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## President of india presents sixth national water awards and jal sanchay-jan bhagidari awards

**Effective water management is possible only with the participation of individuals, families, society, and the government: president droupadi murmu** (Gns).

The President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu presented the sixth National Water Awards and Jal Sanchay-Jan Bhagidari Awards at a function held in New Delhi today (November 18, 2025).

Speaking on the occasion, the President said that the story of human civilization is the story of groups settling in river valleys, along seashores, and around various water sources. In our tradition, rivers, lakes, and other water sources are revered. In our national song, the first word Bankim Chandra

Chatterjee wrote is Sujalam. This means "blessed with abundant water resources." This fact reflects the priority of water for our country.

The President said that efficient water use is a global imperative. Efficient water use is even more crucial for our country because our water resources are limited compared to the population. Per capita water availability is a major challenge. She underlined that climate change is affecting the water cycle. In such circumstances, the government and the public should work together to ensure water availability and water security.

The President was happy to note that under the Jal Sanchay-Jan Bhagidari initiative

launched last year, more than 35 lakh groundwater recharge structures have



been constructed.

The President said that by adopting circular water economy systems, all industries and other stakeholders can make effective use of water resources.

She noted that, along with water treatment and recirculation, many industrial

units have achieved the target of zero fluid discharge. She stated that such efforts are useful for water management and conservation.

The President empha-

sized on prioritization of water conservation and consistent management at the level of central and state governments, district administrations, village panchayats, and municipal bodies. She was happy to note that numerous educational institutions, citizen groups, and non-governmental organizations are also contributing in this direction. She advised farmers and entrepreneurs to adopt innovative methods of maximizing produc-

tion while minimizing water consumption. She highlighted that rational citizens who enthusiastically contribute individually are also important stakeholders in the water-prosperity value chain. Effective water management is possible only with the participation of individuals, families, society, and the government.

The President said that while using water, everyone should remember that we are using a very valuable asset. She underlined

that tribal communities treat all natural resources, including water, with great respect. She stressed that the most efficient use of water resources should be an integral part of the lifestyle of all our citizens. She advised everyone to remain constantly vigilant about water conservation, both individually and collectively. She said that it is crucial to spread water awareness in our country's public consciousness. Water can only be harvest-

ed and conserved through the power of the people.

The National Water Awards aim to create awareness among the people about the importance of water and motivate them to adopt the best water usage practices. The Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari (JSJB) initiative has been leading to the emergence of diverse, scalable, and replicable models for artificial groundwater recharge through community participation and convergence of

## Railways reduces bulk cement freight charges

(Gns).

Unveiling the rationalisation of rates for bulk cement in containers and the policy for bulk cement terminals, Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw on Tuesday said these reforms will bring down the cost of cement for the middle class and poor families as they build their dream homes.

The policy is part of the Railways Reforms for Cement Transportation.

The new rate structure has been simplified and rationalised by introducing charges based on the actual tonnage, calculated as the Gross Tonne Kilometre (GTKM) of the train.

To enhance Ease of Doing Business, the previous distance and weight slabs have been removed. Under the revised system, freight is charged at a flat rate of Rs 0.90 per tonne per kilometre for the actual distance covered.

Describing this moment as a game changer, Vaishnaw said as per the new policy, distance and weight slabs have been removed, adding that the new rate has been rationalised to Rs 0.90 per tonne per kilometre at flat Gross Tonne KM.

"Previously, freight rates were in slabs. One rate applied to a plant terminal at 200 km, and another rate for a plant terminal at 210

km. Now, the rate is completely flat: 90 paise/GTKM, whether the terminal is installed at 10 km, 50 km,



225 km, or 228 km," he said.

The Railway Minister said tank containers will be an end-to-end, pollution-free logistics solution for bulk cement transportation.

India is now the world's second-largest freight carrier, having surpassed the US, he said.

"The rail network expansion has increased from 4 km per day (during 2004-14) to 12-14 km per day, making it over three times faster. The broad-gauge rail network is now almost 100 per cent electrified. More than 1,300 Amrit Stations are currently being developed across the country," the Union Minister added.

