



"Bol Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj ki Jai"

राष्ट्रदूत

Rashtradoot

जयपुर • कोटा • बीकानेर • उदयपुर • अजमेर • जालोर • हिण्डौनसिटी • चूरू

A withdrawal was ordered. However, as the enemy had blocked all routes, our troops were cut off and the commanding officer, four other officers, two JCOs and 20 OR were taken prisoners

Metro

A Historic Milestone:
Mizoram's Capital
Aizawl now connected
by Indian Railways

**Aizawl
Unlocked**

राहुल ने प्रणीति शिंदे, इमरान प्रतापगढ़ी व कुणाल चौधरी को बिहार की स्कीनिंग कमेटी का सदस्य बनाया

पर क्या युवा, उत्साही और विश्वासपात्र होना ही पर्याप्त है,
यह निर्णय लेने के लिए कौन उपयुक्त है, चुनाव लड़ने के लिए

-रेणु मित्तल-

—राष्ट्रदूत दिल्ली ब्यूरो—
नई दिल्ली, 26 जुलाई। एक तरफ विधायिक आयोग लाग रहा है कि बिहार में भाजपा व एसडीए गठबंधन को लाख पहुँचाने के लिए, लगभग 70 लाख वोटों को बोल देने के अधिकार से विवाद किया गया है। वहाँ, आजजोड़ी के तेजस्वी यादव ने राहुल गांधी को सुशासन दिया है कि वे इंदिया गठबंधन के नेताओं से बात करके बिहार चुनाव का बहिकार करने पर गोपीराता से विवाद करें। लेकिन कांग्रेस ने बिहार चुनाव लड़ने की तैयारी शुरू कर दी है।

कांग्रेस ने बिहार विधानसभा चुनाव के लिए उत्तमीदावारों का चयन करने वाली स्कीनिंग कमेटी को घोषणा कर दी है। अजय माकन को इससे पहले हरियाणा, पंजाब, छत्तीसगढ़ शामिल है, और उससे पहले वे राजस्थान के प्रधानी महासचिव भी थी। कांग्रेस पार्टी के अधिकारी रह चुके हैं तथा राज्यों में कांग्रेस पार्टी विधानसभा चुनाव हारी थी। माकन राजस्थान के प्रधारी महासचिव थे तब भी कांग्रेस को पराजय का सामना करना पड़ा था।

इसी तरह प्रशांत किशोर की टीम के पुराने सदस्य कानूनगोलों को भी राहुल ने तोड़कर कांग्रेस में शामिल करवाया है। वे कई राज्यों में सर्वे कर रहे थे, पार्टी के लिए और उन सर्वे के आधार पर टिकट बांटे गये थे तथा कांग्रेस इन सभी राज्यों में विधानसभा चुनाव हारी थी। अब वे विहार के लिए भी कांग्रेस को पराजय का सामना करना पड़ा है।

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- पर, अगर स्कीनिंग कमेटी के अध्यक्ष पुराने अजय माकन को हुए नेता होते तो नये युवा सदस्यों की अनुभवहीनता "शायद" कवरअप हो जाती।
- लेकिन, स्कीनिंग कमेटी का अध्यक्ष अजय माकन नियुक्त किये गये हैं। अजय माकन इससे पहले हरियाणा, पंजाब, छत्तीसगढ़ शामिल है, और उससे पहले वे राजस्थान के प्रधानी महासचिव भी थी। कांग्रेस इन सभी राज्यों में हारी, लेकिन इसके बावजूद अविचलित राहुल गांधी ने अपने नाम के लिए अपनी विधायिक अधिकारी रह चुके हैं तथा राज्यों में कांग्रेस पार्टी विधायिक अधिकारी रह चुकी है। माकन राजस्थान के प्रधारी महासचिव थे तब भी कांग्रेस को पराजय का सामना करना पड़ा था।
- इसी तरह प्रशांत किशोर की टीम के पुराने सदस्य कानूनगोलों को भी राहुल ने तोड़कर कांग्रेस में शामिल करवाया है। वे कई राज्यों में सर्वे कर रहे थे, पार्टी के लिए और उन सर्वे के आधार पर टिकट बांटे गये थे तथा कांग्रेस इन सभी राज्यों में विधानसभा चुनाव हारी थी। अब वे विहार के लिए भी कांग्रेस को पराजय का सामना करना पड़ा है।
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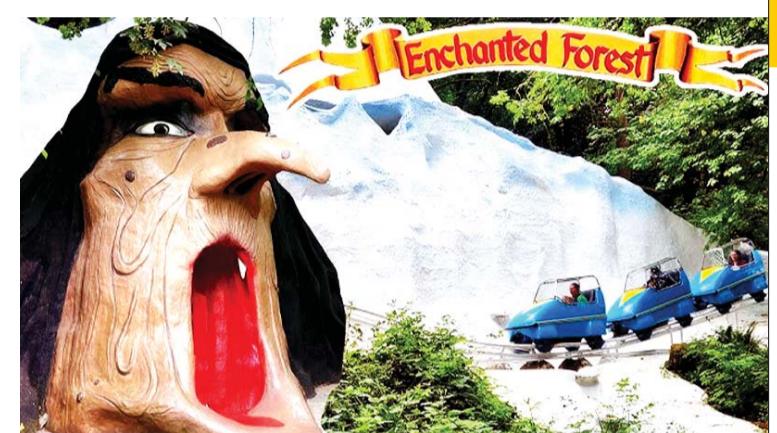
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वैसे, ये भी संयोग ही है कि माकन खुद हरियाणा से

