

GARVI GUJARAT

PRGI No. GUJENG/2014/57876

GARVI GUJARAT

PUBLISHED ENGLISH DAILY FROM AHMEDABAD

Volume.13
Issue:102
Dt. 15-11-2026
Sunday
Pages-04
Rs.00.50 paisa
AHMEDABAD EDITION

Rahul Said: Want to Make Gig Workers Partners, Not Laborers

BJP is benefiting billionaires; sat behind a woman rider during a rally



Hyderabad, Agency: Addressing a gathering in Hyderabad on Saturday, Rahul Gandhi stated that the BJP wants to turn gig workers into bonded laborers. He alleged that the BJP wants to make them work 24 hours a day to benefit billionaires like Ambani and Adani, whereas the Congress wants to make them partners and secure their families' futures with education and safety. Rahul announced welfare schemes for gig workers in Telangana while addressing delivery executives, cab drivers, and other app-based service workers.Rahul stated that accidents and illnesses cause losses and distress to families. Therefore, the Telangana government is introducing accident insurance of 5 lakh and health insurance of 10 lakh for every gig worker.He added that 1% of every transaction in ride deliveries will go directly into the worker's bank account for their future, funded by the company.

9 Lakh Each to Families of Kaziranga Road Accident Victims: Himanta Biswa Sarma



Guwahati, Agency: Assam Chief Minister Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma announced financial assistance of 9 lakh each to the families of the 26 people who lost their lives in a tragic road accident in Kaziranga's Rangajan. The Chief Minister made the announcement after inspecting the accident site on Saturday.

The Chief Minister stated that each victim's family will receive 5 lakh from the Chief Minister's Relief Fund and 2 lakh from the Revenue Department, alongside 2,00,000 previously announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, totaling 9 lakh per family.

Dr. Sarma stated that a detailed probe will be conducted into the circumstances and causes of the accident, assuring medical treatment and full support for the injured.

The Chief Minister stressed that strict enforcement of traffic rules is essential to curb road accidents. Explaining that rule enforcement had been relaxed due to public pushback, he noted a recent surge in severe road accidents, prompting the government to reimpose strict traffic regulations.

He stated that all aspects of the accident will be investigated and necessary measures taken to prevent recurrences.

India beat Pakistan by one wicket to win the Under-19 Asia Cup title



Al Amerat, Agency: The Indian Under-19 cricket team crossed all limits of excitement on Saturday and won the 2026 ACC Men's Under-19 Asia Cup title by defeating arch-rivals Pakistan by one wicket. In the final played at the Al Amerat Cricket Ground, India achieved the huge target of 338 runs in the last over. The Indian team won the match by scoring 339 runs for nine wickets.

Mohit Ulwa and Manal Chauhan played a key role in this memorable victory for India. Ulwa scored an unbeaten 49 runs in 26 balls with the help of five fours and three sixes under pressure and took the team to the target. Chigurupati Venkat provided crucial support with an unbeaten 11 off eight balls.

Pakistan, who won the toss and elected to bat first, scored 337 for nine in their 50 overs. Usman Khan batted brilliantly, scoring a century off 111 balls, hitting 11 fours and three sixes. Abdul Qadir added quick runs, scoring 80 off 54 balls, including eight sixes and three fours.

Pakistan captain Farhan Yousuf also contributed 63 off 60 balls, while Ahmed Hussain scored 17 runs. Kavya Patel was the most successful bowler for India, taking four wickets for 68 runs. Chigurupati Venkat also took three wickets.

Chasing the target of 338, India's captain, Rajesh Raichandani, provided a steady start. He scored 80 off 101 balls. Aryavir Sehwag contributed 58 runs off 61 balls. Manal Chauhan kept India's hopes of victory alive with an aggressive 47 runs off 32 balls.

However, wickets fell at regular intervals, putting the Indian team under pressure. In such a difficult situation, Mohit Ulva's aggressive batting turned the match around. He scored an unbeaten 49 runs to take India to the brink of victory. Chigurupati Venkat also supported him till the end, and India achieved the target in the last over. For Pakistan, Rizwanullah took three wickets, while Nikab Shafiq took two.

Snowfall in Jammu & Kashmir and Himachal: Traffic Jam on Chandigarh-Manali Highway

Rain alert in UP, Rajasthan, and Uttarakhand; Delhi AQI reaches 414

New Delhi, Agency: Weather patterns have shifted across several states due to the impact of a Western Disturbance. A yellow alert for rain has been issued for Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan for today and tomorrow, while parts of Jammu & Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh have witnessed rain and snowfall.Following the snowfall, a large number of tourists are heading to Manali, resulting in traffic jams on the Chandigarh-Manali Highway. An alert for rain and snow has also been issued for 7 districts in Uttarakhand.Amid the shifting weather, Delhi-NCR has found no relief from pollution, with air quality remaining in the severe category. On Saturday morning, the AQI in Delhi's Anand Vihar area was recorded at 414, while it stood at 324 in Gurugram.

Likelihood of a New Cyclone; Satellite Map Captures Cloud Activity:ISRO's INSAT-3DS satellite has captured intense cloud activity over the Andaman Sea, indicating the formation of a low-pressure area that could develop into a new cyclone. If formed, it will be named 'Aakwan', a name suggested by Iran.

IAF Wing Commander Demanded Nude Photos from Pakistani Woman Spy

Sent Fighter Jet Locations in Return, Reveals Charge Sheet; Caught with iPhone in Office



New Delhi, Agency: An Indian Air Force (IAF) Wing Commander allegedly compromised national security secrets by handing them over to Pakistan in exchange for nude photographs. The actions of the officer, arrested five months ago, have now been exposed through a charge sheet filed in court.

According to the charge sheet, the Wing Commander leaked information regarding the deployment of combat fighters in Leh, military exercises in Rajasthan, and drone unit capabilities. He also shared document pages detailing potential army troop placements during wartime, allegedly promising a new page of war plans for every nude photo received.

