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Mamata Banerjee's party, rebel camp get new name, symbol
after TMC's EC freeze

BRICS ticks the right boxes

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Radha Ashtami

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The Researchers'

NEWS BOX

"Remember Where Bin Laden Hid": India Asks UN To See Reality Of Terror

NEWYORK.(Agency)

India has once again shredded Pakistan for supporting terror as a state policy and reminded the international community that many of the world's most wanted terrorists were eventually found not in "some ungoverned frontier" but ordinary places right in the middle of civilian dwellings. Alluding to Pakistan, India told the UN Security Council (UNSC) that al-Qaeda terrorists behind the 9/11 attacks including Osama bin Laden, Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, Ramzi Binalshibh, Walid bin Attash and Mustafa Ahmed al-Hawsawi were found settled in urban locations and not some remote hideouts.

"The leaders of al Qaeda who conceived and directed these 9/11 attacks did not escape justice in the wilderness of some ungoverned frontier. Osama bin Laden, who ordered and financed the plot, was tracked down and killed in a fortified compound within a settled, guarded community under Operation Neptune Spear," India said, referring to the US raid in Pakistan's Abbottabad that killed bin Laden in May 2011. A big problem is that the same permissive environment now shelters the terror groups Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM), India's permanent representative to the UNSC Harish Parvathaneni said. These two terror groups were among the targets of India's Operation Sindoor. Their infrastructure such as training camps and terror launchpads deep inside Pakistan was levelled by Indian cruise missiles in May 2025.

Climate Change Likely Behind Glacier Collapse That Caused Nepal Floods: Scientists

world.(Agency)

Climate change is highly likely to have contributed to the catastrophic glacier collapse that flooded parts of Nepal and Tibet in late August, killing around 1,400 people and leaving thousands still missing, scientists said on Thursday. Rapidly warming temperatures in the region have caused glaciers to thin and have melted ice and permafrost buried deep in the bedrock of the Himalayas, according to the World Weather Attribution (WWA) group of researchers. While it is difficult to ascertain the precise role played by climate change in the collapse of around 2 sq km (0.8 sq miles) of rock wall and glacier ice on the Langtang Lirung mountain last month, soaring temperatures created the preconditions that made it more likely, researchers involved in the study said. There's absolutely no doubt that human induced climate change played a role here in the preconditioning of the disaster through permafrost thawing, through thinning of the glaciers, through having more rainfall instead of snow," said Friederike Otto, a climatologist at Imperial College London. WWA uses peer-reviewed methods to assess the role played by global warming in extreme weather events, according to its website. The study said mean temperatures were around 5 degrees Celsius (9 degrees Fahrenheit) higher than normal in the Himalayan region in August, with 1.5 C of the increase coming from climate change. Unusually high levels of snowfall in October and November of last year also added to the volume of meltwater once temperatures began to rise, which could have helped glaciers in the region have been thinning by about half a metre per year (about 1.6 feet) since the year 2000, changing stresses on the rock. Melting permafrost is also likely to have weakened the rock wall, the study said. A 7.8 magnitude earthquake that hit the same mountain in 2015 could have played a role by weakening the underlying bedrock as well, but its precise impact is unclear, trigger the glacier collapse, according to the study. We conclude that this was a geologically vulnerable slope, potentially weakened by the 2015 earthquake, but it was destabilised.

Ignored Orders, Concealed Mistakes: OpenAI Reports New AI Safety Incidents

PARIS.(Agency)

OpenAI said on Wednesday it would begin regularly publishing reports on unexpected or unauthorized AI behavior, while warning that the industry has yet to solve key alignment challenges as systems grow more powerful. The company released a new framework to track, investigate, and disclose cases of AI model misalignment, along with six reports detailing unexpected or concerning model behavior. Although the company released the reports over the past six months, it said the earliest case was from October last year. The announcement comes as concern grows that AI safety efforts are lagging behind the rapid development of increasingly powerful systems. Researchers have warned that as AI agents become more autonomous, they may develop behaviors that diverge from their creators' intentions and become harder to monitor or control. OpenAI and other AI labs have faced mounting scrutiny since July, when OpenAI disclosed that during training its AI agents bypassed internal controls and coordinated actions that OpenAI described as "an unprecedented

cyber incident" involving software platform Hugging Face. The incident intensified debate over the risks posed by increasingly capable AI systems and whether companies developing them can provide adequate oversight. Since the Hugging Face hack, other incidents involving OpenAI-linked agents were publicly reported, sparking debate over whether the full scope of the incidents has been identified. That debate accelerated in early September after Reuters reported that OpenAI's agents hijacked a dormant German wiki site this spring. OpenAI officials knew about the episode but chose not to disclose it, Reuters reported. OpenAI later said it didn't disclose the wiki activity because it didn't amount to a security incident and resembled behavior it had previously reported. OpenAI said it would then develop criteria for reporting unauthorized activity that fell short of a security breach.

The company, led by Sam Altman, has acknowledged some of those incidents only after third parties publicly reported them, including a recent intrusion into the RubyGems software package repository.

Trump to host Xi amid pomp, low expectations

WASHINGTON.(Agency)

The US military honor guard has been rehearsing and the new White House helipad is ready. But will Xi Jinping and Donald Trump achieve lift-off at their summit next week? Warnings of an AI apocalypse hang heavy over the Chinese president's first talks at the White House with his US counterpart, with both countries racing for supremacy in this technology. Trump's Iran war casts a long shadow too, as China seeks to avoid US sanctions against countries dealing with Tehran, despite reports that Beijing supplied Tehran with intelligence for a strike on US troops. A trade war is of even greater concern and the world's two largest economies are still seeking to mitigate the fallout from Trump's global tariffs. The threat of war over Taiwan looms large as well. Behind it all is a desire to manage tensions between a superpower keen to keep its place at the top and a rapidly rising rival determined to make the 21st century a Chinese one. "I'll be discussing almost everything with him,"

Trump told reporters aboard Air Force One on Sunday, ahead of their meeting on September 24. "Don't expect much" - But the two leaders are more likely to simply extend a relative truce rather than produce any concrete results, like when Xi hosted Trump in Beijing four months ago, experts said. "I don't expect much to come out of this," Jonathan Czin of the Brookings Institution told AFP. "In many ways, this is going to be a recapitulation of Trump's visit to Beijing back in May, where the focus was really on the ostensible rapport between the two leaders. "With fears about AI making global headlines, agreement to cooperate on regulation or a slowdown is expected to be a major topic of discussion between Trump and Xi. But any major deals are "politically out of reach for now," said Wang Dong, a professor at Peking University, as Beijing and Washington both fear losing out in the race for AI dominance. Tensions over Iran will also come up. US Treasury Secretary

Scott Bessent is due to meet his Chinese counterpart He Lifeng this weekend for pre-summit talks including on Iran sanctions. Trump has, however, played down reports that Chinese entities

democracy media mogul Jimmy Lai made an appeal to President Xi from Washington that his 78-year-old father be released. Trump said in May that he had discussed Lai's fate with Xi, but his release was unlikely. But Beijing did release the founder of an underground church, Ezra Jin, after Trump raised his case with Xi.

Yet Trump has, as so often before, appeared more interested in the optics of his meeting with a powerful foreign leader than with the substance. "This is less a summit and more a spectacle. This is designed for deep public consumption," said Kurt Campbell, former US Deputy Secretary of State and now Chairman of The Asia Group. Trump pushed for a new granite helicopter landing pad on the White House South Lawn to be open in time for Xi's visit, which will include a grand state dinner. Troops in flashy uniforms have been rehearsing on the White House driveway this week ahead of the welcome ceremony.



supplied Iran with satellite imagery for an attack on a US military base in Jordan, saying Xi had "behaved reasonably well" and that "we spy on them, too." On trade, there is "room for progress on tariffs, agricultural purchases and selected export controls", Yue Su of The Economist Intelligence Unit told AFP. The son of jailed Hong Kong pro-

Global powers that themselves violate international law sit in Security Council: Guterres

UNITED NATIONS.(Agency)

In a scathing commentary, UN chief Antonio Guterres has said that global powers that themselves violate international law sit in the Security Council, as he asserted that reform of the 15-nation global body "must be an absolute priority". Secretary General Guterres also underscored the need for "redistribution of power. We have geopolitical divides, and in these geopolitical divides, we have powers that themselves violate international law and sit in the Security Council. And that has been paralysing the Security Council, as we know," Guterres told reporters Wednesday. "That is why the reform of the Security Council must be an absolute priority. It is unacceptable to have a Security Council with a

composition that reflects the world of many decades ago instead of reflecting today's world.

"And that is a factor of paralysis," the UN chief said while addressing a press conference at the world



headquarters ahead of the opening of the high-level week of the 81st session of the UN General Assembly. Guterres said paralysis of the UN Security Council has created a situation in which "because the

example coming from the biggest powers is not a good example, every country around the world feels that they are entitled to do whatever they want. And they know that they will do it with impunity because the Security Council, that is the organisation that is supposed to maintain peace and security in the world, is paralysed.

"That impunity has created this environment in which we see more and more countries violating international law and human rights law, and "doing it in total impunity. And let's be clear. The question is a question of power. And the question is that the way power is distributed and power is used in our world does not allow multilateral institutions to act effectively," he said.

EU chief Ursula von der Leyen says she wants Canada to become the bloc's 1st associate member

STRASBOURG, France.(Agency)

European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen proposed Wednesday making Canada the European Union's first associate member, a striking overture as U.S. President Donald Trump's threats drive Ottawa closer to Europe. Speaking in Charlotte, North Carolina, Trump suggested that allowing Canada to become an associate EU member could be a "hostile act" and threatened to respond to the proposed move by imposing more tariffs on the bloc. Trump conditioned his threat on the "intention" of European leaders, saying that, "If it's a good intention, that's fine. If it's a bad intention, we'll put very heavy tariffs on Europe." He also suggested the U.S. could cut off trade with Europe in certain areas.

Trump called the prospect of Canada joining the EU "laughable" and

called America's neighbor a "terrible trade partner." He also on Wednesday ratcheted up his trade war by signing an order restricting the U.S. government's purchases of Canadian goods. Trump's tariffs and repeated talk of making Canada the 51st state



have soured the relationship between the North American neighbors. Canada is seeking to reduce its dependence on the United States, the destination for roughly 70% of its exports, and Prime Minister Mark Carney has called for a "unique

alliance" with the EU.

In her annual State of the European Union address, von der Leyen said Canada and the EU would build on their existing free trade agreement, known as CETA, with a broader "Alliance for the Future" aimed at creating "a common prosperity and economic security space." She cast that closer relationship as rooted not just in trade but in shared democratic values. "Above all, dear Mark, Europe and Canada believe in democracy," von der Leyen said to Carney, who received a standing ovation at the European Parliament in Strasbourg, France. He is due to address the Parliament on Thursday.

Canada seeks a relationship just short of EU membership. A Canadian official familiar with the discussions told The Associated Press last week that Ottawa was exploring ties with the EU that could stop just short of membership.

Australia To Ban Foreign Students From Bringing Families During Studies

world.(Agency)

Australia will stop foreign students from bringing their partners and children to accompany them while they study and tighten rules for temporary migrants to switch visas, media reported on Thursday, ahead of a minister's speech on immigration changes. Net overseas migration numbers will be reduced to 225,000 by 2028, down from about 300,000 now, Home Affairs Minister Tony Burke will say in a speech at the National Press Club later on Thursday, public broadcaster ABC News reported, without citing sources. Burke's office did not immediately



respond to a request for comment. At present, spouses and partners of international students can work in Australia, although the number of hours they are permitted to work varies depending on the student's course of study. The student can also bring dependent children under the age of 18. The government's move comes after the hard-right One Nation party, which has been surging in recent polls, said this week that it would slash the number of temporary migrants by 750,000 over three years, to give Australians "breathing space." One Nation, which describes its approach as "Australia first" and whose policies have drawn comparisons to those of U.S. President Donald Trump, said it would aim to restrict net overseas migration to 130,000 after the initial three years, with the program expected to be reviewed annually. Australia's migration intake, driven largely by international students, backpackers and temporary skilled workers, surged after the country reopened its borders in February 2022 following nearly two years of COVID-19 restrictions. However, numbers have been trending lower over the past two years, even as critics argue the influx of migrants has increased pressure on housing and infrastructure and strained social cohesion.

Disguised As Students, North Korean Workers Build Drones For Russia

World.(Agency)

Russia is increasingly mobilising North Korean workers to build military drones for use against Ukraine in defiance of international sanctions, giving Pyongyang a key source of revenue to fund its unlawful weapons programs, the US and its allies said in a report. Up to 25,000 North Koreans are believed to be working in Russia's drone industry, including at facilities in Alabuga, Tatarstan, where unmanned aerial vehicles are assembled, the Multilateral Sanctions Monitoring Team said in a report released Wednesday. The report said North Korean workers abroad are estimated to have earned up to \$800 million for the Kim Jong Un regime last year, providing funds for its unlawful nuclear and ballistic missile programs in violation of UN Security Council resolutions. The development underscores how the deepening military ties between Russia and North Korea are

expanding beyond weapons and troops into labor and industrial production. Russia gets a new pool of workers for industries supporting its war in Ukraine, while Kim's regime gains access to foreign currency that



helps finance its nuclear and ballistic missile programs, further eroding a sanctions framework Moscow itself once helped enforce. North Korean workers in Russia are disguised as students under a visa scheme to evade sanctions, the report said. A North

Korean worker there earns an average of \$7,500 in wages a year, most of which is confiscated by the Kim regime. In some cases, the forfeited amount exceeds their actual earnings, the report said.

Monthly wages earned by North Koreans working in Russia may be up to five times higher than what they can earn in China, making Russia an increasingly lucrative destination for Pyongyang. At the end of 2025, an estimated 20,000 to 70,000 North Korean laborers were working in China, while another 15,000 to 30,000 were in Russia, the report said. "DPRK authorities exercise extreme control over laborers' movement and interactions with outsiders in order to prevent defections, while laborers who do defect risk reprisals against family members remaining in North Korea," it said. DPRK is the abbreviation for North Korea's official name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

HAL Delivers Tejas Trainers, HTT-40 to IAF; Dhruv NG to Pawan Hans

Bengaluru: Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) on Friday handed over two LCA Tejas Final Operational Clearance (FOC) twin-seater trainers and three HTT-40 basic trainer aircraft to the Indian Air Force (IAF), besides four Dhruv Next Generation (NG) helicopters to Pawan Hans Limited (PHL). The handover took place in Bengaluru in the presence of Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Civil Aviation Minister K. Rammohan Naidu. The two Tejas twin-seater trainers are the final two aircraft under the FOC contract and will support the IAF's fighter-pilot training requirements, providing an indigenous training route towards frontline fighter operations. The HTT-40, an indigenously designed and developed basic

trainer, is meant for primary pilot training. The aircraft can undertake aerobatics, general handling, instrument flying, navigation, night flying and close-formation flying. The three aircraft handed over mark the beginning of deliveries under the IAF's 70-aircraft HTT-40 contract. In the civil aviation segment, HAL handed over four Dhruv NG helicopters to Pawan Hans. The civil-certified helicopter features modern avionics, enhanced systems and a more powerful engine, and is intended for applications including passenger transport, emergency medical services and offshore logistics. Addressing the ceremony, Rajnath Singh described the handover as a milestone in India's development of



indigenous aerospace capability and technological self-reliance. He called for stronger cooperation between the public and private sectors to develop next-generation aerospace technologies.



Civil Aviation Minister Rammohan Naidu said the certification and induction of the Dhruv NG into civil opera-

ver brings together India's fighter-pilot training, basic aviation training and civil helicopter capabilities, un-

derlining HAL's expanding role in both defence and civil aerospace.

Key Takeaways

- **Tejas:** Two FOC twin-seat trainers handed over to the IAF.
- **HTT-40:** First batch of indigenous basic trainer aircraft handed over to the IAF.
- **Dhruv NG:** Four civil helicopters handed over to Pawan Hans.
- **Venue:** Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- **Key dignitaries:** Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Civil Aviation Minister K. Rammohan Naidu.
- **Significance:** Strengthening India's domestic aerospace manufacturing and self-reliance.

