



Cabinet approves Lucknow Metro Rail Project of Phase-1B of the length 11.165 Km with an outlay of Rs.5,801 crore

(Gns). The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, has approved the Phase-1B of Lucknow Metro Rail Project, Uttar Pradesh with corridor for a length of 11.165 Km with 12 stations - 7 Underground and 5 Elevated. On operationalization of Phase-1B, Lucknow city will have 34 Km of active Metro Rail Network.

Benefits and Bolstering Growth: The Phase-1B of Lucknow Metro Rail Project represents a significant advancement in the city's infrastructure development. Phase-1B acts as a major expansion of the Metro Rail Network in the city.

Enhanced Connectivity: Phase-1B of the Lucknow Metro project will introduce approximately

11.165 Km of new metro lines, significantly improving public transportation in the oldest and most densely populated areas of the city, which currently lack efficient connectivity.

This phase aims to seamlessly integrate key zones of Old Lucknow, including:

Commercial hubs such as Aminabad, Yahiyaganj, Pandeyganj, and Chowk

Critical health-care facilities, most notably the King George's University (Medical College)

Major tourist attractions, including Bara Imambara, Chota Imambara, Bhool Bhulaiya, Clock Tower, and

Rumi Darwaza Culinary destinations known for the city's rich and



historic food culture

By bridging these vital areas with the metro network, Phase-1B will not only enhance connectivity but also stimulate economic activity, tourism, and

ease urban mobility for both residents and visitors.

Reduction in Traffic Congestion: Metro Rail as an efficient alternate road transport and with Phase-1B as an extension to the Metro Rail network in the Lucknow city is expected to alleviate traffic congestion and will be particularly impactful on heavily congested routes of the Old Lucknow. Reduction in road traffic can lead to smoother movement of vehicles, reduction in travel time, increasing overall road safety etc.

Environmental Benefits: The addition of Phase-1B Lucknow Metro Rail Project and increase in overall Metro Rail Network in Lucknow city, will significantly reduce carbon emissions compared to traditional fossil fuel-based transport.

15th August Independence Day Celebration - 2025 : State-Level Independence Day Celebrations at Porbandar

The flag-hoisting ceremony will be held under the chairmanship of Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel. The Gujarat Legislative Assembly speaker, Shri Shankar Chaudhary, will hoist the flag at Mehsana. Members of the State Cabinet and District Collectors will hoist the flag at various district headquarters.

On August 15, 2025, the state-level celebration of India's Independence Day will be held at Porbandar. Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel will preside over the flag hoisting ceremony at Porbandar. The Speaker of the Gujarat Legislative Assembly, Shri Shankar Chaudhary, will conduct the Flag Hoisting Ceremony in Mehsana. Various members of the state cabinet and district collectors will also conduct

Flag Hoisting Ceremonies at district headquarters across Gujarat.

Navsari
2. Shri
Rushikesh Patel,



Details of Flag Hoisting by Various Dignitaries at Different District Headquarters:
Cabinet Ministers
No. Ministers Name
District
1. Shri
Kanubhai Desai,

Sabarkantha
3. Shri
Raghavji Patel, Jamnagar
4. Shri
Balvantsinh Rajput,
Valsad
5. Shri
Kunwarjibhai Bavaliya, Gir
Somnath

6. Shri
Mulubhai Bera Dwarka
7. Dr.
Kuberbhai Dindor Panchmahal
8. Smt
Bhanuben Babriya Rajkot
Deputy Speaker
9. Shri
Jethabhai Ahir (Bharvad), Mahisagar
Ministers of State
10. Shri Harsh
Sanghvi,
Gandhinagar
11. Shri
Jagadish Vishwakarma Morbi
12. Shri
Mukesh Patel, Bharuch
13. Shri
BhikhuSinhji Parmar Kheda
14. Shri
Kunwarji Halapati Tapi

Mayawati urges UP Govt to prevent communal tensions over Fatehpur Shrine-Mandir dispute

(Gns). Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) chief Mayawati Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) chief Mayawati on Tuesday strongly reacted to the ongoing dispute in Fatehpur district of Uttar Pradesh, where tensions have erupted over claims surrounding a 200-year-old mausoleum being identified and used as a temple by certain groups.

In a public statement, Mayawati urged the state

government to take the matter seriously and ensure that no community is allowed to take steps that could spark communal unrest or disrupt social harmony. She emphasised that maintain-



peaceful fabric of the region," she said, demand-

ing strict legal action if necessary to prevent escalation.

The controversy erupted after right-wing activists allegedly entered the mausoleum on August 11 and attempted to perform Hindu rituals while hoisting a saffron flag, claiming it to be an ancient temple. The administration swiftly intervened, increasing police deployment and registering FIRs against over 150 individuals involved in the act.

'Cruel And Short-Sighted': Rahul Gandhi Slam Supreme Court's Stray Dog Removal Order

(Gns). On August 11, a Bench comprising Justices JB Pardiwala and R Mahadevan directed the Delhi government, Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD), and New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) to promptly begin removing stray dogs from all areas and, if necessary, establish a dedicated task force to carry out this operation.

Cruel And Short-Sighted Rahul Gandhi Slam Supreme Court's Stray Dog Removal Order

The Supreme Court directed the Delhi government, MCD, and NDMC to remove stray dogs, prompting criticism from Rahul Gandhi, who called the order regressive and advocated for sterilisation, vaccination, and community involvement instead of removal.

Switch To Shorts Congress leader Rahul Gandhi strongly criticised the Supreme Court's order, describing it as a "regres-



sive move that undermines decades of humane and science-based policies." In a statement on X, Gandhi condemned the blanket removal of stray dogs as "cruel, short-sighted, and lacking compassion." He advocated for solutions centered on sterilisation, vaccination, the establishment of shelters, and community involvement to maintain public safety without causing harm to animals.

Gandhi emphasized, "The Supreme Court's directive to remove all stray dogs from Delhi-NCR reverses years of compassionate, evidence-backed approaches. These vulnerable creatures are not problems to be eliminated. Through shelters, sterilisation, vaccination, and community care, we can ensure safety on our streets without cruelty. Blanket removals are inhumane and betray our compassion. It is possible to protect public safety while upholding animal welfare."

