sudhakar said that some people are trying to create a controversy over hijab. These people find objection on students wearing hijab to examination halls and vitiate the atmosphere. He said the government has decided that any boy or girl student could attend the exam wearing a dress of their choice. There is no discrimination of any kind on this.

It is to be noted that there was lot of controversy during the BJP regime on the issue of hijab. In the government college in Udupi, students wearing hijab were banned

from entering the college premises and later this ban was extended to several districts in the state, on which a huge ruckus took place. However, the BJP government did not give much attention to it and stuck to its stand. Before the Assembly elections in Karnataka, the Congress had assured

that if it comes to power, it would lift the ban that has been imposed on wearing hijab. The Karnataka government has made it clear that no official declaration has been made in this connection. Some Hinduvadi organisations have once again started politics in the name of hijab. Vishwa Hindu Parishad and Hindu organisations said the Congress government in the state has taken this decision in order to appease the Muslims. Hindu Janjagaran Samiti said this decision of the state government is against the Constitution.

**Siasat** (October 24) in its editorial expressed happiness that the promise made by the Congress government in its manifesto has been fulfilled. As per the Indian Constitution, the followers of all religions have been given the freedom to practice their own religion. In Islam, hijab and purdah are mandatory part of the religion and forcefully imposing any decision on anybody is an open violation of Constitution.

## Rift in JD(S) over tie-up with BJP

**Hindustan Express** (October 20) reports that it has been proved costly for the JD(S) to enter into a tie-up with BJP before the Lok Sabha elections. Voices of dissent are taking place regularly within the party and a series of exits by leaders and activists are also happening. Majority of those who have rebelled belong to the Muslim

community. In between, a news has come to the fore that the national president of JD(S) H D Deve Gowda has expelled the Karnataka unit president of his party, C M Ibrahim, from the party. Ibrahim had even been a minister at the Centre. C M Ibrahim has been consistently raising his voice against the JD(S)-BJP alliance. On the



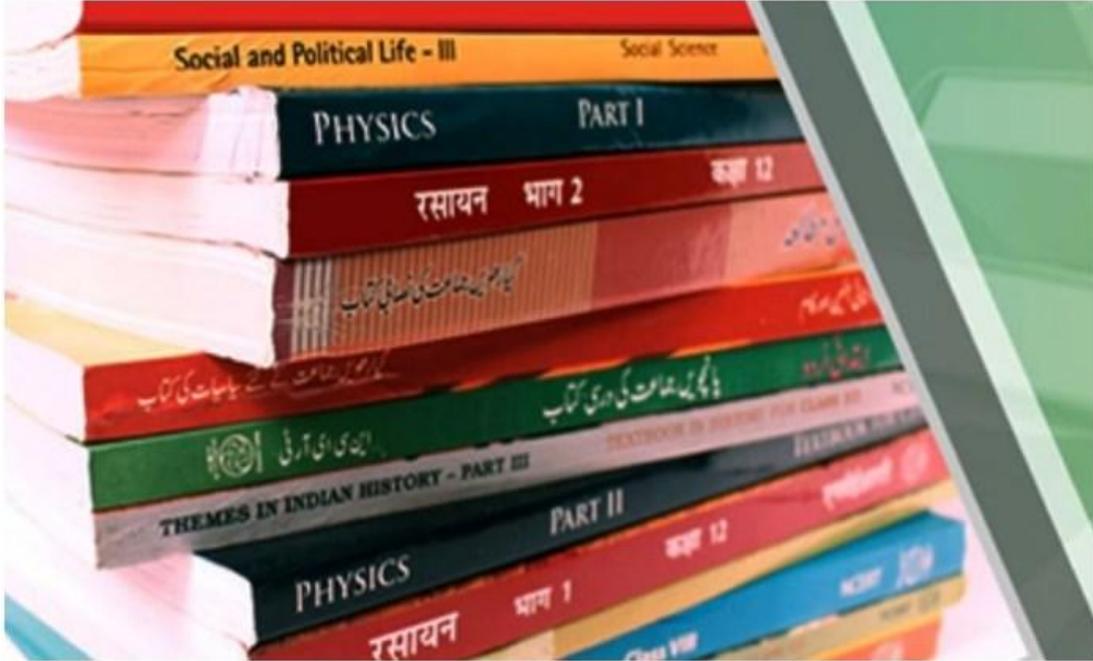
other hand, H D Deve Gowda is not willing to go back from this alliance. This is the reason why Deve Gowda has announced that the party has expelled its Karnataka unit president C M Ibrahim from the party. This decision was taken unanimously at a meeting. Following this, H D Kumaraswamy was elected as the Karnataka state chief of JD(S). Commenting on this decision of the party, C M Ibrahim said I am the state chief of the party and why should I leave the party? This stand taken by him has surprised all other leaders in JD (S) including H D Deve Gowda and Kumaraswamy. Ibrahim said in clear terms that we are a secular party and will not join BJP under any circumstance. I am the state chief of JD(S). We will decide whom should we join for alliance.