The Special Cell of the Delhi Police has filed the charge sheet in the case. The accused, Wing Commander Manorath Singh Sabharwal, was arrested in August 2026. Patiala House Court has ordered his production in court on December 5.

Operated WhatsApp Using a Gujarati SIM Card: Police scoured WhatsApp chats between the two, recovering 3,0008 messages, 65 photos, 65 reactions, 42 calls, 4 video calls, and 6 links, as revealed in the charge sheet filed by the Counter Intelligence Agency of the Delhi Police's Special Cell at Patiala House Court.

Second Earthquake in Khargone, MP within 25 Days

Khargone, Agency: Tremors were felt in Madhya Pradesh's Khargone district for the second time within 25 days. The earthquake struck at 9:15 AM on Saturday with a magnitude of 4.5 on the Richter scale, causing ground vibrations for about 3 to 4 seconds. The epicenter was reported in the Satpura region along the Madhya Pradesh-Maharashtra border, located about 35 kilometers from the Khargone district headquarters and 10 kilometers beneath the surface.Earlier, on October 18 at 12:14 PM, a 4.1 magnitude earthquake had occurred with a 10-kilometer focal depth. Saturday's tremors were felt in border areas including Khargone, Sendhwa, Khandwa, Burhanpur, and Bhikangaon. According to the National Center for Seismology, panic.



States Must Increase Their Share in India's Economic Growth

Prahlad Sabnani

To make India a developed nation by 2047, all states must increase their contribution to the country's economic growth, particularly those whose growth rates are below the national average. India needs to achieve an average annual economic growth rate of 10 per cent to become a developed nation by 2047.

In terms of population, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan are currently among India's largest states. However, during the 1980s, these states were collectively described as the 'BIMARU' states because they had very large populations and relatively low rates of economic growth. Four out of every ten Indians lived in these states. Their comparatively slow economic growth also resulted in very low per capita incomes.

In 2000-01, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan together accounted for 22 per cent of India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP). This share declined to 21 per cent in 2034-24. Over the past nearly 25 years, the contribution of these four large states to the country's GDP has remained almost at the same level. This should be a matter of concern. If the largest states do not increase their contribution to India's economic growth, how can the country become a developed nation? Therefore, accelerating economic growth in these four states has now become an essential necessity.

An examination of per capita income figures for 2024-25 highlights the disparity. India's per capita income stood at Rs 234,859 annually, while Bihar's was Rs 76,000. In Uttar Pradesh, it was Rs 126,304, in Madhya Pradesh Rs 170,320 and in Rajasthan Rs 206,440. India's per capita income was three times that of Bihar and almost twice that of Uttar Pradesh. It was also considerably higher than the per capita incomes of Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. The unemployment rate across India was 5.1 per cent, while it stood at 7.7 per cent in Rajasthan and 7.3 per cent in Bihar. Migration from Bihar and Uttar Pradesh to other states in search of employment accounts for 37 per cent of all inter-state migration in the country. This means that 37 per cent of people moving from one state to another for work come from these two states. The reason is that adequate employment opportunities are not being created locally, compelling people to migrate to other states in search of jobs. These circumstances were among the reasons why the four states came to be described as BIMARU states.

Editorial

Disband the fraud SIR

It is gradually becoming clear that the "Special Intensive Revision" (SIR) conducted or currently underway in the name of voter list purification is inaccurate, contradictory, and fraudulent. Even the ruling BJP is falling victim to this. In the 13 states and union territories where SIR has been conducted, the process has been labeled a "fraud," but this has been dismissed as "political blather" by the opposition. Now, Uttar Pradesh's BJP Chief Minister, Yogi Adityanath, has not called for "vote theft," but has raised the question that the Assembly voter list should contain over 160 million names, but only 130 million. Why is this so? Let us reveal the actual figures. According to the Election Commission, Uttar Pradesh's Panchayat and Municipal voter lists contain over 169 million names, while the Assembly list contains over 135.6 million voters. The difference is 33.4 million voters. This is a serious and potentially impactful difference in the mandate. The Chief Minister has also expressed concern that the names of 12.7 million Hindus are missing from the list. The names of approximately 6.6 million voters registered in the Panchayat list, 5.5 million beneficiaries of government schemes, and approximately 450,000 voters aged 18-19 have not been added to the list. The question shouldn't be how Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath learned of these figures Does this prove a Minister Amit Shah.

Bhajan Clubbing: A New Wave of Devotion in Club Culture

Lalit Garg

Spirituality is no longer considered something reserved for the final stage of life. It is increasingly becoming part of the lives and aspirations of young people. Amid the hectic pace of the digital age, loneliness, stress and constant screen exposure, the younger generation is exploring new forms of devotion that connect with its lifestyle, pace and ways of expression. Against this changing social backdrop, 'Bhajan Clubbing' has emerged as an interesting new cultural trend.

Bhajan clubbing refers to taking bhajans, kirtans and devotional music beyond the boundaries of traditional religious gatherings and presenting them in a collective environment where young people sing, sway, dance and immerse themselves in the rhythm of music. The atmosphere carries the energy of modern music, but devotion remains at its centre. It can be described as a blend of the vibrancy of club culture and the warmth of a spiritual gathering.

This development is significant because religion and spirituality have long been perceived as concerns of the older generation. As the younger generation moves forward with modernity, rational thinking and technology, it has often appeared to be distancing itself from religious rituals. However, the rise of bhajan clubbing seems to challenge this perception. Young people are expressing a desire for spirituality, while also seeking ways to practise and experience it in a language and format suited to their times.

In India, club culture developed primarily as a means of entertainment, music, dancing and social interaction. Events that continued late into the night were associated with loud music, dazzling lights and modern lifestyles. The entry of devotional music into this very social setting is, in itself, a sign of cultural change.