Haryana approves ₹523-cr projects to boost infrastructure, industry, and public services

(Gns). In a significant move to strengthen public infrastructure and enhance basic amenities, the High Powered Works Purchase Committee (HPWPC), chaired by Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini, in its meeting held late Monday evening, approved key projects worth ₹523 crore. The sanctioned works will give a major boost to water supply, sanitation, industrial infrastructure, traffic facilities, and overall industrial development in the state.

Transport Minister Anil Vij, Education Minister Mahipal Dhanda, Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Minister Shyam Singh Rana, Public Works (Building & Roads) Minister Ranbir Gangwa, and Women and Child Development Minister Shruti Choudhry were present. Negotiations with various bidders during the meeting resulted in cost savings of around ₹13 crore.

Approval was granted

for the construction of a 45 MLD capacity Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) and



Tertiary Treatment Unit at Badshahpur, Faridabad, at an estimated cost of ₹58 crore. This project will strengthen sanitation and water recycling efforts in urban areas.

To ensure smooth water supply, approval was also given for a contract to operate and maintain the Master Ranney Well Line, which includes maintenance and repair of 22 Ranney wells, 160 tube wells, pumping machinery, electrical equipment, and other necessary infrastructure, costing approximately ₹25 crore.

For effective rainwater drainage, ₹104.95 crore

was approved for constructing the Master Storm Water Drain in the new sectors 76-80 of Gurugram. Additionally, ₹48 crore was approved for the repair of the Manesar-Palwal stretch (approximately 60 km) of the KMP Expressway to strengthen road infrastructure.

In the industrial sector, approval was given for setting up a 3 MLD CETP at HSIIDC Industrial Estate, Barwala, Panchkula, costing around ₹17.50 crore, for pollution control and environmental protection. Similarly, a 10.5 MLD CETP at IMT, Faridabad, to be built at a cost of ₹44 crore, was also approved.

Furthermore, to strengthen storage infrastructure, ₹15.85 crore was approved for establishing warehouses with a capacity of 37,884 metric tonnes and related works at the FSD complex in Mehu

Wala, Fatehabad district. Additionally, ₹30.44 crore was sanctioned for constructing a private ward and other facilities at Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya University of Health Sciences, Kutel, Karnal.

The Chief Minister said that these projects will not only significantly improve basic infrastructure but also promote industrial growth, environmental protection, and public amenities. He directed officers to ensure time-bound and quality completion of works.

Chief Secretary Anurag Rastogi, Additional Chief Secretary, Women and Child Development Department, Sudhir Rajpal, Principal Advisor, Urban Development, DS Dhesi, Principal Secretary to Chief Minister Arun Kumar Gupta, Commissioner and Secretary, Industries and Commerce Department Dr Amit Agrawal, Director General, Supply and Disposal Department Pankaj along with other senior officers, attended the meeting.

No Gas, No Water: Pakistan Blocks Basic Amenities For Indian Diplomats In Islamabad

(Gns). India and Pakistan's relationship has been strained since the April 22 Pahalgalam terrorist attack in which 26 people were killed.

A news report now claims that in response to its military setbacks and other political developments, Pakistan is now engaging in what is being called "petty retaliation" against Indian diplomats and their families in Islamabad, according to a report in Economic Times.

Following the Pahalgalam terrorist attack, Pakistan allegedly retaliates against Indian diplomats in Islamabad by restricting basic services, according to an Economic Times report, actions which may breach the Vienna Convention. Pakistan Army Chief Asim Munir has also warned India of nuclear war and threatened to destroy

dams if India constructs on the Indus water channels. As per the article, this retaliation, allegedly orchestrated by Pakistan's

Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI), includes targeted restrictions on basic services for Indian High Commission employees. These actions are reportedly in breach of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations.

Specific instances of this alleged harassment mentioned in the report include:
Gas Supply: Gas supply

to the Indian High Commission has been intentionally cut off, and local vendors have been instructed not to sell gas cylinders to Indian personnel.

Water Supply: Vendors have been prohibited from supplying mineral water and clean drinking water to the High Commission, forcing staff to rely on unsafe tap water.

Newspaper Delivery: Newspaper suppliers have been ordered to stop delivering publications to the mission, which is seen as an attempt to restrict the flow of information to the staff.

The report links these actions to recent events, including India's suspension of the Indus Water Treaty and the "Operation

Sindoor" military operation. These developments, along with the 2019 Pulwama attack and subsequent Balakot airstrikes, have reportedly caused new tensions and brought high-level bilateral discussions to a halt. The article concludes that these acts are a continuation of a long-standing Pakistani policy of using unconventional pressure tactics instead of direct negotiations.

Meanwhile, Pakistan Army Chief Asim Munir has warned India of "nuclear war" if his country faces an existential threat in future, ThePrint reported.

"We are a nuclear nation, if we think we are going down, we'll take half the world down with us," Field Marshal Asim Munir said at a dinner hosted by businessman Adnan Asad in Tampa in the US.



ગરવી ગુજરાત
हिन्दी



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

Editorial

Summit of Illusions

A planned meeting between US President Donald Trump and his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin may command headlines, but it is unlikely to shift the trajectory of the Ukraine war. Despite Mr Trump's repeated claims of being the leader who can end the conflict "in 24 hours," the gulf between Russia and Ukraine is too vast ~ and too uncompromising ~ to be bridged by handshakes and high-level optics. The fundamentals of Moscow's position remain frozen in time.

Russia's June memorandum makes sweeping demands: recognition of its sovereignty over five Ukrainian regions, demilitarisation of Ukraine, and a ban on foreign military presence. These are not negotiation points, they are ultimatums. The language may be tailored to seem diplomatic, but the subtext is one of surrender. There is little evidence, either publicly or behind closed doors, that the Kremlin has altered this position. Ukraine, meanwhile, is not standing still or pleading for outside rescue. Kyiv continues to strike at Russia's energy infrastructure with increasing sophistication, even as it faces nightly aerial assaults.