It is to be noted that when H D Deve Gowda announced alliance with BJP, a large section of the party was shocked. This is the reason why hundreds of leaders and activists have left the party after the decision to form the new alliance. Majority of them are Muslims. In Mysore city, more than 100 leaders and activists including Abdul Khadar, who contested the

Assembly elections, resigned from JD(S). Abdul Khadar said that BJP and RSS are targeting Muslims in the entire country and are involved in the politics of hatred. They openly say that they don't need the votes of Muslims. We are upset that now Deve Gowda has formed an alliance with BJP. The activists who resigned from the party urged the Karnataka unit president that he immediately resign from the party. However, H D Deve Gowda himself decided to expel Ibrahim from the party.

**Roznama Sahara** (September 26) reports that two MLAs of JD(S) in Kerala had issued an ultimatum to party high command that it change its decision to form an alliance with BJP, otherwise they will separate from the party. One of the two MLAs, K Krishnankutty, is the electricity minister of Kerala. Krishnankutty said that though his party has joined the NDA, they will continue to be part of the ruling alliance in Kerala. While, the second MLA of the JD(S) in Kerala, M T Thomas, said that he is the state president of his party in Kerala and he will never accept the alliance. He said that they are finding their separate path.

## NCERT textbooks to mention Bharat instead of India



**Inquilab** (October 16) reports that now it will not be able to spot India in the textbooks of National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT), instead India will be replaced with Bharat. NCERT director Prof Dinesh Prasad Saklani said that till now no final decision has been taken on the recommendations of the committee. It is to be noted that the decision to mention Bharat instead of India in NCERT textbooks has been taken by a high-level committee which had been constituted to review the textbooks of the NCERT. This committee had recommended that the name of the country should be Bharat instead of India in the textbooks from primary to high school. This apart, the committee had also recommended that the current names given to different periods in Indian history shall be changed and instead of ancient history, it should now be classical history.

The committee chairman was Prof C I Issac, who was honoured with Padma Shri by the Modi government this year. He said that the name Bharat could be found in Vishnu Puran. Not only this, Kalidas had also used the name Bharat in his books. It

is the centuries-old name of this country. Whereas the name India came into being after the attacks by Turks, Afghans and Greeks. This apart, he also said that in the current textbooks, lot of stress is given on the defeat of Hindus in the various battles that took place in history. Whereas, their victories were overlooked. Why our textbooks do not teach students that Mohammad Ghorī was killed by Hindustani tribesmen when he was going back after looting the country? Similarly, there is no mention of the victory of Travancore kingdom in the war with Dutch East India Company in the textbooks.

**Roznama Sahara** (October 27) states that the recommendation by the NCERT panel to use the name Bharat instead of India in textbooks has once again resulted in the heating up of India versus Bharat debate. Kerala's Education Minister V Shivankutty said that the new textbooks of NCERT will not be taught in Kerala, instead Kerala government will write its own textbooks. This is not the first time that the Kerala government has overlooked the recommendations of NCERT. In the past also Kerala government had included



Independence, names like India, Bharat and Hindustan started being used.

The newspaper said in its editorial that it would not be right to say that those who use other names instead of Bharat are less patriotic. In any case, this country was known by different names for a long time and till now no problem has arisen in this connection. Even the

some chapters related to Mughal history and the Gujarat riots which were removed by NCERT from its books. The education minister said that if NCERT is tampering with the history of the country, the Kerala government will not do it. He said that we are constituting committees to prepare textbooks for our schools, which will make recommendations keeping in view the culture of Kerala.

**Sahafat** (October 27) in its editorial said that the issue of using Bharat in place of India became an official issue recently when invitation cards were sent from 'President of Bharat' instead of 'President of India' at the G20 meeting organised in New Delhi. In the meeting, the name plate of Prime Minister Modi also displayed Bharat instead of India. Following this, a debate took place on the issue. However, the real reason for changing the name was political, because the Opposition alliance had kept the name of its alliance as INDIA. Now, this controversy has erupted once again following the recommendations of the NCERT. Committee chairperson C I Issac said that Bharat is a centuries-old name and it has been used in books as old as Vishnu Puran which is 7,000 years old. But in ancient times, names like Aryavart and Brahmavart were being used. After

Preamble of our Constitution mentions both Bharat and India. But some people argue that national flag, Constitution and the country's name should be one. Even if this argument is accepted as correct, it should be considered seriously. Will this help create a sense of unity in the country? However, many countries have changed their names. For example, one of our neighbouring countries, Myanmar, used to be known as Burma. In our country also, the names of many states and cities were changed. Like Mysore is now known as Karnataka. Similarly, Madras became Chennai, Bombay became Mumbai and Calcutta became Kolkata. But there were no controversies over them. However, the issue of Bharat and India is different because this is not an issue of changing the name of the country. Bharat is known as Bharat even today. Its other name is India, Hindustan etc.

