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# TOP STORY

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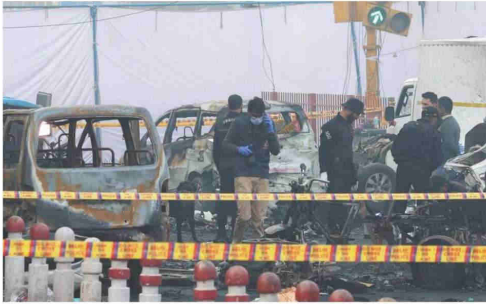
New Delhi  
A medical college professor and a cardiology student, both from Jammu and Kashmir, were detained in Uttar Pradesh in connection with the Delhi blast even as investigators said more attacks were planned in four cities across the country by an interstate 'white-collar terror' module.

Meanwhile, the government on Thursday ordered a forensic audit of all records of the Al Falah University, which is under the scanner following the Delhi blast, besides asking the ED and other financial investigative agencies to check the money trail of the Haryana-based institution, sources said.

The car blast near Red Fort on Monday night claimed 13 lives and injured several others.

In the evening, the Association of Indian Universities (AIU) suspended the university's membership, saying it "does not appear to be in good standing".

The National Assessment and Accreditation Council had earlier issued a show-cause notice to Al Falah University for displaying false certification on its website.



Dr Farukh, an assistant professor of obstetrics at Hapur's GS Medical College, was detained by Delhi Police from the college campus on Wednesday night.

He completed his medical education from Al Falah University. Muhammad Arif Mir (32), a first-year DM student at Laxmi Pat Singhania Institute of Cardiology and Cardiac

surgery of the state-run Ganesh Shankar Vidyaarthi Memorial (GSVM) Medical College in Kanpur, was detained by the Uttar Pradesh ATS.

The UP ATS later searched Arif's rented accommodation in Ashok Nagar, Nazirabad, and seized his mobile phone and laptop for forensic examination before taking him to Delhi for questioning.

A native of the Khagur Sadwaria area in Jammu and Kashmir's Anantnag, Arif came on the



ATS radar following disclosures made by former GSVM professor Dr Shaheen Sayeed, who has been arrested in connection with the terror module.

The Delhi Police also reconstructed Dr Umar Nabi's last hours, right from leaving Faridabad the night before the blast to his execution, using footage from more than 50 cameras.

The investigators have found that the three suspects - Dr Nabi, who was behind the wheels of the

Hyundai i20 that was laden with explosives, Dr Muzammil Ahmad Ganaie, and Dr Shaheen Shahid - allegedly used a Switzerland-based encrypted messaging app Threema to plan and coordinate their activities related to the terror conspiracy.

Umar had also created a Signal app group with two to four members to coordinate their operations.

During the day, a high-level meeting chaired by Union Home Minister Amit Shah reviewed for one-and-a-half hours the progress of the ongoing investigation.

An order has been issued to carry out a forensic audit of all records of Al Falah University. The ED (Enforcement Directorate) and other financial agencies were also asked by the government to check the money trail of Al Falah University, a source said after the meeting.

The Congress demanded that Prime Minister Narendra Modi should immediately

## Bihar awaits verdict after record-breaking voter turnout



TSN/Patna  
Bihar stands on the threshold of a defining political moment as counting begins on Friday following one of the most remarkable elections in the state's history. The two-phase Assembly polls recorded the highest voter turnout since 1951, marking a new milestone in Bihar's democratic journey.

According to the Election Commission of India (ECI), overall voter participation stood at 66.91 per cent, surpassing all previous records. In a striking display of political engagement, women once again outnumbered men at the ballot box, with a turnout of 71.6 per cent compared to 62.8 per cent

among male voters - the highest-ever female voter participation in the state's electoral history.

Polling was conducted across all 38 districts and 243 Assembly constituencies, encompassing a total electorate of 7.43 crore citizens. Among them, over 3.93 crore were men, 3.51 crore women, and 1.225 identified as belonging to the third gender. The electoral roll also included 7.2 lakh voters with disabilities, 14 lakh first-time voters aged 18-19, and over four lakh senior citizens above 85 years of age. The current Bihar Assembly's term expires on November 22, 2025.

Agency

## Delhi blast perpetrators will face strictest punishment: Shah

Mitali Chandola  
New Delhi  
Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday said the punishment for those behind the blast in Delhi will send a message to the world that no one should ever dare to even think of such an attack again.

Shah was speaking, through video link, at the inauguration of Shri Motibhai R. Chaudhary Sagar Sainik School and Sagar Organic Plant at Borjavi village in Gujarat's Mehsana district.

His scheduled visit to the state was cancelled in the aftermath of the blast near the Red Fort on Monday evening that claimed 13 lives. "All those who committed this cowardly act and those behind it will be brought before the law and given the strictest possible punishment. The Government of India and Ministry of



Home Affairs are fully committed to ensuring this," Shah was quoted as saying in an official release.

He also expressed deep condolences for the families of the victims of the blast, it said.

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi's resolve to ensure strict punishment for all those responsible for this terrorist act will definitely be fulfilled," Shah said, as per the Press Information Bureau release.

Agency

## Six killed as car crushed between two trucks in Pune blaze

Pune  
Six persons were killed after a car got crushed between two large container trucks that caught fire on a bridge along the Mumbai-Bengaluru Highway in Pune city on Thursday, police said.

More than 10 persons were injured in the accident that took place on the Navale Bridge in the evening, they said.

"As per the preliminary information, a heavy container truck was going towards Mumbai on the highway. When it reached the bridge, its driver lost control over it due to a suspected brake failure. This large vehicle then hit another big container moving ahead. However, a car running between these two containers got crushed," Deputy Commissioner of Police (Zone 1) Sambhaji Kadam said.

The accident triggered a huge fire and the vehicles got engulfed in it, he said.

"Six persons died in the accident and more than 10 others were injured," the official added.

Efforts to pull out the bodies out from the mangled remains were on, and the injured were rushed to a hospital, he said.

City Commissioner of Police Amitesh Kumar, who visited the spot, said, "The fire erupted due to the impact of the collision."

In the videos that surfaced after the accident, the car is seen crushed between the two heavy vehicles that got engulfed in a huge fire. Agency

## Pilot not blamed for Air India crash: Govt tells SC

New Delhi  
A bench of Justices Surya Kant and Jaymalaya Bagchi was told by Solicitor General Tushar Mehta that the (AARB) probe team into the plane crash was formed under the international regime and there is a statutory provision for it.

Justice Bagchi said, "The AARB inquiry is not for apportion blame on anyone. It is only to clarify the cause so that the same does not happen again."



the accident of such a major scale.

He said that a pilot federation has stated that these airplanes cannot be trusted and there is a huge risk for people flying in their aircraft.

Justice Kant said these proceedings should not become a fight between one airline versus another

airline, and asked Mehta to file the response to the plea filed by the father of the deceased.

The bench adjourned the matter for further hearing after two weeks.

On June 12, Air India's Boeing 787-8 aircraft operating flight AI171 en route to London's Gatwick airport crashed into a medical hotel complex shortly after taking off from Ahmedabad, killing 265 people, including 241 passengers and crew on board.

Among the 241 dead were 169 Indians, 52 Britons, seven Portuguese nationals, one Canadian, and 12 crew members. Agency

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Professor, cardiology student held; more attacks were planned in 4 cities

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chair an all-party meeting and the Winter Session of Parliament, scheduled to start on December 1, be advanced so that there could be a debate on the incident.

Congress' media and publicity department head Pawan Kherra called for fixing of accountability, asking whether Home Minister Shah take responsibility, given that several major terror attacks have occurred.

Police, investigating the blast, said the suspects had pooled more than Rs 26 lakh in cash, which was handed over to Dr Umar for safekeeping and operational use.

Using the pooled money, the group had allegedly purchased around 26 quintals of NPK (nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium) fertiliser, approximately worth Rs 3 lakh, from suppliers in Gungnam, Nuli, and nearby towns. The fertiliser, mixed with other chemicals, is commonly used to manufacture Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs).

Around eight suspects were planning to carry out blasts in cities and were planning to move in batches of two to each city to target them, police sources said.

Notebooks and diaries recovered from the rooms of Dr. Mumtaz (Room 13) and Dr. Umar (Room 4) at the campus of Al Falah University contained several coded entries, names, and numerical sequences dated between November 8 and 12, suggesting detailed planning for multiple attacks. They also had read accommodations to store explosives.

The repeated use of the term "operation" in the documents pointed to a high-level of coordination and organisation. Investigators found references to around 25-30 individuals, primarily from Jammu and Kashmir -- the home state of the two doctors -- as well as from Faridabad and adjoining areas, shedding light on the structure and reach of what officials are calling a "white coat terror module".

**Advt Contact:**  
9818-799941

## Two economic spiritual zones to be set up to promote ayurveda wellness: Uttarakhand CM

Haridwar:

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami on Thursday announced the establishment of two 'economic spiritual zones' in the state.

In his inaugural address at the three-day international conference PGICON-2025 at the Kaya Ayurvedic Medical College and Hospital in Bhubaneswar, Nainital district, the chief minister stated that economic spiritual zones would be established in each of the state's two divisions -- Garhwal and Kumaon.

He highlighted that these zones will focus on promoting industries related to yoga, Ayurveda, meditation, spiritual tourism, and traditional medicine.

"This initiative will develop Uttarakhand as a new model for the spiritual and wellness

# SC expresses displeasure over banks lodging cheque bounce cases at distant locations

New Delhi: Expressing displeasure over the "misuse of law" and "harassment" meted out to small-time borrowers by financial institutions and banks by lodging cheque bounce cases at distant locations in the country, the Supreme Court on Thursday said it would examine the issue and settle the law.

A bench of Justices Surya Kant and Joymalya Bagchi expressed shock over a case in which one Golla Narasiah Kumar Yadav sought the transfer of a case lodged by Kotak Mahindra Bank before the chief judicial magistrate at Chandigarh to a court of metropolitan magistrate in Adoni of Kurnoor district in Andhra Pradesh.

Appearing for Yadav, the bench was informed by advocate P Mohith Rao that the bank has lodged the case at Chandigarh despite all transactions having taken place in Andhra Pradesh, which is creating difficulties for the petitioner.

He said that the borrower of the credit fa-



ilities from the bank regularly paid the loan instalment but the case was lodged due to a small default.

The bench asked the counsel appearing for the bank as to why the complainant was lodged against Yadav in Chandigarh when the entire transaction had taken place in Andhra Pradesh.

The counsel for the bank said that they have

an office in Chandigarh which deals with the loan for which the petitioner is a guarantor.

"Just because you have an office in Chandigarh, you will lodge a complaint there. This is unfair and harassment of small-time borrowers."

"What makes you think that you will not get justice in Andhra Pradesh? Chandigarh courts are not sitting idle," Justice

Kant told the counsel for the bank.

Rao told the bench that this is a problem which is happening day in and day out, and the apex court is flooded with cases where litigants, who are sometimes small borrowers, have to seek transfer of the cases lodged against them.

"They file cases in Delhi, Calcutta or any other city while transactions nor-

He said that the borrower of the credit facilities from the bank regularly paid the loan instalment but the case was lodged due to a small default.

mally have taken place in some other distant part of the country," he submitted.

Justice Kant told the bank's counsel, "You are like an octopus. You have offices everywhere, so does it mean you will file cases here and there? We are opening courts everywhere but you still file cases at distant places, just to harass the borrowers. Where is the access to justice?"

The counsel for the bank said the complaint was filed under the provisions of the Negotiable Instrument Act and the 2015 amendment to the law provided for it.

Justice Bagchi said the question is not of territorial jurisdiction but in transfer cases, the court normally looks at the convenience of the parties.

Justice Kant intervened and told the bank, "Just because you can file a complaint anywhere in the country where you have a collection centre, does not mean you will harass these small-time traders or borrowers."

The bench said, "It means if transactions took place in Srinagar, you will file a complaint in Kanyakumari or Coimbatore. This was not the intent of the legislation. It is a misuse of the law. We will examine this issue and pass orders and set the law."

The top court allowed the petition of Yadav and transferred the case to the court in Andhra Pradesh.

It asked Rao to find out how many complaints the bank has filed in Chandigarh, which court is examining them and the status of those cases.

The case pertained to a Cotton trading company situated in Andhra Pradesh which obtained credit facilities like overdraft in 2021 from the bank through its branch situated at Adoni in Kurnoor district.

The ramped system introduces AI-powered chat and voice bots to assist applicants, auto-filled digital forms, faster document uploads, and secure online payments via UPI and QR codes. This digital-first approach ensures greater transparency, shorter processing times, and a user-friendly experience for millions of passport seekers.

The introduction of the e-Passport marks a watershed moment in India's passport history. Embedded with a Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) chip and an antenna that securely stores biometric and personal data as per ICAO standards, the e-Passport significantly enhances both security and global acceptance.

**The case was registered on against three officials of the MCD's Najafgarh Zone — Executive Engineer R.C. Sharma, Assistant Engineer Navin Kaul, and Junior Engineer Ajay Babbarwal.**

all the ac-cused.

During the raids, the CBI recovered substantial quantities of cash, gold jewellery, and documents related to property holdings, suggesting possible links to disproportionate assets. The agency said these recoveries would form a critical part of the ongoing probe into corruption and misuse of official position within the MCD's engineering wing.

Sources indicated that the investigation aims to unearth a wider nexus of officials allegedly involved in bribery for bill clearances — a recurring pattern in civic con-tracts. The CBI has maintained that it will pursue the case to its logical conclusion and ensure accountability within the municipal system.

## India Enters a New Era of Secure Travel with Passport Seva 2.0 and e-Passports

Mitali Chandola  
New Delhi

In a major leap towards digital governance and citizen convenience, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has successfully rolled out the upgraded Passport Seva Programme (PSP V2.0), the Global Passport Seva Programme (GPSP V2.0), and the e-Passport initiative—transforming the way India issues and manages passports, both domestically and globally.

Implemented across 37 Passport Offices, 93 PSKs, and 450 Post Office Passport Seva Kendras (POPSKs) on May 26, 2025, PSP V2.0 is now fully operational in India. Soon after, GPSP V2.0 was launched in Indian embassies and consulates across the world on October 28, 2025, bringing a unified and seamless experience for citizens abroad.

The revamped system introduces AI-powered chat and voice bots to assist applicants, auto-filled digital forms, faster document uploads, and secure online payments via UPI and QR codes. This digital-first approach ensures greater transparency, shorter processing times, and a user-friendly experience for millions of passport seekers.

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## BJD alleges foul play after 91 per cent polling in 41 booths

Bhubaneswar:

Ahead of vote counting for the Nuapada Assembly by-election, the Opposition Biju Janata Dal (BJD) on Thursday questioned the credibility of the polling process, expressing "serious doubts" over a reported 91 per cent voter turnout in 41 booths.

The party described the entire by-poll as "unfair" and accused the ruling BJP of misusing administrative machinery.

Addressing a press conference in Bhubaneswar, senior BJD leaders including vice-president Atanu S Nayak, general secretary Le-khashree Samantsingh, and spokesperson Lenin Mohanty alleged that the by-election was far from being free and fair.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known to the public in general on behalf of my client Sh. Rajesh Dabas S/o L. Sh. Jyotsna Singh R/o VPO Ladpur, Delhi-110081 Mob. No. 9826248461, that his mother Sant. Dhanoo expired on 22.01.2024 at the residence and at the time of providing information for preparing death certificate, a mistake occurred by oversight stating date of death 22.05.2024 which is incorrect. Necessary steps have been taken by my client to get the date of death of Sant. Dhanoo corrected to 22.01.2024. Till today any person who has signed the date of the death of his mother Sant. Dhanoo in any manner before any authority concerned.

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## Women's World Cup stars meet Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw

Staff Reporter  
New Delhi:

Three players from India's winning ICC Women's World Cup 2025 team—specially a batter, Pratika Rawal; a bowler, Renuka Singh Thakur; and an all-rounder, Sneha Rana—met with Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw in New Delhi. All three athletes are employees of Indian Railways, and the Minister congratulated them for their significant contributions to India's World Cup victory.

