



Virat Kohli overtakes Sangakkara to become 2nd-highest ODI run-getter



Russian missile and drone attacks kill 4 in Ukraine

Nimrat Kaur pays tribute to father Major Bhupender Singh



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Adityanath conducts site inspection of Noida International Airport

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Yamuna cleaner ahead of Chhath this year says Delhi water minister



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Stage set for epic clash as Mumbai Meteors, Bengaluru Torpedoes gear up for final

7 BUSINESS

Fair trade practices build foundation of thriving economy says Goa CM Sawant



| WEATHER | |
|----------|----------|
| Sunrise | 5:24 AM |
| Sunset | 7:22 PM |
| Moonrise | 10:08 PM |
| Moonsset | 8:45 AM |

| Today's Prediction | |
|-----------------------|------|
| Maximum | 34°C |
| Minimum | 27°C |
| Tomorrow's Prediction | |
| Maximum | 34°C |
| Minimum | 28°C |

| MARKET | |
|--------|------------|
| SENSEX | 81118.60 |
| NIFTY | 24718.60 |
| GOLD | -573.38 |
| SILVER | -169.60 |
| | 100,143.00 |
| | 106,415.00 |
| | 1,751.00 |
| | 530.00 |

RJD turned Bihar into hub of kidnapping, extortion: Amit Shah

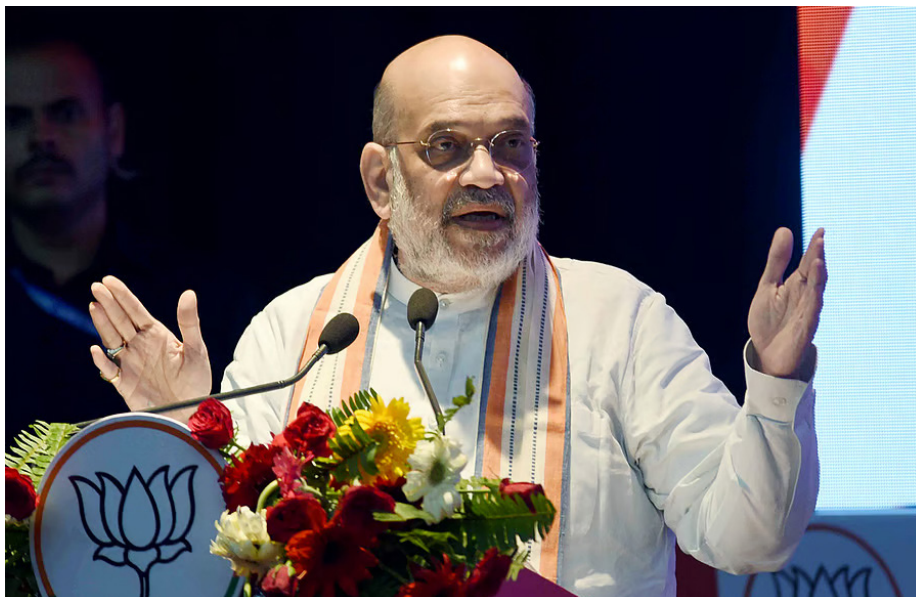
Shah hinted that elections in Bihar could be held in a single phase if the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) returns to power in Bihar.

Khagaria/Nalanda: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday said the assembly elections will decide whether the 'jungle raj' will return to Bihar or the state remains on the path of development.

Addressing back-to-back election rallies in Bihar, he slammed the INDIA bloc for opposing the special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, and asserted that every infiltrator would be detected, deleted from the voters' list and deported to their countries.

"Rahul 'baba' says that let the infiltrators stay in Bihar. You tell me, should we let the infiltrators stay here? I want to clearly tell Rahul 'baba' that no matter how many rallies you hold to save infiltrators, he can not protect them," Shah told the gathering, dubbing the 'Voter Adhikari Yatra' as 'ghuspetiya bachao yatra'.

His allusion was to the Leader of the Opposition



in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi.

Asserting that the NDA will return to power in Bihar, Shah said, "Our government will handpick and throw out every single infiltrator from the country... They will be detected and deported to their countries."

He also said this electoral battle is "not about making someone a legislator, minister, or chief minister".

"This election will decide whether 'jungle raj' will return to Bihar or the state remains on the path of development. If the government of Lalu-Rabri is formed, only 'jungle raj' will come, and if the NDA comes to power, a developed Bihar will make its mark in the entire country," Shah said.

He said Prime Minister Narendra Modi restored Nalanda Univer-

pealed to the voters.

Shah alleged that the opposition grand alliance has two identities -- "corruption and nepotism".

He accused RJD supremo Lalu Prasad of concentrating only on the prosperity of his family.

"Nitish babu wants overall development of the state, while Lalu Prasad wants to make his son the chief minister, and Sonia Gandhi wants to make her son the prime minister.

"Therefore, only PM Modi and CM Nitish Kumar can care for the sons and daughters of Bihar. There is not a single charge of corruption against PM Modi and CM Nitish. Whereas Lalu Prasad has committed countless irregularities, from the fodder scam to the Bihar PSC scam, and so on," Shah said.

During Prasad's rule, murder, robbery, extortion, and kidnapping were an everyday affair, he alleged.

CONTD ON PAGE-2

EC to begin pan-India SIR next week in '10-15 states'



New Delhi: The Election Commission is likely to roll out the first of pan-India Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of voters' list next week beginning with "10 to 15 states", including those going to polls next year, officials said Saturday.

Assam, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Kerala and West Bengal will to polls in 2026 and they are amongst the states where the voters' list cleanup exercise will begin first.

The poll authority is likely to announce the first phase of SIR middle of next week, in which as many as "10 to 15 states" would be included, officials said.

The EC will not hold the electoral roll cleanup exercise in states where local body elections are taking place or are due, as the grassroots poll machinery is busy with it and may not be able to focus on SIR, they said

The SIR in such states will be held in later phases. The voters' list cleanup exercise has concluded in Bihar where the final list with nearly 7.42 crore names was published on September 30.

Bihar will go to polls in two phases, on November 6 and November 11, and the counting will take place on November 14.

The Commission has already held two conferences with state chief electoral officers (CEOs) to firm up the SIR roll-out roadmap.

Several CEOs have already put the voter lists published after their last SIR on their websites.

The website of the Delhi CEO has the 2008 voter list when the last intensive revision took place in the national capital.

In Uttarakhand, the last SIR took place in 2006, and that year's electoral roll is now on the state CEO website.

CONTD ON PAGE-2

Burning eyes and sleepless nights in Smog-Hit NCR: Study

New Delhi: Three out of four households in Delhi-NCR are already experiencing the ill-effects of toxic air, with common complaints ranging from sore throat and cough to burning eyes, headaches and disturbed sleep, according to an online survey by citizen engagement platform LocalCircles.

An analysis of CPCB data showed that post-Diwali, PM 2.5 levels have touched 488 micrograms per cubic metre, the highest in five years and over three times the pre-festival level of 156.6 micrograms per cubic metre. Pollution levels peaked during Diwali night on October 20 and the early next morning.

The survey, based on over 44,000 responses from residents across



Delhi, Gurugram, Noida, Faridabad, and Ghaziabad, found that 42 per cent of the households reported that one or more members were suffering from sore throat or cough, while 25 per cent said family members had burning eyes, headaches or difficulty sleeping.

About 17 per cent of respondents reported breathing difficulties or aggravated asthma.

LocalCircles said 44 per cent of households

were trying to minimise outdoor exposure and increase intake of immunity-boosting foods and drinks to cope with poor air quality. Nearly one-third of respondents said they had consulted or planned to consult doctors for pollution-related ailments.

Despite a 77.5 per cent reduction in stubble burning events in Punjab and Haryana due to floods and delayed harvests, Delhi's air quality

has remained poor with the Air Quality Index (AQI) crossing 400 in several areas -- about 24 times higher than the World Health Organization's recommended level for PM2.5 exposure.

LocalCircles said the findings highlight that residents are "already feeling the impact of toxic air" and called for strict enforcement of anti-pollution measures under the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP), including deployment of smog guns and night-time sweeping to reduce dust.

According to Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) data, Delhi's overall AQI on Saturday morning stood in the "poor" category at 261, down from 290 a day earlier. However, Anand Vihar recorded a "severe" AQI of 415, the highest among all monitoring stations. Agency

Two Australian Women's World Cup cricketers 'stalked', 'molested'

Indore: Cricket Australia released a statement to confirm that two members of the Australian women's team were allegedly "approached and touched inappropriately by a motorcyclist" on Thursday. The Australian team is currently in Indore for the ongoing Women's World Cup. On Thursday morning, two Australian women's cricketers left their team hotel and headed to a cafe. It was during this period that the two Australian cricketers were allegedly "inappropriately touched". The Australian team's management security complained about the "inappropriate behaviour" faced by



the two players, and an FIR was subsequently registered. "CA can confirm two members of the Australian Women's team were approached and touched inappropriately by a motorcyclist while walking to a cafe in Indore. The matter was reported by team security to police, who are handling the matter," CA said in a



statement as quoted by Fox Sports Australia. Earlier, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) Secretary Devajit Saikia expressed his displeasure about the entire incident and praised the State Police for its swift action, and said "Very unfortunate incident, and this type of incident brings disrepute. I appreciate the

HIGHLIGHT
Madhya Pradesh Cricket Association (MPCA) issues statement, extends apology to players and appreciates swift action by local police in the matter

State police for their prompt action to nab the culprit. Let the law take its course to punish the culprit." Meanwhile, Indore's Additional Deputy Commissioner of Police (Addl DCP, Crime Branch), Rajesh Dandotiyan, confirmed that the accused, Aqueel, was identified and arrested following an Intensive Strategic Operation. "The Security officers of

the women's Australian Cricket Team filed a complaint that two members of the team faced inappropriate behaviour. An FIR was registered, and the accused was identified and arrested following an Intensive Strategic Operation. The accused Aqueel is a resident of Azadnagar," he said. "He has been charged under sections 74 and 78 of the BNS. The incident occurred around 11 am on October 23, when members of the women's Australian Cricket Team were walking towards a cafe from their hotel. We are examining if there were any shortfalls in the security protocols," he added. Agency

Tension in Aligarh over 'I love Muhammad' graffiti in temples

Aligarh: Tensions prevailed in Uttar Pradesh's Aligarh on Saturday after "I love Muhammad" graffiti was found on the walls of five temples in Bhagwanpur and Bulaqigarh villages, prompting heavy police deployment.

Senior police officials rushed to the spot with forensic experts and CCTV footage from the surrounding areas was examined to identify the culprits, police said.

A case has been registered against eight individuals, Mustaqeem, Gul Mohammad, Sulaiman, Sonu, Allah-



baksh, Hameed and Yousuf, the police said. "We are taking this incident very seriously and investigating all aspects thoroughly. No guilty person will be spared," Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Neeraj Kumar said.

The police are also investigating a possi-

ble land dispute angle linked to the case, he added.

Meanwhile, All-India Vice President of the Karni Sena, Gyanendra Singh Chauhan, who lodged the police complaint in the matter, accused the local police of negligence. Agency

RJD turned Bihar into hub of kidnapping, extortion: Amit Shah

CONTD FROM PAGE-1
Under the RJD's rule, industries fled from the state, and they turned Bihar into a backward state. Under the leadership of Nitish Babu, the NDA freed Bihar from 'jungle raj', ended dynastic politics and the biggest thing is that we worked to free Bihar from Naxalism," Shah claimed.

He extended greetings to people on the occasion of Chhath Puja.

"Today, the great festival of Chhath has begun. I want to extend my heartfelt wishes for the 'Chhath Mahaparv' to all the people of Bihar and pray to 'Chhath Maiya' that our Bihar remains forever free from 'jungle raj', that law and order remains strong, our sisters and daughters remain safe, and that Bihar progresses to become a developed state," the BJP leader said.

Shah said the NDA's policy is quite clear.

"There should be schools and colleges with all infrastructural facilities, medicines on time, irrigation facilities for farmers, and water supply in every home. Bihar will now move forward on these principles," he said.

The NDA government recently credited Rs 10,000 each to the bank accounts of 1 crore women associated with the 'Jeevika' scheme, he said.

"The widow pension and the elderly pension have been increased from Rs 400 to Rs 1,100. The honorarium for ASHA sisters has been set at Rs 3,000 per month. The Nitish Kumar government has done many works for the development of Bihar. Now, the dream of the metro in Patna is becoming a reality," he said.

Shah claimed that the prime minister brought the country's economy from the 11th position to the fourth place in the world, and before 2027, the country will rise to the third place.

"In addition, PM Modi has also worked to secure the country. Under the Modi government, we killed terrorists by entering their safe hideouts," he said.

EC to begin pan-India SIR next week in '10-15 states'

CONTD FROM PAGE-1
The last SIR in states will serve as the cut-off date, just as the 2003 voter list of Bihar was used by the EC for intensive revision.

Most states had the last SIR of the voter list between 2002 and 2004. Most have nearly completed the mapping of current electors with the voters according to the last SIR held in their respective states or Union territories.

The primary aim of the SIR is to weed out foreign illegal migrants by checking their place of birth.

The move assumes significance in the wake of a crackdown in various states on illegal migrants, including from Bangladesh and Myanmar.

Adityanath conducts site inspection of Noida International Airport

Ajeet Kumar
Noida:

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Saturday inspected the Noida International Airport in Jewar, reviewing the progress of the domestic terminal, inauguration venue, security arrangements, traffic management, and ongoing construction works.

Following the inspection, the chief minister chaired a high-level review meeting in the airport boardroom with senior officials from the district and police administration, Noida International Airport Limited (NIAL), and the airport construction agency.

A presentation was made on project progress, upcoming action plans, and preparations for the inauguration.

Noting that the Noida International Air-



port will serve as a symbol of Uttar Pradesh's development, he emphasised that quality, timeliness, and coordination must remain top priorities in all construction activities.

The chief minister directed that every task be completed within the stipulated timeframe, maintaining the highest standards, and warned against any form of laxity

in inauguration preparations.

He also stressed the importance of beautification, cleanliness, and passenger amenities across the airport complex and surrounding areas.

