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PM Modi Speaks With 'Friend' Putin, Vows To Strengthen India-Russia Relations

(Gns). Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday spoke to Russian President Vladimir Putin in what he described as a "very good and detailed conversation," reaffirming the commitment to further strengthen the India-Russia Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership. The leaders also discussed developments concerning Ukraine, with PM Modi reiterating India's consistent call for a peaceful resolution to the conflict.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Russian President Vladimir Putin discussed the India-Russia Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership, developments concerning

Ukraine, and the bilateral agenda in a recent conversation, with Putin accepting Modi's invitation for the upcoming summit in India.

In his post on X, PM Modi said he thanked President Putin for sharing the latest updates on Ukraine and reviewed progress on the bilateral agenda. He expressed his anticipation for hosting Putin in India later this year as part of the 23rd India-Russia Annual Summit. The discussion came less than a day after National Security Advisor (NSA) Ajit Doval met Putin at the Kremlin, in a meeting also attended by

Russian Security Council Secretary Sergei Shoigu, Kremlin aide Yuri Ushakov,



and India's Ambassador to Russia, Vinay Kumar.

The diplomatic engagements followed U.S. President Donald Trump's recent move to impose additional tariffs on India over its oil imports from Russia - a decision New

Delhi labelled as "unfair, unjustified and unreasonable." India reiterated that its oil imports are driven by market conditions and aimed at ensuring the energy security of its 1.4 billion citizens.

Putin's Upcoming Visit to India

Putin's upcoming visit marks the continuation of the annual summit tradition between the two nations' leaders. The last Russian presidential visit took place on December 6, 2021, during the 21st India-Russia Annual Summit in New Delhi. PM Modi visited Russia twice last year - for the 22nd Russia-India Summit in July and the BRICS Summit in Kazan in October.

Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel Inaugurates Urban Forest Park in Lambha Ward, Ahmedabad South Zone

Chief Minister unveils the statue of Bhagwan Birsa Munda at the Urban Forest Park.

Gandhinagar, 08 August 2025: Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel inaugurated the Urban Forest Park in Lambha Ward, South Zone, developed by the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation under the PPP model.

On this occasion, the Chief Minister also unveiled the statue of Bhagwan Birsa Munda.

The Urban Forest in Lambha Ward has been developed over an area of 4,464 square meters at a cost of ₹55 lakh.

Around 8,000 indigenous trees—including Teak (Tectona grandis), Khair (Cutch tree), Bamboo, Siris (Albizia lebbek), Sissu (Dalbergia sissoo), and Arjun (Terminalia arjuna)—have been planted using the Miyawaki method. A 250-meter-long walkway has also been constructed as

part of the development.

At the inauguration of the Urban Forest Park, Ahmedabad Mayor Smt. Pratibha Jain, Municipal

Shri Bhupendra Patel, the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation is dedicated to transforming Ahmedabad into the cleanest city in

Million Trees - 2025" with a target of planting 40 lakh trees. As of 7th August 2025, a total of 27,11,443 trees have already been planted.

With 66.77% of the 40 lakh tree plantation target already achieved, the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation is set to complete the remaining plantation work promptly in the coming days.

Thus far, in Ahmedabad city, the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation has developed Oxygen Parks/Urban Forests at 198 plots, using the Miyawaki method and dense plantation techniques.

Across various zones of Ahmedabad, a total of 198 Oxygen Parks/Urban Forests have been developed — including 58 in the East Zone, 30 in the West Zone, 29 in the North Zone, 18 in the South Zone, 32 in the North-West Zone, and 31 in the South-West Zone.



Commissioner Shri Banchhanidhi Pani, local MLAs, corporators, and senior officials of the Municipal Corporation were present.

Notably, under the leadership of Chief Minister

India.

To transform Clean City Ahmedabad into a Green City, the Municipal Corporation, under the guidance of the Chief Minister, has initiated the campaign "Mission Four

Sh. Manohar Lal Khattar and Minister of State, Atomic Energy Dr. Jitendra Singh Jointly Convene High-Level Meeting to Discuss 100 GW Nuclear Energy Mission

(Gns). Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science & Technology, Earth Sciences, MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr. Jitendra Singh highlighted the government's

response from industries towards the Bharat Small Modular Reactor (SMR) program, leading to an extension of the Request for Proposal (RFP) submission deadline to 30th September 2025 to encourage wider participation.



landmark initiative to open the nuclear sector for private sector participation, emphasizing its pivotal role in strengthening India's energy security. He also noted a strong and vibrant

The outcomes of the 4th Consultative Committee meeting held in April were fast-tracked to ensure timely implementation.

Power Minister Sh. Manohar Lal Khattar and Dr.

Nitin Gadkari Addresses Mileage Concerns And Highlights Economic Gains

(Gns). Road Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari has dismissed concerns about E20 petrol affecting vehicle mileage. He stated, "You show me one vehicle anywhere in the world which had problems because of E20 petrol!" This comment was made during an interview at a Business Today summit. Gadkari believes the petroleum lobby might be behind these claims.

The petroleum ministry also addressed these concerns, stating that no significant engine damage or performance loss has been observed with E20 fuel. However, they noted that newer cars might experience a 2% drop in mileage,

while older vehicles could see up to a 6% decrease. Regular maintenance can manage these issues.

Road Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari said E20 petrol does not affect vehicle mileage, while the petroleum ministry noted potential mileage drops of 2% in newer and up to 6% in older cars, with minor maintenance needed. Gadkari highlighted the economic benefits of ethanol production, including increased maize prices and potential boosts in agriculture's GDP, while promoting 100% ethanol as a

future fuel. Gadkari highlighted the economic benefits of using



ethanol. He mentioned that maize prices have increased from ₹1,200 to ₹2,600 per quintal due to ethanol production. This price rise has expanded maize cultivation in Bihar and UP, boosting farmers' incomes.

He further argued that

diversifying into ethanol production could raise agriculture's GDP contribution from 12% to 22%. Gadkari also promoted "100 per cent ethanol" as a future fuel option.

Vehicle Maintenance Considerations

The petroleum ministry clarified that using E20 petrol might require minor replacements like rubber parts or gaskets after 20,000 to 30,000 km in some older vehicles. These replacements are inexpensive and typically occur during regular servicing.

Gadkari emphasized that locally produced ethanol reduces India's import bill and pollution levels.