For President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and his government, any agreement that cedes territory or locks Ukraine into neutrality would be seen as a betrayal of sovereignty and national sacrifice. Mr Trump's role adds another layer of complexity. His relationship with Mr Putin has long been a subject of unease in Western capitals. From previously casting Mr Zelenskyy as a "dictator" to refusing to clearly condemn Russian aggression, Mr Trump's positioning risks legitimising Russia's core demands. Even now, as he flirts with the idea of trilateral talks, the Russian side shows no willingness to include Kyiv.

Mr Putin's message is clear: if peace is to be brokered, it must be on his terms, not through compromise. Many in Kyiv fear that Mr Trump's impulsive diplomacy could pressure Ukraine into making territorial concessions. As the war drags on, Western unity remains vital ~ not only for Ukraine's defence, but to prevent peace from becoming a euphemism for capitulation. Some speculate that the Kremlin's openness to talks at this stage is less about diplomacy and more about strategy. Mr Trump's threats of secondary sanctions on Moscow's trading partners loom large. A summit could be a way to buy time, diffuse international pressure, or even sway Mr Trump with appeals to his deal-making ego. For Mr Putin, a meeting that softens American resolve or isolates Ukraine diplomatically would be a win, even without a formal ceasefire.

Mr Zelenskyy has warned that excluding Ukraine from any peace process is dangerous. War, after all, is not merely a geopolitical chess game ~ it is the daily reality of suffering, resistance, and survival. A peace settlement imposed without Ukraine's consent would be as unsustainable as it is unjust. If Mr Trump truly seeks to end the war, he must abandon illusions of a solo breakthrough. Any lasting peace must be forged not between power-brokers, but between peoples, and on terms rooted in justice, not coercion.

Sanskriti honored with meritorious medals in the university convocation

Mathura. Students' faces glowed after finding degrees at the sixth convocation of sanskriti University. These degrees were the result of their tireless hard work, which would create their future. A total of 2045 degrees were distributed in various subjects at the ceremony. During this period, 20 researchers who completed research were awarded PhD degrees.

Among the students who secured first place in the sixth convocation, Shaili Vishwas, Shaili Makuku, Nikita Bhadoria, Mohini Kumari, Monika Goyal, Shalu, Chitra Yadav, Karishma Gupta, Divyanshi Varshney, Varsha Aggarwal, Darshika, Sharma Nandini Harendra, Mahesh, Kuldeep Singh, Saurabh, Kumar Anshika Singh Chahar, Lakshmi Narayan, Sheela Kumari, Tanisha Chahar, Nimisha Swaroop, Lakshmi, Aarti Kumari, Nidhi Arvind, Sonam Gautam, Cijal Rohilla, Trisha Sharma, Krink



Shivang, Digala Parimala Rani, Mohini Kuntal, Prince, Prabhat Kumar, Tejveer, Aditya Sharma, Ramveer, Ramveer, Ramveer, Preeti Lodhi, Sumit Singh, Pratyakha Rohilla, DheejRajput, Dipanshi, Iiti, Wasim, Rohit Arora, Farooqui Muskan Anees Ahmed, Kumari Khushboo Aheria, Lovely were honored with a gold medal. Students who got second place, Rahul Singh, Kumari Chandni Bano, Nikhil Beniwal, Himanshi Sharma,

(Gns). The line "To be an enemy of America is dangerous, but to be a friend is fatal," is attributed to Henry Kissinger though he may not have been the originator. However, India is now finding this to be true, especially with a vengeful Donald Trump targeting India. His recent outbursts against India when placing 50 per cent tariffs began increasing in tempo after PM Modi's statement in Parliament on the ceasefire on Operation Sindoor. PM Modi had stated, "not a single world leader asked us to stop the operation. Our actions were precise and non-escalatory, just as we had committed." This was in reply to Rahul Gandhi mentioning, "It is obvious the PM has not said that Trump is lying." All this was in sharp contradiction of Trump's almost 30 plus repeats of having ended Operation Sindoor, apart from those of his staff. It was a rebuff of Trump's claims. PM Modi made his statement in Parliament on 29 July and Trump made his first announcement on tariffs on 30 July. His announcement of additional 25 per cent tariffs came a few days later, indicating growing frustration and anger.

For Trump, the statement by PM Modi implies that India will never endorse Pakistan's letter of recommendation for a Nobel Prize for the American president. It will also weaken Pakistan's recommendations, which led to Trump inviting Asim Munir for a luncheon at the White House. Another reason for Trump's growing frustration with India is its reluctance to open its farm and dairy sector to US products as it would impact

a very large workforce. Added has been India's membership of the BRICS, which Trump visualizes as being against the US. Trump is also frustrated at being unable to end the Russo-Ukraine conflict, which he had sworn to do in the first few days of his presidency.

Putin has been playing Trump along, aware of the latter's desperation for the Nobel. Russia has no intention of ending the conflict unless it controls territories it desires and keeps Ukraine under its thumb. Though Putin would be meeting Trump on 15 August in Alaska, he will not bend until his terms are met. Trump, in his desperation for the Nobel may even throw Ukraine under the bus. Trump justified his additional tariffs threat on India by mentioning, "India is not only buying massive amounts of Russian oil, they are then, for much of the oil purchased, selling it on the open market for big profits. They don't care how many people in Ukraine are being killed by the Russian War Machine."

He is now seeking to isolate Russia by compelling India to change its strategic alignment. As per reports, China is the largest buyer of Russian oil. In 2024, China imported USD 62.6 billion worth of oil, compared to India's USD 52.7 billion. Trump cannot enhance tariffs on China (already 50 per cent) for procuring oil from Russia, because China can hit back by blocking sale of rare earth minerals. He thus chose an easier target, India. Geopolitical and eco-

nomie considerations compelled Trump to avoid challenging Beijing. India refuses to be cowed down by Trump's threats. Coinciding with Trump's announcement was the visit of the Indian NSA, Ajit Doval, to Moscow.

Doval held talks on



expanding defence cooperation, including procurement of additional S400 missile systems and other weaponry from Russia, trade in local currencies and other topics. Though the visit was preplanned, it indicated that India will continue with its independent foreign and economic

policies. Putin is scheduled to visit India later this year. India's diplomatic response also conveyed that it would stand firm. The statement released by the MEA mentioned, "They (India's oil procurements) are a necessity compelled by global market situation.

