



India becomes 4th country to launch AI satellite

Will process images directly from space and send instant data; to aid from border surveillance to disaster management

Hyderabad,(GNS): India has launched its first AI-powered satellite into space, which will not merely capture and send images to Earth but will also analyze them directly in space. This will assist in border surveillance and disaster management while reducing the time and cost required to transmit raw images and data to Earth.

The MOI-1A satellite by Hyderabad-based company TakeMe2Space was launched at 11:48 PM aboard SpaceX's Transporter-18 mission.

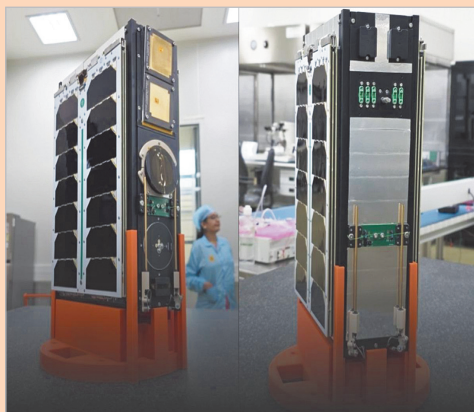
According to the company, this is India's first orbital computing satellite. Following the United States, the European Union, and China, India has become the fourth entity in the world to possess this capability.

Satellite to filter data in space



Currently, satellite data is first sent down to Earth, after which inspection and analysis take place. With the new satellite, this work can be performed in space itself.

According to Raunak Kumar



Samantray, CEO of TakeMe2Space, if a satellite gathers 300 GB of data and only 5 GB is useful, the AI can identify the essential data and send only that portion to Earth, thereby reducing data transfer time and expense.

Applications from flood monitoring to agriculture: This technology can be utilized in monitoring floods, forests, crops, mining areas, and borders or land usage. For instance, during a flood, the satellite can analyze images to determine the extent of water spread and transmit only the critical information to Earth.

Plans for data center in space by 2028

The company has also outlined plans to build a large data center in space by 2028. For this, preparations are underway to launch high-capacity satellites weighing 100 kg each.

Plans include equipping them with a large number of graphics processors and around 100 terabytes of storage. The objective is to interconnect multiple satellites and develop an in-space data analysis facility.

Gandhi-Shastri Jayanti: Babu remembered at Rajghat

President Murmu, PM Modi, Rahul Gandhi and several leaders pay tribute

New Delhi,(GNS): Marking the 157th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, PM Modi paid tributes to him at his memorial, Rajghat, in New Delhi.

Besides him, Delhi CM Rekha Gupta, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, and Union Minister Manohar Lal Khattar also paid homage.

Last year, Rahul Gandhi was out of the country and could not visit Rajghat. However, he offered his tributes this time.

In addition to Mahatma Gandhi, today marks the 122nd birth anniversary of Lal Bahadur Shastri. Shastri was



30-day cleanliness campaign begins today...

Union Minister of Coal and Mines G. Kishan Reddy called for a nationwide 30-day cleanliness campaign running from Gandhi Jayanti on October 2 to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's birth anniversary on October 31. He appealed to citizens, government and private institutions, educational centers, NGOs, and other organizations to participate.

born on October 2, 1904, in Mughalsarai, UP.

Tributes paid to Lal Bahadur Shastri by leaders: On the occasion of former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri's

birth anniversary, Vice President C.P. Radhakrishnan visited Vijay Ghat to pay homage. He offered floral tributes at Shastri Ji's memorial, honoring his legacy and contributions.

Protests in Delhi-Mumbai Against SIR

Over 1,100 Detained, Including Atishi and Neha Bora; CJP Protests in Mumbai



New Mumbai,(GNS):

Protests have intensified across the country opposing the ongoing Special Summary Revision (SIR) process and demanding the resignation of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar. During a demonstration at Delhi's Jantar Mantar, more than 1,100 protesters, including Aam Aadmi Party leaders Atishi, Saurabh Bharadwaj, and Sanjay Singh, were taken into custody. Police also detained Neha Bora, the National President of the All India Students Association (AISA). Yogendra Yadav and RJD leader Manoj Jha were among those picked up by the police as well. Internet services have been suspended in the area in view of the protest at Jantar Mantar. 12 Metro Stations Near Jantar Mantar Closed: Entry and exit points at 12 metro stations in the vicinity have been closed until further notice. Furthermore, interchange facilities at the Rajiv Chowk Metro Station have been temporarily halted.

Officials stated that prohibitory orders have been

Deepke Says: Gandhi is the

Soul of the Nation, Ambedkar the Spine, Nehru the Brain

Mumbai,(GNS): The Cockroach Janata Party (CJP) held a protest today at Mumbai's Shivaji Park

demanding the resignation of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar. All attendees present on stage arrived wearing T-shirts featuring the photograph of Mahatma Gandhi. During the event, CJP founder Abhijeet Deepke stated:

"Even when the Prime Minister of India visits the United States, it is said there that he comes from the land of Gandhi. Gandhi is the soul of the nation, Ambedkar is the spine, and Nehru is the brain." Speaking to the media during the demonstration, CJP spokesperson Saurabh Das said that the youth and the younger generation across the country had previously taken to the streets demanding the resignation of Dharmendra Pradhan, and the same outcome awaits this time as well.

enforced and additional security personnel deployed to prevent any unauthorized gathering at the Jantar Mantar protest site. Police stated that AAP leader and Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh was stopped at North Avenue, preventing him from advancing toward the demonstration venue. AAP Leaders Sanjay Singh,

Names of missed and new voters to be added in SIR



Highest number of 2 crore names deleted in Maharashtra

New Delhi,(GNS):The Election Commission will run a special campaign in 20 states and Union Territories that have completed the Special Intensive Revision (SIR). In this drive, the names of individuals left out during the SIR process and new voters who have attained 18 years of age will be added to the voter list. The Election Commission issued this instruction in writing on September 29. It was reiterated during a video conference held on Thursday with the Chief Electoral Officers (CEOs) of all states.

The SIR process has been completed in 13 states and Union Territories across the first and second phases.

Atishi, and Saurabh Bharadwaj Detained Meanwhile, the Aam Aadmi Party and other political entities questioned the action taken by the Delhi Police. In a post on X, Saurabh Bharadwaj stated that despite the peaceful nature of the protest, he and Sanjay Jha were taken into custody.

Bombay High Court says: SIR sidelined entire established system

Rebukes Election Commission; says work cannot happen per software ignoring law

Panaji,(GNS):The Goa bench of the Bombay High Court rebuked the Election Commission over the procedure for removing names from voter lists and rejecting Form 8 during SIR. The bench remarked that the primary objective of the Commission is to ensure citizens vote, and this purpose cannot be sidelined. A bench comprising Justice Valmiki Menezes and Justice Amit S. Jamsandekar observed that the SIR procedure is troubling. The court stated that a situation must not arise where operations are governed by software rather than law. A voter must be granted an opportunity of hearing before their name is deleted. The case pertains to six members of a family in the Santa Cruz assembly constituency.