Tamil Nadu Government Introduces New Education Policy Amid Dispute With Central Government Over NEP

(Gns). The Tamil Nadu government, led by Chief Minister MK Stalin, has introduced a new education policy. This move comes amid ongoing debates about language policies in the state. The policy maintains the two-language system in schools, focusing on Tamil and English. Stalin also recognised 901 students from government schools who gained entry into top institutions like IITs and NITs.

Stalin expressed pride in the fact that 75% of students who passed Class XII exams this year have enrolled in higher education. He aims to increase this figure to 100% in the future. This initiative is part

of a broader effort to enhance educational opportunities for students across Tamil Nadu.

Tamil Nadu, under Chief Minister MK Stalin, introduced a new education policy maintaining the two-language system and rejecting the National Education Policy (NEP), leading to a dispute over central funds and legal actions, including a Supreme Court plea. The state, led by the DMK, opposes the NEP's three-language formula and the PM SHRI Schools Scheme's implementation

mandate, demanding over Rs 2,200 crore from the Centre.

State Education Policy and Its Implications

The State Education Policy (SEP) was crafted by a committee led by retired high court Judge Justice D Murugesan. The report was submitted in 2024. This policy emerges after months of protests against the National Education Policy (NEP) introduced by the central government, which Tamil Nadu has opposed. The DMK-led govern-



Special event on 08th August 2025 on the occasion of Raksha Bandhan as part of Celebration of 5 years of Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan (NMBA)

(Gns). In alignment with the spirit of Raksha Bandhan, and part of celebration of 5 years of Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan (NMBA), an event was organized by Department of Social Justice & Empowerment on 8th August 2025 from 09:00 AM at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, 15 Janpath, New Delhi, wherein sisters from the Brahma Kumaris tied rakhis to nearly 400 CRPF jawans and officers. This event also featured a pledge ceremony by all participants committing to remain free from drug use.

Hon'ble Union Minister, Social Justice and Empowerment Dr. Virendra Kumar administered a "Mass Pledge" against drug

abuse to all the participants. Hon'ble Minister emphasized that this challenge of



eradicating drug addiction requires everyone in the society to come together and fight for this social cause.

The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is the nodal Ministry for drug demand reduction in the country, which coordinates and monitors all aspects of drug abuse pre-

vention, assessment of the extent of the problem, preventive action, treatment

and rehabilitation of users, dissemination of information. This Ministry has initiated ambitious Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan (NMBA) and currently operational in all districts of the country with an aim to create awareness about ill effects of substance abuse among the youth, with special

focus on higher education institutes, university campuses, schools and reaching out into the community and garnering community involvement and ownership of the Abhiyaan. Hon'ble Minister of State, SJE, Shri Ramdas Athawale highlighted the achievements of Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan (NMBA) and explained how NMBA has helped in reducing the demand of drugs.

Hon'ble Minister of State, SJE, Shri B.L. Verma in his speech mentioned that the repercussions of substance use are not confined to the individual and his family, they ripple outward, affecting communities and contributing to broad societal changes and social stigma.



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

Editorial

Alive and Kicking

Recently, some voices have claimed that India is a “dead economy,” a statement both puzzling and detached from the facts. To label a nation sprinting ahead with such vigour as fallen is to misunderstand the race it is running. Let us look closer at the reality behind the rhetoric.

“Dead economy”? The numbers say otherwise. India is the world's fourth-largest economy and is on track to become the third-largest by 2028. We are clocking towards a growth rate of 6.8 per cent, with the IMF revising next year's forecast up wards 6.4 per cent. India is the fastest-growing major economy, far outpacing the US and other developed nations. Foreign capital continues to surge in, with India rising to 15th in global FDI rankings and drawing investment from over 110 countries. Inflation remains contained at around 3 per cent.

The real pulse of India's transformation, as Prime Minister Narendra Modi has often asserted, is the collective ambition and work ethic of its people. Indians often understate their achievements, yet they are building the dreams of 1.4 billion people ~ more than four times the US population. India maintains the world's second-largest road network, expanding highways by 60 per cent in last ten years. The railway system is now the fourth-largest globally and has doubled its capacity. Our logistics outperform even advanced economies ~ container dwell time is just three days compared to seven in the US, and port turnaround time is a minuscule 0.9 days, beating Singapore and Australia.

Metro rail systems have expanded from five cities to over twenty-two. Central infrastructure spending has soared from Rs 2.5 lakh crore in 2014 to Rs 11.1 lakh crore in 2024–25, reflecting a nation-building commitment of extraordinary scale. This momentum is rooted in a hard-won shift from a colonial legacy that left India economically hollowed out. Today, India is no longer fragile. Annual service exports exceed \$340 billion, while manufacturing's share of GDP rises steadily, driven by advanced engineering and electronics.

India makes iPhones for the world, is renowned as “the Pharmacy of the World” supplying 20 per cent of global generic drugs, and has developed a world-class indigenous defence sector. With over 1.5 lakh startups ~ including 110+ unicorns ~ India is the third-largest start-up ecosystem globally and is home to the second-highest number of R&D centres among Fortune 500 companies. These are signs of ascent, not decline.

Progress is firmly anchored in the rural heartland. Agriculture, the backbone of the economy for centuries, is seeing record output and technological transformation. India leads globally in milk, pulses, and jute, and is the largest rice exporter. This strength is matched by a leap in government support, with the agribudget rising from Rs 11,915 crore in 2008-09 to Rs 1.2 lakh crore in 2024-25. Legal and regulatory reforms have further fuelled India's rise.

Since 2014, the Ease of Doing Business ranking has climbed by 79 places, reflecting improved governance. Over 180 business offences have been decriminalised, and 29 labour laws merged into four streamlined codes. Skill India has trained over 1.4 crore youth and reskilled 54 lakh, generating 17.1 crore new jobs from 2014 to 2024. The unemployment rate has dropped from 6 per cent to 3.2 per cent, and youth employability has soared from 34 per cent to 55 per cent. More than 4.7 crore young Indians have found formal employment as per the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation numbers since 2017.

The transformation extends into the digital realm. India leads the world in per-user mobile data usage, averaging 32 GB per month almost 50 per cent higher than North America, at the world's lowest rates. The IMF recognises India as the leader in rapid digital payments, with the Unified Payments Interface handling over 18 billion transactions monthly, now expanding internationally.

Rakshabandhan, a priceless celebration of the unbreakable love of brother and sister,

Yogi government announces free bus travel for sisters on Rakshabandhan, Correspondent Mohammad Saif,

Rakshabandhan, a holy festival which is not only a knot of a thread, but a priceless bond of love and trust that connects hearts. This festival takes the depth of the brother-sister relationship to new heights, where the thread of affection, the foundation of trust and the promise of protection bind each other. 'Raksha' means protection and 'bandhan' is the knot that makes this relationship unbreakable. This festival, celebrated on the full moon day of Shravan month, is a shining star of India's cultural heritage, which touches every heart.