Bhajan clubbing generally places devotional music, collective singing and positive energy in place of alcohol, smoking and intoxicating substances. This distinction is important. If young people want to go out at night for entertainment, an alternative that offers both enjoyment and spiritual connection is certainly worth considering.

Another important aspect is the sense of togetherness it creates. Social media has connected people virtually, but loneliness in real life has increased. Despite having thousands of digital friends, individuals often find themselves feeling isolated. At a bhajan club, even strangers sing together in one voice. For some time, mobile phones are put aside and people connect with one another. Such an experience can also provide emotional and psychological relief.

Today's young people do not simply want to listen to sermons; they want to experience things for themselves. They do not accept something merely because tradition says so. They want to know: What will I gain from it Bhajan clubbing appears to offer a practical response to this question.

Music directly influences human emotions. During collective singing, individuals rise above their personal boundaries and become part of a larger group. When hundreds of people sing the names of 'Ram', 'Mahavir', 'Shiva', 'Krishna' or other deities together, a powerful collective energy is created. From a Jain perspective, the ultimate purpose of devotion is not merely external celebration but an inward journey towards the soul. If the Navkar Mantra, hymns, Bhaktamar Stotra, auspicious prayers or praises of the Tirthankaras reach young minds through music, it can be a welcome experiment-provided devotion does not get lost in entertainment. This is the most important test of the entire trend.

In India's public life, the expression of spirituality and cultural awareness has also become more visible in recent years. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, along with several national leaders and public figures, has been actively associated with programmes related to Indian traditions, yoga, meditation, temples, pilgrimage sites, devotion and cultural heritage. This has helped convey the message among younger generations that modernity and spirituality are not necessarily opposed to each other.

However, it is equally important to understand that the presence of a political or popular personality cannot be considered the ultimate proof of the success of a spiritual trend. The real strength of any movement lies in its ability to shape character and create a positive social impact. Bhajan clubbing will prove meaningful only if it helps young people stay away from intoxicants, reduce mental stress, strengthen family relationships, develop a spirit of service and cultivate self-discipline.

Every new popular trend also carries certain risks. The biggest danger is that devotion may gradually become nothing more than a fashionable event. If the focus shifts from inner peace to loud music, dazzling lights, dancing and entertainment alone, the distinction between bhajan clubbing and ordinary club culture may slowly disappear.

The second risk is commercialisation. If expensive tickets, sponsors, branding and a culture of display begin to dominate in the name of devotion, spirituality could become a marketable commodity.

The third danger is blind imitation of a particular individual, group or style.

Chhath Puja: A Symbol of Faith and the Strength of Women

Sanjay Goswami

According to certain mythological beliefs, after completing their 14 years of exile, Lord Rama and Goddess Sita returned to Ayodhya and worshipped the Sun God on Kartik Shukla Shashthi, following the instructions of Maharishi Mudgal, to seek liberation from the sin of killing Ravana, which was considered Brahmahatya. However, this interpretation is not appropriate. Lord Rama was divine, and it is the natural order of existence that whoever is born must eventually die. It is wrong to associate Lord Rama with caste, religion or community. His only religion was dignity, humanity and service.

No amount of ritual worship or watching films can, by itself, bring us closer to Lord Rama. A new film based on the Ramayana has recently been released and is being described as an expensive production. Yet, its cost cannot determine its spiritual value. Ramanand Sagar's television serial Ramayan, made in 1987, is still watched with deep devotion by people. The physical appearance of Lord Rama may not have been exactly as portrayed on screen; such depictions depend on individual imagination and faith.

During Chhath Puja, devotees worship the Sun God because our very breath and existence depend on the Sun. Without sunlight, the world would be plunged into darkness, the natural balance would be disturbed, and life would become impossible. The Sun is therefore regarded as a deity. Situated millions of light-years away, it spreads life-sustaining light across the world. It burns continuously to illuminate the universe and is responsible for the cycle of day and night.

The Sun is also considered a witness to our good and bad deeds. This is one reason why it is worshipped as a deity. Ravana, driven by arrogance and destructive intentions, is described in mythology as having attempted to challenge even the Sun and other celestial powers. Lord Rama fought against such evil forces to establish righteousness in the world. His life teaches us that devotion should be accompanied by humanity, discipline and moral conduct.

As far as Ravana's religion and caste are concerned, he is described in the Ramayana as a demon rather than an ordinary human being. Caste and religion should not become the basis for judging people; their actions and conduct are what truly matter. We should therefore avoid narrow interpretations and understand the deeper values represented by these stories.

Ravana was ultimately destroyed by his anger, arrogance and intoxication. Anger led him towards destructive thoughts, while alcohol and pride clouded his judgement. His abduction of Goddess Sita became the decisive act that brought about his downfall. In the end, he recognised the divinity of Lord Rama. Despite the battle and Ravana's wrongdoing, Lord Rama ensured that his last rites were performed. This episode teaches us the importance of controlling anger and maintaining humanity even towards an adversary.

Controlling Anger Through Silence and Understanding

Remaining silent instead of reacting immediately can help reduce anger. Many people believe that this approach is an effective way to manage emotional reactions. When anger arises, one should try to remain calm and avoid speaking for some time. This gives us an opportunity to listen to the other person and understand their point of view. It also helps control anger and allows us to respond more thoughtfully and clearly.

The Ramayana contains a meaningful episode that illustrates this lesson. When Lord Shri Rama had entered Lanka, the battle with Ravana was about to begin. In a spiritual interpretation, human life itself is like the battlefield of Lanka, while the body represents Lanka. Attachment has taken away the Sita-like peace of our lives. To regain that peace, we must fight the same inner enemies that Lord Rama confronted.

In the Vinay Patrika, Tulsidas describes the relationship between attachment, ego and desire through the figures of Ravana, Kumbhakarna and Meghnad:

Moh dasmauli tadbhrata ahankaar pakaarjit kaam vishramhaari.

