

Rahul Gandhi Targets Amit Shah In Lok Sabha Over Police Action Against Student Protesters

NEW DELHI, JUL 29: Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi on Wednesday alleged that Home Minister Amit Shah had authorised police excesses against student protesters and that the RSS had "captured" the education system, triggering a massive uproar in the Lok Sabha during a debate on the bill to amend the anti-paper leaks law.

"The home minister is not here today because he is scared," Gandhi said, drawing objections from the treasury benches.

The home minister "authorised" violent action against students, the Congress leader alleged, referring to the crackdown by security forces during the march to Parliament on July 20 during the CJP-led protest on the NEET paper leak issue. Newspaper Delivery Service

Speaker Om Birla immediately intervened, saying the discussion was not on the Home Minister.

"We are not discussing the Home Minister today," Birla said and added that he must provide proof to substantiate his allegations.

Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju objected to Gandhi's remarks and asked him to clarify the basis of his allegations.<

what basis have you said this? This is highly objectionable. You should apologise," Rijiju said.

Gandhi also launched a sharp attack on the RSS, accusing it of influencing the education system and shaping what students are taught.



"The soul of the system has been captured by the RSS. Dharmendra Pradhan never ran the education ministry. The man and organisation that run the ministry is called the RSS.

"They (students) have to buy this nonsensical history that RSS fantasises about. Pradhan is the symbol. Your real enemy is the RSS. They are the people who want you to be andhbhaks," Gandhi said.

Gandhi said he was "very excited" and "reassured" by the student protests over the NEET paper leak issue and described them as an expression of the youth.

He said, "I was very excited, reassured by what the future of this country did on our streets. This was not anger, not violence, not hatred; this was an expression, deep expressions of the youth of this country, of the future generation of this country."

"All parties should respect this expression, including my friends in the BJP. If my friends in the BJP were to go and ask their own children about what their brothers and sisters were doing, they would find agreement among their own children.

There is nothing wrong with what happened, and every Indian should be proud," he said.

Gandhi said a conversation with a group of students gave him perspective on how young people view education and knowledge.

"A good starting point would be a conversation I had with some students, young girls, which gave me a very interesting perspective," he said.

Recalling the interaction, Gandhi said he asked a student what it meant to be a student.

"The question I asked the girl was that you said you were a student -- what does that mean? Does it mean you study in a college, in a school, you read books? She said a student is someone who has an open mind (and) an open heart. "A student is someone who accepts that he does not know everything. Whatever he knows will be superseded by new knowledge. He knows the universe is dynamic. He also understands that knowledge is constantly changing. The most important quality, she said, that a student has is humility," he said.

Gandhi said the student

also described another category of people who believed they knew everything.

"They are absolutely convinced that they know everything. They believe that the universe is static and they believe that knowledge emerges from inside them. They are arrogant. They don't listen, they don't respect other people's truth," the leader of opposition (LoP) said and used a word, which was objected to as "unparliamentary" by the Chair.

The remark triggered an uproar in the House, with Speaker Birla asking Gandhi to focus on the debate.

Rijiju also objected to the use of the "unparliamentary" word. Gandhi said he was attributing the term to a student and was not referring to any member of the House.

Birla said unparliamentary expressions would be expunged from the proceedings.

Gandhi further said the student told him that the hallmark of a student was that they "wear the truth on their chest", while the other category needed to create an image.

"And as that image is not true because ... is trying to pretend he is God, he has to create this image," he said.

"I asked about the third category -- andhbhakt. He is absolutely convinced that ... is God," Gandhi said.

He said the framework came from an 18-year-old student and argued that the protests, though centred around examinations, reflected wider concerns about the education system.

Rescuers search for missing after Japan earthquake as death toll rises to 13

KUMAMOTO, (JAPAN), JULY 29: Soldiers and emergency workers combed through a badly damaged shopping mall and collapsed houses looking for trapped survivors Wednesday after a powerful earthquake that killed at least 13 people and left many missing in southwestern Japan.

Bullet train services and some airport operations remained suspended and damage was still being assessed a day after the magnitude 7.1 earthquake struck the Kumamoto area on the southern main island of Kyushu.

