



Wars Won With Timely Deliveries, Not Just Bullets: Rajnath Singh at GSV Convocation

(Gns). Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has credited the seamless logistics management between the agencies, from mobilisation of the Armed Forces to delivering the equipment at the right time and place, as a deciding factor in the success of Operation Sindoor.

Stating that in today's era, wars are won not just with guns and bullets, but with their time-bound delivery, Singh, during his virtual address at the convocation ceremony of Vadodara-based Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya (GSV), said that Operation Sindoor was a vivid example of excellent logistics management.

Emphasising that logistics should be seen through the prism of strategic importance and not just as a process of delivering goods, the defence minister said, "Whether it's the soldiers fighting on the border or personnel engaged

in disaster management, without coordination or proper management of resources, even the strongest of intentions weaken. Logistics is the



power that transforms chaos into control. Power is measured not only by weapons, but also by timely resource management. Be it war, disaster, or global pandemic, the nation that keeps its logistics chain strong is the most stable, secure, and capable."

Singh highlighted the importance of logistics in

the economic progress of the country, terming it as one of the main pillars that connects every step, from pre-production to consump-

tion. He termed the contributed infrastructure development in the last 11 years, and the foundation of this transformation, which is being carried out with a holistic and integrated approach, has been laid through policy reforms & mission-mode projects. He added that its impact is not limited to physical connectivity, but it has also increased economic productivity, reduced logistics costs, and improved service delivery.

"Under the PM GatiShakti National Master Plan, seven powerful pillars of development like Railways, Roads, Ports, Waterways, Airports, Mass Transport, and Logistics Infrastructure are together giving a strong foundation to India's economy. PM GatiShakti is not just a scheme, but a vision, which is making infrastructure futuristic through cutting-edge technology and data-based planning," said Rajnath Singh.

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dent infrastructure development in the last 11 years, and the foundation of this transformation, which is being carried out with a holistic and integrated approach, has been laid through policy reforms & mission-mode projects. He added that its impact is not limited to physical connectivity, but it has also increased economic productivity, reduced logistics costs, and improved service delivery.

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Chief Minister has approved an Action Plan for AI implementation to position Gujarat as the nation's leader in AI-enabled governance.

Gandhinagar, 27 July 2025: Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel has approved the Action Plan for Implementation of Artificial Intelligence 2025-2030 to facilitate smart decision-making, citizen-focused schemes, efficient service delivery, and effective welfare programs through the application of Artificial Intelligence.

Aligning with Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision to position India as a global leader in digital empowerment and technology sectoral progress through extensive AI adoption, Gujarat has launched this Action Plan.

This action plan of Gujarat has been announced in alignment with Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision to leveraging widespread use of AI for digital empowerment and preparing India to lead the world in the technological sector.

At the annual Chintan Shibir in Somnath in November 2024, Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel declared that Gujarat will leverage Artificial Intelligence (AI) across its administrative framework and government departments to lead in technology-driven governance and socio-economic progress, in line with the vision of Viksit Gujarat@2047.

To realize this vision and embed AI in governance, healthcare, education, agriculture, fintech, and other critical sectors across the state, a 10-member expert

AI Taskforce Committee has been established. The CM has approved the

gies and emerging technologies within the state government.



Action Plan for Implementation of A.I. 2025-2030, based on the Taskforce's recommendations.

Prepared under the guidance of the CM, this Action Plan will serve as a time-bound blueprint to equip the state government with advanced AI capabilities. Furthermore, it will foster a robust, innovative AI ecosystem that ensures seamless service delivery, improved citizen welfare, and enhanced quality of life with prosperity.

To ensure the structured and timely implementation of the action plan, the state will establish a dedicated AI and Deep Tech Mission. This mission will function as a specialized institutional mechanism, leading the design, implementation, and innovation of AI strate-

Additionally, it will strengthen a robust ecosystem by fostering collaboration among startups, academic research, and industries. The mission will focus on skilling, reskilling, and upskilling the workforce in AI and related technologies.

Under the guidance of Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel, the Science and Technology Department has developed the roadmap for this Action Plan, focusing primarily on six pillars:

1.Data: A secure, interoperable, and regulatory-compliant data ecosystem will be established for AI development, ensuring alignment with regulatory standards through a comprehensive AI data governance framework.

2.Digital Infrastructure:

The plan includes expanding GPU and cloud infrastructure, establishing AI factories in Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities, and providing access to national platforms such as AIRAWAT.

3.Capacity Building: The goal is to train over 2.5 lakh individuals, including students, MSMEs, and government officials, in AI, ML, and related domains.

4.R&D and Use Cases: Partnerships between academia and industry will be facilitated to create customized AI solutions and applications for relevant government departments.

5.Startup Facilitation: Supporting DeepTech startups through incubation, mentorship, infrastructure credits, and seed funding.

6.Safe and Reliable AI: A secure AI strategy will be ensured through audits, guidelines, and AI risk protocols.

The Action Plan will be implemented in phases, starting with key initiatives like creating a state-level AI data repository, establishing AI factories, and initiating department-specific pilot projects. Over its five-year timeline, these efforts will enhance AI integration across departments and foster a dynamic, innovative ecosystem.

Under the leadership of the CM Shri Bhupendra Patel, Gujarat has adopted innovative approaches to AI in governance, including the establishment of the AI Centre of Excellence at GIFT City, the AI Innovation Challenge.

30th July "NISAR" launch from Sriharikota will upscale ISRO's international collaborations: Dr Jitendra Singh

(Gns). NEW DELHI, July 27: Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh said here today that the 30th July "NISAR" launch from Sriharikota will upscale ISRO's international collaborations.

Briefing the media, the Minister for Science and Technology disclosed that the much-anticipated launch of the NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) satellite mission is scheduled for July 30, 2025, at 17:40 hrs from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota. As the first joint Earth observation mission between the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the United States' National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the

event marks a defining moment in the journey of Indo-US space cooperation as also in ISRO's overall international collaborations, he said. The mission will be launched aboard India's GSLV-F16 rocket.

Dr. Jitendra Singh, who has been monitoring the mission closely, said the launch reflects the maturing of strategic scientific partnerships and India's emergence as a credible global player in advanced Earth observa-



tion systems. While expressing his wish to be physically present in Sriharikota to witness the historic event, the Minister acknowledged that the ongoing Parliament session may hold him back in Delhi.

"This mission is not just about a satellite launch—it is a moment that symbolises what two democracies committed to science and global welfare can achieve together. NISAR will not only serve India and the United States

but will also provide critical data for countries around the world, especially in areas like disaster management, agriculture, and climate monitoring," said Dr. Jitendra Singh.

Dr Jitendra Singh further noted that this mission lives up to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of India becoming a 'Vishwa Bandhu'—a global partner that contributes to the collective good of humanity.