The policy promotes the use of tank containers to support efficient multimodal, end-to-end logistics for bulk

cement. The Tank Container is an effective end-to-end logistics solution for bulk cement transportation and

ther support this shift toward efficient logistics, Indian Railways will facilitate the development of bulk cement terminals across the country under the "Bulk Cement Terminal" policy, enabling smoother handling, storage, and distribution of cement.

The bulk cement terminals will be constructed, operated, and maintained with direct connectivity to the railway network to ensure seamless logistics. These terminals will be equipped with essential facilities such as hoppers, silos, bagging plants, and other related infrastructure to support efficient handling, storage, and distribution of bulk cement.

The policy offers several key benefits, including a substantial reduction in cement transportation costs and a significantly smaller carbon footprint compared to road transport, thereby supporting environmental sustainability and reducing road congestion.

It enables the movement of large volumes of cement in a single consignment and minimises packaging requirements while reducing material losses from spillage. Additionally, the policy ensures faster turnaround times through mechanised loading and unloading, enhancing overall efficiency in cement logistics.

## Shashi Tharoor Praises PM Modi Again, Sparks Anger in Congress

(Gns).

Congress MP Shashi Tharoor has once again triggered internal unease after publicly appreciating Prime Minister Narendra Modi's speech at a private event in Delhi.

Congress MP Shashi Tharoor praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi's speech at a Delhi event, which focused on national development and cultural revival, prompting internal unease within the Congress party and raising questions about his political alignment, especially concerning his past remarks and association with the G23 group.

His comments shared on social media renewed

questions over his proximity to the ruling side and reopened discussions within his party about his ideological direction and long



term political stance.

Tharoor Describes PM's Address as Inspiring and Forward Looking

Tharoor said he attended an invitation only event where the Prime Minister focused on national devel-

opment, cultural revival and the need to shed a colonial mindset.

He wrote that PM Modi highlighted how India



should no longer see itself as an "emerging market" but an "emerging model" and credited the nation for staying strong during the pandemic and coping with global uncertainty linked to the Ukraine conflict.

The Congress MP further quoted the Prime Minister saying he has been accused of being in "election mode" throughout his tenure but was actually operating in an "emotional mode" driven by public concerns.

Tharoor noted that the address framed development as a fusion of economic ambition and cultural self restoration. Appreciating the vision presented, he shared, "On the whole, the address served as an economic outlook and a cultural call to action, urging the nation to be restless for progress. Glad to have been in the audience..."

## At Moscow meet, Jaishankar calls for reforms to SCO's working methods, reiterates India's zero-tolerance policy on terrorism

(Gns).

At the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Council of Heads of Government meeting in Moscow, External Affairs Minister (EAM) S Jaishankar on Tuesday said that there should be zero tolerance towards terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, calling for the reform in the grouping's working methods.

Speaking at the SCO meeting, Jaishankar reminded member countries that the SCO was founded to combat the three evils of terrorism, separatism and extremism.

He noted that these threats have become even more serious in the years that have passed, and added: "It is imperative that the world displays zero tolerance towards terrorism in all its forms and manifestations."

Jaishankar asserted



that there can be no justification, no looking away and no whitewashing. "As India has demonstrated, we have the right to defend our people against terrorism and will exercise it," he stated.

The EAM further said that India believes that the SCO must adapt to the changing global landscape, develop an expanded agenda and reform its working methods.

"We will contribute positively and fully to these

objectives..." he added.

Earlier during his speech, Jaishankar highlighted India's commitment to the SCO, saying, "We have provided cancer treatment equipment to some SCO members. Similarly, India's supplies of vaccines and essential medicines reflected that commitment during difficult times."

He said that India's initiatives, such as the SCO Special Working Group on Startups and Innovation, and the SCO Startup

Forum are good examples of that. "They're aimed at promoting innovation and creativity, especially targeting the younger generation..." he said.

Speaking on trade and economic issues, the External Affairs Minister said, "We assess the global economic situation to be particularly uncertain and volatile currently."