The Minister expressed happiness in meeting the champions, who shared their inspiring stories and experiences from their journeys in cricket. Pratika Rawal, an opening batter from Delhi, joined Indian Railways in April 2023 and was promoted to Senior Clerk. Despite getting injured early in the World Cup, she motivated her teammates with her composed batting and strong understanding of the game. Renuka Singh



Thakur, from Himachal Pradesh, joined Indian Railways in December 2020 and is known for being a consistent match-winner with her off-spin bowling and middle-order batting during the tournament. She finished the World Cup with seven wickets in six matches and scored 90 runs, averaging 49.50. Indian

all-rounder from Uttarakhand and part of Indian Railways since 2018, contributed greatly with her off-spin bowling and middle-order batting during the tournament. She finished the World Cup with seven wickets in six matches and scored 90 runs, averaging 49.50. Indian

Railways has a strong tradition of supporting athletic talent, helping athletes excel across various sports and achieve national honors.

Through the Railway Sports Promotion Board, Indian Railways provides excellent training, job security, and support to athletes, enabling them to thrive in their sports careers.

## Union Minister Sonowal unveils Rs 1500 crore infra CSR projects in Mangaluru

Mangaluru:

Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal on Thursday unveiled 16 infrastructure and 113 CSR projects worth Rs 1,500 crore at the golden jubilee celebrations of the NMPA here.

Speaking at the event, Sonowal said the projects mark a major step in strengthening India's maritime infrastructure under the government's Maritime India Vision 2030 and Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047.

The Union Minister of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways added that New Mangalore Port Authority has signed MoUs worth Rs 52,000 crore as part of India Maritime Week 2025 in Mumbai, according to a press release.

Tracing the port's five-decade journey since its commissioning in 1975,



Sonowal said NMPA now handles over 46 million tonnes of cargo annually and aims to reach 100 million tonnes by 2047. The port has achieved 92 per cent mechanisation and operates as India's largest coffee exporter and second-larg-

est LPG importer, the release said.

Sonowal also inaugurated the renovated Mangalore Marine College and Technology (MMCT) campus and a new Rs 9.51-crore office building of the Mercantile Marine Department

(MMD).

He highlighted that the number of Indian seafarers has risen from 1.08 lakh in 2014 to over 3.2 lakh now, projecting that one in every five global seafarers will be Indian by 2030, the release added.

The minister said NMPA has transitioned to 100 per cent solar power and adopted green cargo policies.

Karnataka has 32 ongoing Sagarmala projects worth Rs 6,526 crore to boost port-led industrial and coastal development, he added.

Union Minister for Parliamentary Affairs Pralhad Joshi, MP Brijesh Chovta, former MP Nalin Kumar Kateel, MLAs Dr Bharath Shetty and D Vedavyasa Kamath, and senior port and shipping officials were present.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Power supply disconnected due to non-payment of bills

**Noida**  
The Noida Power Company Limited (NPCL) disconnected the electricity supply of the common area of Newtech La Galaxy Society located in Surajpur Site-C on Thursday for not paying the outstanding bill of about Rs 8 lakh.

The society has a bill due for more than four months. Electricity is being supplied to the flats. The electricity of the sub-registrar office located in sector Gamma-2 was disconnected on Tuesday. NPCL spokesperson Manoj Jha said that the electricity of the common area of Newtech La Galaxy Society Block-H located in sector Surajpur Site-C has been disconnected for not paying the outstanding bill.

The society has an outstanding electricity bill of approximately Rs 8 lakh. The department sent several notices to the society management to pay the outstanding amount, but the bills were not paid. The flats of the residents of this society have multi-point connections.

Manoj Jha stated that electricity in the common areas has been disconnected due to non-payment of the outstanding bill amounting to lakhs of rupees. Electricity supply to all the flats in the society will continue uninterrupted as before. Electricity supply to the common areas will be restored only after the outstanding bills are paid.

It is worth noting that this society's electricity has already been disconnected twice for non-payment of outstanding bills. The NPCL also disconnected the power supply to the sub-registrar office in sector Gamma-2, Greater Noida, on Tuesday due to non-payment of an outstanding electricity bill of approximately Rs 40 lakh. According to an NPCL official, the sub-registrar office has not paid the electricity bill since November 4, 2023.

Air quality monitoring station set up near airport

**Noida**  
An air quality monitoring station has been set up at Dayanaut village, near the Noida International Airport. This station will provide real-time monitoring of the air quality of the surrounding areas. This initiative is being considered a significant step towards environmental protection and pollution control.

Advanced sensors installed at the air quality monitoring station will continuously measure levels of PM 2.5, PM 10, temperature, humidity, and various harmful gases. The data will reflect the actual pollution level, allowing timely corrective action. This will ensure environmental standards during construction activities and operations.

The Noida International Airport aims to be developed as the country's first net-zero carbon emission airport. The air quality monitoring station is considered a concrete initiative in that direction. Air quality monitoring stations are equipped with state-of-the-art technology that accurately assesses the amount of dust particles and toxic gases in the air. This will also identify when pollution levels are most elevated during certain times or activities.

The air quality monitoring station will not only monitor construction work but will also help in monitoring pollution caused by traffic, air flights and industrial activities after the airport starts functioning.

Sood reviews Bhalswa landfill site, takes steps to curb Delhi pollution

**Diksha New Delhi**  
Minister for Urban Development Ashish Sood today conducted an inspection of the Bhalswa Landfill Site to assess the ongoing bi-mining, waste processing, and dust pollution control efforts. Joined by senior officials from the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) and other relevant departments, Sood reviewed the functioning of trommel machines and evaluated the management of pre-processed waste at the site.



During the visit, Sood noted that approximately 4,000 metric tonnes (MT) of fresh waste are dumped at Bhalswa every day, a significant contributor to pollution in surrounding areas like Badli, Jahangirpuri, and Model Town. He directed MCD officials to dispose of both new and legacy waste using scientific methods and emphasized that new waste should be processed immediately to avoid the formation of another "garbage mountain".

The Minister also raised concerns about air pollution caused by the 800 garbage-carrying vehicles that make daily trips to the site, consuming nearly 7,000 litres of diesel, as well as the dust generated by 16 trommel machines. To combat this, he instructed the installation of six anti-smog guns and 12 water sprinklers at the site, and declared Bhalswa a "pollution hotspot" for targeted monitoring.

Sood also provided updates on the progress of bi-mining at the site. Since 1994, Bhalswa Landfill has accumulated over 10 million MT of waste, with 6.88 million MT bi-mined so far. He assured that the pace of bi-mining has been accelerated, with the aim of clearing the remaining 4.04 million MT in the coming years.

In addition, the Minister highlighted efforts to expand waste processing capacity, including the availability of 10 additional acres for wet waste processing by December 2025. He stressed the Delhi Government's commitment to transforming the city into a "landfill-free" capital through effective waste management and pollution control strategies.

CM Gupta Flags Off Another Delhi-Sonapat Inter-State Bus Route



**Abhishek Byahut New Delhi**  
Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta on Thursday launched a new inter-state electric bus route from the Kashmere Gate Bus Terminal to the Sonapat Bus Stand.

The buses, operated by the Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC), are equipped with modern features like air-conditioning, CCTV cameras, panic buttons, and GPS systems. During the ceremony, the Chief Minister announced plans to resume DTC bus services connecting Delhi with nearby NCR cities.

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Gupta stated that the revival of these inter-state bus services, which had been discontinued for several years, aims to provide better public transport options, reduce traffic congestion, and decrease pollution. She highlighted the importance of enhancing connectivity between Delhi and surrounding areas, reinforcing the government's commitment to improving public transport and making it safer for citizens.

Kapil Mishra joins special screening of Rani Gaidinliu film

**Staff Reporter New Delhi**  
Delhi Government Minister Kapil Mishra on Thursday attended a special screening of the film "Rani Gaidinliu - Iconic Woman of North East India" in New Delhi on November 13, 2025.

He emphasized that meaningful cinema can promote social awareness and patriotism. The film honors Rani Gaidinliu, a brave freedom fighter and spiritual leader from North-East India, highlighting her struggles and dedication to the nation.

Mishra praised the film as significant in a time when many movies are made for commercial gain. He noted its role in illuminating a lesser-known part of India's history and showcasing a true heroine from the North-East. He remarked that like Rani Lakshmi Bai of Jhansi, every region in India has had its own courageous women, with Rani Gaidinliu as a prime example, who fought valiantly against British forces.

Mishra believes cinema serves as a powerful medium for reaching society and encouraged using creative talents like writing, acting, and poetry to uplift the nation. He congratulated the film's team, including director Deepak S. V. and co-director Dimple Dugar, for their commendable work. The event also featured notable attendees such as producer Prithul Kumar and officials from NFDC. The film aims to inspire patriotism, courage, and cultural identity within society, drawing from Rani Gaidinliu's impactful life.

Jobs to be extended to next generation of 1984 Sikh riot victims: CM Gupta

**Staff Reporter New Delhi**  
The Delhi Government, led by Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, has taken a significant step to help the families of victims of the 1984 anti-Sikh riots by approving a policy that offers compassionate employment to their dependants. This decision was made during a Cabinet meeting, highlighting the government's commitment to justice and economic rehabilitation for those affected by the riots.

The new policy aims to address employment assistance that has been pending since a Cabinet decision in 2007, which was not acted upon for 18 years due to various administrative delays. To resolve this issue, the government has designed a clear and timely policy to ensure eligible families receive the assistance they deserve.

A notable aspect of the policy allows dependants of victims who are over 50 years old and unable to work to nominate a younger family member, such as a son or daughter, for the job. This ensures that the benefits reach the families effectively, acknowledging that many dependants have aged and may not be in a position to work themselves.

G B Nagar schools will run classes up to class 5 in hybrid mode

**Noida**  
In view of the rising pollution levels in Noida and Greater Noida, schools of all boards in Gautam Buddha Nagar will now operate in hybrid mode (both online and offline) up to class 5. Gautam Buddha Nagar district magistrate Medha Rupam issued an order in this regard on Thursday. This decision was made following the implementation of the third phase of the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP). Students from class 1 to 5 will no longer be compelled to attend school classes. The school management has been instructed to provide both online and offline options so that children could attend classes at their convenience and health.

Given the ever-increasing levels of pollution, parents have been demanding that the administration temporarily move classes for younger children online.

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G B Nagar schools will run classes up to class 5 in hybrid mode

**Noida**  
In view of the rising pollution levels in Noida and Greater Noida, schools of all boards in Gautam Buddha Nagar will now operate in hybrid mode (both online and offline) up to class 5. Gautam Buddha Nagar district magistrate Medha Rupam issued an order in this regard on Thursday. This decision was made following the implementation of the third phase of the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP). Students from class 1 to 5 will no longer be compelled to attend school classes. The school management has been instructed to provide both online and offline options so that children could attend classes at their convenience and health.

Given the ever-increasing levels of pollution, parents have been demanding that the administration temporarily move classes for younger children online.

PUBLIC NOTICE

MY CLIENTS RADHAJAIN W/O ANIL KUMAR JAIN, AND ANIL KUMAR JAIN S/O LATE. TARSEM JAIN R/O H. NO. 25, KHARSA NO. 34/20, SHRI NAGAR, EXTN. 1, NANGLOM DELHI-110041 sever all relations and debar, disowned his son "YOGESH JAIN and his wife SMT. ANCHAL DHAMA" from all his movable and immovable properties due to disobedience and out of control. My client will not be held responsible for their any acts/deeds in future.

**PRADEEP KUMAR SHARMA ADVOCATE**  
CL. NO. 1309, 13th FLOOR, LAWYERS CHAMBER BLOCK, ROHINI COURT, DELHI-110085

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is informed to the public at large that my client NARENDER KUMAR SHARMA, S/O LATE KHAN CHAND SHARMA R/O H.NO.13, BLOCK A-1, GALU NO.7, SANT NAGAR, BURARI, DELHI-110084 hereby informed that I have been executed the registered Gift Deed dated 27.08.2025 as Doc. No.2025/19/1689, Addl. Book No. 1 Volume No. 12735 registered before the Sub-Registrar, Kashmeri Gate, Delhi in favour of SHARMA R/O H.NO.23 GALU NO.10, AJI BLOCK, SANT NAGAR, BURARI, DELHI-110084 and now the said DHIRUV SHARMA is the owner of the property bearing No.23, Kharsa No.136/21/3, A-1 Block, Galu No.10, Near Park Public School, Sant Nagar, Burari, Delhi-110084.

**GHANSHYAM DASS SHARMA ADVOCATE**  
SUPREME COURT OF INDIA OFFICE, 272, GALI ANAND BLOK, TIS HAZARI COURT, DELHI-110054

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is informed to the public at large that Mr. Harpreet Singh, who is the owner of said property i.e. DDA Built-Up, Freehold SFS Category-II, Flat No. 3013, on Third Floor, Alongwith, Scooter Garage, Situated at Sector-B, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi-110070 hereinafter referred to as "said property", having acquired the same by virtue of reg. Sale Deed dated 20.08.2025 executed by Mr. Sanjeev Kumar in favour of Mr. Harpreet Singh in relation to the property in question and the said Sale Deed is duly registered as Document No.2025/8/15441 Book No. 1, Volume No. 4060 on Pages 45-47 dated 21.08.2025 in the office of Sub Registrar, New Delhi Sarojini Nagar, in respect of the said property. Notice is hereby given to the general public that if any other person having claims regarding sale, mortgage, charge, trust or otherwise is requested to inform, further, it is hereby declared that title of the said Property, is absolutely valid, clear and marketable and there is no dispute / litigation pending in any court of law, in respect of said Property. Whosoever, is having any objection to said mortgage OR any person having any type of claim/right/title/interest over the said property may inform in writing, at the address mentioned below, about his objections, within 15 days from today, failing which it shall be presumed that the said property is free from all type of Encumbrances, lien etc.

**DHARMENDAR KAMTI**  
Advocate  
Address: A2/162 & 163 Safdarjung Enclave Lower Ground Floor, Delhi-110029

NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE

Invitation of Tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems)

SR/DMM, Northern Railway, New Delhi-110001, for and on behalf of the president of India invites e-bidders through e-procurement system for supply of the following items:

Tender No.	93255889
Brief Description	Air Compressor Rotary Screw Electrical Driven 300 CFM, 10 KG/CM <sup>2</sup> as per annexure attached.
City	4 Nos.
Closing date	09.12.2025

Note:- 1. Vendors may visit the IREPS website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in for details. 2. No manual offer will be entertained. 3. No. SR/DMM/NR/LP/93255889/2025 Dated: 12/11/2025

SERVING CUSTOMER WITH A SMILE 3523/2025

Morning Glory Leasing and Finance Limited

Statement of Standalone Unaudited Financial Results For the Quarter and Half Year Ended September 30, 2025 (Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Particulars	Standalones					
		For the Quarter Ended on 30-09-2025	For the Quarter Ended on 30-09-2024	For the Half Year Ended on 30-09-2025	For the Half Year Ended on 30-09-2024	For the Year Ended on 31-03-2025	For the Year Ended on 31-03-2024
1.	Total Income from Operations	1.71	1.71	3.42	3.42	6.84	6.84
2.	Net Profit for the period (before Tax & Exceptional Items)	0.75	0.69	1.03	0.99	1.87	1.82
3.	Net Profit for the period (after Tax & Exceptional Items)	0.75	0.69	1.03	0.99	1.87	1.82
4.	Net Profit for the period (after Tax & Exceptional Items) (Profit for the Period after Tax and Other Comprehensive Income after Tax)	0.95	0.44	0.93	0.74	0.93	0.63
5.	Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising Profit for the Period after Tax and Other Comprehensive Income after Tax)	(16.56)	(17.42)	64.71	23.58	(56.88)	(56.88)
6.	Paid up Equity Share Capital (Face value of Rs.10/- each)	24.90	24.90	24.90	24.90	24.90	24.90
7.	Reserve/Retainable Reserve/Reserves as shown in the Audited Balance Sheet of P. equivalent year	-	-	-	-	-	-
8.	Earnings Per Share (of ₹ 10/- each) (For continuing and discontinued operations) (Not Annualised)	(6.65)	(7.00)	25.99	9.47	(28.50)	(28.50)
1.	Share	(6.65)	(7.00)	25.99	9.47	(28.50)	(28.50)
2.	Share	(6.65)	(7.00)	25.99	9.47	(28.50)	(28.50)

NOTES: 1. The above results were reviewed and recommended by the Audit Committee and then approved by the Board of Directors at their meeting held on 13th November, 2025. The unaudited financial results for the quarter and half year ended September 30, 2025 have been limited reviewed by the Statutory Auditor of the Company. 2. The above is an extract of the detailed format of unaudited half yearly financial results filed with the stock exchange under regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulation, 2015. The full format of the unaudited quarter/half yearly annual financial results is available on the stock exchange website (LSE, www.lse.com) and also on above mentioned Company's website at <https://www.morninggloryleasing.in>. 3. There is no change in accounting policies which impact on net profit/loss, total comprehensive income or any other relevant financial metrics. 4. Exceptional items are defined in the Statement of Profit and Loss in accordance with the AS-20.