Additionally, Adityanath called for a concrete, coordinated plan for security and traffic management, along with the timely completion of connecting roads and

metro projects, the UP government said in a statement.

Christoph Schnellmann, CEO of Yamuna International Airport Private Limited, apprised the chief minister of developments related to civil aviation, security, the explosives squad, control units, substations, and infrastructure. Adityanath reviewed all technical, security, and adminis-

A presentation was made on project progress, upcoming action plans, and preparations for the inauguration.

trative aspects of the airport's operations and issued necessary directives.

Chief Operating Officer Kiran Jain provided detailed information on permit issuance, passenger security, runway testing, and CISF deployment. The chief minister instructed that the airport's security system be comprehensive and foolproof, cautioning that negligence would not be tolerated.

He also reviewed progress on road connectivity, cargo transport links, the fire station, water treatment plant, drainage systems, and parking facilities.

NIAL CEO Rakesh Kumar Singh and Nodal Of-

ficer Shailendra Bhatia briefed Adityanath on connectivity and infrastructure readiness.

The chief minister instructed that all preparations be completed on time to ensure a safe, smooth, and convenient passenger experience, with regular monitoring of progress and strict adherence to quality standards.

Additionally, Yogi Adityanath reviewed preparations for the upcoming public meeting and rally.

He directed officials to ensure proper land leveling, cleanliness, lighting, drinking water, toilets, and police security, ensuring full convenience for attendees.

Adityanath also emphasised smooth traffic and parking management, adding that high-level security, lighting, and cleanliness must be maintained throughout the area, the statement said.

Punjab govt begins 350th Martyrdom Observance with Ardas

Komal Ramola
Chandigarh:

The Punjab Government led by Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann began a series of events on Saturday to commemorate the 350th martyrdom day of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Sahib Ji, the ninth Sikh Guru revered as "Hind Di Chadar." Senior Cabinet Ministers offered Ardas at Gurudwara Sis Ganj Sahib in Delhi, seeking blessings to mark the beginning of these historic celebrations.

The Ministers, including Aman Arora, Harjot Singh Bains, Harbhajan Singh ETO, Tarunpreet Singh Sondh, Gurmeet Singh Khudian, Barinder Kumar Goyal, Hardeep Singh Mundian, and Dr. Balbir Singh, along with Lok Sabha MP Dr. Raj Kumar Chhabwal, Raja Sabha MP Vikramjeet Singh Sahni, MLA Kuldeep Singh Dhaliwal, and Advisor for Tourism and Cultural Affairs Deepak Bali, joined devotees in offering prayers. Walking barefoot from the Red Fort to the shrine,

they paid homage at the sacred martyrdom sites of Bhai Mati Das Ji, Bhai Sati Das Ji, and Bhai Dayala Ji, who sacrificed their lives alongside Guru Tegh Bahadur Sahib Ji.

The Ministers urged people to follow Guru Sahib's eternal message of love, peace, religious tolerance, and unity. They said the commemoration aims to remind the world of the Guru's supreme sacrifice for humanity and religious freedom. "Guru Tegh Bahadur Sahib laid down his life in Delhi to protect human rights and the right to practice one's faith — a sacrifice unmatched in world history," they said, adding that the Guru's teachings remain a guiding light for humanity.

Announcing details of the state's plans, the Ministers said the commemorations will continue till November 25 at Sri Anandpur Sahib. From November 1 to 18, Light and Sound Shows depicting the Guru's life and teachings will be held in every district of Punjab.

Haryana Govt to buy every grain, says CM Saini

Shiv Kumar
Chandigarh:

Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini reaffirmed the government's commitment to purchasing every grain of farmers' produce, assuring that both the Central and State Governments are working tirelessly to safeguard farmers' interests under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Chairing a high-level review meeting at the Civil Secretariat, the Chief Minister took stock of the ongoing paddy and bajra procurement process across the state. Senior officials from all relevant departments attended the meeting in person, while Deputy Commissioners and Superintendents of Police joined online. The meeting focused on ensuring transparency in procurement, reviewing mandi conditions, addressing farmers' complaints, and monitoring the e-procurement system.

"The State Government will not compromise on the interests of farmers," CM Saini said,



issuing firm instructions against any malpractice in procurement operations. He directed officials to register FIRs against those found guilty of irregularities in e-procurement portal entries and H-Register auctions, particularly in the New Grain Mandi, Kanina, and Grain Mandi, Kosli, where some employees have already been suspended.

Emphasizing strict accountability, the Chief Minister warned that individuals or groups attempting to defraud the system under the guise of procurement would face decisive action. "We are determined to protect farmers' earnings and en-

sure that every grain of their crop is purchased," he stated.

Officials reported that paddy procurement, which began on October 22, has been progressing smoothly in most mandis. So far, 2.66 lakh farmers have sold about 52.18 lakh metric tons of paddy, with payments totaling Rs 10,204.98 crore already transferred directly to their accounts. Bajra procurement has also advanced, with 291.10 metric tons purchased by state agencies and 3.99 lakh metric tons by private traders.

The Chief Minister took note of complaints regarding paddy entering Haryana from other states and irregularities

in gate pass scanning. He ordered physical verification of rice mills in Ambala, Yamunanagar, Kurukshetra, and Kaithal, where paddy has been allocated for milling. "Gate passes must only be scanned within the designated mandi area," he said, directing that any misuse should be met with disciplinary action and FIRs.

To prevent illegal cross-border paddy movement, CM Saini instructed border districts to strengthen police checkpoints. He also ordered that technical staff be deployed in all mandis to ensure smooth gate pass scanning and verification.

Kartik Purnima Fair Preparations Complete in Garhmukteshwar



Avnish Tyagi
Hapur:

Preparations for India's largest traditional fair, held annually on the banks of the Ganga in Garhmukteshwar, have been completed. Ahead of the Kartik Purnima Ganga Fair, which begins today and will continue till November 6, senior police officials conducted a comprehensive review of arrangements to ensure safety and smooth management for the lakhs of devotees expected to arrive.

On Saturday, Additional Director General (Meerut Zone) Bhanu Bhaskar and Deputy Inspector General Kalanidhi Naithani chaired a detailed meeting

with officials at the temporary police line auditorium in Khadar, located within the fair premises. The meeting focused on security, crowd management, and traffic control measures.

The ADG informed that 25 temporary police stations have been established at the fairground, with the entire area divided into 14 zones and 32 sectors for better coordination. Personnel from the Provincial Armed Constabulary (PAC), Rapid Response Force (RRF), State Disaster Response Force (SDRF), National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), fire department, and communication units have been deployed to

ADG Bhanu Bhaskar reviews security and management arrangements for India's largest traditional fair on the Ganga banks

manage the event effectively.

To handle the expected rise in visitors this year—many arriving by tractors, carts, two-wheelers, and four-wheelers—special traffic arrangements have been made. Traffic police from several districts have been stationed to maintain a steady flow and prevent congestion on approach routes to Garhmukteshwar.

The ADG also highlighted the efforts being made under Mission Shakti 5.0, led by Hapur District Magistrate Abhishek Pandey and Superintendent of Police Kunwar Gyananjay Singh, to ensure a safe and inclusive environment for women and families visiting the fair. Hoardings have been installed at key locations to promote public awareness on safety and civic responsibility.

Human activity primary cause of ecological imbalance: Om Birla

New Delhi:

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla on Saturday said human activities have been the primary cause of ecological imbalance and recalled that nature began to heal itself during the lockdown that was triggered by COVID-19.

Delivering a lecture on 'Environment: Crisis and Solution', he said India must come together as a nation with renewed determination to protect and preserve the environment for future generations.

Each citizen has a responsibility to ensure that progress and sustainability go hand in hand. Collective awareness and responsible living are essential to building a cleaner, greener and healthier India, he added.

Highlighting the importance of environmental conservation, Birla said human activities have been the principal cause of ecological imbalance.

Referring to the COVID-19 pandemic, the



Om Birla says human actions driving ecological imbalance

Speaker recalled that when human activity paused, nature began to heal itself. Rivers became cleaner, air quality improved and wildlife flourished—"a powerful reminder of the need for sustainable living.

Indians have always cherished nature and regarded it with deep reverence, where respect for the environment is not merely a belief but an integral part of life.

He observed that Indian traditions, scriptures and folklore have consistently emphasised harmony between humans and nature.

From an early age, Birla said, children in India are taught to live in tune with natural elements, reflecting the enduring cultural and moral connection between environmental consciousness and the Indian way of life.

Cabinet Secretary reviews preparedness for impending Bay of Bengal Cyclone

TSN/New Delhi:

Cabinet Secretary Dr. T. V. Somanathan chaired a meeting of the National Crisis Management Committee (NCMC) on Saturday to assess the preparedness of central and state agencies for the impending cyclone brewing in the Bay of Bengal.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) informed the Committee that the depression over the south-east Bay of Bengal has been moving westwards at a speed of 7 kmph over the past six hours. As of 11:30 a.m., it was centred about 950 km east-southeast of Chennai, 960 km southeast of Visakhapatnam, 970 km southeast of Kakinada, and 1,030 km south-southeast of Gopalpur. The system is expected to intensify into a deep depression by October 26 and develop into a cyclonic storm by the morning of October 27. It is likely to strengthen further into a severe cyclonic storm by October 28 and cross the Andhra Pradesh coast between Machilipatnam and Kalangapatnam, near Kakinada, on the evening or night of the 28th with wind speeds reaching 90-100 kmph, gusting up to 110 kmph.

Chief Secretaries of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, and Puducherry, along with the Additional Chief Secretary of Odisha, briefed the Committee on the measures taken to protect people in vulnerable areas. They reported that shelters and evacuation arrangements are in place, district control rooms have been activated, and NDRF and SDRF teams are on standby. Fishermen have been advised not to venture into the sea from October 26 to 29, and those already at sea have been urged to return to shore.

Govt working to shield conventional media amid rapid digitisation: Vaishnav

New Delhi:

The government has planned a series of initiatives to shield the conventional media from the disruptions expected due to rapid digitisation in the sector.

Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnav on Saturday said the government plans to remove the regulatory overhang in the radio industry and Television Rating Point (TRP) reforms.

"The government is working to remove regulatory barriers wherever they exist," the minister said in an informal interaction with reporters here.

Vaishnav said the ministry is exploring ways to improve the television rating system to ensure fair revenue to television channels from government advertisements.

"Television Rating Point (TRP) guidelines are being formulated. The first round of consultation is complete, feedback has been received, and a second consultation paper will be published soon," the minister said.

The government is also considering increasing the advertisement rates for print and television media.

Yamuna cleaner ahead of Chhath this year says Delhi water minister

New Delhi
The quality of Yamuna river water ahead of Chhath is better than last year, Delhi Water Minister Parvesh Verma said on Saturday, citing data on faecal coliform bacteria.

In a press conference held jointly with Environment Minister Manjinder Singh Sirsa, Verma slammed the opposition Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) for targeting the BJP government over pollution in Yamuna during the Chhath festival.

He said the Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) collected Yamuna water samples on October 9 and October 20 from eight points including Palla, Wazirabad Barrage, Okhla Barrage, TITO and Yamuna Canal.

The faecal coliform bacteria concentration has come down to 7,900 units per 100 millilitre at Nizamuddin this year, from 11 lakh units per



Delhi Water Minister Parvesh Verma speaking at a podium during a press conference.

100 millilitre last year, the minister said. Similarly, the count dipped over the year from 920 to 600 units at Palla, from 16,000 to 800 at Wazirabad, and from 35,000 to 7,000 at TITO, he said.

"They (the opposition) are baffled because our government, led by Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, is doing a lot of work and women are praising the preparations being made for Chhath celebration," Verma said.

Delhi unit president Saurabh Bhardwaj has been raising the issue of pollution in Yamuna, while the truth is that no DPCC reports on it were published during the AAP government's rule, Verma alleged.

In an X post, AAP's Bhardwaj cited a DPCC report dated October 23, claiming that the Yamuna's water was not even suitable for bathing and contained human waste in alarming quantity.

He alleged that the Haryana government has di-

verted water from the Eastern Yamuna Canal for a week, and the pollution levels could worsen once the diversion stopped.

"Bhardwaj selectively showed the October 9 DPCC report, but did not mention that during his tenure, locations like Asgarpur had faecal coliform levels as high as 80 lakh. Today, that same location has dropped to just 8,000 - a clear reflection of our government's work," Verma said, responding to Bhardwaj's remarks.

Man arrested in Delhi for knife attack on 'police informer'

New Delhi
A 22-year-old man has been arrested for allegedly attacking a man with a knife and thrashing him in the Bharat Nagar area here, police said on Saturday.

Accused Sumit alias Aadi was absconding since September 6, they said.

On September 5, Nasim, a resident of Wazirpur, was standing near a dispensary when Ritik alias Machhar, Abhishek alias Lala and Sumit accused him of being a police informer and started threatening him. Sumit allegedly inflicted

wounds on the complainant's head with a knife, a senior police officer said.

Following Ritik's directions, Kunal alias Pelu and Pratham arrived at the scene. Kunal allegedly took the knife from Sumit and inflicted injuries on Nasim's head and right shoulder, while Pratham held him. All five accused then allegedly punched and kicked him, before fleeing as bystanders gathered, police said. Based on a complaint from Nasim, a case was registered against the five

accused. Police said technical surveillance and local intelligence revealed that Sumit frequently visited the Japanese Park in Rohini. Acting on this information, a trap was laid and the absconding accused apprehended on Friday.

Two of the accused, Ritik and Abhishek, were arrested earlier, while Kunal and Pratham are at large. The accused suspected Nasim of providing information about them to police and intended to teach him a lesson, the officer said.

CM Gupta inaugurates mini recycler machine in Delhi's Shalimar Bagh



New Delhi
Launching a mini recycler machine in her Shalimar Bagh Assembly constituency on Saturday, Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta announced that the sewer lines in the national capital will now be cleaned using advanced, state-of-the-art technology.

Gupta said that the government has procured 16 small recycling machines for deployment across various parts of Delhi.

The recyclers are designed to easily access narrow lanes and streets, efficiently remove sludge from sewer lines, and perform thorough cleaning. They are equipped with the latest technology for sewer cleaning, sludge removal, jetting, and suction.