He said supply side risks have been aggravated by demand side complexities.

"There is consequently an urgent requirement to derisk and diversify. This is best done by as many of us forging the widest possible economic links. For that to happen, it is essential that this process be fair, transparent and equitable. India's endeavours to conclude free trade arrangements with many of you here are relevant," Jaishankar added. ku

## Rajasthan to host tourism pre-summit on November 27 ahead of Pravasi Rajasthani Divas

(Gns).

Ahead of the Pravasi Rajasthani Divas celebration on December 10, 2025, the state government will organise a Tourism Pre-Summit on November 27 aimed at bringing together leading minds from the tourism sector to explore how Rajasthan can be positioned as a year-round tourist destination.

Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma will grace the inaugural session as the chief guest, while Deputy Chief Minister Diya Kumari, who also holds the Tourism

portfolio, will be the special guest.

The new Tourism Policy and the Film Tourism Promotion Policy of the state are expected to be unveiled at the event. These policies aim to boost tourism and encourage filmmakers to choose Rajasthan as their canvas for shooting, an official spokesman said. The inaugural session



will be followed by brainstorming sessions in which experts from the industry and stakeholders will discuss a wide range of themes—from film tourism and digital marketing to homestays, rural tourism, and investment opportunities.

Renowned film and television actor Rajeev Khandelwal will speak on the role of cinema in spotlighting Rajasthan on the

global tourism map.

EaseMyTrip President Preeti Satyanarayan will offer insights into digital marketing strategies that can elevate Rajasthan's global presence.

Co-creator of Lali Homestay Devyani Bhatnagar will highlight the growing potential of homestays in strengthening domestic tourism, while Clarks Group of Hotels Managing Director Apoorva Kumar will discuss how tourism can drive economic growth and attract sustainable investments.

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Editorial

Troubled times for Sheikh Hasina

Sheikh Hasina, the former Prime Minister of Bangladesh, has been sentenced to death for crimes against humanity during the 2024 student protests. However, she remains in India, beyond the reach of Bangladeshi authorities. This situation has led to Dhaka demanding her extradition from India, leaving Hasina's fate dependent on New Delhi's next steps.

In December 2024, Bangladesh formally requested India's assistance in extraditing Hasina. She had fled to New Delhi after student-led protests ended her 15-year rule. The request came shortly after a visit by India's foreign secretary to Bangladesh, where both nations expressed a desire for constructive relations.

Following her sentencing for crimes against humanity during 2024 protests, Sheikh Hasina remains in India. Bangladesh has requested her extradition, highlighting the need for judicial proceedings.

Muhammad Yunus, head of Bangladesh's interim government, urged India to return Hasina for trial. "We sent a note verbale to the Indian government saying that the Bangladesh government wants [Hasina] back here for judicial process," stated Touhid Hossain. The interim administration confirmed sending a formal request to Indian authorities and expressed readiness to follow up if necessary.

The extradition treaty between India and Bangladesh, signed in January 2013 when Hasina was in power, allows for refusal if the request is deemed politically motivated. Article 6 of the treaty states that extradition may be denied if the offence is of a political character. However, certain crimes like murder are not considered political offences under this treaty.

India's Position on Extradition

India has acknowledged receiving Bangladesh's extradition request but has not disclosed its next move. Randhir Jaiswal from India's Ministry of External Affairs confirmed receipt of the request but refrained from commenting further. He noted that Hasina had arrived in India at short notice for safety reasons and continues to stay there.

India's Ministry of External Affairs stated its commitment to engaging constructively with all stakeholders in Bangladesh. "As a close neighbour, India remains committed to the best interests of the people of Bangladesh," it said, emphasising peace and stability.

## A demand for change

Zohran Mamdani's remarkable ascent to the mayorship of New York City has already become one of the most significant political stories of the year, not only for its symbolic value but also for what it reveals about the shifting mood of the American electorate. His victory is historic on several fronts: he is the youngest mayor the city has elected in a century, the first Muslim and first Indian-origin leader of America's largest metropolis, and a politician whose progressive agenda stands in sharp contrast to the right-leaning national climate shaped by Donald Trump.