As far as the issue of NCERT recommendations is concerned, till now, no decision has been taken yet because in many states, the name of Bharat will not be printed in place of India. Due to the new education policy, it looks like that there is less possibility of the name of the country to be same in the textbooks in all states due to the kind of politics in the country.

## UN General Assembly passes resolution for ceasefire in Gaza



**Siasat** (October 29) states that the United Nations General Assembly has passed a resolution presented by Arab nations in which a demand has been made to ensure a ceasefire between Israel and Hamas on humanitarian basis. The resolution also stresses on establishing direct contact with the people in Gaza Strip without any restrictions. A total of 120 countries voted in favour of the resolution while 14 countries voted against the resolution. This apart, 45 nations including Bharat did not take part in the voting. The countries which did not take part in the voting include India, Australia, Canada, Germany, Japan, Ukraine and Britain.

The draft of the resolution which was moved by Jordan did not mention Hamas at all. The US objected to it. Canada sought an amendment in the original resolution. It has been stated in this amendment that the General Assembly condemns the terrorist attack launched by Hamas on October 7, 2023 and demands the release and security of the hostages. A

total of 27 countries including Bharat voted in favour of this amendment while 55 countries voted against it, and 23 did not take part in the voting. This amendment could not be accepted as it failed to secure a two-third majority.

**Urdu Times** (October 29) reports that Pakistan's permanent representative in the United Nations, Munir Akram, while speaking in the General Assembly, condemned the offensive action of Israel in Palestine and said that Israel government is curtailing the rights of Palestinians by attacking common people in Gaza. The Israeli attack in Gaza should be stopped immediately and there should not be any kind of hurdles in delivering aid to Palestinians.

**Salar** (October 29) reports that the Indian government, while issuing a clarification on abstaining from the voting, said the resolution makes no mention of terrorism, which is not as per our policy. This is why we did not take part in the voting.



**Urdu Times** (October 30) reports that Israel has refused to accept the resolution and said there is no mention about the attack carried out by Hamas on Israel.

**Urdu Times** (October 29) states that Congress General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi has expressed surprise over India not taking part in the voting on the resolution in the United Nations General Assembly and said India government is avoiding adopting any clear policy. In a post on Twitter, she said an eye for an eye will make the entire world blind. I am shocked and surprised that our country did not vote in favour of a ceasefire in Gaza.

**Mumbai Urdu News** (October 30) in its editorial alleged that the Indian government under the leadership of Narendra Modi and RSS is travelling on the wrong direction in the dispute between Palestine and Israel, whose consequences will be worrying. The statement that Bharat has made in the United Nations General Assembly was against Hamas and its language was quite strong. From this one could assume how Bharat is standing on the side of Israel. India, while describing the activities of Hamas as terrorism, urged countries across the world that they get united against it. From this it is clear that the old foreign policy of Indian government has totally changed. It looks like due to Modi's stubbornness and the Israel-

supporting viewpoint of RSS, Bharat has abandoned the old policy of supporting Palestine. For Muslims, as citizens of this country, this is an unfortunate development.