Attachment is represented by the ten-headed Ravana. The sense of ego arising from attachment is Kumbhakarna, while desire, born on the foundation of ego, is Meghnad. Wherever attachment exists, identification with the body and endless desires naturally arise.

Ravana assumed different forms, and attachment too changes its appearance. Sometimes it makes us believe that one person or possession belongs to us, and at other times it creates the illusion that something else will bring us happiness. Attachment can disguise itself so convincingly that we begin to mistake temporary pleasure for lasting happiness. We keep trying to achieve happiness but fail to find it. Time is wasted, precious breaths are spent, and disappointment eventually follows. This is one of the fundamental truths of worldly existence.

Lakshmana's battle with Meghnad also carries a deeper meaning. Lakshmana represents a mind focused on its goal and connected with the divine. Such a mind fights against desires. However, desires cannot disappear completely as long as ego remains. The ego, represented by Kumbhakarna, must first be overcome before desire can be conquered.

We experience pleasure and sorrow in our waking and dreaming states, but not in deep sleep. This is because desires remain active in the waking and dreaming states, whereas they disappear during deep sleep. Desires grow on the foundation of the sense of 'I'. In deep sleep, this sense of individual identity temporarily disappears, and so do our desires.

The central problem in a spiritual seeker's life is that we want to retain our ego while getting rid of our desires. The Ramayana's symbolic narrative helps us understand why this is difficult. When Lakshmana sees Meghnad, he becomes angry. Anger at wrongdoing may seem natural, but evil cannot be eliminated through anger alone; it can be overcome through awareness and understanding. Desire involves duality, and anger also arises from a sense of separation.

How can one form of duality eliminate another? Duality can be overcome only through the realisation of non-duality.

PRGI No. GUJENG/2014/57876 Printed, Published & Owned by AJAYKUMAR RAMANLAL PRAJAPATI and Printed By (1) JIGNESH RASHIKBHAI GAJJAR at Vansh Corporation, A/8, Shayona Golden Estate, Shahibag, Ahmedabad - 380 004
(2) DESAI RAHUL MAHESHBHAI at Bhavani Offset, "Bhatiya Ni Wadi, Opp Kalupur Railway Station, Kalupur, Ahmedabad-380 002. (3) HARDIK MAHESHBHAI DESAI at Bhoomi Offset, "Bhatiya Ni Wadi, Opp Kalupur Railway Station, Kalupur, Ahmedabad-380 002
and Published from TF-01, Nanakram Super Market, Ramnagar, Sabarmati, Ahmedabad - 380 005. Editor : ASHVINKUMAR KESHAVLAL RAMI
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BRIFF NEWS

Anti-Drag System Installed in 5 Delhi Metro Trains



● Train Will Automatically Stop If Anything Gets Stuck in Doors

New Delhi, Agency: If a saree pallu, bag strap, or water bottle string gets trapped in Delhi Metro doors, the train will not start and will automatically come to a halt. An anti-drag system is being installed on metro train doors for this purpose.

This has been launched as a pilot project across five metro trains. Upon successful implementation, this system will be installed in other trains. Previously, doors failed to close even if an object 5 millimeters thin got trapped.

Train Will Stop If Trapped in Doors: This system is specifically being installed to prevent accidents where passengers get trapped in doors and dragged along platforms. Metro doors currently feature sensors to prevent doors from closing when an object is trapped.

Trade Fair Begins at Bharat Mandapam, Traffic Police Advisory Issued



New Delhi, Agency: Traffic movement on major arterial roads across the capital may be impacted during the trade fair being held at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi from Saturday until November 27. The Delhi Traffic Police and India Trade Promotion Organisation have issued guidelines regarding traffic, parking, and cab-auto movements. Non-visitors have been advised to avoid specific major corridors and utilize alternative routes. Traffic is expected to be disrupted along Mathura Road, Bhairon Marg, Ring Road, Sher Shah Road, Purana Quila Road, Bhagwan Das Road, and Tilak Marg during the trade fair. Commuters not visiting the fair are advised to avoid these stretches and use alternate routes.

Timings Fixed for Business Visitors: Entry for business visitors to the fair has been scheduled from November 14 to November 18 between 9:30 AM and 7:30 PM. Gates 3, 4, 6, and 10 have been designated for this purpose. Fair tickets will be available online and at metro stations, though tickets will not be sold at the Supreme Court metro station.

Vehicle Parking Locations: Parking facilities have been arranged at the ITPO Basement, Bhairon Mandir Parking, and Bharat Mandapam Basement-2.

ITPO Basement: Accessible via Bhairon Marg and Ring Road Tunnel.

Bharat Mandapam Basement-2: Accessible via Pragati Tunnel and Mathura Road Underspass-4.

ITPO Complex: Parking inside the complex remains prohibited.

Designated Pedestrian Entry and Exit Gates: Gates 3, 4, 6, and 10 have been designated for pedestrian entry, while Gates 3, 4, 7, 9, and 10 will be available for exits.

In-Utero Open Fetal Surgery for Spina Bifida Performed Before Birth

First Time at AIIMS, 30 Doctors Create History



New Delhi, Agency: Achieving a major milestone in the field of medicine, doctors at AIIMS Delhi have performed an open fetal surgery on a 25-week-old unborn foetus inside the womb.

On November 12, this complex 6-hour surgery conducted at the Neuroscience Centre was stated to be India's first open fetal surgery. It attempted to correct a congenital defect in the spinal cord of the unborn child prior to birth. A multi-disciplinary team of more than 30 doctors and healthcare workers was involved in this procedure.

The child suffered from a severe congenital condition called myelomeningocele, where a portion of the spinal cord and its protective membranes protrude through an opening in the spinal column, damaging nerve tissues.

After birth, such children can face problems such as paralysis of the legs, difficulty in walking, and fluid accumulation in the brain (hydrocephalus). Typically, this surgery is performed after the child's birth, but by then nerve damage may have already occurred.