Spiritual and historical aura Rakshabandhan is not just a festival, but an emotion that is adorned with stories of love, sacrifice and dedication. Its roots are deeply embedded in mythological and historical stories, which teach us the importance of relationships.

The immortal story of Draupadi and Krishna, When Lord Krishna's finger started bleeding, Draupadi tore the pallu of her sari and tied it on his finger. This small act was a symbol of love and selflessness. Krishna respected this

affection and promised to protect Draupadi in every crisis. This story teaches us that the thread of Rakhi is not just a thread but a trust that reaches from heart to heart.

The story of Rani Karnavati and Humayun, When Chittor's Rani Karnavati was in trouble, she sent a Rakhi to Mughal emperor Humayun and asked for help as a brother. Humayun, honoring this bond, stepped forward to protect her. This story shows the bond of Rakhi that connects humanity beyond blood relations.

The sacred bond of Yam and Yamuna, The story of Yamraj and his sister Yamuna also strengthens the foundation of Raksha Bandhan. Yamuna tied a Rakhi on her brother Yamraj's wrist and wished him happiness and prosperity. Yamraj blessed him that the brother who gets a Rakhi tied by his sister will get long life and protection. This story teaches us that the bond of Rakshabandhan can make even death bow down to love.

The day of Rakshabandhan is not just a ritual, but a fair of happiness. A wave of excitement runs through the houses from the morning itself.

World Lion Day 2025: Barda Sanctuary Thrives with 17 Lions, 25 Leopards

Gujarat's Lion Census 2025: 891 Lions in State, Barda Sanctuary Leads Habitat Expansion

Track the Pride: Barda's Jungle Safari Opens New Eco-Tourism Frontiers

Gandhinagar, 08 August 2025: On the occasion of World Lion Day 2025, the State of Gujarat reaffirms its position as a national leader in wildlife conservation by showcasing the ongoing ecological advancement of the Barda Wildlife Sanctuary into a robust secondary habitat for the Asiatic lion. Under the leadership of Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel, the Forest and Environment Department has undertaken a science-driven and community-inclusive approach to habitat development. The strategic transformation of Barda Sanctuary is the result of focused efforts in ecological restoration, scientific habitat management, and participatory governance. Gujarat's sustained success in the conservation of the Asiatic lion stands as a model of balanced development. It reflects the guiding philosophy of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi — “Vikas bhi, Virasat bhi” — where progress and preservation are pursued simultaneously and harmoniously. This

dual approach ensures that the protection of natural heritage goes hand in hand with sustainable development. As per the 2023 wildlife

census, Barda is now home to 17 Asiatic lions, including cubs, and a healthy population of 25 leopards. Comprehensive conservation measures — including grassland restoration, prey base enhancement, and technology-enabled wildlife tracking — have significantly improved the sanctuary's carrying capacity. This progress aligns with the broader objectives of Project Lion, launched by Prime Minister Modi to expand lion habitats beyond Gir, ensure health security for wildlife, and promote long-term ecological sustainability.

Barda Wildlife Sanctuary: A Strategic Conservation Landscape Located near Porbandar in coastal



Barda records 100% lion habitation within its boundaries, underscoring the success of habitat protection strategies. The use of advanced tools like radio-collars and real-time movement tracking has made lion monitoring more effective.

Efforts such as large-scale grassland rejuvenation and prey species augmentation have created a robust ecological base capable of supporting apex predators. The co-existence of lions and leopards within the sanctuary signals the presence of a stable and functional ecosystem, positioning Barda as a replicable model for future rewilding and conservation projects.

Visitor Facilities and Eco-Tourism Promotion

Sanctuary from October 16 to June 15 each year. The safari experience is designed to be educational and immersive, guided by trained professionals.

Safari Fee Structure (per trip, max 6 persons):

- ₹1400 – Gypsy (vehicle) charge
- ₹400 – Guide fee
- ₹400 – Government permit
- Total: ₹2200 per safari

In addition, visitor amenities such as parking areas, waiting lounges, and sanitation facilities have been developed to enhance accessibility and comfort. The sanctuary also allows year-round access to the Kileshwar Mahadev Temple, located within its limits, reflecting Gujarat's inclusive

approach to conservation that respects cultural and religious practices. Integrating Community Participation in Conservation

home to 891 Asiatic lions, with over 50% residing outside the Gir Protected Area. This shift underscores the effectiveness of habitat expansion and decentralised conservation under Project Lion.

Barda's development reflects India's leadership in large carnivore conservation. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's global initiative — the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) — further strengthens India's position as a champion in global big cat protection efforts.

Barda as a Beacon of Balanced Conservation

As World Lion Day 2025 is observed, Barda Wildlife Sanctuary stands as a model of sustainable conservation that is science-led, community-powered, and future-ready. With continuous support from the citizens of Gujarat and strong leadership at both state and national levels, Barda exemplifies what is possible when vision, technology, and local participation align.

The rising roar from Barda reinforces India's global commitment to biodiversity and offers a pathway for other regions aspiring to balance development with ecological heritage, true to the vision of “Vikas bhi, Virasat bhi.”

Under the leadership of Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel, the Gujarat Government has adopted a multi-sectoral, citizen-centric conservation strategy. Local communities — particularly the Maldhari pastoralist groups — are actively involved in eco-tourism management and conservation initiatives, ensuring that economic development and biodiversity protection go hand-in-hand.

This participatory governance model not only strengthens the conservation effort but also ensures that communities become stakeholders in the sanctuary's long-term success.

Gujarat's Expanding Lion Landscape

The 2025 Lion Census reveals that Gujarat is now

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The presence of key political blocs on stage during his election announcement ~ the BNP, Jamaate-

protests that forced the fall of a 15-year-old regime surprised many, but the grievances fuelling them had been simmering for years.