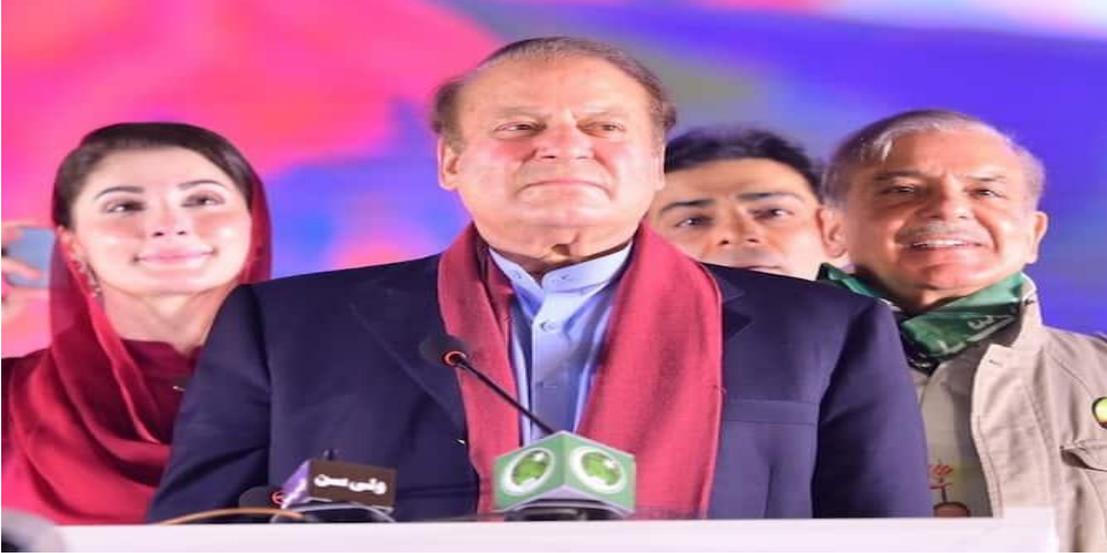
The newspaper has also warned that the ruling Sangh establishment in the country will now declare the support to Palestine as terrorism and will take deliberate action against Indian Muslims and supporters of Palestine on a large scale.

BJP's Hindutva has got one more weapon for oppression and fraud to be used against Muslims. Everyone knows that if there is a Muslim with even a slightest spark of honour, he will not hesitate to support Palestine.

**Siasat** (October 29) in its editorial has alleged that Bharat has been adopting a dual policy on this issue. It is a pity that our country, which has been supporting Palestine all along and always stood with Independent Palestine, did not take part in voting. Ever since the war between Hamas and Israel started, a particular community is defending the violations of Israel. Even the hypocrisy of our media is in full swing. They care about the Israelis who die at the hands of Hamas but the Indian media has closed their eyes about the Palestinians who are killed there and the murder of children taking place there.

**Etemaad** (October 30) in its editorial has alleged that Bharat has changed its old policy regarding Palestine. However, it is a fact that Bharat is a supporter of Palestine right from the beginning. But after NDA came to power at the Centre, this entire policy has changed. Currently the Indian government does not want to upset Israel under any circumstance. Currently India not taking part in the voting in United Nations General Assembly is a stand against Palestine and open support to Israel.

## Nawaz Sharif likely to come back to power in Pakistan again



**Aurangabad Times** (October 22) states the deposed prime minister of Pakistan, Nawaz Sharif, has returned to Pakistan after spending four years abroad. He had gone to London on the pretext of treatment during the hearing of a criminal case and later had refused to return to the country. Following this, the court had declared him an absconder. Sharif has reached Dubai from Islamabad. There the former law minister of Pakistan Azam Nazeer Tarar and many leaders of his party Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz) were present. Before boarding the plane from Dubai to Pakistan, he said he was happy to return to the country and he will take part in the elections to be held in Pakistan in January.

**Urdu Times** (October 27) reports that Nawaz Sharif, while addressing a massive public gathering organised at Minar-e-Pakistan in Lahore, said he will actively take part in the politics of the country. The observers of Pakistani politics said that there is a possibility of Nawaz Sharif becoming the prime minister because the Pakistani Army is strongly against its opponent Imran Khan and they want to bring back Nawaz Sharif to power in order to address political instability and the faltering economy. Observers also said the Army is the kingmaker in Pakistan even

now and they make anyone the prime minister they want.

**Urdu Times** (October 25) states that the caretaker government in Pakistan has stayed the punishment awarded to Nawaz Sharif in the Al-Azizia Steel Mills corruption case. Now, Nawaz Sharif will not be arrested in this case and he will actively take part in the forthcoming elections. As per a report of Geo News, a special meeting of Punjab cabinet has stayed the punishment awarded to the chief of Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz) Nawaz Sharif by the court. Pakistan's caretaker information minister Amir Mir said the Punjab government has taken this decision under Section 401 of Pakistan Criminal Law. Currently, four cases are pending against Nawaz Sharif in Islamabad, on which he is on bail. In 2019, he was given permission to go to Britain for treatment when his health deteriorated and ever since he has been staying there.

**Siasat** (October 23) in its editorial said that during the reign of Imran Khan government, a number of cases were registered against Nawaz Sharif. In order to escape from them he camped abroad on the pretext of treatment. Now since the Imran Khan government fell, Nawaz Sharif has once again landed in Pakistan to try his

luck. For the past few decades, what one could see is political uncertainty prevailing in Pakistan. One cannot predict with certainty the future of the current prime minister and when the person who is currently in jail could become the prime minister. Today, Pakistan is forced to fight for its existence and its economy is almost bankrupt. In such a situation, the possibility of Nawaz Sharif displaying some charisma after coming back to power is very low. It is in the interest of Pakistan that it improves its relationship with neighbouring countries, especially with Bharat.