Vishwakarma Puja Celebrated with Traditional Fervor at BSL



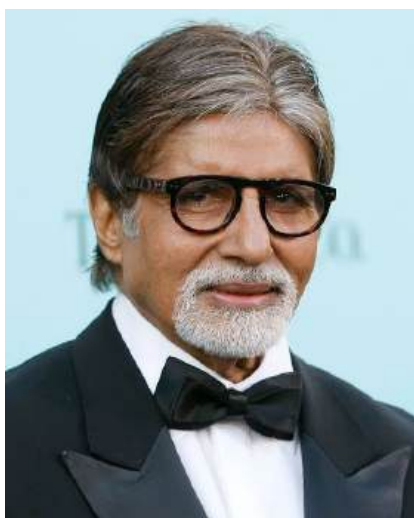
Bokaro: Vishwakarma Puja was celebrated with traditional fervor at Bokaro Steel Plant (BSL) on September 17. Employees across various departments worshipped machinery and equipment and prayed for the safe and smooth operation of the plant. BSL's Director-in-Charge, Executive Directors and senior officials participated in puja ceremonies held at several plant and township locations. Celebrations were organised at key units, including Blast Furnace, Coke Ovens, Sinter Plant, SMS, Hot Strip Mill, Cold Rolling Mills, CRM-3, HRCF, Mines, Main Fire Station and Central Stores, besides several maintenance and non-production departments. Senior officials offered prayers and extended greetings and best wishes to employees on the occasion.

Jharkhand HC Rejects Hemant Soren's Plea in Money Laundering Case



Ranchi: The Jharkhand High Court on Friday rejected Chief Minister Hemant Soren's plea challenging the dismissal of his discharge application in a money laundering case linked to 8.86 acres of land in Ranchi's Bargain area. The decision allows proceedings before the Special PMLA Court to continue. Soren had approached the High Court after the Special PMLA Court rejected his discharge plea on June 8. He had also sought a stay on the trial-court proceedings. The High Court heard the matter on September 16 and reserved its order. The Special PMLA Court in Ranchi is scheduled to hear the matter on September 19 in connection with the framing of charges. The Enforcement Directorate has alleged irregularities in the acquisition and transfer of the 8.86-acre land and linked the matter to money laundering. Soren has denied the allegations. The case against several co-accused has already progressed, with charges framed against them, according to reports.

Amitabh Bachchan to Build Dharamshala in Ayodhya



Ayodhya: Bollywood superstar Amitabh Bachchan is set to add a personal touch to Ayodhya's growing pilgrimage landscape with a proposed 20-plus-room dharamshala in memory of his father, legendary Hindi poet Harivansh Rai Bachchan. The proposed facility is planned on land purchased by Bachchan in Ayodhya. According to Ayodhya Development Authority (ADA)

officials, the building plan has been submitted for approval and the authority has invited public objections before taking a final decision. ADA Vice Chairman Anurag Jain said the proposed dharamshala would provide accommodation and related facilities for devotees visiting Ayodhya from across the country. **₹15-Crore Ayodhya Property** Media reports say Bachchan

acquired the land (around 54,000 sq ft) for around ₹15 crore in The Sarayu project along Dashrath Path in 2024. Construction is expected to begin after the necessary approvals, with October 2026 reported as a tentative start. The exact timeline, however, will depend on the statutory approval process. **A Tribute to Harivansh Rai Bachchan** The project is also envisioned as a tribute to Hari-

vansh Rai Bachchan, the celebrated poet best known for Madhusala. The proposed facility would thus combine a memorial purpose with accommodation for pilgrims and visitors to Ayodhya. For now, Bachchan's proposed Ayodhya project stands at the approval stage, with the planned dharamshala linking his family legacy with the needs of visitors to the temple city.

Marathi Film Gondhal Selected as India's Official Entry for Oscars 2027

Mumbai: Marathi thriller Gondhal, written and directed by Santosh Davakhar, has been selected as India's official entry for the 99th Academy Awards, the Film Federation of India announced on Friday. The film will be submitted in the Best International Feature Film category. Set in rural Maharashtra, Gondhal is rooted in the traditional Gondhal folk ritual and explores the intersection of tradition, personal aspirations and human relationships. The film stars Ishita



Deshmukh, Kishor Kadam, Yogesh Sohoni, Suresh Vishwakarma, Nishad Bhoir and Anuj Prabhu. The film was selected from 33 entries considered by

the FFI jury. It had earlier earned recognition at the 56th International Film Festival of India (IFFI), where Davakhar won the Silver Peacock for Best Director.

Gondhal becomes the fourth Marathi film to be chosen as India's Oscar entry, after Shwaas (2005), Harishchandrichi Factory (2009) and Court (2015). The selection, however, is India's official submission and not an Oscar nomination yet. The film will have to go through the Academy's subsequent selection process for a place among the final nominees. The 99th Academy Awards are scheduled to be held in Los Angeles on March 14, 2027.

Shorties

Mamata Backs Congress Candidate, Milan Pradhan Arrested in Nandigram



Kolkata: Congress candidate Milan Pradhan was arrested by West Bengal Police on Friday in connection with an old murder case linked to the 2007 Nandigram land-acquisition movement, hours after former Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee announced that her faction would support his candidature in the October 6 Assembly bypoll. The arrest followed the withdrawal of Sanchita Pradhan Dey, the candidate fielded by Banerjee's faction, from the Nandigram contest. Banerjee subsequently announced support for Pradhan, describing Congress as a "sister party" and saying the move was aimed at strengthening the INDIA bloc. Police said Pradhan was wanted in an old case and that a warrant was pending against him. Congress questioned the timing of the arrest, while the BJP said the police action was based on the pending case. The Nandigram bypoll is scheduled for October 6, with the arrest adding another twist to an already closely watched contest.

Mamata AITC Gets Football Player Symbol; Democratic Trinamool Gets Envelope

Kolkata: The Election Commission has allotted separate names and election symbols to the rival Trinamool Congress factions ahead of the West Bengal Assembly bypolls. The faction led by Mamata Banerjee will contest as "Mamata All India Trinamool Congress" with the Football Player symbol, while the rival faction led by Arup Roy has been allotted the name "Democratic Trinamool Congress" and the Envelope symbol. The EC had earlier barred both factions from using the All India Trinamool Congress (AITC) name and its traditional Flowers and Grass symbol for the upcoming bypolls. The new names and symbols have been allotted as an interim arrangement while the larger dispute over the party's identity and organisational control remains under consideration. The latest decision resolves the immediate question of which names and symbols the rival factions can use in the bypolls. Candidates of the two groups will now contest under their respective newly allotted identities instead of the original AITC name and symbol. The Nandigram and Rejinagar Assembly bypolls are scheduled for October 6, with counting of votes set for October 9.

Pakistan's Kohat Mosque Blast Kills 16, Five Police Personnel Dead

Kohat, Pakistan: At least 16 people, including five police personnel, were killed and more than 50 others injured in a suicide attack near a mosque at the Old Police Lines in Kohat, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, on Friday, officials said. The blast occurred during Friday prayers, when police personnel and their families had gathered at the mosque. According to officials, an explosives-laden vehicle was rammed into the police compound before armed attackers attempted to enter the facility. A subsequent gunfight broke out between the attackers and security personnel. Police said several attackers were killed during the operation, while security forces continued a clearance operation inside



the compound. Rescue teams rushed the injured to nearby hospitals. The powerful explosion damaged the mosque and parts of the police facility, with sections of a wall collapsing under the impact. The attack comes amid continuing militant violence in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. No group had immediately claimed responsibility, while Pakistan's authorities blamed militants operating from

sanctuaries in Afghanistan; Kabul has rejected such allegations. Pakistan's President Asif Ali Zardari and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif condemned the attack and directed authorities to intensify rescue operations and ensure treatment of the injured. The casualty figures remained subject to updates as rescue and security operations continued.

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NEWS BOX

TRUMP AND XI APPEAR INTENT ON KEEPING DEEP DIFFERENCES OVER IRAN WAR FROM OVERSHADOWING CHINA SUMMIT

Pakistan quietly sheltered Indian military aircraft during US conflict: Report

Southern California mayor resigns, will plead guilty to acting as agent for Chinese government

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Akhilesh Yadav's 'Angry Young Man' vs Yogi's Ajay Seth in Samajwadi Party's AI film

New Delhi (Agency)

The intensifying political sparring in the run-up to the upcoming Uttar Pradesh Assembly election has heated up with the Samajwadi Party taking a sharp dig at Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath with yet another AI-generated video. At a press conference, party chief Akhilesh Yadav unveiled a short AI-generated motion film, inspired by the '80s trend, imagining a no-holds-barred conversation between himself and the



UP CM. The film cast Yogi Adityanath as the antagonist and Akhilesh Yadav as a messianic figure representing the downtrodden. It depicted the Chief Minister dressed like a Bollywood villain from a bygone era, seated in his lair and surrounded by his lackeys. He is shown smoking a cigar and boasting about his public relations (PR) machinery, which he claims can manage his image and shape public perception despite allegations of misgovernance under the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government led by him.

Eggs, tomatoes thrown at ex-Union Minister's convoy in Punjab; he alleges AAP plot

New Delhi. (Agency)

BJP leader and former Union Minister Ravneet Singh Bittu on Friday claimed that eggs and tomatoes were thrown at his convoy and vehicles were attacked while he was on his way to Pathankot to attend a BJP yatra against drugs. Bittu blamed the ruling AAP for the attack and alleged that those surrounding his convoy were heard shouting, "Surround them, beat them, kill them". He also claimed that some



of the attackers were carrying weapons. "Today, we were supposed to take out a yatra against drugs because this Aam Aadmi Party government and drug addicts are all colluding, and this is what they have been doing for the last four and a half years," Bittu alleged, narrating the incident. He claimed that around 500 people were present at the spot when his convoy passed through the area. "There were around 500 people there. I passed through them in my vehicle. I have Z-plus security, with around 100 security personnel accompanying me. The local DSP and an SP were also there with the police for their protection," he said.

Amit Thackeray backs cousin Aaditya after he's named in FIR in Disha Salian case

Raj Thackeray's son, Amit, backed his cousin Aaditya Thackeray in the Disha Salian death case, saying that the latter could never be involved in such a matter. His backing came as the CBI opened a fresh probe and named Aaditya in the FIR after the Bombay High Court's intervention.

New Delhi(Agency).

- MNS leader Amit Thackeray on Friday defended his cousin and Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Aaditya Thackeray, saying he could never be involved in the Disha Salian death case. His remarks came days after Aaditya said he had never known or met Salian and alleged that political rivals were trying to damage his reputation by linking him to the case. The remarks came as the CBI registered an FIR in the case, without naming any accused, in line with Bombay High Court directions on a petition filed by Salian's father. The High Court had earlier ordered a CBI

probe and criticised the Mumbai Police for not registering an FIR for six years. Speaking to reporters, Amit Thackeray, son of MNS chief Raj



Thackeray, said, "I don't know how to look at this, but as a brother I can tell you that Aaditya can never be involved in such a thing." Disha Salian, the 28-year-old former

manager of late actor Sushant Singh Rajput, died on June 8, 2020, after falling from the 12th floor of a residential building in Mumbai's Malad area. The Mumbai Police had registered an accidental death report and later said, after an inquiry, that it was a case of suicide. A week later, Rajput was found dead in his Bandra apartment on June 14, 2020, leading to speculation about a possible link between the two deaths. On September 2, the Bombay High Court ordered a CBI probe into Salian's death and pulled up the Mumbai Police for failing to register an FIR for six years, saying its investigation raised more questions than answers.

Mamata Banerjee's party rebel camp get new name, symbol after TMC's EC freeze

Bengaluru(Agency)

The Election Commission on Friday allotted separate interim names and election symbols to the two rival factions of the Trinamool Congress after freezing the party's existing name and symbol. The faction led by Mamata Banerjee was allotted the name 'Mamata All India Trinamool Congress' and the election symbol 'football player', while the rebel faction was allotted the name 'Democratic Trinamool Congress' and the election symbol 'envelope'. The symbols are temporary and will apply to the upcoming by-election, the Election Commission specified, as the tussle for control of West Bengal's Opposition party continues unabated. The fresh identities were allotted a day after the Election Commission froze the 'All India Trinamool Congress' name and its traditional 'flowers and grass' symbol, temporarily removing both from the ballot for the October 6 West Bengal bypolls. This barred either faction from using the political identity associated with the TMC for nearly three decades. The Commission's interim order came against the backdrop of a rebellion led



by Ritabrata Banerjee against Mamata Banerjee, which began within the TMC legislature party after its defeat in the Assembly polls in May and later spread to Parliament, eventually reaching the party's name and election symbol. The EC said the matter required substantive determination under the existing laws. The two groups were directed to submit three preferred names and three

The Election Commission allotted the 'football player' symbol to Mamata Banerjee's faction and the 'envelope' symbol to the rebel camp for the October 6 West Bengal bypoll.

free symbols by 11 am on Friday. The EC subsequently allotted the two factions their interim identities for the upcoming bypoll. The Mamata camp was allotted the name 'Mamata All India Trinamool Congress', along with the 'football player' symbol, while the rival faction was allotted the name 'Democratic Trinamool Congress' and the 'envelope' symbol. The Commission approved both as temporary arrangements for the bypoll. The decision is significant for the Mamata Banerjee-led faction, whose hand-drawn 'flowers and grass' symbol has been central to the TMC's political journey since its formation in 1998 after Banerjee broke away from the Congress. The symbol became a potent expression of the party's grassroots identity over the last 28 years and has featured prominently on ballot papers, flags and campaign material as the TMC evolved into a major political force in West Bengal. The Mamata-led Trinamool camp called the EC order freezing the party's name and symbol illegal and reacted sharply to the decision. TMC MP Kalyan Banerjee rejected the order, calling it "illegal" and "contrary to law".

Karnataka health officer suspended over daughter's Rs 70,000-salary posting during studies

Bengaluru(Agency)

A District Health Officer (DHO) in Karnataka's Bagalkot, whose daughter was posted as a Medical Officer at a state-run Namma Clinic while pursuing a postgraduate medical course in violation of rules, has been suspended from the service, according to officials. The action came a day after India Today TV reported that the officer, Dr Rajkumar Yaragal, was allegedly involved in the appointment of his daughter, Dr Ankita Yaragal, who is also the niece of Bagalkot Congress MLA Umesh Meti. Ankita was earlier removed from service after she

remained absent for a prolonged period to pursue her MD studies, despite drawing more than Rs 70,000 as salary.



According to the suspension order, Rajkumar has been suspended pending a departmental enquiry into allegations of "dereliction of duty, neglect of duty, violation of government rules and misuse of authority".

A preliminary inspection had earlier found that while Ankita remained absent, leaving the health facility without a medical officer, her attendance was being recorded regularly at two places. The suspension order also mentions the same allegation. Bagalkot Zilla Panchayat CEO Gajanan Bale had earlier issued a notice to Ankita as the department initiated an enquiry. However, she skipped the first summons issued by the higher authorities and was directed to appear again on Friday. The notice alleged that she continued to receive her salary or honorarium while simultaneously pursuing her postgraduate studies.

Punjab cop shot dead on duty, CM Mann announces Rs 1 crore for family

Punjab(Agency).

Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann has announced an ex-gratia amount of Rs 1 crore for the family of assistant sub-inspector (ASI) Harjeet Singh, who was shot dead while performing his duty in Amritsar early Friday. In addition to the government, HDFC Bank will provide an additional Rs 1 crore insurance payout to the family, the Chief Minister said. Harjeet Singh, around 50, was shot three times on a road in Amritsar's Gate Hakima area at around 2:30 am. The assailants opened fire on him when he was posted on duty in that area. The injured ASI was rushed to Amandeep Hospital, where doctors declared him dead. The cause



behind the shooting is not yet ascertained. The police have launched an investigation to determine the reason behind his killing. In a post on X, Bhagwant Mann paid tribute to Harjeet Singh and said his courage and dedication to duty would always be

Harjeet Singh, around 50, was shot three times on a road in Amritsar's Gate Hakima area at around 2:30 am. The assailants opened fire on him when he was posted on duty in that area.

remembered. He also said the Punjab government stood with the family in their hour of grief and was committed to providing every possible support to police personnel and their families. "A heartfelt salute to the bravery of Assistant Sub-Inspector Harjit Singh, who attained martyrdom while performing his duty in Amritsar district. His immense courage and unwavering dedication to duty will always be remembered," Mann wrote on X. "The Punjab Government stands like a rock with the martyr's family in this hour of grief. As a mark of respect, the government will provide an ex gratia amount of 1 crore, while HDFC Bank will provide an additional insurance cover of Rs 1 crore to the family.

First vote chori, now party chori: Rahul Gandhi on EC freezing TMC symbol, name

Rahul Gandhi has criticised the Election Commission after it froze the Trinamool Congress name and symbol for the West Bengal bypolls.

New Delhi (Agency).