India to buy 114 more Rafales; indigenous weapons to be integrated

Previous deal was for 62; 36 operational now, 26 more in 4 years

New Delhi,(GNS):

India's plan to acquire 114 Rafale fighter jets is progressing. Defense Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh stated that a decision on this project may be taken by the end of this financial year. Proposals received from companies are currently under evaluation. India aims to incorporate maximum indigenous technology into this deal. As per the plan, most of the Rafale jets will be assembled in India. They will be fitted with Indian-made weapons and systems.



The Defense Secretary noted that the French manufacturer has also agreed to integrate Indian weapons into the previously ordered Rafale Marine jets.

India currently operates 36 Rafales. A deal to purchase 26 Rafale-M jets for the Navy was finalized in April 2025, with deliveries expected to conclude by 2030. Thus, in 4 years, the

Indian armed forces will have 62 Rafales in service.

The acquisition will follow the 'Buy and Make' model. Under this framework, assembly and production operations will take place in India in partnership with the Rafale manufacturer.

The procurement process will proceed once the Ministry of Defence completes evaluating the received proposals.

According to the Defense Secretary, a conclusion on this process may be reached by the end of this year.

US deploys warship with 9,000 troops to Middle East

Washington,(GNS): The United States is further increasing its military presence in the Middle East. The US is deploying its warship USS Theodore Roosevelt along with approximately 9,000 troops to the region.

Currently, USS George W. Bush and USS George Washington are already deployed there. With Roosevelt's deployment, there will be three US aircraft carriers stationed in the Middle East by late October.

This movement comes at a time when President Donald Trump has issued fresh warnings of strikes against Iran. He indicated potential strikes on Iran following the midterm elections scheduled for November 3. Earlier, he had also rejected Iran's ceasefire proposal.

US military awaits orders from Trump Al Jazeera quoted a US official stating that 3 US warships and 2 Marine units could be deployed around Iran by late November.

US Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth stated that if President Donald Trump orders military action against Iran, the US military stands ready.



Bhagwat says: If Dharma faces crisis, nation will pay the price

Dharma and nation are not separate; both are interdependent

Mumbai,(GNS): Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) Chief Mohan Bhagwat stated in Mumbai that Dharma and the nation cannot be viewed separately in India. He stated that the nation's purpose is linked with Dharma, and Dharma serves to strengthen the nation. According to him, both are interconnected.

Bhagwat made these remarks while addressing the 14th conference of the Akhil Bharatiya Vihar Seva Samiti. He emphasized that if the nation weakens, Dharma is also impacted, making it a collective responsibility to advance both together.

World grappling with various contradictions: The RSS Chief noted that the world today faces challenges in balancing development with environmental protection, individual freedom with family life, and religious faith with conflict.



PM Modi speaks with Captain Machhar: Indian pilot becomes emotional during call

Says: Lord Hanuman saved us all

New Delhi,(GNS): Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke over the phone on Friday with Flydubai's Indian pilot, Captain Smit Machhar. The Prime Minister praised the bravery of Captain Machhar, whose courage saved the lives of 180 people, including crew members, aboard the Flydubai flight. During the conversation, PM Modi gathered full details of the incident from Captain Machhar, inquired about his experience, and asked how he faced the danger and maintained courage in such difficult circumstances. The Prime Minister wished Captain Smit Machhar a speedy recovery.

Major terror incident averted by Captain Smit Machhar's bravery

On Wednesday, an attempt



was made to crash a flight traveling from Dubai to Tel Aviv, the capital of Israel. The attacker was the aircraft's own co-pilot, who assaulted Indian pilot Captain Smit Machhar with a sharp object. However, despite severe injuries, Captain Machhar courageously opened the cockpit door, enabling several passengers to enter and overpower the assailant. The aircraft was sub-

sequently landed safely. Among the 174 passengers on board during the attack, 150 were Israeli citizens.

Lord Hanuman saved us:

Captain Smit

Speaking to PM Modi, Flydubai Captain Smit Machhar said, "Whenever I face trouble, I recite the Hanuman Chalisa. At that time

as well, I was simply reciting the Hanuman Chalisa. Today,

receiving a call from you makes me feel immensely proud."the Hindi lettering "Kartavya Dwar" was removed from the entrance gate of the new Tiruchirappalli Divisional Railway Office building. In the same month, activists from Dravidian parties blackened the Hindi text spelling "Singanallur" at

Earlier on Thursday, Prime Minister Modi had also praised Captain Smit Machhar in a social media post, writing: "Smit Machhar is a hero. Despite extremely dangerous circumstances and severe injuries, he displayed remarkable courage to save others. His bravery saved hundreds of lives and averted a major tragedy. India is proud of Captain Machhar. We pray for his rapid recovery.

Truck-pickup van collision in Maharashtra's Amravati; 7 dead, 18 injured

People were carrying idol of Goddess Durga

Amravati,(GNS): A tragic road accident occurred on the Samruddhi Expressway in Maharashtra's Amravati district on Friday. A speeding truck rammed into a pickup van from behind, killing 7 people and leaving 18 others severely injured.

According to available information, devotees in the



pickup van were carrying an idol of Goddess Durga. The

pickup was moving at low speed with a trolley attached behind it. During this time, a speeding truck coming from behind hit the trolley forcefully. The impact was so severe that the trolley was completely damaged.

Police take truck driver into custody

Upon receiving information

about the accident, police reached the spot and initiated rescue operations. The police have taken the truck driver into custody. All the injured have been admitted to a hospital in Wardha for treatment.

According to preliminary information, the truck driver misjudged the distance due to the pickup's low speed and the attached trolley, leading to the accident.

Owaisi says SIR is a backdoor NRC

Govt will use same process later for citizenship verification

Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar,(GNS): AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi on Thursday termed SIR a backdoor NRC. He alleged that the BJP government will later turn this process into a citizenship verification check.

Addressing a press conference in Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar, Owaisi said his party has opposed SIR



from the beginning.

Meanwhile, Cockroach Party (CJP) will hold a protest against SIR today in Mumbai. CJP has demanded the resignation of Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar.

Five days ago Owaisi said: Citizenship will go along with voting rights

Earlier on September 27,

Owaisi urged citizens across the country not to take the SIR process lightly. He warned that negligence could deprive people of their voting rights and citizenship. Owaisi stated, "This is not just about losing the right to vote; your citizenship can also be stripped away. Therefore, take this with complete seriousness and attention.