Widespread allegations of state repression, enforced disappearances, and crony authoritarianism under Sheikh Hasina's Awami League had hollowed out public trust. The tipping point, sparked by a quota system seen as deeply unfair, morphed into a nationwide demand for accountability in governance and civil liberties. The caretaker government's commitment to enshrining this movement in the constitution through the so-called “July Declaration” appears to be a nod to this mass mo – bilisation ~ but whether it is more than a symbolic gesture remains to be seen. The sheer scale of youth

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GM/WR shri vivek kumar gupta undertakes shramdaan as part of the swachchata abhiyan

"Swachhata Abhiyan" being observed over Western Railway with great enthusiasm

WR promotes cleanliness and environmental conservation through Shramadaan and Tree Plantation drive

Mumbai, Indian Railways is observing "Swachhata Abhiyan", as part of the ongoing Independence Day celebrations of our nation, and also to reaffirm its commitment to the national cause of cleanliness and public hygiene. This campaign is being observed across all its Zones and Production Units including PSUs, in two phases, namely from 1st to 15th August, 2025 followed by 16th Aug to 31st Oct, 2025. The campaign covers our endeavor towards cleanliness in all spheres of Railway functioning i.e. stations, trains, colonies, offices, depots, and workshops etc, while also promoting awareness among staff and passengers.

In this spirit, Western Railway is also actively observing the "Swachhata Abhiyan", across all its divisions and units.

Embracing this attitude, Shri Vivek Kumar Gupta, General Manager of Western Railway has shown the lead and set an example by

Thereafter, Shri Gupta participated in Tree Plantation drive.

According to a press release issued by the Chief Public Relations Officer of



(1st photo) Shri Vivek Kumar Gupta, General Manager of Western Railway undertaking Shramdaan at Mumbai Central station. (2nd photo) Shri Gupta alongwith Shri Pankaj Singh, Divisional Railway Manager of Mumbai Central is seen participating in the Tree Plantation drive.

undertaking Shramdaan at Mumbai Central station on 8th August, 2025. He was joined by Shri Pankaj Singh, Divisional Railway Manager of Mumbai Central and other senior railway officials as well as staff. On this occasion, General Manager in his address emphasized the importance of maintaining cleanliness. He encouraged everyone to actively contribute to the upkeep and beautification of railway stations and surrounding

Western Railway, Shri Vineet Abhishek, the "Swachhata Abhiyan" emphasizes on cleanliness, hygiene, environmental responsibility, and community engagement in alignment with the vision of "Swachh Rail Swachh Bharat". The campaign began with the Swachhata Pledge administered by General Manager, Principal Head of Departments and senior officials at Zonal level as well as by Divisional

Railway Managers at Divisional level and by Chief Workshop Managers at Workshop level, reaffirming their commitment to cleanliness.

Shri Vineet further informed that Nukkad Natak, Swachh Rath rallies and Prabhat Pheris are being organized at several locations with active participation from employees and public volunteers. Selfie booths based on Swachhata themes have been set up to engage the public. Intensive cleanliness drives, Shramdaan are being organized at stations, offices, railway colonies with the involvement of employees and influencers. Health check-up camps are being arranged for Swachhata workers. In order to encourage people to pledge their commitment to cleanliness, Swachhata Hastakshar (signature campaigns) are being organized. Awareness drives for catering staff and inspections are also being carried out at food establishments, pantry cars and base kitchens. Passengers are motivated to use Plastic Bottle Crusher Machines to reduce plastic waste as well as proper disposal of waste in dustbins only. As part of green initiatives, Tree Plantation drives are being organized at different locations.

Western Railway's active participation in the Swachhata Drive during the Independence Day Celebration Week underlines its continued commitment to cleanliness, sustainability, and public engagement.

Vineet Abhishek, during the block period, all fast line trains will be run on slow lines between Andheri and Churchgate.

There will be NO BLOCK in DAY TIME over Western Railway Suburban section on Sunday, 10th August, 2025.

00:30 hrs to 04:30 hrs, between Santacruz and Mahim stations in the intervening night of Saturday/Sunday, i.e. on 09th / 10th August, 2025.

According to a press release issued by Chief Public Relations Officer of Western Railway, Shri

NO DAY BLOCK OVER WR ON SUNDAY, 10th AUGUST, 2025

WR's night block between Santacruz and Mahim

Mumbai, To carry out maintenance work of tracks, signaling and overhead equipment, a Jumbo Block will be taken on UP fast line from 00:00 hrs, to 04:00 hrs, & on Down fast line from

Western railway to run an additional rakshabandhan special train between bandra terminus & bhagat ki kothi

Mumbai, For the convenience of passengers and with a view to meet the travel demand during the festive season of Rakshabandhan, Western Railway will run one more Special Train on Special fare between Bandra Terminus & Bhagat Ki Kothi.

According to a press release issued by Chief Public Relations Officer of Western Railway, Shri Vineet Abhishek, the

details of the train is as under:

1. Train No. 04828/04827 Bandra Terminus – Bhagat Ki Kothi Special [2 Trips]

Train No. 04828 Bandra Terminus – Bhagat Ki Kothi Special will depart from Bandra Terminus on Monday, 11th August, 2025 at 10:30 hrs, and will reach Bhagat Ki Kothi at 04:30 hrs, the next day. Similarly, Train No. 04827 Bhagat Ki Kothi – Bandra

Terminus Special will depart from Bhagat Ki Kothi on Sunday, 10th August, 2025 at 14:30 hrs, and will arrive Bandra Terminus at 07:25 hrs, the next day.

Enroute, this train will halt at Borivali, Vapi, Surat, Bharuch, Vadodara, Sabarmati, Mahesana, Palanpur, Abu Road, Pindwara, Jawai Bandh, Falna, Rani, Marwar, Pali Marwar and Luni stations in both directions.

This train comprises of AC 2-Tier, AC -3 Tier, AC -3 Tier (Economy), Sleeper Class and General Second Class Coaches.

The booking for Train No. 04828 will open from 09 August, 2025 at all PRS counters & on IRCTC website. For detailed information regarding timings of halts and composition, passengers may please visit www.enquiry.indian-rail.gov.in.

Organisation of Various Programmes under the “Har Ghar Tiranga” Campaign 2025 at Bhavnagar Division of Western Railway



Under the “Har Ghar Tiranga” campaign 2025, various programmes are being organised in the Bhavnagar Division of Western Railway. On this occasion, on 08.08.2025 (Friday), a “Tiranga Exhibition” was organised at the Divisional Railway Manager's Office in Bhavnagar Division. According to Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Mr. Atul Kumar

Tripathi, the exhibition was inaugurated by Divisional Railway Manager, Mr. Dinesh Verma, in the esteemed presence of Additional Divisional Railway Manager, Mr. Himanshu Sharma. All officers and employees of Bhavnagar Division participated in the event and visited the exhibition. On this occasion, students and teachers from Kendriya Vidyalaya, Kids

Hut and Bal Mandir (run by the Women's Committee), also visited the exhibition and actively took part in it.