Sixteen of these machines have already been ordered, and more will be procured as required, the chief minister

said, adding that these machines will be particularly beneficial in addressing sewer blockage issues that tend to increase during the winter season.

While presenting the machine in Vaishali, Gupta also announced the commencement of modern sewer line construction and road work in the area, at a cost of Rs 2 crore.

Projects such as the cleaning of the Yamuna river, water treatment initiatives, underground wiring, smart drainage systems, and tree transplantation are progressing rapidly in the city, she said.

Delhi now stands at the intersection of technology and environmental balance. With modern machinery, innovative technology, and visionary governance, the Delhi government is moving swiftly towards achieving the goal

of a "Clean, Green and Safe Delhi", the chief minister said.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that Sinag Healthcare Pvt. Ltd. (CIN: U74999DL2016PTC038332), having its registered office at E-13, Street No. 20, Madhu Vihar, Office No. 13, 3rd Floor, Delhi - 110092, through its Director Mr. Reshav Mittal (S/O Vipin Mittal, R/o Plot No. 214, 2nd Floor, Shakti Khand-2, Indrapuram, Ghaziabad, UP - 201024), confirms that as per company records, there are no dues, liabilities, or claims of any nature whatsoever against Mr. Mayank Shekhar Singh up to 1st March 2021.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is informed to public in general that the Residential Plot/House No. 895 Sec-14, Faridabad (Haryana) owned by Shri Ramesh Chand Wadhawan by way of Deed of conveyance which is duly registered in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Faridabad vide entry in Bahi No. 1, Jilid No. 26 at page No. 34 to 36 in Serial No. 12845 on dated 17.12.2013, a GPA mentioned in conveyance deed dated 17.12.2013. This G.P.A. in the name of Shri Ramesh Chand Wadhawan has lost some where and the same could not be found despite great efforts. The Police complaint has also been lodged about the same. If the said Original documents i.e. Original G.P.A. in the name of Shri Ramesh Chand Wadhawan is found by any person or there is any objection regarding the above said ownership of Shri Vishal Wadhawan kindly inform the same to the Notice Issuer within 15 days from the date of publication of this Notice, after which no objection will be considered.

Nishikant Tiwari, Panel Advocate, State Bank of India Chamber No. 359, Civil Court Complex, Raj Nagar, Ghaziabad 201002

Delhi govt committed to making Chhath Puja celebrations historic, says Kapil Mishra

New Delhi
Delhi Minister for Art, Culture and Languages Kapil Mishra on Saturday inspected various Chhath Ghats across the city and said that special attention is being given to all essential facilities.

Mishra visited the Narela Chhath Ghat along with local MLA Raj Kamn Khatri and directed officials to ensure all necessary facilities are in place for devotees, an official statement said.

The minister said the Delhi government is committed to making this year's Chhath Puja "historic and grand", with arrangements completed at more than 1,300 ghats across the city, including 17 major ones along the Yamuna.

He said special attention is being given to safety, cleanliness, lighting, water supply, tents and other essential facilities so that devotees can offer prayers to Chhathi Maiya without any inconvenience.

During the inspection, Mishra interacted with officials, local representatives, volunteers and members of various committees, and appreciated their efforts, it said.

He said all teams are working round the clock to ensure smooth celebrations. "For many years, people from the Purvanchal community were not allowed to perform Chhath Puja on the Yamuna banks, which was unfair to their faith," he said, adding that under the leadership of Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, the Delhi government has made arrangements for Chhath celebrations in every part of the capital.

NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE

The Chief Administrative Officer, Northern Railway, Kashmere Gate, Delhi, for and on behalf of the President of India invites Open e-tender under Two Packet System of the under noted work:

| Full Name of work | Approx. Cost of work | Completion period of the work | Site security (Cash/ Bids) to be deposited | Sale/availability of tender document on Rly. Website | Pre-Bid Conference | Last date of receipt of pre-bid queries | Railway response to queries | Last date/Time of upload of tender | Date and time of opening of tender | Tender Notice No. |
|---|----------------------|-------------------------------|--|--|---|---|-----------------------------|---|---|--------------------------------------|
| Provision of safety fencing (RCC wall/anti crash barrier) along the track for safe running of trains on UMB-LDH section (Vande Bharat route) from km 284.700 to 359.000 up to Sr. DEN-IVUMB | ₹ 126.84.25,233.86/L | 12 (Twelve) months | ₹ 64.97,100.00/- | Tender documents will be available on IREPS web site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in from 23.10.2025 to 18.11.2025 upto 11.30 hrs. | 23.10.2025 at 11.30 hours at CAOC Office, N. Rly., Kashmere Gate, Delhi and through online VC link. | 30.10.2025 upto 18.00 hrs. | 03.11.2025 upto 18.00 hrs. | 18.11.2025 upto 11.30 hours. Tender documents can be tendered uploaded by the tenderer on IREPS web site w.e.f. 04.11.2025 to 18.11.2025. | 18.11.2025 upto 11.30 hours. The detailed tender notice also can be seen in the Notice Board of the above office. | 74-M-1-451-964-UMB Dated: 23.10.2025 |

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EAST BOUND FESTIVAL SPECIAL TRAINS-2025

In order to clear extra rush of passengers during Chhath Puja Festival, Northern Railway has planned to run the following East Bound Festival Special Trains on 26.10.2025 and 27.10.2025 in addition to normal regular trains as per schedule given below:-

| EAST BOUND TRAINS FROM DELHI AREA TERMINALS ON 26.10.2025 (SUNDAY) | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|------------|-----------------|-----------|--|--|
| Spl. Train No. | Station From | Dept. Time | Station to | Arr. Time | Accommodation | Stoppages |
| 02254 | New Delhi (Vande Bharat) | 08:35 | Patna Jn. | 21:30 | AC Chair Car, Ex. Chair Car | Aligarh Jn., Kanpur Central, Prayagraj Jn., Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn., Buxar & Ara |
| 04450 | New Delhi | 15:10 | Dharbhanga | 16:30 | Sleeper & General | Ghaziabad, Aligarh Jn., Kanpur Central, Umasi Jn., Aishbagh, Badshahnagar, Gonda Jn., Gorakhpur, Deoria Sadar, Siwan Jn., Chhapra, Sonpur Jn., Hajipur Jn., Muzaffarpur Jn. & Samastipur Jn. |
| 04454 | New Delhi | 20:00 | Mansi | 23:30 | Sleeper & General | Ghaziabad, Aligarh Jn., Tundia Jn., Etawah, Govindpur, Kanpur Central, Umasi Jn., Aishbagh, Badshahnagar, Barabanki Jn., Gonda Jn., Basti, Khalilabad, Gorakhpur, Deoria Sadar, Siwan Jn., Chhapra, Sonpur Jn., Hajipur Jn., Shahpur Patore, Barauni Jn., Begu Sara & Khagaria Jn. |
| 04456 | New Delhi | 22:40 | Dhanbad | 02:20 | Sleeper & General | Ghaziabad, Hapur, Moradabad, Bareilly, Shahjehanpur, Hardoi, Aamragar, Utrauli Jn., Rae Bareilly Jn., Amethi, Ma Belha Devi Pratapgarh, Bhadohi, Varanasi Jn., Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn., Bhabus Road, Sasaram, Dehri On Son, Anugrah Narayan Road, Gaya, Koderma, Hazaribagh Road, Parasnath & Gomoh |
| 04458 | Anand Vihar (T) | 13:40 | Bhagalpur | 14:30 | Sleeper & General | Ghaziabad, Kanpur Central, Prayagraj Jn., Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn., Buxar, Ara, Patna Jn., Patna Sahib, Fatuha, Khusrapur, Bakhtyarpur Jn., Barh, Mokameh Jn., Haridih Jn., Bahariya, Luckeesarai Jn., Kufi Jn., Kajra, Abhapur, Dhama, Jamalpur Jn., Barapour & Sultanganj |
| 04016 | Anand Vihar (T) | 15:30 | Sitamarhi | 15:00 | 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC, Sleeper & General | Ghaziabad, Hapur, Moradabad, Bareilly, Shahjehanpur, Hardoi, Lucknow, Gonda Jn., Gorakhpur, Kaptanganj Jn., Siwa Bazar, Bagaha, Harinagar, Narkataganj Jn., Sikta, Raxaul Jn. & Bairagnia |
| 04452 | New Delhi | 18:15 | Howrah | 23:30 | Sleeper & General | Ghaziabad, Aligarh Jn., Tundia Jn., Etawah, Govindpur, Prayagraj Jn., Janghai Jn., Varanasi Jn., Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn., Bhabus Road, Sasaram, Dehri On Son, Anugrah Narayan Road, Gaya, Koderma, Parasnath, Dhanbad Jn., Asansol Jn., Durgapur, Bardhaman & Bandel Jn. |
| 04094 | Hazrat Nizamuddin | 11:00 | Patna Jn. | 05:00 | 1st AC, 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC | Ghaziabad, Govindpur, Prayagraj Jn., Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn., Buxar, Ara & Danapur |
| 04096 | Anand Vihar (T) | 00:05 | Patliputra | 21:30 | 1* AC, 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC Economy, Sleeper & Gen. | Ghaziabad, Kanpur Central, Prayagraj Jn., Varanasi Jn., Ghazipur City, Phepha Jn., Ballia, Sahatwar, Bakulha, Chhapra & Dighwara |
| 04098 | New Delhi | 09:30 | Hasanpur Road | 12:00 | 3 Tier AC Economy & General | Ghaziabad, Kanpur Central, Umasi Jn., Aishbagh, Badshahnagar, Barabanki Jn., Burhwal Jn., Gonda Jn., Gorakhpur, Kaptanganj Jn., Siwa Bazar, Bagaha, Narkataganj Jn., Bettia, Sagauli Jn., Bagudim Mothari, Muzaffarpur Jn. & Samastipur Jn. |
| 02878 | Anand Vihar (T) | 04:00 | Ranchi | 05:00 | 3 Tier AC Economy | Govindpur, Prayagraj Jn., Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn., Bhabus Road, Sasaram, Dehri On Son, Noidamarg Road, Japla, Garwa Road Jn., Daltingaj, Latihar, Tori, Barka Kana & Muri |
| 04090 | Anand Vihar (T) | 14:25 | Patna Jn. | 11:00 | 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC, Sleeper & General | Kanpur Central, Prayagraj Jn., Varanasi Jn., Ghazipur City, Ballia, Sahatwar, Surainpur, Chhapra & Patliputra |
| 02392 | Anand Vihar (T) | 23:20 | Patna Jn. | 17:20 | 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC, Sleeper & Gen. | Kanpur Central, Prayagraj Jn., Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn., Buxar, Ara & Danapur |
| 02418 | Delhi Jn. | 09:30 | Prayagraj Jn. | 19:40 | 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC Econ, Sleeper & General | Aligarh Jn., Tundia Jn., Etawah, Govindpur & Fatehpur |
| 05220 | Anand Vihar (T) | 12:00 | Muzaffarpur Jn. | 09:45 | 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC, Sleeper & Gen. | Govindpur, Prayagraj, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya, Buxar, Ara, Danapur, Patliputra, Sonpur & Hajipur |
| 03698 | Delhi Jn. | 08:55 | Gaya | 00:30 | 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC, Sleeper & Gen. | Govindpur, Prayagraj, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya, Bhabus Road, Sasaram, Dehri On Son & Anugrah Narayan Road |
| 05580 | Anand Vihar (T) | 05:15 | Purnea Court | 13:45 | 3 Tier AC | Ghaziabad, Hapur, Moradabad, Bareilly, Shahjehanpur, Sitapur Jn., Gonda Jn., Basti, Gorakhpur, Kaptanganj Jn., Sikta, Raxaul Jn., Barauni, Jamalpur, Siwan Jn., Chhapra, Sonpur Jn., Hajipur Jn., Muzaffarpur Jn. & Samastipur Jn. |
| 05284 | Anand Vihar (T) | 07:00 | Muzaffarpur Jn. | 04:50 | 3 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC Economy & General | Moradabad, Shahjehanpur, Hardoi, Lucknow, Gonda Jn., Basti, Gorakhpur, Bagaha, Harinagar, Narkataganj Jn., Bettia, Sagauli Jn., Bagudim Mothari, Muzaffarpur Jn. & Samastipur Jn. |
| 03310 | Delhi Jn. | 11:45 | Dhanbad | 13:00 | 3 Tier AC Economy | Tundia Jn., Govindpur, Prayagraj Jn., Varanasi Jn., Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn., Bhabus Road, Sasaram, Dehri On Son, Anugrah Narayan Road, Gaya, Koderma, Hazaribagh Road, Parasnath & Gomoh |
| 04404 | Shakurbasti | 15:15 | Patna Jn. | 13:30 | Sleeper & General | New Delhi, Ghaziabad, Govindpur, Subedarganj, Mirzapur, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn., Buxar, Ara & Danapur |
| 04406 | Shakurbasti | 20:15 | Saharsa Jn. | 05:30 | Sleeper & General | New Delhi, Ghaziabad, Aligarh Jn., Tundia Jn., Etawah, Kanpur Central, Umasi Jn., Aishbagh, Badshahnagar, Barabanki Jn., Gonda Jn., Basti, Khalilabad, Gorakhpur Jn., Deoria Sadar, Siwan Jn., Chhapra, Sonpur, Hajipur Jn., Muzaffarpur Jn., Samastipur Jn., Dalsingh Sarai, Barauni Jn., Begusarai, Khagaria Jn. & Mansi Jn. |
| 04410 | Shakurbasti | 13:00 | Jhanjharpur Jn. | 18:30 | Sleeper & General | New Delhi, Ghaziabad, Aligarh Jn., Kanpur Central, Umasi Jn., Aishbagh, Badshahnagar, Gonda Jn., Gorakhpur Jn., Kaptanganj Jn., Narkataganj Jn., Raxaul Jn., Sitamarhi & Shisho Halt |
| 04148 | New Delhi | 09:45 | Prayagraj | 20:20 | 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC, Sleeper & General | Aligarh, Tundia, Etawah, Kanpur Central & Fatehpur |