#MALAKWA, BRITISH COLUMBIA

An Enchanted Forest

By 1970, a million people had stopped to visit the castle and marvel at the statues and tree houses and all the other surprises nestled in the Needham's.



Arist Doris Needham and her husband Ernest needed a place to put her hand-sculpted cement creations, so they bought a forest and filled it with enchanted figures from fairytales and nursery rhymes.

During the 1950s, they cleared trails and constructed rock walls over 8 acres with nothing but hand tools. Ernest built them a little home that looked a bit like a gingerbread house, and instead a gravity water system using the waterfall across the highway, which is still in use today.

When Rogers Pass opened, traffic began being diverted through the Needham's unusual haven, and in 1960, they decided to officially open up their Enchanted Forest to the public. What was once just a project they enjoyed together to invent their own happy place for their retirement was now a highly popular tourist spot for sightseers. One could not drive by and resist dragons and pirates lurking on boulders and behind trees, dwarves and fairies sharing the pools at the foot of waterfalls, or the adorable Candy Cane house belonging to the couple that created it.

By 1970, a million people had stopped to visit the castle and marvel at the statues and tree houses and all the other surprises nestled in the Needham's forest. The forest itself is a beautiful site, with beaver ponds for boating, 300 year old cedars, salmon spawning and moose and caribou sightings during migration months.

"Bol Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj ki Jai"

During this war, all battalions had upheld the proud Maratha tradition of loyalty, efficiency, discipline, toughness and fearless courage that have always been the hallmarks of the regiment. What stands out in these operations was the frontline leadership of the officers, who fought gallantly with the troops. Three commanding officers killed and one taken as prisoner and over a dozen company commanders killed and wounded testify to their motivation, courage and leadership. Other junior commanders also set fine examples, not only for their jawans but also for the entire army. This ethos of leaders always leading their troops gallantly and with élan is the hallmark of the Maratha Light Infantry. The sacrifices of the Marathas will long be remembered and hopefully emulated. Even when the Maratha troops were launched at short notice and at times with limited reconnaissance, they rose to the occasion and gave a tough fight to the Pakistanis.



Trees Around, Green Around

International Tree Day is a vibrant celebration dedicated to the importance of trees in our lives. It's a day when people come together to appreciate the beauty and benefits of trees. This event encourages everyone to plant trees and enjoy the outdoors. Whether you're in a city park or your own backyard, planting a tree connects us to nature and each other. To celebrate the day, plant a tree in your backyard or local park. Grab a sapling, some friends, and enjoy the fresh air while contributing to a greener planet. It's a fantastic way to bond with nature and each other.



#MARATHAS IN THE 1965 WAR

The Kashmir Sector

Marathas in the 1965 Indo-Pak War. After Independence in 1947 and the merger of the former princely states in 1949, two new battalions joined the regiment. These were the 19th Battalion from the former Kolhapur state forces and the 20th from the former Baroda state forces. After the Hyderabad police action, one more battalion joined the regiment from the Hyderabad State Forces and was designated as 22nd Battalion. In addition, the regiment had three Territorial Army units, viz. 101, 109 and 115 Infantry Battalions (TA).

During the rapid expansion of the Indian Army in early sixties, the Marathas formed de-ratified new battalions in succession. These were the 6th in February 1962; 17th in November 1962; 7th in January 1963; 9th in October 1963; and 9th in October 1964.

When the war with Pakistan started in 1965, the Regiment fielded a total of 11 infantry and three TA battalions, besides the Regional Centre at Belgaum, which played a stellar role in provision of trained manpower to the battalions. All the battalions participated directly in the war with Pakistan in different theatres, except one, viz. the 17th, which was defending the forward posts in Nathu La and Yak La in Sikkim against the Chinese army. The battalions of Maratha Light Infantry participated in the 1965 War in the following sectors as under: Kashmir Sector: 1, 7 and 20 Maratha LI; Jammu Sector: 22 Maratha LI; Punjab: 2, 6 and 19 Maratha LI; Rajasthan: 1, 4, Maratha LI; Sikkim: 17 Maratha LI; and both battalions. Once the Pakistani infiltration commenced in the Srinagar Valley, Uri became the hub of counter-infiltration operations by the Indian Army.