The NISAR mission combines the technological expertise of both agencies. NASA has contributed the L-Band Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR), a high-rate telecommunication subsystem, GPS receivers, and a deployable 12-meter unfurlable antenna. ISRO, on its part,

Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan visits his Parliamentary Constituency of Vidisha, DISHA committee meeting held in Raisen

(Gns). Union Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development, Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, visited his parliamentary constituency Vidisha yesterday, and held a meeting of the District Development Coordination and Monitoring Committee (DISHA) in Raisen. The meeting involved in-depth discussions on public welfare issues such as dead-dedication, black marketing of fertilisers, counterfeit fertilisers, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, Lakhpati Didis under the National Rural Livelihoods Mission, water infrastructure, and the progress of the work undertaken energy department.

"Selling fake fertiliser is a grave sin – take strict action against offenders"

The Union Minister obtained scheme-wise information during the review of the agriculture department's work in the district. He directed that strictest action be taken against people who are engaged in black marketing or selling counterfeit fertilisers, as it amounts to a grave injustice against farmers. He also inquired about the procurement of 'moong' (green gram) and instructed officials to inspect procurement centers.

"Focus on public welfare

and development while working"

The Union Minister Shri Chouhan urged public representatives and officials to



make Raisen a model district in terms of development and welfare. He directed them to tour their respective areas and ensure that eligible individuals who have not yet received benefits under any scheme are included at the earliest. Construction projects should be completed on time with intensive monitoring, the minister emphasised.

"PM Awas installments must be released on time" While reviewing the work of the PM Awas Yojana (Gramin) — Awas Plus, Shri Chouhan instructed that the scheme should be implemented in such a way that beneficiaries receive their installments on time. He stressed

on ensuring zero negligence in construction works and called for rigorous monitoring at the district level to ensure timely

completion. In the fiscal year 2024–25, as many as 27,981 houses have been approved across all Gram Panchayats of the district — 4,825 are complete, and 23,156 are under progress. "Raisen district has 43,613 Lakhpati Didis"

Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan reviewed the progress under the National Rural Livelihoods Mission and asked for a detailed count of Lakhpati Didis. He weighed on the fact that more and more women should be empowered to become Lakhpati Didis through a concrete action plan. It has been said that the district currently has 43,613 Lakhpati Didis.

"Connect every village to

main roads"

During a review of roads under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, the Minister directed that every village be connected to main roads, ensuring seamless rural connectivity and improved access to services. It was reported that under the 2024–25 plan, 30 roads covering 276.236 km have been sanctioned, of which 28 roads have been completed. Similarly, of 13 sanctioned bridges, 9 have been completed. The meeting also reviewed the work of National Highways Authority of India.

"Agriculture officials must inspect crops in the fields"

The Minister directed agriculture officers to visit fields regularly and advise farmers about appropriate pesticides in case of crop diseases. He emphasised using Krishi Vigyan Kendras to disseminate the latest agricultural techniques and also instructed on getting on with early preparations for the rabi (winter) crops. Upon being informed that Basmati rice from the district had been rejected in international markets, he told officials to educate farmers against using internationally banned pesticides.

"Water infrastructure projects must be completed on time"

Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel pays a surprise visit to the State Emergency Control Room this morning to personally assess the situation arising from the widespread rainfall across the state

Gandhinagar, 27 July 2025: Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel made an unscheduled visit to the State Emergency Control Room this morning to gather information personally about the widespread rain-

fall situation in the state. He held telephonic conversations with the district collectors of Surendranagar, Patan, Aravalli, Ahmedabad, Mehsana, Banaskantha, Sabarkantha, and Kheda to gather

insights into the rainfall-induced situation in their respective districts. Chief Minister directed all district collectors to remain alert, continuously monitor the rainfall situation, ensure the administrative machinery

remains vigilant, and maintain constant coordination with the State Emergency Operations Center to provide timely updates on the conditions in their districts.



देश-दुनिया के नवीनतम समाचार
प्राप्त करने के लिए आज ही
गरवी गुजरात हिंदी चैनल देखिये

Editorial

Implications of failed peace negotiations for Gaza

Efforts to end the relentless siege of Gaza have been set back by the abrupt end to peace talks in Qatar. Both the United States and Israel have withdrawn their negotiating teams, accusing Hamas of a “lack of desire to reach a ceasefire”. US President Donald Trump’s special envoy Steve Witkoff says it would appear Hamas never wanted a deal: “While the mediators have made a great effort, Hamas does not appear to be coordinated or acting in good faith. We will now consider alternative options to bring the hostages home and try to create a more stable environment for the people in Gaza.”

The disappointing development coincides with mounting fears of a widespread famine in Gaza and a historic decision by France to formally recognise a Palestinian state. French President Emmanuel Macron says there is no alternative for the sake of security of the Middle East: “True to its historic commitment to a just and lasting peace in the Middle East, I have decided that France will recognise the State of Palestine.” What will these developments mean for the conflict in Gaza and the broader security of the Middle East? The failure to reach a truce means there is no end in sight to the Israeli siege of Gaza which has devastated the territory for more than 21 months. Amid mounting fears of mass starvation, Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese says Gaza is in the grip of a “humanitarian catastrophe”.

He is urging Israel to comply immediately with its obligations under international law: “Israel’s denial of aid and the killing of civilians, including children, seeking access to water and food cannot be defended or ignored.” According to the United Nations Palestinian refugee agency UNRWA, more than 100 people – most of them children – have died of hunger. One in five children in Gaza City is malnourished, with the number of cases rising every day. Commissioner-General Philippe Lazzarini says with little food aid entering Gaza, people are “neither dead nor alive, they are walking corpses [...] most children our teams are seeing are emaciated, weak and at high risk of dying if they don’t get the treatment they urgently need.”

The UN and more than 100 aid groups blame Israel’s blockade of almost all aid into the territory for the lack of food. Lazzarini says UNRWA has 6,000 trucks of emergency supplies waiting in Jordan and Egypt. He is urging Israel – which continues to blame Hamas for cases of malnutrition – to allow the humanitarian assistance into Gaza. The latest ceasefire proposal was reportedly close to being agreed by both parties. It included a 60-day truce, during which time Hamas would release ten living Israeli hostages and the remains of 18 others. In exchange, Israel would release a number of Palestinian prisoners, and humanitarian aid to Gaza would be significantly increased.

During the ceasefire, both sides would engage in negotiations toward a lasting truce. While specific details of the current sticking points remain unclear, previous statements from both parties suggest the disagreement centres on what would follow any temporary ceasefire. Israel is reportedly seeking to maintain a permanent military presence in Gaza to allow for a rapid resumption of operations if needed. In contrast, Hamas is demanding a pathway toward a complete end to hostilities. A lack of mutual trust has dramatically clouded the negotiations. From Israel’s perspective, any ceasefire must not result in Hamas regaining control of Gaza, as this would allow the group to rebuild its power and potentially launch another cross-border attack. However, Hamas has repeatedly said it is willing to hand over power to any other Palestinian group in pursuit of a Palestinian state based on the 1967 borders.