"There are people who are still waiting to be rescued, and it's a race against time," Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi said. "We will go all out to find and rescue as many people as we can."

About 36,900 homes were still without electricity, 9,500 homes were without gas and communication networks were not working in some areas, chief government spokesman Minoru Kihara told reporters.

More than 9,000 people left their homes to stay in more than 500 shelters, and he said power sources were being added so the evacua-



tion centres had air conditioning. Japan has had an ongoing heat wave, and temperatures in the area were forecast to exceed 32 Celsius.

Japan's Self Defence Forces joined rescue workers in the search and rescue operations at the badly damaged Aeon Mall in the town of Kashima. The building's second floor collapsed, trapping people, after an explosion suspected to have been caused by a gas leak. The number of people who still may be trapped was not available. A chimney collapsed at the Nippon Paper Industries Co.'s Yatsushiro factory, trapping people un-

der the debris, the Kumamoto emergency team said. As of Wednesday, seven people were feared still trapped. Two survivors and two bodies were removed, officials said. Takaichi said the federal government was preparing to deliver food and other necessities to hard-hit areas. She also offered her condolences to the victims and sympathy to their relatives, while urging those affected by the quake to take care of themselves under the hot weather. The Kyushu Shinkansen bullet train remained suspended Wednesday. Aso Kumamoto Airport was resuming operations af-

ter closing one runway Tuesday, but officials said some flights may be cancelled.

Stone walls were damaged at Kumamoto Castle, a main tourist destination that was badly damaged in the 2016 quake and is still being repaired, Kyodo News reported. News Archive Search

"The shaking reminded me of the Kumamoto quake (10 years ago) and I was frightened," said Hiroki Shimoda, an official at Mifune town hall, who saw roof tiles of nearby homes crash to the ground. Kumamoto was hit with a deadly quake in 2016 that killed at least 50 people. (AP)

Jordan intercepts Iranian missiles as US, Saudi Arabia launch strikes against militias in Iraq

CAIRO, JULY 29: Jordan's air defences intercepted five missiles launched from Iran early Wednesday, the country's military said, hours after the US military said it had knocked down an Iranian missile barrage launched against American forces in the Middle East, shattering a brief pause in fighting.

In a statement, the Jordanian military said the missiles had been "intercepted and destroyed." Earlier, US Central Command said they "remain vigilant and at a high state of readiness," and that it worked with Saudi Arabia's forces to strike sites in Iraq that Tehran-backed militias have used to launch attacks in recent days.

In announcing the strikes in Iraq, the US warned that further attacks on American troops or Saudi Arabia's energy infrastructure risked additional action.

The United States and Iran had experienced a period of calm, during which neither announced attacks for about three days following weeks of escalation over



the strategic Strait of Hormuz, the Persian Gulf waterway and narrow chokepoint through which 20 per cent of the world's traded oil normally flows.

The fighting flared at the end of a month packed with multiple pressure points on US President Donald Trump. In recent weeks, four US troops died during the fighting, while the Pentagon asked an increasingly sceptical Congress for money to cover the conflict's ballooning costs.

Iran launched its ballistic missile attack before American and Saudi forces carried out strikes in Iraq, according to a US official, who stressed that the two attacks were not connected. The official spoke on condition of anonymity to detail sensitive military operations. "US and Saudi fighter aircraft struck multiple terrorist logistics and weapons sites across eastern Iraq in a strong response to over 30 IRGC-directed aerial drone attacks in the last 72 hours,"

US Central Command said, using an acronym for Iran's paramilitary Revolutionary Guard.

It said the Revolutionary Guard "and its terrorist proxies must cease these attacks to avoid further US military response."

The Saudi Defence Ministry acknowledged the strikes in a post on social media, warning that "the Kingdom emphasises that it does not seek escalation but will respond to any aggression it faces." (AP)

Kangana Ranaut, CJP's Saurav DAS SPARK OVER Actor's Comments On Gen Z Protesters

NEW DELHI, JUL 29: BJP MP Kangana Ranaut and Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) spokesperson Saurav Das have traded sharp barbs as the controversy over the actor-politician's remarks describing Gen Z as "Generation gutter" escalated.