EAST BOUND TRAINS FROM DELHI AREA TERMINALS ON 27.10.2025 (MONDAY)

| | | | | | | |
|-------|--------------------------|-------|---------------|-------|--|--|
| 02252 | New Delhi (Vande Bharat) | 08:35 | Patna Jn. | 21:30 | AC Chair Car | Aligarh Jn., Kanpur Central, Prayagraj Jn., Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn., Buxar & Ara |
| 04204 | New Delhi | 20:20 | Lucknow | 06:35 | 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC, Sleeper & Gen. | Ghaziabad, Hapur, Moradabad, Bareilly, Shahjehanpur & Hardoi |
| 04450 | New Delhi | 15:10 | Dharbhanga | 16:30 | Sleeper & General | Ghaziabad, Aligarh Jn., Kanpur Central, Umasi Jn., Aishbagh, Badshahnagar, Gonda Jn., Gorakhpur, Deoria Sadar, Siwan Jn., Chhapra, Sonpur Jn., Hajipur Jn., Muzaffarpur Jn. & Samastipur Jn. |
| 04454 | New Delhi | 20:00 | Mansi | 23:30 | Sleeper & General | Ghaziabad, Aligarh Jn., Tundia Jn., Etawah, Kanpur Central, Umasi Jn., Aishbagh, Badshahnagar, Barabanki Jn., Gonda Jn., Basti, Khalilabad, Gorakhpur, Deoria Sadar, Siwan Jn., Chhapra, Sonpur Jn., Hajipur Jn., Shahpur Patore, Barauni Jn., Begu Sara & Khagaria Jn. |
| 04456 | New Delhi | 22:40 | Dhanbad | 02:20 | Sleeper & General | Ghaziabad, Hapur, Moradabad, Bareilly, Shahjehanpur, Hardoi, Aamragar, Utrauli Jn., Rae Bareilly Jn., Amethi, Ma Belha Devi Pratapgarh, Bhadohi, Varanasi Jn., Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn., Bhabus Road, Sasaram, Dehri On Son, Anugrah Narayan Road, Gaya, Koderma, Hazaribagh Road, Parasnath & Gomoh |
| 04458 | Anand Vihar (T) | 13:40 | Bhagalpur | 14:30 | Sleeper & General | Ghaziabad, Kanpur Central, Prayagraj Jn., Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn., Buxar, Ara, Patna Jn., Patna Sahib, Fatuha, Khusrapur, Bakhtyarpur Jn., Barh, Mokameh Jn., Haridih Jn., Bahariya, Luckeesarai Jn., Kufi Jn., Kajra, Abhapur, Dhama, Jamalpur Jn., Barapour & Sultanganj |
| 04016 | Anand Vihar (T) | 15:30 | Sitamarhi | 15:00 | 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC, Sleeper & General | Ghaziabad, Hapur, Moradabad, Bareilly, Shahjehanpur, Hardoi, Lucknow, Gonda Jn., Gorakhpur, Kaptanganj Jn., Siwa Bazar, Bagaha, Harinagar, Narkataganj Jn., Sikta, Raxaul Jn. & Bairagnia |
| 04452 | New Delhi | 18:15 | Howrah | 23:30 | Sleeper & General | Ghaziabad, Aligarh Jn., Tundia Jn., Etawah, Govindpur, Prayagraj Jn., Janghai Jn., Varanasi Jn., Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn., Bhabus Road, Sasaram, Dehri On Son, Anugrah Narayan Road, Gaya, Koderma, Parasnath, Dhanbad Jn., Asansol Jn., Durgapur, Bardhaman & Bandel Jn. |
| 04094 | Hazrat Nizamuddin | 11:00 | Patna Jn. | 05:00 | 1st AC, 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC | Ghaziabad, Govindpur, Prayagraj Jn., Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn., Buxar, Ara & Danapur |
| 04096 | Anand Vihar (T) | 00:05 | Patliputra | 21:30 | 1* AC, 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC Economy, Sleeper & Gen. | Ghaziabad, Kanpur Central, Prayagraj Jn., Varanasi Jn., Ghazipur City, Phepha Jn., Ballia, Sahatwar, Bakulha, Chhapra & Dighwara |
| 04098 | New Delhi | 09:30 | Hasanpur Road | 12:00 | 3 Tier AC Economy & General | Ghaziabad, Kanpur Central, Umasi Jn., Aishbagh, Badshahnagar, Barabanki Jn., Burhwal Jn., Gonda Jn., Gorakhpur, Kaptanganj Jn., Siwa Bazar, Bagaha, Narkataganj Jn., Bettia, Sagauli Jn., Bagudim Mothari, Muzaffarpur Jn. & Samastipur Jn. |
| 04090 | Anand Vihar (T) | 14:25 | Patna Jn. | 11:00 | 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC, Sleeper & General | Kanpur Central, Prayagraj Jn., Varanasi Jn., Ghazipur City, Ballia, Sahatwar, Surainpur, Chhapra & Patliputra |
| 03256 | Anand Vihar (T) | 23:30 | Patna Jn. | 18:35 | 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC Economy, Sleeper & Gen. | Govindpur, Prayagraj Jn., Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn., Buxar, Ara & Danapur |
| 03258 | Anand Vihar (T) | 05:00 | Danapur | 20:45 | 3 Tier AC Economy | Kanpur Central, Prayagraj Jn., Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn., Buxar & Ara |
| 02398 | Anand Vihar (T) | 08:20 | Gaya | 00:30 | 1st AC, 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC, Sleeper & General | Govindpur, Prayagraj Jn., Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn., Bhabus Road, Sasaram, Dehri On Son & Anugrah Narayan Road |
| 03640 | Delhi Jn. | 19:00 | Gaya | 11:30 | 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC, Sleeper & General | Kanpur Central, Prayagraj Jn., Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn., Bhabus Road, Sasaram, Dehri On Son & Anugrah Narayan Road |
| 04124 | Hazrat Nizamuddin | 15:45 | Prayagraj Jn. | 09:10 | 3 Tier AC, Sleeper & General | Kosi Kalan, Mathura Jn., Agra Cantt., Dhanpur, Gwalior Jn., Virangana Lakshmi Bai Jhansi, Mau Ranipur, Harpalpur, Kulpahar, Mahoba, Banda Jn., Alara, Chitkot Dham, Manikpur Jn., Dabhaura, Shankargadh |

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Bihar - India's Blackhole ?

In the throes of a decisive election, Bihar today present a picture akin to one it had faced, 25 years ago - a prospect of 'hung assembly'. The country was then led by NDA, under former PM Vajpayee. The then Dy PM, L K Advani, along with Samata party chief and veteran socialist, George Fernandes, helped install Nitish Kumar, as the Chief Minister of Bihar in March 2000. The numbers in the then, undivided Bihar assembly consisting of 343 seats, didn't really favour Nitish Kumar. Lalu Yadav led coalition had drummed up a support of 159 MLAs, including 23 Congress MLAs. With 8 MLAs less, Nitish Kumar could muster only 151 MLAs, yet he was projected as the man of the occasion. Even though the half way majority in Bihar assembly was 163, the governor had sworn, Nitish Kumar as the CM. Lalu had cried foul. But as luck would have it, even before, Nitish Kumar could face the floor test, Lalu Yadav had already stolen the match and Nitish had to resign. Bahubalis and mafia dons like Mohammad Shahbuddin had played a dominant role in maintaining the sham of Lalu Yadav's 'social justice' & 'empowerment of the backward' plank, afloat. Nitish Kumar had to demit CM's office within less than one week of his atonement. Since 1990, the Congress party has always played footsie to the Lalu clan. Just as we have seen over the past 3-4 months, despite all hullabaloo over projection of Tejashwi Yadav as the CM face of Mahagathbandhan, Rahul Gandhi's Congress has finally succumbed to the fate accompli. Back then, in the year 2000, before the floor test, the Sonia led Congress had also succumbed to Lalu's playbook and played a minion's role in securing another term for Lalu's wife Rabri Devi as the CM of Bihar. To be fair, the credit of jungle raj, unleashed by Lalu Yadav and his family over 15 years (1990-2005), lied squarely with the Congress. The deft withdrawal of Congress party as an active player in Bihar politics between 1990 - 2000 and thereafter the active support extended to Lalu Yadav or his family, since 2000 has helped the dynastic Yadav family weathered all political storms. The credit of making RJD the pole vault of Muslim-Yadav-Backward politics in Bihar, actually goes wholeheartedly, to the central Congress leadership.

Given the current waveless election scenario in Bihar, one is, but reminded, of the days, Bihar had suffered some 25 years ago. There exists an all-round confusion, palpable from the various poll surveys, conducted over the past 2 weeks. Most predict a keenly fought contest, giving marginal gains to either of the alliances. Similar to 2020 polls when NDA secured about 0.05% more votes over Mahagathbandhan, the voting preferences this time around also seem, too close to call. A vast majority of voters in Bihar are still, fence sitters. The migrant workforce, consisting of over several lakhs, may exert its influence on the residents who shall vote, but this flock of migrant voters may not stay back to cast their own votes. Approximately 1.7 Cr women voters in the age bracket of 18 year to 45 years, appear to be the major voter swingers, within Bihar. They are the biggest beneficiaries of several government and opposition announced direct benefit schemes. Most of them have been loyal supporters of Nitish & Modi over the past decade, but will they continue to be so, specially after so many lip-smacking allurements from Mahagathbandhan, is yet to be affirmed. Likewise, over 2 Cr voters in the youth category, between the age group of 18 year to 30 years, are undecided, this time around. With NDA promising 5 lakh jobs every



By Ajay Kumar

Commentator & Journalist



year, despite being in government for over 20 years and Mahagathbandhan promising 2.3 Cr jobs within 20 months of assuming power - the youth are yet to firm up their options. Poverty data, underdevelopment data, backwardness index, economic collapse - all these taken together present a very dismal picture of Bihar. Actually, the data complex for Bihar is so muddled this time that most parties are unsure of even their own voters. Overarching these complexities is the caste alliance - which has blurred to such an extent that no analyst is definitive about the caste voting patterns. Frankly, Bihar is a royal electoral mess.

Adding to an impending sense of doom, is the ominous seat sharing formulae adopted last minute by both alliances. Within NDA, the BJP and JDU are fielding 101 candidates each. LJP(RVP) is fighting 29 seats. And then there are candidates of Majhi and Kushwaha. The seat allocation of Mahagathbandhan has been close to bizzare. RJD is putting up 143 candidates, 61 are from Congress, 29 from Left fronts parties and Dy CM face Mukesh Sahini gets 15 seats to show his might. By the way, there are some 13 seats, where the Mahagathbandhan parties are fighting against one-another. In effect, without an alliance partner/partners, no single party can form, its own government in Bihar. A repeat of Maharashtra like scenario for the BJP, is out of question as the party is not even fighting enough seats to secure the largest party status, close enough to forming its own the government. Given the limited Yadav appeal and virtual rejection from Dalits (which is 19% of Bihar's electorate), Tejashwi Yadav is also not in a position to take a shot at forming an RJD led government. Compared with any other state in the country, where electors believe in handing over decisive

majority to one political party or a coalition, Bihar seems to be bucking the trend. While this confabulation creates its own bundle of contraction, the list of contradictions, extend further.

Bucking the national trend over the past decade, the BJP is not the favoured political outfit, when it comes to steering the state. Unlike most North Indian states, BJP has never had a shot at ruling in Bihar as the sole ruling party. Quite like Punjab, Bihar seems to be unaffected by the numerous inroads made by RSS or its affiliate organisations. While Bihar has thrown up many national level BJP leaders like Govindacharya, J P Nadda, Dharmendra Pradhan - at the state level - it seems the BJP is currently saddled with a 7th class pass out, Dy CM Samrat Chaudhary. Despite several cabinet ministers and leading parliamentarians from Bihar - the BJP is yet to identify, a mass leader from its own cadre, in Bihar. Likewise, post Nitish Kumar, what shall be the fate of JDU, is a question best left, unattended. JDU leaders are already looking out from other ships, to sail in. Chiraj Paswan, may dream of a rosy future in Bihar as its future CM, but in reality, he has way lesser chances of making it to the CM's post, when compared to RJD's Tejashwi Yadav.

Within the Mahagathbandhan, the CM face, Tejashwi Yadav is a 9th class pass out. Having dabbled in IPL by singularly 'sitting' in the players box for 4 years, Tejashwi Yadav has had 2 stints of governance experience, both under Nitish Kumar. But let's not forget, during both opportunities, it was 'Papa' Lalu Yadav, who had managed the strings and pulled them too, when needed. While the current CM projection might have defused the family rivalry for now, it's only a matter of time, before

which the Yadav clan heads for a full-fledged, public spat. Undoubtedly Lalu Yadav is trying to do a Mulayam Singh Yadav, redux. Do recall, 'Papa' Mulayam Singh Yadav had settled son, Akhilesh Yadav as the repository of Yadav politics in UP. However when compared to Akhilesh, Tejashwi is a green horn, currently lacking Akhilesh's vision, tact, dark humour and political astuteness. The Dy CM face, Mukesh Sahini, is a 8th fail, former Bollywood set designer / contractor, who believes his 9% caste vote is guarantee enough for his political survival and continued relevance. Days of Left front dominance is long over, despite some meritorious candidates, and as for the Congress, there is hardly a name that inspires confidence.

Interestingly, Prashant Kishor of Jan Surraaj Party has generated a lot of curiosity, but will the tag of NDA's B - Team, seems hard for him to evade.

Since the declaration of Tejashwi Yadav as the CM face for Mahagathbandhan, PM Modi has coined a new term to re-enforce the jungle raj formulation - 'Lathbandgan'. PM Modi and senior BJP leadership shall go out of the way to remind the Bihar elector-ate about the curfew like moribund state of Bihar, under Lalu - Rabri tenure. Candidates like Osama Shahab, son of Bahubali leader Shahabuddin, are being flagged as the poster boy of corrupt and don styled politics of RJD. Dalits are being reminded of their plight under Lalu-Rabri raj and the upper castes are being questioned on their tactic support to RJD & Congress in several assembly constituencies. On the other hand, the NDA is quick to put under the carpet, candidates like Bahubali Anant Singh, who till today is referred as 'Chhote Sarkar' of Mokama. Or for that matter the abject degradation of law and order under JDU-BJP combine over the past 3-4 years.