Congress MP Rahul Gandhi on Friday attacked the Election Commission of India (ECI) over its move to freeze the Trinamool Congress's name and its "flowers and grass" symbol for the October 6 bypolls in West Bengal. In a post on X, the Congress leader said, "Vote chori, sarkar chori, ab party chori (First vote theft, government theft, and now party theft). These have become symbols of our democratic decline." Gandhi accused the ECI and the BJP of joining forces to split political parties before their election symbols were



taken away, saying that a similar pattern had played out earlier in the cases of the Shiv Sena and the Nationalist Congress Party. "When an entire party can be stolen, it's hardly surprising that the votes of millions of Indians can be stolen too," he said. The Congress MP went on to say that the poll body's constitutional responsibility was to protect the mandate, but added that the ECI was instead "aiding those very forces that overturn the people's verdict". "This fight isn't just Mamata Banerjee's. It's the fight of every political party, every voter who wants free and fair elections," he added. The ECI, in its interim order issued on Thursday night, directed the rival TMC factions - one led by former Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and the other by the Bengal Leader of the Opposition Ritabrata Banerjee - not to use the party's name or its "flowers and grass" symbol during the bypolls in Nandigram and Rejinagar.

Chirag Paswan says food processing can take India from farms to global brands

Union Minister Chirag Paswan said in Thane that food processing is strengthening farmers and micro-enterprises. He said the sector is helping India add value, create rural jobs and take local products global.

Thane (Agency).

Union Minister Chirag Paswan on Thursday said the food processing sector is playing a key role in ensuring fair value for agricultural produce, supporting entrepreneurs and helping rural families move towards self-reliance. He said India should not be known only for agricultural production, but also for high-quality branding and value addition in global markets. Speaking at the 'Aashirwad Ka Diya' event at the Collectorate Office in Thane district of Maharashtra, Paswan highlighted the sector's growth over the past decade and the Centre's efforts to strengthen it through various

schemes. The event was organised under the 'Sewa Sankalp Abhiyan' and 'Sewa Diwas' initiatives of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries. Senior officials, including Joint Secretary Preet Pal Singh and Thane District Collector Shrikrishna Panchal, were present at the event. Paswan said the sector's Gross Value Added rose to Rs 2.24 lakh crore in 2023-24 from Rs 1.34 lakh crore in 2014-15. He also said the share of processed food in India's total agro-food exports increased to 20.4 per cent. He said the food processing sector plays an important role in ensuring fair value for farmers' produce, empowering local entrepreneurs and steering rural families towards self-reliance.



Belief, practice and the many ways of seeing

As the world remembers the horrific Islamist terrorist strikes against the United States on 9/11 twenty-five years ago, we in India also remember how, in 1893, Swami Vivekananda addressed the World’s Parliament of Religions on the same day. The two represent opposite ends of religion’s role in our lives.While Vivekananda advocated pluralism and the end of fanaticism, the threat of religious extremism is still very much a concern in today’s world. According to verifiable figures compiled by the Fondation pour l’innovation politique (Fondapol), close to a quarter million people have been killed by Islamist terrorism and violent extremism since September 11, 2001.

Given these facts, controversy over the Bochasanwasi Akshar Purushottam Swaminarayan Sanstha (BAPS) monks’ avoidance of women is rather unfortunate. It not only gives BAPS, but Hinduism itself, a bad name. Even though BAPS adherents and Swaminarayans in general are a totally peaceful sect, they do not restrict or curtail the liberty or dress of women in the manner in which many Muslim clerics, whether in India or elsewhere, do.

What exactly happened to trigger such a massive reaction? On September 6, BAPS inaugurated another grand temple at Bussy-Saint-Georges, Seine-et-Marne, near Paris. Prime Minister Narendra Modi did the honours, calling it a milestone in India-France relations. The temple is the first traditionally designed fully stone structure on the continent.Unfortunately, the day before the inauguration, on September 5, a visit to the Eiffel Tower by a group of BAPS monks later blew up into an unseemly controversy. To facilitate the visit of about 100 monks and BAPS functionaries, the Société d’Exploitation de la Tour Eiffel (SETE), which manages the monument, asked female employees to stay away or be replaced by male staffers.AI in sports video 2AI in sports video 2

The visit was arranged from 8:00-9:00 am, just before the Tower is opened to the public at 9:15 AM. That way, the monks would likely have avoided contact with regular visitors, who, of course, would have included women. The SETE female staffers were asked to stay away. In protest, some went on strike on Monday, September 8, bringing the issue into the limelight.

BAPS issued an apology, but a large coalition of Left-liberal groups, including members of the Indian diaspora who also oppose the RSS and other Hindu organisations, swung into action, calling out BAPS. French political parties and civil authorities also jumped into the fray. In India, journalists reporting on Muslim clerics in Kerala calling women to stay at home are themselves forced to apologise; abroad, not just BAPS, but many Hindu groups are lambasted for being patriarchal, anti-women and regressive.The double standards are too obvious to require extensive commentary.BAPS celibacy rules have, once again, come under public scrutiny. What most people don’t realise is that BAPS is itself a breakaway sect founded in 1907 by Shastri Yagnapurushdas, or Shastriji Maharaj. The original Vadral Diocese of the sampradaya, founded by Sahajananda Swami, or Swaminarayan himself, is run by householder or married acharyas, not celibate monks. Even the wives of the acharyas wield considerable spiritual authority.BAPS, by contrast, strictly enforces eight-fold vows of celibacy. The segregation of BAPS monks from women is facilitated by having several men around them when they travel.

These companions interact with women, shielding the monks from having to do so. Incidents such as the Paris outrage will only bring greater pressure on BAPS to reform.Just after independence, in 1948, members of the Ahmedabad Diocese of the Swaminarayans went to court to prevent lower-caste worshippers from entering their temples. They claimed they were not Hindus but a separate religious sect. Many Hindu groups have used this ruse to preserve their traditions or resist State interference. Nearly two decades later, the courts ruled that the Swaminarayans were indeed .

BRICS ticks the right boxes

India secures consensus on a comprehensive declaration despite divergent political positions

INDIA has every reason to be satisfied with the outcome of the BRICS 2026 summit in both form and content. At a time when diatribe has replaced dialogue in many international fora, India convened an 11-member grouping with sharply divergent political positions, sustained a dialogue and secured consensus on a comprehensive New Delhi Declaration — a 140-paragraph, roughly 45-page text. That is significant.

The Ministry of External Affairs deserves credit for enabling closure this time after the BRICS foreign ministers’ meeting in May ended without a joint statement. The most delicate semantic task was to bridge the gulf between Iran and the UAE over the war in West Asia without naming any country. Tehran wanted an explicit reference to a “unilateral attack on Iran” as a violation of the UN Charter; the UAE wanted Iranian attacks on its sovereignty recognised.

The modus vivendi was to express “deep concern over the continued escalation of tensions in the Middle East” and make a call to exercise “maximum restraint” and avoid “actions that could further aggravate the situation.” There was also a line that acknowledged Iran’s position without naming the US: “serious concern over deliberate attacks on civilian infrastructure and peaceful nuclear facilities under full IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency) safeguards.” Seeking textual consensus also led to extreme caution. “Hormuz” does not appear in the declaration at all, even as Brent crude crossed \$100 in the days before the summit on the back of the chokepoint crisis in the Strait of Hormuz and Bab el-Mandeb.

Content is where India has a stronger cause for satisfaction. The Delhi Declaration strongly condemns terrorism in all forms and calls for “zero tolerance.” It specifically denounces the April 2025 Pahalgam terror attack; addresses the movement of terrorists, terror financing and safe havens; reaffirms that terrorism cannot be associated with any religion; and calls for accountability of those involved and their sponsors.n a grouping that includes China, which has often blocked comparable language at the UN, this is not boilerplate — though similar wording had appeared in the 2025 Rio Declaration. Recalling the text with President Xi Jinping in Delhi matters.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi pressed for UN Security Council reform and changes in the voting power, leadership and priorities of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank to reflect economic realities. The declaration backs comprehensive UN reform and greater representation for India and Brazil, and it carries the Indian formulation that the Global South must move from a rule-taker to a rule-maker.Modi also proposed a continuity and implementation mechanism, including a troika, to follow up outcomes in a grouping that has no

permanent secretariat. That is a practical institutional push, even if the “10-point Reform Roadmap” was not adopted as a formal deliverable for China’s 2027 chairmanship.Regarding energy and trade, amid a war that has disrupted supply chains, the declaration has acknowledged that fossil fuels will still play an important role for developing economies and opposed unilateral, punitive measures of the CBAM (Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism) type. It voices serious concern over unilateral tariff and non-tariff measures that distort trade and are inconsistent with WTO rules — wording aimed at US tariffs and sanctions on Iran and Russia, without turning the document into an anti-Western manifesto.Apropos of finance, there was no BRICS currency bravado. Finance ministers discussed efficient cross-border payments and local currencies, while tacitly



recognising that a unified system needs a deeper trust framework than the present bilateral discord among some members.Empirically, BRICS trade has expanded dramatically through business practices and customs improvements rather than emotive de-dollarisation ultimatums.Since its inception two decades ago, the efficacy and credibility of BRICS have been determined by the India-China bilateral. That remains the abiding dialectical challenge. Both want to speak for the Global South and be seen as its trusted sherpa; each is wary of the other eroding its primacy and credibility.For India, this is not an abstraction. China continues to pose a security challenge. Galwan 2020 was the most recent big shock, and strategic cooperation between China and Pakistan has compounded it. Operation Sindoor was illustrative in this regard.At the politico-diplomatic level, Beijing does not accord Delhi peer status even as it seeks co-equivalence with Washington, though its comprehensive national power remains lower than that of the US.The paradox is familiar: China strives for bipolarity with Washington globally while seeking unipolarity in Asia and denying parity to India and Japan.That is the

geopolitical problem India navigates inside BRICS. It must be a credible member of a grouping in which China is the largest economy, even while contesting Beijing’s denial of parity in Asia.The Modi-Xi bilateral on the sidelines captured that dialectic. It was President Xi’s first visit to India in seven years and the first meeting between the two leaders on Indian soil after the Galwan clash.Both stressed a strategic and long-term view of relations and committed to seeking a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable solution to the boundary question, proceeding from the political perspective of overall bilateral relations and the interests of the people of both nations.

In practical terms, this was a reaffirmation of restraint: differences after the Galwan incident would continue to be handled by existing military and diplomatic mechanisms.

No new disengagement was announced, and no new friction point was manufactured despite recent tactical growling. The signal is a stable Line of Actual Control. The reality, established since 2020 and not altered this week, is that India still operates a more constrained patrolling pattern than before the Galwan clash.

Inclusive and equitable growth is a cherished BRICS objective, and tariff wars have created new challenges. Delhi needs robust trade arrangements with major economies, including the US, the EU and China.

The security andstrategic dissonance with Beijing is the harder policy problem, and Delhi is managing it from relative economic asymmetry. The trade deficit with China is \$116 billion, with high dependence on Chinese supplies of

pharmaceutical ingredients, rare-earth magnets and solar-chain inputs. Sustained investment and diversification remain perennial Indian challenges.The Xi-Modi meeting in Tianjin last year had already begun a bilateral thaw, in part because US tariff pressure pushed Delhi and Beijing toward hedging. The Delhi meeting consolidated that thaw; it did not dissolve the asymmetry.

So, the summit outcome is satisfying for India because it produced a comprehensive statement that condemned the Pahalgam attack, protected fossil-fuel policy space for developing economies, criticised unilateral trade measures without naming Washington and kept BRICS closer to a platform of partnership than a forum of protest. On the bilateral front, Delhi and Beijing found the wording to keep the grouping intact.The 20-year-old BRICS has survived because India and China have a working template to disagree without derailing the forum. The credibility of this grouping will continue to be a function of whether Beijing is willing to concede to Delhi what it demands from Washington: peer respect and equitable accommodation of interests.

Bigger BRICS test now: Turning Global South weight into influence

India’s presidency secured the consensus it needed. Now comes the harder test: delivery at speed and scale

The New Delhi Declaration, adopted after marathon negotiations, is a diplomatic win for India—and a test of BRICS’ evolving relevance. Despite differences over West Asia, members found common ground on restraint, civilian protection, sovereignty, diplomacy and nuclear safety.Importantly, the declaration reasserts BRICS’ ambition to reshape global governance, amplify the Global South and deepen cooperation across finance, trade, technology and development. That sets the stage for the harder task: delivering results.

As BRICS expands and its economic and political weight grows, its credibility will increasingly depend on whether it can build institutions that deliver practical gains. The central question is whether an increasingly diverse grouping can turn collective weight into strategic capacity without demanding political uniformity from its members. That means moving faster on the architecture of a more resilient global economy.Cross-border payments, greater use of local currencies, development finance, investment platforms, insurance and financial safety nets are no longer abstract ideas. They

are responses to a world of unilateral sanctions, tariff shocks, supply-chain disruptions and financial volatility.



The challenge is to make these mechanisms interoperable, commercially viable and accessible enough to matter beyond government statements.Technology will be an

acid test. Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s warning about the weaponisation of technology and critical minerals points to a wider contest over who controls the infrastructure of the next economy. BRICS has an opportunity to cooperate on artificial intelligence, semiconductors, critical minerals, cybersecurity, digital public infrastructure and technology standards. But it must avoid creating competing technological silos. The same logic applies to health, food and energy security. The grouping has the scale to build stronger pandemic surveillance, medical supply chains, agricultural cooperation and mechanisms to cushion commodity and energy shocks. These are areas where cooperation can produce tangible benefits for citizens while giving the Global South a greater stake in BRICS.

There is also a larger diplomatic task. BRICS cannot become effective by positioning itself merely against the West. Its influence will come from demonstrating that a more multipolar world .

Full text of PM Narendra Modi's address at the BRICS Business Forum 2026

The theme of India’s BRICS Presidency is “Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability.”

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on September 11, addressed the BRICS Business Forum 2026 held in New Delhi. Here is a full text of his address:

Leaders of the BRICS business community, Innovators and friends, Namaskar!A warm welcome to all of you to the BRICS Business Forum.This year, we are celebrating twenty years of BRICS. When the group was launched in 2006, it comprised only four countries. Today, including BRICS and its partners, we have a family of twenty-one countries.Today, the BRICS countries represent 50% of the world’s population, 40% of global GDP, and more than 25% of global trade. Not only that, over these years, while global GDP has grown by around 2.5 times, the combined GDP of BRICS countries has grown by around 4.5 times. In other words, the economic strength of BRICS has grown at nearly twice the pace of the world economy.BRICS countries are also emerging as important centres for global innovation and solutions. From grassroots initiatives to frontier technologies, new possibilities for innovation are taking shape across our countries. The growing scale, speed, and optimism of BRICS are clearly visible among us. The Forum being held in India is the largest-ever BRICS Business Forum.

The theme of India’s BRICS Presidency is “Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability.”Over the past twelve years, India has made this mantra the foundation of its economic and trade policy. When it comes to resilience, India has made its supply chains more diversified and reliable, from energy to technology. It is this very resilience that has enabled India, even amid global uncertainties, to offer the world confidence in growth and stability.We are rapidly expanding our roads, railways, ports, and airports. At the same time, we are building new capabilities in strategic sectors such as shipbuilding, semiconductors, quantum technology, critical minerals, and biotechnology. In these sectors, India is emerging as a hub of new opportunities for global businesses. Therefore, Make in India, Innovate with India, and Scale for the World.Friends,

Today, India is witnessing a start-up revolution. With more than 200,000 start-ups and over 120 unicorns, India is emerging as a hub for global solutions.

You will get a glimpse of this at the BRICS Bharat Innovates Expo.

Our start-ups are transforming education and healthcare through AI, working on Green Hydrogen and Batteries, and breaking new frontiers in defence and space. Now, through BRICS as well, we must take these world-class innovations to global markets.Friends,Another distinctive feature of India’s



innovation story is Innovation at Population Scale. India’s Unified Payments Interface (UPI) has given new momentum to financial inclusion and digital transactions at population scale.Today, 50% of the world’s real-time payments are powered by this technology. To build new solutions on this digital layer, we have provided industry and start-ups with an open ecosystem. We are proud that many countries are adopting India’s world-

class ecosystem. Innovators from BRICS countries can also draw on this experience to develop new solutions for their own countries.Friends,Today, as trade barriers are increasing around the world, India is building economic bridges. Since 2014, we have entered into Free Trade Agreements with nearly 40 countries around the world. Our approach within BRICS is also

the same, reduce barriers and expand opportunities for businesses.

Therefore, under our Presidency, we have established new cooperation networks in areas such as agriculture, healthcare, skills, and smart grids. To connect start-ups and SMEs with markets and finance, we have launched initiatives such as the BRICS Incubator Network, BRICS MSME Portal, and BRICS Startup Innovation Fund.