Ranaut on Tuesday sparked a political row by posting strongly-worded Instagram Stories targeting the CJP-led agitation over alleged irregularities in the NEET examination.

Responding to Ranaut's posts, Das said her language was unbecoming and questioned her mental stability while accusing her of trying to "ride the CJP wave".

The MP from Himachal Pradesh's Mandi dismissed him as "totally useless and unemployed".

"These words don't seem to be of a person who is mentally stable because you wouldn't use this kind of language about the young. If there is a young person in your family who belongs to Gen Z or Gen Alpha or whatever, would you use such language against them?" he told PTI Videos.

Das also took a swipe at Ranaut's performance as a parliamentarian.

"I don't have much to say about Kangana Ranaut, her own party members don't take her seriously. There are videos of her from her constituency where she is meet-



ing people and telling them, 'Aap log to bahut kaam karate ho. Mujhe to laga tha ki MP banke zyada kaam nahi hoga. Lekin yaha par to mujhe roz kaam karna pad raha hai.' So that's the kind of seriousness with which she sees her own work," he said. "It's fine, I think she is trying to ride the CJP wave. We said this before, anybody who wants to take credit or fame from the current movement, they are free to do so and so is Kangana," he added.

Ranaut responded through a new post on Instagram Stories.

"I just googled this person and he is 28 years old. And he claims to be a student. How he claims to be a student I have no clue!!" she wrote.

Hitting back at Das' criticism of her work as an MP, Ranaut said she may be new

to politics but had been in public life for the past 20 years.

"At his age, I had two National Awards. Yes, as a new parliamentarian, I was overwhelmed with all the work because I am also a filmmaker, performing artist, producer, screenwriter, and entrepreneur. But someone like him, who is totally useless and unemployed, will never understand what it means to be in massive demand at all times, at any age," she said.

"Dear Saurav, your issues are personal. You are not a student; you are simply useless. Let's start with learning some skill. It's a good place to start," she added.

The exchange comes a day after Ranaut referred to young protesters as "Generation gutter" and questioning "who is birthing and raising them".

"Never in my life I have seen so much ugliness in one place, these reels from GenZ protests are puke inducing, the way they speak and the kind of language they are using, never in my life I have seen everything in each and every frame so jarring and so crass all at ones, ewwww who is birthing and raising them?" Ranaut said.

In a follow-up post, the BJP MP from Himachal Pradesh's Mandi went a step further and criticised young women who participated in the protests, saying their behaviour during the agitation was "most appalling". History

"Here is a new generation of so called westernised Indian women. I call them Generation gutter," she said, adding that some of the women protestors were "so ugly and corrupt that they can't be home makers either".

Her remarks drew criticism from opposition leaders, including the Congress, Samajwadi Party and AIMIM, as well as several social media users, who termed the comments insensitive and derogatory.

The CJP-led protests concluded on July 25 after the government accepted key demands of the agitators, including the resignation of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan. (Agencies)

clare current family composition, Gupta said. Every family must submit Form-A for this purpose, she said and clarified that the declarations submitted in April 2026 under the earlier rules will no longer be valid and will be treated as cancelled. District authorities have been directed to update family records after September 15 and release ad hoc monthly relief (AMR) based on a maximum of four members per family.

Delhi Govt Simplifies Relief Distribution Process For Kashmiri Migrants; Removes Income Criterion

NEW DELHI, JUL 29 : Delhi government has issued a new standard operating procedure (SOP) , simplifying monthly relief distribution to Jammu and Kashmir migrants in the city, removing the income criterion, the Chief Minister's Office said on Wednesday. National News Feed Chief Minister Rekha Gupta said that the relief distribution process for Jammu and Kashmir migrant families has been made simpler and more trans-

parent.

Now, the applicants for the relief will not require to submit income certificate or property documents. Also, rules on marriage, family bifurcation, arrears and verification process have also been clarified in the SOP, Delhi CMO said in a statement.

Further, the government has given a one time special amnesty to the migrant families registered till March 2024, to submit Form-A till September 15, to de-