7 Maratha LI, then under the command of Lt Col HW Kulkarni, defended its area with dogged determination and thwarted all attempts by the Pakistani troops to gain important ground in their area. In addition, it launched a number of offensive operations which included the capture of Point 9108 and a major operation across the CFL by a company-plus strong patrol. During the entire operation, the battalion lost four OR, and nine wounded and earned one 'Mentioned-in-Despatches.'

20 Maratha LI was guarding the northern shoulder of the Uri bowl in rugged terrain and was under the command of Lt Col KC Aiayanna. It was also responsible for protecting the vital Mahura Power House. The battalion distinguished itself in the capture of the enemy platoon Jhangiani after hard-fighting, as well as two subsidiary posts, Baheri and Burji. Three were killed and 23 wounded, which included Maj. RCS Mann, Sub. Waryam Singh and Hav. Niwruiti Saste. For his bravery and leadership, Maj. Mann was awarded the Sena Medal and L/Nr Shrirang Pol was 'Mentioned-in-Despatches' for gallantry.

The Jammu Sector 22 Maratha LI, under the command of Lt Col GG Shinde, was deployed over an extended sector in area Gambhir with all four rifle companies fully committed on the CFL. It was also responsible for protecting the line of communications between Rajauri and Bhimber Gal. It was this section under the command of NK Keshav Rao Salunkhe that first made contact with the enemy while forming part of a large fighting patrol under Capt. O. Singh. The enemy tried to grab as much territory as possible. Skirmishes and jockeying for positions continued till January 1966. During these operations, the battalion had also provided a firm base to 4 Maratha LI for its attacks on Kehon and Suthala. It also provided a command platoon for the attack on Mialar, which successfully cut off enemy reinforcements. During the operations, the battalion suffered one officer and six OR killed and two officers and 27 OR wounded.

2 Maratha LI, under the command of Lt Col SD Parab, operated over the road Hudiara-Barki in Pakistani territory. In preliminary operations, the battalion secured areas Manihala, Jahman and Chatanwala. In the last attack, a company commander was seriously wounded and a JCO and two ORs were killed and 29 were wounded. On 20 September, the battalion contacted the enemy in a new position at Thatti Jaisal Singh and secured it after heavy fighting. The enemy launched a number of counter attacks in succession over the next two days but all were repulsed. Although the ceasefire had become effective, the enemy launched one more counter attack, which was also driven back. Despite the heavy attacks, the Marathas stood their ground doggedly, beating back each attack with the officers leading their men courageously, and the battalion casualties were heavy. In this fierce battle, all rifle company commanders were either killed or wounded. Three officers, one JCO and 20 ORs were killed and 105 all ranks, including three officers and six JCOs were wounded. For this epic battle, the battalion earned four Vir Chakras, five Sena Medals and five 'Mentioned-in-Despatches.'

For keeping the road axis open, patrols operated successfully against great odds. Two important bridges on the axis, Dubey and Yadunath, were defended. On 19th September, a rifle company successfully inflicted heavy casualties on an enemy infiltrating force and on 26 Sep, three enemy attacks were thrown back. During these operations, the unit suffered four OR killed and seven wounded. The battalion earned three Sena Medals, including one posthumously, while the Commanding Officer was awarded a Commendation Card.

For the remaining operations, the company patrols successfully harassed the enemy. On 21 September, Col Nolan was killed by a shell splinter and command of the battalion devolved on Lt Col Ranji Singh. During the entire operations, the casualties of the operations were two officers (including the CO) and 11 other ranks killed. One officer, four JCOs and 22 ORs were wounded.

6 Maratha LI, under the command of Lt Col AM (Matthew) Manohar, moved to its operational area on 7 September and went into action the same night. The battalion was a part of the offensive in the Sialkot Sector and was tasked to take part in the important attack on Chawinda. The brigade attack commenced on the night of 18 September and met with strong resistance. The battalion fought its way against heavy odds and captured its



The Punjab Sector

Three battalions, 9 Maratha LI (Kali Panchwari), 6 and 19 Maratha LI, took part in operations in the Punjab Sector. The ferocity of operations in this sector can be gauged by the number of casualties collectively suffered by these battalions, which numbered 39 killed, 163 wounded and 110 missing. Two battalion commanders, out of a total of seven officers were killed.

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