As part of the “Har Ghar Tiranga” campaign, a quiz competition was also organised in the conference hall of the Divisional Office, Bhavnagar Division. Students from PM Shri Kendriya Vidyalaya Bhavnagar Para and employees of the Divisional Office partici-

pated enthusiastically in this quiz competition. On this occasion, the first, second, and third prize-winning groups in the quiz competition were encouraged and felicitated. This quiz competition was organised by the Personnel Department under the chairmanship and guidance of Senior Divisional Personnel Officer, Mr. Hubalal Jagan.

India a Risky Bet? China's Govt Mouthpiece Calls for Stronger Delhi-Beijing Ties Despite Harsh

(Gns). As global trade dynamics shift, India and China are being urged to move beyond rivalry and focus on practical economic collaboration. An op-ed from China's Global Times encourages both nations to 'utilise each other's strengths,' setting the tone for renewed cooperation in 2025.

supply chain adjustments are reshaping business decisions. Instead of viewing each other as adversaries, India and China are seen as complementary markets, capable of driving Asia's growth story through shared development goals.

The Global Times suggests India and China collaborate economically in 2025 despite recent FDI drops in India; experts emphasize the need for reforms and collaboration,

not rivalry, to drive Asian growth, especially as India approaches its 75th anniversary of diplomatic ties with China.

Recent data from Indian media highlights a sharp 99% drop in net FDI inflows in May 2025, both month-on-month and year-on-year. While this has sparked international concern, it's also triggered important internal reflections.

The Global Times references India's current chal-

lenges-outdated technology, infrastructure gaps, and regulatory inconsistencies-but also emphasizes that economic transformation takes time and effort. India is still evolving as a major economic power, and transitional dips are natural in any growth journey.

Experts like Chen Lijun of the Yunnan Academy of Social Sciences argue that modernization demands more than optimism.

Shishir Bajaj of Bajaj Group receives the prestigious "Sarvottam Nagrik Sanman" for the year 2025

Mumbai, 8th August. Shishir Bajaj, Chairman of Bajaj Foundation and patriarch of Bajaj Group was honoured with the prestigious "Sarvottam Nagrik Sanman-2025" in a grand ceremony held at the prestigious Sahara Star Hotel in Mumbai.

In the presence of Hon'ble Governor of Maharashtra C.P. Radhakrishnan, the honour statues were felicitated by Chairman of Maharashtra Legislative Council Shriram Shinde and Minister of Cultural Affairs Ashish Shelar along with other dignitaries. The "Sarvottam Nagrik Sanman" is given by Megha Shrey Foundation and Mrs. Seema Singh to those individuals who have made significant contributions to the society through their selfless dedication and service and have set an example towards positive change. This year's ceremony was attended by many eminent personalities like Padma Vibhushan Dr. Anil Kakodkar, Padma Bhushan Dr. Vijay Bhatkar, Padma Shri Dr. Shankar Mahadevan, film director Imtiaz Ali, Padma Bhushan Anupam Kher and Padma Shri Vijender Singh. After receiving the honour, Shri Shishir Bajaj said that our fundamental social efforts began in 1926, when my grandfather Shri Jamnalal Bajaj founded the Bajaj

Group to support India's freedom struggle. He informed that our first sugar factory was established in Uttar Pradesh in 1932 with the aim of making India self-reliant in the field of sugar production. Since

the leadership of Shri Shishir Bajaj and his sons Kushagra Bajaj and Apoorv Bajaj, is continuously working for the empowerment of rural communities. The Foundation has empowered more than 6 lakh fam-

Bajaj include Bajaj Hindustan Sugar Limited, India's largest integrated sugar company and operates 14 sugar mills and 6 ethanol plants in Uttar Pradesh. Another company, Bajaj Energy Private



Shishir Bajaj, Chairman of "Bajaj Foundation", the philanthropic arm of the Bajaj Group, which is one of the country's leading industrial groups, is seen receiving the "Sarvottam Nagrik Sanman" for the year 2025 and posing on the stage with the prestigious award.

then the Group has done excellent work in both business and CSR areas with the aim of nation building and making Indian villages self-reliant. He said that today we are doing social welfare work in 1000 villages of my birthplace Sikar district in Rajasthan and more than 1000 villages of my grandfather's karmabhoomi Wardha district in Maharashtra. Our goal is to develop the natural and human resources of rural India in a multifaceted way, as this goal plays a key role in building a 'developed and self-reliant India', which our Prime Minister has envisioned by 2047. It is worth mentioning that Bajaj Foundation, under

ilies in the villages of Wardha, Sikar and Lalitpur districts through rainwater harvesting, river rejuvenation, micro irrigation, natural farming, horticulture, Kisan Pathshalas, women self-help groups, renewable energy solutions like solar pumps and biogas plants, farmer producer organizations, and transformational education programs, improving the lives of about 22 lakh people. Under the ideology of "Nation Building through Business and Service", the Bajaj Group has established itself as one of India's most respected and diversified industrial groups. The flagship companies of the group led by Kushagra

Limited, operates 6 power plants in Uttar Pradesh, including the 1,980 MW super-critical thermal power station of Lalitpur Power Generation Company Limited adding upto a total capacity of 2,430MW supplying about 10% of the state's electricity. Similarly, Bajaj Consumer Care Limited is a leader in the premium hair oil category with its flagship product Bajaj Almond Drops Hair Oil. The prestigious "Sarvottam Nagrik Sanman 2025" conferred on Shri Shishir Bajaj is a true recognition of his outstanding contribution as a unique amalgamation of social service and industrial excellence.

No Halt In U.S. Arms Purchases, Says Defence Ministry After Reuters Report

(Gns). Earlier Report: India Had Allegedly Paused U.S. Defence Purchases Amid Tariff Dispute

The Defence Ministry on Friday firmly rejected claims that India had put on hold negotiations for significant U.S. weapons and aircraft procurements, calling such reports "false and fabricated."

India has delayed plans to acquire U.S. weapons and aircraft after President Trump imposed tariffs on Indian exports, increasing duties to 50%, according to Reuters; Defence Minister Rajnath Singh's planned visit to Washington for defence deals has also been cancelled.

Switch To Shorts An official statement clarified, "It is clarified that the various cases of procurement are being progressed as per the extant procedures."

This announcement followed a Reuters report - citing three Indian officials familiar with the matter - which stated that New Delhi had placed major U.S. defence deals on pause as a response to steep tariffs imposed by President

Donald Trump on Indian exports.