Himachali glory in Nagoya Asian Games

Bhupinder Singh

The 20th Asian Games are being held in Japan from September 19 to October 4, 2026. Held in Aichi Prefecture and Nagoya, Japan, these games will feature events in select cities, including Tokyo, Osaka, Shizuoka, and Gifu, in addition to the main city. The closing ceremony will be held on October 4, 2026. Suman Rawat represented India in the 3000 meter race at the 1986 Asian Games, winning a bronze medal. Four decades later, Seema, a native of remote Chamba, who emerged from Kehar Singh Patiala's training program at the Dharamshala SAI Sports Hostel, has won India's sixth-place finish in the 5000 meter

race and a bronze medal in the 1000 meter race. This athlete's talent was recognized by physical education teacher Hans Raj and brought her to the SAI Dharamshala hostel. Rajendra, a physical education teacher at Aju Senior Secondary School in Jogindernagar, also encouraged Sawan Barwal to pursue running after recognizing his talent in badminton. After that, Sawan came out of Gopal Thakur's training program at Jogindernagar Sub Centre, joined the army and continued his training and with the help of Reliance, first became the national record holder in marathon and now has become the silver medalist of Asian Games. Himachal has dominance in

Kabaddi at the national level. Many physical education teachers have contributed in taking Himachali Kabaddi to the heights, among whom late Hiralal Thakur from Shillai area has done a lot of work. SAIthe sports hostels, SAI Dharamshala's Mehar Chand Verma, and the late Daulat Thakur and later Ratan Thakur at the State Sports Hostel Bilaspur, have put in immense effort. This is why these results are evident to all. Four girls from Himachal Pradesh were selected for the women's kabaddi team for Japan, and Team India defeated Iran in the final to win the gold medal for India. Among the Himachal girls in the gold medal-winning team are Pushpa Rana, from the Shillai area

of Sirmaur district, and she has been appointed captain of the Indian women's kabaddi team this time. This player was groomed by coach Mehar Chand Verma at the Dharamshala SAI Sports Hostel. Ritu Negi, also from Shillai, Sirmaur, is a former captain of the Indian team. Ritu graduated from the Bilaspur State Sports Hostel under Ratan Thakur's tutelage. Jyoti Thakur, a resident of Solan district, also came to the fore at the Dharamshala Sports Hostel under the tutelage of Mehar Chand Verma. Bhavna Thakur, a player from Mandi district, came through Dayaram Chaudhary's training program at the Shirda College Kabaddi Sub-Center in Sundernagar.

These four women players were part of the Indian team at the Japan Games, leading the country to a podium finish. The Indian team won the gold medal in women's cricket. Renuka Singh Thakur of Shimla was a member of the Indian cricket team at the Asian Games. Inugunbi, originally from Manipur and now the wife of Olympic boxer Ashish Chaudhary from Sundernagar, is representing India in the 70-kilogram judo category. Her fight begins today; best wishes to her. The Himachal government has announced cash prizes for the medal winners, but remains silent on providing cash rewards to their coaches. Coaches are the ones who shape the players, so the government

should also honor coaches with cash prizes as per the regulations. The government should also provide cash prizes to medal winners in national and other competitions, which have not been given for several years. Himachal should have a strong presence in the upcoming 2030 Commonwealth Games being held in India and other international games. Therefore, create an inspiring environment for future players by providing cash prizes and other due facilities to the players and their coaches on time after winning the games. Many congratulations to the medal winners at the Japan Asian Games.

Editorial

On tiger reintroduction in West Bengal's Buxa

The first tiger to be reintroduced in West Bengal represents a triumph of bureaucracy, not ecology. After the National Tiger Conservation Authority found no tigers in the Buxa, Dampa, and Palamau reserves by 2018, it mooted a programme with the Bengal Forest Department and the Wildlife Institute of India that has culminated with a royal Bengal tigress caught in Bihar to be released in Buxa. She is the first of seven to be relocated over two years. Buxa is dotted with settlements and surrounded by revenue villages and tea estates. The region already hosts an elephant population routinely threatened by a railway line, with the railways also planning to restore a route to Jainti. Commercial traffic on the Bhutan-West Bengal road through Buxa is another problem. Estates are also notorious for fragmenting the landscape, including migration corridors. The area's forests have turned into dense woodland with a closed canopy, stifling the growth of grasses and causing herbivore populations to dwindle. The density of chitals, tigers' prey, is dismal; goats, macaques and cattle have become more common in tiger diets in place of their preferred ungulates. Since 2018, the collaboration has reintroduced chitals; artificially opened some canopies to help revive grasslands; and relocated villagers from the reserve's core to mitigate human-wildlife conflicts. This last measure is, however, also a window into the cynical character of the reintroduction programme.

Editorials from The Hindu Newspaper

The first tiger to be reintroduced in West Bengal represents a triumph of bureaucracy, not ecology. After the National Tiger Conservation Authority found no tigers in the Buxa, Dampa, and Palamau reserves by 2018, it mooted a programme with the Bengal Forest Department and the Wildlife Institute of India that has culminated with a royal Bengal tigress caught in Bihar to be released in Buxa. She is the first of seven to be relocated over two years. Buxa is dotted with settlements and surrounded by revenue villages and tea estates. The region already hosts an elephant population routinely threatened by a railway line, with the railways also planning to restore a route to Jainti. Commercial traffic on the Bhutan-West Bengal road through Buxa is another problem. Estates are also notorious for fragmenting the landscape, including migration corridors.

That Golden Morning of Service on the Yamuna's Kalindi Kunj Bank

Author: Vinod Singh 'Takiyawala'

A memorable journey that began in an old tourist bus from the National Media Centre on Raisina Road, New Delhi, where the spirit of service associated with Gandhi and Shastri, journalism, and the resolve to protect the Yamuna came together.

It was the first day of October. There was a slight chill in the Delhi morning, a pleasant breeze and soft light spread across the sky. The atmosphere at the National Media Centre on Raisina Road gave us a somewhat different feeling. Away from the usual hustle and bustle, there was a special sense of excitement. The following day, October 2, the country was preparing to observe the birth anniversaries of Mahatma Gandhi, regarded as the Father of the Nation, and former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri. The lives of both great leaders convey messages of service, simplicity, truth, cleanliness and devotion to the nation.

It was in this spirit that I got the opportunity to participate in a cleanliness and service campaign organised by the Ministry of Jal Shakti on the banks of the Yamuna at Kalindi Kunj. For me, this was not merely participation in a government programme. It was an opportunity to stand beside the Yamuna and experience closely my responsibility towards my city, my time and my duties as a citizen.