**Mumbai Urdu News** (October 26) in its editorial said that after the return of Nawaz Sharif, who has been prime minister of Pakistan three times, it is likely that there could be some political stability in our neighbouring country. There is no doubt that Nawaz Sharif is a popular and

powerful leader in his country. However, it also should not be forgotten that after the leak in the controversial Panama Papers, the Supreme Court of Pakistan had declared Nawaz Sharif as ineligible for the post of Prime Minister and he had also been prohibited from accepting any office of public in his entire life. This apart, he was also sent to jail after awarding him seven-year imprisonment. Later he left for Britain on the pretext of treatment. It looks like the Pakistan Army's hand is behind the return of Nawaz Sharif to his country, because in Pakistan not even a leaf moves without the permission of the Army. After developing differences with Pakistan Army, Imran Khan had to resign from not only the Prime Minister's post but has to remain in jail as well. Now Nawaz Sharif has once again become the apple of the eye for Pakistan Army.

## Campaign against terrorists in Indonesia



**Inqilab** (October 30) states that general elections will be held in Indonesia, which is the world's largest Muslim nation from the point of view of population, in the beginning of next year. Intelligence sources have indicated the possibility of terrorist organisations sparking nationwide violence in order to sabotage the elections. Hence the Indonesian government has started a nationwide crackdown to break the backbone of terrorist organisations with the help of the Army. A spokesperson of

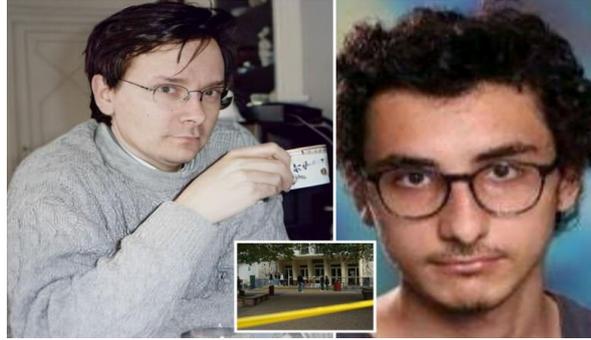
National Police, Ahmad Ramadan, told journalists that raids are being conducted at the hideouts of suspected people across the country and till now, 27 terrorists have been arrested. The arrested people belong to local terrorist organisations. In the past also, nearly a dozen terrorists were arrested. The nationwide crackdown was undertaken on the basis of the information received after interrogating these arrested people.

It is to be noted that the US government had declared Indonesia's notorious Islamic terrorist organisation Jamaah Ansharut Daulah (JAD) as a terrorist organisation in 2017. In 2018, the Indonesian government had imposed a ban on this organisation. According to intelligence sources, the Islamic terrorists belonging to these organisations have been making efforts to become active through different other organisations so that in the forthcoming elections a fundamentalist Islamic rule could be established in Indonesia.

## Terrorist kills teacher in France

**Inquilab** (October 16) reports that in French city of Arras, a 20-year-old Muslim terrorist Mohamed Mogouchkov knifed to death a 57-year-old teacher named Dominique Bernard. This terrorist belongs to Muslim-majority Chechnya region in Russia. It is being said that when two other persons tried to save the teacher from the terrorist, he injured them also using his knife. The terrorist alleged that he had targeted the French teacher because he had insulted the Prophet. It is to be noted that Islamic terrorists have become a headache for the government in France.

A few months ago, when a youth of Algerian origin attacked police, the policemen fired at him in retaliation and killed him. Following this, nationwide riots broke out in France in which properties



worth billions of rupees were destroyed. Seeing this incident, French President Emmanuel Macron had deployed 7,000 soldiers in the Muslim-majority regions of France. This decision was taken in order to maintain peace in the region. The military has also been given the power to take into custody any suspicious person and interrogate him.

## Threat to cancel visa of those protesting in favour of Palestinians

**Etemaad** (October 30) reports that in US, the Republican Party candidate for presidential elections, Donald Trump, has announced that if he comes to power, he will first cancel the visa of those who are protesting in US in favour of Palestine. Addressing a public gathering, he said if the supporters of Palestine spill even a single drop of blood of any citizen, he will shed gallons of blood of them in return. He said those who are now stealing the eyes in Ukraine, they will tomorrow ignore Israel as well. He said that no democratic person will like the activities of Hamas. He also said that if he is elected as President, he will ban the entry of Muslims to the US on the first day itself. We will keep fundamentalist Muslims out of our country. Trump said he had imposed a ban in the past as well.