5 Weeks of Preparation, 6-Hour Operation: According to AIIMS, preparation for this surgery spanned over five weeks. This included detailed examinations of the unborn foetus, ultrasounds and other imaging, briefing the mother on the condition and potential risks of the surgery, anesthesia preparation, and surgical rehearsals. The surgery was performed at the Neuroscience Centre using high-capacity microscopy and continuous ultrasound assistance.

Prof. Deepak Gupta from the Department of Neurosurgery led the surgery. The responsibilities of maternal-fetal medicine and obstetric care were handled by Prof. Neena Malhotra and Prof. K. Aparna Sharma.

Prof. Vimi Rewari and Prof. Rashmi Ramachandran from the Department of Anesthesiology, along with Prof. Mihir Prakash Pandia and Prof. Gyanendra Pal Singh from the Department of Neuroanesthesia, managed the anesthesia responsibilities. Dr. Smita Manchanda, Additional Professor in the Department of Radiodiagnosis, assisted with pre-surgical examinations and planning.

Dr. Shashank Chauhan, Additional Professor in the Department of Plastic Surgery, and Prof. Ramesh K. Agarwal from the Department of Pediatrics were also part of the team.

Additionally, Dr. Anubhuti Rana, Additional Professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology; Dr. Deepti Garg, Additional Professor; and Dr. Saloni Kamboj, Assistant Professor, played significant roles. Over 30 specialists and healthcare workers, including the nursing team, participated in the procedure.

Better Outcomes Expected Compared to Post-Natal Surgery

According to Prof. Deepak Gupta, the objective of in-utero surgery is to limit progressive damage to exposed nerve tissues. This can reduce the need for shunting to treat hydrocephalus after birth and improve mobility outcomes in some children. However, this is not a complete cure for the condition, and the child will continue to require specialist monitoring.

The international Management of Myelomeningocele Study (MOMS) found that 40 percent of children who underwent prenatal surgery required a shunt to drain excess fluid from the brain by 12 months of age, compared to 82 percent of children who underwent postnatal surgery.

Even Healthy Parents Can Have a Child with SMA

Know the Causes, Symptoms, and Treatment



New Delhi, Agency: Even when parents are completely healthy, their child can suffer from severe genetic disorders like Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA). The primary cause is a defect or deletion in the SMN-1 gene present in the body. Genes carry essential instructions required for bodily growth and function. A child contracts this condition when they inherit a defective copy of this gene from both mother and father. Both parents can be carriers of this defective gene without exhibiting symptoms. Such couples face a 25 percent probability of having a child with SMA in every pregnancy.

What Is Spinal Muscular Atrophy?

According to Dr. Anshu Rohatgi, Senior Cons ultant Neurologist and Co-chair of the Neur ology Department at Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, SMA causes the nerve cells located in the spinal cord and lower brainstem—which transmit signals to control muscles—to gradually degenerate.

This causes muscles to weaken and waste away. The condition manifests in four types: Type-1 symptoms emerge between birth and six months, Type-2 between six and 18 months, Type-3 during childhood and adolescence, and Type-4 during adulthood.

Prenatal Testing Also Possible: Inability of the infant to hold up its head, limb weakness, difficulty sitting or walking, and trouble swallowing milk or breathing are primary symptoms.

The condition can be detected between the 10th and 13th weeks of pregnancy via chorionic villus sampling (placental tissue sample) and amniocentesis after the 15th week. Genetic blood testing confirms the diagnosis after birth.

Two Minors Kill Badmash Sonu Kancha in Delhi Over Cash-Snatching Dispute; Both Accused Arrested



New Delhi, Agency: In the Nand Nagri area of Delhi, fed up over extortion of money, two minors allegedly stabbed a criminal named Sonu Kancha to death inside a park late Thursday night. The criminal had snatched money from the minors on Diwali to buy intoxicants. The deceased has been identified as Sonu Kancha, a native of Nepal.

The Nand Nagri police station has registered a case under various sections including murder. Police have apprehended both minors, aged 16 and 17 years. The police have also recovered the knife used in the crime from the minors. Fifteen criminal cases including robbery and snatching were already registered against the deceased Sonu Kancha.

Police Received Information Late at Night: Police stated that late Thursday night at 12:30 AM, information was received that a blood-soaked body of a young man was lying in a park near Gagan Cinema, with a liquor bottle and glass lying nearby. Police admitted the injured to the hospital, where doctors declared him dead.

Money Snatched from Minors: Meanwhile, during interrogation, both minors revealed that Kancha used to beat them and pressure them to commit robberies and snatchings for him. On Diwali, Kancha snatched the money that both minors had received from their homes. Following this, the two minors hatched a plot to kill Kancha. They bought a knife worth three hundred rupees from a shop and went to the park with it.

Youths Set Out on Pilgrimage After Borrowing Friend's Car Vehicle Burns to Ashes on Delhi's Shankar Vihar Flyover



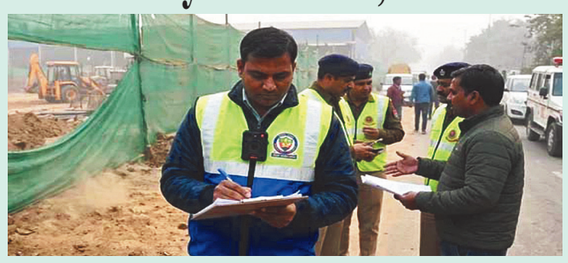
New Delhi, Agency: A moving car suddenly caught a massive fire on Delhi's Shankar Vihar Flyover, completely gutting the vehicle. Fortunately, the occupants managed to escape in time, and no physical injuries were reported in the incident.

Saurabh Jain, who was driving the car at the time of the incident, stated that the vehicle belonged to a friend, which he had borrowed to go on a pilgrimage to Balaji, Salasar, and Khatu Shyam Ji.

While returning from the pilgrimage, they noticed smoke emanating from the vehicle a short distance away.