This could include the Palestinian National Authority (PNA), which governs the West Bank and has long recognised Israel. Israeli leaders have occasionally paid lip service to a Palestinian state. But they have described such an entity as “less than a state” or a “stateminus” – a formulation that falls short of both Palestinian aspirations and international legal standards. In response to the worsening humanitarian situation, some Western countries have moved to fully recognise a Palestinian state, viewing it as a step toward a permanent resolution of one of the longest-running conflicts in the Middle East. Macron’s announcement France will officially recognise a full Palestinian state in September is a major development.

France is now the most prominent Western power to take this position. It follows more than 140 countries – including more than a dozen in Europe – that have already recognised statehood. While largely symbolic, the move adds diplomatic pressure on Israel amid the ongoing war and aid crisis in Gaza. However, the announcement was immediately condemned by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who claimed recognition “rewards terror” and “risks creating another Iranian proxy, just as Gaza became. A Palestinian state in these conditions would be a launch pad to annihilate Israel – not to live in peace beside it.” A Palestinian state is unacceptable to Israel.

Further evidence was recently presented in a revealing TV interview by former Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak who stated Netanyahu had deliberately empowered Hamas in order to block a twostate solution. Instead there is mounting evidence Israel is seeking to annex the entirety of Palestinian land and relocate Palestinians to neighbouring countries. Given the current uncertainty, it appears unlikely a new ceasefire will be reached in the near future, especially as it remains unclear whether the US withdrawal from the negotiations was a genuine policy shift or merely a strategic negotiating tactic.

Labour at work and the dynamics of change

(Gns). The fluctuating international context compels states of this region and beyond to recalibrate their labour laws, policies and practices. This is particularly critical at a time of great demographic changes, such as declining and ageing populations in parts of the globe, compromised by a more transactional and conditional world of “quid pro quo”. At the forefront of the context is the relationship between the labour force and related standards to guarantee that “labour is not a commodity” and that the human face at work needs protection in the form of human rights.

The International Labour Organisation (ILO) is the key standard-setter, even preceding the birth of the UN and now also a specialized UN agency. It has evolved 192 Conventions, the latest being on biological hazards confronting the health and well-being of workers. These Conventions are complemented by the UN’s own family of human rights standards, especially the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR). The latter is sometimes clearer than ILO Conventions and helps to reinforce them. The most poignant query today is the right to strike which has proved to be a thorn in the interpretation of ILO Convention Number 87 on Freedom of Association. While some claim that the latter does not cover the right to strike, the ICESCR stipulates explicitly the right to strike and over one hundred countries are parties to this treaty.

The issue of whether Convention Number 87 covers such right is now before the International Court of Justice for clarification. From a more political angle, non-democracies are often less comfortable with political rights, such as freedom of expression and peaceful assembly, as compared with social rights, such as access to education. A comprehensive response advocates respect for the full range of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, requiring astute and principled diplomacy-cum-levers. The need to avoid a UN silo approach is also important. The UN Human Rights Council has been constructive in recent years to underline that “labour rights are human rights”.

For this reason, the fate of thousands of seafarers stuck on the high seas and elsewhere due to the Covid pandemic has led to amendments of the ILO’s

Maritime Labour Convention, and social security is a key concern interrelated with the world of work. Another area where labour at work inter-

and Recommendations (CEACR), has called for attention to the role of non-government armed groups which might be using children for this purpose, and

For instance, SDG Goal 8 calls for elimination of child labour by 2025. While many, if not all of the SDGs, will be unfulfilled by the target year of 2030, they still act as drivers of change towards measurable standards within a given time frame. This year, the forthcoming World Social Summit will be an opportunity to reiterate those Goals with more commitments on a social protection, including of workers. Another pressing issue is environmental protection, climate change and global warming.

This necessitates rethinking on labour at work. The ILO Conventions on occupational safety and health, Numbers 155 and 187, have become more important to address working conditions impacted upon by environmental changes, such as increased heat at work and recurrent flooding. New initiatives in this regard include “green collective bargaining” so that labour contracts can be more flexible to assist workers, complemented by climate-change related paid leave, such as to cope with floods. Interestingly, in the value chain, such as in the garment industry, due diligence on the part of the business sector is now emerging as a requisite for



faces with the changing international context is in relation to wars or armed conflicts. Do labour standards apply in such volatile situations? Although difficult, some labour standards such as the treaty countering forced labour, ILO Convention Number 29, have been applied, for example, in regard to the comfort women abused for sexual purposes during the Second World War.

ILO Convention Number 182 on prohibition of the worst forms of child labour also militates against conscription of children under 18. The monitoring mechanism of these Conventions, namely the ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions

the need for countermeasures. Precisely because warfare often creates a vacuum where people are not adequately protected, now all too visible in border areas with online scams and human trafficking, it has become essential for labour protection to go hand in hand with transnational cooperation on law enforcement and pressures for accountability, not only through the UN but also via those constituencies supporting the various warring factions.

From another angle, the lens of sustainable development interplays closely with the labour context, and the world is now guided by the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

Unspoken Discord

impeachment motions against two controversial

the Law Minister. Was this assertion of constitutional



judges may have complicated matters further.

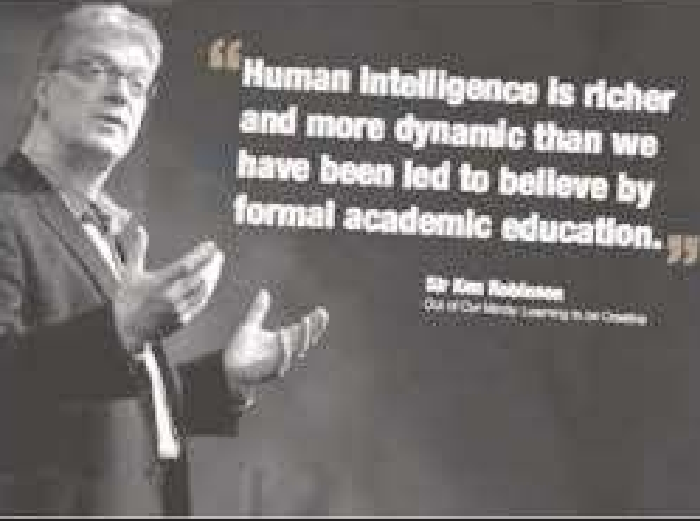
He upheld the procedural validity of the Opposition’s notice, even requesting updates from

process perceived as a challenge to the executive’s desire to control the narrative? Adding to the friction may have been Mr Dhankhar’s pointed

Art of Learning

describes what scientific enquiry is like: “There is an ancient proverb that says it’s very difficult to find a black cat in a dark room, especially when there is no cat. I find this a particularly apt description of science

cational system which is very efficient but is very efficient at a rather bad thing. So in 2nd grade, all the kids are interested in science, the girls and the boys. They like to take stuff apart. They have great



and how science works ~ bumping around in a dark room, bumping into things, trying to figure out what shape this might be, what that might be, there are reports of a cat somewhere around, they may not be reliable, they may be, and so forth and so on.”