Alleged Pause: What Was Reported According to Reuters,

On August 6, Trump announced a 25% tariff increase on Indian goods-bringing total duties to a sweeping 50%-citing



these pending agreements included:

Stryker combat vehicles from General Dynamics

Javelin anti-tank missiles developed by Raytheon and Lockheed Martin

A \$3.6 billion deal for six Boeing P8I reconnaissance aircraft for the Indian Navy

These talks were reportedly scheduled to be announced by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh during a planned visit to Washington, which has now been cancelled.

Tariff Tensions at Play

India's purchase of Russian oil as the rationale. This move is seen as punishment for what Trump termed India's indirect support for Russia's war efforts in Ukraine.

Reuters sources had previously suggested that these defence procurements might resume once there's clarity on trade policy and bilateral relations, though "just not as soon as they were expected to."

Other sources told Reuters there have been no formal directives to pause these deals, but to date, there has been "no forward movement at least

for now."

Ministry Pushback & Ongoing Commitments

The Indian Defence Ministry, as well as the Pentagon, declined to comment when contacted by Reuters. New Delhi has pushed back on the narrative, stating it is being unfairly targeted, especially given that Western allies continue trading with Russia based on strategic interests.

Despite the earlier report, officials insist that procurement cases are proceeding per procedure, signaling no official halt or shift in policy.

Broader Strategic Context: Russia, the U.S., and India

India remains the world's second-largest arms importer. While Russia has traditionally dominated, recent diversification has included deals with France, Israel, and the United States-driven in part by Russia's strained production capacity amid the Ukraine crisis and field performance concerns for some Russian systems, according to Stockholm International Peace Research Institute data.

Results of sanskriti greenery Teej Festival declared, Reena Rani became Teej Queen

Mathura. In various competitions held during the Hariyali Teej Festival in sanskriti University, Dean of School of Fashion Designing, Ms. Shilpa Dennis Philips to Teej Queen, School of Engineering and Technology, Dr. Reena Rani of Dr. Reena Rani and Dr. of School of EducationPriyanka Gautam was awarded the title of Miss Talent.

Dr. Mrs. Meenakshi Sharma, CEO of Sanskriti Sanskriti University, Prof. of SOIT. Garima Goswami and sanskriti suffered from Ayurvedic CollegeEkta Kapoor honored the winners between a program and honored. Let us tell you that the Hariyali Teej Festival was celebrated with great enthusiasm in the university. The program

was organized by the Cultural and Heritage Club of sanskriti to promote cul-

faculty and employees to come together in the spirit of celebration, express



Teej Queen of Hariyali Teej Festival held in sanskriti University, Dr. Rina Rani, sanskriti CE Ho Dr. Mrs. Meenakshi Sharma.

tural heritage and celebrate the spiritual significance of femininity, tradition and festival. The purpose of the program was to provide a vibrant platform to women

their creativity and promote a sense of unity and belonging. The program began with a warm welcome speech of Ms. Shubhra Pandey, Assistant

Professor, SOEIT, sanskriti University. The chief guest was Dr. Meenakshi Sharma, CEO of sanskriti University. Various recreational sports were organized during the program. On the tunes of music, the participants danced to the lively tunes and celebrated the festival with energy and enthusiasm. For a long time, women faculty members danced fiercely on the DJ. Each female faculty and staff members were provided with mementoes. The concluding program of the program, the coordinator of the program, DrThe heartfelt vote of thanks by Reena Rani. The program was conducted by Shivam Bhardwaj. The presence of Ms. Shubhra Pandey, Dr. Durgesh Wadhwa, Dr. DS Tomar etc, was particularly notable in the program.

Alignment of AYUSH with Global Practices

(Gns). Ministry of Ayush has established Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine & Homoeopathy (PCIM&H) as its subordinate office to prescribe Pharmacopoeial Standards for ASU&H drugs, which serve as official compendia in accordance with the Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Rules, 1945.

Further, MoA has collaborated with Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) and constituted seven sectional committees for each of the Ayush systems (Ayurveda, Yoga, Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, Sowa Rigpa & Homoeopathy), under Ayush Division Council of BIS for formulation of Indian Standards including traditional and modern aspects of products and services. These commit-

tees work collaboratively with various stakeholders, including technical experts, research and academic institutions, industry representatives, and regulatory bodies, to ensure comprehensive, evidence-based standards aligned with national and international guidelines. BIS has formulated a series of Indian Standards covering raw materials, manufacturing processes, packaging and finished products.

So far, 180 Indian standards related to Ayush systems including traditional and modern aspects of products and services have been developed by seven sectional committees under

Ayush division council. The standards formulated on Ayush systems are available on BIS website at www.bis.gov.in.

With the support of the Government of India, World



Health Organization (WHO) has published benchmark documents for training and practice of Ayurveda and Unani, and also released standardized WHO terminology in Ayurveda, Unani, and Siddha. Further, the MoA has signed a project collaboration agreement with WHO to support the development of an International Herbal Pharmacopoeia with a focus on the traditional medicine systems of the South-East Asia region.

Additionally, the Ministry promotes the Certification of Pharmaceutical Product (CoPP) as per WHO guidelines for Ayurvedic, Siddha, and Unani (ASU) medicines. In line with international cooperation for quality assurance in traditional medicine, the Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine & Homoeopathy (PCIM&H), under the MoA, has also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Food and Drug Authority of the Republic of Indonesia.

These initiatives aim to enhance the quality, safety, and reliability of Ayush products and services, thereby improving consumer confidence and acceptance of Ayush products in global markets by aligning with international norms.

Centre Actively Monitors and Intervenes to Ensure Stable Prices of Tomato, Onion, and Potato

(Gns). Food commodity prices have largely remained stable and well-contained throughout the current calendar year. As of today, the prices of most commodities monitored by the Department of Consumer Affairs, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Government of India, are exhibiting either a stable or declining trend on a year-on-year basis. The reported 14% decrease in the cost of a homemade thali in July 2025 further reflects the continued moderation of food inflation during the

month. The retail prices of tomatoes prevailing at various centres across the country are influenced by temporary localised factors rather than any fundamental demand-supply imbalance or production shortfall.

In this context, the National Cooperative Consumers' Federation of India (NCCF) has been procuring tomatoes from Azadpur Mandi since 4th August 2025 and selling

them to consumers at prices with minimal margins. A similar initiative was undertaken by NCCF in previous years as well.