Trump termed the Indian and Russian economies as 'dead.' His frustration grows as India refuses to bow down and PM Modi does not respond by rushing to Washington or seeking deferments as other global leaders, including from Japan and Switzerland, had done. As rightly stated by the MEA, Indo-US relations have seen ups and downs over the decades. This is another hurdle which they will cross. Once again, Trump has misread India and its internal politics. The Indian leadership cannot bend or beg.

It will stand its ground. Accepting Trump's demands would be political suicide for the current dispensation. Hence, there is silence from the Indian leadership. For once all political parties are together against Trump's 'economic blackmail.' India will act maturely, not hit back, hoping to end the conflict by talks and a trade agreement, ensuring its key concerns are addressed. New Delhi is accustomed to prolonged negotiations for trade agreements, while Trump is in a rush. The IndiaUK Free Trade Agreement took three years to finalize. In the meanwhile, India will look at both internal and external options to offset US

sanctions. Trump's desperation for a Nobel Prize has propelled him to ignore the importance of India in the Indo-Pacific.

His growing proximity to Pakistan, including seeking to invest in its nonexistent oil reserves, is intended to further push India. It is hoped that Indo-US defence ties are kept away from the on-going trade conflict. India must not conduct the heads of state summit of the QUAD this year. Trump's vision of the world is coloured by his belief that everything can be handled by trade and sanctions, which will not work. Hence the QUAD meeting would be counterproductive. Trump's unilateral approach to trade is pushing the world to seek alternate alliances and means of payment ignoring the US dollar.

IndoRussia trade will now be in RupeeRouble. Trade between most members of BRICS and SCO will follow a similar trajectory. The domination of the US dollar on global trade will recede and the man responsible for this will be Trump. Trump's transactional approach to leadership has displayed that he is willing to push long-term allies under the bus for short term or individual gains. At the end of the day, even if a trade agreement is reached, the US will no longer be considered a trustworthy ally, something which will take decades to overcome.

The Role of Quality Agri Inputs in Unlocking the Untapped Potential of Agriculture in Uttar Pradesh

Lucknow, 12th August 2025 – Dhanuka Agritech Limited, a leading agri-input company, highlighted "The Role of Quality Agri-Inputs in Unlocking the Untapped Potential of Agriculture in Uttar Pradesh," emphasising both the immense opportunities within the state's agriculture sector and the critical challenges that demand urgent attention.

Despite having some of the most fertile land in the country, Uttar Pradesh shows a wide disparity in crop productivity. For instance, sugarcane yields range from a state average of about 84 tonnes per hectare to as high as 284 tonnes per hectare in certain areas, indicating significant untapped potential.

Similarly, UP's wheat averages 24.25 quintals per hectare compared to Punjab's 53.9 quintals, while paddy yields stand at 50 quintals per hectare against Punjab's exceptional 67.4 quintals—demonstrating scope for 2-3 times higher production. At the recent CII Sugartech event, Hon'ble CM Yogi Adityanath underscored the vast untapped potential in Uttar Pradesh's agriculture, high-

lighting that better practices and quality inputs can deliver transformative results. With the state targeting a \$1 trillion economy by 2027 and agriculture contributing 25% productivity gains are critical. India's agricultural GDP is still only about one-third of China's, underscoring the immense scope for growth — not just in UP, but nationwide — exactly as envisioned by Yogi Ji.

Dr. R. G. Agarwal, Chairman Emeritus, Dhanuka Agritech Ltd., said, in Rajasthan, during a commendable raid led by Shri Kirori Lal Meena, the Agriculture Minister of Rajasthan, about 2 lakh bags of counterfeit fertiliser per day were found to be manufactured using industrial waste and distributed to farmers. Shri Meena's strict actions against these culprits have set an example in combating this menace. We strongly urge the UP government to take similar large-scale and vigilant action against such fraudulent activities in the state. Imagine the loss to a

farmer if such fake material reaches his field. Crop failures due to such inputs are one of the hidden but



significant reasons behind farmer distress and suicides – and in India, 11,000 farmers take their own lives every year." Further added, "Reaching India's 14 crore farmers spread across 6.5 lakh villages is a challenge that no single organisation can achieve alone, which is why public-private partnership is not only important but the need of the hour. By joining hands with ICAR's vast network, we are ensuring that cutting-edge solutions actually reach the grassroots. Dhanuka Agritech has undertaken extensive awareness and outreach campaigns

across the country under its MoU with ICAR. We are working crop-wise and region-wise with Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), ATARIs, ICAR institutes and agricultural universities to educate farmers about identifying and using only quality agricultural inputs. We advise farmers to always demand a proper bill and to verify the authenticity of products by scanning the QR code on the packaging."

Recently, Dhanuka organised a maize and pulses-specific program in Kasganj, Uttar Pradesh, and has conducted similar events for cotton, soybean, and paddy farmers in other states. Posters, videos, and other awareness materials created by Dhanuka are being circulated widely at the grassroots level.

Farmers also have access to a regular helpline at Dhanuka's R&D centre in Palwal, where they can get queries answered over the phone or even via WhatsApp by sending pictures of their crops and products for guidance. Even if the query is unresolved then the ground-level staff visits the farmer to resolve their problem.

Days that changed our world

(Gns). The unleashed power of the atom has changed everything save our modes of thinking, and thus we drift toward unparalleled catastrophe." – Albert Einstein Eighty years have passed since the twin horrors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki scorched their way into the conscience of humankind. Yet, even now, those atomic shadows flicker behind every international negotiation table, in every deterrence doctrine, and within every nation's nuclear vault.

On August 6 and 9, 1945, respectively, the

United States dropped atomic bombs on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, instantly vaporizing tens of thousands and condemning many more to death through radiation, burns, and a lifetime of silent suffering. It was not just the end of World War II – it was the beginning of a nuclear age whose tremors continue to ripple through the global order. The numbers remain haunting. Hiroshima's "Little Boy" killed an estimated 140,000 people by the end of 1945. Nagasaki's "Fat Man" killed approximately 74,000.