Place: New Delhi Date: 13<sup>th</sup> November, 2025

For and on behalf of the Board of Directors of Morning Glory Leasing and Finance Ltd. Rajesh Bajaj Managing Director and Chief Financial Officer

MOHIT PAPER MILLS LIMITED

Regd. Office: 15A/13, Upper Ground Floor, East Patel Nagar, New Delhi-110008 Works: 9th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, 33rd, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 39th, 40th, 41st, 42nd, 43rd, 44th, 45th, 46th, 47th, 48th, 49th, 50th, 51st, 52nd, 53rd, 54th, 55th, 56th, 57th, 58th, 59th, 60th, 61st, 62nd, 63rd, 64th, 65th, 66th, 67th, 68th, 69th, 70th, 71st, 72nd, 73rd, 74th, 75th, 76th, 77th, 78th, 79th, 80th, 81st, 82nd, 83rd, 84th, 85th, 86th, 87th, 88th, 89th, 90th, 91st, 92nd, 93rd, 94th, 95th, 96th, 97th, 98th, 99th, 100th, 101st, 102nd, 103rd, 104th, 105th, 106th, 107th, 108th, 109th, 110th, 111th, 112th, 113th, 114th, 115th, 116th, 117th, 118th, 119th, 120th, 121st, 122nd, 123rd, 124th, 125th, 126th, 127th, 128th, 129th, 130th, 131st, 132nd, 133rd, 134th, 135th, 136th, 137th, 138th, 139th, 140th, 141st, 142nd, 143rd, 144th, 145th, 146th, 147th, 148th, 149th, 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Haryana steadfast in controlling pollution following SC NGT guidelines to hilt Minister

Chandigarh: Haryana Minister Rao Narbir Singh Thursday said the BJP government in the state is taking action in accordance with the directions of the NGT and the Supreme Court to keep pollution under control.

The forest and environment minister was presiding over a meeting of the Haryana State Pollution Control Board here, an official statement said.

The minister directed officials that no industrial or sewage wastewater is allowed to flow into the Yamuna, and ordered installation of CCTV cameras to monitor the Common Effluent Treatment Plant and STPs located along 11 drains in the river's catchment area.

He directed designation of one nodal department and one nodal officer for each drain to conduct regular inspections.

Regional officers of the pollution control board were directed to visit industries and check the actual functioning of STPs to ensure that no polluted water is discharged into the Yamuna.

Rao Narbir Singh also called for sharing of the list of tractor-tankers lifting sewage water from colonies with the police by the pollution control department.

After discharging water at the STP, tankers must obtain a receipt to confirm that the wastewater has been disposed of, he said.

Officials in the meeting said that 242 tankers are registered and 10 lift sewage in the Yamuna catchment area.

The police were directed to set up checkpoints, particularly in Sonapat and Panipat districts, and seize illegal tankers.

The minister called for regular upkeep of pollution-checking equipment installed at petrol pumps.

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# CM Saini Pushes for Quick Finish to Kurukshetra Beautification

Shiv Kumar New Delhi: Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini has directed officials to ensure that all restoration and beautification works under the Kurukshetra Development Board (KDB) are completed within the stipulated timeframe and to the highest standards of quality. Chairing a review meeting on Wednesday, the Chief Minister emphasized that any negligence or delay in executing the projects would not be tolerated.

Mr. Saini, who reviewed the progress of renovation and beautification activities at key pilgrimage sites including Brahmavar and Jyotisar, instructed that these projects must be completed before the commencement of the upcoming fair. He stressed that timely completion would enable pilgrims and tourists to experience the sites conveniently and meaningfully during the Gita Jayanti celebrations.



The Chief Minister said that any changes in already approved projects must receive prior approval, and work should only begin after the preparation of proper drawings. He further directed departments to fix clear timelines for drawings, DNITs, and related procedures to avoid unnecessary delays.

While reviewing development works at the Bhaur Sainda tiratha in Pehowa, Mr. Saini instructed officials to expedite the construction

of the ghat on the pond and initiate the installation of paintings and informational displays for visitors. He announced that a separate meeting will soon be held to review all development projects under the KDB, and directed officials to submit a comprehensive report on the progress made so far.

During the meeting, the Chief Minister expressed concern over reports of a crocodile being found in the Bhaur Sainda pond. Noting that no action had yet

been taken on the issue, he directed Additional Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister, Dr. Saket Kumar, to conduct an inquiry and submit a detailed report.

Reiterating his commitment to completing the beautification of Brahmavar and Jyotisar before the Gita Mahotsav, Mr. Saini said these works would significantly enhance the experience for the large number of visitors expected to attend the fair. He emphasized that pilgrims should not only be

# Two associates of Jaggu Bhagwanpuria gang held in Punjab's Batala

Chandigarh: Punjab Police on Thursday arrested two associates of the Jaggu Bhagwanpuria gang in Batala, a top police officer said.

Police recovered two foreign-made pistols along with live cartridges from their possession, said Director General of Police (DGP) Gaurav Yadav in a statement here.

Those arrested have been identified as Vijay Masih, a resident of Satkoha in Batala and Malkit Singh, a resident of Naharpur Khaddar in Batala.

Investigation revealed that both the accused were tasked by the foreign-based gangster Amrit Dalaam of Jaggu Bhagwanpuria gang to carry out target killings.

Both the accused have a criminal background, he said.

The DGP said Malkit was also involved in a firing incident with rival gang members at Kalanaur Bus Stand in August and had been absconding since.

Further investigation

is underway to uncover the entire network and its backward and forward linkages, he said. Deputy Inspector General of Police (DIG) Sandeep Goel said during the operation, the accused, Malkit Singh, attempted to flee police custody and opened fire at the police team.

He was overpowered after a brief exchange of fire, he said, adding that the accused has sustained a bullet injury and is undergoing treatment at a local hospital.

Senior Superintendent of Police, Batala, Suhail Qasim Mir said that acting on reliable inputs, police apprehended Vijay Masih and recovered a foreign-made .39 bore pistol along with three live cartridges from his possession.

Based on disclosures made by Masih, the police also apprehended his associate Malkit Singh, who is a dangerous criminal closely linked with gangster Amrit Dalaam and has been absconding since. Further investigation

# Tight security in Punjab for 350th martyrdom anniversary of Guru Tegh Bahadur

Chandigarh: The Punjab Police has cast a wide net of security deploying advanced surveillance for the safety of devotees ahead of the 350th martyrdom anniversary of Guru Tegh Bahadur.

Meanwhile, Chief Secretary K A P Sinha reviewed preparations related to the 'Shaheedee Shatabdi Samagam' in the ninth Sikh Guru at Sri Anandpur Sahib.

Special Director General of Police (Law and Order) Arpit Shukla on Thursday said the grand commemorative event, to be held at Sri Anandpur Sahib from November 23 to 25, is expected to draw lakhs of devotees.

Shukla, along with Special DGP Security Sudhanshu S Srivastava, took stock of the security and traffic arrangements in Anandpur Sahib earlier in the day.

The special DGP said that around 10,000 boots will be on the ground for the safety of the visitors under the supervision of an additional director general of



police rank nodal officer. Seven inspector general, deputy IGs rank of officers, 22 commandants, 45 superintendents of police, and 94 deputy superintendents of police will be deployed for the three-day event.

Shukla said that a high-tech control room is being set up with more than 300 AI CCTV cameras equipped with facial recognition, 10 PTZ (Pan Tilt Zoom) cameras, and 25 ANPR (Automatic Number Plate Recognition) cameras at all entry and exit points of the city.

Seven drone teams will provide continuous

aerial surveillance, he said in an official statement.

"To create deterrence and pre-empt any untoward incident, data pertaining to snatchers in and around the Rupnagar district has also been integrated with the facial recognition system. Mounted police patrolling and smart barricades will also be utilised for effective law and order maintenance," the officer said.

The police have tied up with IIT Ropar to scientifically map parking spaces, across 30 lots in all, spanning 101 acres. A round-the-clock

shuttle service will ferry devotees to venues and three tent cities with a total capacity of 10,000 persons are being set up.

A pedestrian road along the highway and 60 outer divergence points and checkpoints will be established to regulate vehicle flow.

Eight helpdesks are being set up to ensure smooth arrival of VIP guests, Shukla said.

Meanwhile, the chief secretary said that on November 22, four 'nagar kirtans' (religious processions) will arrive at Sri Anandpur Sahib, while on November 23, the 'Akhand Path Sahib' will commence at Guru Ka Chhaana, Buddha Dal.

On the two days, a Sarv Dharam Sammelan (Interfaith Conference) will be organised where Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann is slated to be present, a statement said.

Sinha said that from November 23 to 29, a drone show with 500 drones will depict the life, teachings, and sacrifice of the Guru.

# Punjab Govt Releases ₹332 Cr for Rural Development

Chandigarh: Punjab Finance Minister Harpal Singh Cheema on Thursday announced the release of Rs 332 crore for various development works across rural areas in the state.

He said the next installment of Rs 334 crore will be released by December end or in the first week of January, ensuring a continuous flow of resources for rural upliftment.

Cheema said the Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann-led government has launched the development works from the very first day of assuming the reins of the state and this installment will be used for various development works of gram panchayats.

He said the funds will be used to ensure both local development and specific mandated sanitation works.

The overall grant will be distributed in the ratio of 70:20:10 in Gram Panchayat, Panchayat Samitis and Zila Parishads, said an official statement.



The finance minister said out of total Rs 332 crore, the districts receiving the largest allocations are Ludhiana, Hoshiarpur and Gurdaspur.

Other significant recipients of funds include Sangrur, Patiala, Jalandhar, Ferozepur, Fazilka, Moga, Shahid Bhagat Singh Nagar, Sri Muktsar Sahib, and Tarn Taran.

The Punjab government is committed to building cleaner, stronger, and more vibrant rural communities through

the direct and accountable flow of resources to gram panchayats, he said.

He underscored the scale of the current infrastructure development project, which involves recapturing 19,000 kilometers of roads at a cost of Rs 4,150 crore.

Additionally, the government is investing Rs 1,000 crore in sports stadiums and has constructed and readied about 250 sports nurseries, significantly bolstering state growth and opportunities for youth.

# Punjab Sets Benchmark in Empowering Divyangs with Dignity and Opportunity

TSN/Chandigarh: Punjab is witnessing a quiet yet powerful revolution under Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann — one rooted not in infrastructure or politics, but in dignity and inclusion. The state government's comprehensive initiatives for persons with disabilities, or Divyangs, are redefining what it means to govern with empathy and purpose.

The Mann government has taken historic steps to ensure that every Divyang citizen feels seen, heard, and empowered. In August 2025, Punjab became the first state in India to appoint sign language interpreters, translators, and special teachers under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 — a move hailed as a breakthrough for children with hearing or speech impairments. The government has

**The Mann government has taken historic steps to ensure that every Divyang citizen feels seen, heard, and empowered.**

also supported the development of 'Sign Lingua Franca,' a technological innovation that translates spoken words into sign language, offering millions a new channel of communication.

Punjab has also become the first state to introduce sign language interpretation in its Legislative Assembly. The Governor's address, budget sessions, and key discussions are now accessible to Divyang citizens, ensuring they can understand and engage with governance. Social Security, Women Child Development Minister Dr. Baljit Kaur said this initiative reflects Chief Minister

Bhagwant Singh Mann's belief that inclusivity is the foundation of democracy.

The government's commitment goes beyond accessibility. Recognizing mobility as a cornerstone of independence, the Mann administration released ₹85 lakh to continue free bus travel for Divyangs and visually impaired citizens — easing both economic and physical challenges. "This is not just financial aid," Dr. Kaur said. "It is an investment in dignity and confidence."

Financial empowerment has been a key focus as well. The Punjab government has disbursed ₹287.95 crore as financial assistance to nearly 2.76 lakh eligible Divyang beneficiaries. A budget of ₹495 crore has been earmarked for 2025-26 to further expand welfare and rehabilitation programs.

Employment and self-reliance form the next pillar of this inclusivity agenda. The government has launched a campaign to fill 1,754 direct recruitment and 556 promotion posts reserved under the Divyang quota in state departments — a decisive step toward ending decades of systemic neglect.

By combining technology, welfare, and compassion, the Mann government has transformed social welfare into a movement of empowerment. Punjab today stands as a model for the nation — proving that true progress is achieved not just through roads and bridges, but by building pathways of opportunity for those once left behind.

Every initiative reflects a simple truth: when governance speaks in every citizen's language, no one is left unheard.

# Haryana Streamlines Paperless Property Registration

Chandigarh: The Haryana government has put in place a number of measures to streamline the implementation of paperless registrations of properties across the state.

The state government has moved to paperless registration of all property-related transactions with effect from November 1, the state's formal day, making physical documents obsolete across all tehsils.

Financial Commissioner, Revenue and Disaster Management, Sumita Misra on Thursday reviewed the progress of the online registration process with all deputy commissioners through video conference and issued a series of instructions for field-level officials.

She said the existing five-day revert time on an application would soon be reduced to expedite approvals and ensure faster service delivery.

To safeguard data from accidental loss, all documents will be automatically saved in



the system for 72 hours before deletion, while the registration fees will remain applicable throughout the process until completion.

Misra further said that all issues flagged by deputy commissioners are being rectified in real-time by the technical team, while each tehsil has been told to set up a dedicated help desk and appoint a nodal officer with his/her contact details displayed publicly to help citizens.

Additionally, she instructed that a state-level helpline number be

launched immediately to provide real-time support for citizens facing technical or procedural issues related to paperless registration, according to an official statement.

Misra directed all DCs to ensure seamless inter-connectivity at tehsil offices and to address server-related issues promptly.

She emphasized that no technical or administrative bottleneck should be allowed to delay this transformative reform.

Describing the initiative as "the biggest

# Voters of Bihar: The Real Heroes of Democracy

## The Land Where Democracy Was Born

**T**he Bihar state occupies a niche in the history of political development of the world. It is not a mere Indian state; it is the birthplace of the democracy. The history of Vaishali one of the earliest republics in the world, confirms the fact that the seeds of participatory governance were first planted here. The citizens of Bihar have been marked by a strong civic awareness and political consciousness since ancient times to date and are so proud of their democratic legacy.

This democratic spirit was again demonstrated by the fact that the 2025 Bihar Assembly Elections was a living testimony. Voter turnout in all parts of the state was unprecedented, which explains why Bihar is regarded to be one of the most politically conscious states in India.

## A Record-Breaking Turnout

This election became a historic voter turnout of 66.91 percent as per the data released by the Election Commission of India. And this is equal to 7 crore 45 lakh 26 thousand 858 citizens going out to vote—a motivating number and a new mark in the electoral history of the state.

This is the first election since the introduction of the Indian Constitution, which was so lively and participative in Bihar. The Bihar 2025 polls can be regarded as the most successful democratic exercise in the state so far, as this demonstrates the rediscovery of a belief in the power of the ballot among the people.

## Women The bringers of change.

Perhaps the most outstanding in this election was the active involvement of the women voters who in addition to being on the same terms, they outdid their male counterparts in percentage of participation.

During the second round of the poll, over 74 percent of the women voted, as compared to 64 percent of the men. In both stages put together, percentages of women and men voting were 68.76 and 65.08 respectively. This greater and continuous contribution by women is inspirational and signifies a greater social awakening in Bihar.

Being the Election Commission representative (also known as the SVEEP Icon) of the group (Systematic Voters Education and Electoral Participation), I got a chance to visit a few districts and promote voter awareness. The reception was much favorable. Citizens, in particular women were keen to learn their rights and duties as citizens. The power of the energy that I felt in all my villages and towns was indisputable: a feeling that voting is not merely an obligation, but a democracy celebration.

## When An Election became A Festival.

The elections in Bihar were held on the same day that the grand festival of Chhath Puja was coming to an end and this was symbolic. The same people are religious and devote as much to their faith and cul-



By Dr. Neetu Kumari Navegt

Served as the SVEEP Icon for Patna District during the Bihar Assembly Elections 2025. She is also a renowned folk singer and cultural ambassador of Bihar.



ture on the occasion of Chhath, similarly they did on the occasion of elections. Voting stations in the state were changed into places of revelation. Voters came with their party best and there was a sense of excitement, fun, and optimism.