To date, NCCF has sold 27,307 kilograms of tomatoes at retail prices ranging from ₹47 to ₹60 per kg, depending on the procurement cost. Retail sales are being conducted through NCCF's stationary outlets at Nehru Place, Udyog Bhawan, Patel Chowk, and Rajiv Chowk, as well as through

6-7 mobile vans operating at various locations across the city

The current average retail price of tomato in Delhi, at ₹73 per kg, is primarily the result of heavy rainfall in the northern and north-western regions of the country since the last week of July. This weather-related disruption caused prices to spike to as high as ₹85 per kg by the end of July. However, with the recovery and stabilisation of daily arrivals at the Azadpur mandi over the past week, both mandi and retail prices have begun to decline.

A live broadcast in Mathura due to Kakori train action

Mayor and MLA inaugurated the exhibition in connection with Kakori Train Action in Collectorate Auditorium campus

Kakori train action centenary celebrations Mathura. Hon'ble Chief Minister participated in a program organized in Lucknow regarding Kakori Train Action. Live broadcast of the said program Hon'ble Mayor Shri Vinod Agarwal ji, Honorable MLA Baldev Shri Puran Prakash ji, Chief Development Officer Manish Meena, Additional District Magistrate Administration Amresh Kumar, Additional District Magistrate Finance and Revenue Pankaj Kumar Verma, Project Director Arun Kumar, Assistant



Mayor and Administrative Officer in view of live broadcast

CommissionerFood Safety and Drug Administration, DC MNREGA Vijay Kumar Pandey, District Information Officer Prashant Kumar Suchari were seen by various offi-

cials and employees of the Collectorate. The exhibition in connection with Kakori Train Action in the Collectorate Auditorium campus was inaugurated by Honorable Mayor Vinod Kumar and Honorable MLA Baldev Puran Prakash by cutting the lace. The exhibition related to Kakori Train Action was observed by public representatives and officials in the Collectorate Auditorium campus. The Mayor said that August 9 is the day to pay homage to the brave sons

of Mother India, who made its supreme sacrifice for the independence of the country. This program is being done today to show gratitude to the martyrs who brought us freedom. Indian culture teaches us to love the nation. Indian culture, Indian rites and Indian nation are proud. The future generations should learn from this, the objectives of paying obeisance to all the heroes who sacrificed their supreme sacrifice for the country have been organized.

The mayor said that we should learn a lot from revolutionaries. We should work only by keeping the spirit of the nation first in mind. How many revolutionaries sacrificed their lives for the freedom of the country. He said that on 9 August 1942, Gandhiji gave the slogan of Quit India Quit India. The country's drunken people gave freedom to the country by sacrificing their lives. We should take inspiration from them. The future generations should also be informed about how many struggles and sacrifices we have got freedom, so that they can also learn from it. Everyone should understand the importance of freedom gained after conflicts. Chief Development Officer Manish Meena said that every house tricolor campaign will also be run from 13 to 15 August to strengthen the spirit of national love. There should not be any roof in Mathura district on which there is no tricolor. Tricolor will be installed in all shops, houses, ashrams, hotels, restaurants, establishments, petrol pumps, police stations, posts, Kotwalis, social institutions. This time gives us an opportunity to express gratitude to the nation heroes and also teaches that we should discharge our obligations with full devotion. He said that the Kakori train is an opportunity to pay homage to the martyrs and the spirit of national love is also necessary

The festival of Rakshabandhan in 16th Battalion Camp forbidden with great enthusiasm

Mathura. The festival of Rakshabandhan was celebrated with great joy and traditional reverence at the 16th Battalion, Head Quarter Central Reserve Police Force, Mathura. On this occasion, the sisters of Brahmakumari institution tied a rakhi to the brave soldiers of the battalion and wished them success in their longevity, security and service works. During the program, a affectionate and spiritual environment was



Battalion brave soldiers with sisters of Brahmakumari institution

seen, in which the sisters not only tied rakhi, but also gave a message to live a life full of positive thoughts, moral values and self-confidence. Battalion Commandant Nitin Kumar,

Second Command Officer Jayaprakash Singh and Deputy Commandant Rajesh Kumar Rai were present on the occasion along with all the soldiers.

The delegation of All India Jat Mahasabha meets CO City

Ashfak chaudhry mathura

Mathura. The delegation of All India Jat Mahasabha Mathura met the IPS officer, Mathura city's CO City Asma Chaudhary today under the leadership of District President Rajesh Chaudhary. Wearing a bouquet and patuka welcomed. Gave wishes for the bright future.

Asma Chaudhary introduced the delegation with great glory and humility. State Secretary of All India Jat Mahasabha Shivraj Singh, District Vice



District President Rajesh Chaudhary visiting the court

President Subhash Chaudhary, District Vice President Chaudhary Ramveer Singh, Raya

Block President Satveer Chaudhary, Digambar Singh etc. were present in the delegation.

Government e Marketplace marks 9th Foundation Day; records ₹5.4 lakh crore GMV in FY 2024-25

97% of Orders Exempt from Transaction Charges under New GeM Reforms
GeM connects women entrepreneurs, startups, MSEs, SHGs and artisans to mainstream procurement (Gns).

Government e Marketplace (GeM) celebrated its 9th Foundation Day. Launched in 2016 to promote transparent, inclusive and efficient public procurement in line with the Prime Minister's vision of "Minimum Government, Maximum Governance," the platform has grown into a digital procurement system connecting sellers and service providers across the country, including women entrepreneurs, startups, micro and small enterprises (MSEs), artisans, self-help groups (SHGs) and Divyangjans.

In FY 2024-25, it recorded transactions worth ₹5.4 lakh crore in Gross Merchandise Value (GMV).

This year's Foundation Day celebration were held on the theme Ease, Access and Inclusion. Key reforms announced include the elimination of caution money for sellers, rationalisation of vendor assessment fees and a reduction in transaction charges, resulting in exemption for 97 per cent of orders. These measures are aimed at making public procurement more accessible and equitable.

"These reforms demonstrate our intent to make GeM even more inclusive and accessible," said Chief Executive Officer, GeM, Shri Mihir Kumar. "Our focus remains on ensuring every enterprise, from tribal

artisans to tech-driven startups, can easily access public procurement opportunities."

To mark the occasion, a GeM Seller Samvad was



organised on 6th August 2025 at the GeM office in New Delhi, bringing together participants from different sectors. GeM Manthan, a dialogue programme, was also held to discuss measures for building a more inclusive and future-ready procurement system. The platform supports paperless, real-time transactions and facilitates contracts in sectors such as

health, mining and insurance, linking policy implementation with participation from stakeholders at various levels.