Yet beyond these symbolic markers, Mamdani's win signals a deeper transformation underway in American politics ~ an unmistakable reflection of discontent with Trump's policies, a clear generational shift in urban governance, and a warning that the Republican Party can no longer ignore. What stands out most is that both Mamdani and Trump fought their political battles on the same issue ~ the cost-of-living crisis gripping the United States. Inflation, housing unaffordability, and economic anxiety have reshaped the American political imagination, pushing voters to seek real solutions rather than ideological theatrics. Trump continues to insist that tariff wars and aggressive protectionism will relieve pressure on the American middle class, claiming that foreign competitors and liberal policies are to blame for hardship.

Mamdani, in contrast, proposes a radically different diagnosis: that inequality, corporate concentration, and a governance model skewed toward elites lie at the heart of the crisis. His response is a suite of socialist-leaning measures ~ rent freezes, city-run grocery stores, fare-free buses, universal childcare, and higher taxes on millionaires. Whether these ideas ultimately succeed is an open question, but their electoral appeal is undeniable. Mamdani, just months ago dismissed as a fringe protest candidate, managed to galvanise millions of New Yorkers around a

# Delhi blast is an indicator that India's war on terror is nowhere near concluding

The Delhi blast is an indicator that India's war on terror is nowhere near concluding, despite conveying strong messages to Islamabad by means of military strikes. Till the Red Fort blast, terrorism was largely restricted to Kashmir, at least in the past decade. Continuing counterterrorist operations in Kashmir have proved that terrorism can only be contained, not eradicated. However, the positive aspect is that numbers of local militants in Kashmir are receding, while over-ground workers providing support remain at large. These are now the target of intelligence agencies.

In addition, as the recent Delhi blast proved, radicalization is again raising its ugly head and that too across the country. Home-grown terrorism is a global concern. Intelligence agencies in western countries spend vast resources monitoring those suspected of terrorist leanings. 'Lone wolf' attacks by radicalized members have been replaced by modules, capable of much greater destruction. The module busted in Andhra Pradesh, involving a doctor from Gujarat, had planned to use Ricin to poison water and temple prasad in multiple cities. This could have

resulted in high casualties and increased demands for retaliation.

The problem for intelligence agencies is compounded by the fact that some of these modules comprise educated and respected members of society, whose handlers are located abroad and their organizations funded by the hawala route. Most modules are small and their members know each other well, hence are closely knit. There were a few radicalized engineers from Kerala joining ISIS but never doctors. Communications of the module with handlers abroad are by secure apps that cannot be easily monitored. Modules are spread across the country and in many cases lie dormant unless instructed by their handlers to act.

They remain outside the radar based on their profession and standing within society. Added is the aspect that they collect material for their nefarious activities slowly, avoiding suspicion. It is not easy for security agencies to break into these modules unless a member makes a mistake. In the current case, Dr Adil Ahmad Rather was arrested for allegedly putting up posters supporting the terrorist outfit Jaish-e-Mohammed in Srinagar. It

was his interrogation which



provided insights on the module. Being educated, but not trained terrorists, they are not mentally strong, hence lack the ability to withstand detailed interrogation and succumb soon under pressure.

This enables security agencies to act quickly to break these modules. The arrest of Rather led to the closing in on the Faridabad module resulting in one of its members triggering the blast, aware that intelligence agencies were hot in pursuit. This is ascertained by the hurried nature of the explosion, implying that there was insufficient time for fully preparing the explosives for maximum damage. The level of coordination amongst members of the module was evident in the manner in which the car used for the blast was obtained. Coordination between different agencies and state police is what led to success. This is essential as inputs in one region indicate linkages to other parts of the country.

It is well known that

these modules are managed by Pakistan's ISI, which is the world's only intelligence agency sponsoring terrorism in neighbouring countries. Military action, including causing high levels of degradation, has done little to deter it from continuing its nefarious activities. While intelligence agencies, working in coordination, have busted a collection of modules in recent months, an odd incident, such as the Delhi blast slipped through. This will happen, but the saving grace is that the incident was largely unplanned and casualties contained. Maximum inputs of the investigation must be shared with the public as public support is essential for locating and busting modules in the future. Blocking of hawala channels stopped stone throwing in J and K and ended the power of the Hurriyat to instigate violence and harkals.