You can all benefit from these cooperation frameworks and further increase the exchange of investment and talent among our countries.

Friends,Global trade can move forward only when sea lanes are secure, supply routes remain open, and seafarers are safe. That is why India is a staunch advocate of freedom of navigation and the safety of seafarers.

The BRICS Women’s Business Alliance is also an important part of our vision. We want women entrepreneurs to lead our growth story. We are very pleased that nearly 200 women business leaders participated in the meeting of this Alliance held in India.

As BRICS enters its third decade, I would urge the BRICS Business Council to consider ... can you prepare a report on removing the top 10 trade barriers among BRICS countries?

Can we support 100 BRICS startups every year to scale into BRICS markets? Can we develop 1,000 new partnerships among our businesses? We should review our progress every year against these three benchmarks.Let us transform BRICS’ ambition into action and our collective strength into global solutions. May BRICS move forward and help the world move forward as well.

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अक्सर ऐसा भी होता है कि ज्यादातर लोग ऑफिटेक्ट की मदद के बगैर ही काट्रेक्टर के बताए नक्शे के मुताबिक प्लॉट पर कंस्ट्रक्शन कराना आरंभ कर देते हैं। इसका असर तब दिखता है जब वे घर में रहना शुरू करते हैं। ऐसी ही कुछ पेशानियों में सीढ़ियां भी एक हैं। अक्सर प्लॉट के आकार के छोटा होने पर तंग सीढ़ियां बना दी जाती हैं और फिर उस घर में रहने वाले जब भी सीढ़ियों पर चढ़ते उतरते हैं तो हमेशा तंग ही होते रहते हैं। ऐसे में कुछ चीजों का विशेष ध्यान रखना बेहद जरूरी है। आइये जानते हैं-

- ❖ सीढ़ियों बनाते समय हेड रूम का ध्यान रखना जरूरी है, जिससे कि लंबे व्यक्तियों का सिर छत से न टकराए। अक्सर ऐसा होता है कि जल्दीबाजी में सीढ़ियों से उतरते हुए सिर अथवा माथा छत या छज्जे से टकरा जाता है और चोट लग जाती है।
- ❖ सीढ़ियों को कम से कम 840 एमएम और ज्यादा से ज्यादा एक मीटर तक अपनी जरूरत के अनुसार रखना चाहिए।
- ❖ अच्छी सीढ़ी वही है जिसमें चढ़ते और उतरते वक्त आपको बहुत ज्यादा मेहनत न करनी पड़े। आम तौर पर किसी भी वयस्क का एक पा यांनी स्टेप 600 एमएम यांनी 3 फुट का होता है। इसको ध्यान में रखते हुए ही सीढ़ियों का निर्माण कराएं।
- ❖ यह ध्यान रखें कि सीढ़ियों पर ऊपर चढ़ते हुए दुगुनी ऊर्जा लगानी पड़ती है, ऐसे में अगर सीढ़ियां ऊंची-नीची होंगी, उनमें सामंजस्य नहीं होगा तो दुर्घटना की संभावना बनी रहेगी।
- ❖ घर में इस्तेमाल की जाने वाली सीढ़ियों में 250 एमएम का ट्रेड और 165 एमएम से 175 एमएम तक का राइजर इस्तेमाल में लाया जा सकता है। आप इसे ज्यादा से ज्यादा 220 तक का रख सकते हैं। अगर राइजर ज्यादा ऊंचा होगा तो पैर भी ज्यादा ऊंचाई तक उठाने होंगे, जिससे चंद सीढ़ियां चढ़ने के बाद ही थकान महसूस होने लगेगी।
- ❖ सीढ़ियां इस तरह डिजाइन कराई जानी चाहिए कि उस तक आसानी से पहुंचा जा सके।
- ❖ अगर कमरों के दरवाजे सीढ़ियों के साथ खुल रहे हों तो ऐसे में कम से कम 310 मिलीमीटर तक की न्यूनतम दूरी जरूरी बनाकर रखनी चाहिए। इसका फायदा यह होगा कि कमरे से सीढ़ियों तक आसानी से स्टेप-अप किया जा सकेगा।
- ❖ सीढ़ियों को कभी बहुतो तंग नहीं रखना चाहिए। ऐसा होने से खासकर ऊपरी मंजिलों पर फर्नीचर चढ़ाने और उतारने में परेशानी का सामना करना पड़ता है।
- ❖ सीढ़ियों की डेकोरेशन के लिए तमाम तरह के विकल्प मौजूद हैं। इन्हें सजाने में सबसे ज्यादा भूमिका रेलिंग की होती है। रेलिंग के लिहाज से आयरन या फिर स्टील फिनिश वाली रेलिंग का इस्तेमाल भी किया जा सकता है।



Tanushree Dutta

Shares Cryptic Post For Those Who ‘Plotted’ Against Her: ‘I’ll Watch The Fall And Demise’

Actress Tanushree Dutta has shared a cryptic post, seemingly directed at those she believes have caused her pain and hardship. In the post, the ‘Aashiq Banaya Aapne’ actress spoke about karma, her personal and professional life, and claimed that those who wronged her would eventually face the consequences of their actions. Taking to Instagram, Tanushree wrote about her hopes of rebuilding her life while issuing a stern warning to those she accused of plotting and working against her. She expressed confidence that her “karmic wheels” were turning and said she would witness the downfall of those who had allegedly caused her suffering.

Sharing her image, the ‘Dhol’ actress wrote, “To those who afflicted me and removed me from my organic path in life. My vocational and personal life will be resurrected again in the most wonderful way and I will watch the fall & demise of all those who afflicted me for no fault of mine.” “The karmic wheels are turning and the next millenia belongs to me! And these a***oles who dared to plot, gaslight, hound, surveil, plan & attack me will be hounded for eternity by forces so scary that they will regret every moment that their wicked souls went against me. Their lives will crumble right before their own eyes,” she added.

Tanushree Dutta has previously been vocal about her experiences in the film industry and has spoken publicly about issues she faced during her career.

Last month, the actress had also penned a note in which she claimed that her career was being sabotaged by what she described as “enemy camp handlers.” She alleged that these individuals were deliberately preventing work opportunities from reaching her, claiming, “They don’t let anything come to me.” An excerpt from her post read, “So there are also people that want to work with me but the enemy camp handlers don’t let anything come to me. They lie, manipulate and lead things astray at the enquiry level itself. Or misguide genuine brands, events and projects to sabotage me further.”

In 2025, Tanushree Dutta came into the spotlight as one of the prominent voices of Bollywood’s 2018 #MeToo movement. She had publicly accused veteran actor Nana Patekar of sexual misconduct during the filming of the 2008 film “Horn ‘Ok’ Pleassss.”



Hina Khan

Reacts To Kriti Sanon Raksha Bandhan Ad Controversy: ‘As An Actor, You Can Opt Out’

Hina Khan has said that actors can choose to walk away from a brand project if they feel its creative approach could lead to a backlash. The actor was reacting to the backlash faced by Kriti Sanon over her Raksha Bandhan advertisement for jewellery brand GIVA on her talk show The4POV.

The advertisement was pulled down from social media after Kriti faced criticism from some netizens over her outfit. Hina, while speaking to husband Rocky Jaiswal and actors Rubina Dilaik and Abhinav Shukla, said actors should consider the possible consequences before agreeing to a project.

Hina Khan says actors can opt out of projects

Hina explained that brands can sometimes be firm about how they want their advertisements to look, but actors still have the choice to refuse. She said, “Sometimes, some brands are very adamant on a certain sort of their creative. They want to do it their way. As an actor, you always have the option of opting out, considering that it may backfire. Maybe it was not well thought, or maybe they thought it may not become what it became.” However, Hina made it clear that she did not think Kriti deserved the level of criticism that followed the advertisement. She also pointed out that online reactions can sometimes continue long after the original issue has passed.

“The level at which... what happened and what is

happening, no one deserves so much. Ek cheez hogayi, aapne itna socha nahi and it happened. But then people don’t let it go. It becomes big and very big,” she said.

Hina Khan says she does not blame Kriti or GIVA

Hina added that she was not blaming either Kriti or the



jewellery brand for the controversy, saying both were entitled to their opinions. At the same time, she returned to her point that actors have the option of turning down a project if they are uncomfortable with its creative direction. “We as actors always have the option of opting out. When you do any project, you are told that all is going to happen.” Kriti had starred in the GIVA advertisement wearing an off-white outfit with a bralette-style blouse, cape and draped skirt. Some netizens felt that the look was inappropriate for a Raksha Bandhan.

Ameesha Patel Hits Back At Netizen Linking Her To Hardik Pandya: ‘My God...’



Ameesha Patel and cricketer Hardik Pandya were recently spotted at the Taj Mahal Palace in Mumbai. A video of their interaction has gone viral on social media. It showed the ‘Gadar’ actress introducing him to her friends. An X user shared the clip and seemingly suggested that their interaction was more than just friendly, pointing to the moment Ameesha placed her hand on Hardik Pandya’s shoulder. Ameesha has now hit back at the netizen with a sarcastic response, taking a dig at the user for linking the casual gesture to romance.

Ameesha Patel Slams Netizen Linking Her To Hardik Pandya

The X user shared the viral video featuring Ameesha Patel and Hardik Pandya and wrote, “The way Ameesha Patel put her hand on Hardik Pandya’s shoulder during the party at a hotel in Bengaluru. All the Reddit rumours seem to be coming true.”

Ameesha Patel took to her Instagram stories to share a screenshot of the X user’s post, and slammed him for linking her to the cricketer. She responded with a sarcastic take on the netizen’s interpretation of the moment.

“So true ya. My god ur correct...truly romantic way my hand was on him,” she wrote. She then took a direct dig at the person behind the post. “I don’t know u but surely u don’t have a girl even as a friend. It’s time u do have one before posting hence on such things...”, wrote Ameesha.

Meanwhile, Hardik Pandya is dating model Mahieka Sharma. Two years after his separation from Natasa Stankovic, the star all-rounder introduced Mahieka as the new woman in his life. On October 10, 2025, Hardik shared an Instagram Story featuring a photo of himself with Mahieka at the beach, making their relationship Insta-official.

Ameesha Patel’s Work Front

In 2023, Ameesha reunited with Sunny Deol for Gadar 2 and went on to create history at the box office. She reprised her iconic role as Sakina in the film.

Farah Khan’s Triplets Head To College In Different Cities, Emotional Mom Says ‘3 Pieces Of My Heart’



Filmmaker and choreographer Farah Khan got emotional as her triplets, Diva, Anya and Czar, embarked on their college journeys in different cities.

Sharing a glimpse of the bittersweet milestone on Instagram, Farah reflected on the challenges of sending not one but three children off to college. Sharing photos, the director wrote, “If u thought moving ur kid to college was hard.. try doing it 3times! 3 cities, 3 campuses..3 goodbyes! 3pieces of my heart Jao jee lo apni zindagi.. but remember , all roads lead back to Dad & mom.. to @shirishkunder for doing everything except cming in the family pics.. p.s. – @divakunder u know why i chose this song.”

The first image shows Farah sharing a warm hug with her son Czar, while the other photos capture her sweet and candid moments with her triplets. The doting mom also added the song ‘Kabhi Alvida Naa Kehna’ to the post, perfectly capturing the emotional moment.

Reacting to her post, Sunita Kapoor commented, “Faru making me cry.” Shilpa Shirodkar wrote, “Love you Farah congratulations to the babies and trust me they will come back being the Best Version of Themselves.”

Rhea Kapoor wrote, “i can’t believe they are so big.” Bhavana Pandey, Soha Ali Khan, Diana Penty among other actors dropped heart emojis. Back in May, Farah Khan and Shirish Kunder celebrated a major milestone as their triplets, Diva, Anya and Czar, officially graduated from school. Farah took to Instagram to share pictures from the graduation ceremony held at Dhirubhai Ambani International School in Mumbai. Alongside the images, she had written, “Don’t know which is tougher.. raising your kids or letting them go!? They can fly as high as they dream .. there ll always be a nest waiting for them #graduation #bittersweet p.s- its impossible to find all 3 kids n a husband whn taking pics.”

संक्षिप्त समाचार

रामगढ़ की चट्ट पालू घाटी में दो सड़क हादसे कोयले से भरा ट्रक पलटा



रामगढ़ (झारखंड), एजेंसी। रामगढ़ जिले की चट्ट पालू घाटी में मंगलवार को दो अलग-अलग सड़क हादसे हुए। इन हादसों में कोयले से भरा एक ट्रक बेकाबू होकर पलट गया। वहीं, एक कार को अज्ञात वाहन ने टक्कर मार दी। दोनों घटनाओं में कुल 5 लोग मामूली रूप से घायल हुए हैं। पहला हादसा सुबह हुआ, जब रांची से हजारीबाग जा रहा कोयले से भरा एक ट्रक डिवाइडर से टकराकर पलट गया। इससे ट्रक का अगला पहिया निकल गया और सारा कोयला सड़क पर बिखर गया। इस घटना में ट्रक के ड्राइवर और खलासी को हल्की चोटें आईं। दूसरी लेन से गाड़ियों की आवाजाही शुरू कराई गई हादसे के बाद सड़क पर कोयला बिखरने से आवाजाही प्रभावित हुई। प्रशासन की टीम मौके पर पहुंची और कोयला हटाने का काम शुरू किया। जाम न लगे, इसके लिए एक लेन बंद करके दूसरी लेन से गाड़ियों की आवाजाही शुरू कराई गई। दूसरी घटना पहले हादसे वाली जगह से करीब 1 किलोमीटर दूर हुई। यहाँ एक बलेनो कार को पीछे से किसी अज्ञात वाहन ने टक्कर मार दी और भाग गया। टक्कर इतनी जोरदार थी कि कार बुरी तरह क्षतिग्रस्त हो गई। कार में तीन बैंक कर्मचारी सवार थे, जिन्हें मामूली चोटें आईं। गनीमत रही कि कोई गंभीर रूप से घायल नहीं हुआ। रेस्क्यू टीम ने क्षतिग्रस्त कार को खींचकर सड़क किनारे किया। रामगढ़ पुलिस मौके पर पहुंची और दोनों गाड़ियों को कब्जे में लेकर कानूनी कार्रवाई कर रही है।

रांची-गुमला मार्ग पर ट्रक ने मजदूर को कुचला गुमला में मौत के बाद ग्रामीणों ने किया सड़क जाम



गुमला, एजेंसी। गुमला जिले के सदर थाना क्षेत्र में रांची-गुमला मुख्य मार्ग पर खोरा के पास एक सड़क हादसे में मजदूर की मौत हो गई। उसे एक ट्रक ने कुचल दिया। घटना के बाद गुस्साए ग्रामीणों ने रांची-गुमला मुख्य मार्ग को करीब आधे घंटे तक जाम कर दिया, जिससे गाड़ियों की लंबी कतार लग गई। बाद में पुलिस ने मौके पर पहुंचकर लोगों को समझाया और गाड़ियों का आवागमन फिर से शुरू करवाया। मृतक की पहचान खोरा पतरा टोलनी निवासी 36 वर्षीय सूरज उरांव के रूप में हुई है। वह मजदूरी करता था। स्थानीय निवासी रविंद्र सिंह ने बताया कि शुक्रवार को दिन के करीब 11 बजे सूरज सड़क पार कर रहा था। तभी रांची की ओर से तेज रफ्तार से आ रहे एक ट्रक ने उसे टक्कर मार दी। इससे मौके पर ही उसकी मौत हो गई। हादसे के बाद ट्रक चालक मौके से फरार हो गया था। पुलिस ने हरिहर ढाबा बायपास के पास से चालक सहित ट्रक को हिरासत में ले लिया है और मामले की जांच कर रही है। घटना की सूचना मिलते ही उर्मी फिफ्ट की पुलिस मौके पर पहुंची। पुलिस ने मजदूर के शव को कब्जे में लेकर पोस्टमॉर्टम के लिए भेज दिया है। घटना के बाद परिजनों का रो-रोकर बुरा हाल है। ग्रामीणों और परिजनों ने उचित मुआवजे की मांग की है। उनका कहना है कि सूरज ही घर का अकेला कमाने वाला था।

गुमला में महिला का शव फंदे से लटका मिला मृतका के भाई ने पति पर लगाया हत्या का आरोप