This festive involvement showed that democracy in Bihar is not a political process it is a living tradition which people are proud of. All the votes were prayers

to the advancement, peace, and general prosperity.

## Meet the Misfits: The Unrecognized Heroes.

It was the all-round effort of over 8.5 lakh officials, 1.4 lakh polling agents, 243 general observers, 38 police observers and 67 expenditure observers that made this smooth and transparent conduct of such a large-scale election possible. They both were impor-

tant in the way democracy operated smoothly even in the furthest parts of the state.

Their work ethics and hard work should be applauded. The Election Commission of India again demonstrated its effectiveness and fairness of elections.

To enhance the importance of the event, there were international delegates of 16 countries, who came to Bihar to witness the polling process with their own eyes and were South Africa, Indonesia, Thailand, the Philippines, Belgium, and Colombia. They were so impressed with the level of organizing, transparency and, most importantly, the sheer enthusiasm of the people of Bihar. They were all unanimous in their feedback: the democracy of Bihar is a learning experience to the world.

## Democracy Reaffirmed

Elections do not only deal with the government-building business but also with the reinstatement of the religious belief in the democratic concept. Citizen disengagement had become an issue in some areas of the country due to low turnups in elections in the recent past. However, the voters of Bihar have shown a strong example.

In record attendance and incessant zeal, they have effectively given a powerful message: that is, democracy in India is alive, vibrant, and strong. They have also reminded the nation that in cases where the citizens are fully engaged, then democracy thrives.

## The Responsibility Ahead

It now becomes the role of the people who have been elected to represent people. This is a huge trust that they have to be careful not to violate by acting with integrity, transparency, and having a sense of accountability. The people have played their role now it is time that their elected officers stand to the occasion, that they should be worthy of this faith and that they should boost the democratic institutions that the people of Bihar have so vehemently defended.

## A Glorious Period in the Political History of Bihar.

The 2025 Bihar Assembly Elections will not be remembered as a mere political event but are rather a community re-assertion of faith in democracy. By making the Bihar people active participants in the political process, they have created a new chapter in the India democratic journey one that is characterized by inclusivity, awareness and hope.

Being a witness to this historic event, I could proudly say that, again Bihar has done justice to its legacy. The cradle of the democracy has demonstrated to the world that the communal and participation spirit has not died in this country, but they live through action.

In fact, this is the victory of Bihar. This is democracy triumphant over all this is the victory of democracy.

# India's New Air Pollution Threat: Breathing Plastic

**I**ndia has long been grappling with severe air pollution, a challenge that has drawn global attention and sparked numerous health and environmental concerns. Cities such as Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai, and Chennai consistently rank among the most polluted urban centers in the world. Traditionally, vehicular emissions, industrial discharges, construction dust, and biomass burning have been considered the primary contributors to this environmental crisis. However, recent scientific investigations have revealed a less visible yet alarming dimension of air pollution in India: the pervasive presence of inhalable microplastics. This phenomenon, increasingly referred to as "breathing plastic," underscores a threat that is both silent and insidious, posing potential long-term health risks that are only beginning to be understood.

Microplastics are extremely tiny fragments of plastic, often less than ten micrometres in size, small enough to penetrate deep into the human respiratory system. Researchers from the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology and other institutions, including the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research in Calcutta, have detected thousands of these microscopic plastic particles in air samples across India's metropolitan areas. What makes these findings particularly concerning is their persistence across all seasons. Even during periods traditionally associated with cleaner air, such as the monsoon season, and during the high temperatures of summer, these microplastics remain a year-round pollutant. Their presence is not merely an environmental curiosity—it is a pressing public health issue.

The sources of airborne microplastics are surprisingly common. Everyday activities and products contribute significantly to their release. Synthetic clothing and textiles, particularly those made of polyester and other artificial fibers, shed microscopic threads during wear and washing. Single-use plastics, widely used in packaging, add to the problem, while the gradual wear and tear of vehicle tires and footwear release tiny fragments of rubber into the atmosphere. Even urban construction activities and road traffic can aggravate the situation, generating additional microplastic dust. As a result, what many might assume to be clean, breathable air in bustling cities is, in fact, laced with countless invisible particles of plastic.

The health implications of inhaling microplastics are complex and potentially severe. When these particles enter the lungs, their small size allows them to reach deep into the alveoli, the tiny air sacs where oxygen is exchanged with the blood. Medical researchers are increasingly concerned about the "Trojan horse" effect of microplastics. These particles are



By Vijay Garg

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not inert; their rough, hydrophobic surfaces readily attract and carry other harmful substances, including heavy metals such as lead, arsenic, and chromium, as well as pathogens including bacteria and fungi. Essentially, each microplastic particle can act as a vehicle, transporting toxic chemicals and disease-causing microbes directly into the human body. The risks are not merely theoretical: studies have detected microplastics in human placentas and breast milk, demonstrating their ability to penetrate biological barriers and enter sensitive areas of the body.

Chronic exposure to airborne microplastics is linked to a range of health issues. In the respiratory system, these particles can trigger inflammation, exacerbate asthma, and contribute to bronchitis and pneumonia. Over time, the smallest particles may enter the bloodstream, posing systemic risks that could affect the cardiovascular system and even potentially increase the risk of cancers. The danger of microplastics is compounded by their slow, cumulative effects. Unlike some pollutants whose impacts are immediate and visible, microplastics act silently, gradually accumulating within the body and possibly triggering long-term health consequences that are difficult to trace and manage.

Recent studies have attempted to quantify the extent of exposure to microplastics in India. Research

conducted in major cities such as Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, and Mumbai has revealed alarming concentrations of these airborne particles. Kolkata and Delhi, in particular, have shown the highest average levels, around 14 and 13 micrograms per cubic metre, respectively. To put this in perspective, an individual spending just eight hours in a busy urban market in these cities could inhale hundreds of microplastic particles in a single day—estimates suggest approximately 370 particles in Kolkata and 300 in Delhi daily. Seasonal variations further influence exposure, with summer months showing nearly double the inhalation rates compared to winter in some regions, likely due to increased dust and higher urban activity levels.

Despite the mounting evidence of harm, microplastics remain largely unmonitored and unregulated in India's air quality management systems. Existing waste management policies do not adequately account for these airborne particles. The country's National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and regulatory frameworks, while comprehensive for pollutants such as particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>), sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, and carbon monoxide, do not currently include microplastics as a pollutant of concern. This regulatory gap leaves a significant portion of India's air pollution problem unaddressed, perpetuating the risk to public health.

The broader environmental context exacerbates the issue. India produces enormous quantities of plastic waste, much of it inadequately managed. Improper disposal, open burning, and fragmentation of plastics into micro- and nano-sized particles contribute not only to land and water pollution but also to atmospheric contamination. The burning of plastic waste releases highly toxic compounds, including dioxins and furans, further degrading air quality and compounding the public health burden. In this sense, the "breathing plastic" phenomenon is intertwined with the country's broader environmental challenges, highlighting how poor waste management practices can directly impact urban air quality.

Recognizing the urgency of the problem, India's National Green Tribunal (NGT) has recently directed the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) to consider officially including microplastics in the list of

pollutants regulated under the NAAQS. This move reflects a growing awareness among policymakers of the hidden dimensions of air pollution and the need for systematic monitoring. Including microplastics in regulatory frameworks would enable the development of guidelines for monitoring, exposure assessment, and mitigation strategies, which are currently lacking.

Mitigating the risks posed by airborne microplastics requires a multi-pronged approach. At the societal level, reducing the use of single-use plastics, promoting sustainable alternatives, and improving textile waste management could substantially limit the release of microplastic fibers. Urban planning and transportation policies should address vehicular emissions and tire wear, which contribute significantly to airborne plastic particles. On the scientific front, more research is essential to understand the toxicological impacts of microplastics, establish exposure thresholds, and develop practical methods for air purification and filtration. Public awareness campaigns can also play a critical role, educating citizens about the hidden threats in everyday environments and encouraging behavior changes that reduce personal exposure.

India's struggle with air pollution has long been framed around visible smog, dust storms, and smoke from industrial activity. However, the emergence of microplastics as a pervasive airborne contaminant reveals a deeper, less visible layer of the crisis. The phrase "breathing plastic" aptly conveys the silent infiltration of these particles into daily life, reminding us that air pollution is not limited to what we can see or smell. The risks, though subtle, are cumulative and potentially severe, demanding urgent attention from policymakers, scientists, and the public alike.

In conclusion, India's air pollution challenge is evolving. While the country has made strides in tackling traditional sources of air contamination, microplastics represent a new frontier that requires immediate scientific scrutiny and regulatory intervention. The presence of these microscopic particles in urban air is a clear indicator that the nation's approach to environmental health must adapt to address emerging threats. As researchers continue to unravel the complex interactions between microplastics and human health, India must act decisively to integrate these findings into its air quality management strategies. Without such action, millions of citizens will continue to inhale not just dust and smoke, but tiny fragments of plastic that carry hidden dangers, slowly eroding public health in the heart of the nation's bustling cities.

# Shah Inaugurates Sagar Sainik School and Organic Plant in Gujarat; Vows Stern Action in Delhi Blast Case

Mitali Chandola  
New Delhi/Mansa

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Amit Shah on Thursday inaugurated the Motibhai R. Chaudhary Sagar Sainik School (MRCSS) and the Sagar Organic Plant in Gujarat through video conferencing. The event was attended by Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel and several other dignitaries.

At the outset, Amit Shah expressed his deep condolences to the families of those who lost their lives in the recent car explosion in Delhi, calling it a "terrorist act that would not go unpunished." He said Prime Minister Narendra Modi's resolve to bring the perpetrators to justice would be fully realized. "The punishment given to the culprits will send a message to the world that no one should ever dare to even think of such an attack in our country," Shah said.

He underlined that India's fight against terrorism has



gained global recognition over the past eleven years under Prime Minister Modi's leadership. "All those involved in this cowardly act, and those who supported it, will be brought before the law and given the strictest possible punishment. The Government of India and the Ministry of Home Affairs are fully committed to this," Shah said.

Turning to the inauguration, Shah described the es-

tablishment of the Sagar Organic Plant and the Motibhai Chaudhary Sagar Sainik School as milestones in Gujarat's development journey. He praised Motibhai Chaudhary—fondly known as Motibhai Kaka—as an inspirational figure who lived by Gandhian ideals of honesty, simplicity, and service to society. "Motibhai Kaka devoted his life to improving the lives of farmers, cattle rearers, and villagers. It was

through the efforts of such visionaries that Amul was born, which today stands as the world's number one cooperative brand," Shah said.

The newly inaugurated Sagar Sainik School, spread over 11 acres and built at a cost of ₹5 crore, is equipped with modern facilities including smart classrooms, hostels, a library, and a canteen. The school, named after Motibhai Chaudhary, aims to prepare children

from several districts of Gujarat for careers in the Indian Armed Forces. Shah noted that under the Modi government's initiative to open 100 new Sainik Schools under the Public-Private Partnership model, this institution will stand out as a "symbol of pride for Mehshana."

In addition to the school, Shah inaugurated the Sagar Organic Plant, which will produce certified organic products under the Amul brand. The plant, with a daily processing capacity of 30 metric tons, is certified by the National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP) and the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA). Shah said the certification would enable farmers from North Gujarat engaged in natural farming to reach global markets. "This plant will not only promote the health of citizens through organic products but also raise the income of farmers," he said.

Encouraging farmers to consume their own organic

India becoming self-reliant in MedTech health research:  
Anupriya Patel

New Delhi

Over the past decade, India has emerged as a key player in the global health research landscape, becoming increasingly self-reliant in the MedTech and biomedical innovation sectors. Union Minister of State for Health Anupriya Patel said on Thursday.

Patel made the remarks while delivering the keynote address at the 2nd DHR-ICMR Health Research Excellence Summit 2025 held in New Delhi.

She highlighted that India's health research ecosystem has been significantly strengthened under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"Over the past decade, India has emerged as a major player in health research. Initiatives such as MedTech Mitra and innovations like Rotavac and the COVID-19 vaccines stand as a testament to India's growing prominence in the global health research landscape," Patel said.

The Union minister emphasised the government's commitment to ensuring that the benefits of science and research reach people at all levels.

"India is becoming increasingly self-reliant in the MedTech and biomedical innovation sectors. The country is not only innovating but also demonstrating the capacity to deliver solutions at scale," she added.

Patel further noted that evidence-based policymaking remains a guiding principle for the government.

She stressed that clinical guidelines and quality standards must be accessible to all healthcare professionals to ensure affordable and equitable healthcare for every citizen.

Highlighting the success of India's intramural, extramural, and clinical research, the Union Minister said that India's health system stands at a defining moment.

She encouraged the scientific community to lead the advancement of futuristic technologies such as AI-driven precision healthcare and advanced genomics.

Concluding her address, Patel congratulated all researchers and awardees, stating, "India should not only contribute to global science but lead it."

In his address, Dr V K Paul, Member (Health), NITI Aayog, noted that the healthy life expectancy in India currently stands at 60 years. He emphasised that the VIKSIT Bham vision for ICMR aims to raise it above 75 years by deploying innovative interventions, solutions, and advanced technologies.

Dr Paul urged the Department of Health Research (DHR) to focus on priority areas such as non-communicable diseases (NCDs), hypertension, and trauma care.

## Billions-Rupee Dream Turns to Dust

Mitali Chandola  
New Delhi

It began as a promise — homes built on hope, dreams cemented in trust. But for thousands of Indian homebuyers, the walls of the Jaypee projects never rose beyond deceit. In a stunning turn, the Directorate of Enforcement (ED) has arrested Manoj Gaur, the former Executive Chairman and CEO of Jayprakash Associates Ltd. (JAL) and ex-Chairman and Managing Director of Jaypee Infratech Ltd. (JIL), under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002. The arrest, made on November 13, 2025, marks a major chapter in one of India's most heartbreaking tales of corporate betrayal.

The Jaypee empire, once a symbol of urban ambition, is now under the scanner for allegedly swindling thousands of homebuyers. The ED probe was triggered

by multiple FIRs filed by the Economic Offences Wings (EOW) of Delhi and Uttar Pradesh after victims accused the company of criminal conspiracy, cheating, and breach of trust. What was promised as a haven — Jaypee Wish Town and Jaypee Greens — turned into haunting reminders of unfulfilled dreams and financial ruin.

According to the ED investigation, over ₹14,599 crore was collected from homebuyers, as confirmed by the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT). But instead of laying bricks, the funds were allegedly rerouted — flowing into a network of group entities such as Jaypee Sewa Sansthan, Jaypee Healthcare Ltd., and Jaypee Sports International Ltd.. Manoj Gaur, who also served as the Managing Trustee of Jaypee Sewa Sansthan, allegedly oversaw this intricate web of

diversions.

In May 2025, the ED's raids across Delhi, Noida, Ghaziabad, and Mumbai uncovered troves of digital and financial evidence — a paper trail of money meant for homes, not for hidden accounts. Behind every seized document lies a family still paying rent for a house that never existed.

"This case isn't just about financial fraud — it's a mirror reflecting the crisis of accountability in India's real estate sector. It exposes how power and privilege can turn the aspirations of citizens into instruments of exploitation. As the investigation deepens, the question remains — will justice rebuild what corruption has demolished?

Because for the thousands who still hold faded allotment letters, the dream of home has turned into the longest wait of their lives.

## Fake Coinbase Scam Exposes India's Digital Weakness

Mitali Chandola  
New Delhi

The Enforcement Directorate's (ED) recent attachment of assets worth Rs 21.71 crore in a cryptocurrency-linked phishing scam is a sobering reminder of how deeply cybercrime has penetrated India's digital landscape. The case revolves around Chirag Tomar, an Indian national accused of masterminding a sophisticated global fraud operation that exploited users of the cryptocurrency exchange Coinbase.

According to the ED, Tomar created fake Coinbase websites that mirrored the original platform with chilling precision. Victims were lured into logging in, unaware they were entering a trap. Once they sought "customer support" through numbers displayed on the fraudulent sites, Tomar's associates posed as Coinbase representatives, guiding



users to share sensitive details. Within minutes, their crypto wallets were drained — their digital wealth disappearing into a maze of anonymous wallets and P2P transactions.