The message of the 2026 cleanliness campaign is "Participation in Cleanliness, Clean India, Developed India." The campaign, being conducted from September 17 to October 2, seeks to take cleanliness beyond government activities and connect it with public participation and collective responsibility. Voluntary shramdaan, or voluntary physical labour, is an important part of this spirit.

Our journey began from Raisina Road. The most interesting part of the journey was the old tourist bus. It did not quite fit the glittering image of modern Delhi. The bus seemed to be telling the story of its age. It looked tired in places and somewhat worn-out in others. Yet, for those travelling in it that morning, its importance was no less than that of an air-conditioned luxury bus. Perhaps this was because the destination of the bus that day was not tourism, but service.

The bus carried officials, journalists, photojournalists, the driver, support

staff and a few other companions. There was no large convoy and no ostentatious display. Someone had a camera, someone carried a notebook, while others carried concern for the Yamuna in their hearts.

For me, it was a different picture of journalism. Normally, a journalist reaches a place to observe, listen and write about an event. That day, however, we were not merely observers. We were going to become part of the service campaign ourselves. Along with cameras and pens, we also carried the responsibility of physical labour.

Delhi's roads were slowly coming to life. There were milk vans, people heading to work and citizens out for their morning walks. Amid this lively Delhi flowed the Yamuna, the next destination of our journey. Often described as the lifeline of the capital, the river has been a witness to Delhi's history, culture and civilisation for centuries. Empires were established along its banks, settlements grew there and modern Delhi expanded around it.

Today, the Yamuna has also become a test of our environmental awareness and collective responsibility.

When our bus approached the Kalindi Kunj riverbank, there was a different seriousness in the atmosphere. The Yamuna was in front of us and preparations for the cleanliness campaign were underway around us. For a few moments, it felt as though we were not standing at an ordinary programme, but before a river that had sheltered our civilisation for centuries.

It was here that the memory of Gandhi and Shastri naturally became connected with the journey.

For Mahatma Gandhi, cleanliness was not merely a matter of keeping surroundings clean. It was part of social awareness and responsibility in public life. Participating in the cleaning of the Yamuna bank on the eve of October 2 felt like more than simply remembering his ideas; it felt like putting those ideas into action.

The life of Lal Bahadur Shastri presents the same spirit through simplicity and a sense of duty. His life conveys the message that serving the nation does not require occupying a high position. Performing one's responsibilities honestly is also a form of national service.

While working along the Yamuna bank, this thought repeatedly came to mind. We had gloves on our hands, the Yamuna was in front of us and people

around us were engaged in service. For some time, the identities of journalist and official seemed to fade into the background. What mattered was simply being a citizen.

That is the real strength of service. When a person rises above position and identity and considers himself or herself a part of society, shramdaan no longer remains a formality.

Kalindi Kunj has also emerged as an important location for public participation in Yamuna conservation. In September 2025, a "One Day, One Hour, Together" shramdaan programme was organised here under the leadership of the Ministry of Jal Shakti. Union Jal Shakti Minister C. R. Patil and Minister of State V. Somanna participated along with departmental officials, young people, students, non-governmental organisations and representatives of civil society.

This participation shows that the responsibility for river conservation cannot remain limited to government institutions alone.

The Yamuna's challenge is not limited to the garbage visible along its banks. Keeping the river clean requires work at several levels, including sewage treatment, management of drains, monitoring of industrial pollution, proper disposal of solid waste and changes in citizens' behaviour.

The Namami Gange Programme includes efforts related to sewage treatment, river-surface cleaning, biodiversity conservation, afforestation, public awareness and monitoring of industrial waste. According to government figures, by March 2026, 524 projects had been sanctioned under the Namami Gange Programme, of which 355 had been completed. By June 2026, information was provided that sewage treatment capacity of 4,263 million litres per day had been created under the programme.

These figures make it clear that actual river cleaning cannot be limited to removing waste from the surface. Preventing polluted water from entering the river and treating that water is equally important.

Therefore, shramdaan and long-term river conservation cannot be separated from each other. Shramdaan gives citizens a direct experience of their responsibility, while systems such as sewage treatment and pollution control create the foundation for the river's long-term revival.

The participation of students, young people, NGOs, civil society and local communities in the 2025 Kalindi Kunj programme was also an indication of this broader approach. That year, during the Swachhata Hi Seva campaign, the government estimated that more than 18 crore people had participated across the country.

This figure suggests that the message of cleanliness can become lasting only when it moves beyond government programmes and becomes part of society's everyday behaviour.

The Yamuna is not merely Delhi's river. It is part of our cultural memory. Numerous layers of our civilisation developed along its banks. Therefore, keeping the Yamuna clean is not only an environmental issue; it is also a question of our cultural and civic responsibility. Governments can formulate schemes, conduct campaigns and provide resources, but a lasting commitment to keeping the river clean can take shape only through the collective consciousness of society.

That old tourist bus from that morning no longer seems to me to be merely a bus. It has become a memory of the entire journey. The people sitting inside it were travelling towards the Yamuna, and when they returned, each person carried a story of their own experience. nThere were photographs in someone's camera, words in someone's notebook and a question in someone's mind: How long will we continue to leave the responsibility of keeping our rivers clean solely to campaigns?

The garbage accumulated along a riverbank can be removed within a few hours, but changing our attitude towards the river will take time.

True cleanliness will be achieved when, before throwing waste on the banks of the Yamuna, every person pauses for a moment and thinks that they are not merely affecting the river but also the future of generations to come.

That short journey from the National Media Centre to the Kalindi Kunj riverbank became a great memory for me.

The pleasant October morning, the old tourist bus, the officials and journalist colleagues travelling alongside, the clicking of cameras, hands engaged in service and the Yamuna flowing before us—all these elements came together to create an experience that cannot be viewed merely as news.

Why the vandalism in Punjab universities?

Kuldeep Chand Agnihotri

The same student says that this is why he vandalized in anger. But the issue here is even more complicated. The rumor of the imaginary incident about which questions are being asked was also spread as part of a conspiracy... A few days ago , horrific violence and vandalism occurred simultaneously at two private universities in Punjab. The investigation is ongoing, so it's difficult to say anything about it right now. However, one aspect of this investigation appears to be connected to Arvind Kejriwal's actions from several years ago. When Kejriwal was strategizing his future political career at Delhi's Ramlila Maidan by championing Maharashtra's Anna Hazare, some people accused him of trying to spread anarchy. Kejriwal responded by saying that he was indeed trying to spread anarchy. He had gained power in Delhi thanks to this strategy, and Kejriwal surely believes so.