It is now emerging as the source of funding for

terrorist modules spread across the country. This source of funding needs to be investigated. It may not be fully blocked but reduction itself will render many modules inoperable. While agencies are working to counter radicalization measures, it is not easy. There are many Indian students studying in Muslim majority countries including Bangladesh, Saudi Arabia, UAE and Turkey. Pakistan as an education destination is no longer permitted; however their agents operate in these countries aiming to radicalize students. Even within India, there are institutes where it happens and needs to be under observation.

Reaction by the government indicated caution. Jumping to conclusions and blaming Pakistan even before investigations are complete would not bode well globally, especially as the perpetrators were home-grown terrorists. Unless linkages are clearly established it is best to avoid blaming others. However, Pakistan's own actions indicated fear within their military establishment as well as desperation to cover their tracks. DGISPR's paid handles jumped into the fray trying to cover the ISI's tracks by insisting that the blast was a 'false flag' operation conducted to influence elections in Bihar. On the contrary, the blast in the Islamabad court a day later, despite being claimed by

the TTP (Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan) was blamed on India and Afghanistan.

Sadly, while terrorists or radicalized members of society have no religion, their actions tend to lower the standing of members of their community at large, who are largely viewed with suspicion. This will lead to alienation despite awareness that the numbers radicalized are just miniscule. It will only benefit groups working against the state. While terrorism in J and K recedes, incidents like Delhi are likely to occur in other parts of the country. Added are concerns of attacks on places of worship and drone strikes on security institutions to create chaos and trigger communal violence.

Security agencies need to remain on their toes to thwart them. While security agencies may block multiple attacks, one incident slipping through their fingers is enough for blame games. Finally, the nation must stand tall in the face of such incidents and stop blaming the government or intelligence agencies. Blame games only benefit the adversary and provide additional incentive to members of radicalized modules. The government, on its part, must share as many details as possible with members of the opposition as also the national public. This will enhance trust and provide inputs on suspicious activities.

## The tragic explosion at a police station in Srinagar, which claimed nine lives and left dozens injured

The tragic explosion at a police station in Srinagar, which claimed nine lives and left dozens injured, is a sobering reminder of a persistent and largely unaddressed vulnerability within India's internal security apparatus: the handling and storage of seized explosives. What should have been a routine administrative process ~ moving confiscated materials for forensic examination, although why material seized in Faridabad had to be examined in Srinagar remains unexplained ~ turned into a catastrophe because of a preventable lapse. It is important to emphasise what this incident is not. It is not a terror attack, nor is it part of a coordinated assault on security forces. But the absence of malicious intent does not diminish the scale of the tragedy.

In some ways, accidents of this nature reveal deeper systemic weaknesses than adversarial strikes do. When the institutions tasked with preventing violence inadvertently enable it through negligence, the consequences raise profound questions about safety standards, oversight

mechanisms and professional training. This incident exposes how everyday administrative tasks can turn deadly when critical safety procedures are treated casually or implemented inconsistently. The key issue here is not merely the presence of explosives at a police facility.



Police stations across the country routinely hold seized ammunition, detonators and improvised devices.

The problem lies in outdated or inconsistent protocols governing how such material is stored, transported and handled. Many policemen and forensic assistants receive minimal specialised training, often learning on the job in environments that lack dedicated infrastructure for hazardous materials.

## dramatic falling-out between two high-profile personalities

(Gns).

The open rupture between US President Donald Trump and key MAGA figure Congresswoman Marjorie Taylor Greene is more than a dramatic falling-out between two high-profile personalities. It is a revealing moment for a political movement built on loyalty, spectacle, and grievance ~ and one that rarely tolerates internal dissent. When the President brands one of his most committed defenders "wacky" and a "traitor," and she in turn accuses him of trying to suppress a push for transparency, it exposes a deeper instability at the heart of populist politics in America. What makes this feud so striking

is its context.