Investigators say the scam siphoned off over \$20 million (approx. Rs 167 crore). The stolen funds were laundered through multiple online exchanges and fake entities, then converted into real estate and luxury assets across Delhi, Noida, and Mumbai. The latest seizure of Rs 21.71 crore adds to a total of Rs 64.15 crore in at-

tached properties, highlighting the vast reach of Tomar's operations.

This is not merely a story of one man's deception — it's the line between technology and vulnerability. Despite India's push toward digital payments and fintech expansion, public education and cybersecurity enforcement remain dangerously inadequate. For every phishing site taken down, several others quietly emerge, preying on the next unsuspecting investor.

Tomar's case reveals a larger truth: as India digi-

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ties faster than it secures, the line between technology and vulnerability blurs. Crypto investors, in particular, operate in a legal and regulatory grey zone, where protection mechanisms are minimal and recourse, painfully slow.

The Coinbase phishing scam is a wake-up call — not just for regulators, but for every citizen navigating the digital economy.

## Railway Board Launches Nationwide drive to streamline Train garbage disposal

TSN/Gorakhpur

In a major cleanliness initiative under the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, the Ministry of Railways has issued comprehensive guidelines to all Zonal Railways for the systematic collection and disposal of garbage generated on trains. The Railway Board's directive seeks to improve passenger comfort and strengthen on-board hygiene through structured waste management practices and proactive engagement with staff.

According to the new instructions, On-Board Housekeeping Service (OBHS) personnel and pantry car staff will be responsible for collecting garbage from passenger compartments and depositing it in sealed bags at nominated stations en route.

by the Zonal Railways. Their efforts, it said, reflect the Railways' broader commitment to passenger satisfaction and the Swachh Bharat Mission.

To strengthen implementation at the grassroots level, the Railway Board has ordered the launch of a one-month nationwide sensitization drive titled 'Samvaad' (Dialogue). Senior supervisors and officers from the Commercial and Mechanical Departments will conduct the exercise across all Zonal Railways, engaging directly with OBHS and pantry staff. The sessions aim to encourage open discussion, address

operational challenges, and reinforce the staff's sense of responsibility towards maintaining cleanliness.

During these Samvaad sessions, instructional videos will be screened to demonstrate best practices in waste management and safe disposal methods. Staff will also receive briefings on specific instructions related to handling garbage and catering waste, including the procedures for disposal at designated stations. The Board has made it clear that maintaining a clean and hygienic onboard environment is a shared responsibility that requires both diligence and cooperation.

Each division has been directed to submit feedback to the Samvaad exercise to the Principal Chief Commercial Manager (PCCM) and Principal Chief Mechanical Engineer (PCME) at the Zonal level. The PCCMs will then compile a consolidated report for submission to the Executive Director (Tourism & Catering) at the Railway Board within ten days of completing the program. The entire exercise is to be completed within a month, ensuring that all trains come under the initiative's purview.

In addition to aware-

ness and training, the Railway Board has introduced a stricter compliance mechanism. Licensees of OBHS and pantry car services have been formally instructed to follow the new guidelines. Any violation will be treated as a serious contractual breach, attracting termination proceedings against defaulting agencies.

This directive builds on earlier instructions issued in July 2024, which established a system for mandatory en-route garbage disposal. Those measures included conducting work studies to assess waste generation, fixing minimum garbage disposal targets for each train, and uploading disposal data into the Centralized Management System (CMM) of the Centre for Railway Information Systems (CRIS) for real-time monitoring.

By combining structured operational reforms with a human-centric approach through Samvaad, Indian Railways aims to make cleanliness an integral part of onboard hospitality. The initiative represents a step forward in enhancing hygiene standards, improving passenger satisfaction, and reinforcing the commitment to a cleaner, greener, and more responsible railway network.

Staff Reporter  
New Delhi

As part of the fortnight-long celebration of Janjatiya Gaurav Pakhwada, Union Minister for Railways, Information & Broadcasting, and Electronics & Information Technology, Shri Ashwini Vaishnav, paid floral tributes to Bhagwan Birsa Munda at Rail Bhawan, New Delhi today.

In a spirited tribute to the valour, vision, and contributions of tribal heroes, Janjatiya Gaurav Pakhwada is being celebrated across the nation from Oct 15 to Nov 15, 2025. The fortnight-long

## Vaishnav Pays Floral Tribute to Bhagwan Birsa Munda

celebration forms part of the year-long Janjatiya Gaurav observance marking the 150th birth anniversary of Bhagwan Birsa Munda — one of India's most revered tribal freedom fighters and an enduring symbol of resistance against colonial oppression.

Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi had announced the observance of Janjatiya Gaurav Pakhwada to honour the sacrifices, culture, and heritage of India's tribal communities and to bring their stories of courage and nation-building into the national consciousness. Under his visionary leadership, the Government of India institutionalized Janjatiya Gaurav Divas on 15th November each year, ensuring that the legacy of Bhagwan Birsa Munda and other tribal freedom fighters continues to inspire future generations.

Dr Paul urged the Department of Health Research (DHR) to focus on priority areas such as non-communicable diseases (NCDs), hypertension, and trauma care.



water from the Cauvery river. It is also the source of drinking water for people in 20 districts, he said in a statement.

"The Supreme Court's permission granted today for the Karnataka government to prepare a detailed project report for constructing a dam at Mekedatu is deeply shocking and painful," he said.

Strongly condemning Chief Minister Stalin, Palaniswami blamed what he called the DMK regime's failure to present "strong arguments" in the apex court to oppose Karnataka's plea on the Mekedatu issue.

He said, in case, if the efforts by the neighbouring state to build a dam at Mekedatu across Cauvery river succeeded, it would lead to "desertification" of Tamil Nadu. The DMK government did not submit forceful arguments against Karnataka's efforts that might end in desertification, Palaniswami, a former chief

## Palaniswami Slams DMK Over Mekedatu Case

minister, alleged.

AIADMK had all along been strongly opposing the dam initiative of the neighbouring state and if a reservoir was to be built at Mekedatu, all the rights of Tamil Nadu over the Cauvery will be taken away, he alleged.

The AIADMK chief reiterated his allegation that the DMK government "remained silent" when the issue of including the Mekedatu dam matter in the agenda was raised by Karnataka during the 28th meeting of the Cauvery Water Management Authority held in Delhi on 1.2.2024.

Delhi blast  
Cardiology  
student medical  
professor  
detained from UP

**Kanpur/Hapur:**  
A college professor and medical student, both from Jammu and Kashmir, were detained in Uttar Pradesh's Hapur and Kanpur, respectively, in connection with the November 10 Delhi blast, officials said on Thursday.  
Dr Faruk, an assistant professor at Hapur's GS Medical College, was detained by Delhi Police.  
Hapur Additional Superintendent of Police Vineet Bhatnagar said, "Faruk taught in the obstetrics department (of GS Medical College) and lived on the college campus for nearly a year. He was detained from the premises on Wednesday night."  
He is a native of Jammu and Kashmir, and completed his medical education from Al Falah University in Haryana's Faridabad, the officer said.  
The university came under the scanner of investigation agencies after an interstate "white collar" terror modus operandi with links to proscribed Jaish-e-Mohammed and Ansar Ghazwat-ul-Hind was busted.  
Mohammad Arif Mir (32), a first-year DM student at Laxmi Singhania Institute of Cardiology and Cardiac Surgery of the state-run Ganesh Shankar Vidyarthi Memorial (GSVM) Medical College, was detained by the Uttar Pradesh Anti-Terrorist Squad (ATS) from an undisclosed location on Thursday, a senior official said.  
The UP ATS later searched Arif's rented accommodation in Ashok Nagar, Nazirabad, and seized his mobile phone and laptop for forensic examination before taking him to Delhi for questioning, the official said.  
**Gaurav Gogoi ISI agent but less involved than his wife alleges Himanta**  
**Guwahati:**  
Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Thursday alleged that state Congress president Gaurav Gogoi is an agent of Pakistan's ISI though he is a little less involved in comparison to his wife.  
Gogoi who keeps mum when terrorists strike in the country is definitely an agent of the Pakistani spy agency, the CM said on the sidelines of a programme here.  
Sarma has been attacking Gogoi and his British wife Elizabeth Colburn over the last few months, alleging that they have a connection with the Pakistani intelligence agency ISI.  
"His wife might be a bit more and he might be a little less, but what is undeniable is that both are Pakistani agents and we have enough proof with us," he said.  
October and November have been full of sorrow and pain for the people of Assam following the death of singer Zubeen Garg, and that is why he is not taking any step on this issue, Sarma said, adding that it is not a good time for politics.  
"I am, however, saying as the chief minister of the state that he and his family are in cahoots with Pakistan," he alleged.  
"Gaurav Gogoi is with Pakistan and his entire family is working for the ISI. Therefore, during any subversive incident, he cannot criticise that country," Sarma claimed.

# UP Govt reshapes the future of marginalized communities

**TSN/Lucknow:**  
The Yogi government has redefined the landscape of tribal welfare in Uttar Pradesh, transforming long-neglected communities into partners in progress. Under Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's leadership, development has truly moved from Antyodaya to Sarvodaya, ensuring that the most deprived are placed at the forefront of growth.  
Through the Dharti Aaba Janatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan and Dharti Aaba Janbhagidari Abhiyan, saturation-based development has reached 517 tribal-dominated villages across 26 districts. These areas are now fully covered by welfare schemes such as Ayushman Bharat, Ujjwala, Jan Dhan, Kisan Saman Nidhi, and PM Vishwakarma Yojana, enhancing connectivity, healthcare, and livelihood opportunities.  
Extending its protective shield to tribes such as Tharu, Buksa, and Bhotia, the government has empowered over 1 lakh people with housing, education, healthcare, electricity, and drinking water through initiatives like PM Janman and the Mukhyamantri Awas Yojana. In a landmark achievement, 815 Buksa families in forest areas now have complete access to essential amenities.  
To sustain cultural heritage and boost income, the government established the Tharu Handicraft Company in Lakhimpur Kheri, linking 371 self-help groups with national markets through revolving and community investment funds. A Tharu Museum has been inaugurated in Balrampur, with similar projects underway in Mirzapur, Sonbhadra, and Maharajganj.  
Eklavya Model Schools, Sarvodaya Hostels, and Ashram Vidyalayas are nurturing a new generation of confident tribal youth. Schools in Lakhimpur Kheri, Bahraich, Sonbhadra, and Lalitpur are providing holistic education to children from remote regions,



**Saturation-based growth in 517 tribal villages under the Dharti Aaba campaign sparks transformation**

strengthening the base for inclusive progress.  
Under the Pre-Examination Training Centre Scheme, over 700 Scheduled Tribe candidates have been selected for administrative roles, while 6,500 youth are being trained across eight high-level centres. Full representation of reserved seats in police recruitment reflects growing tribal participation in governance.  
The government's inclusive approach also extends to freed and nomadic tribes, such as the Nat, Banjar, Sansi, Kanjar, and Kalbelia. With 101 Ashram Vidyalayas, 9 Sarvodaya Schools, and multiple hostels, these communities are gaining stability through education, housing, and social security.  
"Office bearers in the state will put even schools to major crises to shame."  
Later, the two leaders also went to the Naga-dominated Senapati district and met with local Naga leaders.  
Patra in a post on X said, "Attended a meeting with the Village Chiefs and the Development Council of the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG) Maram Tribe at the DRDO Office, Senapati District Headquarters, along with BJP National General Secretary (Organisation) Shri @blsanthoshji."  
"Office bearers from the BJP Senapati district and Mandal units were also present during the interaction", Patra added.  
Santhosh and Patra later returned to Imphal and interacted with Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) at Lambukhlongnangkhang relief camp in Imphal West district.  
The two central BJP leaders arrived in Manipal on Wednesday and will leave for New Delhi on Friday.

## IIT Mandi's 13th convocation celebrates academic excellence and women power

**Rajan Puncthi Mandi:**  
The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Mandi held its 13th Convocation Ceremony at the institute's picturesque North Campus in Kamanand Valley, marking another milestone in its journey as a leading hub of innovation and research in the Western Himalayas.  
A total of 604 students received their degrees this year, including 71 Ph.D. scholars, 245 postgraduates, and 288 B.Tech graduates. Notably, over 25 percent of the graduating students were women, highlighting the institute's commitment to gender diversity in science and technology.  
The event was graced by Prof. Shekhar C. Manand, Former Director General, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), as the Chief Guest, who delivered the Convocation Address. He urged students to use innovation for sustainable development and to lead with empathy and integrity. "Science and technology should help society and not be misused in any way. Science without humanity isn't useful," he said.  
Prof. Laxmidhar Behera, Director, IIT Mandi, chaired the ceremony and congratulated the graduating class for their resilience and achievements. "IIT Mandi continues to nurture a vibrant ecosystem of learning and innovation in the Himalayas. Our graduates are addressing challenges of sustainability through technology that aligns with local and national priorities," he said.  
Prof. Behera noted that 26 percent of this year's graduates are women, with a female student earning the President of India Gold Medal. He added that the institute is focusing on reverse engineering and product innovation while strengthening its role in regional development and disaster management. "Our progress is reflected in the NIRF Rankings 2025, where we have taken a significant leap," he said.



**Over 25% of graduates are women; institute to mark 15th year as 'Homecoming' for first batch**

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## Sukhu faces criticism in Mandi over University shifts and doctor transfers

**Rajan Puncthi MANDI:**  
Former Chief Minister and Leader of the Opposition Jairam Thakur has strongly criticized Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu, alleging that his visits to Mandi have consistently resulted in setbacks for the district. Speaking to the media, Thakur accused Sukhu of taking political revenge by undermining local institutions and targeting development projects.  
Thakur highlighted the case of the state's second Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel University, which was established during the previous government's tenure. He said that Sukhu initially attempted to close the university entirely, and when protests were raised in the Assembly, his scope was curtailed to just two districts. According to Thakur, the Chief Minister's actions have consistently aimed to weaken institutions rather than strengthen them.  
The criticism escalated following Sukhu's visit to Sarkaghat on August 15, during National Independence Day celebrations, when he announced that the Atal Medical University, located in Nerchowk for the past decade, would be shifted to Sarkaghat. Thakur argued that adequate land and space for the Nerchowk campus had long been identified, making the relocation politically motivated and a form of retribution.  
In addition, Thakur condemned the state government's simultaneous transfer of 41



**Thakur highlighted the case of the state's second Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel University, which was established during the previous government's tenure.**

doctors from Lal Bahadur Shastri Medical College and Hospital, Nerchowk. He described these moves as politically malicious, asserting that since the Congress Party assumed power, key institutions have either been closed or deliberately weakened through arbitrary decisions.  
Thakur also took aim at Sukhu's personal conduct, accusing him of harboring animosity toward local leaders and focusing on personal attacks rather than highlighting governmental achievements. He claimed that these actions were alienating the public and ensuring that the BJP would win all ten Mandi district assembly seats in the 2027 elections.  
"The Chief Minister has not improved the system despite completing three years in office; instead, he has degraded it further," Thakur said. He emphasized that the public, already frustrated with the government's policies, would not tolerate decisions that cause inconvenience and hardship. According to him, such arbitrary actions are hindering development and disrupting administrative order, reinforcing the perception of a government driven by vengeance.  
Thakur concluded by warning that unless the government changes its approach, the Congress Party would struggle to secure even ten seats in the next elections, and the people of Mandi will hold them accountable for the deliberate weakening of local institutions and the disruption of development initiatives.

## Taj Trapezium Zone Authority approves key infrastructure and river restoration Projects

**Akash Jaini**  
The 65th Board Meeting of the Taj Trapezium Zone (TTZ) Authority was successfully held on Thursday under the chairmanship of Divisional Commissioner Mr. Shalendra Kumar Singh. The meeting began with the confirmation of the minutes from the Authority's 64th Board Meeting, ensuring continuity and formal approval of previous decisions.  
During the session, a significant proposal was presented concerning the expansion of the runway, taxi track, and aircraft parking area at the Civil Air Terminal in Agra, under the jurisdiction of the Airports Authority of India. The proposal also included connecting the runway and taxi track to enhance operational efficiency. The DGM (Civil) reported that the necessary No Objection Certificates (NOCs) had already been obtained from the Pollution Control Board and the Agra Development Authority. The project is currently



in the process of securing environmental clearance before construction can commence. Following detailed deliberations, the Divisional Commissioner granted in-principle approval for the project, stipulating that work may only begin after obtaining all relevant departmental permissions, including from NERL.  
Another key proposal discussed during the meeting involved the development and restoration of the ghats along the Yamuna River in Mathura district. This project has already received approval under the National Clean Ganga Mission. The Commissioner reviewed the objectives, potential environmental impacts, and clearances issued by various departments before granting full approval for implementation.  
He emphasized strict adherence to the construction and Demolition (C&D) Waste Management Rules, directing that no solid waste should be allowed to enter the river and that all waste generated during the project must be properly managed and disposed of.  
The meeting saw the presence of senior officials, including Additional District Magistrate (Finance/Revenue) Ms. Shubhangi Shukla, Regional Officer of the Pollution Control Board Aligarh Mr. Vishwanath Sharma, GM of Jai Kal Mr. Arunendra Rajput, Town Planner Ms. Riha Kaushik, Mr. Lokesh Sharma from NHAII, and Forest Ranger Mr. Girijesh Tiwari, among others. The discussions underscored the TTZ Authority's commitment to sustainable development and the balancing of infrastructure growth with environmental protection.