Now, turning to Punjab, Kejriwal's party's power in Punjab is in danger. It is believed that whatever the results of the upcoming Punjab Assembly elections, whatever the government, Kejriwal will be out of power. He still wants to remain relevant in Punjab politics. If he remains relevant, he will get a seat at the INC meeting in Delhi, or else he will lose his seat there as well. Is a game of anarchy being played out in Punjab, just like in Delhi, to remain relevant? Can the violence and chaos at two universities in Punjab be seen against this backdrop? Another related question is why universities were chosen for the anarchy experiment. A simple and straightforward answer to this question is that the owner of one university was a Rajya Sabha member from the Aam Aadmi Party, but later broke away from the Aam Aadmi Party and joined the Bharatiya Janata Party, making it necessary to punish him.

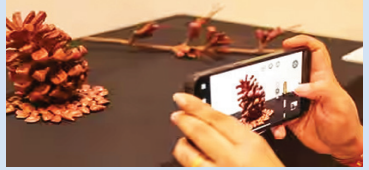
This is the politics of comfort. But politics isn't just about comfort. Comfort can be a small part of it. Even if we assume that the disturbance at Ashok Mittal's university was solely about comfort, we still have to explore the larger aspects of this politics. Doesn't a part of this politics somehow connect to the cockroaches' disturbance at Jantar Mantar? If students take to the streets at any university, no matter which state it's in, it connects with the student movement in the broader context of the country.

The student context isn't regional; it always connects, or can be connected, to an all-India context. Ever since the cockroaches became active at Jantar Mantar, there has been a heated discussion that these cockroaches had been seen roaming around Arvind Kejriwal for a long time. Perhaps Kejriwal himself released them at Jantar Mantar in a new form, finding the right time. The biggest success was that

these cockroaches were linked to the country's youth and university students, and this experiment even led to the resignation of the country's Education Minister. Is the unrest in two universities in Punjab another part of this experiment? One might ask, what benefit could there be from conducting this experiment in Punjab, since Kejriwal is already in power there. This could only harm Kejriwal's government. But it's possible that these students who were causing the disturbance would have been declared Gen-G and, in a broader context, linked to nationwide student unrest. Therefore, an investigation into this entire incident is absolutely necessary. An impartial investigation is even more important because suspicions are being raised about the role of the police in this 'anarchy'. The rape incident that caused so much uproar has now disappeared. It is being said that it was only a rumor. Who spread the rumor that led

to the violence? It can't have been one person. After spreading the rumour, a complete network is needed to know how to harvest the crop that has grown from it. This work cannot be done without a network. How did the police allow people disguised as students to enter the university to spread rumors and vandalize the space created by their spread? These are questions that are being sought to be hidden rather than answered. A post from that day by a boy from Jammu and Kashmir is surfacing, in which he essentially says that the question is not so simple. The real issue is the "right to ask questions." We are not being allowed to ask questions. Asking questions is being restricted. Rahul Gandhi also uses this language. He too is roaming around the country claiming that he is not allowed to ask questions. The same student says that this is why he vandalized in anger.

BRIFF NEWS

Ecology to aspiration:
Art reflects the many
faces of paradise

New Delhi, Agency:

Characterised by a quiet, unhurried pace, the quaint village of Salogra in Himachal Pradesh's Solan district became a temporary creative home for six artists. Over two weeks, they lived in the same space at the art residency, worked and exchanged ideas across different mediums, perspectives and practices as they explored the theme of Paradise Promised, later presented at Bikaner House.

The exhibition, which concluded last month, marked the debut of art collector and advisor Teesta Bhandare's The Knowledge Convergence Foundation (TKCF), bringing to Delhi works that emerged from its inaugural multidisciplinary and multigenerational residency programme.

The programme brought together artists Rekha Hebbbar Rao, Veer Munshi, Kodanda Rao Teppala, Sheena Maria Piedade, Digbijayee Khatua and Dhiraj Pednekar, along with curatorial advisor Lina Vincent. It invited the artists to look at paradise not simply as an ideal, but as a promise that shapes individual aspirations and collective realities. Given their varied practices, they responded to the theme through their own experiences, opening up questions of ecology, belonging, displacement, memory and aspiration.

Moving away from the commerciality of art

The residency was designed to give artists time and space to experiment, away from the usual demands of everyday life and of the commercial art ecosystem. Talking about it, Teesta told us, "It's interesting because the concept allows us to engage directly with a lot of artists, and helps us get to know the thoughts that shape their practice."

Ganja worth Rs 1.55 crore
seized at IGI Airport, Indian
passenger arrested

New Delhi, Agency:

Customs officials at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport have foiled an alleged smuggling attempt and seized 4.43 kg of suspected ganja worth around Rs. 1.55 crore from an Indian passenger arriving from Hanoi, Vietnam.

According to the Customs Department, the passenger arrived at Terminal 3 on September 29. Based on profiling, Customs officers intercepted the passenger and diverted him to the Green Channel for examination.

During the examination of his travel bag, officers found four polythene pouches containing suspected ganja/marijuana. The substance had a net weight of 4,435.5 grams and was valued at approximately Rs 1.552 crore.

The passenger was arrested under Section 43(B) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985, while the suspected contraband was seized under Section 43(A) of the Act.

From vehicle seizure to licence suspension: What happens if you don't pay traffic challans

New Delhi, Agency: Ignoring traffic challans could soon mean more than just an unpaid fine. The Supreme Court has directed states and Union territories to take stringent action against vehicles with pending e-challans, including impounding them and blocking several online services until the dues are cleared.

A bench of Justices J B Pardiwala and K V Viswanathan said simply issuing e-challans was not enough, noting that nearly 47% of challans issued across the country remain unpaid.

The court directed authorities to carry out random checks and impound vehicles if they are found to have outstanding e-challans.

RC, fitness, PUC services may be blocked

The Supreme Court said online services for vehicles with



unpaid traffic fines should be frozen. Authorities should bar renewal of registration certificates (RCs), issuance of duplicate RCs and requests to update the owner's address until pending fines are cleared.

The court also directed authorities to deny fitness certificates to such vehicles and blacklist them on the Parivahan portal.

The restrictions could also affect vehicle ownership transfers. The court said authorities should block the transfer of ownership of vehicles with outstanding challans, potentially preventing owners from selling them.

Most significantly, the bench directed that no centre should be permitted to issue a pollution under control (PUC) certificate

for vehicles with pending traffic fines.

Driving licence action for multiple violations

The Supreme Court also called for action against repeat offenders. For multiple traffic violations, authorities should stop renewal of the driving licence and take steps to suspend licences that are currently valid, the bench said.

"Let there be random checking of vehicles, and if it is found that the e-challan issued has not been abided or honoured, necessary steps shall be taken to impound the vehicle itself," the court said.

Pulling up authorities for failing to recover pending fines, the bench said issuing lakhs of e-challans was not enough and questioned what was being done to actually recover the money.