GeM uses AI-powered tools and a multilingual Learning Management System (LMS) to facilitate access to public procurement. Features such as voice-enabled navigation and region-specific training modules support onboarding and transactions for sellers, including those in remote and underserved areas.

Over the past nine years, GeM has recorded notable achievements, including ₹5.4 lakh crore in Gross Merchandise Value (GMV) in FY 2024-25, onboarding 1.5 lakh women-led enterprises along with startups, self-help groups (SHGs), artisans.

Patients were examined and medicines were distributed in the free health camp

Fatehpur. A free health camp was organized in the Panchayat Bhawan on Thursday under the leadership of Bhadar Gram Pradhan Renuka Tiwari of Airayan development block in coordination with the Health Department and Panchayati Raj Department. The health camp was inaugurated by Gram Pradhan, Dr. Zafar, Dr. Anugrah Narayan and C Abhijeet Singh of the organization by cutting the ribbon. The doc-



tors made the villagers aware to prevent infectious diseases due to rain. After that the patients were examined. In this, 18 patients of fever, 10 of joint pain, 4 of cold, 4 of TB, 9 of

skin disease, 2 of diabetes, 2 of ear, 3 of eye, 12 pregnant women, 6 adolescents were given medicines after hemoglobin test. 2 serious patients were referred to CHC. Apart from these, 24

others were also examined. People reached the health camp for destitute women pension, family ID and Ayushman card. The team included ANM Seema Shrivastava, CHO Vaishali, Sangini Pramila, Ayushman Mitra Pritam Awasthi, Lab Technician Bablu, Pharmacist Govardhan, Panchayat Assistant Neha Parveen, Kiran and Rekha from Anganwadi and Sushma, Phoolkumari, Janaki and Maya from Asha.

We don't want sweets or sarees on Rakshabandhan, we want a separate Bundelkhand state

-30th day of Bundelkhand Rashtra Samiti campaign

Fatehpur. A Rakhi Bundelkhand Ke Naam Maha Abhiyan being run by Bundelkhand Rashtra Samiti was held on Thursday at Rajaram Inter College Hardon. The girl students sent rakhis and letters to Prime Minister Narendra Modi demanding a separate Bundelkhand state. They wrote emotionally in the letters that this time on Rakshabandhan we don't want sweets or sarees, we want our right of a separate Bundelkhand state.

Chief guest and central

president of the committee Praveen Pandey

rights. We want the right to equal education, medicine,



Bundelkhandi said that everyone should get equal

studies and earnings. This will be possible only when

Bundelkhand becomes a separate state. He said that these rakhis are giving an emotional message to the Prime Minister as well as political awareness. The president said that the aim of the campaign is to convey the public sentiments to the central government. He says that under the campaign, rakhis and messages are being sent to the Prime Minister from different districts of Bundelkhand. On this occasion, Principal Tarun Singh, teacher Lavlesh Singh, teachers and a large number of girl students were present

Many sisters got Jeevan Jyoti Raksha Samman

Jaunpur, 8 August 2025. Many sisters were honored with Jeevan Jyoti Raksha Samman at the honor ceremony organized by Jeevan Jyoti Seva Foundation in Ramnagar, Block Suithakala, Shahganj, Jaunpur today on the eve of Rakshabandhan, the festival of love and faith of brother and sister.

In the ceremony, more than 500 sisters from Ramnagar, Block Suithakala, Shahganj,

Jaunpur tied a protective thread, a symbol of love and faith, to Jitendra Kumar Singh, Vice President of Jeevan Jyoti Seva Foundation and gave their infinite love and blessings.

In the program, Jitendra Kumar Singh honored many sisters of the area with Jeevan Jyoti Raksha



Samman by presenting them with bouquets, clothes, sweets and souvenirs. In his address, Mr. Singh said that I will always

be indebted to the sisters of the area for the love they have shown by tying Raksha Sutra today and will always be ready to help them with all their problems. On this occasion, Jyoti Singh, President, Jeevan Jyoti Seva Foundation, Rakesh Verma, District Vice President, BJP, Jaunpur, Awadhesh Dubey, Arshiya Mandal President, BJP and other dignitaries were present.

Swara Bhaskar & Fahad Ahmad open their shaadi diary on COLORS' 'Pati Patni Aur Panga - Jodiyon Ka Reality Check'

When a firebrand actor and a youth leader fall in love, the result is a story worth telling packed with all the flourish of a celeb wedding extravaganza. After its grand launch, COLORS' 'Pati Patni Aur Panga - Jodiyon Ka Reality Check' recounts the love story of Swara Bhaskar and Fahad Ahmad in an episode that's intimate, emotional, and overflowing with heart. Swara, known for being unapologetically vocal both on and off screen, and Fahad, an activist and leader in his own right, get candid about everything from the intimacy of their court marriage to the grandeur of their traditional shaadi.

Their marital journey began with the quiet solemn-

nity of a courtroom. A simple, no-fuss court marriage marked the beginning of their life together, but what followed was an extraordinary celebration. Over ten glorious days in Delhi, Swara and Fahad

transformed her nanani's house into the heart of their wedding festivities. The space where Swara once played as a child became the sacred ground where two families bonded like old friends. The joota chhupai turned into a full-blown showdown with Swara's NRI cousins demanding dollar ransoms, while Fahad's friends brought their own brand of witty rebellion to the mix.

From emotional rituals where Swara draped her mother's saree, to spontaneous dance-offs that blurred the lines between ladiwale and ladduwale, the celebration was a kaleidoscope of old traditions and new meanings.

Swara Bhaskar shares her thoughts on her wedding, "There was something poetic about beginning our married life in the same home where I spent my childhood. That space held bedtime stories, vacations, growing pains... and now, it holds our wedding memories too. Celebrating there was a throwback to so many things; it was a reunion of every version of me - the daughter, the

granddaughter, and the wife. I loved telling the story of our wedding on Pati Patni Aur Panga - it was far from perfect, but we made it our own with everything we had."

Fahad Ahmad reflects and shares, "Revisiting our wedding on Pati Patni Aur Panga was such a nostalgic treat. We wanted the ceremony to feel like home - it was about letting closed ones in on something honest we've built from scratch and something we'll protect all our lives. Two families with completely different backgrounds, suddenly laughing, dancing, and pulling off a shaadi like they'd done this together forever. The best part was watching bonds form in real time. So many unexpected