## Dr. Tara Devi Sen Wins Prestigious Senior Scientist Green Award in Thailand

**Rajan Puncthi MANDI:**  
Dr. Tara Devi Sen, Head of the Department of Botany at Vallabh Government College, Mandi, has been recognized internationally for her contributions to environmental conservation. She was awarded the Senior Scientist Green Award at the 6th World Environment Summit held in Thailand from November 9-11. The summit was organized jointly by the Environment and Social Development Association (ESDA) and Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar College, University of Delhi.  
The award was presented by Dr. Amzath Ahmed, Minister of State for Fisheries and Marine Resources of the Maldives, in the presence of several global experts, including Indian Ambassador Nagesh Singh, Amity University Vice Chancellor Prof. P.B. Sharma, Dr. Anthony Fulfres of the United States, and Dr. Ali Naajeb of the Maldives. The conference brought together over 430 delegates and 50 keynote speakers from 27 countries, with participants from South Asia, Africa, Australia, Europe, and the UAE.  
Dr. Sen was recognized for her remarkable work in biodiversity conservation, sustainable development, traditional food innovation, and environmental education. Through her initiatives, including the website www.himalayanwildlifedplants.com, her YouTube channel, and active engagement in social and print media, she has worked to raise public awareness about environmental sustainability. Her efforts focus on the conservation, domestication, value addition, and marketing of wild edible plants, linking rural communities to food security, nutrition, and livelihood opportunities in collaboration with self-help groups, farmers, students, local vendors, and NGOs such as Rotary Club Mandi and Rise Up Mandi.  
Expressing gratitude, Dr. Sen dedicated the honor to her parents, family members, mentor Dr. Chiranjit Parmar, and the Mandi community. Her work, now recognized beyond national boundaries, serves as a global example of promoting climate-resilient plants and sustainable food systems. The award reflects her lifelong commitment to environmental sustainability and a greener future.



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Bangladesh's special tribunal to deliver verdict against Hasina on Nov 17

**Dhaka:** A special tribunal in Bangladesh on Thursday said it will deliver judgement on November 17 in a case against deposed prime minister Sheikh Hasina over alleged crimes against humanity committed during the July Uprising.

Hasina, 78, faces multiple cases in Bangladesh after being ousted in August last year following the mass student-led agitation. According to a UN rights office report, up to 14,400 people were killed between July 15 and August 15 last year (dubbed as July Uprising) as Hasina's government ordered a security crackdown on protesters.

"Justice Golam Mortuza Mozumder, chairman of a three-member panel of the International Crimes Tribunal (ICT-BD), set November 17 for delivering the verdict," a lawyer, attending the tightly secured special court in the capital, told PTI.

Hasina, her home minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal and their inspector general of police (IGP) Chowdhury Abdullah Al-Mamun were tried in the tribunal. The ex-premier and Kamal were tried in absentia, with the court declaring them fugitives.

Chief prosecutor Mohammad Tajul Islam has demanded the death penalty for Hasina, alleging that she was the "mastermind and principal architect" behind the crimes against humanity committed during the mass protests last year.

# Nepal forms task force for security plan ahead of general elections

**Kathmandu:** Election Commission of Nepal on Thursday held discussion with political parties representing federal parliament, province and local level regarding preparations for the upcoming National Assembly and House of Representatives elections.

Nepal's Minister for Home Affairs Om Prakash Aryal, on the other hand, said, a task force comprising representatives from all security bodies has been formed to prepare the election security plan.

The general elections are scheduled for March 5, 2026.

The Election Commission informed the representatives of various political parties about the election to the Upper House or National Assembly and proposed general election schedule on March 5 as well as voters' list update programme, according to sources in the Election Commission.



Addressing various issues, suggestions and concerns raised by the political parties, acting Chief Election Commissioner Ram Prasad Bhandari expressed confidence that the upcoming Parliamentary election will be conducted in a free, fair, impartial and fearless manner.

Meanwhile, Minister for Home Affairs Om Prakash Aryal, speaking during a programme elsewhere in Kathmandu, said the government is eager to hand over power to the people's elected representatives by holding the general election on the scheduled date.

Sharing his views during an interaction programme on "Peace, security, and preparations for the upcoming election," Aryal said the primary responsibility of the incumbent government is to successfully conduct the election on March 5, 2026.

A taskforce coordinated by a joint secretary at the Home Ministry, comprising representatives from all security bodies, has been formed to prepare the election security plan, he said.

The report prepared by the taskforce will be implemented after approval from the Central Security Committee, Aryal added.

The elections have been necessitated following the ouster of prime minister K P Sharma Oli on September 9 after demonstrations by Gen Z protesting corruption and demanding lifting of a ban on social media turned violent leading to the death of 76 people in two days.

# Indian Sikh pilgrims depart after 10-day visit



**Lahore:** Over 2,000 Indian Sikh pilgrims, who were in Pakistan for a 10-day visit to attend events related to the 556th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev, left for India on Thursday under high security.

The main event was held on November 5 at Gurdwara Janamasthan Nankana Sahib, some 80 kms from Lahore, the place where Guru Nanak was born.

The Indian Sikhs who were staying at Gurdwara Dera Sahib, Lahore, in the last leg of their visit, were taken to Wagah check post on Thursday with security provided by police and Pakistan Rangers (para military), said Evacuee

Trust Property Board (ETPB) Additional Secretary Nasir Mushtaq in a statement.

The ETPB looks after holy places of minorities in the country. The pilgrims had entered Pakistan via the same Wagah border last week.

Pakistan Sikh Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee President and Punjab Minorities Minister P Sandar Ramesh Singh Arora and Mushtaq were among the officials who saw the Indian Sikhs off at the Wagah border.

"The pilgrims returning from Pakistan will take with them a message of peace and love to the whole world," said Mushtaq.

# Pak claims Islamabad suicide bomber was Afghan national

**Islamabad:** Pakistan's Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi on Thursday said that the suicide bomber involved in the deadly Islamabad bombing was an Afghan national.

At least 12 people were killed on Tuesday when a suicide bomber detonated his explosives near the entrance of a court in the G-11 area of the capital.

After visiting the attack site, Naqvi had announced to identify the bomber before pointing fingers in any direction.

Addressing the Senate on Thursday, Naqvi said that authorities have identified the attackers as well as those involved in the Islamabad bombing. "We have traced the attacker. The suicide bomber is an Afghan national," he said.

The minister also said that the suicide bombers involved in the Wana Cadet College attack in South Waziristan district this week were also from Afghanistan.

He also announced that action would be taken at an appropriate level.

Six people were injured on Monday after a suicide bomber detonated explosives at the

main gate of the Wana Cadet College in South Waziristan, bordering Afghanistan.

Replying to a question outside the parliament, Naqvi rejected the idea of talks with militants. "How can we talk to them when they are throwing bombs on us? It is not possible," he said.

Separately, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar

said that terrorism increased after the Taliban came to power.

"There is total goodwill from Pakistan, but every week we have to shoulder the dead bodies of our soldiers and people," Dar told the Senate.

He also targeted the previous government of Imran Khan for allegedly allowing the Taliban to come back from Afghanistan, where they had fled

after operations in the border regions. He also claimed the jailed Taliban militants were released during Khan's tenure.

"More than 100 hundred criminals were set free by the previous regime," he said.

Meanwhile, security agencies have arrested two key suspects, a handler and a facilitator, in connection with the suicide bombing in Islamabad, reported Geo News.

The facilitator, living in Rawalpindi for the past month, was arrested in Rawalpindi while the handler was detained from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, it said, quoting sources.

Before the attack, the facilitator and the suicide bomber visited the Judicial Complex several times to survey the area, the sources said.

## BUSINESS

### TaskUs expands in Noida with HeritEdge Launch, to Generate 1,300 jobs by 2026



**Noida:** TaskUs Inc. (Nasdaq: TASK), a leading provider of outsourced digital services and next-generation customer experience, today announced the launch of its fifth operations hub in India HeritEdge located in Noida.

The new site marks a significant milestone in TaskUs' India growth strategy, enhancing its capability to deliver advanced digital services across Digital Customer Experience, Trust & Safety, and AI Operations. Currently employing over 500 teammates, HeritEdge is projected to expand to 1,300 employees by 2026.

Strategically located within the National Capital Region, Noida offers access to a robust talent pool, modern infrastruc-

ture, and a thriving technology ecosystem factors that align with TaskUs' commitment to innovation and excellence.

"India's differentiator is its exciting mix of technical talent, cultural affinity to global brands, and the passion for innovation," said Sapna Bhamhani, SVP of Operations and Country Leader, India at TaskUs. "HeritEdge is a representation of TaskUs' dedication to our teammates, offering them a space that is ridiculously supportive and engaging. When we prioritize our people's well-being and growth, they deliver excellence."

TaskUs currently employs over 15,000 teammates across six Indian cities, reaffirming India's vital role in the company's global operations.

# India, Canada discuss ways to promote bilateral trade investments

**New Delhi:** India and Canada on Thursday held discussions on ways to promote bilateral trade and investments besides advancing collaborations in areas, including supply chain resilience, and health sectors.

The issues were discussed during the India-Canada Ministerial Dialogue on Trade and Investment (MDTI) meeting, which was co-chaired by Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal, and Canada's Minister of Export Promotion, International Trade and Economic Development Maninder Sidhu.

The ministers reaffirmed their commitment to fostering an open, transparent, and predictable business environment that supports sustainable growth, the commerce ministry said.

"Discussions focused on strengthening bilateral economic ties and advancing sectoral collaboration across priority domains, including nutritional security, supply chain resilience,



health sector cooperation, and investment facilitation," it said.

They also reviewed recent trade policy developments, covering trade in goods and services, and exchanged views to enhance market access, promote regulatory alignment, and support long-term economic resilience.

Bilateral trade in goods and services be-

tween India and Canada stood at USD 18.38 billion in 2023.

There are about 2.9 million Indian diaspora and over 427,000 Indian students in Canada.

The two ministers also held talks in October this year.

The discussions are important as in 2023, Canada had paused negotiations for a free trade agreement with

India. The India-Canada relations hit rock bottom following then Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's allegations in 2023 of a potential Indian link to the killing of Hardeep Singh Nijjar. India had dismissed Trudeau's accusation as "absurd".

In March 2022, the two countries had relaunched negotiations

The ministers reaffirmed their commitment to fostering an open, transparent, and predictable business environment that supports sustainable growth, the commerce ministry said.

for an interim agreement, officially dubbed as Early Progress Trade Agreement (EPTA).

Over half a dozen rounds of talks have been held on the trade pact so far.

Normally in a trade agreement, two countries significantly reduce or eliminate customs duties on the maximum number of goods traded between them. They also liberalise norms for promoting trade in services and attract investments.

India's exports to Canada rose 9.8 per cent to USD 4.22 billion in 2024-25 from USD 3.84 billion in 2023-24. Imports, however, dipped 2.33 per cent to USD 4.44 billion in the last fiscal year from USD 4.55 billion in 2023-24.

# Advent Hotels International Announces Proposed Listing on NSE & BSE

**Mumbai:** Advent Hotels International Ltd., a marquee owner of luxury and upper-upscale hotels in prime high-demand micro-markets in India, today announced the proposed listing of its equity shares on the National Stock Exchange of India Ltd. (NSE) and BSE Ltd. on November 13, 2025. The listing marks a significant milestone in Advent's



journey as a dedicated hospitality platform, enabling enhanced market

visibility, liquidity for existing shareholders, and a strengthened cap-

ital structure to support future growth. Carved out of Valor Estate Ltd (formerly DB Realty Ltd), Advent Hotels International now operates independently with a focused strategy for developing, owning, and managing marquee hotel assets across India. The Company is governed by its own Board and Management team following the demerger. "The listing of Advent

Hotels International reinforces our commitment to building an institutionally governed and capital-efficient hospitality platform. We are committed to building a lean, operationally excellent hotel platform that is maniacally focused on long-term shareholder value creation. Our goal is to deliver a mid-teens compounded ROE over the next decade or so, through careful acqui-

sitions and disciplined capital allocation," said Mr. Arshad Balwa, Promoter Director, Advent Hotels International Limited.

Advent Hotels International currently operates two marquee hotels: a 313-key Grand Hyatt-flagged property in Bambolim, Goa (with an additional 113 keys under development), and a 171-key Hilton-branded property in Mumbai's

Andheri East.

"This listing is a defining moment for Advent Hotels International, as we aim to build one of India's most admired hospitality platforms. As an independent, asset-heavy company with marquee partnerships and a strong development pipeline, we are well-positioned to capture the next phase of growth in India's premium and luxury hospitality sector.

The Eicher Pro X comes with a purpose built "all new" E449- the X-Facordiesel engine that delivers best in class fuel efficiency and power, enabling superior drivability and performance across terrains. Equipped with segment's largest cargo deck (10 feet 8 inches) and longest service interval of 30,000 km, the Eicher new range delivers unmatched uptime. Together, these features will allow customers to carry more goods per trip, reduce operating costs, and grow profitability.

### Eicher Trucks & Buses launches EicherPro X Diesel Range

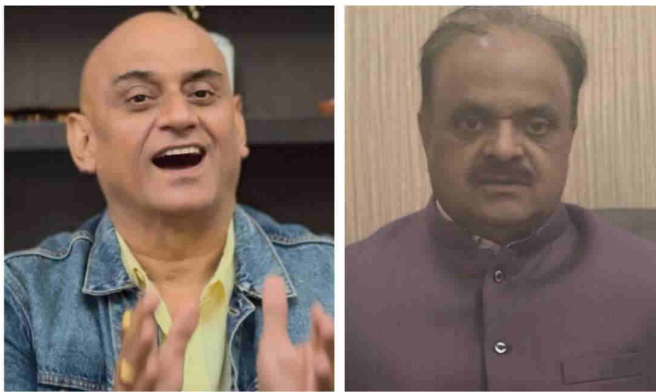
**New Delhi:** Eicher Trucks and Buses, a business unit of VE Commercial Vehicles (VECV), today announced the launch of the Eicher Pro X Diesel, expanding its next-generation offering in the 2-3.5 ton Small Commercial Vehicle (SCV) segment.

Following the successful launch of the Eicher Pro X EV at the Bharat Mobility Global Expo earlier this year, the introduction of the diesel variant combines Eicher's industry-leading expertise in fuel efficiency and application excellence for customers and regions who require diesel powered solutions.

With over four decades of leadership in the commercial vehicle industry, Eicher Trucks and Buses is committed to transforming last-mile logistics with the all-new Eicher Pro X Diesel. Co-developed with customers and built as an 'Expert' solution, the new diesel range is set to serve smaller businesses, fleet operators and first-time buyers with best-in-class performance, superior uptime and easy ownership.

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# “Bihar Will Vote for Development, Not Disorder”: An Exclusive Conversation with Four-Time BJP MLA Rameshwar Chaurasia



Dr. Anil Singh

Shri Rameshwar Chaurasia

By Dr. Anil Singh  
Editorial Advisor, Top Story,  
and Editor, STAR Views

**Q Dr. Anil Singh:** Rameshwar ji, welcome to this exclusive interview for Top Story. Almost 15-16 exit polls have unanimously predicted a comfortable victory for the NDA. But we have seen exit polls collapse before – the most recent case being Haryana, where every major poll backed Congress yet the actual result was completely different. Is there any such possibility in Bihar, or is the ground reality firmly with the NDA?

**A Rameshwar Chaurasia:** From everything I've seen, the exit polls are not exaggerating – they are reflecting the real public mood. Anyone who travelled across Bihar, as you did, would have noticed something remarkable: even after 20 years of continuous governance, there is no anti-incumbency against Nitish Kumar ji. In fact, there is a very clear pro-incumbency wave.