But this spirit of fumbling around, making mistakes, stumbling and falling, is something that our education system smothers from the very beginning. Firestein, goes on to say, “We currently have an edu-

curiosity. They like to investigate things. They go to science museums. They like to play around. ... But by 11th or 12th grade, fewer than 10 per cent of them have any interest in science whatsoever, let alone a desire to go into science as a career. So we have this remarkably efficient system for beating any interest in science out of everybody’s head. “Is this what we want?”

I think this comes from what a teacher colleague of mine calls ‘the bulimic

In India’s often-theatrical political landscape, it is not the noise but the silence that sometimes says the most. The resignation of Mr Jagdeep Dhankhar as Vice President has created precisely that kind of unsettling silence ~ one that grows more deafening with every evasive statement and conspicuous omission.

The official explanation, citing health reasons, barely holds up to scrutiny when weighed against the sequence of events leading to his departure. Until hours before his resignation, Mr Dhankhar was actively engaged in high-level parliamentary work. As Rajya Sabha Chairman, he convened two Business Advisory Committee meetings and scheduled another over lunch for the follow-

ing day. This is not the behaviour of someone preparing to step down for health reasons.

The sudden cancellation of the second BAC meeting ~ reportedly because senior ministers failed to show up, without even the courtesy of informing him ~ raises questions about the exact nature of the friction at play. What followed was equally unusual: an impersonal farewell tweet from the Prime Minister almost 13 hours after the resignation. It offered merely a brief wish for “good health.” While not overtly dismissive, the message lacked the warmth typically extended to high constitutional office-bearers. It suggested a rupture ~ subtle but unmistakable. Mr Dhankhar’s recent remarks in the Upper House on

(Gns). The British author, Sir Ken Robinson said, “My contention is that creativity now is as important in education as literacy, and we should treat it with the same status.” He cites the example of a little girl of six, who people thought had learning disabilities because she couldn’t concentrate and pay attention, but was very keen on drawing. So the teacher walked up to her and asked her, “What are you drawing?” And she answered, “I’m drawing god”, to which the teacher said, “But no one knows how god looks...”, to which the girl replied, “they will... in a minute”. He goes on to say, “Picasso once said this, he said that all children are born artists.

The problem is to remain an artist as we grow up. I believe this passionately, that we don’t grow into creativity, we grow out of it. Or rather, we get educated out of it.” I am reminded of a tragic incident of a young girl of thirteen committing suicide a few days back. News has it that she used to remain depressed and all she wrote in her note before jumping off the terrace was “I hate people, I want to die.” It was also reported that she used to love drawing, but all her parents were

concerned with was how well she was doing in academics. Is it possible that had she been encouraged with her artistic skills, she may not have taken such a drastic step?

That drawing and painting could have vented out some of the angst that kept piling up inside her without any outlet? Children may not be driven to taking such extreme steps, but it is likely that stifling the space for creative passions to get nurtured and blossomed can have many ill effects on mental health in children. Sometimes they may need to draw, to think. Sometimes they may need to move, to think. So dancing and drawing may not just be the ends in themselves ~ they may also be the means to better academic performances. When children can happily pursue their creative passions, they are likely to be better performers in acquiring other cognitive skills as well.

Our education system, in its present state, not only stifles all creative endeavour; it, in fact, chokes any kind of original thinking. Stuart Firestein, the chair of the Department of Biological Sciences at Columbia University, in his Ted Talk in February 2013,

remarks at a recent public event, where he criticised Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, who was present on stage, for not doing enough for India’s farmers. Mr Dhankhar, whose father was a farmer, spoke with visible emotion ~ perhaps too candidly for the comfort of some in the ruling dispensation.

The possibility that Mr Dhankhar’s institutional integrity and outspoken style clashed with prevailing political expectations cannot be discounted. His readiness to speak bluntly ~ even within his own circle ~ set him apart in an era when discretion often trumps dissent. Adding to the irony is the response from Opposition leaders. Several of them, including those who had previously moved an impeachment

business and human rights, and good labour practices. This requires impact assessment, mitigation and remedies for workers and others affected especially by sub-par business practices.

Finally, there is the issue of digitalization and the advent of Artificial Intelligence (AI) at the workplace. The vast pool of gig workers or platform workers, such in the food industry, has pressed for a new response to workers in situations of precarity. The ILO is now drafting a new treaty on digital platform workers so that they will be protected by some if not all of the basic range of labour rights, such as on minimum wage, rest periods, and coverage of accidents. Understandably, the workforce might fear that AI will disrupt their lives and lead to dismissals and redundancies.

A preferred approach is thus to plan for AI inclusion to augment the capacity of workers rather than to displace them. For instance, AI will be especially useful for the 3 D’s – “Difficult, Dirty and Demeaning” tasks, such as mining, pesticide spraying, and various types of cleaning. Another 3 D’s also open the door to AI: Delicate, Dreary, and Didactic tasks, such as precise medical procedures, repetitive chores, and training-cum-education, respectively.

motion against Mr Dhan khar, are now praising his commitment to protocol and institutional balance.

That such gestures are emerging from across the aisle only highlights the awkwardness his departure has caused within the ruling establishment. That the Opposition ~ long critical of his partisan conduct, both as Vice President and earlier as West Bengal Governor ~ is now offering praise adds an unexpected twist to an already puzzling exit. Mr Dhan khar’s exit is not merely a resignation ~ it is a rupture. It reveals the narrowing space for institutional independence within India’s power structures. And in leaving without fanfare, Mr Dhankhar may have said more in silence than he ever could through words.

method of education.’ We just jam a whole bunch of facts down their throats over here and then they puke it up on an exam over here and everybody goes home with no added intellectual heft whatsoever.” Firestein explains that ‘evaluation really amounts to feedback and it amounts to an opportunity for trial and error. It amounts to a chance to work over a longer period of time with this kind of feedback.’ Our exam system, on which our entire education system is based, is really nothing like this. So, Firestein goes on to say, “I’d say what we need is a test that says, ‘What is x?’ and the answers are ‘I don’t know, because no one does,’ or ‘What’s the question?’ Even better. Or, ‘You know what, I’ll look it up, I’ll ask someone, I’ll phone someone.

I’ll find out.’ Because that’s what we want people to do, and that’s how you evaluate them.” We need to re-think, reevaluate, and re-create our education system so that schools don’t become gas chambers of creativity and originality but rather a garden where artistic and original talents flower and nurture. Let’s understand that dance is as important as maths, creativity just as important as literacy and

numeracy, and originality just as important as rationality. Sir Robinson batted for more individualistic learning within a broad curriculum, instead of a standardised curriculum, standardised testing and standardised evaluation methods.