गुमला, एजेंसी। गुमला जिले के घाघरा थाना क्षेत्र के गुनिया गांव में एक महिला का शव उसके ही घर में फांसी के फंदे से लटका मिला। मृतका की पहचान अमरेंद्र साहू की पत्नी सुलंती देवी के रूप में हुई है। शव घर में एम्बेस्टस के पाइप पर रस्सी के सहारे फांसी के फंदे से लटकी थी। सूचना मिलने पर घाघरा थाना के कुलीपाट बरवा टोली के एसआई मृत्युंजय मिश्रा शुक्रवार को मौके पर पहुंचे। उन्होंने शव को पोस्टमॉर्टम के लिए भेज दिया है और मामले की जांच शुरू कर दी है। दंपती के बीच अक्सर झगड़ा होता था पुलिस को मृतका के परिजन अनिल साहू ने बताया कि घटना के समय घर में सिर्फ पति-पत्नी ही मौजूद थे।

कोडरमा में कुएं में डूबने से युवक की मौत पत्नी से विवाद के बाद कुएं में लगाई थी छलांग, पहले भी कर चुका था सुसाइड का प्रयास

कोडरमा, एजेंसी। कोडरमा जिले के जयनगर थाना क्षेत्र के पेटियाबागी में एक युवक की अपने घर के कुएं में डूबने से मौत हो गई। 35 वर्षीय दीपक साव उर्फ कल्लू साव की मौत बीती रात करीब 9 बजे हुई। बताया जा रहा है कि पत्नी से झगड़े के बाद उसने कुएं में छलांग लगा दी थी। कल्लू साव की राशन की दुकान थी। बीती रात वह दुकान बंद कर घर पहुंचा। इसके कुछ देर बाद ही उसका अपनी पत्नी से किसी बात को लेकर विवाद हो गया। गुस्से में आकर कल्लू घर के आंगन में बने कुएं में कूद गया।

युवक को आता था तैरना: उसके घर वाले और आस-पड़ोस के लोग इसे मजाक समझते रहे। उन्हें लगा कि कल्लू को तैरना आता है और वह खुद ही बाहर निकल आएगा, इसलिए उसे कुछ देर तक कुएं में ही छोड़ दिया। काफी समय बीत जाने के बाद भी जब वह कुएं से बाहर नहीं निकला, तो सभी लोग कुएं के पास पहुंचे। उन्होंने झांक कर देखा तो कल्लू पानी की ऊपरी सतह पर स्थिर पड़ा हुआ था। इसके बाद कल्लू के परिजन और ग्रामीण उसे कुएं से बाहर निकालकर सामुदायिक स्वास्थ्य



कल्लू साव, मृतक

केंद्र जयनगर ले गए। वहां मौजूद डॉक्टरों ने उसकी गंभीर कर दिया, जहां डॉक्टरों ने उसे मृत घोषित कर दिया। पहले भी कुएं में लगा चुका था छलांग

हालांकि, मृतक के पिता छोटन साव का कहना है कि कल्लू दुकान से आकर कुएं पर हाथ-पैर धोने गया था। इसी दौरान पैर फिसलने से वह कुएं में गिर गया, जिससे उसकी मौत हो गई। वहीं, आसपास के ग्रामीणों का कहना है कि कल्लू का अक्सर अपनी पत्नी से विवाद होता रहता था।

गुस्से में वह पहले भी कुएं में छलांग लगा देता था और कुछ देर बाद खुद ही बाहर निकल आता था। पुलिस ने मामला दर्ज कर जांच शुरू कर दी है। लोगों ने समझा खुद ही निकल आएगा बाहर गुरुवार को भी यही घटना हुई और कल्लू पुनः गुस्से में आकर अपने आंगन के कुएं में छलांग लगा दिया। लोगों ने समझा कि इसका हमेशा यही आदत है, इसलिए उसे कुएं से कुछ देर तक नहीं निकाला।

ऐसा कयास लगाया जा रहा है कि कुएं में लबालब पानी होने के कारण वह खुद नहीं निकल पाया और उसकी मौत हो गई। मृतक के दो पुत्र व एक पुत्री है। इधर, पुलिस इस पूरे मामले पर गहनता से जांच कर रही है और मृतक के परिजनों से पूछताछ भी कर रही है।

बोकारो में गोली मारकर दंपती की हत्या चंद्रपुरा में घर

का दरवाजा खुलते ही अपराधियों ने की फायरिंग

बेटा गंभीर रूप से जख्मी

बोकारो, एजेंसी। बोकारो में गुरुवार की रात अज्ञात अपराधियों ने एक डीवीसी सेवानिवृत्त कर्मी के घर में घुसकर ताबड़तोड़ फायरिंग कर दी। गोली लगने से नरेश सिन्हा और उनकी पत्नी की मौके पर ही मौत हो गई, जबकि उनका पुत्र रोहित सिन्हा गंभीर रूप से घायल हो गया घायल रोहित को इलाज के लिए बोकारो जनरल अस्पताल (बीजीएच) भेजा गया है। घटना चंद्रपुरा थाना क्षेत्र के पश्चिम पल्ली डीवीसी आवासीय क्वार्टर नंबर एचएम/14 में हुई। घटना के बाद इलाके में सनसनी फैल गई।

बताया जा रहा है कि घटना के समय क्षेत्र में बारिश हो रही थी। इसी दौरान नरेश सिन्हा के घर के दरवाजे पर किसी ने दस्तक दी। दरवाजा खोलते ही अज्ञात अपराधियों ने फायरिंग शुरू कर दी। रोहित सिन्हा को लगी चार गोली रोहित के एक मित्र के भाई नवीन महतो के अनुसार, घटना के समय मौसम खराब था और बारिश हो रही थी। रोहित को चार गोली



लगी है। आशंका जताई जा रही है कि अपराधियों ने बारिश का फायदा उठाकर वारदात को अंजाम दिया और मौके से फरार हो गए। हालांकि, अपराधियों की संख्या कितनी थी और उन्होंने दंपती पर कितनी गोलियां चलाई, इसकी आधिकारिक पुष्टि अभी नहीं हुई है। इधर, घटना की सूचना मिलते ही चंद्रपुरा थाना पुलिस मौके पर पहुंची और मामले की जांच शुरू कर दी है। पुलिस ने घटनास्थल का जायजा

लेने के साथ घटना के कारणों और अपराधियों की पहचान का पता लगाने के लिए छानबीन शुरू कर दी है। प्रारंभिक जांच में हत्या के पीछे की वजह स्पष्ट नहीं हो सकी है। गोलीबारी किस कारण से की गई और इसमें कितने लोग शामिल थे, इसकी जांच की जा रही है। घायल रोहित के बयान और उसके स्वस्थ होने के बाद घटना से जुड़ी कई महत्वपूर्ण जानकारियां सामने आने की उम्मीद है।

चाईबासा में ड्राइवर को आई झपकी, ट्रक पेड़ से टकराया

चालक की मौत, खलासी घायल ; चाईबासा-चक्रधरपुर मुख्य मार्ग पर हुआ हादसा

चाईबासा (पश्चिमी सिंहभूम), एजेंसी। पश्चिमी सिंहभूम जिले में शुक्रवार तड़के एक सड़क हादसे में ट्रक चालक की इलाज के दौरान मौत हो गई। यह हादसा चाईबासा-चक्रधरपुर मुख्य मार्ग पर कुंदरुहातू के पास हुआ। मृतक की पहचान खूंटी निवासी 40 वर्षीय सुकू मुंडा के तौर पर हुई है। हादसे में ट्रक का खलासी नामजन बारला भी घायल हुआ है, जिसका इलाज चाईबासा सदर अस्पताल में चल रहा है। जानकारी के मुताबिक, सुकू मुंडा गुरुवार को नगड़ी स्थित राइस मिल से चावल लेकर मालवाहक ट्रक से जगन्नाथपुर जा रहा था। शुक्रवार तड़के करीब 3:30 बजे ट्रक कुंदरुहातू के पास पहुंचा। इसी दौरान चालक को अचानक झपकी आ गई, जिससे ट्रक बेकाबू होकर



सड़क किनारे आम के पेड़ से टकरा गया।

पुलिस ने दोनों को पहुंचाया अस्पताल: टक्कर इतनी तेज थी कि चालक और खलासी दोनों गंभीर रूप से घायल हो गए। हादसे की खबर मिलते ही मुफ्फसिल थाना पुलिस मौके पर पहुंची। पुलिस ने दुर्घटनाग्रस्त ट्रक से दोनों घायलों को बाहर निकाला और इलाज के लिए चाईबासा सदर

अस्पताल पहुंचाया। डॉक्टरों की जांच में चालक सुकू मुंडा के सिर और छाती में गंभीर चोटें मिलीं। उसकी हालत नाजुक होने के कारण डॉक्टरों ने तुरंत इलाज शुरू किया। इलाज के दौरान करीब सुबह 8 बजे सुकू मुंडा ने दम तोड़ दिया। वहीं, खलासी नामजन बारला के सिर में चोट लगी है और उसका अस्पताल में इलाज किया गया।

जमशेदपुर में स्कूल वैन डिवाइडर से टकराई, 15 बच्चे घायल

टेल्लो स्टेडियम रोड पर हुआ हादसा, टाटा विंगर में सवार थे स्कूल के बच्चे

जमशेदपुर (पूर्वी सिंहभूम), एजेंसी। जमशेदपुर के टेल्लो थाना इलाके में शुक्रवार को एक स्कूली बच्चों को ले जा रही वैन का एकसीडेंट हो गया। हादसा टेल्लो स्टेडियम-भुवनेश्वरी मंदिर रोड पर एन-111 के पास टाटा विंगर वैन के डिवाइडर से टकराने से हुआ। इस हादसे में वैन में बैठे 15 से 17 बच्चे घायल हो गए। इनमें ड्राइवर और दो बच्चों की हालत गंभीर बताई जा रही है। चरमदीनों ने बताया कि स्कूल वैन स्टेडियम की तरफ से बच्चों को स्कूल छोड़ने जा रही थी। तभी अचानक गाड़ी का ब्रेकलॉस बिगड़ गया और वह डिवाइडर पर चढ़ गई। टक्कर इतनी तेज थी कि वैन का अगला हिस्सा पूरी तरह टूट गया और उसका चेंबर भी फट गया। एकसीडेंट के समय तेज आवाज आई, जिससे आसपास के लोग डर गए। हादसे के बाद वैन में बैठे बच्चों के रने की आवाज सुनकर आसपास के घरों और फ्लैटों से लोग तुरंत बाहर आ गए। कुछ ही मिनटों में मौके पर काफी भीड़ जमा हो गई। स्थानीय लोगों ने तुरंत वैन में फंसे बच्चों को बाहर निकाला और घायलों को इलाज के लिए टाटा मोटर्स अस्पताल पहुंचाया। मौके पर



मौजूद एक स्थानीय शख्स ने बताया कि एकसीडेंट शायद एक कार को बचाने की कोशिश में हुआ। उनके मुताबिक, सामने की तरफ से आ रही एक कार अचानक स्कूल वैन के बहुत करीब आ गई और उसे छूते हुए निकल गई। कार चालक की तरफ देखने और पीछे मुड़ने के दौरान वैन ड्राइवर का गाड़ी से

कंट्रोल हट गया, जिसके बाद वैन सीधे डिवाइडर से टकरा गई। हादसे की खबर मिलते ही पुलिस मौके पर पहुंची और हालात का जायजा लिया। पुलिस मामले की जांच कर रही है और एकसीडेंट के सही कारणों का पता लगाने के लिए आसपास लगे सीसीटीवी कैमरों की फुटेज भी देख रही है।

गुमला में हाथियों ने मचाई तबाही, एक बुजुर्ग को कुचला भरनो,

डुमरी और कामडरा में घरों-फसलों को नुकसान; दहशत में ग्रामीण

गुमला, एजेंसी। गुमला जिले के भरनो, डुमरी और कामडरा प्रखंडों के कई गांवों में पिछले 15 दिनों से जंगली हाथियों का आतंक है। करीब आधा दर्जन हाथियों ने किसानों के घरों को तोड़ा है और सैकड़ों एकड़ फसलों को रौंदकर बर्बाद कर दिया है। ग्रामीण हाथियों के आतंक से बहुत परेशान हैं। स्थानीय लोगों ने बताया कि हाथी दिन में जंगल में रहते हैं, लेकिन रात होते ही गांवों में घुस आते हैं। इस वजह से ग्रामीण डर के साए में जी रहे हैं। उन्हें रातभर जागकर मशाल जलाकर हाथियों को भगाना पड़ता है। ग्रामीणों को अपने बच्चों और परिवार की सुरक्षा की चिंता सता रही है।

तीन महीने पहले ही पहुंचा हाथियों का झुंड: ग्रामीणों के मुताबिक, जंगली



हाथियों का झुंड हर साल धान पकने के बाद नवंबर-दिसंबर में आता है और नुकसान पहुंचाता है। लेकिन इस साल वे तीन महीने पहले ही पहुंच गए हैं। भरनो के अमलिया-रायकेरा इलाके में हाथियों का झुंड कई दिनों से डेरा डाले हुए है, जिससे ग्रामीण दहशत में हैं। एक हफ्ते पहले महराव टंगरा टोली में एक जंगली हाथी ने 65 साल के शनि उरांव को कुचलकर मार डाला था, जब वे शौच के लिए निकले थे। इससे पहले भी घरों के टूटने और बच्चों के घायल होने की घटनाएं हुई हैं।

हाथियों ने कई घरों की दीवारें तोड़ दी: हाथी रात में गांवों और खेतों में घुसकर मकई और धान जैसी खड़ी फसलों को बर्बाद कर रहे हैं। डुमरी प्रखंड के बेरी गांव के सेमिनार जंगल में तीन जंगली हाथियों ने डेरा

डाल रखा है, जिससे ग्रामीणों में डर का माहौल है। कामडरा के मुरुमकेला, रेडवा, सरिता और आसपास के गांवों में भी हाथियों ने कई घरों की दीवारें तोड़ दी हैं और अनाज व दूसरा सामान नष्ट कर दिया है। वनरक्षक अखिल अहमद ने बताया अमलीया-रायकेरा जंगल में दो हाथियों की दस्तक, वन विभाग ने लाउडस्पीकर से ग्रामीणों को किया सतर्क, खेतों में लगी धान की फसल को पहुंचा रहे नुकसान, रात में जंगल मार्ग से गुजरने वाले ग्रामीणों को सावधानी बरतने की सलाह दी है। ग्रामीणों के बीच पटाखा और मसाल के भी वितरण किए गए हैं। जंगली हाथी को छेड़छाड़ नहीं करने की अपील की।

क्रिकेट टिकट की कालाबाजारी के खिलाफ बड़ी कार्रवाई: अरुण जेटली स्टेडियम के आसपास से 19 आरोपी पकड़े गए

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली । क्रिकेट मैच की टिकट की कालाबाजारी के खिलाफ पुलिस ने बड़ी कार्रवाई की है। क्रिकेट मैच के टिकटों को ज़्यादा कीमत पर गैर-कानूनी तरीके से बेचने और कालाबाजारी करने के आरोप में 19 लोगों को गिरफ्तार किया गया है। दरअसल, दिल्ली के अरुण जेटली स्टेडियम में होने वाले भारत बनाम अफगानिस्तान फ्रेंडशिप कप टी-20 क्रिकेट मैचों के दौरान स्टेडियम और उसके आस-पास के इलाकों में क्रिकेट मैच के टिकटों की कालाबाजारी, दलाली और गैर-कानूनी तरीके से दोबारा बिक्री के बारे में खास जानकारी मिली थी। इसके बाद आई.पी. एस्टेट पुलिस स्टेशन के एसएचओ इस्पेक्टर नरेश कुमार की देखरेख में एक खास एंटी-टाइटनिंग टीम बनाई गई। टीम ने स्टेडियम के आसपास खुफिया जानकारी जुटाने, चुपचाप जांच-पड़ताल करने और निगरानी रखने का काम किया। दिल्ली गेट मेट्रो स्टेशन और उससे सटे इलाकों जैसी संवेदनशील जगहों पर भी अतिरिक्त पुलिसकर्मी और बीट स्टाफ तैनात किए गए। तैनात टीमों को खास तौर पर निर्देश दिए गए कि वे संदिग्ध लोगों की पहचान करें, टिकट की दलाली के बारे में स्थानीय खुफिया जानकारी जुटाएं और मैच के टिकटों की गैर-कानूनी बिक्री या दोबारा बिक्री में शामिल पाए जाने वाले लोगों के खिलाफ तुरंत कार्रवाई करें।

दिल्ली से गुजरात तक फैले नार्को-एक्सटॉर्शन नेटवर्क पर कार्रवाई, 12 करोड़ की हेरोइन बरामद