The billion dollar question hence remain, can Bihar reconcile these myriad contradictions? To an unobserved mind, tracking the social media - its game on between both the alliances. But an astute observer, its actually no ones game. There are no precedents to fall back on - no projections to sustain a analysed formulation - actually, it's all up in the air. But what remain certain though - Bihar is set to witness tumultuous times in weeks to come. With the largest young workforce amongst all states, spreading in all directions seeking employment, sustainability and survival - Bihar, is just a few notches away from a mass eruption. The caste cauldron is about to break, at the seams. Dalits, Backwards and Muslims form more than 87% of Bihar's population. Land is the only currency or ticket to empowerment in Bihar and more than 45% of entire land bank is locked in the hands of less than 3% of the forward caste zamindars. a gigantic economic power shift is knocking on the door. Industrialisation as a means of economic empowerment in Bihar has been ruled out by both the competing alliances. Therefore, it's a matter of time, before Bihar presents a big challenge to national leadership, on account of its enormous population dividend, as a dynamic economic shift is waiting to take place. And given the current political disorientation amongst competing political outfits, its befitting to point out - is Bihar going to become India's blackhole?

Control or surveillance: The broader message of Assam's new laws

"When the State Starts to Intrude on Private Lives: The Broader Message of Assam's New Laws"

In a diverse and multi-religious country like India, when a state formulates policies on matters of personal life, its impact is far from limited. The marriage and population control laws proposed by Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma are sparking a similar national debate. The state government claims the measures are aimed at maintaining "social balance" and curbing "illegal population growth," while critics argue they interfere with civil liberties and religious rights. This contradiction has become the ultimate test of today's politics and society.

Assam has long grappled with issues of migration, population inequality, and communal tension. As a border state, the issue of illegal immigrants from Bangladesh has always been a political issue. Against this backdrop, discussions about a population control law appear to be part of not just a social but also a political strategy. Chief Minister Sarma has stated that certain communities in the state have very high population growth rates, leading to social and economic imbalances. According to him, such drastic measures are necessary to achieve educational and economic equality in the state.

But the question arises: is law the most appropriate solution for population control? Such efforts have been made in India before—the forced sterilization campaign during the Emergency is a case in point. That experience demonstrated that population control cannot be achieved solely through law or punishment, but through education, health, and social awareness. If Assam's proposed law moves toward regulating personal matters such as marriage age, polyandry, or religious conversion, it will raise questions about individual freedom and equal civil rights.

The Constitution grants citizens freedom of religion and lifestyle. Marriage and family are part of a person's privacy. The "right to life and personal liberty" under Article 21 also covers these matters. If a government begins to dictate who marries whom and how, or how many children a person should have, it blurs the boundaries between the state and the individual. This is why many social activists are calling it a "surveillance policy," not a "reformist measure."

There's already an ongoing debate in India about a Uniform Civil Code. This Assam law could further intensify that debate. The government may argue that all citizens, regardless of their religion, should have the same rules. But this concept of equality is meaningful only if it is voluntary and based on consultation, not fear and control. If policies are designed to target a single community, they will lead to division



By Priyanka Saurabh

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The law has sparked renewed debate about individual liberty, secularism, and equal civil rights. Supporters consider it a social reform, while critics denounce it as state interference in private life. Real solutions to population control in India come from education, health, and women's empowerment, not draconian laws. Democracy is strengthened when citizens are empowered, not controlled.

rather than reform.

From a social perspective, population growth isn't solely due to religious or cultural factors. It's more directly influenced by lack of education, poverty, lack of access to healthcare, and gender inequality. Unless women are given adequate education, employment, and decision-making power, family planning laws will remain only on paper. The example of population stabilization set by India's southern states is the result of investments in education and health, not any stringent laws.

In a state like Assam, where literacy rates remain below the national average and rural health infrastructure is weak, social empowerment is needed more than new laws. If the government invests in areas where women's education and health facilities lag behind, population growth may be automatically controlled. Conversely, if the government resorts to harsh measures in the name of control, it could create an atmosphere of distrust and fear.

Politically, this issue presents opportunities for both the opposition and the ruling party. The ruling party is calling it a "bold step towards reform," while the opposition sees it as an attempt at "political polarization." Electoral equations in Assam have always been based on ethnic and religious identities. Therefore, this policy could become a tool to appease one community and make another feel insecure. This is why this issue is spreading rapidly at the national level as well.

In the media and public forums, this issue is being linked to controversial terms like "love jihad," "polyandry," and "population explosion." However, it is important to understand that population control is not merely a matter of religious but also of socio-economic policy. Viewing it through the lens of religion will only deepen the problem rather than resolve it.

The Assam government claims that the law is not intended to target any particular community, but rather to establish social balance. However, in practice, the implementation of such laws remains susceptible to bias. For example, if administrative decisions are made about who should be punished for "polyandry" or "illegal marriage," the decision will depend on the official's personal perception. This is precisely where democratic governance requires transparency and accountability.

Another important aspect is the implementation of laws. India already has many public welfare laws, but their impact has been limited because the political will to implement them has been weak. If the Assam government enacts a new law but its implementation is biased or lax, it will be merely a cosmetic measure. Therefore, any policy should be evaluated not by its purpose but by its implementation.

There's also a psychological aspect to this entire controversy. When citizens in a state feel that the government is interfering in their personal lives, the wall of trust between citizens and the state weakens. That trust is the foundation of democracy. Indian politics

is already experiencing a crisis of trust—trust in institutions is waning, and dialogue is being replaced by accusations and counter-accusations. In such a situation, if policies further divide people, instability in a democratic society is bound to increase.

The global context of this topic is also interesting. China followed a "one-child policy" for decades, the adverse effects of which are now evident—an aging population, a shrinking workforce, and a gender imbalance. China was later forced to reverse its policy. This example makes it clear that strict population control can be detrimental both socially and economically. Such a move is even more sensitive in a democracy like India, where diversity is its greatest strength.

Therefore, governments need to focus not on control but on empowerment. The most effective methods of population control are education, health, employment, and equal opportunity. When citizens have choice and awareness, they naturally gravitate toward smaller and healthier families. This change comes from awareness, not law.

If Assam's proposal is to be truly reformist, it must be detached from political slogans and integrated with practical plans. The goal of population policy should not be merely to reduce numbers, but to enhance the quality of life. The state must understand that discipline comes not from law, but from trust.

Ultimately, this debate will not be limited to Assam. It points to the path India can take—either toward a state of control, where governments dictate every aspect of citizens' lives; or toward a society of awareness, where citizens are responsible for their own decisions. Democracy is truly fulfilled when the state becomes the guide, not the master.

Assam's initiative may stem from sincere concern, but its form and outcome must be carefully decided. In a sensitive democracy, every policy must be judged by its impact, not its slogan. The true test of population control is whether it makes society more free, educated, and empowered—or traps it in a web of suspicion and control. India must choose a path that combines development with respect.



Indian Railways' Initiatives During Festival Season -2025

12075 Special Trains

| Train No. | Station | | Dates | | Frequency | Days of Run |
|-----------|-------------------|-------------------|----------|----------|------------|-----------------|
| | From | To | From | To | | |
| 02251 | Patna | New Delhi | 11.08.25 | 16.11.25 | Tri-Weekly | Tues, Thur, Sun |
| 02252 | New Delhi | Patna | 11.08.25 | 16.11.25 | Tri-Weekly | Mon, Wed, Sat |
| 02253 | Patna | New Delhi | 11.08.25 | 16.11.25 | Tri-Weekly | Mon, Wed, Sat |
| 02254 | New Delhi | Patna | 11.08.25 | 16.11.25 | Tri-Weekly | Tues, Thur, Sun |
| 08439 | Puri | Patna Jn. | 13.09.25 | 29.11.25 | Weekly | Saturday |
| 08440 | Patna Jn. | Puri | 14.09.25 | 30.11.25 | Weekly | Sunday |
| 02811 | Bhubaneswar | Yesvantpur Jn. | 13.09.25 | 29.11.25 | Weekly | Saturday |
| 02812 | Yesvantpur Jn. | Bhubaneswar | 15.09.25 | 01.12.25 | Weekly | Monday |
| 08581 | Visakhapatnam | Smt Bengaluru | 14.09.25 | 30.11.25 | Weekly | Sunday |
| 08582 | Smt Bengaluru | Visakhapatnam | 15.09.25 | 01.12.25 | Weekly | Monday |
| 08547 | Visakhapatnam | Tirupati | 12.09.25 | 26.11.25 | Weekly | Wednesday |
| 08548 | Tirupati | Visakhapatnam | 13.09.25 | 27.11.25 | Weekly | Thursday |
| 08579 | Visakhapatnam | Charlapalli | 12.09.25 | 28.11.25 | Weekly | Friday |
| 08580 | Charlapalli | Visakhapatnam | 13.09.25 | 29.11.25 | Weekly | Saturday |
| 03230 | Patna Jn. | Puri | 25.09.25 | 27.11.25 | Weekly | Thursday |
| 03229 | Puri | Patna Jn. | 26.09.25 | 28.11.25 | Weekly | Friday |
| 03208 | Buxar | Kiul | 21.09.25 | 30.11.25 | Daily | Daily |
| 03207 | Kiul | Buxar | 21.09.25 | 30.11.25 | Daily | Daily |
| 03209 | Jhajha | Danapur | 21.09.25 | 30.11.25 | Daily | Daily |
| 03210 | Danapur | Jhajha | 21.09.25 | 30.11.25 | Daily | Daily |
| 05297 | Patliputra | Balia | 01.10.25 | 30.11.25 | Daily | Daily |
| 05298 | Balia | Patliputra | 01.10.25 | 30.11.25 | Daily | Daily |
| 03215 | Patna Jn. | Thawe Jn. | 01.10.25 | 30.11.25 | Daily | Daily |
| 03216 | Thawe Jn. | Patna Jn. | 01.10.25 | 30.11.25 | Daily | Daily |
| 03677 | Dhanbad Jn. | Gorakhpur Jn. | 21.09.25 | 30.11.25 | Weekly | Sunday |
| 03678 | Gorakhpur Jn. | Dhanbad Jn. | 22.09.25 | 01.12.25 | Weekly | Monday |
| 03043 | Howrah Jn. | Raxaul Jn. | 27.09.25 | 15.11.25 | Weekly | Saturday |
| 03044 | Raxaul Jn. | Howrah Jn. | 28.09.25 | 16.11.25 | Weekly | Sunday |
| 03511 | Asansol Jn. | Patna Jn. | 19.10.25 | 09.11.25 | Weekly | Sunday |
| 03512 | Patna Jn. | Asansol Jn. | 19.10.25 | 09.11.25 | Weekly | Sunday |
| 03131 | Sealdah | Gorakhpur Jn. | 30.09.25 | 18.11.25 | Bi-weekly | Tue, Thur |
| 03132 | Gorakhpur Jn. | Sealdah | 01.10.25 | 19.11.25 | Bi-weekly | Wed, Fri |
| 03527 | Asansol Jn. | Gorakhpur Jn. | 26.09.25 | 07.11.25 | Weekly | Friday |
| 03528 | Gorakhpur Jn. | Asansol Jn. | 27.09.25 | 08.11.25 | Weekly | Saturday |
| 03007 | Howrah Jn. | Khatipura | 28.09.25 | 02.11.25 | Weekly | Sunday |
| 03008 | Khatipura | Howrah Jn. | 30.09.25 | 04.11.25 | Weekly | Tuesday |
| 03109 | Kolkatta Terminal | Vadodara Jn. | 30.09.25 | 25.11.25 | Weekly | Tuesday |
| 03110 | Vadodara Jn. | Kolkatta Terminal | 02.10.25 | 27.11.25 | Weekly | Thursday |
| 03417 | Malda Town | Udhna Jn. | 27.09.25 | 08.11.25 | Weekly | Saturday |
| 03418 | Udhna Jn. | Malda Town | 29.09.25 | 10.11.25 | Weekly | Monday |
| 03187 | Kolkatta Terminal | Madhubani | 30.09.25 | 25.11.25 | Weekly | Tuesday |
| 03188 | Madhubani | Kolkatta Terminal | 01.10.25 | 26.11.25 | Weekly | Wednesday |
| 03465 | Malda Town | Digha | 27.09.25 | 29.11.25 | Weekly | Saturday |
| 03466 | Digha | Malda Town | 27.09.25 | 29.11.25 | Weekly | Saturday |
| 03101 | Sealdah | Malatipatpur | 26.09.25 | 28.11.25 | Weekly | Friday |
| 03102 | Malatipatpur | Sealdah | 27.09.25 | 29.11.25 | Weekly | Saturday |
| 03135 | Sealdah | Patna Jn. | 05.10.25 | 16.11.25 | Weekly | Sunday |
| 03136 | Patna Jn. | Sealdah | 05.10.25 | 16.11.25 | Weekly | Sunday |
| 03430 | Malda Town | Charlapalli | 30.09.25 | 11.11.25 | Weekly | Tuesday |
| 03429 | Charlapalli | Malda Town | 02.10.25 | 13.11.25 | Weekly | Thursday |
| 04131 | Kanpur Central | Smt Bengaluru | 21.09.25 | 09.11.25 | Weekly | Sunday |
| 04132 | Smt Bengaluru | Kanpur Central | 24.09.25 | 12.11.25 | Weekly | Wednesday |
| 07019 | Jaipur Jn. | Hyderabad | 28.09.25 | 23.11.25 | Weekly | Sunday |
| 07020 | Hyderabad | Jaipur Jn. | 26.09.25 | 28.11.25 | Weekly | Friday |
| 07029 | Agartala | Charlapalli | 22.09.25 | 28.11.25 | Weekly | Friday |
| 07030 | Charlapalli | Agartala | 26.09.25 | 24.11.25 | Weekly | Monday |
| 07053 | Kacheguda | Bikaner Jn. | 27.09.25 | 29.11.25 | Weekly | Saturday |
| 07054 | Bikaner Jn. | Kacheguda | 23.09.25 | 25.11.25 | Weekly | Tuesday |
| 07075 | Hyderabad | Gorakhpur Jn. | 22.09.25 | 28.11.25 | Weekly | Friday |
| 07076 | Gorakhpur Jn. | Hyderabad | 28.09.25 | 23.11.25 | Weekly | Sunday |
| 07193 | Hyderabad | Kollam Jn. | 27.09.25 | 29.11.25 | Weekly | Saturday |
| 07194 | Kollam Jn. | Hyderabad | 22.09.25 | 01.12.25 | Weekly | Monday |
| 07230 | Hyderabad | Kanniyakumari | 24.09.25 | 26.11.25 | Weekly | Wednesday |
| 07229 | Kanniyakumari | Hyderabad | 26.09.25 | 28.11.25 | Weekly | Friday |
| 07651 | Jalna | Chhapra | 27.08.25 | 26.11.25 | Weekly | Wednesday |
| 07652 | Chhapra | Jalna | 29.08.25 | 28.11.25 | Weekly | Friday |
| 07153 | Narasapur | Smt Bengaluru | 03.10.25 | 28.11.25 | Weekly | Friday |
| 07154 | Smt Bengaluru | Narasapur | 04.10.25 | 29.11.25 | Weekly | Saturday |
| 07005 | Charlapalli | Raxaul Jn. | 06.10.25 | 24.11.25 | Weekly | Monday |
| 07006 | Raxaul Jn. | Charlapalli | 09.10.25 | 27.11.25 | Weekly | Thursday |
| 07717 | Tirupati | Hisar | 01.10.25 | 26.11.25 | Weekly | Wednesday |
| 07718 | Hisar | Tirupati | 05.10.25 | 30.11.25 | Weekly | Sunday |