Such an education system, based on command, control and compliance, only promotes rote learning, churning out stereotypes ~ pretty much like bricks in the wall; every child just like everyone else, crossing hurdles of the same exams and running towards the same end line of competitive exams. I’m sure there is a balance we can strike between the required amount of exams and much broader scope for encouraging creativity. Children need to be engaged in academics, their curiosity needs to be kindled and stoked, but not at the cost of curtailing the breathing space for their artistic creativity. William Butler Yeats said “Education is not about filling buckets; it is lighting fires.” So let’s have our matches out, let’s let them draw gods, and let’s let them dance, let’s let them make mistakes and ask questions, let’s not create bricks in the wall

India becoming a big exporter of railway equipment

Union Minister for Railways, Information & Broadcasting and Electronics & Information Technology Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw visited the Alstom Factory located at Savli in Vadodara, Gujarat today.

The Minister was accompanied by Vadodara MP Dr. Hemang Joshi, Savli MLA Shri Ketanbhai Inamdar, GMs of WR and CR, DRMs of Vadodara and Ahmedabad, and other senior railway officials.

Manufacturing of Namo Bharat coaches: The Alstom officials and employees working at the factory briefed the Railway Minister on various works being undertaken at the unit. The Minister appreciated the modern design and build quality of 'Namo Bharat' coaches being manufactured with cutting-edge technology.

(Railway Minister Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw and Vadodara MP Dr. Hemang Joshi interacting with Alstom officials about the 'Namo Bharat' coaches being manufactured at the Savli factory)

Comprehensive maintenance activities:

Alstom team informed the Minister about the maintenance activities being carried out, including



material usage and supplier integration. Discussions also covered preventive maintenance using sensors and AI.

Make in India, Make for the World

Railway Minister was apprised of the company's innovative approach of continuously upgrading the equipment designs with each order. The Minister congratulated Alstom for its 'Designed in India' railway equipment.

The coaches, locomotives, bogies, propulsion

systems, etc. manufactured at the factory are being exported across the globe. These railway equipment are reaching Australia, UK, France, Germany, Canada,

The Savli factory has boosted the economy of the Vadodara region, creating jobs for the local youth and leading to overall development of the region.

Talent development in India, for the World

The Minister was also briefed on the talent development activities being carried out by Alstom in India. It was told that Alstom has around 7,000 engineers in India including for both rolling stock and signalling systems. Out of these, around 300 engineers are engaged in international projects.

The Minister expressed interest in Alstom's training programs and suggested collaboration with Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya. He appreciated the existing training partnership between Alstom, Savli and WR's Vadodara Division.

The Minister urged the Alstom team to prepare large scale off-campus and on-site training programs for Indian Railways. He also encouraged the railway officials and their teams for active participation in these workshops.

Tata Consultancy Services To Lay Off 12,000 Employees

(Gns). Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), India's top IT exporter, is set to reduce its workforce by about 2%, affecting over 12,000 employees. This move is due to economic uncertainties and disruptions caused by AI technologies. The company plans to offer severance packages, outplacement services, and extended benefits to those impacted.

Impact on Workforce

By the end of June, TCS had a workforce of 613,069. The layoffs will primarily affect middle and senior-level employees throughout the year. TCS aims to become a future-ready organisation and will release associates whose roles are no longer feasible.

The company assured that service delivery to clients would remain unaffected during this transition.

"We understand that this is a challenging time for our colleagues likely to be affected. We thank them for their service and we will be making all efforts to provide

od payments along with additional severance packages. TCS also intends to extend insurance benefits and offer outplacement opportunities for those



appropriate benefits, outplacement, counselling, and support as they transition to new opportunities," stated TCS.

Severance Packages and Support

Employees facing layoffs will receive notice peri-

impacted. This decision follows recent legal complaints from several TCS employees regarding changes in the company's employee bench policy.

Industry Trends

India's software services sector, with revenues

exceeding \$283 billion, employs a large number of private sector workers. However, job additions at the top six IT firms have dropped significantly by over 72% in the April-June quarter compared to the previous quarter.

Strategic Initiatives TCS is undertaking strategic initiatives such as investing in new technology areas, expanding into new markets, deploying AI at scale for clients and itself, deepening partnerships, creating next-gen infrastructure, and realigning its workforce model. Reskilling and redeployment initiatives are also underway as part of these efforts.

The company's decision reflects broader trends in the IT industry as firms adapt to technological advancements and changing market demands.

Road Horror in Noida: Girl Dies in BMW Collision, 2 Youths Killed in Separate Crash

(Gns).

A tragic accident occurred in Noida's Sector 30 when a speeding BMW collided with a scooter, resulting in the death of a five-year-old girl and leaving two others critically injured. The incident took place on Saturday night as Gul Mohammad was taking his daughter for a medical checkup. The car involved has been seized, and two college students have been arrested.

The arrested individuals have been identified as Yash Sharma and Abhishek Rawat. Both are currently facing legal proceedings. Meanwhile, the injured victims, Gul Mohammad and his brother-in-law Raja, are receiving medical treatment.

Their condition remains critical. Authorities are investigating the circumstances surrounding the crash to determine if the accused were driving recklessly or under any influence at the time.

Greater Noida Accident

In another unfortunate event, Greater Noida witnessed a fatal road accident just a day before this incident. Three young men riding a scooter were struck by an unidentified vehicle near Sadopur canal while heading towards Dadri on Saturday evening. They were immediately taken to Mohan Swaroop Hospital in

Dadri with severe injuries.

Tragically, two of these individuals, Faizan and Anas, succumbed to their injuries during treatment. The third person remains in



critical condition. Police are actively searching for the vehicle involved in this Greater Noida accident and are reviewing CCTV footage from the area to gather more information.

Police Actions and Investigation

The police have assured that strict legal action will be taken against those responsible for the Noida accident. An investigation is ongoing to piece together the sequence of events leading up to the crash. This includes examining whether reckless driving or intoxication played any role in causing this tragedy.

The recent accidents highlight ongoing road safety concerns in the region. Authorities are urged to implement stricter measures to prevent such incidents from occurring in the future. Ensuring safer roads remains a priority for local law enforcement agencies as they continue their investigations into these cases.

SC To Hear On Jul 28 Pleas Challenging EC's Decision To Revise Bihar Electoral Rolls

(Gns).

The Supreme Court is scheduled to hear on Monday a batch of pleas challenging the Election Commission's decision to undertake a special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in poll-bound Bihar.

A bench of Justices Surya Kant and Joymalya Bagchi is likely to take up the matter in which the EC has justified its ongoing SIR of electoral rolls in Bihar, saying it adds to the purity of the election by "weeding out ineligible persons" from the electoral rolls.