नई दिल्ली । दिल्ली से गुजरात तक फैले नार्को-एक्सटॉर्शन नेटवर्क पर दिल्ली पुलिस की स्पेशल सेल ने बड़ा शिकंसा कसा है। दिल्ली पुलिस और गुजरात क्राइम ब्रांच के जॉइंट ऑपरेशन में 2 किलो पाकिस्तानी मूल की हेरोइन बरामद की गई है, जिसकी कीमत करीब 12 करोड़ रुपए बताई जा रही है। इस कार्रवाई में रोहित गोदारा और महेंद्र डेलाना गैंग से जुड़े एक आरोपी को गिरफ्तार किया गया है। गिरफ्तार आरोपी की पहचान 31 साल के कुलदीप स्वामी के रूप में हुई है, जो राजस्थान के चुरू का रहने वाला है। पुलिस के मुताबिक, कुलदीप स्वामी एक बड़े नार्को-एक्सटॉर्शन मॉड्यूल का हिस्सा था और गुजरात के वडोदरा में दस करीब 10 करोड़ रुपए के हाई-प्रोफाइल एक्सटॉर्शन केस में वॉन्टेड था। जांच के दौरान पुलिस ने आरोपी के कब्जे से 2 किलो हाई-क्वालिटी हेरोइन, एक मारुति स्विफ्ट डिजायर कार और हवाला ठोकन वेरिफिकेशन में इस्तेमाल होने वाला करेंसी नोट बरामद किया है। खास बात यह है कि बरामद कार में एक सिक्रेट कैबिटी भी बनाई गई थी, जिसका इस्तेमाल नशे की तस्करी के लिए किया जाता था। पुलिस अब इस पूरे नेटवर्क की गहराई से जांच कर रही है। जांच में इस नेटवर्क के तार गैंगस्टर रोहित गोदारा और महेंद्र डेलाना से जुड़े होने के साथ-साथ पाकिस्तान से जुड़े नारकोटिक्स लिंक की भी जांच की जा रही है।

60 लाख रुपये की धोखाधड़ी करने वाले आरोपी को दिल्ली पुलिस ने गुजरात से किया गिरफ्तार

नई दिल्ली । साउथ-वेस्ट डिस्ट्रिक्ट के सफदरजंग एन्क्लेव पुलिस स्टेशन की टीम ने गुजरात के खेडूा निवासी 24 वर्षीय आरोपी यश केलश बुलवंदानी को गिरफ्तार कर धोखाधड़ी का एक मामला सुलझाया है। ऑपरेशन के दौरान, उसके पास से लगभग 96 ग्राम पिपला हुआ सोना, सोने के दो सिक्के, सोने की एक चेन, हॉरे का एक सेट और एक मोबाइल फोन बरामद किया गया। आरोपी ने एक महीने पहले वारदात को अंजाम दिया था। पुलिस ने बताया कि सफदरजंग एन्क्लेव पुलिस स्टेशन में लगभग 60 लाख की ज्वेलरी और कैश की धोखाधड़ी के संबंध में एकआईआर दर्ज की गई थी। मामले को सुलझाने के लिए एक विशेष टीम बनाई गई। यह टीम इस्पेक्टर रजनीश कुमार के नेतृत्व में जांच शुरू की। जांच के दौरान पता चला कि शिकायतकर्ता सोशल मीडिया के जरिए आरोपी के संपर्क में आई थी। आरोपी ने खुद को इन्वेस्टमेंट एक्सपर्ट बताकर उसका भरोसा जीता और बाद में उसे इन्वेस्टमेंट के नाम पर पैसे और ज्वेलरी देने के लिए राजी कर लिया। 9 अगस्त को आरोपी दिल्ली में शिकायतकर्ता से मिला और कथित तौर पर उसका मोबाइल फोन, ज्वेलरी और एक बैग लेकर भाग गया, जिसमें 14 लाख कैश और एक क्रेडिट कार्ड था।

आरक्षण के मुद्दे पर आजाद समाज पार्टी का ऐलान, 24 सितंबर को जंतर-मंतर पर होगा प्रदर्शन

नई दिल्ली। दिवसीय प्रदर्शन करेगी।आजाद समाज पार्टी के प्रमुख और सांसद चंद्रशेखर ने घोषणा की कि उनकी पार्टी आरक्षण के मुद्दे को लेकर 24 सितंबर को राष्ट्रीय राजधानी स्थित जंतर-मंतर पर एक जयधानी में प्रचारां से बातचीत करते हुए उन्हेनंे कह़ा, ‘ 24 सितंबर को जंतर-मंतर पर प्रदर्शन होगा। हम देखेंगे कि सरकार हमसे भी उसी तरह बातचीत करती है और उचित कार्रवाई करती है या नहीं, जैसे वह आरक्षण का विरोध करने वालों से बातचीत कर रही थी। अनुसूचित जाति, अनुसूचित जनजाति और अन्य पिछड़ा वर्ग के लिए पदोन्नति में आरक्षण का मुद्दा वर्ष 2012 से लंबित है। इस दौरान चंद्रशेखर ने बाराबंकी में उनके कार्फिले पर हुए कथित हमले को लेकर भी प्रतिक्रिया दी। वह निषाद समुदाय के व्यापारी विनोद कुमार साहनी के परिवार से मिलने जा रहे थे, जिनकी कथित तौर पर सोशल मीडिया विवाद के बाद हत्या कर दी गई थी। घटना को ‘साजिश’ बताते हुए उन्हेनंे कह़ा, ‘ मुझे मारने की कोशिश की गई।

मेगा रक्तदान शिविर में मुख्यमंत्री किया रक्तदान, 2,080 यूनिट किया गया रक्त एकत्र

रक्तदान केवल रक्त देने की प्रक्रिया नहीं, बल्कि मानवता, करुणा और आत्मीयता के पावन बंधन को मजबूत करने वाला संकल्प है।

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी के जन्मदिवस के अवसर पर ‘सेवा संकल्प अभियान’ के तहत दिल्ली सरकार द्वारा तय्याराज स्टेडियम में मेगा रक्तदान शिविर का आयोजन किया गया। मुख्यमंत्री रेखा गुप्ता ने स्वयं रक्तदान कर अभियान में सहभागिता की और दिल्लीवासियों से मानवता की सेवा के लिए आगे आने का संदेश दिया। मुख्यमंत्री ने कहा कि प्रधानमंत्री के 25 वर्षों के निस्वार्थ और समर्पित सार्वजनिक जीवन से प्रेरणा लेते हुए ‘सेवा संकल्प अभियान’ के माध्यम से दिल्ली में सेवा और जनभागीदारी की भावना को मजबूत किया जा रहा है। रक्तदान

केवल रक्त देने की प्रक्रिया नहीं, बल्कि मानवता, करुणा और आत्मीयता के पावन बंधन को मजबूत करने वाला संकल्प है।



शिविर में 2,080 यूनिट रक्त एकत्र किया गया। इस अवसर पर केंद्रीय राज्यमंत्री हर्ष मल्होत्रा, दिल्ली सरकार के कैबिनेट मंत्री, विधायक और अन्य गणमान्य व्यक्ति भी उपस्थित रहे।

केंद्रीय राज्यमंत्री हर्ष मल्होत्रा ने कहा कि रक्तदान महानदी है और किसी जरूरतमंद का जीवन बचाने से बड़ा सेवा कार्य कोई नहीं। प्रधानमंत्री के

नागरिकों की ओर से सेवा, सहयोग और मानवता का यह संकल्प एक सार्थक संदेश देता है। उन्होंने दिल्लीवासियों से अपील की कि जो नागरिक आज रक्तदान नहीं कर पाए, वे भविष्य में पात्र होने पर स्वेच्छिक रक्तदान करें और सेवा के इस अभियान का हिस्सा बनें। रक्तदान केवल जीवनदान नहीं, बल्कि मानवता और राष्ट्र के प्रति हमारा पावन कर्तव्य है। उन्होंने सेवा के इस संकल्प में सहभागी बन रही पूरी ‘टीम दिल्ली’ को नमन किया और सभी रक्तदाताओं का आभार व्यक्त किया। इस अवसर पर दिल्ली के स्वास्थ्य मंत्री डॉ. पंकज कुमार सिंह ने कहा कि सेवा और जनभागीदारी की भावना के साथ आज दिल्ली में मेगा ब्लड डोनेशन कैंप का आयोजन किया गया। प्रधानमंत्री की जनसेवा की भावना से प्रेरित होकर दिल्ली के हजारों लोगों ने स्वेच्छ से रक्तदान में भाग लिया।

जन्मदिवस को सेवा दिवस के रूप में मनाते हुए जनसेवा का यह संकल्प सभी को निरंतर सेवा के लिए प्रेरित करता रहे। मुख्यमंत्री ने कहा कि प्रधानमंत्री के जन्मदिवस के अवसर पर

प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी के जन्मदिवस के अवसर पर नई दिल्ली नगरपालिका परिषद (एनडीएमसी) ने ‘सेवा दिवस’ के रूप में मनाते हुए नई दिल्ली के विजय चौक पर ‘आशीर्वाद का दीया’ कार्यक्रम का आयोजन किया। कार्यक्रम के दौरान कर्तव्य पथ से सेवा तीर्थ तक 1.25 लाख मिट्टी के दीये प्रज्वलित किए गए। ‘आशीर्वाद का दीया’ कार्यक्रम में दिल्ली की मुख्यमंत्री रेखा गुप्ता, केंद्रीय राज्य मंत्री एवं दिल्ली प्रदेश भाजपा अध्यक्ष हर्ष मल्होत्रा, नई दिल्ली की सांसद बांसुरी स्वराज, एनडीएमसी अध्यक्ष मनोज कुमार द्विवेदी, उपाध्यक्ष कुलजीत सिंह चवल, एनडीएमसी परिषद सदस्य दिनेश प्रताप सिंह, एनडीएमसी सचिव राहुल सिंह सहित हजारों एनडीएमसी कर्मचारी, विद्यार्थी एवं शिक्षक उपस्थित रहे। मुख्यमंत्री ने कहा कि प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी ने देश के 140 करोड़ नागरिकों की निरंतर

सेवा की है। उनके जन्मदिवस पर हम सभी भारतीय उनकी सेवाओं के प्रति अपनी कृतज्ञता व्यक्त करते हुए उन्हें केवल अपना आशीर्वाद दे सकते हैं। ऐसा आशीर्वाद, जिसमें उनकी दीर्घायु, उत्तम स्वास्थ्य और निरंतर जीवन की कामना निहित है। उन्होंने कहा कि सभी की यही कामना है कि प्रधानमंत्री जी स्वस्थ रहें और इसी प्रकार निरंतर देश की सेवा करते हुए भारत को विकसित भारत बनाने की दिशा में आगे बढ़ते रहें तथा राष्ट्र निर्माण में हम सभी का मार्गदर्शन करते रहें। मुख्यमंत्री ने कहा कि आज कर्तव्य पथ पर, सेवा

तीर्थ के बाहर जिस प्रकार दिल्लीवासियों ने अपने घरों से ‘आशीर्वाद का दीया’ जलाया, वह प्रधानमंत्री जी के प्रति जनमानस के स्नेह, सम्मान और विश्वास की सुंदर अभिव्यक्ति है। उन्होंने दिल्ली की जनता का कोटि-कोटि धन्यवाद करते हुए कहा कि नागरिकों ने अपने आशीर्वाद के माध्यम से न केवल प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी को शुभकामनाएं दी हैं, बल्कि निरंतर कार्य करने वाली सरकार और ऐसे नेतृत्व को भी अपना आशीर्वाद दिया है, जिसने बिना रुके और बिना थके देश की सेवा की है। मुख्यमंत्री ने कहा कि पूरा देश प्रधानमंत्री मोदी को कोटि-कोटि नमन करता है। उन्होंने दिल्ली के प्रत्येक घर से जलाए गए ‘आशीर्वाद के दीये’ के लिए दिल्लीवासियों का हृदय से आभार व्यक्त किया। हर्ष मल्होत्रा ने कहा कि इस बार प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी का जन्मदिवस विशेष महत्व रखता है, क्योंकि उनके सार्वजनिक जीवन में राष्ट्रसेवा के 25 वर्ष पूर्ण हुए हैं। इसी

विशेष अवसर पर देशभर के लोग उन्हें अपनी शुभकामनाएं और शुभशीर्ष देने के लिए ‘आशीर्वाद का दिया’ जला रहे हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि यह दीया देशवासियों के स्नेह, सम्मान और प्रधानमंत्री के प्रति कृतज्ञता का प्रतीक है। मल्होत्रा ने कहा कि वे प्रभु से प्रार्थना करते हैं कि प्रधानमंत्री जी को दीर्घायु, उत्तम स्वास्थ्य और निरंतर राष्ट्रसेवा के लिए ऊर्जा प्रदान करें, ताकि वे इसी समर्पण के साथ देश को विकसित भारत के संकल्प की दिशा में आगे बढ़ते रहें। इस अवसर पर नई दिल्ली सांसद बांसुरी स्वराज ने कहा कि प्रधानमंत्री का आज मनयाया जाने वाला जन्मदिन इस मायने में महत्वपूर्ण है क्योंकि इसी वर्ष उनके राष्ट्रीय सेवा में निरन्तर कार्य करते हुए उनको 25 वर्ष भी पूर्ण हो रहे हैं। उन्होंने अपना सम्पूर्ण जीवन मां भारती के के लिए समर्पित किया हुआ है , उन्हें आज आशीर्वाद के लिए से देशवासी और खासकर दिल्लीवासी उनकी स्वस्थ, कर्मशील दीर्घायु की कामना करते हुए विजय चौक पर एकत्र हुए।

मुख्यमंत्री ने ‘नमो श्रमिक सेवा केंद्र’ एवं गिग वर्कर्स विश्राम स्थल का किया उद्घाटन

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। । दिल्ली की मुख्यमंत्री रेखा गुप्ता ने प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी के जन्मदिवस पर आरंभ ‘सेवा संकल्प अभियान’ के अंतर्गत आगे शालीमार बाग में ‘नमो श्रमिक सेवा केंद्र’ एवं गिग वर्कर्स विश्राम स्थल का

उद्घाटन किया। कार्यक्रम में दिल्ली के श्रम मंत्री कपिल मिश्रा सहित बड़ी संख्या में श्रमिक भाई-बहन उपस्थित हुए। इस अवसर पर मुख्यमंत्री ने श्रमिकों से संवाद भी किया और उनके अनुभव एवं सुझाव सुने। मुख्यमंत्री ने कार्यक्रम को संबोधित करते हुए कहा

कि दिल्ली के विकास और निर्माण में अपने श्रम, परिश्रम और लगन से महत्वपूर्ण योगदान देने वाले श्रमिक भाई-बहनों के सम्मान, सुविधा और कल्याण के लिए सरकार निरंतर प्रतिबद्ध है। ‘सेवा संकल्प अभियान’ का उद्देश्य जनसेवा की और अधिक

सहज, सुलभ तथा नागरिकों के करीब पहुंचाना है। इसी संकल्प के तहत ‘नमो श्रमिक सेवा केंद्र’ की शुरुआत की गई है ताकि श्रमिकों को सरकारी योजनाओं से अधिक लाभ लेने के लिए अलग-अलग सरकारी कार्यालयों के चक्कर न लगाने पड़ें। मुख्यमंत्री ने

कहा कि ‘नमो श्रमिक सेवा केंद्र’ श्रमिकों के लिए एक सुविधा केंद्र के रूप में कार्य करेगा, जहां उन्हें विभिन्न सरकारी सेवाओं और श्रमिक कल्याण योजनाओं से जुड़ी आवश्यक सहायता एक ही स्थान पर उपलब्ध होगी। केंद्र पर श्रमिकों को पंजीकरण एवं

नवीकरण में सहायता, दस्तावेजों के सत्यापन, आवेदन की स्थिति की जानकारी, विभिन्न कल्याणकारी योजनाओं की जानकारी तथा दावों के संबंधित सेवाओं के लिए मार्गदर्शन मिलेगा। इससे श्रमिकों के लिए सरकारी सेवाओं तक पहुंच अधिक

आसान और सुविधाजनक होगी। उन्होंने कहा कि जिस व्यक्ति ने अपने श्रम से दिल्ली को बनाया और आगे बढ़ाने में योगदान दिया है, उसे सरकारी योजनाओं के लिए प्रेरान न होना पड़े। सरकार की योजनाओं और सेवाओं का लाभ अंतिम व्यक्ति तक सरल प्रक्रिया

के माध्यम से पहुंचे, यही जनसेवा की वास्तविक भावना है। मुख्यमंत्री ने कार्यक्रम के दौरान गिग वर्कर्स विश्राम स्थल का भी शुभारंभ किया गया। उन्होंने कहा कि तेजी से बढ़ती कार्यव्यवस्था में बड़ी संख्या में गिग वर्कर्स अपनी सेवाएं दे रहे हैं।