Sensing the situation, he immediately pulled the car to the roadside, and everyone quickly stepped out and moved to a safe distance. Moments after exiting the car, the vehicle caught fire and was completely gutted within minutes. Fortunately, no casualties occurred in this incident. Detailed information regarding the exact cause of the fire is yet to emerge.

Strictness on Pollution Control in Delhi, Vayu Rakshak Teams to Be Equipped with Body Cameras; Officials to Monitor Live



New Delhi, Agency: To ensure transparency and accountability during enforcement actions against violators of pollution control norms in Delhi, the government is equipping Vayu Rakshak teams with body-worn cameras.

Under this initiative, 100 body cameras will be procured. These cameras will be provided to one member of each of the 100 enforcement teams, and keeping them active during field operations will be mandatory.

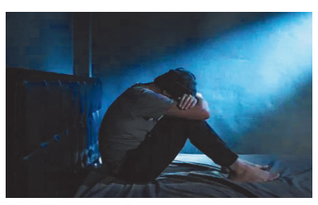
Officials Can View Live Footage from Cameras: According to officials, these cameras will be used during actions against pollution complaints, inspections of various sites, and campaigns against polluting activities.

Significantly, officers seated in the Integrated Command and Control Center (ICCC) will also be able to view live footage from these cameras. This will allow real-time monitoring of the activities of teams deployed in the field.

Scant Room for Negligence in Inspections The government believes that this arrangement will leave minimal room for negligence during inspections and enforcement actions. Furthermore, it will make the monitoring of team operations and grievance redressal processes more accountable during actions.

Currently, over 300 joint enforcement teams named 'Vayu Rakshaks' are deployed across the capital. These include personnel from the Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC), Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD), and Civil Defence.

Why 84% Struggling with Mental Health Fail to Get Treatment, WHO's Mosaic Toolkit Will Show the Way



New Delhi, Agency: For individuals battling mental health issues, societal attitudes often pose a greater challenge than the illness itself—being labeled weak, called crazy, having their struggles mocked, and being silenced through taunts upon seeking treatment. To tackle this challenge, the World Health Organization (WHO) has released the Mosaic Toolkit initiative. It emphasizes behavioral and systemic changes across schools, hospitals, workplaces, families, and communities to shift societal perceptions regarding mental illness.

India Must Make Serious Efforts: The country's situation in this regard can be understood through the National Mental Health Survey. It found that over 150 million people suffer from various mental health issues. Among them, 84.5 percent fail to receive treatment due to social stigma, lack of awareness, cultural beliefs, treatment costs, and limited availability of services.

Breaking Silence is Difficult for Adolescents: An analysis of 26 studies conducted across various Indian cities by researchers from The George Institute for Global Health identified social stigma as the biggest barrier to seeking mental health support.

Adolescents fear that disclosing their struggles will lead others to perceive them as weak, mock them, or treat them differently. A lack of proper awareness among parents and teachers, coupled with a scarcity of youth-friendly services, compounds the problem.

Mosaic Toolkit: A Blueprint to Eliminate Stigma and Discrimination

Released by the WHO Regional Office for Europe, the toolkit features three evidence-based principles that India requires most: involving individuals who have recovered from mental illness in mental health campaigns, enhancing direct dialogue between them and society, and working through partnerships among governments, healthcare workers, families, and social organizations.

Three Core Principles Participation of Recovered Individuals: Giving individuals who have experienced mental illness the opportunity to lead campaigns and share their lived experiences.

Direct Dialogue: Increasing conversations between individuals suffering from mental illness and society to eliminate fear, misconceptions, and discrimination.

Partnerships: Uniting governments, doctors, healthcare workers, families, schools, social organizations, and communities.

Four Key Stages of the Action Plan: Problem Identification and Goal Setting: Identifying which demographic groups exhibit the highest discrimination regarding mental illness, and setting targets tailored to schools, hospitals, workplaces, or communities.

Suspicion of Urea Smuggling to Neighboring Countries

CAG Initiates Probe Across 169 Districts



New Delhi, Agency: The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) has initiated a performance audit of fertilizer subsidies, specifically investigating whether subsidized urea is being diverted for industrial use or smuggled into neighboring countries. The CAG commenced audit operations in June this year, collecting sample data from 169 districts across 15 states. According to sources, this includes 149 districts where urea consumption exceeds both national and state averages. The audit is slated for completion by mid-2027, with reports likely to be tabled during the winter session of Parliament. Last fiscal year, the government spent approximately ?2 lakh crores on fertilizer subsidies, including urea and potassic nutrients.

For the current fiscal year, the central government has budgeted ?1.71 lakh crores towards fertilizer subsidies, though ongoing conflicts in West Asia could escalate this figure significantly. Sources stated the audit will cover the current and upcoming fiscal years, examining all facets of urea fertilizer usage.

What Are the Objectives?

Key objectives include assessing urea demand, monitoring the diversion of urea for industrial consumption, smuggling into neighboring states, evaluating the efficacy of government schemes aimed at reducing urea usage, reviewing the energy efficiency of urea plants, and planning import logistics.

The audit will also inspect fertilizer movement procedures, transport arrangements, freight subsidies, and associated monitoring and control mechanisms. Central auditors will evaluate the demand and efficiency of the urea subsidy framework as part of the audit's scope.

169 Districts Selected for Investigation: The government's concern stems from high urea consumption exceeding national and state averages across 149 districts. The 169 districts selected to investigate alleged urea diversion encompass these 149 districts identified by the CAG based on consumption patterns. Subsequently, upon recommendations from the Ministry of Agriculture and select experts, 20 additional districts were included to analyze urea consumption patterns locally.

This audit involves extensive collaboration and participation from various government departments, including the GST Network, Ministry of Agriculture, Railways, and other agencies, assisting auditors in evaluating the operational efficiency of fertilizer control systems and regulators.