People repeatedly told us that if the government changes “by mistake,” Bihar may slide back into the lawlessness of the 1990s. That fear is genuine, not manufactured.

On the other hand, the NDA went into this election with strong preparation and a record of delivery:

- Villages that never saw electricity now have 24-hour power.
- Roads that were nonexistent are now better than many states.
- Women's empowerment through police reservations,

Panchayat representation, and Jeevika Didis has transformed local economies.

Contrast this with the Opposition, whose candidate lists were declared just hours before nominations, midnight meetings, and internal tussles. People asked:

“If they can't even finalise candidates in time, how will they run Bihar?”

So yes – the exit polls are grounded in reality, not guesswork.

**Q Dr. Anil Singh:** Around the world, governments rarely win elections on the basis of development alone. Emotions, identity, and anger usually shape results. But Bihar seems poised to re-elect a 20-year government on development and stability. Is Bihar rewriting the political rulebook?

**A Rameshwar Chaurasia:** Yes, Bihar is setting a new national benchmark.

When I first became MLA in 2000, even my own village had no electricity. Roads were broken or nonexistent. Law and order was so poor that even MLAs avoided stepping out after dark. Compare that to today:

• You see functioning schools and better hospitals.

• Women travel, work, and lead.

• Migration born out of fear and helplessness has drastically reduced.

This is not cosmetic improvement – it is a fundamental transformation of Bihar's social fabric.

For the first time, Bihar is proving that development, safety, and dignity can win elections. This will shape national politics too. If Bihar rewards development, other states will follow.

**Q Dr. Anil Singh:** A major question now is leadership. If NDA forms the government, will Nitish Kumar continue as Chief Minister, or will the BJP – as in Maharashtra – take control of the leadership?

**A Rameshwar Chaurasia:** The NDA has repeatedly made this clear: the election has been fought entirely under the leadership of Nitish Kumar ji. Comparisons with Maharashtra are unnecessary. Bihar's politics and social structure are different. Nitish ji has led the government for nearly two decades, barring a brief period. There is nothing ambiguous

about the alliance's leadership choice.

Of course, once the results come, all partners will sit together. The leader is formally chosen by the legislative party, which is the constitutional process. But politically and practically, Nitish ji remains the natural choice.

**Q Dr. Anil Singh:** What impact do you think Bihar's verdict – win or loss – will have on the political environment in Delhi?

**A Rameshwar Chaurasia:** First of all, I do not see any situation of “loss.”

A decisive NDA victory in Bihar will strengthen the double-engine governance model, allowing Bihar to accelerate in areas where work is still needed:

- Large-scale industrialisation
- IT parks and technology hubs
- Modern hospitals and medical education
- Upgrading universities and technical institutes
- Job creation and skill development

Bihar's youth are exceptionally talented – they serve across India

**Introduction**

In the run-up to Bihar's most decisive election in decades, Top Story presents an exclusive and authoritative interview with **Shri Rameshwar Chaurasia, four-time BJP MLA** from Nokha and one of the most seasoned political voices in the state. **Speaking to Dr. Anil Singh**, he analyses the exit poll trends, the surprising pro-incumbency mood, the women's vote, alliance dynamics, and the broader national implications of Bihar's verdict.

as engineers, administrators, entrepreneurs. With stability and investment, Bihar itself can become a hub of skilled manpower.

An NDA victory will strengthen the Centre's confidence to invest more aggressively in Bihar.

**Q Dr. Anil Singh:** Both phases of polling witnessed exceptionally high turnout – 64% and 67%. High turnout often reflects a deep desire for change. But in Bihar, the change voters want is in their living conditions – unemployment, healthcare, industrialisation – more than a change of government. Will the next government understand this emotional and practical mandate?

**A Rameshwar Chaurasia:** Any government – NDA or Mahagathbandhan – must understand that the people's message is loud and clear:

deliver results, improve lives, create opportunities.

One important detail: nearly 40-45 lakh names were removed from voter lists due to updated verification. These were people who migrated permanently or passed away. Earlier, they pulled turnout down.

After deletion, a rise of 6-7% turnout is actually a real increase of 3-4% in active voter participation.

The biggest force behind this surge is women voters. In Bihar, women voted 8-9% more than men, which is unprecedented in India.

Women have emerged as Bihar's strongest political constituency.

**Q Dr. Anil Singh:** Women have been Nitish Kumar's most loyal voter base for 20 years. This time, too, JDU expected women to play a decisive role, especially after the ₹10,000 transfers. Do you believe JDU has gained more women's votes than BJP?

**A Rameshwar Chaurasia:** The ₹10,000 transfer is only a small part of the story. The real reason women trust the NDA government is structural empowerment:

- 50% reservation in Panchayats – a revolutionary step
- 35% reservation in police recruitment – unmatched in India
- Reservation in teaching jobs and government services
- Jeevika, which has become a model of women's economic independence

Jeevika has brought dignity, income, decision-making power, and confidence to women across villages. These women now manage enterprises, run services, handle accounts, and support their families.

Women know these opportunities didn't come from chance – they came from policy. And they believe that this government can take them further.

**Q Dr. Anil Singh:** Rameshwar ji, thank you for speaking so frankly and extensively. After counting, we will once again speak to you for your reactions. Thank you for joining Top Story and STAR Views.

**A Rameshwar Chaurasia:** Thank you very much.

SPORTS

Sri Lanka records 1st win against USA in Women's T20 World Cup Cricket for Blind 2025

New Delhi  
Match 4, Day 3 of the 1st Women's T20 World Cup - Cricket for the Blind 2025 witnessed an engaging contest between two of the tournament's newest entrants, Sri Lanka Women and Team USA.

While it was Sri Lanka's third match of the tournament, it marked a historic debut for Team USA, representing the Cricket Association for the Blind in the United States of America (CABUSA) and supported by Samarathanam USA. The milestone match was a moment of pride for Samarathanam USA, celebrating CABUSA's maiden international appearance and reaffirming the expanding global footprint of blind cricket, as per a press release.

Opting to bat first after winning the toss, the USA Women put up a resilient show in their maiden appearance, posting 172 runs in 20 overs. Key contributions came from Shannon (B2, 31 runs), Caroline (B1, 29 not out), and Captain Abey (B3, 19 runs), a promising performance in their World Cup debut.

## Would rather face him in A game than in Kolkata: SA skipper Bavuma

Kolkata  
South Africa captain Temba Bavuma underscored the threat that India's premier left-arm wrist spinner Kuldeep Yadav is capable of posing, irrespective of whether the surface offers turn to him or not, ahead of the two-match series opener on Friday.

Bavuma recently engaged in a mouth-watering battle against Kuldeep for the first time during the second unofficial Test between India A and South Africa A earlier this month. During South Africa A's second innings at the BCCI's Centre of Excellence, Kuldeep rolled his arm and tested the South African captain with his vast array of skills.

The 35-year-old tried to counter Kuldeep by sweeping the ball in the air and almost ended up holing out to the fielder. After making a narrow escape, Bavuma pulled out grounded reverse sweep and traditional sweep shots to drill the ball straight to the boundary rope.

After having the first taste of an enthralling encounter with Kuldeep, Bavuma jokingly admitted that he would rather face the 30-year-old in an A game rather than



in the first Test at Kolkata's Eden Gardens. While negating Kuldeep's variation, Bavuma revealed that he understood why the Indian management rates the left-arter high.

“Yeah, so I think for myself, it was the first time actually facing him. So that was quite nice. I'd rather face him in an A game than here in Kolkata. That's if he plays. I think, yeah, it takes a little bit of time to get used to him. Not a massive turn on the ball, but he can obviously deceive you off the wicket with the ball turning in and turning away,” Bavuma told reporters on the eve of the series opener of the two-match series,

scheduled to commence on Friday.

“Yeah, I think it's just really giving yourself that extra bit of time to understand the little nuances that he has. But I mean, in my little bit that I got to face him last week, you can see why India have a lot of faith in him. Definitely the guy who's a wicket-taker, so we'll obviously have to keep our wits about him. But I think like all their bowlers, they all have the ability to take wickets. We'll have to take care of them and give them the respect that they deserve,” Bavuma added.

The five days of the first Test are expected to be played in front of a jam-

packed crowd, unlike the home red-ball fixtures against the West Indies last month. Bavuma feels people filling up the stadium for the promising fixture is an ominous sign for Test cricket, a format that is trying to rediscover its lost glory, due to the growing prominence of T20 cricket.

“I think historically as well, it's always nice to be a part of those types of moments. So we'd like to make it a positive one in terms of the results. But, yeah, I think it will be, again, I think it will be a good effort for Test cricket,” Bavuma said. “You know, around the world, we've been com-

The 35-year-old tried to counter Kuldeep by sweeping the ball in the air and almost ended up holing out to the fielder. After making a narrow escape, Bavuma pulled out grounded reverse sweep and traditional sweep shots to drill the ball straight to the boundary rope.

plaining about stadiums not being filled up. We've got a little bit of a similar issue back home. So I think this, again, will show that test cricket is alive and kicking. And I think, again, it just speaks to the fact that we have an exciting series lined up for us,” Bavuma added. While addressing the press, the 35-year-old evoked laughter while narrating a tale of a conversation he had with New Zealand's talismanic batter, Kane Williamson. Bavuma met Kane during an event in Mumbai earlier this year and tried to gather some pointers from the former Blackcaps skipper. The only thing that Williamson could advise him was not to lose the toss.

## LSG likely to trade Shardul Thakur to Mumbai Indians



New Delhi  
India's all-rounder Shardul Thakur is poised to join the Mumbai Indians (MI) for Indian Premier League (IPL) 2026, as the franchise has reached an in-principle agreement with Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) to acquire him through an all-cash trade deal.

Thakur, who had gone unsold at the 2025 mega auction and was to join Essex in the County Championship, was picked by LSG as a replacement for Mohsin Khan at his base price of ₹2 crore, and he scalped six wickets in his first two matches in IPL 2025. Thakur, however, struggled after that, playing only ten games and taking 13 wickets with an economy rate of 11.02. The auction for the next season of the Indian Premier League (IPL) is set to be held in Abu Dhabi, with its govern-

ing council still working on finalising the deal and venue. As of now, the auction dates are December 15-16. The 2025 IPL season was one of the ages as the man in number 18, Virat Kohli, ended his 18-year-long wait for an IPL trophy with Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB), beating Shreyas Iyer-led Punjab Kings (PBKS) in the final by six runs at Ahmedabad's Narendra Modi Stadium. Gujarat Titans (GT) opener Sai Sudharsan emerged as the top run-getter, with 759 runs in 15 matches at an average of 51.21, with a century and six fifties, and runs scored at a strike rate of 156.17. Though GT could not make it to the final, they dominated the bowling charts too, with pacer Prasidh Krishna finishing at the top with 25 wickets in 15 matches at an average of 19.52 and best figures of 4/41.

Ahead of Ashes, Ben Stokes shines in England warm-up match

Perth: Ben Stokes made a sensational comeback to competitive cricket, claiming six wickets on the first day of England's Ashes warm-up match against England Lions in Perth on Thursday.

The star all-rounder, who hadn't played since July due to a shoulder injury, bowled 16 overs across three spells and finished with impressive figures of 6-52. His return is a significant boost for England as they prepare for the Ashes series.

The Ashes series between Australia and England for the 2025-26 season is scheduled to begin on November 21, with the first Test to be played at Optus Stadium in Perth. He dismissed Lions captain Tom Haines with the fifth ball he bowled. He also removed Jacob Bethell (2), Will Jacks (84), Jordan Cox (53), Tom Lawes (0) and Rehan Ahmed (16).

This Ashes will be a crucial Test for England, fuelled by their aggressive 'Bazball' brand of cricket. During England's harrowing run, they are yet to win a Test, let alone an Ashes series in Australia, since their famous triumph in 2001/02. England last won the prized urn in 2015 on their home soil.

Coming to the match, batting first, the England Lions posted a competitive total of 382 all out in 79.3 overs. Will Jacks led the charge with a top score of 84 off 85 balls, ably supported by Ben McKinney's 67 and Jordan Cox's 53.

Rehan Ahmed and Thomas Rew also contributed valuable knocks of 16 and 55, respectively, helping the Lions put up a solid total.

Meanwhile, Mark Wood is set to undergo precautionary scans after suffering hamstring stiffness during England's warm-up game against the England Lions ahead of the Ashes, as per the ICC website.

However, according to the statement released by the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB), Wood is expected to bowl in two days' time, though he is unlikely to take the field for the remainder of the warm-up act.

# India, Netherlands, Slovenia Chase Billie Jean King Cup Glory

Bengaluru: The Indian women's tennis team is all set for what could turn out to be career-defining contest for them, as they look to overcome the challenge of Netherlands and Slovenia in the Billie Jean King Cup Qualifier at the SM Krishna Tennis Stadium in Bengaluru, as per a release from Billie Jean King Cup.

Placed in Group G, India will take on Slovenia on Saturday, and then the Netherlands on Sunday, with the winner of the group progressing to the World Group qualifiers of the Billie Jean King Cup. A confident India hopes that their process and confidence, coupled with the home support will provide them with the platform for a memorable performance on home turf.

Speaking about playing at home, Captain Vishal Uppal said, "It is definitely an honour and it is very special for us to be playing the Billie Jean King Cup Playoff in Bengaluru. I think Indian women's tennis is definitely on the right path, and we're very excited to play here. I think playing in India is a privilege for us and we're very excited to play here," as quoted from the release.

The Indian team will have their task cut out when they take on Slovenia



and the Netherlands.

When asked about the team's preparations and the pressure of the big stage, captain Vishal Uppal said, "Since we played in April in Pune, we have kept in touch and we have been monitoring each other's progress. And it's just about becoming one cohesive unit and working towards a common goal."

He further explained, "We're focusing on our process, on what we have to do. We do know we're going up against two very quality teams. What we have control over is what the effort and the attitude we're going to come up with. And the atmosphere in the team, the environment is great."

One of the team's most promising and youngest players in the Indian team, Sahaja Yamalapalli echoed

the coach's thoughts, and explained that having the team together is always a great thing.

She said, "I think it's great that there's a team around us and we can all rely back on each other and, you know, we have a great camaraderie in the team. When they bring that team environment in tennis, I think it just brings a different perspective in us also."

The Group G contests in Bengaluru will commence with 19th rank Slovenia and 14th rank Netherlands, both of whom are upbeat and looking to make an impression.

Speaking about the preparations for the Slovenian side, Tamara Zidansek said, "We actually came quite early which was great because it's a very different type of con-

dition in terms of a little bit of altitude. The court is really bouncy. And the balls are jumping high, so it's been good to have a couple of extra days to prepare."

Meanwhile, the Netherlands, who are the highest ranked team in the Group, praised the organisation of the tournament in Bengaluru, and said that the team felt very much at home.

Looking ahead to the opening contest against Slovenia, a team they have played last year, captain Elise Tamaela said, "Every match is different and we have a lot of confidence from last year. We know we can beat them. We have a very nice and good team. And I think in a country tie, anything can happen. We can beat higher ranked players. We can lose against lower ranked play-

ers. So anything is open. I think the most important is that I prepared and we prepared the team well. And I think we are well prepared."

With preparations in full swing, all three teams are now fully settled in Bengaluru, where India and Slovenia having arrived on 8 November and the Netherlands on 10 November and have been training on the hard courts of the S.M. Krishna Tennis Stadium. As India prepares to host the Billie Jean King Cup Play-offs for the very first time, anticipation continues to grow ahead of the Group G fixtures. The battles unfold across three thrilling afternoons: Slovenia vs. Netherlands on Friday, India vs. Slovenia on Saturday, and the much-awaited India vs. Netherlands encounter on Sunday. Each tie serves up top-tier tennis from 3:00 PM IST.

## Squads:

Team India: Sahaja Yamalapalli, Shrivalli Bhannalipatny, Anukta Raina, Riya Bhatia, Prarthana Thombare. Team Netherlands: Suzan Lamens, Arantxa Rus, Anouk Koeremans, Demi Schuurs. Team Slovenia: Tamara Zidansek, Kaja Juvan, Dalila Jakupovic, Nika Radisic.

## Breaking Time

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.

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

## Solution, Sudoku

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

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## Lakshya Sen and HS Prannoy storm into Kumamoto Masters pre-quarterfinals

New Delhi: Indian shuttlers Lakshya Sen and HS Prannoy marched into the pre-quarterfinals of the ongoing Kumamoto Masters Japan 2025 badminton tournament after winning their respective clashes of the first round on Wednesday.