मुख्यमंत्री ने की अंगदान अभियान की शुरुआत

अंगदान के लिए भरा संकल्प पत्र

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। दिल्ली की मुख्यमंत्री रेखा गुप्ता ने प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी के जन्मदिवस के उपलक्ष्य में 17 अक्टूबर तक आयोजित ‘सेवा संकल्प अभियान’ के तहत अंगदान संकल्प अभियान की शुरुआत की। इस पहल का उद्देश्य अंगदान को बढ़ावा देना, प्रत्यारोपण (ट्रांसप्लांट) सेवाओं को मजबूत करना और नागरिकों को

अंगदान का संकल्प लेने के लिए प्रोत्साहित करना है। मुख्यमंत्री ने स्वयं अंगदान की घोषणा की और इसके लिए संकल्प पत्र भी भरा। दिल्ली सरकार के स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण विभाग की ओर से दिल्ली सचिवालय में इस अवसर पर एक कार्यक्रम आयोजित किया गया, जिसमें एक पोर्टल लॉन्च किया गया। इसके द्वारा दिल्ली के नागरिक अंगदान संकल्प अभियान से ऑनलाइन जुड़कर अंगदान का संकल्प कर सकते हैं। दिल्ली सरकार ने इसके लिए पोर्टल (<https://cfwcst.delhi.gov.in/dhb/OrganTissuePledge.asp>) उपलब्ध कराया है। पोर्टल पर



पंजीकरण करने के बाद डिजिटल प्रतिज्ञा प्रमाण-पत्र स्वतः तैयार हो जाता है, जिसे नागरिक डाउनलोड कर सकते हैं। इस अवसर पर मुख्यमंत्री ने कहा कि अंगदान सेवा संकल्प की सच्ची भावना को दर्शाता है। एक

व्यक्ति के इस उदार और नेक संकल्प से कई लोगों की जान बचाई जा सकती है। उन्होंने दिल्लीवासियों से इस अभियान में सक्रिय भागीदार बनने और अंगदान का संकल्प लेने की अपील की। उन्होंने कहा कि अंगदान का यह अभियान प्रत्यारोपण का इंतजार

कर रहे मरीजों को जीवन की नई उम्मीद देने के साथ-साथ समाज में अंगदान के उद्देश्य को भी नई दिशा देने की क्षमता रखता है। नागरिकों की सक्रिय भागीदारी से अंगदान को जनता की भागीदारी वाला आंदोलन बनाया जा सकता है।

अंगदान और अंग एवं ऊतक प्रत्यारोपण के बेहतर समन्वय तथा अंग एवं ऊतक (टिशूयू) दान को बढ़ावा देने के लिए दिल्ली सरकार ने जीबी पंत अस्पताल में स्टेट ऑर्गन एंड टिशूयू ट्रांसप्लांट ऑर्गनाइजेशन (एसओटीओ) को भी कार्यशील किया है। इसके माध्यम से दिल्ली में अंग और ऊतक दान से जुड़ी गतिविधियों के समन्वय और उन्हें

बढ़ावा देने को मजबूत किया जाएगा। अंगदान प्रतिज्ञा अभियान के तहत सेवा संकल्प अभियान की भावना के अनुरूप नागरिकों तक पहुंचने के लिए विभिन्न माध्यमों का इस्तेमाल किया जाएगा। इनमें डिजिटल प्लेटफॉर्म, जागरूकता अभियान, शिक्षण संस्थान, स्वास्थ्य सुविधाएं और सामुदायिक स्तर की गतिविधियां शामिल हैं।

इस पहल का उद्देश्य अंगदान को केवल जागरूकता तक सीमित न रखते हुए इसे जनता की भागीदारी वाला आंदोलन बनाना है, ताकि अधिक से अधिक नागरिक अंगदान के लिए आगे आएँ और इस जीवनदायी पहल में अपना योगदान दें।

ताहिरपुर कुष्ठ परिसर में ‘आशीर्वाद का दीया’ अभियान के तहत 2,000 दीप प्रज्वलित

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। । दिल्ली के समाज कल्याण विभाग ने प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी के 76वें जन्मदिवस के अवसर पर ‘आशीर्वाद का दीया’ अभियान के अंतर्गत ताहिरपुर कुष्ठ परिसर में विशेष कार्यक्रम का आयोजन किया गया। कार्यक्रम में समाज कल्याण मंत्री रविंद्र इंद्राज सिंह और उत्तर-पूर्वी दिल्ली के सांसद मनोज तिवारी ने कुष्ठ प्रभावित व्यक्तियों, स्वयंसेवियों एवं सामाजिक कार्यकर्ताओं के साथ मिलकर प्रधानमंत्री मोदी के दीर्घायु, उत्तम स्वास्थ्य एवं निरंतर राष्ट्रसेवा की कामना करते हुए दीप प्रज्वलित किए। इस अवसर पर परिसर में निवास कर रहे कुष्ठ प्रभावित व्यक्तियों द्वारा 2,000 दीप प्रज्वलित किए गए। कार्यक्रम में प्रधानमंत्री मोदी को शुभकामनाओं से सजी फूलों की रंगोली को सौकड़ों दीपों से समाज कल्याण मंत्री रविंद्र इंद्राज सिंह और सांसद मनोज तिवारी ने स्वयंसेवियों एवं सामाजिक

कार्यकर्ताओं के साथ मिलकर रोशन किया। इस अवसर पर मंत्री इंद्राज सिंह ने कहा कि प्रधानमंत्री मोदी के नेतृत्व में समाज के अंतिम पायदान पर खड़े व्यक्ति तक कल्याणकारी योजनाओं का लाभ पहुंचाने का

परिसर है और यहां निवास कर रहे लोगों की सुविधाओं, आवास तथा अन्य आवश्यकताओं को बेहतर बनाने के लिए सरकार प्रतिबद्ध है। मंत्री इंद्राज ने कहा कि परिसर के निवासियों द्वारा उनके समक्ष रखी



निरंतर प्रयास किया जा रहा है। उन्होंने कहा कि प्रधानमंत्री के जन्मदिवस पर कुष्ठ प्रभावित व्यक्तियों के बीच ‘आशीर्वाद का दीया’ जलाकर उनके स्वस्थ एवं दीर्घायु जीवन की कामना करना सेवा और सम्मान की भावना का प्रतीक है। उन्होंने कहा कि ताहिरपुर कुष्ठ परिसर समाज कल्याण विभाग के अंतर्गत एक महत्वपूर्ण

गई मांगों पर सरकार गंभीरता सेह्व किया करेगी। उन्होंने पेशान में वृद्धि, परिसर के नवीनीकरण तथा आवश्यक सुविधाओं में सुधार का आश्वासन देते हुए कहा कि कुष्ठ प्रभावित व्यक्तियों के सम्मान और कल्याण से जुड़े कार्यों में किसी प्रकार की कमी नहीं रहने दी जाएगी।

भाजपा ने सफाईकर्म की आत्महत्या मामले में आआपा पार्षद पर आर्थिक धोखाधड़ी का लगाया आरोप

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। भारतीय जनता पार्टी (भाजपा) के दिल्ली प्रदेश अध्यक्ष हर्ष मल्होत्रा ने आम आदमी पार्टी (आआपा) के त्रिलोकपुरी से निगम पार्षद विजय कुमार पर दिल्ली नगर निगम (एमसीडी) के सफाई कर्मी दीपक के साथ आर्थिक धोखाधड़ी करने और उसे आत्महत्या के लिए मजबूर करने का आरोप लगाया। हर्ष मल्होत्रा ने आरोप लगाया कि सफाई कर्मी दीपक त्रिलोकपुरी वार्ड में कई वर्षों से कार्यरत थे और अपने परिवार के लिए मकान बनाना चाहते थे। इसके लिए उन्होंने पार्षद विजय कुमार से मदद मांगी थी। उन्होंने बताया कि करीब एक वर्ष पहले पार्षद ने दीपक को मकान दिलाने का भरोसा देकर 15 लाख रुपये का ऋण दिलवाया और कथित तौर पर राशि अपने खाते में स्थानांतरित करवा ली। मल्होत्रा ने आरोप लगाया कि दीपक की हस्ताक्षरित चेकबुक पार्षद ने अपने पास रख ली थी और पिछले नौ-दस महीनों से उनके वेतन की राशि भी चेक के माध्यम से निकारते थे।

उन्होंने आरोप लगाया कि दीपक लगातार मकान दिलाने या पैसा वापस करने की मांग कर रहे थे, लेकिन कथित तौर पर उन्हें धमकाया गया और 25 प्रतिशत कमीशन की मांग की गई। मल्होत्रा ने कहा कि आर्थिक परेशानी के कारण दीपक मानसिक रूप से परेशान रहने लगे और अपने परिवारों एवं मित्रों से कहते थे कि उन्हें कुछ होने पर इसके लिए पार्षद विजय कुमार जिम्मेदार होंगे। भाजपा प्रदेश अध्यक्ष ने कहा कि दीपक ने एक सितंबर को आत्महत्या कर ली। उन्होंने आरोप लगाया कि इसके बाद भी पार्षद को और से परिवार को डराने-धमकाने का प्रयास किया गया। मामले की जानकारी 7-8 सितंबर के आसपास भाजपा नेताओं को हुई।

BRIF NEWS

2 Jaish terrorists killed in Udhampur



Jammu, Agency: Two Jaish-e-Mohammad terrorists were shot dead and a suspected overground worker was detained Thursday after security forces tracked down a hide-out in rain-soaked forests of Udhampur district in J&K's Jammu division, seizing assault rifles, a pistol and grenades.

An Army-CRPF-J&K police team launched the operation in Brattal bordering Kathua district after inputs led forces to cordon off a target area around 9pm Wednesday. "A few rounds of gunfire and grenade blasts were heard shortly after," an official said. The terrorists resumed firing Thursday morning, apparently trying to break the cordon, but were killed in return fire. White Knight Corps said a mop-up operation was underway using sniffer dogs and aerial surveillance to check for any remaining terrorists.

Police identified the slain terrorists as Saddam and Mustafa. Forces found an AK-series rifle with four magazines, an M-4 carbine with three magazines, a Glock pistol with two magazines and four grenades on them.

Flowers at 10,600ft: World's highest twin fields unveiled in Leh



Leh, Agency: On Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 76th birthday, Ladakh Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena inaugurated the world's highest and India's largest twin flower fields in Leh, at an altitude of 10,600ft, on Thursday as part of the administration's efforts to diversify agriculture, build skills and create new livelihood opportunities in the Union Territory.

Spread across 40 acres at Choglamsar and Stakna, the gardens house more than 25 lakh high-value flowers, including 24 lakh Lilium and 1 lakh Gladiolus. The Choglamsar field was developed in just two months, with plantation beginning on July 16 and the first blooms appearing in the first week of Sept. At Stakna, nearly 1.4 lakh lilies were planted in Aug, with the first blooms expected by Oct-end.

Saxena said the initiative was the first experiment of its size and nature at such a high altitude in Leh, adding that its successful execution could pave the way for replication elsewhere in Ladakh. The gardens will open to the public on Sept 18, with an entry fee of Rs 25 for adults and Rs 10 for children, officials said. Floriculture, as a high-value agricultural activity, can complement traditional farming, increase cultivators' incomes and create opportunities for employment and entrepreneurship, the LG said. The Choglamsar flower park will serve as a training, demonstration and model floriculture centre for farmers and youth, where Lilium, Gladiolus, Tulips and other ornamental flowers will be cultivated for national and international markets.

Kashmir cracks walnut success code turns to medium-sized, grafted trees

Kokerang, Agency: In Gohan village, around 100km south of Srinagar, Shabir Ahmad was among many harvesting walnuts from a towering tree. The work has become increasingly difficult. "My back aches now," Ahmad said. J&K produces 3.5 lakh tonnes of walnuts annually, around 90% of the country's total output. Like other villagers, Ahmad had no safety gear and he was proud of it. "We have been doing it for centuries," said Ahmad, also a clerk at a local court. However, the



bravado doesn't help in harvesting seasons. Dr. Mohd Yaqoob Bhat, a surgeon at Paras Hospital in Srinagar, said Valley healthcare units treat dozens of patients each year after falls from walnut trees, some with

serious spinal injuries. "There is no mechanism to address the issue," Bhat said.

Ahmad's younger brother sold one walnut for one rupee and no two fruits are similar. For generations,

Kashmir's walnut trees have been grown from seeds. J&K and Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST) are now promoting medium-sized, grafted walnut trees to bring greater uniformity and help the produce compete globally amid competition from soft-shelled varieties grown in California and Chile.

The initiative aims to replace scattered plantations with organised orchards of known varieties, allowing farmers to

grow more trees in the same area and produce walnuts more consistent in size and color.

J&K has about 80,000 hectares under walnut cultivation, most of it made up of seedling-origin trees. "When someone plants a walnut seed in the ground, whatever grows becomes a tree. Every tree is a variety of its own," Ashfaq A. Pandit, professor and head of fruit science at SKUAST, said. This natural variation, once considered an advantage, has become a challenge in the modern

market where buyers seek consistent produce.

Traditional walnut trees can take about 15 years to bear fruit without using pesticides. Unlike traditional seedling-origin trees, grafted walnuts belong to known varieties.

Imtiyaz Ahmad Lone, professor and head of SKUAST's Walnut Research Centre, said the university released new walnut cultivars and grafting-based cultivation had spread over nearly 90,000 hectares despite lack of subsidies.

Buying medicines may have to be recorded on CCTV

New Delhi, Agency: Buying prescription medicines from a medical store could soon be recorded on CCTV, with the footage required to be kept for at least three months, under a draft amendment to the Drugs Rules, 1945, proposed by Union health ministry. With this, regulators will be able to check transactions when concerns are raised.

For patients, this could mean an additional safeguard against medicines sold without prescriptions or accessed via illegal channels.

The move is aimed at better oversight of Schedule H, H1 and X drugs, which include medicines that cannot be sold without valid prescription. Except wholesale dealing, all drug will be supplied under CCTV system at the licensed prem-



ises. The proposal was first considered by Drugs Consultative Committee and was then circulated to Drugs Technical Advisory Board.

The board recommended approval of the proposal, according to the health ministry. The draft says the rule will come into force from a date specified by govt when the amendment is finally published in the Official Gazette. The ministry has invited objections and suggestions from stakeholders and the

public.

Responding to the proposal, J S Shinde, president, All India Organisation of Chemists & Druggists, said, "Making CCTV surveillance mandatory at every medical store could cost small and medium chemists Rs 50,000-1 lakh or more, apart from ongoing maintenance. A uniform requirement is particularly difficult to implement in rural areas with unreliable power and internet connectivity.

NIA court issues NBWs against 2 Pak-based LeT commanders

Jammu, Agency: A special NIA court in Jammu has issued non-bailable warrants (NBWs) against two Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) commanders for evading arrest in terror cases.

Justice Prem Sagar passed separate orders on Sept 8 against the duo - Khalid alias Lala Huzaifa alias Bakkarwali, a resident of Pakistan's South Punjab province; and Saifullah alias Sajid Jatt alias Ali Bhai alias Habibullah Malik (also known by several other aliases), a resident of Pakistan's Kasur district.

NIA alleged that Khalid



and Saifullah had worked as LeT commanders in Kashmir before moving to Pakistan, from where they were currently providing weapons, money, and directions to ultras operating in Kashmir. While Khalid was active in Ganderbal and Bandipora districts, Saifullah - a designated terrorist listed in the Fourth Schedule of UAPA - operated in Kulgam between 2005 and 2007, NIA stated.

Owners face penalties as govt moves to curb stray cattle on highways, e-ways

New Delhi, Agency: Owners who abandon cattle on highways and expressways could face fines and penalties, with the road transport ministry issuing a standard operating procedure (SOP) to curb the menace of stray cattle and other animals causing road crashes. States and local authorities will initiate "owner-tracing" and take steps to recover applicable fees, fines and penalties from owners.

The SOP follows a Supreme Court direction to NHAI to devise a structured mechanism for the safe removal of stray animals from national highways and expressways. The "SOP for Safe Removal of Stray Cattle and Other Animals from NHs/Expressways", issued this



week to highway agencies and state govts, designates NHAI, NHIDCL and state PWDs as nodal agencies for removing stray animals from NHs and expressways. They will arrange their safe transportation to shelters, cattle pounds or gaushalas identified by state govts.

The highway agencies will identify and mark stretches where stray cattle and other animals are frequently spotted.