Investigation into Urea Smuggling: Sources indicated that alleged diversions of subsidized urea from border districts in Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Punjab, and Bihar have raised suspicions regarding cross-border smuggling.

Among districts under investigation for excessive urea consumption, Uttar Pradesh accounts for the highest number with 37 districts, followed by Bihar and Tamil Nadu with 16 districts each, and Punjab and Gujarat with 14 districts each. The 20 additional districts subsequently added span Karnataka, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Maharashtra.

Urea Consumption in India: Total annual urea consumption in India is estimated at approximately 40 million tonnes. Of this, over 10 million tonnes of urea are imported, as domestic production falls short of total demand. Domestic production also necessitates large imports of natural gas, given that fuel accounts for 90 percent of total urea manufacturing costs.

Delhi to Launch Special Cleanliness Drives Across All 250 Wards Every Tuesday from November 24



New Delhi, Agency: In a renewed push to make the national capital cleaner, more attractive and free of garbage, Delhi Mayor Pravesh Wahi has directed that special intensive cleanliness drives be conducted across all 250 municipal wards every Tuesday, from 9 am to noon.

The campaign will commence on November 24 and aims to strengthen the city's sanitation system along the lines of the Yamuna cleanliness campaign, eliminate garbage-vulnerable points and transform cleanliness into a mass movement through active public participation.

Mayor Pravesh Wahi said the success of the intensive cleanliness initiative would depend on coordinated efforts by all municipal departments, public representatives and officials, who must work together to make sanitation activities more effective at the grassroots level.

He said the campaign would see the participation of Members of Parliament, Members of the Legislative Assembly, municipal councillors, the Municipal Commissioner, zonal Deputy Commissioners and other senior officials concerned. Special cleaning operations would be undertaken in an area covering at least two kilometres in each ward. The drive will cover roads, lanes, footpaths, public spaces, vacant plots and identified garbage-vulnerable points.

Jasmine Shekar Clinches Second Title of the Season Finishes Ahead of Vani Kapoor and Ridhima Dilawari



Jaipur, Agency: Bengaluru-based 21-year-old golfer Jasmine Shekar clinched the title in the 14th leg of the Hero Women's Pro Golf Tour on Saturday, securing her second victory of the season. Competing at the Rambagh Golf Club, Shekar held off the challenge of experienced campaigners Vani Kapoor and Ridhima Dilawari to emerge victorious.]

Shekar carded a one-over-par 71 in the final round to finish the tournament at five-over-par 215, securing a two-shot victory over runner-up Vani Kapoor.

Shekar began the final round with a one-shot lead and managed to extend her advantage to two shots before sealing the title. Kapoor returned a 72 in the final round, while Dilawari carded a 74. Over the three rounds, Kapoor finished second at seven-over-par, with Dilawari taking third place at nine-over-par. Shweta Mansingh secured fourth place with a total of 10-over-par.

No player finished the tournament under par, underlining the challenging conditions faced by the field throughout the week. Shekar opened with a 74, followed it up with a 70 in the second round and closed with a 71. Kapoor's rounds were 75, 70 and 72, while Dilawari carded 74, 71 and 74. Shekar has enjoyed a consistent run on the domestic golf circuit this season.

She began her 2026 campaign by winning the opening leg in Mumbai and subsequently finished runner-up at DLF Golf and Country Club and Jaypee Wishtown.

Her triumph in Jaipur added another significant achievement to an impressive season. She has now become the third player to win more than one title this year, following Ridhima Dilawari and Vani Kapoor.

Shekar faced a stern test in the final round, with Kapoor and Dilawari beginning the day tied for second place.

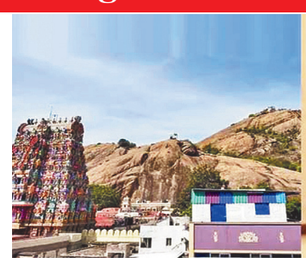
Kapoor had recently finished runner-up at the Hero Women's Indian Open, recording the best result of her career on the Ladies European Tour. However, Shekar remained composed under pressure and successfully protected her lead.

The par-70 course at Rambagh Golf Club proved demanding throughout the tournament, with only one under-par round recorded during the week. Tvesa Malik produced the best individual round, carding an impressive four-under-par 66.

However, she finished tied for seventh on the overall leaderboard, alongside Ananya Datar.

Tamil Nadu Government Opposes Handing Over Temple and Thirupparamkundram Hill to ASI

Resisting Hindu Dharma Parishad Plea





New Delhi, Agency: The Tamil Nadu Government has strongly opposed in the Supreme Court a petition seeking to transfer control of the Arulmigu Subramania Swamy Temple and Thirupparamkundram Hill to the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and demanding modifications to traditional Karthigai Deepam rituals. The plea filed by the Hindu Dharma Parishad is scheduled for hearing on November 17. The controversy surrounding Karthigai Deepam at the Arulmigu Subramania Swamy Temple in Madurai concerns where and by whom the sacred lamp should be lit on Thirupparamkundram Hill.

For decades, the traditional lamp has been lit at the Deepa Mandapam near the Uchhipillaiyar Temple on the lower slopes of the hill. Hindu organizations sought permission to light the lamp on the ancient stone lamp pillar, Deepathoon, located higher up the hill, which sits roughly 50 meters away from the Hazrat Sultan Sikandar Badusha Auliya Dargah. In an affidavit filed before a bench of Justice Arvind Kumar and Justice Vipul M. Pancholi, the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (HR&CE) Department of Tamil Nadu opposed the plea seeking directives for the ASI to take over control of the temple and Thiruppara mkundram Hill. The department asserted that ownership of the temple and existing religious traditions have been settled following decades of judicial proceedings. HR&CE Commissioner T.G. Vinay stated that the Arulmigu Subramania Swamy Temple holds ownership over the hill to the extent recognized in a 1923 civil court verdict. The counter-affidavit contested the three reliefs sought by petitioner Hindu Dharma Parishad: handing over the entire temple and hill to the ASI, keeping a stone pillar identified as Deepathoon illuminated round the clock, and lighting the entire hill with lamps during Karthigai Deepam.