Ms Greene has been one of Mr Trump's most ardent loyalists, standing by him through the tumult of the 2021 Capitol riot aftermath, amplifying his attacks on opponents, and voting reliably with his agenda.

For such a figure to now be on the receiving end of presidential fury signals a foundational shift: the boundaries of loyalty have tightened even further, and questioning the leader ~ even on issues central to the movement's narrative of confronting hidden

power ~ has become a ground for political excommunication.

The trigger appears to be Ms Greene's criticism of the administration's direction, especially her insistence that the



Epstein files be released in full.

Her argument taps directly into the scepticism that energises much of the American right: a belief that entrenched elites have long operated without scrutiny, and that sunlight is both a moral imperative and a

political necessity. By suggesting that Mr Trump is discouraging Republicans from supporting the release, she has crossed into territory that challenges his self-styled image as a warrior against institutional secrecy. Mr Trump's response has been predictably explosive. He has attacked her motives, belittled her personality, and promised to back any challenger willing to take her on. In doing so, he reinforces an unapologetically personalised political culture where loyalty flows only in one direction and where criticism ~ however aligned it may be with the movement's ethos ~ is treated as betrayal.



## STATION REDEVELOPMENT WORK OF LUCKNOW JUNCTION

Mumbai, In view of the ongoing work for redevelopment & major upgradation work of Lucknow Junction, a block will be undertaken from 20th November to 22nd December, 2025.

According to a press release issued by Chief Public Relations Officer of Western Railway, Shri Vineet Abhishek, the details of the train affected due to the block are as under:

Short Termination/Origination of 35 year old Champi, is married and was said to be involved in an affair with the woman. Police stated that he had been troubled by her decision to move on and get married with her family's approval.

Background of the Relationship According to officials, the woman had ended all communication after becoming engaged. Investigators said that Champi was unhappy with her choice to marry another person selected by her parents. He allegedly kept attempting to meet her

## Prashant Kishor Back with Another Claim: "Nitish Kumar, Give Rs 2 Lakh to Women, I'll Leave Politics"

(Gns). Poll strategist turned politician Prashant Kishor has issued a new political dare to Chief Minister Nitish Kumar after his Jan Suraaj Party faced a major loss in the recently completed Bihar Assembly election.

Prashant Kishor, after his Jan Suraaj Party's loss in the Bihar Assembly elections, challenged Chief Minister Nitish Kumar to fulfill a pre-election promise of transferring ₹2 lakh to 1.5 crore women, pledging to quit politics if Kumar does so. Kishor also alleged the JD(U) won by buying votes, while the NDA is set to form the next government.

Kishor admitted that his party failed in its first electoral performance and accepted full responsibility while saying that the promise of change could not be achieved this time.

Fresh dare to Nitish Kumar government Kishor declared that he

Similarly, Train No. 20922 Lucknow – Bandra Terminus Weekly Express, journey commencing from 23rd November, 2025 to 21st December, 2025 will depart from Aishbagh station instead of Lucknow Jn.

Against her wishes, which led to rising tension between them.

Incident Near the Pond On Monday afternoon, the woman had gone to a pond alone. Police reported that Champi spotted her and followed her to the location. He then allegedly held her and molested her. Despite her resistance and efforts to push him away, he continued forcing himself and attempted to kiss her. During the struggle, she reportedly bit his tongue so hard that a piece of it was severed.

Aftermath and Police

Trains:

Train No. 20921 Bandra Terminus - Lucknow Weekly Express, journey commencing from 22nd November, 2025 to 20th December, 2025 will terminate at Aishbagh station instead of Lucknow Jn.

Similarly, Train No. 20922 Lucknow – Bandra Terminus Weekly Express, journey commencing from 23rd November, 2025 to 21st December, 2025 will depart from Aishbagh station instead of Lucknow Jn.