HS Prannoy, 35th in the men's singles badminton rankings, battled past Malaysia's world No. 22 Jun Hiao Leong 16-21, 21-13, 23-21 in a 68-minute thriller at the Kumamoto Prefectural Gymnasium, according to Olympics.com.

The 33-year-old Indian badminton player, ranked world No. 6 before injuries and a bout of chikungunya disrupted his form in 2023, showed glimpses of his best to outlast his higher-ranked opponent.

After conceding the first game despite being level at 13-all, Prannoy shifted gears in the second to level the contest.

The decider saw momentum swing both ways as Prannoy led 19-15 before Jun Hiao Leong clawed back to 19-all. Prannoy, however, held his nerve to clinch the match 23-21, saving two match points along the way.

It has been a difficult season for the 33-year-old Prannoy, who has not advanced past the second round in any of his previous 14 BWF World Tour appearances in 2025.

Before the Kumamoto meet, Prannoy featured at the Korea Open in September, where he made an opening round exit after being forced to withdraw from his match due to injury.

## Indian women tennis stars set for historic outing at Billie Jean King Cup Play-Offs in Bengaluru

New Delhi:

As India gets set to host the Billie Jean King Cup Play-Offs for the first time at the S.M. Krishna Tennis Stadium, Bengaluru from November 14 to 16, captain of the Indian team, Vishal Uppal remains upbeat, as per a press release.

This is the first time India is hosting an international women's tennis event of such stature. There is also deep satisfaction among Indian athletes that the country has begun to regularly host major and reputed international competitions such as the World Para Athletics Championships, Women's Cricket World Cup, and now the Billie Jean King Cup Play-Offs. Events of this stature not only bring world-class sport to Indian soil but also give hometown athletes



the invaluable opportunity to compete in familiar conditions against the highest level of international opposition.

The Sports Authority of India (SAI) has approved financial assistance of Rs 80 Lakh to the All India Tennis Association (AITA) under the Assistance to National Sports Federations (ANSF) scheme for the conduct of this event towards the conduct and organization

of the Billie Jean King Cup Play-Offs in Bengaluru.

"It was very crucial and critical getting the required support from the Sports Authority of India and from the Government of India, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, because our athletes need all the support that they can get. The whole team is very thankful for it," Uppal said, as quoted from a press release.

## FICCI to organize 15th Global Sports Summit-'TURF 2025'

New Delhi: FICCI is organising 15th Global Sports Summit - 'FICCI TURF 2025' along with India Sports Awards 2025 on November 21 at Federation House in the national capital, as per a FICCI release.

Under the theme, 'Indian Sports - Forging the Path to Global Excellence', TURF 2025 will serve as India's most influential platform on the business of sports, uniting global leaders, policymakers, athletes, industry professionals, and investors, further boosting FICCI's efforts to shape the future of the nation's sports ecosystem.

A significant highlight of this year's summit is the participation of Australia as the Partner Country, with Phillip Green, Australian High Commissioner, also confirmed to attend the summit. This partnership underscores the strong sporting and economic ties between the two nations, and the summit will aim to explore bilateral collaboration between the two countries by providing a platform for the stake-



November 21, 2025  
FICCI, Tansen Marg  
New Delhi

holders to come together and discuss the possible avenues of collaboration.

Commenting on the partnership, Australia's High Commissioner Green said, "Australia is a natural partner for India's sporting ambitions. Australia has world class coaching, sports science and sports technology and we have high-level expertise in running major sporting events, building stadiums, marketing, and all the related disciplines. Australia is a ready and willing partner to support India's sporting

success, and we welcome the opportunity to partner with FICCI Turf to foster collaboration and partnerships in the sports sector," as quoted from a release by FICCI.

Highlighting the importance of having Australia as the Partner Country, PKSV Sagar, Chairman, FICCI Sports Committee and President, GMR Sports said, "In 2025, our focus is on showcasing how sports can drive economic growth, community engagement and national pride. We are very proud to have

Australia as our partner country, highlighting opportunities for international collaboration and knowledge exchange."

Additionally, Tamil Nadu will be joining the summit as 'Partner State' while Uttar Pradesh will be the Feature State, adding the flavour of culture and strengthening state-level support to the summit.

FICCI TURF 2025 will feature high-profile keynote addresses, ministerial dialogues, industry panels, and technology showcases. The summit will culminate with the India Sports Awards 2025, honouring excellence across various categories of Indian sports.

The summit will witness participation of eminent speakers and industry leaders including Vineel Krishna, Joint Secretary, Department of Sports, PT Usha, President, Indian Olympic Association, P K S V Sagar, Chairman - FICCI Sports Committee & President, GMR Sports, Jonty Rhodes, South Africa's Cricketing Legend, Gagan

Narang, Olympian & Vice President, Indian Olympic Association, Charu Sharma, Commentator & Co-Founder, Pro Kabaddi League, Vikram Banerjee, Managing Director, England & Wales Cricket Board, Yuvraj Mahanayaman Scindia, President, Madhya Pradesh Cricket Association among others.

Other key speakers include Amit Bhalla, Co-Chair, FICCI Sports Committee & Vice President, Manav Rachna Group and Sanjay Adesara, Chief Business Officer, Adant Sportsline. The conclude will be followed by 'Indian Sports Awards 2025' in the evening to honour exemplary performances by athletes in the world of sports, recognising their efforts and dedication towards the development of the Indian sports ecosystem.

FICCI TURF 2025 is poised to establish actionable pathways for India to not only emerge as a winning sporting nation but also as a preferred destination for hosting major global sporting events, the release said.

## Indian Pickleball League to debut in Delhi from December 1 as nation's first lifestyle Sports league

New Delhi: India's sporting calendar is all set for a new addition with the launch of the Indian Pickleball League (IPBL), the country's first official pickleball league, sanctioned by the Indian Pickleball Association (IPA) and recognised by the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs. The inaugural edition will take place from December 1 to 7 at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium in the national capital.

The Indian Pickleball League comes at a time when the sport is witnessing rapid global growth, celebrated for its accessibility and fast-paced energy, a release said. With over five million players and a USD 1.3 billion market worldwide, its rise is undeniable. In India, pickleball is expanding rapidly across key cities, with participation projected to reach a million by 2028. Around 80% of its players fall between 18 and 50 years, making it a sport enjoyed by all ages. The Indian Pickleball League now builds on this momentum, bringing the vibrancy



of this youth-driven, inclusive sport into the national spotlight.

Speaking on the launch, Suryaveer Singh Bhullar, President of the Indian Pickleball Association, said, as quoted by the IPA press release, "The launch of IPBL marks a defining milestone for pickleball in India. IPBL, sanctioned by IPA, is a national sports federation under the Ministry of Sports & Youth Affairs.

This league embodies the scale and structure necessary to elevate the sport to the next level. Over the years, the IPA has worked to build a strong grassroots foundation, and today, with IPBL, we are creating a national platform that will help shape pickle-

ball into an Indian sport, one that goes beyond competition and victories to champion fitness, participation, and a healthier nation."

The inaugural Indian Pickleball League will feature dynamic teams blending Super Stars and Rising Stars from India and abroad. Across a week of round-robin clashes and knockout battles leading to a high-voltage finale, the action promises to be fast-paced and television-ready. Beyond competition, IPBL aims to create an immersive experience, buzzing arenas, energetic matchups, and a vibrant community spirit that makes pickleball feel accessible, stylish, and deeply connected to today's cultural pulse.

# Sharon, Kelly, Jack Osbourne reflect on Ozzy's death in emotional podcast

Washington  
Months after the passing of legendary Black Sabbath frontman Ozzy Osbourne, his wife, Sharon, and children, Kelly and Jack, returned with an emotional new episode of The Osbournes Podcast, their first in over a year, to honour his life and legacy.



The episode, recorded around a wooden table adorned with magazines featuring Ozzy, offered a heartfelt glimpse into how the family has been coping since his death in July at the age of 76, reported People.

Ozzy's official cause of death was a heart attack following years of health

challenges, including Parkinson's disease and other complications. Reflecting on her grief, Kelly Osbourne said tearfully, "I never realised just how horrible grief is. I never knew I was capable of loving somebody so much and missing somebody so much. I just never thought there'd be a day when he

wouldn't be here."

Her mother, Sharon, 73, who was married to Ozzy for 43 years, gently replied, "But then how blessed are you to have had a dad like

him?" She later shared that her own pain comes in "waves," admitting, "I hate going to bed at night," and revealing that she has struggled to adjust to sleeping alone, according to People.

Kelly said she had stayed with her mother for the first two months after Ozzy's death. "I slept with you so that you weren't on your own," she said. "But then I felt like you needed some space." She described mornings as the hardest part of her day, recalling that she used to spend that time with her father. "For the first three seconds, I feel normal, and then I remember everything," she said, adding that Ozzy "would hate" to see her cry-

ing, though she can't help but do so, according to People.

Kelly said her 3-year-old son, Sidney, has been a source of comfort through her grief. "I'm just so grateful that Sidney got to meet him, and that they had such a special little relationship," she said. Jack Osbourne, a father of four, echoed the sentiment, saying that parenthood has helped them both through their mourning.

"It is both horrible and beautiful in the way that it forces you to unpack and examine things," he shared. "It has led to a huge amount of gratitude and love and really cherishing moments that at the time you take for granted."



## Sean 'Diddy' Combs' prison release extended to June 2028 over rules violation

Los Angeles  
In mounting troubles for Sean 'Diddy' Combs, who remains in prison under the charges of two prostitution-related offences, the rapper's release date has been extended for an extra month till June 8, 2028.

According to Page Six, Combs, who was initially slated to finish his serving time on May 8, 2028, will now have to stay till June 4, 2028. Combs is currently placed at the Fort Dix Federal Correctional Institute in New Jersey.

While the reason behind the changes in the release date remains unclear, the report suggests that the rapper has been allegedly violating multiple prison rules.

The development came days after Combs reportedly consumed "homemade alcohol" made of fermented sugar, Fanta soda, and ap-

ples, as per TMZ. "He was in his first week at FCI Fort Dix and focused on adjusting, working on himself and doing better each day," his spokesperson told Page Six.

After Combs was convicted of two prostitution-related offences but acquitted of sex trafficking and racketeering charges in his sex-trafficking case, Judge Arun Subramanian sentenced the 'Bad Boy' Records founder to 50 months in prison, which is more than four years, five years of supervised release, and a USD 500,000 fine.

At the hearing on October 3, the judge gave an explanation of the cause, stating, "The need for general deterrence warrants a significant sentence. A substantial sentence must be given to serve as an example to abusers and victims alike," E! News reported.



## Sunny Deol requests media to go home

Mumbai  
Actor Sunny Deol politely yet firmly requested the media gathered outside his father, legendary superstar Dharmendra's residence, to disperse and respect the family's privacy.

Sunny addressed the media with folded hands and urged them to go back home.

The actor, who arrived to meet his father on Thursday morning, following his recent discharge from the hospital, added, "You too have parents at home. You have children. Have some shame."

On Wednesday morning, the legendary Dharmendra was discharged from the Breach Candy Hospital, where he had been admitted for the past few days after his health deteriorated.

Dr Pratit Samdani informed them that Dharmendra was discharged from the Breach Candy Hospital at 7:30 am on Wednesday.

"Dharmendra was discharged from the hospital at 7:30 am today. His family is taking care of him at their residence. Pray that his treatment, management and recovery continue," said Pratit Samdani.

According to an official statement from Sunny Deol's team, the elder son of Dharmendra, the veteran actor, will undergo home treatment and recovery under the supervision of a doctor.

He was rushed to the hospital on Monday, leaving his family and fans worried. Bollywood celebrities also paid a visit to the veteran actor amid the growing health concerns.

## XLRI Delhi-NCR Wraps Up Nova Exilaro 5.0 with Music, Talent, and Youthful Energy

New Delhi  
XLRI Delhi-NCR successfully concluded Nova Exilaro 5.0, its annual cultural fest, at the institute's Jhajjar campus. The two-day extravaganza brought together creativity, music, and youthful energy, reflecting the vibrant spirit of XLRI's student community.

The event featured an impressive line-up of cultural performances, inter-college competitions, and musical evenings that drew enthusiastic participation from students and guests alike.



The highlights of the fest included stellar live per-

formances by renowned singer Javed Ali and DJ Mendrin, followed by an electrifying night featuring The Shams Duo and international artist DJ Oily Esse. Beyond the musical spectacle, Nova Exilaro 5.0 also celebrated diverse student talents through dance, drama, fashion, and art competitions, creating a platform for creative expression and collaboration.

Speaking about the event, Fr. Nelson A. D'Silva, S.J., Acting Director, XLRI Delhi-NCR, said, "Nova Exilaro is more than just a cultural fest, it's a platform to express

the togetherness, creativity, and the indomitable spirit of our students. It reflects the values of community and excellence that XLRI stands for. I commend our students, faculty, and staff and participants from other institutions for making this year's edition a memorable and vibrant success."

With vibrant performances, engaging activities, and an energetic atmosphere, Nova Exilaro 5.0 reaffirmed XLRI Delhi-NCR's commitment to holistic education and nurturing talent beyond academics.

## Kichcha Sudeep wraps up shooting for 'Mark', film set to release this Christmas



Bengaluru  
The shoot for Kichcha Sudeep's upcoming Kannada film 'Mark' has officially wrapped up.

The actor, on Thursday, took to his X account to share pictures from the film's final day.

The actor, on Thursday, took to his X account to share pictures from the film's final day of shooting. Sudeep can be seen posing with director Vijay Karthikeya, technicians, and other team members on what appears to be a lively song shoot.

Along with the pictures, Kichcha wrote about how the entire team began their

journey with a very strong sense of purpose. Referring to what he called a "huge mission" that at first seemed difficult to achieve, he thanked everyone for their dedication and teamwork.

He wrote, "On 7 July, our team set out with one intention: to accomplish what at the start seemed impossible. A huge mission to complete in minimal time."

What made it possible was not the effort of just a few, but the hard work of every single person on the team. Every member woke up each day with one purpose, worked together with one focus, gave their all, and overcame every hurdle until the goal was reached."

"#MarkTheFilm wraps after around 110 days of immense hard work and countless call sheets."

## Actor Bobby Sharma to star in the film Shelter Home," Noida actor's film to release on Nov 28th

Noida  
In writer-director Kumar Neeraj's upcoming film, "Shelter Home," actor Bobby Sharma has delivered a powerful performance that will resonate with audiences. Bobby Sharma hails from Noida. Although he has previously appeared in numerous films, web series, and music albums, "Shelter Home" will be his first big-screen film. He has high hopes for the film.

Bobby Sharma expressed his gratitude and praised the film's writer-director, Kumar Neeraj. He described the film as inspired by a real-life story from Muzaffarpur.

The film's songs have been choreographed by renowned choreographer Ganesh Acharya, while Gadar cameraman Najeib Khan is the DOP.

The film's cast includes Rajveer Singh, Akshay Verma, Nazneen Patni, Nishad Raj Rana, Urzan olchhaha-



pria, Divya Tyagi, Manisha Thakur, Raju Kumar, Ravi Kumar, Prabhavi Pathak, Bobby Sharma, Ram Sujjan Singh, Vishwajeet Pratap, KK Shukla, Payal Narayani, Anamika Pandey, Sanisha Maurya, Ashish Singh Chauhan, Jai Prakash Shukla (JP), Anil Kumar Yadav, Deepak Sharma, Prachi Mishra, Dr. Abhinav Srivastava, Rohit Bhardwaj, and Shakti Kumar. The film Shelter Home is releasing nationwide on November 28th.

## Ameesha Patel asks media to leave Deol family 'alone'

Mumbai  
Actor Ameesha Patel has come forward to call out the media for not giving privacy to the Deol family amid the ailing health of legendary actor Dharmendra.

In an Instagram post, Ameesha, who shares a close bond with Deol family, wrote,

"I strongly believe the media needs to leave the Deol family alone at this time n respect their privacy."

A few days ago, Ameesha even visited the Breach Candy Hospital to extend her support to the Deol family. Earlier, on Thursday morning, filmmaker Karan



Johar also criticised the "paparazzi and media circus" around Dharmendra's health.

Urging all to show compassion during tough time, Karan wrote, "When basic courtesy and sensitivity leaves our hearts and our actions we know we are a doomed race."