Entire generations were wiped out in seconds. Survivors – known as hibakusha – bore witness to unimaginable agony: charred corpses strewn across blackened streets, flesh dripping from bone, and children crying out for water in smouldering ruins.

The physical destruction was absolute, but the psychological devastation was perhaps more profound. Japan surrendered on August 15, bringing the war to a close, but at what cost to humanity? At the time, U.S. President Harry S. Truman defended the bombings as necessary to

end the war quickly and save countless American and Japanese lives that would have otherwise been lost in a land invasion. However, in the years that followed, many historians, ethicists, and even military officials questioned whether Japan was already on the verge of surrender. Was the bomb more a message to the Soviet Union than a strategic necessity? Was it the first shot of the Cold War, not the last shot of the Second World War? Today, the debate continues, but the facts remain immutable.

Hiroshima was the first

city in history subjected to a nuclear attack. Nagasaki followed three days later. The world had crossed a threshold – from which there was no turning back. The aftermath of the attacks led to the birth of a nuclear world order. The Manhattan Project, which developed the bomb, became the template for future nuclear programmes. The Cold War arms race between the United States and the Soviet Union brought the planet dangerously close to annihilation multiple times – the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962 being the most dramatic example.

Treaties such as the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START), and the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) emerged in efforts to regulate this immense destructive capability. Still, the logic of deterrence – mutually assured destruction – ruled global security doctrines. Yet in 2025, marking the 80th anniversary of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the nuclear world appears more unstable than ever. Russia has withdrawn from several arms control treaties, including the New

START treaty, signaling a more aggressive nuclear posture amidst its continued war with Ukraine and confrontation with NATO.

Moscow's abandonment of the CTBT has raised alarms across the world. Russia has also signaled possible deployment of nuclear weapons in Belarus, deepening Cold War-style fault lines in Eastern Europe. Meanwhile, North Korea continues to conduct missile tests and enhance its nuclear capabilities, flouting international sanctions. Iran edges closer to nuclear weapons capability

as its relations with the West deteriorate. China, for its part, is expanding and modernizing its nuclear arsenal at a rapid pace, potentially tripling the number of its warheads within a decade. In South Asia, India and Pakistan remain in a delicate nuclear balance, where one terrorist attack or miscalculation could trigger catastrophic escalation. The dream of a world without nuclear weapons, once championed by leaders like Mikhail Gorbachev and Barack Obama, now seems more distant than ever.

"Swachhata abhiyan" being observed over western railway with great enthusiasm

Mumbai, WR promotes cleanliness and environmental conservation through Shramdaan and Tree Plantation drive

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 in two phases, i.e. 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



Glimpses of various activities being carried out under "Swachhata Abhiyan", campaign across Mumbai Central Division of Western Railway.

staff and passengers. Western Railway is also actively partaking in this "Swachhata Abhiyan" and is being observed across all its divisions and units with great enthusiasm.

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

Vineet Abhishek, Mumbai Central Division of Western Railway is also celebrating the Swachhata Abhiyan with participation of railway employees, their family members as well as local communities. Nukkad Nataks and Swachhata rallies, etc. are being organized at several locations

with active participation from employees and public volunteers. Workshops on sanitation and station upkeep are being conducted at railway stations, railway colonies and offices. Similarly, special workshops and training programmes are also being conducted for staff who have direct interaction with the public. These programmes help staff learn best cleanliness practices and improve customer service. A Street Play was performed by railway Scouts & Guides team at the Divisional Railway Manager's office motivating the railway employees highlighting the importance of cleanliness, as well as to adopt better hygiene practices in their routine lifestyle.

Himatnagar-Khed Brahma Gauge Conversion Project Nears Completion: CRS Inspection Underway

"With the inspection of Himmatnagar-Khedbrahma section, a new era of rail connectivity begins in North Gujarat

Himatnagar, 12 August 2025 — The historic metre gauge track connecting Himatnagar and Khed Brahma, a lifeline for the Sabarkantha region for over a century, is set to reopen in a modern broad-gauge format, promising faster, safer, and more efficient rail services.

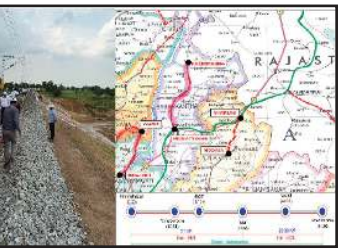
The Himatnagar-KhedBrahma Gauge Conversion Project, covering 55 km in Sabarkantha district, Gujarat, was sanctioned on 2 June 2022 at a cost of ₹482 crore. The project involves replacing the old metre gauge with a robust broad-gauge track, enabling higher speeds, improved comfort, and

enhanced freight capacity. The work is being executed under an EPC (Engineering, Procurement, and Construction) contract, awarded on 28 May 2023.

Today, the Commissioner of Railway Safety (CRS), Western Railway Circle, commenced the statutory inspection—an essential step before commissioning. The inspection began from Himatnagar and covered 20 km up to Jadar via motor trolley. The team carried out detailed checks of station facilities, track geometry, curves, bridges, and Road Under Bridges (RUBs).

The inspection team included Shri E. SrinivasCRS (WR Circle), Shri Ved Prakash, DRM

Ahmedabad; Shri Pradeep Gupta, CAO/C; Chief Track Engineer; Chief Operations Manager (G); and senior officials from construction



and open line departments. Commissioning is planned in phases:

- Himatnagar to Idar (31 km) – targeted for opening in the current phase

- Idar to Khed Brahma (23.83 km) – targeted for September 2025

"This transformation is not just an upgrade in gauge; it's an upgrade in

connectivity, opportunity, and growth potential for the Sabarkantha region," said a senior railway official.

Once operational, the modernised line will:

- Reduce travel time for passengers
- Enable higher-speed, more punctual services
- Facilitate heavier and faster freight movement for agriculture, stone quarrying, and industrial goods

With today's inspection marking a significant milestone, the reopening of this crucial link between Himatnagar. Idar - Khed Brahma is now on the horizon—ushering in a new era of rail connectivity for North Gujarat.