| Train No. | Station | | Dates | | Frequency | Days of Run |
|-----------|--------------------|--------------------|----------|----------|------------|---------------|
| | From | To | From | To | | |
| 07017 | Charlapalli | Tirupati | 28.09.25 | 30.11.25 | Weekly | Sunday |
| 07018 | Tirupati | Charlapalli | 29.09.25 | 01.12.25 | Weekly | Monday |
| 07131 | Tirupati | Narasapur | 28.09.25 | 30.11.25 | Weekly | Sunday |
| 07132 | Narasapur | Tirupati | 29.09.25 | 01.12.25 | Weekly | Monday |
| 07233 | Charlapalli | Narasapur | 27.09.25 | 29.11.25 | Weekly | Saturday |
| 07234 | Narasapur | Charlapalli | 28.09.25 | 30.11.25 | Weekly | Sunday |
| 07445 | Kakinada Town | Lingampalli | 22.09.25 | 24.11.25 | Tri-weekly | Mon, Wed, Fri |
| 07446 | Lingampalli | Kakinada Town | 27.09.25 | 29.11.25 | Tri-weekly | Tue, Thu, Sat |
| 07447 | Kakinada Town | Charlapalli | 27.09.25 | 29.11.25 | Weekly | Saturday |
| 07448 | Charlapalli | Kakinada Town | 28.09.25 | 30.11.25 | Weekly | Sunday |
| 07605 | Tirupati | Akola Jn. | 26.09.25 | 28.11.25 | Weekly | Friday |
| 07606 | Akola Jn. | Tirupati | 28.09.25 | 23.11.25 | Weekly | Sunday |
| 07609 | Jalna | Tirupati | 23.09.25 | 24.11.25 | Weekly | Monday |
| 07610 | Tirupati | Jalna | 24.09.25 | 25.11.25 | Weekly | Tuesday |
| 07521 | Cuddapah | Guntakal Jn. | 22.09.25 | 30.11.25 | Daily | Daily |
| 07522 | Guntakal Jn. | Cuddapah | 22.09.25 | 30.11.25 | Daily | Daily |
| 07057 | Purna Jn. | Jalna | 28.09.25 | 30.11.25 | Weekly | Sunday |
| 07058 | Jalna | Purna Jn. | 25.09.25 | 27.11.25 | Weekly | Thursday |
| 07281 | Purna Jn. | Jalna | 22.09.25 | 30.11.25 | Daily | Daily |
| 07282 | Jalna | Nanded | 22.09.25 | 30.11.25 | Daily | Daily |
| 07046 | Charlapalli | Naharlagun | 27.09.25 | 29.11.25 | Weekly | Saturday |
| 07047 | Naharlagun | Charlapalli | 23.09.25 | 02.12.25 | Weekly | Tuesday |
| 08611 | Santragachi Jn. | Ajmer Jn. | 22.09.25 | 24.11.25 | Weekly | Monday |
| 08612 | Ajmer Jn. | Santragachi Jn. | 25.09.25 | 27.11.25 | Weekly | Thurs |
| 02863 | Santragachi Jn. | Yesvantpur Jn. | 25.09.25 | 27.11.25 | Weekly | Thurs |
| 02864 | Yesvantpur Jn. | Santragachi Jn. | 27.09.25 | 29.11.25 | Weekly | Saturday |
| 08109 | Santragachi Jn. | Patna Jn. | 18.10.25 | 01.11.25 | Weekly | Saturday |
| 08110 | Patna Jn. | Santragachi Jn. | 19.10.25 | 02.11.25 | Weekly | Sunday |
| 08629 | Ranchi | Gorakhpur Jn. | 18.10.25 | 01.11.25 | Weekly | Saturday |
| 08630 | Gorakhpur Jn. | Ranchi | 19.10.25 | 02.11.25 | Weekly | Sunday |
| 06085 | Emakulam Jn. | Patna Jn. | 26.09.25 | 28.11.25 | Weekly | Friday |
| 06086 | Patna Jn. | Emakulam Jn. | 22.09.25 | 01.12.25 | Weekly | Monday |
| 06055 | Podanur Jn. | Barauni Jn. | 27.09.25 | 29.11.25 | Weekly | Saturday |
| 06056 | Barauni Jn. | Podanur Jn. | 09.09.25 | 02.12.25 | Weekly | Tuesday |
| 06063 | Coimbatore Jn. | Dhanbad Jn. | 26.09.25 | 28.11.25 | Weekly | Friday |
| 06064 | Dhanbad Jn. | Coimbatore Jn. | 22.09.25 | 01.12.25 | Weekly | Monday |
| 01667 | Rani Kamalapati | Danapur | 27.09.25 | 01.11.25 | Bi-weekly | Sat, Tue |
| 01668 | Danapur | Rani Kamalapati | 28.09.25 | 02.11.25 | Bi-weekly | Sun, Wed |
| 01701 | Jabalpur | Danapur | 26.09.25 | 05.11.25 | Bi-weekly | Wed, Fri |
| 01702 | Danapur | Jabalpur | 27.09.25 | 06.11.25 | Bi-weekly | Thu, Sat |
| 09821 | Sogariya | Danapur | 27.09.25 | 01.11.25 | Weekly | Saturday |
| 09822 | Danapur | Sogariya | 29.09.25 | 03.11.25 | Weekly | Sunday |
| 02192 | Rewa | Rani Kamalapati | 27.09.25 | 01.11.25 | Weekly | Saturday |
| 02191 | Rani Kamalapati | Rewa | 27.09.25 | 01.11.25 | Weekly | Saturday |
| 01704 | Rewa | Dr. Ambedkar Nagar | 27.09.25 | 25.10.25 | Weekly | Saturday |
| 01703 | Dr. Ambedkar Nagar | Rewa | 28.09.25 | 26.10.25 | Weekly | Sunday |
| 09059 | Udhna Jn. | Khurda Road Jn | 01.10.25 | 26.11.25 | Weekly | Wednesday |
| 09060 | Khurda Road Jn | Udhna Jn. | 03.10.25 | 28.11.25 | Weekly | Friday |
| 09025 | Valsad | Danapur | 06.10.25 | 24.11.25 | Weekly | Monday |
| 09026 | Danapur | Valsad | 07.10.25 | 25.11.25 | Weekly | Tuesday |
| 09045 | Udhna Jn. | Patna Jn. | 03.10.25 | 28.11.25 | Weekly | Friday |
| 09046 | Patna Jn. | Udhna Jn. | 04.10.25 | 29.11.25 | Weekly | Saturday |
| 09007 | Valsad | Khatipura | 02.10.25 | 30.10.25 | Weekly | Thursday |
| 09008 | Khatipura | Valsad | 03.10.25 | 31.10.25 | Weekly | Friday |
| 09031 | Udhna Jn | Jaynagar | 05.10.25 | 30.11.25 | Weekly | Sunday |
| 09032 | Jaynagar | Udhna Jn. | 06.10.25 | 01.12.25 | Weekly | Monday |
| 09343 | Dr. Ambedkar Nagar | Patna Jn. | 02.10.25 | 27.11.25 | Weekly | Thursday |
| 09344 | Patna Jn. | Dr. Ambedkar Nagar | 03.10.25 | 28.11.25 | Weekly | Friday |
| 09195 | Vadodara Jn. | Mau | 06.10.25 | 24.11.25 | Weekly | Monday |
| 09196 | Mau | Vadodara Jn. | 07.10.25 | 25.11.25 | Weekly | Tuesday |
| 09043 | Bandra Terminus | Barhni | 05.10.25 | 30.11.25 | Weekly | Sunday |
| 09044 | Barhni | Bandra Terminus | 06.10.25 | 01.12.25 | Weekly | Monday |
| 09117 | Udhna Jn. | Subedarganj | 03.10.25 | 28.11.25 | Weekly | Friday |
| 09118 | Subedarganj | Udhna Jn. | 04.10.25 | 29.11.25 | Weekly | Saturday |
| 09075 | Mumbai Central | Kathgodam | 01.10.25 | 26.11.25 | Weekly | Wednesday |
| 09076 | Kathgodam | Mumbai Central | 02.10.25 | 27.11.25 | Weekly | Thursday |
| 09185 | Mumbai Central | Kanpur Anwrganj | 05.10.25 | 30.11.25 | Weekly | Sunday |
| 09186 | Kanpur Anwrganj | Mumbai Central | 06.10.25 | 01.12.25 | Weekly | Monday |
| 09039 | Udhna Jn. | Dhanbad Jn. | 03.10.25 | 28.11.25 | Weekly | Friday |
| 09040 | Dhanbad Jn. | Udhna Jn. | 05.10.25 | 30.11.25 | Weekly | Sunday |

STATE-WISE (ORIGINATING BASIS) DETAILS OF PUJA SPECIAL TRAINS

| State | No. of Trains | State | No. of Trains | State | No. of Trains | State | No. of Trains | State | No. of Trains | |
|------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| Bihar | 2220 | Chhatisgarh | 60 | Jammu & Kashmir | 99 | Maharashtra | 2190 | Telangana | 307 | |
| Andhra | 382 | Delhi | 1098 | Jharkhand | 244 | Odisha | 139 | Tripura | 90 | |
| Arunachal | 16 | Goa | 61 | Karnataka | 528 | Punjab | 59 | Uttar Pradesh | 1170 | |
| Assam | 80 | Gujarat | 839 | Kerala | 257 | Rajasthan | 961 | Uttarakhand | 115 | |
| Chandigarh | 30 | Haryana | 344 | Madhya Pradesh | 150 | Tamil Nadu | 281 | West Bengal | 355 | |
| | | | | | | | | | Total | 12075 |



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Rana, Rohit and Kohli deny Australia a series sweep

Sydney

India's star batting duo of Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli concluded what could be their last tour to Australia with memorable knocks and an unbeaten 168 run partnership during their side's win over Australia in third Sydney ODI to prevent a series whitewash. Following their mesmerising partnership, the veterans opened up on their chemistry as a batting pair, love affair with Australian conditions and crowds and recent struggles as they came back into international cricket after a long time following their retirements from other two formats.

While the series was lost already, fans at the iconic Sydney Cricket Ground got their money's worth with a Rohit-Virat show which they would remember forever. With a tour to Australia scheduled after the 2027 ODI World Cup, this could very well be their last outing in Australia, and the beloved 'Ro-Ko' pair did not disappoint their fans, putting out a blend of power, precision, strike rotation and technique while chasing 237 runs, one last time for the Aussie crowd, consisting of many people of the Indian diaspora.

Rohit scored an unbeaten 121 in 125 balls, with 13 fours and three sixes, his 50th international century, while Virat bounced back after a rare set-back to two



successive ODI ducks with a masterful 74* in 81 balls, with seven fours, consisting of his trademark drives, calculated strike rotation and risk-free accumulation of 33.57, including two fifties.

"I have always loved coming here, and enjoying playing cricket at this venue (in Sydney). Brought back nice memories of 2008 (his first tour of Australia). It was fun," said Rohit to the broadcasters after the match.

While 38-year-old Rohit expressed doubt if he would come back to Australia as a cricketer with Virat, who will be 37 on November 5, he said they enjoyed their cricket

regardless of all the accolades over the years. "Forget about what happened in the last 15 years, I have always loved playing here, I think it will be the same for Virat as well. Thank you, Australia," he added.

Virat, who had been coming to international cricket after a lengthy time away just like Rohit and looked rusty during his two ducks at Perth and Adelaide, said that even though one plays international cricket for a long time, the game always shows them everything and pointed out how playing the situation brings out the best in him.

He expressed happiness for his partnership with Rohit Sharma, saying that it was their understanding of the game which made them such a formidable pair over the years. During the interview, he pointed out that their era as a formidable batting pair could be traced back to the 2013 ODI series against the Aussies at home, during which both men in their early 20s played some spectacular knocks.

During the 2013 tour, Rohit scored 491 runs in six innings at an average of 122.75 and a strike rate of 108.63, including two centuries and a

Virat during his interview with the broadcasters.

The match saw both players rewrite record books in several ways. Rohit brought up his 50th international century, becoming only the third Indian and 10th overall player to do so.

Rohit also went above Virat Kohli (five centuries in 32 innings) to register his 6th century in Australia in 33 innings by a visiting batter, the most by anyone. 'Hitman' also registered his ninth century against Australia and equaled Tendulkar as the most hundreds by an Indian player against Australia in ODIs. Rohit also overtook former Indian captain Sourav Ganguly (11,363 runs) to become the ninth-highest ODI run-getter, with 11,370 runs in 276 matches and 268 innings at an average of 49.22, with 33 centuries and 59 fifties and a best score of 264.