SC To Hear On Jul 28 Pleas Challenging EC's Decision To Revise Bihar Electoral Rolls

The poll panel, while justifying its June 24 decision directing the SIR, has said all major political parties were "involved" in the exercise and deployed more than 1.5 lakh booth-level agents to reach out to eligible voters, but are opposing it in the apex court.

The SIR adds to the purity of elections by weeding out ineligible persons from the electoral rolls, the ECI has said in a detailed affidavit filed to counter the allegations of petitioners, which include several political leaders, civil society members and organisations.

"The entitlement to vote flows from Article 326 read with Sections 16 and 19 of the RP Act 1950 and Section 62 of the RP Act 1951, which contains certain qualifications with respect to citizenship, age, and ordinary residency. An ineligible person has no right to vote, and thus, cannot claim a violation of Articles 19 and 21 in this regard," it said.

Meanwhile, in a rejoinder affidavit, the NGO

'Association for Democratic Reforms', the lead petition in the case, has claimed that the Electoral

that their forms had been completed. "...Reports from the ground in Bihar, enumeration forms are being



Registration Officers (EROs) are vested with broad and unchecked discretion that could result in disenfranchisement of a significant segment of Bihar's population.

"The petition submits that the SIR order dated June 24, 2025, if not set aside, can arbitrarily and without due process disenfranchise lakhs of citizens from electing their representatives, thereby disrupting free and fair elections and democracy in the country, which are part of the basic structure of the Constitution," the NGO said.

It said the exclusion of Aadhaar and ration cards from the list of acceptable documents in the SIR of Bihar's electoral rolls is patently absurd and that the EC has given no valid reason for its decision. The NGO further claimed that the SIR is being conducted in such a manner that constitutes a grave fraud on voters and the Booth Level Officers (BLOs) are being found signing enumeration forms themselves and those dead are shown to have filled up forms, and those who hadn't filled up forms getting a message

mass-uploaded by BLOs without the knowledge or consent of the voters, in order to achieve the unrealistic target set by the ECI.

Many voters have reported that their forms have been submitted online, despite never having met with any BLOs or signed any documents. Forms of even dead individuals have been reported to have been submitted," it said. The NGO further said the poll panel's contention that the SIR is being conducted as a means to address concerns of political parties must be outright rejected, as not a single political party had asked the EC for a de novo exercise such as the one prescribed in the instant SIR order.

"The concerns of political parties were on the issue of the addition of non-existent votes and the deletion of genuine votes supporting the opposition parties, and on the issue of casting of votes after closure of polls. It is to be noted that none of the political parties asked for a de novo revision of the electoral roll," it said.

The NGO said the SIR initiated by the EC is being

conducted in a manner that constitutes a grave fraud on the voters of Bihar, and must be set aside. "This fraudulent exercise, conducted under the guise of electoral integrity, violates principles of due process and natural justice, as enshrined under Articles 14, 19, and 21 of the Constitution," it said.

RJD Rajya Sabha MP Manoj Jha, who is also a petitioner challenging the SIR, said in his rejoinder affidavit filed through advocate Fauzia Shakil that reports have pointed out instances where voters have complained that BLOs have not visited their house or neighbourhood and were found forging voters' signatures on forms and uploading them. "The present exercise is unprecedented inasmuch as for the first time a person is being asked to furnish documentary proof of his citizenship to the satisfaction of the Election Commission to be enrolled as a voter and exercise his constitutional right to vote.

"As is evident from a bare perusal of Form 6, the application form for a new voter, and documents for proof of date of birth and documents for proof of residence were required to be furnished along with only a declaration that a person is a citizen of India," Jha said.

Activist Yogendra Singh Yadav, in his rejoinder, said approximately 40 lakh electors face the prospect of deletion from the electoral rolls in the ongoing SIR of electoral rolls in Bihar. On July 10, a vacation bench headed by Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia asked the EC to consider Aadhaar, Voter ID and ration cards as valid documents and permitted the poll panel to continue with the exercise in Bihar with over 7 crore voters.

Thailand and Cambodia Agree On Ceasefire After Deadly Border Clashes

(Gns).

After days of deadly border clashes that have left 34 people dead and displaced over 168,000, there are new signs of hope emerging from Southeast Asia. Mediation efforts led by former U.S. President Donald Trump appear to have prompted Cambodia and Thailand to take initial steps toward peace, even as sporadic violence continues.

Trump took to his platform, Truth Social, on Saturday, sharing that he had "very good conversations" with Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Manet and Thailand's Acting Prime Minister Phumtham Wechayachai. "Both want an immediate ceasefire and PEACE," he emphasized, warning that continued conflict would put trade agreements at risk.

Following the talks, Cambodia announced its agreement to an "immediate and unconditional ceasefire." Hun Manet welcomed Thailand's apparent willingness to halt attacks, calling the development

"positive news for the soldiers and people of both

sides swiftly blamed each other, escalating tensions



countries." Ceasefire Talks Shadowed by Ongoing Violence

Despite encouraging diplomatic signals, Sunday saw continued skirmishes along contested border areas. The Thai military accused Cambodian forces of shelling Surin province, while Phnom Penh alleged renewed Thai troop movement near the Preah Vihear Temple region - a flashpoint in their long-standing territorial dispute.

The conflict initially flared on Thursday when a land mine explosion injured five Thai soldiers. Both

that led to diplomatic withdrawals and the closure of key border crossings.

Thailand's Foreign Ministry insisted that meaningful peace talks must be initiated by Cambodia, criticizing its neighbor's "lack of good faith" and alleged violations of humanitarian principles.

Human Toll Mounts

While leaders exchange words and promises, the impact on civilians continues to deepen. More than 131,000 Thai residents and 37,000 Cambodians have been displaced from their homes, many fleeing with little more than the clothes

China Proposes Global Organisation to Boost artificial intelligence (AI) Cooperation

(Gns).

China has announced plans to create a global organisation to enhance international cooperation on artificial intelligence (AI). This move is seen as an effort to counterbalance the United States in the AI sector. Premier Li Qiang revealed this initiative at the World Artificial Intelligence Conference in Shanghai, emphasising China's commitment to global regulatory coordination and sharing technological advancements.

Li Qiang's announcement comes amid increasing competition between China and the U.S., with the latter recently unveiling a comprehensive strategy to boost AI exports to its allies. Although Li did not explicitly mention the U.S., he seemed to criticise efforts that could impede China's AI development. He warned against allowing a few powerful nations and corporations to monopolise AI technology.

Global AI Governance Challenges

Li highlighted ongoing global concerns regarding AI regulation, noting obstacles such as limited access to advanced AI chips and

restrictions on international talent movement. "Current

performance AI chips due to potential military uses,



global AI governance remains fragmented, with substantial differences in regulatory approaches and institutional frameworks," he stated. He called for enhanced coordination to establish a widely accepted global AI governance model swiftly.