Local Excitement and Economic Hopes Residents of Jedar

AMA to host "Swadeshi Haat Exhibition 2025" and Special Programs to Celebrate the Spirit of Self-reliance

The Ahmedabad Management Association (AMA), in partnership with the Industries Commissionerate,

aims to honor and support local artisans, craftsmen, and entrepreneurs by showcasing a diverse range of products. Visitors

as traditional snacks and spices. The Swadeshi Haat Exhibition 2025 is an excellent opportunity to celebrate India's rich cul-

Dr. Manek Patel "Setu," a renowned dentist, author, documentary filmmaker, and historian held on Wednesday, August 13,



Government of Gujarat, is proud to launch the Swadeshi Haat Exhibition 2025. The Chief Guest Mr. Umashankar Pandey, a Padma Shri Awardee and renowned "Water Warrior" inaugurated the Exhibition.

This exhibition celebrates the Spirit of Swadeshi and self-reliance. The exhibition

will discover unique handicrafts, including traditional Mata ni Pachhedi and Kutchhi embroidery, handloom Patola sarees, and handcrafted apparel, ceramics, and accessories. The exhibition also features organic and eco-friendly products like handmade soaps and beauty treatments, as well

tural and economic heritage while supporting local industries. The exhibition will remain open on 13th August, 2025 from 10:00 am to 8:00 pm.

A special talk and documentary screening on "One City – One Name: Amdavad" as part of the Swadeshi Haat Exhibition 2025 will be addressed by

2025 from 5:30 PM to 6:45 PM.

All are cordially invited to join all events and celebrate the spirit of self-reliance and local craftsmanship.. For more details please call AMA on 079-26308601 or visit AMA's website: www.amaindia.org

Home Credit India Integrates Quick Disbursals with Legacy POS Systems to Enhance Consumer Durable Lending Experience

12 August, 2025: As consumer aspirations rise across India, especially in semi-urban and urban centers, the demand for quick, reliable, and hassle-free credit continues to surge. Home Credit India (HCIN), a subsidiary of TVS Group, is stepping up to meet this need head-on. By seamlessly integrating its fast, trustworthy, safe and paperless loan disbursement process with tech-enabled Point-of-Sale (POS) systems, HCIN is making essential and aspirational products instantly accessible, truly empowering customers at the last mile.

According to Home Credit India's 'How India Borrows (HIB) 2024' study, borrowing for smartphones and home appliances surged from just 1% in 2020 to 37% in 2024, highlighting the growing con-

sumer appetite for aspirational products and the need for accessible POS-based credit solutions.

Addressing the Pulse of the Indian Market: Speed and Trust at POS

Recognizing the critical role of POS interactions in influencing customer choice in India's highly competitive consumer durable market, Home Credit India has strategically enhanced its disbursement capabilities.

This ensures customers receive quick credit access right at the moment of purchase, with completely paperless application process. This seamless integration of human ingenuity with tech capabilities, minimizes wait times and eliminates friction, directly

addressing the evolving demands of tech-savvy and time-conscious consumers.

Home Credit India's commitment to a quick and easy disbursement process isn't just about efficiency; it's about empowering dreams at the grassroots level. In a market where every second counts, and trust is paramount, the ability to provide timebound financing directly at the POS is a game-changer. This aligns perfectly with the rising consumer aspirations and the company's mission to drive financial inclusion across urban and semi-urban India.

Beyond Disbursement: A Holistic Customer-Centric Approach

While speed is a significant differentiator, Home Credit India's value propo-

sition extends across the entire customer journey, fostering trust and confidence:

- Fast and Easy Approval Process: Loans are approved quickly, ensuring customers receive seamless credit access right at the point of purchase, minimising wait time and enabling swift purchasing decisions. The HIB 2024 report also found that 43% of lower-middle-class borrowers prefer EMI cards for their reliability and faster disbursements, validating Home Credit's emphasis on POS-led financing tools.

- Transparent Interest Rates and Fees: All loan terms, including interest rates and charges, are communicated in simple terms, helping customers make informed choices and eliminating concerns over hidden costs.

Why Is Trump Really Upset With India? PM Modi's 35-Minute Call

(Gns). India and the United States' relationship has been heading downhill in the last few months. The previously warm relations between these two democracies have hit a new low after US President Donald Trump imposed a 50% tariff on Indian exports. This move has prompted Prime Minister Narendra Modi to explore alliances in the east.

A Bloomberg report sheds light on a key phone call that may have influenced the current state of affairs. Weeks after Trump announced a ceasefire between India and Pakistan, he had a 35-minute conversation with Modi.

In recent months, the relationship between the United States and India has deteriorated after the US

imposed a 50% tariff on Indian exports, leading Prime Minister Narendra Modi to seek other alliances; this followed

"India does not and will never accept mediation." This statement was made after Trump invited Modi to the White House, which



Modi declining an invitation from US President Donald Trump. Despite trade negotiation challenges, India remains firm on protecting its national interests, particularly those of its farmers and fishermen.

During this call, PM Modi reportedly asserted,

was perceived as an attempt to stage a photo opportunity with Pakistani Army Chief Asim Munir. Modi declined the invitation.

Impact of Trump's Actions

Following this incident, officials believe Trump's attitude towards India shift-

ed. He began criticising India publicly, using terms like 'dead economy' and 'obnoxious trade barriers'. This culminated in the hefty tariff on Indian exports and a pause in trade negotiations, according to the report.

Seven months ago, when Trump commenced his second term in office, he aimed to foster strong ties with his 'dear friend' Modi. Despite India's eagerness to initiate trade talks with the US, discussions have stalled. Modi remains firm against opening India's dairy and agriculture sectors to US demands.

An Indian official revealed that negotiators underestimated the influence of the US farm lobby, midwestern senators, and dairy cooperatives.