Trump said that in 2017, he had banned the entry of citizens from Iran,



Libya, Somalia, Yemen, Iraq and Sudan to the US. However, the current President Joe Biden lifted the ban as soon as he came to power in 2021. Addressing a public gathering of Jews in Las Vegas city in Nevada, Trump said that he will protect Israeli friends in a manner that nobody had done so far. The war between Israel and Hamas is between civilised and uncivilised people. This war is between right and wrong. We will not tolerate any kind of Islamic terrorism under any circumstance.

## Violent protest against government in Bangladesh



**Inquilab** (October 30) reports that the Opposition parties in Bangladesh have intensified nation-wide protests seeking the resignation of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. In a clash that took place between the protesters and police in Dhaka, one police officer was killed and many others were injured. According to foreign news agencies, nearly two lakh protesters took part in anti-government rallies that took place in Dhaka. This protest march was organised by two anti-government organisations. The protesters were demanding that in order to conduct a free and fair elections in the country, it is necessary that Sheikh Hasina resign from her post and form an all-party national government under whose supervision elections could be held.

In a live footage broadcast on the Facebook page of main opposition party, Bangladesh Nationalist Party, thousands of protesters were seen trying to escape from the rubber bullets being fired by police. In retaliation, the protesters resorted to massive stone-pelting. According to the spokesperson of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, Farooq Hussain, a police officer, was killed in this clash and more than 100 policemen were injured. He said this protest was organised by Bangladesh Nationalist Party and Jamaat-e-Islami. He said that 50 people were injured in the rubber bullets fired by police and they have been admitted to Dhaka medical college. The protesters also set fire to several buses and police outposts.

## Eight former officers of Indian Navy get death sentence in Qatar



**Etemaad** (October 27) reports that a court in Qatar has awarded death sentence to eight former Indian Naval officers on charges of spying for Israel. A spokesperson of Indian foreign affairs ministry told correspondents that the government has assured these Indian citizens and their families of all legal and diplomatic help for their protection. These officers were arrested in Qatar last year. The spokesperson said this issue is a confidential one and hence it would not be appropriate for us to comment more on this. The officers against whom the charges were applied include Captain Navtej Singh Gill, Captain Birendra Kumar Varma, Captain Saurabh Vashisht, Commander Amit Nagpal, Commander Purnendu Tiwari, Commander Sugunakar Pakala, Commander Sanjeev Gupta and Navik Ragesh. Among them, the managing director of the company, Purnendu Tiwari, was awarded the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman by the then President of India, Ramnath Kovind in 2019.

Commenting on this issue, **Salar** (October 30) in its editorial said the entire

country was shocked on hearing the death sentence awarded to eight former officers of Indian Navy who were taken into custody in Qatar last year. The Indian government has not only taken cognizance of the matter but has also started taking necessary action in this connection. From this it is clear that this case is set to become a major diplomatic challenge for the Indian government. The reason for the arrest of these Indian officials has not been stated till now. However, according to media, the intelligence wing of Qatar had arrested these officers in August last year on charges of spying for Israel. It is also worth mentioning that these officers were working in Qatar in their individual capacity and their track record in the Indian Navy was also very good. The newspaper said no nation will tolerate foreign interference in their legal system. However, the real reason for this issue becoming sensitive is its timing. This decision of the Qatar court came at a time when the entire Middle-East is passing through a critical phase. Qatar has not just been the military bases of US and Turkiye,



Indian Navy shall be brought back to the country. Owaisi said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who describes himself as Vishwa Guru, has been unable to bring these accused back to the country. The government has to make serious effort to save their lives, he said.

**Hamara Samaj** (October 28) in its editorial has expressed surprise that the Indian media, while

it also has close relationship with Iran. It is also the base of several top leaders of Hamas, Muslim Brotherhood and Taliban. The headquarters of Al Jazeera news channel is also Doha. Hindustan is one of the major buyers of gas from Qatar. Nearly eight lakh Hindustanis stay in that country. For the past two decades, the relationship between Bharat and Qatar has been improving day-by-day. However, last year, due to the statement of a BJP leader, Nupur Sharma, some things had gone wrong. However, the BJP stopped the issue from becoming worse by expelling her from the party. However, in the current atmosphere of Israel-Hamas war, it would be difficult for Hindustan to successfully resolve the issue with the rulers of Qatar.