The three-day conference in Shanghai gathered policymakers and tech leaders amidst growing technological rivalry between China and the U.S., the world's two largest economies. The U.S. has imposed export controls on advanced technologies like Nvidia's high-

yet China continues progressing in AI development, closely watched by U.S. officials.

Proposed Global Organisation

China's Vice Foreign Minister Ma Zhaoxu proposed forming a new AI organisation during a roundtable with representatives from over 30 countries, including Russia, Germany, Qatar, South Korea, and South Africa. He mentioned that China is considering establishing the organisation's headquarters in Shanghai.

The foreign ministry also released an online

action plan inviting global stakeholders—from governments to research institutions—to collaborate on building international cooperation through initiatives like a cross-border open-source community.

Conference Highlights

This government-backed conference regularly attracts key figures from industry, academia, and policy circles. This year's event featured Anne Bouverot, France's special envoy on AI; Geoffrey Hinton, often called the "Godfather of AI"; and former Google CEO Eric Schmidt. Although Tesla CEO Elon Musk was absent this year, there was still significant industrial participation.

Over 800 companies showcased more than 3,000 advanced technologies at the event. These included 40 large language models, 50 AI-powered gadgets, and 60 intelligent robots. Most exhibitors were Chinese firms like Huawei and Alibaba, alongside startups such as Unitree that produce humanoid robots. Western companies such as Tesla, Amazon, and Alphabet also participated.

Who Is Pranjal Khewalkar? Eknath Khadse's Son-in-Law Detained in Pune Rave Party Raid

(Gns). In Pune, a rave party was disrupted by the Crime Branch police on Saturday night. Among those detained were four men and two women, including Dr. Pranjal Khewalkar, the son-in-law of senior Maharashtra politician Eknath Khadse. Initial reports suggest that cocaine and marijuana were consumed at the event. The incident is likely to stir political tensions once again.

Dr. Pranjal Khewalkar is married to Rohini Khadse, daughter of Eknath Khadse and the president of the Nationalist Women's State Wing. Rohini, who is actively involved in politics, married Pranjal after separating from her first husband. The couple currently lives in Muktainagar with their family.

Who Is Pranjal Khewalkar NCP Leader s Husband Among 7 Held in Pune Party Raid

Pranjal Khewalkar's

Additionally, he runs a travel company under his name. Despite his wife's active political career, Pranjal is known to maintain a distance from politics.

In a past incident, social activist Anjali Damania accused Pranjal Khewalkar of registering a Sonata Limousine under the Light Motor Vehicle (LMV) category at the Jalgaon RTO, which she claimed was illegal. Damania argued that only Ambassador Limousines are legally permitted in India and demanded that the car be seized.

Following the raid, Pune Police also searched Rohini Khadse's bungalow in Hadapsar. Senior officers conducted a thorough investigation of the premises. After being caught red-handed at the party, Pranjal Khewalkar was taken for a medical examination at Sassoon Hospital before being brought back to his residence.

Business Ventures

The rave party arrest has once again brought attention to Pranjal's background and previous controversies, particularly involving a luxury Sonata Limousine car.



Suhel Seth Slams Gurugram for Prioritising Liquor Vends Over Infrastructure

(Gns). Gurugram's infrastructure issues have become a focal point of criticism, with businessman Suhel Seth labelling the city a "national shame." He urged Delhi's Lieutenant Governor to take control and address the city's governance problems. Seth highlighted the irony of calling Gurugram a smart city when basic services are lacking. "You can't have smart cities with unsmart leaders," he remarked.

Criticism from Prominent Figures

Former NITI Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant supported Seth's critique, noting that Gurugram has more liquor stores than functioning traffic lights and more bars than schools. This imbalance highlights the

Haryana officials contacted him. Rajeev Jaitly and Pradeep IAS confirmed that CM Nayab Saini had taken note of the situation and that action was being initiated. Despite these assurances, the city's problems persist.

The July rain-related deaths and flooded roads have intensified scrutiny on Gurugram's civic failures. For many residents, these issues are not just seasonal inconveniences but ongoing reminders of a city built on real estate ambitions yet plagued by neglect.

Seth's comments come amid growing concerns about Gurugram's urban sprawl and lack of accountability in governance. The city's chaotic development has led to poor public services and inadequate infrastructure, prompting calls for urgent intervention to restore order.

Response from Authorities

Following Seth's remarks at an Indian Express event, he revealed on X (formerly Twitter) that

local administration's priorities and underscores the need for better governance and accountability in managing public services.

Seth also pointed out



At Least 11 People Wounded, 6 Critically, In Stabbing At Michigan Walmart; Suspect In Custody

(Gns). At least 11 people were stabbed at a Walmart in Traverse City on Saturday — with six in critical condition — in what the sheriff said appeared to be a random act.

A suspect was in custody, authorities said. "Eleven is 11 too many, but thank God it wasn't more," Grand Traverse County Sheriff Michael Shea told reporters. Emergency vehicles and uniformed first responders were seen outside the store following the incident.

Tiffany DeFell, 36, who lives in Honor, about 25 miles from Traverse City, said she was in the parking lot when she saw chaos erupt around her. "It was really scary. Me and my sister were just freaking out," she said. "This is something you see out of the movies. It's not what you expect to see where you're living."

Munson Healthcare said

she said. Shea said the weapon involved appeared to be a folding-style knife. Earlier in the day, the

the victims and the community reeling from this brutal act of violence." Walmart said in a statement that it would continue to work closely with law enforcement in the investigation. "Violence like this is unacceptable. Our thoughts are with those who were injured and we're thankful for the swift action of first responders," the statement said.

FBI Deputy Director Dan Bongino said in a social media post that bureau officials were responding to "provide any necessary support." Traverse City is a popular vacation spot on the coast of Lake Michigan. It is known for its cherry festival, wineries and light-houses. and is about 40 kilometers east of Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore.

Michigan State Police said the suspect had been taken into custody. Shea said the suspect is believed to be a Michigan resident but declined to share further details.

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer said: "Our thoughts are with



Discharged from hospital, Stalin returns home after a week

(Gns). Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin returned home after being discharged from hospital on Sunday evening.

He was admitted to hospital following 'giddiness' during his routine morning walk on July 21 and after preliminary tests doctors advised him to stay at the hospital for three more days. Later, his stay at the hospital was extended for monitoring and carrying out more tests.

Apollo hospital in a bulletin said, "The chief minister is fit for discharge after successfully recovering from the therapeutic procedure done by the expert team."

He has been advised to

resume his normal duties, it added.

On Thursday, the chief minister underwent a successful cardiac therapeutic procedure to correct irregular variations in his heart rate, which was identified

as the reason for his giddiness. A diagnostic angiogram was also carried out, the hospital said.