ANC Facilitates Cultural-Cum-Educational Excursion for Tribal Students to New Delhi to Participate in IDC 2025

(Gns). In the run up to Independence Day Celebrations (IDC) 2025 at Red Fort in New Delhi, the Andaman and Nicobar Command (ANC) has facilitated an educational-cum-cultural excursion for bright young minds from all across the Andaman & Nicobar Islands to participate in celebrations. The initiative is curated to give students first-hand experience of the IDC 2025 in the National Capital and interact with the President of India Smt Droupadi Murmu, Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh, and the Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan. The programme reflects the spirit of unity in diversity and is aimed at nurturing cultural harmony,

instilling national pride, and sowing the seeds of lifelong camaraderie.

The delegation comprises 30 students from across

Car Nicobar, Kamorta & Campbell Bay). The selection included fifteen boys and fifteen girls, all from higher secondary classes



the three districts of the Andaman & Nicobar Islands: North Andaman (Diglipur, Mayabunder, & Baratang), South Andaman (Sri Vijaya Puram), and the Nicobar group (including

of various schools across the islands.

The interactions will serve as a beacon of inspiration, lighting the path to future aspirations of service and nation-building. The

spirit of cultural confluence with students from diverse backgrounds will deepen their understanding of India's unity amidst diversity, fostering values of tolerance, respect and empathy.

As part of their itinerary, the students will explore some of India's most iconic landmarks, including the Red Fort, India Gate, the National War Memorial in Delhi, and the Taj Mahal in Agra. These experiences are designed to foster historical awareness, strengthen their emotional bond with the nation, and celebrate the spirit of unity in diversity. The programme seeks to nurture cultural harmony while building the foundations for lifelong camaraderie.

RBI guidelines ensure multilingual customer communication and a quicker grievance redressal by banks

(Gns). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has, from time to time, emphasised that banks must communicate with customers in their preferred language to ensure clarity and convenience. RBI's Master Circular on Customer Service in Banks states, inter alia, that all customer-facing materials at the branches of Scheduled Commercial Banks must be made available in Hindi, English, and the concerned regional language. Further, RBI vide its letter dated September 30, 2024, reiterated that all communications to customers, should invariably be issued in a trilingual format-Hindi, English, and the regional language.

All Banks have a robust board approved grievance

Grievance Redress and Monitoring System



redressal mechanism in place to address complaints. Further, the Reserve Bank – Integrated Ombudsman Scheme (RB-IOS), 2021, provides a cost-free platform for redressal of complaints against RBI-regulated entities (REs) in matters relating to deficiency in service, if the grievance is not redressed or reply is not given by the RE within the prescribed timeline.

Government through the Centralized Public

(CPGRAMS) portal, has a feedback call centre since June 2022, to assess citizen satisfaction after grievance disposal. The feedback data gets finally forwarded to the banks concerned for appropriate action. Further, RBI's toll-free Contact Centre (14448), operational since

November 2021, provides information on the grievance redressal mechanism, assistance in filing complaints, and updates on existing cases. While the Contact Centre (CC) is available 24*7 through the Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS), the facility to connect to the CC personnel is available from Monday to Saturday (except National Holidays) from 8:00 am to 10:00 pm in Hindi, English and ten regional languages.

This information was given by the Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance Shri Pankaj Chaudhary in a written reply to a question in Rajya Sabha today.

Lucknow's Nitin Agarwal wins Dream Holiday to Europe!

Lucknow, 10th August 2025 – Shoppers Stop, India's leading fashion, lifestyle, and gifting destination, turned one customer's wedding shopping journey into the experience of a lifetime. As part of its highly successful India Weds campaign, Shoppers Stop announced Mr. Nitin Agarwal from Lucknow as the lucky winner of a dream holiday to Europe.

The felicitation ceremony at Shoppers Stop, Lucknow, was a thoughtfully curated affair that celebrated Nitin's milestone with Shoppers Stop in style. Welcomed with floral décor and a red carpet, Nitin's celebration featured a photo zone, cake-cutting, and the symbolic cheque reveal making the moment unforgettable and reflecting Shoppers Stop's thoughtful approach to marking customer milestones. It was a perfect embodiment of the India Weds campaign - a

landmark initiative that positions Shoppers Stop as the one-stop premium destination for India's wedding

curated fashion, beauty, and gifting all under one roof.

"At Shoppers Stop, we



Shoppers Stop Takes Customer Experience Beyond Borders - Sends Top Shopper to Europe!

tribe. From Haldi to Reception, the campaign highlights how the brand walks alongside customers through every step of their wedding journey, offering

cherish every celebration with our customers. Through our 'India Weds with Shoppers Stop' initiative, we are excited to express our heartfelt grati-

tude by creating truly unforgettable experiences. This season, the love and trust of our customers have inspired us to redefine wedding shopping and offer rewards that exceed expectations - including a dream trip to Europe as our way of saying thank you," said Mr. Jiten Mahendra, Customer Care Associate and Chief Marketing Officer, Shoppers Stop.

With over 500 premium brands, Personal Shopper services, and loyalty benefits via its First Citizen Club, Shoppers Stop continues to lead the premiumisation journey in Indian retail one elevated customer experience at a time.

This celebration in Lucknow is part of a Pan-India winner felicitation series for the India Weds with Shoppers Stop campaign. A similar celebration was recently held in Pune and Bengaluru.

Union Public Service Commission to Begin Centenary Year Celebrations from 1st October 2025

“UPSC Marking 100 Years of Commitment to Merit and Public Service,” says Shri Ajay Kumar, Chairman, UPSC

Posted On: 12 AUG 2025 2:40PM by PIB Delhi
New Delhi, August 2025: The Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), the Constitutional Authority, will be marking 100 years of its existence with a year-long series of events and activities. The Centenary Year celebrations will begin on 1st October 2025 and continue until 1st October 2026. The decision in this regard was taken in the recent Commission meeting held under the chairmanship of Shri Ajay Kumar, Chairman, UPSC.

Subsequent to the provisions of the Government of India Act, 1919, and the

recommendations of the Lee Commission (1924), the Public Service Commission was estab-



lished in India on 1st October 1926. Later named the Federal Public Service Commission (1937), it was renamed the Union Public Service Commission with the adoption of India's Constitution on 26th January 1950.

“Since its inception, UPSC has been a symbol of transparency, fairness, and meritocracy, ensuring

the selection of the most deserving candidates through a rigorous and impartial process for sen-

ior-level positions in Government services,” said Shri Ajay Kumar, Chairman, UPSC.