Delhi Congress Leaders Pay Tribute to Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru on His 126th Birth Anniversary



New Delhi, Agency: Delhi Pradesh Congress Committee President Devender Yadav paid floral tribute to Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, India's first Prime Minister, on his 126th birth anniversary at the party's state headquarters, Rajiv Bhawan, on Friday.

Several senior Congress leaders and office-bearers joined Yadav in paying homage to the former Prime Minister. Those present included Qazi Nizamuddin, All India Congress Committee (AICC) in-charge for Delhi; Danish Abrar, AICC Secretary in-charge; Delhi Pradesh Congress general secretaries Dharampal Sharma; SC Department Chairman Sanjay Neeraj; and Naresh Sharma Neetu, Pankaj Gupta and Yogesh Jain.

Speaking on the occasion, Yadav said Nehru had laid a strong foundation for India's democratic system after Independence, guided by a vision of development, welfare and equality for every section of society.

He said Nehru's initiatives in expanding educational and employment opportunities for young people had helped strengthen India's position globally. The achievements of Indian youth, who are making their mark across the world through their educational capabilities and professional excellence, reflected the foundations laid during Nehru's tenure, he added.

Yadav observed that the strong youth population contributing to the development of India and the wider world was built upon the institutional and democratic foundations established under Nehru's leadership as the country emerged as a republic.

He further said Nehru's commitment to democracy, secularism and scientific thinking had given India a distinct identity.

Following the adoption of the Constitution, every adult citizen was granted the right to vote, empowering millions of Indians to participate in choosing their government and strengthening the country's democratic framework.

Yamuna Banks Come Alive with Chhath Festivities; CM Rekha Gupta to Offer Arghya to Setting Sun on November 15

New Delhi, Agency: An atmosphere of deep faith, devotion and spiritual fervour has enveloped the banks of the Yamuna and Chhath ghats across Delhi as the national capital celebrates the grand festival of Chhath. In view of the festival's deep cultural and religious significance, particularly among people from the Purvanchal region, the Delhi government has made extensive arrangements for devotees.

Chief Minister Rekha Gupta is personally monitoring the preparations and will visit two prominent Chhath ghats in the capital on Sunday and Monday to interact with devotees and observe the rituals. She will offer prayers and perform the traditional arghya rituals to the Sun God.

On Sunday, November 15, the Chief Minister will visit the Chhath Ghat in Sonia Vihar, where she will meet devotees observing the fast and join them in offering arghya to the setting Sun. She will also offer prayers to the Sun God and pray for the prosperity, well-being and happiness of Delhi and the country.

The following morning, Monday, November 16, CM Gupta will visit Hathi Ghat at ITO, where she will offer arghya to the rising Sun and worship Chhathi Maiya and the Sun God.

Her participation in the celebrations at both locations reflects her devotion to the festival and her close association with the millions of people who observe this important cultural and religious tradition.

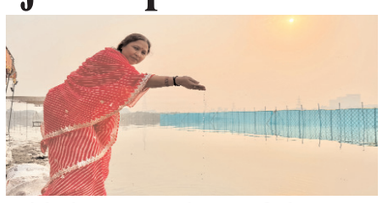
The Delhi government has made extensive arrangements for devotees at more than 1,400 Chhath ghats across the capital. Special arrangements have been put in place for the evening rituals on Sunday, when devotees will offer arghya to the setting Sun, and the morning prayers on Monday, when they will worship the rising Sun.

The arrangements include prominent ghats along the Yamuna as well as the magnificent 11-kilometre-long Chhath Ghat developed along the Munak Canal in North Delhi. The facility has been designed keeping in mind the convenience of devotees and the traditional rituals associated with the festival.

CM Rekha Gupta Inaugurates Delhi Pavilion at 45th India International Trade Fair

New Delhi, Agency: Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta on Saturday inaugurated the Delhi Pavilion at the 45th India International Trade Fair (IITF) 2026, being held at Bharat Mandapam in the national capital. The inauguration ceremony featured a classical Kathak performance by children. Following the ceremony, the Chief Minister visited various stalls and interacted with participants to learn about their products, activities and business ventures. CM Gupta said New Delhi was not merely the national capital but also a reflection of India's rich historical heritage, cultural diversity, entrepreneurial spirit and modern development. Through the Delhi Pavilion, she said, the city's multifaceted identity was being showcased on both national and international platforms. She noted that Delhi had been accorded the status of a Focus State at this year's IITF, providing an important opportunity to highlight the capital's growing economic, cultural and industrial profile.

MCD Standing Committee Chairperson Satya Sharma Reviews Chhath Puja Preparations at ITO's Hathi Ghat



New Delhi, Agency: Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) Standing Committee Chairperson Satya Sharma on Saturday visited Hathi Ghat at ITO to review preparations for the upcoming Chhath festival. She inspected arrangements for sanitation, lighting and mosquito control, and directed the concerned officials to ensure that all necessary facilities were put in place well in advance, keeping the convenience and safety of devotees in mind.

Sharma said Chhath was an integral part of Delhi's rich cultural and religious traditions, with large numbers of devotees visiting riverbanks and designated ghats to offer prayers during the festival. She emphasised that it was the civic body's responsibility to ensure a clean, safe and well-organised environment for worshippers. She instructed officials to maintain regular cleanliness at the ghats, ensure adequate lighting and carry out continuous insecticide spraying to prevent mosquito breeding and infestation. The MCD chairperson also stressed the need for close coordination among all concerned departments and urged officials to remain in regular contact with Chhath Puja committees. Suggestions and requirements raised by these committees, she said, should be addressed on priority to prevent any inconvenience to devotees.

She further directed officials to review the preparations regularly and ensure that all arrangements were completed before the festival.