On the other hand, Virat overtook Kumar Sangakkara to become the second-highest run-getter in ODIs and outdid legendary Sachin Tendulkar to become the top run-getter in limited-overs international cricket.

Now in 305 ODIs, Virat has scored 14,250 runs in 293 innings at an average of 57.69, with 51 centuries and 75 fifties and a best score of 183. He surpassed Sangakkara (14,234 runs in 404 matches with 25 centuries) to get closer to Sachin.

Stage set for epic clash as Mumbai Meteors, Bengaluru Torpedoes gear up for final

Hyderabad

The stage is set for a blockbuster finale to the fourth season of the Prime Volleyball League (PVL) as the Mumbai Meteors go head-to-head with the Bengaluru Torpedoes on Sunday at the Gachibowli Indoor Stadium.

Ahead of the final clash, the coaches and captains of both finalists exuded excitement, mutual respect, and determination during a virtual press conference.

Both teams acknowledged the consistent quality of their opponents. Mumbai Meteors Head Coach Matt van Wazer highlighted the Torpedoes' discipline, stating as per a PVL press release, "They are very disciplined, so just avoiding mistakes is not enough to beat them tomorrow. We will have to do more than that."

He noted the Meteors' strong mental approach, "adding that his team plays every ball as if it's the most important thing in life," a philosophy that keeps pressure at bay.

Both teams displayed top form in the league stage, with the Meteors winning six of seven games and stay-



ing atop the table with 17 points, while the Torpedoes won five of seven matches, finishing in second place with 14 points.

The Meteors Captain Amit Gulia echoed this focus, emphasising teamwork and a continuous forward-looking approach. "We don't have to think much about the last point we lost. We have to think more about the upcoming point," Gulia said, expressing confidence that their rhythm is back and they will win as a team.

The top scorers for the Torpedoes this season have been attacker Joel Benjamin, with 103 points, and Mumbai's Shubham Chaudhary, just a point behind. But Joel

and Bengaluru's Jalen Penrose may find it difficult against Mumbai's blockers Petteer Alstod, Ostvik and Shubham Chaudhary, who both are among the top five blockers in the league.

For the Meteors, the biggest challenge will be Sethu, who has been the best server so far this season with 11 points, tied along with Goa's Rohit Yadav.

The Bengaluru Torpedoes are equally prepared for a high-stakes clash. Head Coach David Lee described Mumbai as "one of the most consistent teams out here," and stressed that their own performance will decide the final. "It's going to be a lot about how we play the game,

not so much how the opponent plays," Lee asserted, emphasising the need to be aggressive and win the serve and pass game.

For the Torpedoes, winning the title would be a validation of years of hard work behind the scenes. "It would be icing on the cake to bring home a championship for Bengaluru," Lee stated. Lee also praised the team's resilient core group, whose "cultural thing to fight till the end" has become a hallmark of the Torpedoes.

While this is the first final for the Meteors, coach David Lee can gain confidence, having been in this position before. He led the side to the final in the second season in 2023, ahead of his side lost to Ahmedabad Defenders.

Bengaluru Torpedoes Captain Matt West championed consistency, advising his team, "Do not change. It is not where you are, it is who you are." He encouraged his players to embrace the moment and enjoy the rare opportunity of playing in a final. "Just execute. If you are good enough that day, you win. And if you are not, the other team wins."

Virat Kohli overtakes Sangakkara to become 2nd-highest ODI run-getter

Sydney

After two successive ducks, star India batsman Virat Kohli returned to his record-breaking ways, overtaking Kumar Sangakkara to become the second-highest run-getter in ODI cricket and surpassing iconic Sachin Tendulkar to become the highest run-getter of all time across all limited-overs international cricket.

Virat, along with Rohit Sharma, turned back the clock with an unbeaten 168-run stand, helping India avoid a series whitewash as they beat Australia by nine wickets in the final ODI at Sydney to end the series on a high.

Virat played a magnificent hand in the partnership, complementing Rohit's power with his supreme wrist work and strike rotation, scoring 74* in 81 balls, with seven fours and runs coming at a strike rate of 91.35.

Now in 305 ODIs, Virat has scored 14,250 runs in 293 innings at an average of 57.69, with 51 centuries and 75 fifties and a best score of 183. He surpassed Sangakkara (14,234 runs in 404 matches with 25 centuries)

to get more closer to Sachin. The Indian icon is the highest run-getter in the ODI format, scoring 18,426 runs in 463 matches at an average of 44.83, with 49 centuries and 96 fifties, and his best score being 200*.

Virat, who also has 4,188 runs in 125 T20s to go along with his ODI runs, has now surpassed Sachin to become the top-run-getter across all limited-overs international cricket (ODIs and T20s), now owning a total of 18,438 runs in both these formats as compared to Sachin's 18,436 runs. The Master Blaster had played just one T20, scoring 10 runs.

Now, Virat has also surpassed Sachin Tendulkar (69 fifty-plus scores) to have the most fifty-plus scores during ODI run-chases (70). This is Virat's 24th 50-plus score (eight centuries and 16 fifties) in 51 innings against Australia, the joint-most alongside Sachin (24 such scores in 70 innings). Now against Australia in ODIs, he has made 2,525 runs in 51 innings and 53 matches at an average of 53.72, with eight centuries and 16 fifties and a best score of 123.

New Zealand quick Kyle Jamieson ruled out ODI series against England

Mount Maungamui

New Zealand speedster Kyle Jamieson has been ruled out of the three-match ODI series against England, scheduled to begin on Sunday, due to side stiffness.

The 30-year-old suffered from side stiffness in his left side during training at Bay Oval on Saturday. Jamieson will return to Christchurch this afternoon for further assessment, aiming to return for the West Indies tour in November.

Blackcaps head coach Rob Walter confirmed the decision to rule out Jamieson was precautionary, possibly stemming from his history of back stress fractures, including one after back surgery.

"Kyle experienced some stiffness in his side after bowling today, and we didn't want to take any risks at



this stage of the summer. We felt it was best for him to sit out this one-day series and give himself the best chance of being ready for the West Indies tour, which starts on November 5 in Auckland."

Walter said as quoted from a statement by New Zealand Cricket. "Walter confirmed that Jamieson's replacement in the ODI squad would be confirmed following the completion of Saturday's opening round of the Ford Trophy one-day competition."

BCCI condemns incident of Aussie women cricketers facing "inappropriate behaviour"

Indore

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) Secretary Devrajit Saikia expressed his discontent with the "unfortunate" incident in which two Australian players competing at the ongoing Women's World Cup allegedly faced "inappropriate behaviour" in Indore.

Saikia expressed his displeasure about the entire incident and praised the State Police for its swift action and said "Very unfortunate incident, and this type of incident brings disrepute. I appreciate the State Police for their prompt action to nab the culprit. Let the law take its course to punish the culprit."

Earlier, speaking to ANI, Indore's Additional Deputy Commissioner of Police (Addl DCP, Crime Branch) Rajesh Dan-



doyan confirmed that on Thursday, around 11 am, two Australian women's cricketers left their team hotel and headed to a cafe. It was during this phase that the two Australian cricketers suffered from "inappropriate behaviour" by the accused, Aqeel, who hails from Azad Nagar.

"The Security officers of the women's Australian Cricket Team filed a complaint that two members of the team faced inap-

propriate behaviour. An FIR was registered, and the accused was identified and arrested following an Intensive Strategic Operation."

The accused Aqeel is a resident of Azadnagar. He has been charged under sections 74 and 78 of the BNS. The incident occurred around 11 am on 23rd October, when members of the women's Australian Cricket Team were walking towards a cafe from their hotel. We

are examining if there were any shortfalls in the security protocols," he said.

The Australian team's management security complained about the "inappropriate behaviour" faced by the two players, and an FIR was subsequently registered. T

Meanwhile, Shiv Sena (UBT) MP Priyanka Chaturvedi weighed in on the "disgraceful" act and highlighted the failure to provide safe spaces for women.

"Disgraceful. We boast about economic growth, but we continue to fail providing safe spaces for women. What a shameful act," Priyanka Chaturvedi wrote on X.

The Indore Police are investigating the security protocol loophole that may have led to the incident.

Ashwin heaps praise on Shreyas for magical catch

New Delhi

Former spinner Ravichandran Ashwin lavished praise on India vice-captain Shreyas Iyer for his remarkable effort in the field to dismiss Alex Carey during the third ODI against Australia at the Sydney Cricket Ground (SCG) on Saturday.

During the 30th over, Alex Carey miscued the shot, and Shreyas turned around and sprinted towards the ball's landing zone from the backward point. He jumped perfectly and managed to hold onto the ball, ending the 50-run partnership with Matthew Renshaw.

Mesmerised by Shreyas' magic, Ashwin took to X, praised the vice-captain for his valiance and wrote on X: "Incredible catch @ShreyasIyer5."

The moment of ecstasy soon turned into a concern when Shreyas landed awkwardly on the ground, injuring his left side, and appeared in pain. As the rest of his teammates checked on him, the medical team arrived on the field for treatment, and Shreyas walked outside the field with the support of a staff member.

Shreyas became the latest injury concern for India after the young all-rounder Nitish Kumar Reddy.

Breaking Time Sudoku

What to do

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digit 1 to 9. Every puzzle has only correct solution.

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Solution, Sudoku

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| 1 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 8 | 4 | 7 | 9 |
| 9 | 8 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 2 |
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| 3 | 1 | 8 | 9 | 7 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 6 |
| 4 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 8 | 5 | 9 | 3 | 7 |

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Indian envoy Kwatra discusses energy trade and ties with US deputy secretary

Washington:
The India-US energy security partnership and recent developments in energy trade and ties were discussed between India's Ambassador to Washington Vinay Mohan Kwatra and Deputy Secretary of Energy James Danly.

The meeting came in the backdrop of the proposed bilateral trade deal between India and the US, which, according to an official, is "very near" to concluding.

"We are very near as far as deal is concerned," the official said on Friday.

Kwatra in a social media post on Saturday said he had a "fruitful discussion" with Danly on the "India-US energy security partnership and shared perspectives on recent developments in energy trade and ties".

Kwatra also met with Lockheed Martin CEO Jim Taiclet. The ambassador said the two had a "productive discussion" on the India-US industrial cooperation and how US defence companies have a key role to play in New Delhi's 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' goals.

On Thursday, Kwatra hosted Republican Senator from Tennessee Bill Hagerty and his wife Chrissy Hagerty at his residence.

"Discussed various facets of our bilateral partnership, including continuing ongoing talks on a mutually beneficial trade deal," Kwatra said in a post on X.

BUSINESS

Pensioners urge HP CM to revise dearness relief to 46 pc



Shimla:
Himachal Pradesh Pensioners' Joint Action Committee on Saturday urged Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu to revise Dearness Relief (DR) by one percentage point to 46 per cent.

In a letter to the chief minister, the Chairman of the committee Suresh Thakur said that the state government has enhanced Dearness Relief (DR) by 3 percentage points to 45 per cent from 42 per cent earlier.

The chief minister on October 15 announced release of 3 per cent Dearness Allowance (DA) for employees and pensioners to be credited with October salaries and pensions, payable in November.

Suresh Thakur said that it is regrettable to point out that the DR for State Government

Russian missile and drone attacks kill 4 in Ukraine

Kyiv:
Russian missile and drone attacks on Ukraine overnight into Saturday killed at least four people and wounded 20, officials said, and prompted fresh pleas from Ukraine's president for Western air defence systems.

In the capital, Kyiv, two people were killed and 13 were wounded in a ballistic missile attack in the early hours of Saturday, Kyiv's police said.

A fire broke out in a non-residential building in one location, while debris from intercepted missiles fell in an open area at another site, damaging windows in nearby buildings, Ukraine's State Emergency Service wrote on the message app Telegram.

"Explosions in the capital. The city is under ballistic attack," Mayor Vitali Klitschko wrote on Telegram during the onslaught.

In the Dnipropetrovsk



Russian missile, drone strikes kill 4 in Ukraine

region, two people were killed and seven wounded, acting regional Gov Vladyslav Haiyenko said, adding that apartment buildings and private homes were damaged in the strikes.

Ukraine's air force said Russia launched nine missiles and 62 drones, of which four missiles and

50 drones were intercepted.

In Russia, the Defence Ministry said its air defences shot down 121 Ukrainian drones over Russia overnight.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Saturday that such attacks intensify Ukraine's need for Patriot

defence systems.

"It is precisely because of such attacks that we pay special attention to Patriot systems — to be able to protect our cities from this horror. It is critical that partners who possess relevant capability implement what we have discussed in recent days," he wrote in English

Ukraine's air force said Russia launched nine missiles and 62 drones, of which four missiles and 50 drones were intercepted.

on X.

"America, Europe and the G7 countries can help ensure that such attacks no longer threaten lives," he said.

Zelenskyy is hoping Ukraine can purchase 25 Patriots from the US to fortify its air defences, particularly in cities.

On Friday, he urged the United States to expand its sanctions on Russian oil from two companies to the whole sector, and appealed for long-range missiles to hit back at Russia.

Zelenskyy was in London for talks with two dozen European leaders who have pledged military help to shield his country from future Russian aggression if a ceasefire stops the more than three-year war.

Cameroon opposition leaders arrested as protests erupt over election results

Yaounde:
Two Cameroon opposition leaders have been arrested, their parties said, as protests rattled the country over the presidential election results that were expected on Monday.

Among those arrested late Friday in the economic hub of Douala were Anicet Ekane and Djeukam Tchameni, two top figures in the Union for Change political platform that endorsed candidate Issa Tchiroma Bakary and his claim to have defeated President Paul Biya in the October 12 election.

The African Movement for New Independence and Democracy (MANIDEM) party said its treasurer and other members were also "kidnapped" by local security forces. It said the aim was "to intimidate Cameroonians."

The circumstances of the arrests were not immediately clear.

Cameroon's electoral body is expected to announce the final election results on Monday, but

opposition supporters have staged protests in recent days warning against an attempt to rig the vote.