**Etemaad** (October 28) in its editorial said the issue of former Naval officers was discussed in media in October last year when a woman named Dr Mithu Bhargav wrote in her Twitter post that a few former officers of Indian Navy are in jail in Doha for the past several days. Mithu, 54, is the sister of one of the officers in the jail, Purnendu Tiwari. It is to be noted that India's trade with Qatar during 2020-21 was of 9.21 billion dollars. This apart, more than 6,000 Indian companies are working in Qatar. Considering the relationship between Indian government and Qatar, there is a possibility that the Indians will return to the country. Chief of All India Majlis-e-Ittehaul Muslimeen Asaduddin Owaisi has demanded that these former officers of

lamenting about the sentence, described the decision of the court in Qatar as surprising. In TV channels the issue is being highlighted as if the sky has fallen. However, the government in its own statement has made it clear that all those who have been sentenced are former officers of Indian Navy who were sentenced to death by a court in Qatar on charges of spying. It is clear that the government had information about the issue and it had been trying for their release. Generally, if an agent of any country is caught on espionage charges, then the governments keep it as 'top secret.' Hence there should not have been so much ruckus on the issue in the Indian media. If the former officers of the Indian Navy were given such a harsh sentence on fake charges, it directly means that the present government is not in the 'good books' of Arab nations including Qatar.

The newspaper said that the day-and-night propaganda by Indian media that Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi is very popular in Arab countries is a total lie. A country with which Narendra Modi has strong relationship awarding death sentence to Indian citizens on a charge like spying is something difficult to swallow.

The question here is why the media is making it as a 'prime news'? The actions of national TV channels were worth watching as soon as the news arrived. On every TV channel, the so-called experts on Arab nations were busy giving their

statements and this ruckus continued for a long time. It could also be viewed in the way that the Indian media caught hold of a good opportunity to create an atmosphere of Islamophobia against Muslims.

**Sahafat** (October 30) in its editorial said the former Naval officers, who have been given death sentence, had gone to Qatar to work for a private company, *Dahra Global Technologies & Consultancy Services*. This company gives training to Qatar's navy. These officials were arrested last year on charges of spying for Israel. They had filed bail petitions several times. However, these were rejected every time. This decision is also viewed as a retaliatory

action against Bharat in the wake of the war between Hamas and Israel since the Indian government is openly supporting Israel. Qatar is a fundamentalist Islamic nation. As per its law, the punishment for spying is death sentence. Now it is the responsibility of Indian government that its appeal to the International Court of Justice for its citizens. Recently, India has grown closer to Israel and due to this, the entire Islamic world including Qatar is angry with India. Qatar is a supporter of Palestine and they do not like Israel. It does not tolerate any action against Islam. However, it is also being debated that Qatar has taken this step at the behest of Pakistan. ■

## Israel-Hamas war

**Roznama Sahara** (October 31) has given headlines for its news as "Israeli Army enters Gaza with tanks," "Bloody clash with fighters of Hamas," "US not sending its Army for war in Israel," "Chief of Hamas's Jenin Brigade died in Israeli attack."

**Roznama Sahara** (October 28) has published the news related to Israel-Hamas war as its main story and its headlines were "Israel's second ground attack in Gaza" "Five commanders of Hamas claimed to have been killed," "50 hostages died in Israeli attack," "Iranian bases attacked in Syria on the orders of Biden."

**Inqilab** (October 31) has given headlines of its news as, "Jewish Army which entered Gaza had to face stiff resistance," "8,500 people killed and 21,000 injured in Gaza." The newspaper alleged that more than 500 buildings were targeted in the latest attack by Israel. Whereas, Israel claimed that the secret facilities of Hamas were in those buildings and hence action was taken against them.

**Roznama Sahara** (October 30) has given headlines for its news as "Fierce war



in northern Gaza," "Israel decides to call back diplomats from Turkey," "Palestine President Mahmoud Abbas demands emergency meeting of Arab League."

**Mumbai Urdu News** (October 26) has given headlines, "More than 400 Palestinian children killed in bombing in Gaza," "3,000 children killed and more than 5,000 injured in two weeks of bombing."

**Salar** (October 22) said that Israel has directed its citizens that they move out of Muslim countries at the earliest. The Prime Minister's Office in Israel also directed Israel citizens that they do not go to any Arab country.

**Mumbai Urdu News** (October 29) said that Hamas has alleged that Israel has



killed 31 Americans and 35 French citizens.

**Aurangabad Times** (October 31) headline was “ Hamas attack on Israel’s nuclear bases.”

**Mumbai Urdu News** (October 26) headline was, “Entry for Muslims stopped at Al-Aqsa masjid,” “16 journalists reportedly killed.”