As part of the celebrations, UPSC is planning to release a logo and a tagline symbolizing the Commission's service to the nation. Various new initiatives and reforms are also being planned and will be launched during the

Centenary Year.

Speaking about the preparations, Shri Ajay Kumar added, “As we prepared the list of events, we also sought inputs and suggestions from our employees. It is our endeavor to make them an integral part of the Centenary Year celebrations. In the process, we have received some truly valuable suggestions to work on.”

“The Centenary Year celebrations give us an opportunity to look back at our legacy with pride, to introspect for improvement, and to look forward to making the country proud by deploying the best human resources in the nation-building process. It is also an occasion to plan a

Warrant Officer Kim Felmingham, Regimental Sergeant Major – Australian Army interacted with Subedar Major Gopa Kumar S. The duo held discussions on the role of junior leaders, challenges faced with troops and various mitigation measures being incorporated in both the armies.

Additional Municipal Commissioner Municipal Industry Trade Representative Board gave suggestions regard-

Mathura. The city industry trade representative board got a delegation of Mathura, a delegation, met the Additional Municipal Commissioner for the birth system and gave many suggestions in view of the birth festival.



Municipal trade representative board handing over suggestion letter to Additional Municipal Commissioner

harassment of passengers, demanded a price list for auto rickshaws, rickshaws etc. Swami Ghat Vyasai

Samiti, Patron Vikas Jindal President Shyam Sundar Agarwal, General Secretary Rishi Aggarwal informed about the problems related to Swami Ghat, then the President of Buffalo Bahora Business Committee and the city Joint General Secretary Sri Bhagwan Chaturvedi, while cleaning the dirty dirty in the buffalo Bahora. Along with fixing the system, he attracted attention to the dirt prevailing in Sitaram Ka Bada near Vishram Ghat.

On Independence Day, Sheela Ed-Makers will gift various forms of the national flag

Lucknow. This time on the occasion of Independence Day, the celebration of independence and every house of Prime Minister Narendra Modi will give the various forms of the national flag to the people of the capital on the occasion of Independence

Day.

Ajay Aggarwal, head of Sheela Ed-Makers located at Hasanganj Gudmandi Daliganj in the capital, said that to celebrate the national festival, he has specially designed various forms of the tricolor like paper flag, bike flag, cloth, batch,

saree, cap, sticker, T-shirt, patka, turban and wrist bands.

He informed that every house is available at the offline and online service manufacturing rate of the national flag for the tricolor Gaurav Yatra,

Samajwadis first vitiate atmosphere, then disrupt House: UP ministers

(Gns). The proceedings of the Uttar Pradesh Assembly were disrupted over the Fatehpur incident for the second consecutive day on Tuesday.

The state government informed the House that although an FIR had been lodged, culprits identified, and strict action assured, the Opposition continued to stall business.

UP Ministers Suresh Khanna, Nitin Agarwal, and Dayashankar Singh accused the Opposition of deliberately spreading anarchy for political gain.

Parliamentary Affairs Minister Suresh Khanna said he had given a detailed reply to the Leader of the Opposition's ques-



tion on the Fatehpur incident. An FIR (Crime No. 319) has been filed against 10 named and 150 unidentified persons under serious sections, and the guilty will be punished following a proper investigation. He noted that Pappu

Chauhan, whose name has surfaced in the case, has already been expelled from the Samajwadi Party. “This is their pattern — first create trouble, then disrupt the streets and the House,” Khanna said, adding that the short session, meant for historic work, was blocked by the Opposition on both days.”

State Excise Minister Nitin Agarwal said the Parliamentary Affairs Minister had already given a clear reply to the Leader of the Opposition, adding that the government is closely monitoring the Fatehpur case.

India And China Explore Resumption Of Direct Flights Amid Improving Diplomatic Relations

(Gns). The possibility of resuming direct flights between India and China next month has emerged, according to a report by Reuters. This development is seen as a positive sign of improving relations between the two countries. The Indian government has reportedly instructed airlines like Air India and IndiGo to be prepared for potential flights to China on short notice.

Background of Suspended Flights
Direct air travel between India and China was halted due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The suspension coincided with heightened tensions following a deadly clash in the Galwan Valley

in June 2020. This incident marked a significant military confrontation, leading to strained diplomatic ties.

India and China may resume direct flights next month, a positive sign amid improving relations after flights were suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic and tensions following the Galwan Valley clash in June 2020; PM Narendra Modi is scheduled to visit Tianjin this month for the SCO Summit.

Switch To Shorts
Military and Diplomatic Efforts

After the Galwan Valley clash, both nations increased troop presence along the Line of Actual Control (LAC). They



engaged in numerous military and diplomatic discussions to resolve issues. Although some progress was made, several areas remained contentious until last year when forces disengaged in eastern Ladakh's Depsang and

Demchok plains. Economic Impact and Recent Developments

The strained relations affected economic exchanges, with restrictions on Chinese investments in India and tighter import scrutiny. Direct flights were also suspended during this period. However, recent dialogues have shown signs of easing tensions, indicating a possible thaw in relations.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to visit Tianjin later this month for the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit. This will be his first visit to China since 2019. China's reception of PM Modi's visit is positive,



Har Ghar Tiranga Har Ghar Swachhata

Svatantrata Ka Utsav, Swachhata Ke Sang

Hon'ble Chief Minister
Shri Bhupendrabhai Patel
will grace the **Tiranga Yatra**
to be held in Ahmedabad

Esteemed Presence
Shri Rushikesh Patel
Hon'ble Minister, Health and Family Welfare Department

Shri Harsh Sanghavi
Hon'ble Minister of State, Home,
Youth Services and Cultural Activities Department

Shri Jagdish Vishvakarma
Hon'ble Minister of State,
Co-operation Department

Date: 13th August 2025, Time: 5:00 PM
Venue: Adarsh School, Kubernagar, Ahmedabad

“ Together, let us hoist the National Flag as ever and make Har Ghar Tiranga campaign a success.”

Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister



Scan the QR for more information

www.harghartiranga.com