On reaching home, Stalin thanked all those

attended on him. "Returned home from hospital in good health. My heartfelt thanks to those who wished me speedy recovery with concern — from leaders of political parties to people's representatives, judges, film personalities and the party cadre. My sincere thanks to the doctors who gave special care and the nurses and others," he wrote on X.

The very next day after his hospitalisation, Stalin continued to carry out his official duties from the hospital, turning his suite into his camp office with officials in attendance. He shared on social media pictures of his interaction with beneficiaries of government schemes and with party functionaries.

who inquired about his health and the doctors who



Guns without Fire: The 76mm Gun Crisis aboard PNS Zulfiqar

(Gns). The Pakistan Navy's modernisation drive, anchored by the acquisition of Chinese-built F-22P Zulfiqar-class frigates, was meant to bolster its maritime firepower and deterrence.

The flagship PNS Zulfiqar has, however, become a case study in how critical technical failures can undermine even advanced platforms. Central to this crisis is the persistent malfunction of its main 76mm naval gun—a flaw with far-reaching operational and strategic consequences.

Defence experts note that the Pakistan Navy's Zulfiqar-class frigates hinder its ability to dominate the seas due to persistent technical failures, particularly in propulsion systems, sensors, and weapon reliability. Chronic engine breakdowns, cooling faults, and unreliable radars have led to frequent operational downtime, limiting the fleet's speed, endurance, and combat readiness.

These issues compel the Pakistan Navy to operate its frigates with degraded capabilities, thereby undermining their roles in air defence, surface warfare, and maritime patrols, and leaving Pakistan unable to project power or maintain a credible deterrence against more advanced regional navies.

Mechanical and Electrical Faults

The 76mm NG 16 single-barrel gun was designed as a versatile weapon system, capable of engaging surface ships, aircraft, and incoming missiles. However, Zulfiqar's

gun has been beset by mechanical breakdowns. Chronic failures in the loading and firing mechanisms have been traced to design flaws and substandard components. The below-deck ammunition feed, turret motors, and handling systems have all suffered repeated malfunctions, often leaving the gun inoperable during critical moments.

Among electrical failures, the gun's fire control system has experienced persistent electrical faults, including defective wiring, unreliable sensors, and malfunctioning control units. These issues have caused misfires, delayed targeting, and, at times, a complete inability to fire.

Further, the frigates have had stabiliser gyro issues. The HP5 stabiliser gyro, crucial for maintaining accuracy as the ship moves, has been reported non-functional for extended periods. This further degrades the gun's effectiveness, especially in rough seas or during high-speed manoeuvres.

Despite repeated repair attempts, these problems have persisted. Investigations indicate that

defective critical components and inadequate after-sales service from the original Chinese manufacturers are the root causes, with spare parts and technical support often being delayed or inadequate.

Strategic Implications on Combat Capability

The impact of these faults extends well beyond technical inconvenience. The 76mm gun is a core element of the ship's defence against surface and aerial threats, including anti-ship missiles. Its frequent unavailability leaves the vessel exposed in high-threat environments, undermining the Navy's ability to protect its assets and maintain sea control.

Due to its reduced deterrence and mission effectiveness, the inability to reliably engage enemy targets diminishes the ship's role in convoy protection, maritime interdiction, and force projection. This has strategic implications for Pakistan's ability to assert control over its maritime interests and fulfil operational mandates.

The persistent technical failures have had a significant impact on operational performance and morale,



Odisha school teacher held for molesting girl students

Police on Sunday arrested the science teacher of a government-run high school under the Talachua marine police station jurisdiction in Odisha's Kendrapara district for allegedly molesting at least five girl students in the institution premises.

The unsavory incident came to light when one of the victims refused to go to the school on Friday. Later, she revealed her parents regarding the amorous advances of the school teacher towards the girl students. However, the parents did not come forward to lodge a police complaint, said a police official.

The headmaster of the school lodged an FIR against the teacher, Amar

Prasad Mallick, on Saturday narrating the sexual escapades of his colleague. Mallick, booked under relevant sections of BNS and section-12 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offence Act, 2012, has been arrested and sent to jail after a court in Kendrapara rejected his bail application, said the Inspector-In-Charge of Talachua marine police station, Bimal Kumar Mallick.



National Symposium on 'Women's Safety at Work and Public Spaces', in collaboration with the University of Lucknow

(Gns). The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), in collaboration with the Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Chair, Department of Sociology, University of Lucknow, successfully organised a National Symposium on 'Women's Safety at Work and Public Spaces' on 26th July, 2025. This marked the second national symposium on this critical subject, following the inaugural symposium held on 9th September, 2024. The initiative comes in the wake of rising incidents of crimes against women in both professional environments and public domains across the country.

Delivering the keynote address virtually, NHRC Chairperson, Justice V. Ramasubramanian reflected on the contrast between India's cultural reverence for goddesses and the grim reality of violence against women, citing that nearly 51 FIRs related to such crimes are registered every hour. He recalled the protracted struggle behind the enactment of the Prevention of Sexual Harassment at Workplace Act, 2013, and emphasised

that despite notable pursue education and careers, Justice Ramasubramanian urged for enhanced awareness, stronger enforcement mechanisms and systemic changes to ensure their safety and dignity.

Smt. Saindipui Chhakchhuak, Joint Secretary, NHRC, explained the necessity of organising the symposium, sharing personal experiences to highlight how, despite comprehensive legal frameworks, daily reports of gender-based violence persist. She said that NHRC, India takes proactive measures to promptly address such issues of human rights violations. She expressed her

hope that future generations would be more vocal and action-oriented regarding women's rights. Smt.

Chhakchhuak also called upon educators to be more sensitive to gender issues to uphold the dignity of all, noting that not all crimes are overtly violent. She urged a strong focus on policy, enforcement and public awareness.

Prof. S.K. Chowdhury, University of Lucknow, emphasised that rights to liberty and equality are enshrined in the Indian Constitution. However, he propounded that awareness alone is insufficient—people must also have the confidence to report crimes. He called for structural

adjustments in society and stressed the need to foster a culture of human rights that translates into everyday behaviour. Prof. S.M. Patnaik, Director, Centre for Tribal Studies and Head, Department of Anthropology, University of Delhi, offered a socio-anthropological perspective on harassment in public spaces. He discussed how patriarchy and anonymity reinforce gendered violence. Quoting Carl Sagan- "Absence of evidence is not evidence of absence", he cautioned against assuming that lack of data indicates the problem has subsided. Prof. Patnaik called for empathy, gender sensitisation from a young age and the creation of support systems for women.

Dr. P.K. Gupta, Associate Professor at the University of Lucknow, brought attention to the prevalence of domestic crimes against women. He highlighted the need to address behavioural patterns at the individual level, emphasising that change must begin within the household to make broader societal impact.