**Urdu Times’s** (October 30) headline was, “Israel has crossed the red line, now let them wait for our reaction--Iran.”

**Etemaad** (October 26) states that the US Secretary of State Anthony Blinken warned Iran that if the organisations supported by the country targets US bases, they will be given a strong response.

**Mumbai Urdu News** (October 18) in its editorial, while criticising Arab nations, said that Arab nations are issuing just verbal threats and they are not taking any action against Israel. Today, Israel is destroying Gaza. If Iran really wants, it can open a front in Lebanon and Syria through its combat organisations and teach Israel a lesson. Instead, just firing into air is happening through media. This is the same Iran whose combat organisations did not lost even a moment in coming to the rescue of Bashar Al-Assad in Iraq and Syria and

due to its intervention nearly 20 lakh Syrian Muslims had to leave their houses and take refuge in Arab countries and foreign countries. The newspaper criticised the stand of Saudi Arabia also and said that it looks like Saudi Arabia doesn’t want to upset the US.

**Urdu Times** (October 24) in its editorial said that Indian Muslims are with Palestine. While Bharat is supporting Israel at one level, it is extending relief material to Palestinians at another level. BJP leaders are openly extending support to Israel and spewing venom against Muslims. This apart, they are declaring Hamas as a terrorist organisation.

**Salar** (October 17) in its editorial said the US is indirectly fighting the war on behalf of Israel due to its anti-Islam stand.

**Salar** (October 19) in its editorial said that any country which supports Israel is an enemy of Islam.

**Mumbai Urdu News** (October 19) in its editorial has condemned the stand of the US President on the war between Israel and Hamas.

**Siasat** (October 19) in its editorial said that Israel is wreaking havoc on Palestinians and the entire world is watching it with silence. What is required is the entire Muslim nations in the world should get united and take credible action. Nothing can happen by just holding meetings and appealing to Israel to maintain peace. Muslims across the world should make it clear that they are with Palestinians. This is their Islamic duty and they shall not commit any negligence in it.

## Saddam Hussein’s daughter gets seven years in jail

**Urdu Times** (October 25) states that Raghda Hussein, the eldest daughter of former president of Iraq, Saddam Hussein, has been awarded a punishment of seven years in jail. According to news agencies, this punishment has been given by a

criminal court in Baghdad. She has been accused of trying to once again activate banned organisation Ba’ath Party. She has been accused of propagating the ideology of her Ba’ath Party in an interview given to the media in 2021 and she also made

several posts on social media in this connection. On the other hand, the Iraq government had declared this party as illegal in 2003 itself. In its verdict, the court said the Iraqi parliament had passed a law in 2016 and confirmed the ban imposed on this party. Raghad Hussein has



been awarded this sentence in her absence. It is to be noted that the Ba'ath Party had ruled Iraq from 1968 till 2003. Later, the US overthrew its government. Due to the efforts of the US, Saddam Hussein was arrested and he was hanged to death.

## Oil prices likely to go up due to Israel-Hamas war



**Roznama Sahara** (October 25) states that world-renowned economist Jamie Dimon said the situation arising out of the war between Israel and Hamas has dealt a serious blow to world economy and due to this there is a possibility of oil prices going up. He said the situation would worsen further due to the Israeli attack on Gaza and the war may spread to new areas. He said the Muslim world should immediately take efforts for a political solution to the Israel-

Palestine dispute. The first step in this direction should be to disarm Hamas. In order to overcome the crisis, it is totally necessary to improve the cooperation between Israel and Saudi Arabia.

World Bank president Ajay Bagga said the war between Israel and Hamas is a huge threat to the world economy. A huge increase in borrowing costs is taking place in the world and such a thing never happened before. Today, clouds of serious trouble loom over the world economy. We are standing at a dangerous crossroads. In view of the emerging markets, 10 billion dollars are needed for energy alone. But this amount is not there in government coffers and banks. Hence the seriousness of this crisis shall not be overlooked.

## Seven judges convicted on corruption charges in Kuwait

**Inquilab** (October 22) reports that a court in Kuwait has awarded seven years in jail for seven judges on charges of accepting bribe and they have been ordered to immediately return the money that they have taken as bribe. The newspaper said that a trader named Fouad Salehi was caught on charges of money laundering in Kuwait in August 2020. He was accused of bribing eight judges for getting favourable

verdicts in different cases in the court. After investigation, it was found that a lawyer and heads of some departments were also found involved in charges of accepting bribe. The court awarded 10 years in jail to the lawyer and the heads of departments were awarded seven years in jail each. However, one judge and three employees of the courts were acquitted of charges of accepting bribe.