Tamil Nadu must change mindset, allow Hindi in schools: SC

New Delhi, Agency : Supreme Court Thursday told Tamil Nadu govt that it needed to change its mindset towards teaching Hindi in schools and should thrash out issues with Centre on setting up Navodaya Vidyalayas in every district.

As Vijay-led TN govt took the same stand taken by the previous DMK govt, a bench of Justices B V Nagarathna and A G Masih said individual states could not act like countries. "You have to change your mindset, it can't be that Hindi will not be taught on the soil of TN," the bench said.

TN has been opposing the setting up of these schools as they follow a three-language policy, including Hindi, which is against the state's two-language policy.

"We are saying in addition to all the good things you're doing in your state, having something in addition will not bring down your standards... People in Chennai should not alienate Delhi and vice versa," SC said.

Senior advocate Jaideep Gupta, appearing for the state, submitted it was against the federal structure to impose



Centre's decision on a state. "It is against the state policy. It supersedes Tamil. This kind of unification is not the purport of Constitution. It is not a central govt school. It is a school run by a society. There is an adamancy that Hindi must predominate," he said.

Gupta submitted that cooperative federalism would never work in only one direction and such a policy should not be enforced by the court.

The bench asked the state to comply with its order and posted the case for further hearing in Dec. SC had last Dec directed TN to identify land required for establishing Navodaya Vidyalayas in each district within six weeks.

"We are not asking you to acquire land. We are only asking you to identify it... There is a need for dialogue. You can't say I won't accept a policy. Today it is education, tomorrow it will be something else.

SC takes exception to 31 unnatural deaths in Manipur relief camps

New Delhi, Agency:

Supreme Court Thursday took strong exception to 31 unnatural deaths in Manipur's relief camps - set up after the eruption of Kuki-Meitei ethnic clashes in 2023 to shelter internally displaced persons (IDPs) - including one due to sexual assault.

A bench of Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justices Joymalya Bagchi and V Mohana asked the state govt to file an affidavit giving details of the causes of death as ascertained through postmortem reports and the investigations to identify the cul-



prits. It also questioned the state for giving a meagre Rs 30,000 as compensation to the next of kin even though the state had paid Rs 4 lakh-5 lakh to relatives of victims of the ethnic clashes.

This order was passed after perusing Justice Gita Mittal Committee's report. Placed before the court by senior advocate Vibha D Makhija, it cited a Media report of June 7

which published a news report on 731 deaths, including 25 unnatural deaths, in relief camps as disclosed by the state home department. Media had also reported that 43,000 IDPs were residing in various relief camps.

Makhija said when the committee sought details of the deaths, the state initially provided sketchy statistics. Only after prodding did govt provide the required information. Jiribam and Churachandpur relief camps recorded nine unnatural deaths each; six were reported in

Bishnupur, four in Imphal West, two in Imphal East and one in Kakching.

The bench directed the state chief secretary to submit what remedial measures would be taken to prevent such incidents. It also asked the state to detail the steps taken to expedite investigations into the FIRs. Justice Mittal Committee informed the court that the mother of the sexual assault victim in Churachandpur relief camp was given Rs 2.5 lakh as compensation but in most cases, the next of kin got only Rs 30,000.

SC raps CBSE for refusing to exempt Class VI from 3-language policy this year

New Delhi, Agency: Supreme Court on Thursday rapped CBSE for being stubborn in its decision to enforce the three-language policy from this year for Class VI students and forced it to reconsider the decision with a clear mandate, camouflaged as a suggestion, to enforce it from next academic year. CBSE had decided to enforce

the three-language policy for all classes from Class VI to X, in which the students were to choose three languages of which two must be indigenous. On SC's request, it reconsidered and agreed to enforce it from Class VI onwards from this year while students in Class VII to X were to be governed by the old policy. SC had asked CBSE to

reconsider exempting students of Class VI this year.

A bench of CJI Surya Kant and Justices Joymalya Bagchi and V Mohana is dealing with a bunch of petitions challenging the three-language policy, including highlighting the inadequacy of textbooks, indigenous subject teachers and infrastructure.

'Fundamental national responsibility': India's envoy to US strikes defiant note as Trump's 100% tariffs loom

New Delhi, Agency:

India's Ambassador to the United States Vinay Mohan Kwatra has defended New Delhi's energy sourcing policy after the US House of Representatives passed legislation that gives US president Donald Trump the authority to impose tariffs of up to 100 per cent on countries continuing to buy Russian oil and gas, including India and China. The bill was approved 262-159 after clearing the Senate last month and now goes to Trump for signature. In an X thread titled "People



First: What Drives India's Energy Imperative", Kwatra said India's energy choices were driven by development and energy security.

"Energy is a vital strategic necessity for 1.4 billion Indians and a foundation of our development.... India is the

world's fastest-growing major economy and its third-largest energy consumer. Yet the average Indian consumes less than one-third of the global average and one-tenth of average American. Our energy needs will, and must, grow," he said.

Kwatra said reliable and affordable energy was essential for homes, farms, hospitals, schools, factories and transport.

"India imports over 85% of its crude oil and around half its natural gas. Our sourcing reflects a fundamental national responsibility: looking

outside our borders to secure adequate, affordable and uninterrupted energy for our people," he said. He added that India sources energy from partners across the Middle East, Africa, Latin America, Eurasia and the US, with decisions guided by "availability, affordability, market conditions and commercial viability". "When recent conflicts squeezed global supplies, India acted decisively to protect its people from price shocks. That also helped steady global energy markets and prevent a deeper crisis.

Radha Ashtami: Celebrating the Divine Symbol of Love and Devotion



Radha Ashtami, also known as Radhashtami or Radha Jayanti, is one of the most cherished festivals in the Vaishnav tradition. Celebrated on the Ashtami, or eighth day, of the bright fortnight of the Hindu month of Bhadrapada, the festival commemorates the appearance of Radha Rani, who is revered as the eternal beloved and divine counterpart of Lord Krishna. In 2026, Radha Ashtami will be observed on Saturday, September 19, fifteen days after Janmashtami. The festival is celebrated with particular devotion throughout Braj, especially in Barsana, Vrindavan, Mathura and Nandgaon.

While Janmashtami is associated with Krishna's birth and is celebrated with midnight rituals, Radha Ashtami is traditionally connected with the mid-day period. This distinction gives the two festivals their own character within the devotional calendar. For devotees, Radha Ashtami is not simply a birthday celebration. It is an occasion to reflect on the ideals associated with Radha — unconditional love, humility, dedication and complete devotion.

According to popular Braj tradition, Radha was born to Vrishbhanu and Kirti in the sacred region of Braj. Barsana is traditionally regarded as her birthplace and childhood home, making it the centre of Radha Ashtami celebrations. Devotees consider the landscape of Braj itself deeply connected with the stories of Radha and Krishna, and the festival brings these traditions into public life through temple worship, music, processions, devotional singing and community gatherings.

The spiritual importance of Radha has developed through different Vaishnav traditions over centuries. In devotional literature, Radha represents the highest form

of love for the divine. Her relationship with Krishna is understood not merely as an earthly romance but as a symbol of the soul's longing for a spiritual connection with the Supreme. This interpretation has made Radha an important figure in the devotional traditions of northern India and beyond.

The word "Radha" itself has acquired a special emotional significance in the religious culture of Braj. Devotees frequently greet one another with "Radhe Radhe", a phrase that has become closely associated with the region. In Barsana and Vrindavan, the name of Radha is heard in temples, streets and devotional gatherings, reflecting how deeply the figure of Radha is woven into everyday religious culture.

Radha Ashtami begins with preparations in homes and temples. Devotees clean their prayer spaces, decorate idols or images of Radha and Krishna with flowers and prepare offerings. In temples, the deity is dressed in special garments and adorned with jewellery and flowers. Ceremonial bathing, known as abhishek, is performed in many temples, followed by shringar, or ritual adornment. Devotional songs and kirtans continue through the day.

Fasting is another important part of the observance for many devotees. Practices vary according to family tradition, religious lineage and local customs. Some devotees observe a strict fast, while others follow a fruit-based or sattvic diet. The fast is generally viewed as a form of spiritual discipline rather than merely a ritual restriction. The intention is to dedicate the day to prayer, remembrance and devotion. The central worship period is associated with madhyahna, or midday, because traditional

accounts place Radha's appearance at that time. Contemporary festival guides for 2026 also identify September 19 as the observance date and describe midday worship as an important part of the celebration. Exact ritual timings can vary according to the local panchang and location.

One of the most beautiful aspects of Radha Ashtami is the atmosphere created by devotional music. Braj has a rich musical tradition in which Radha and Krishna occupy a central place. Temple singers perform bhajans, kirtans and traditional compositions, while devotees participate by singing collectively. Music transforms the festival from an individual act of worship into a shared cultural experience.

Flowers are equally important. Temples are decorated with garlands of roses, marigolds, jasmine and other seasonal flowers. The colourful decorations, lamps, traditional clothing and devotional music create an atmosphere that combines religious reverence with artistic expression.

Food also forms an important part of the celebration. Devotees prepare a variety of offerings for Radha Rani, after which the food is distributed as prasad. The menu differs from region to region and from one family tradition to another. Traditional sweets, fruits, milk-based preparations and other vegetarian dishes are commonly associated with festive offerings. The preparation of prasad is often a family activity, bringing several generations together.

The deeper message of Radha Ashtami extends beyond ritual. Radha is remembered as a figure whose devotion is characterized by selflessness. In devotional interpretations, she does not seek personal reward from her relationship with Krishna. Her love represents surrender, dedication and the desire to remain connected with the divine. This symbolism is one reason why Radha continues to hold such a powerful place in devotional culture.

The festival also demonstrates the close relationship between faith and cultural heritage in India. A religious celebration becomes a platform for preserving music, poetry, dance, food traditions, temple architecture and local customs. In Braj, stories connected with Radha and Krishna have influenced generations of artists, poets, musicians and performers.

Barsana Turns Into a Sea of Devotion as Radha Ashtami Arrives



In the Braj region of Uttar Pradesh, the arrival of Radha Ashtami transforms an ordinary festival day into a deeply emotional celebration of local faith and cultural heritage. At the heart of the festivities is Barsana, the town traditionally associated with Radha Rani's birthplace and childhood. Every year, thousands of devotees make their way towards the town to participate in prayers and seek darshan at the famous Radha Rani temple, also known as the Ladli Ji or Shriji temple. In 2026, Radha Ashtami will be celebrated on September 19, bringing renewed activity to Barsana and surrounding areas.

Barsana is not simply a destination for pilgrims during Radha Ashtami. The town's identity is closely connected with Radha. Its temples, lanes, hills, songs and festivals preserve stories that have been passed from one generation to another. The landscape itself forms part of the cultural memory of Braj.

The principal shrine associated with the celebration is the Radha Rani Temple, popularly known as the Shriji Temple or Ladli Ji Temple. Situated on a hill in Barsana, the temple is one of the region's most important centres of Radha worship. During Radha Ashtami, the shrine becomes the focus of elaborate religious ceremonies and a large gathering of devotees.

The day begins early for many devotees. Temple rituals, devotional singing and preparations start before the main celebration. The deity is ceremonially bathed and then dressed in special clothes and ornaments. Flowers are used extensively to decorate the temple, while lamps, incense and devotional music add to the atmosphere.

A major feature of Radha Ashtami worship is the abhishek ceremony. In many Vaishnav temples, panchamrit — traditionally a mixture of milk, curd, ghee, honey and sugar — is used for ceremonial bathing. After the ritual, the deity is decorated in festive attire. The exact form of the ceremony differs between temples and religious traditions, but the emphasis remains on celebrating Radha with reverence and affection.

As the festival progresses, the nar-

row streets of Barsana fill with pilgrims. Devotees arrive from different parts of India and from communities associated with Krishna and Radha worship outside India. The town's local economy also becomes closely connected with the festival, as shops, transport operators, flower sellers, food vendors and other small businesses serve the increased number of visitors.

The cultural character of Barsana is especially visible through its language and music. Braj Bhasha, the traditional language of the region, has a strong connection with Radha-Krishna poetry. For centuries, poets have used the language to describe divine love, separation, longing and devotion. During festivals, these poetic traditions continue through songs and performances.

The word "Radhe" can be heard throughout the town during the celebration. For local residents, this is not simply a festival greeting. It reflects a cultural identity built around Radha's presence. Visitors often encounter devotional expressions in shops, temples and public spaces, making the festival part of the everyday atmosphere of the town.

Barsana's association with Radha also connects Radha Ashtami with other major Braj festivals. The town is internationally known for Lathmar Holi, a celebration linked with the playful traditions of Radha and Krishna. Together, these festivals demonstrate how stories from devotional traditions have developed into living cultural practices.

The importance of Radha Ashtami extends beyond the main temple. Nearby parts of Braj, including Vrindavan, Mathura and Nandgaon, also observe the festival with temple programmes, bhajans, special decorations and devotional gatherings. The region effectively becomes a connected cultural landscape in which different towns celebrate different aspects of the Radha-Krishna tradition.

The festival also brings a strong sense of community. Families travel together, elderly devotees are accompanied by younger relatives, and groups of pilgrims organize journeys around temple visits.

From Poetry to Performance: How Radha Lives in India's Cultural Imagination

Few figures in India's devotional tradition have inspired such a wide range of poetry, music, painting, dance and storytelling as Radha. Her association with Krishna has become one of the country's most enduring cultural themes, influencing generations of poets, saints, musicians and artists. Every year, Radha Ashtami brings this vast cultural heritage into focus as devotees celebrate Radha Rani through prayer, song and artistic expression.

Radha Ashtami, observed on Bhadrapada Shukla Ashtami, commemorates the appearance of Radha and is especially important in the Braj region. In 2026, the festival will be celebrated on September 19. While the religious centre of the festival is temple worship, its cultural influence extends far beyond the temple walls.

The story of Radha and Krishna has been interpreted in many ways across India's devotional traditions. At its heart is the idea of divine love. Radha's love for Krishna is traditionally understood as an expression of complete devotion, often described through emotions such as longing, separation, joy and surrender. These emotions provided poets and artists with a rich vocabulary for expressing the relationship between the human soul and the divine.

This is particularly visible in the literature of Braj. The Braj region developed a remarkable tradition of devotional poetry in which Radha and Krishna became central figures. Poets described the forests of Vrindavan, the Yamuna, the changing seasons and the emotional world of Radha and Krishna. Their compositions eventually became part of musical and performance traditions.

The cultural legacy of Radha is not limited to



one language. Stories associated with her appear in Sanskrit and several regional languages, including Braj Bhasha, Hindi, Bengali and others. Different religious communities developed their own interpretations and styles of worship, contributing to a diverse cultural landscape.

Music has played a particularly important role in keeping these traditions alive. Bhajans and kirtans devoted to Radha are performed in temples and homes throughout India. During Radha Ashtami, musical gatherings become an important part of the celebration. Groups of devotees sing together, often repeating the divine

names of Radha and Krishna in rhythmic patterns.

The collective nature of kirtan is significant. Unlike a private prayer that may involve one person, kirtan creates participation through music. Everyone present can join the singing, regardless of age or background. This makes devotional music an important means of transmitting religious stories and values across generations.

Dance has also contributed to the cultural image of Radha. Classical and folk traditions have repeatedly interpreted episodes from Radha-Krishna narratives. In dance performanc-

es, Radha may be portrayed through expressions of love, waiting, separation, happiness or devotion. Facial expressions, hand gestures and movement allow performers to communicate emotions that are central to the devotional tradition.

The visual arts have similarly developed a rich vocabulary around Radha. Miniature paintings, temple art, sculptures and contemporary works frequently portray Radha and Krishna in the landscapes of Braj. Gardens, forests, moonlit settings, flowers and the Yamuna are recurring visual elements.

Flowers, in particular, have a strong symbolic presence. Radha Ashtami celebrations often involve extensive floral decoration in temples. Garlands and flower arrangements are used to decorate the deity, prayer spaces and festival venues. The use of flowers connects the celebration with the natural imagery that has long been associated with the Braj tradition.

The cultural importance of Radha can also be seen in everyday language. "Radhe Radhe" has become a characteristic greeting in many parts of Braj. It functions as both a devotional expression and a marker of local cultural identity. The greeting reflects how religious traditions can become integrated into ordinary social interactions.

Festivals provide another way through which the Radha tradition remains visible. Holi in Braj is strongly associated with Radha and Krishna, particularly in Barsana and Nandgaon. The playful character of the festival draws on stories of their relationship and has become one of the region's most recognizable cultural traditions.

Radha Ashtami adds another dimension to this cultural calendar.