Rs 49,194 crore in challans pending recovery

The court was informed that states and UTs have around Rs 49,194 crore to recover from e-challans issued over a period of time. Of this, around Rs 26,175 crore has been recovered, leaving a substantial amount still outstanding.

The bench said authorities needed to work at the ground level and take into account the realities of enforcement.

"We want to convey something to states/UTs/authorities in a plain and simple manner. It is not just sufficient to keep issuing e-challans to the person who is alleged to have violated the provisions of the law," the court said.

The case has been before the Supreme Court for nearly 14 years, after the writ petition was filed in 2012.

Delhi MCD Mayor, Russian envoy pay floral tributes to Bapu

New Delhi, Agency: The Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) organised a Gandhi Jayanti mela at its Civic Centre headquarters on Thursday to mark the 157th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, with Mayor Praveesh Wahi and Russian Ambassador Denis Alipov paying floral tributes and participating in a charkha-spinning session.

Wahi and Alipov paid floral tributes to Gandhi at his statue before taking part in the 'Akhand Charkha Yajna' along with MCD Commissioner Sanjeev Khirwar. Visitors also tried their hand at the spinning wheel during the event.

Addressing the gathering, Wahi said Gandhi had shown the path of truth and non-violence and his philosophy continued to remain relevant. He said Gandhi's concepts of Swadeshi and Swaraj would continue to inspire generations.

Wahi also said on Gandhi



Jayanti, people should pledge to ensure access to quality education, healthcare and other essential amenities for every individual in society.

Alipov said Gandhi's message of truth, non-violence and human dignity was significant for the entire world. He congratulated the MCD for organising the fair.

The mela featured a photo exhibition on Gandhi and Russian writer and philosopher Leo Tolstoy, besides stalls showcasing products and services.

Several Delhi Metro stations shut, Section 163 imposed ahead of proposed protest against CEC

New Delhi, Agency:

Entry and exit at 11 Metro stations in the New Delhi area will remain closed till further notice, while prohibitory orders under Section 163 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) have been imposed across the New Delhi district ahead of a proposed protest at Jantar Mantar against Chief E l e c t i o n C o m m i s s i o n e r Gyanesh Kumar, police said on Friday.

The restrictions have been put in place to ensure public safety,



maintain public order and facilitate smooth traffic movement.

The stations where entry and exit have been closed are Janpath, Patel Chowk, Central Secretariat, Rajiv Chowk, Seva Teerth, Mandi House, Lok Kalyan Marg, INA, Chawri Bazar, Ramakrishna Ashram

Marg and New Delhi. Interchange facilities, however, will remain available at Rajiv Chowk, Mandi House, INA, New Delhi and Central Secretariat stations. Under the prohibitory order, public meetings, or assemblies of five or more persons, processions, demonstrations, pick-

eting, and dharnas have been prohibited without prior written permission. Shouting slogans or making speeches has also been barred.

The order also prohibits carrying firearms, banners, placards, lathis, swords, sticks, brick-bats or similar articles without prior permission.

Police have advised citizens, visitors and other stakeholders to strictly comply with the restrictions and refrain from any unauthorised gathering or prohibited activity.

A traffic system that thinks: What Delhi can expect over next 2 years

New Delhi, Agency: A day after Integrated Traffic Management System (ITMS) got Union Cabinet nod, Media's looks at tentative timelines and some of the key features planned under the system and what they could mean for Delhi's daily commute.

1. What may change if plans move from paper to road Smarter signals, adaptive traffic control systems

If one road has a long queue and another is relatively empty, the signal can automatically give more green



time to the congested side If a main corridor is designed for 50 kmph, signals can be timed to support that movement, while feeder roads with lower traffic volumes get shorter green phases Signals that talk to each other If a vehicle gets a green light at one junction, the

next signal can be timed to turn green as the vehicle approaches, helping traffic move with fewer stops Jam or accident? Detect it

If traffic suddenly slows because of an accident or a stalled vehicle, cameras can detect the disruption and alert the traffic control centre.

Ambulance on way: Clear the road The system can detect the emergency vehicle, likely through the audio and adjust the signal to give it a clear passage through the intersection.

DPCC centre combines tech tools to check pollution

New Delhi, Agency:

A new 24x7 command centre of Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) in Shastri Park has brought together AI-based analysis, live CCTV feeds, AQI data, GPS tracking of road-sweeping machines and field-team movements on a single platform to tackle air pollution in the city. Launched by chief minister Rekha Gupta Thursday, Integrated Command and Control Centre (ICCC) will monitor more than 700 construction sites, identify pollution hotspots and violations, and trigger field action by 78 sub-division-level teams.

Described by Delhi govt as a "war room" for the winter months, the centre will integrate pollution data, complaints and field inspections to ensure quick-

er enforcement and measurable outcomes. The initiative is aimed at strengthening pollution control through technology and public participation and preventing the need for stringent measures such as GRAP Stage-IV.

Govt has also launched a Jan Suggestion portal to increase public participation in pollution control. Residents can submit complaints, suggestions, information about pollution-related concerns and details of initiatives helping reduce pollution.

ICCC will serve as the nerve centre of environmental action, not just a control room, CM said, adding that govt's focus in tackling Delhi's pollution challenge is not limited to monitoring. "Its priority is to bring technology, data and field enforcement together to ensure prompt action.

The core principle of the entire system is 'detect, analyse, act, verify' - identify the problem, analyse it, take immediate action and verify the outcome."

The centre will provide a direct link between technology-based detection and field enforcement. Once a pollution hotspot is identified, the department concerned will be alerted, while the movement of field teams will be monitored through GPS-enabled vehicles.

The system will also integrate field monitoring of road dust, open waste burning and construction activities. Local Vayudoot teams will identify pollution-causing activities, with their body cameras connected to the command centre to enable real-time monitoring of inspections and enforcement.

Why is Barapullah Phase III choking Delhi traffic: Sharp merges, bottlenecks and design flaws



New Delhi, Agency: Twelve years after work began and barely two days after Barapullah Phase III corridor opened, Delhi is back at the drawing board.

The traffic chaos on the new stretch has prompted Delhi Traffic Police to examine not just the freshly inaugurated section but the design of the entire Barapullah corridor.

A drone survey and joint meeting with PWD have now put the corridor's lane configuration, merging points and traffic flow under the scanner.

The problem became clear on Wednesday morning. Thousands of motorists followed the new route, expecting the promised 15-minute journey between Mayur Vihar and INA. Instead, many found themselves crawling for two hours or more.

The congestion continued Thursday, with some motorists who had used the route a day earlier choosing to stay away, while those who tried it again found themselves in another jam. The frustration soon moved online.

