

Gupta says AAP govt politicising Delhi Metro

New Delhi: Leader of Opposition in Delhi Assembly Vijender Gupta accused the Kejriwal government of politicising Delhi Metro by appointing AAP leaders on its board of directors.

Gupta alleged that by misusing the authority of its stake in Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC), the AAP government delayed the construction of phase IV and was doing the same now by nominating politicians to its board. Delhi government has 50% stake in the urban rail company.

A Delhi government spokesperson, however, said that it was the BJP, which had nominated late Madan Lal Khurana as the chairman of the company in 2002. "If that's the case, what is Sambit Patra and Shazia Ilmi doing in the board of ONGC and Engineers India Limited? The AAP government has appointed two chartered accountants and one public policy expert to the DMRC board," the spokesperson said. TNN

CAG flags ₹986cr revenue loss in Assam

Says loopholes in govt machineries resulted in revenue loss

MANOJ ANAND
GUWAHATI, JULY 27

The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India have detected a loss of revenue to the tune of ₹986.64 crore in 931 cases due to various loopholes in the government machineries in Assam.

The audit report for the year 2017-18, which was tabled in the state Assembly on Friday has also pointed out various financial indiscipline of the state finance department.

The report contains several instances of non-levy of taxes, duties, loss of

revenue, irregular exemption and other irregularities. It also contains a detailed special study on 'Collection of Arrears of Revenue in Finance (Taxation) Department'.

During the year 2017-18, the state government had incurred an expenditure of ₹68,586.99 crore against the total grants and appropriations of ₹99,453.08 crore resulting in overall savings of ₹30,866.09 crore.

The overall savings stood at 31 percent of total grants and appropriations exposing poor financial management by the state.

The CAG also detected that excess expenditure

over allocation amounting to ₹9,323.63 crore pertaining to years from 2005-06 to 2016-17 was yet to be regularised. The cases of excess expenditure over grants are in violation of the will of the legislature.

The total receipts of the state for the year 2017-18 were ₹54,130.94 crore against ₹49,219.81 crore in the previous year.

Of the total amount received, the state government has raised only 32 per cent through tax revenue which amounts to ₹13,215.52 crore whereas rest of 68 per cent was received from the government of India in the form

of state's share of divisible Union taxes and grants in aid.

An arrear of ₹252.17 crore was locked up as the warrants of arrest were not executed by the police authorities, revealed a study on collection of arrears of revenue in finance department covering the period of 2012-17.

The same study found that demands of ₹1,700.27 crore in respect of OIL and ONGC were pending with the revision authority, i.e. the Commissioner of Taxes, since August 2015 as no time frame was fixed for disposal of revision petition by the department.

Govt asks Iran to free 3 remaining sailors

Agencies

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NEW DELHI: Iran has freed nine Indian crew members of a Panama-flagged tanker it seized this month, the Indian foreign ministry said on Saturday, and it appealed for the release of three remaining crew members held from the same ship.

Dozens of Indian crew members on ships in the Gulf have been caught up in rising tensions between Iran and the West. The MT Riah was detained by the Iranian coastguard on July 13, with 12 Indian crew members on board, the Indian foreign ministry said. "Nine crew members have been released and they will be on their way to India soon," foreign ministry spokesperson Raveesh Kumar was quoted as saying by Reuters news agency.

"Our mission in Iran has requested the concerned Iranian authorities for the release of remaining crew members." No reason was provided as to why the three were being held.

Iranian state TV aired footage of the vessel a few days after it was seized, saying it was detained by Iran's elite Revolutionary Guards for smuggling fuel.

Indian and Iranian authorities said this week Iran had granted

7 STRANDED IN IRAQ BACK

CHANDIGARH: Seven men from Punjab, who were stranded in Iraq for eight months after allegedly being cheated by travel agents, returned to India with the Shiromani Akali Dal president Sukhbir Singh Badal on Saturday. Badal said the men were promised \$700-\$800 a month along with food and lodging. However, on reaching Iraq they found that their agent had not taken the required permissions and they had no work permit. **AGENCIES**

India consular access to 18 Indian crew seized on another ship, the Stena Impero, which Iran seized in the Strait of Hormuz on July 19.

The seizure of the British tanker in the world's most important waterway for the oil trade has deepened a crisis between Iran and the West that was triggered in May when the United States tightened sanctions, effectively barring all countries from buying Iranian oil.

एस्सार समूह ने वियतनाम में की प्राकृतिक गैस भंडार की खोज

नई दिल्ली, (भाषा)। प्राकृतिक संसाधन क्षेत्र में काम करने वाली कंपनी एस्सार एक्सप्लोरेशन एंड प्रोडक्शन ने अपनी साझेदार कंपनी ईएनआई के साथ मिलकर अपतटीय वियतनाम में प्राकृतिक गैस क्षेत्र की खोज की है। कंपनी ने शुक्रवार को एक बयान में जानकारी दी कि उसने ईएनआई के साथ मिलकर अपतटीय वियतनाम के सांग हांग बेसिन में ब्लॉक 114 में केन बाउ गैस क्षेत्र की खोज की है। ईएनआई 50 प्रतिशत हिस्सेदारी के साथ इस ब्लॉक की परिचालक है। बाकी 50 प्रतिशत हिस्सेदारी इसमें एस्सार एक्सप्लोरेशन एंड प्रोडक्शन की है। गैस के कुए केन बाउ।एक्स की खुदाई जल की सतह से 95 मीटर नीचे की गयी और इसकी कुए की कुल गहराई 3,606 मीटर है।