While Tchiroma claims to have won based on results he said were collated by his party, Biya's party accused him of trying to disrupt the election.

Protests were held Saturday in Bafoussam, the capital of the West Region, as motorcyclists flooded major roads, calling for a credible election process.

Protesters clashed with security forces in other cities earlier in the week. Some protesters were arrested and one person was killed in the northern city of Garoua, authorities said.

The victim, a 30-year-old primary school teacher identified as Zairatou Hassana, was not among the protesters and was only out to check on her sister who was yet to return from school, Amadou Adj, her uncle, told The Associated Press.

Neglected and ancient trade in Spain gets boost from African migrants

Los Cortijos:
The bells and bleats faded as Osam Abdulmumen, a migrant from Sudan, herded sheep back from pasture, the sun setting over a centuries-old farm in Spain's arid heartland.

From dawn to dusk, Abdulmumen, 25, has looked over a flock of 400 animals for months in Los Cortijos, a village of 850 people in



the plains of Castile-La Mancha, the region in central Spain made famous by the 17th-century classic "Don Quixote." Los Cortijos is among

hundreds of rural villages and towns in the region coping with depopulation that has made it tough to fill a job that has existed since biblical times, but which Spaniards seldom pursue these days: shepherding.

To fill that gap and also find work for recent migrants, a government program is training arrivals like Abdulmumen — many from countries

in Africa, but also from Venezuela and Afghanistan — whom local farms depend upon to herd the animals whose milk produces central Spain's prized sheep's milk cheese.

"I always wanted to work in my country, but there are too many problems," Abdulmumen said inside his tidy, bare one-bedroom apartment in town,

speaking in his limited Spanish. He said he left because of violence but was reticent to say more. "My family can't do much right now. That's why I want to buy them things. A house, too."

The challenges of finding workers in rural Spain are personal for Alvaro Esteban, the fifth-generation proprietor of the farm. Esteban left Los Cortijos

himself for eight years, first to study history at a nearby university, and then to Wales, where he worked odd jobs before returning home during the COVID-19 pandemic. "I didn't see my future here," said Esteban, 32. "But due to life circumstances, I decided to come back and ... being here made me say, Well, maybe there is a future."

Fair trade practices build foundation of thriving economy says Goa CM Sawant

Panaji:
Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant on Saturday noted that assurance of fair weighing scales and accurate packaging build confidence in trade and these just trade practices in turn form the foundation of a thriving economy.

He said such trust not only makes business easier but also gives consumers the peace of mind they deserve.

The chief minister was speaking during inauguration of first national conference of 'Controllers of Legal Metrology 2025' in Panaji. Union Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Pralhad Joshi was also present for the inauguration along with other dignitaries.

"The assurance that a weighing scale is fair or that a packaged product is accurate builds confidence in trade," Sawant maintained, adding this



confidence forms the foundation of a thriving economy.

The chief minister said legal metrology may seem like a specialized field, but it lies at the heart of everyday life, "from the fuel we pump,

to the food we buy, to the gold we weigh".

"Every measure matters. Every gram, every litre, every metre represents the honesty of our markets and the faith of our consumers," he insisted.

Sawant emphasised that to strengthen the capabilities of the state government, the Centre should consider providing it digital secondary standard balances, CNG prover kits, and other essential equipment as

"The assurance that a weighing scale is fair or that a packaged product is accurate builds confidence in trade," Sawant maintained, adding this confidence forms the foundation of a thriving economy.

per OIML (International Organization of Legal Metrology) standards.

Referring to the theme of the conference, 'Ease of Doing Business, Use of Digital Technology, and Consumer Awareness', the CM pointed out that digital transformation has changed the way businesses operate.

"The same change must reflect in our systems and enforcement. When departments adopt digital tools, they make compliance easier for entrepreneurs. Legal metrology can become a true partner in economic growth by making procedures simpler," he added.

Seamless Immigration at Hub Airports

New Delhi:
The government is looking to put in place a seamless immigration process in which a passenger planning to travel overseas through Delhi or Mumbai airports can complete immigration at select origin airports.

The plan being considered by the Civil Aviation Ministry is part of efforts to make key Indian airports international aviation hubs by ensuring seamless, smooth transfer processes.



K Rammohan Naidu on Saturday said the ministry has identified Delhi and Mumbai airports for the first phase to make them international hubs.

For example, Naidu said that if a person is flying from Surat to London, can he or she come to Surat, complete the immigration process

there, and then take the flight from Delhi without leaving the terminal.

"So, these are some things that we are working on, where the passenger, even if he is coming from another point and wanting to travel outside the country, can come to the hub destination, and without doing another immigration, can travel from there.

"This is the D to I (Domestic to International) travel, and there is I to I (International to International) travel also," the minister said.

On the policy framework side, the ministry is actively looking at all these things, Naidu said, adding that the aim is to build a comprehensive passenger transfer ecosystem over the next two to three years.

He spoke on the sidelines after inaugurating the refurbished Terminal 2 (T2) at the Delhi airport.

According to him, the challenge is to ensure seamless passenger transfers in efforts to make India an international aviation hub.

DGCA Reviews Power Bank Fire on Flight

New Delhi:
Aviation regulator DGCA will look into the incident of a power bank catching fire on-board a domestic flight last week, Civil Aviation Minister K Rammohan Naidu said on Saturday.

On October 19, a passenger's power bank caught fire on board a Dimapur-bound IndiGo plane while taxiing at the Delhi airport, and the fire was extinguished by the cabin crew.

In response to a query from PTI, Naidu said the DGCA (Directorate General of Civil Aviation) will review the incident.

"The DGCA is going to take care. They are going to review (the incident)...," he said on the sidelines of an event in the national capital.

There are strict norms in place for carrying electronic goods, especially those with lithium batteries, onboard an aircraft.

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Nimrat Kaur pays tribute to father Major Bhupender Singh

Mumbai Actress Nimrat Kaur paid an emotional tribute to her late father, Major Bhupender Singh, on his 73rd birth anniversary. The 'Airlift' actress on Saturday took to her Instagram account to share pictures from her visit to his memorial in Kashmir, the place where he was martyred in 1994. Along with the pictures, Nimrat also penned a heartfelt note sharing how the experience of visiting the memorial felt "beyond words."

Along with the pictures, Nimrat also penned a heartfelt note sharing how the experience of visiting the memorial felt "beyond words."

Mumbai Nimrat also penned a heartfelt note sharing how the experience of visiting the memorial felt "beyond words." In her note, she wrote, "A year ago today, on Papa's birth anniversary, his life's journey was immortalised at his birthplace, Mohanpura, Rajasthan by the Indian Army in recognition of his service to the nation. What we didn't know then was that within a year, we would witness a further cementing of that dream on the soil where he was martyred. "Mamma and I had the honour of visiting both his memorial in Beacon in Srinagar Cantonment and the first glimpse of the Kashmir valley after Banihal Tunnel, dedicated to him called Titanic View Point on NH 44, where Papa last served as an officer and where we spent our last days together as a family," a part of her post read. Sharing her emotions further, the actress remembered her father's war cry and his lifelong dedication to service. "Papa's sacrifice left behind a lifelong legacy of goodwill for our family. A slogan he lived and died by comes to mind, Agrani Ajay -- a true Bengal Sapper's war cry. Happy birthday, Papa..." she wrote.



Bad Bunny dominates 2025 Latin Billboard Music Awards with 11 wins

Miami rapper Bad Bunny emerged as the biggest winner at the 2025 Latin Billboard Music Awards, sweeping an impressive 11 wins and reaffirming his dominance in the music scene. The Miami-based artist, known for his genre-blending sound, took home awards in multiple categories, including Best Male Artist, Best Latin Rap Album, and Best Latin Rap Song. His album 'Dilemma' was named Best Latin Album, and his single 'Monjas' won Best Latin Rap Song. Other winners included Karol G for Best Female Artist, Jhay Cortez for Best Latin Rap Album, and Jhay Cortez for Best Latin Rap Song. The ceremony, held in Miami, celebrated the best in Latin music for the year.

The singer came in strong across multiple categories, including artist of the year, songwriter of the year and top Latin album for Debi Tirar Mas Fotos, among others. Karol G earned five nominations for her hit 'Si Antes Te Hubiera Conocido,' including Latin Airplay Song of the Year. She was also named a finalist in several major categories -- Global 200 Latin Artist of the Year, Hot Latin Songs Female Artist of the Year, and Top Latin Rhythm Album for "Tropicoqueta."

Line cross mat karna... says Salman as he warns Farrhana Bhatt

Mumbai The upcoming episode of 'Bigg Boss 19' is set to be full of drama as host Salman Khan will be seen taking contestant Farrhana Bhatt to task for her remark about fellow housemate Neelam Giri. The 'Weekend Ka Vaar' episode will see Salman addressing tensions in the house with his usual style. In the new promo shared by the makers on Saturday, Salman begins the conversation with a light-hearted tone as he sings, "Dost dost na raha, pyaar pyaar na raha" (Friends are no longer friends, love is no longer love), hinting at Tanya Mittal and Neelam Giri's friendship that took a hit earlier this week. He then adds, "Neelam Sab log apki aur Tanya ke ladai mein apni rotiyaan sek raha tha. Pata hai aisa kyun ho raha tha? Rotiyaan sekne ke liye chulla jo tha, woh swayam aap hi ne jalaya tha." (Everyone was taking advantage of your fight with Tanya. Do you know why? Because you were the one who lit the fire in the first place.) Later in the promo, Salman is seen bashing Farrhana, warning her to mind her language. The actor, in the promo, says, "Naachnewali, ye jo bomb daala hai apne..." (You called her a dancer, this bomb you dropped...), to which Farrhana laughs nervously. Salman's tone then turns serious as he warns her, "Line cross mat karna, Farrhana." (Don't cross the line, Farrhana.)



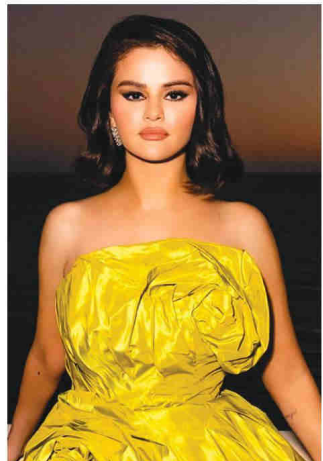
Amul pays tribute to ad icon Piyush Pandey with special doodle

Mumbai Following the demise of advertising legend Piyush Pandey, on Saturday, paid a tribute to him with a special doodle. The post, shared on Amul's official Instagram handle, featured the line, "Inka sur sabse mila", with the caption, "Amul Topical: Tribute to one of India's advertising legends!" The doodle was a heartfelt nod to Pandey's contribution to Indian advertising and his connection to the iconic national integration song 'Mile Sur Mera Tumhara', which he helped craft during his illustrious career. Known for its topical and witty tributes, Amul's gesture resonated with industry peers and fans alike, many of whom remembered Pandey as the creative genius who reshaped the country's advertising landscape. Advertising legend Piyush Pandey died on Friday morning due to pneumonia complications. After learning about his demise, many took to social media to express their condolences. Superstar Shah Rukh Khan remembered Pandey with a heartfelt message, writing, "Working and being around Piyush Pandey always felt effortless and fun. Was an honour being part of the pure magic he created. He carried his genius so lightly and revolutionised the ad industry in India."



'Bridgerton' creator Chris Van Dusen joins 'Calabasas' as new showrunner

Los Angeles 'Bridgerton' creator Chris Van Dusen has come on board for 'Calabasas' series as new showrunner. Calabasas is executive produced by Kim Kardashian and Emma Roberts. Van Dusen replaces Pretty Little Liars creator I. Marlene King who was originally attached as showrunner of the drama, based on the book 'If You Lived Here You'd Be Famous By Now' by Via Bleidner, as per Deadline. She has stepped away from the project after working on it for over a year. Van Dusen will now write the adaptation and serve as showrunner. He will executive produce via his CVD Productions alongside Karadashian, Beltrist Productions' Roberts, Karah Preiss and Matt Matraski as well as Alexandra Milchan (Tar), who had the rights to the book, through her Crescent Line banner. In the vein of The O.C. and Beverly Hills, 90210, Calabasas follows Via, a 16-year-old sheltered Midwestern Catholic school girl whose world is turned upside down when her family moves and she's forced to transfer to the fast world of Calabasas High where nothing is as it appears and where everyone is trying to be someone else. It's a place where dreams come true... but not without complications and sometimes unforeseen consequences.



Selena Gomez releases new song 'In The Dark'

New York Singer-actor Selena Gomez treated her fans to a new video once again. Gomez released a new song titled "In The Dark," along with its official music video, earlier this week. The track is part of the 'Nobody Wants This Season 2: The Soundtrack,' which also features artists like Chris Stapleton, Kacey Musgraves, and FINNEAS, according to PEOPLE. In the video, directed by Luke Orlando, Gomez is seen wearing an all-black outfit as she walks through large, open spaces, singing about love and acceptance in difficult times. She sings, "And I'll be there when you lose yourself / To remind you of who you are / And I'll be there like nobody else / You're still beautiful in the dark." After releasing the video, Gomez shared a short clip on Instagram, writing, "In The Dark' is out now. This is just a little nostalgia droplet and I hope you love it."

Ariana Grande says 'Wicked' helped her fall in love with music again

New York Ariana Grande recently shared how working on 'Wicked' helped her reconnect with her passion for music. According to PEOPLE, the 32-year-old singer, while speaking in an interview on the Shut Up Evan podcast with Evan Ross Katz said filming the musical gave her a "genuine spark" that reminded her of why she loves creating songs. "I felt like a genuine spark, like a reconnection and inspiration and something I mean, maybe I missed it," she said. "Maybe it's as simple as I missed it," she continued. "But I do feel like you have to miss things in order to learn how to become better, you know what I mean? And I think I learned so much. And then also I genuinely wanted to do it. I just felt like I couldn't not. It was an inspired moment and I had to write an album and I had to do it." Grande went on to share that even though the Wicked team warned her about a busy reshot schedule, she didn't let that stop her from working on her new album.