2 days on, Ph-3 chaos throws updesign flaws in entire Barapullah Barapullah fix? Barricades or cones to create tapered, smoother merge A commuter posted, "The fly-

over is a total mess. Five-km traffic jam today also. Traffic stuck for hours. God forbid, for emergency someone cannot even take a detour anywhere. This is a PUBLIC HAZ-ARD. Needs to be closed ASAP."

Traffic police's first finding was the new road was not the whole problem. Some of the trouble was waiting further down. The new corridor has three lanes, but these eventually feed into the two-lane existing Barapullah stretch. That sudden reduction becomes particularly problematic when traffic volumes surge.

The exercise has helped officials identify specific points where the flow can be improved without waiting for another major construction project.

The survey found a significant mismatch in lane capacity at key merging points, with multiple streams of traffic converging towards the existing Barapullah flyover, which has comparatively less capacity. At key points, more traffic is being funnelled into a road with less capacity. The most significant bottleneck identified so far is near Sarai Kale Khan close to the loop around Sundial Park, where traffic coming from the loop joins the new Barapullah elevated stretch.

BRIFF NEWS

Students join Yamuna clean up campaign



New Delhi, Agency: Delhi's efforts to clean the Yamuna are set to move beyond government projects, with the administration turning to college students to widen public participation in the campaign.

Chief Minister Rekha Gupta on Thursday launched the 'Main Bhi Yamuna Prahari' app at the Delhi University Sports Complex under the Seva Sankalp Abhiyan. Registration on the app also began, with the government seeking to involve students, teachers, social organisations and citizens in efforts to clean and protect the river.

The first major public engagement is planned for October 18, when thousands of students from 30 Delhi University colleges will take a collective pledge to keep the Yamuna clean and protect it.

Gupta urged students to carry the message beyond the event to their families and communities. She said cleaning the Yamuna could not be the government's responsibility alone and that public participation and changes in everyday behaviour were necessary to turn the effort into a mass movement.

The government's outreach comes alongside infrastructure measures aimed at reducing the flow of sewage into the river. Union Minister of State Harsh Malhotra said more than Rs 3,000 crore had been allocated for the clean-up plan. He said the tender process for sewage treatment plants at the outlets of 22 major drains flowing into the Yamuna had been completed, with construction already under way at 12 locations.

Gupta also pointed to practices such as immersing pooja material, flowers, garlands and damaged idols in the river, saying these added to the pressure on the Yamuna.

MP Praveen Khandelwal to host daily Navratri falahar gatherings



New Delhi, Agency: Chandni Chowk MP Praveen Khandelwal will organise daily community falahar gatherings at his residence during Navratri, inviting people from different sections of society to participate in the spiritual and social events.

Khandelwal said an idol representing the form of Goddess Durga worshipped each day would be ceremonially installed and worshipped before the gathering. He said such initiatives could make Navratri a broader platform for social harmony, cultural awareness and national unity, beyond its religious significance.

"Navratri should become a national movement for social harmony," Khandelwal said, adding that the festival reflected the values of self-discipline, service, social cohesion and cultural awakening. He said community falahar gatherings could bring together people from different backgrounds and age groups, providing an opportunity for interaction and strengthening social bonds. Sharing prasad and falahar, he added, could reinforce the values of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam and Sarve Bhavantu Sukhinah.

RML recalls 10 drug batches after quality failures, defects

New Delhi, Agency: Medicines such as sodium valproate, spironolactone, imipramine, metoprolol and methyl ergometrine -- used to treat seizures, heart conditions, depression and postpartum bleeding -- have been pulled from use at Dr Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital after 10 batches were either found to be "Not of Standard Quality" or reported to have physical defects.

RML is run by central govt. The hospital's inventory management section directed departments and wards to immediately stop using the affected batches and return them to the respective drug units, according to four notices issued between Sept 7 and 14.

In a notice dated Sept 14, the hospital's oral and topical drug unit said three tablet batches had failed analytical testing and were found to be "Not of Standard Quality". These included sodium valproate gastro-resistant 200



mg, spironolactone 50 mg and imipramine 25 mg.

The same day, the hospital's injectable drug unit issued an urgent recall for five batches of injectable medicines after they too failed analytical testing and were declared "Not of Standard Quality". The medicines included adenosine, methyl ergometrine, multivitamin injection, pheniramine maleate and ascorbic acid.

The notices also flagged physical defects in two batches of tablets. In a notice dated Sept 9, the hospital reported that isosorbide mononitrate 20 mg tablets were found in powder form within the strip. The affected batch, ABT6711, was manufactured by Glowson India Labs Pvt Ltd, with a manufacturing date of July 2026 and expiry date of June 2028. Departments were asked to stop using the batch and return it

to the store within three days.

A similar defect was reported in metoprolol 50 mg tablets in a Sept 7 notice. The hospital said tablets from batch ABT6608, also manufactured by Glowson India Labs Pvt Ltd, were found in powder form within the strip, and ordered their withdrawal and return.

According to RML officials, some samples of medicines were supplied by M/s Jackson Laboratories Pvt Ltd.

The affected medicines have a range of clinical uses. Sodium valproate is used for seizure disorders, spironolactone for conditions including heart failure and fluid retention, metoprolol for hypertension and heart-related conditions, adenosine for certain rapid heart rhythms, while methyl ergometrine is used to control bleeding after childbirth.

The Sept 14 recall notices asked departments to return the affected batches to the drug units by Sept 18, while the notices on

the defective tablets instructed departments to return the medicines within three days with proper documentation.

The RML administration said following the test results, the hospital initiated the recall process and issued recall letters for the identified medicines. All concerned units were advised to immediately stop using the affected medicines and report any patient-related problems, if observed.

The hospital said as of now, no severe adverse effect had been reported by end users in relation to the affected medicines. "The hospital has made interim arrangements to ensure the availability of alternative medicines and avoid any disruption in patient care. The situation is being closely monitored and all necessary measures are being taken in accordance with established drug quality and patient-safety protocols," an RML official said.

James, Dolly take the beat: Delhi cops patrol Ridge on horseback

New Delhi, Agency: The beat is green, the terrain is rugged and the newest faces on patrol have four legs each. Meet James and Dolly, Delhi Police's mounted companions who are now galloping through the rocky paths of the Kamla Nehru Ridge, their riders keeping a watch over one of the Capital's largest green spaces. The sight of uniformed personnel on horseback moving through the Ridge offers a throwback to traditional policing while serving a practical purpose: mounted patrols can cover stretches of uneven and narrow terrain that may be difficult to access by vehicles.

The move comes at a time when the safety of Delhi's parks has come under increased scrutiny following the alleged gangrape of a 17-year-old girl at Aastha Kunj Park in southeast Delhi earlier this month. The incident prompted the Delhi Police to intensify patrolling



in parks and isolated stretches and identify vulnerable spots across the Capital. According to officials, a mounted policeman can move deeper into such areas and cover pathways inaccessible to patrol vehicles.

The elevated position of a rider also gives the personnel a wider field of view, while the presence of the horses makes the patrol difficult to miss. The Kamla Nehru Ridge presents a particularly distinctive policing challenge.

Rohini sports complex opens with focus on access, hockey and student facilities

New Delhi, Agency:

A new sports facility in Rohini's Sector 33 opened on Wednesday with a mix of public sports infrastructure, a hockey tournament and an expansion plan for a library used by students, bringing together two of the city's growing demands: accessible recreation and affordable study space.

Delhi Lieutenant Governor (L-G) Taranjit Singh Sandhu inaugurated the DDA Sports Complex, spread over about 8.11 hectares with a built-up area of nearly



10,974 square metres. He also laid the foundation stone for an Electric Vehicle charging station at the complex.

The facility has six synthetic lawn tennis courts, two basketball courts, netball and volleyball courts, a skating rink, cricket

ground and practice nets, a football-cum-hockey ground and a jogging track. Indoor facilities include table tennis, yoga, aerobics and a gymnasium, besides multipurpose halls.

The complex will initially operate on a Pay & Play basis,

allowing people to use the facilities. Memberships will be opened later.

Sandhu also announced the LG Cup for Hockey, scheduled from October 9 to 18, aimed at encouraging young athletes and participation in team sports.

Delhi govt adds MLA nod requirement for senior citizens' welfare scheme

New Delhi, Agency: Organisations seeking financial assistance under Delhi govt's Vayo Anand scheme for senior citizens will have to submit an MLA's recommendation along with their applications under eligibility conditions for 2026-27. The scheme aims to promote social engagement among senior citizens by providing grant-in-aid to welfare organisations and recreation centres. Eligible organisations receive Rs 2.4 lakh annually, or Rs 20,000 a month, to support recreational activities and community

engagement programmes for senior citizens.

Delhi govt has allocated Rs 25 crore for the scheme in the 2026-27 budget.

Govt has invited applications from eligible organisations for grant-in-aid under the scheme for the current financial year. Applications will be considered subject to fulfilment of eligibility criteria, inspection and approval by the competent authority. The last date for submission is Oct 30.

Under the norms, an MLA's recommendation has

been included both as an eligibility criterion and a mandatory supporting document. Applicant organisations must be registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860, have at least 200 members aged 60 years or above, be located in Delhi, and operate from a govt or private community facility rather than residential premises.

Delhi govt spokesperson and Moti Nagar MLA Harish Khurana said the recommendation requirement would provide an additional layer of scrutiny.

HC upholds eviction of daughter-in-law from elder-

New Delhi, Agency: Upholding the powers of a district magistrate to order eviction of a son, daughter or legal heir from a senior citizen's property in cases of non-maintenance and ill-treatment, Delhi High Court has dismissed a plea by a woman challenging her eviction under Delhi Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Rules, 2009.

A bench of Chief Justice DK Upadhyaya and Justice Tejas Karia in a recent order noted that the eviction provisions under the rules are within the framework of Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007, and the provisions derive their authority from the parent Act, which requires state govts to chalk out a comprehensive action plan for protection of the life and property of senior citi-

zens.

The observations came while dismissing a plea filed by a daughter-in-law challenging an order of the divisional commissioner directing her to vacate the property of her mother-in-law, a senior citizen.

HC rejected the petitioner's challenge to the validity of the 2009 rules and also the argument that an eviction application could not be filed unless the senior citizen had also sought maintenance. The court pointed out that a senior citizen can approach the DM for eviction where the requirements of non-maintenance and ill-treatment are established. The bench said that on account of marital discord between the petitioner and her husband, if the mother-in-law is "otherwise entitled to live peacefully and not haunted by the mat-

rimonial discord... in our opinion, the order of eviction... has rightly been passed".

The petitioner earlier moved court under Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005, seeking a residence order in respect of the shared household. Her mother-in-law subsequently initiated proceedings under the 2007 Act for her eviction, citing harassment.

HC clarified that the protection available to a woman under Domestic Violence Act cannot simply be overridden through the summary procedure under Senior Citizens Act, but it found merit in the conclusion of the state authorities in the current case that the petitioner was working as a postgraduate teacher, had a substantial income and a separate house at Bahadurgarh.

In 90-strong classroom, students told to stagger attendance, says activist's letter

New Delhi, Agency: The recurring problem of overcrowded classrooms in Delhi govt schools is back in focus. In a letter to the Delhi education department, an education activist has sought "urgent intervention" to limit the "excessively high student-classroom ratio" in several govt schools, particularly in east Delhi. According to the letter, the problem is in several schools. Some class sections have 70-80 students and, in certain cases, close to 90 students read in the same class.

"The situation is particularly serious in senior secondary classes (XI and XII), where the student-classroom ratio remains exceptionally high, especially in classes involving subjects such as physics, chemistry and biology," education activist and lawyer Ashok Agarwal, who has written the letter, said.

He added that a shortage of subject teachers and the lack of additional sections were affecting students.

The concern is not new or confined to east Delhi. Overcrowding has repeatedly surfaced in govt schools in northeast Delhi too, where high enrolment and limited classroom capacity have prompted schools to go for double shifts, repurpose libraries and other spaces and, in some cases, stagger attendance.

A Media ground report from northeast Delhi in Sept 2024 found that the pressure was affecting how often some children could attend school. At the time, DoE figures showed just 48 govt schools catering to 1,32,607 students in the district.

According to officials, in 2023, data submitted by the directorate of education to Delhi High Court showed that 14 schools examined in northeast Delhi had 31,251 students and 374 classrooms, with an average student-classroom ratio of 83.5:1.



The figures varied sharply, reaching 190 students per classroom at Government Co-ed Middle School, Johripur, while two schools at Sabhapur had ratios of 102:1 and 109:1, officials said. Little had changed since then.

A student of a govt school in Tukhmipur said, "When I had joined the school in Class XI, I was told at the outset that I would have to attend classes only on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays."

Another student of a Khajuri Khas school said: "There are so many students in our school that many times, some have to sit in the library."

An education department official said infrastructure expansion was under way in some of the affected areas. "Govt is planning pucca school buildings on vacant plots in Nand Nagri, Mandoli, New Usmanpur, Johripur and Geeta Colony, with the five projects estimated to cost around Rs 165 crore. Apart from that, many more school buildings are in the pipeline, which would solve such problems."

The pressure has also intersected with teacher shortages in some schools. In Aug this year, students at a Khajuri Khas govt school alleged that more than 200 students in Classes XI and XII had been affected by the absence of a regular chemistry teacher, with each of the four sections having around 50-55 students.