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## A literary evening was made memorable by the echo of soulful poetic expressions

### A successful multilingual poetry conference and book launch



Various guests and writers participating in the multilingual Kavi Sammelan organised by Rashtriya Kavi Sangam at Mumbai Press Club and various guests releasing the book "Syahi Ka Sipahi".

Mumbai, 18th November. Under the joint auspices of Rashtriya Kavi Sangam, Hindi Sahitya Bharati "Women's Cell," and Sahityam organizations, a national multilingual poetry conference titled "ABHIVYAKTI KE SWAR" was successfully organized on Monday, 17th November, 2025, in the auditorium of the Mumbai Press Club at Azad Maidan, Mumbai. The melodious echo of soulful poetic expressions from various genres made this literary evening memorable.

In this prestigious Kavi Sammelan, about 30 writers including senior lyricist Devmani Pandey, Santosh Kumar Jha, Gajanan Mahatpurkar, Dr. Kripashankar Mishra, Mrs.

Ragini Shah, Arun Shekhar, Hemant Sharma, Anjani Kumar Dwivedi, Omprakash Tiwari, Kiran Tiwari, Anil Gaur, Dr. Roshni Kiran, Anupama Kadwad, Taj Mohammad Taj, Ashu Sharma, Jagriti Sinha, Laxmi Yadav, Ojaswini, Rita Kushwaha, Seema Trivedi, Archana Jha, Raju Mishra, Ashwini Umeed Lakhnavi, Pallavi Rani, Anuj Verma, Archana Verma Singh, Kalpana Mhapuskar, Akshita Goyal and Latika Shinde mesmerized the audience with their soulful and interesting poetic compositions in Hindi, Marathi, Awadhi, Bengali and Maithili languages. The ceremony began with the lighting of lamps and garlanding a portrait of Goddess

Saraswati. The guests & poets were welcomed by Mrs. Reema Rai Singh, President of Rashtriya Kavi Sangam, Mumbai, and the event's chief coordinator. The dignitaries present on stage also released the fourth poetry collection, "Syahi Ka Sipahi," by Mr. Santosh Kumar Jha, Chairman and Managing Director of Konkan Railway. The ceremony was presided over by senior cine lyricist Mr. Devmani Pandey and gracefully hosted by senior poet Dr. Varsha Mahesh. Senior announcer Anand Prakash Singh of All India Radio, Mumbai, senior poet Mrs. Kamlesh Pathak, Smt. Ragini Virendra Shah, President of Hindi Sahitya Bharati Women's Cell,

Mumbai, senior literary figure Naveen Chaturvedi, Official Language Officer of Konkan Railway, Sadanand Chitale and renowned social worker Mahendra Surana were also present on stage, sharing their thoughts with everyone. As the chief guest, Konkan Railway Chairman and Managing Director Santosh Kumar Jha, in his address, praised all the authors and highlighted the eternal importance of literature in society. At the end of the ceremony, Naveen Chaturvedi and Mrs. Reema Rai Singh, while fulfilling their hospitality, expressed their gratitude to all the guests and authors.

## VMMC-Safdarjung Hospital and CCRAS-CARI Ink MoU to Boost Integrative Menopause Care Research

(Gns).

In a significant step toward strengthening integrative healthcare for women, Vardhman Mahavir Medical College (VMMC) & Safdarjung Hospital today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Central Ayurveda Research Institute (CARI), under the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS), Ministry of Ayush. The collaboration aims to advance scientific, evidence-based Ayurveda research focused on

improving menopause care. Women going through menopause commonly experience symptoms such as hot flushes, insomnia, fatigue, vaginal dryness, mood fluctuations, anxiety, and memory concerns. Growing interest in safe and supportive treatment options has led many to seek holistic approaches, including Ayurveda. The MoU marks a major step toward developing validated integrative protocols that blend traditional wisdom with modern medical practice.

Speaking at the ceremony, Dr. Sandeep Bansal, Director, VMMC & Safdarjung Hospital, said that Ayurveda-based therapies, when used judiciously alongside allopathic treatment, can offer transformative benefits to menopausal women. He noted that certain Ayurvedic medicines containing metals must be taken strictly under expert supervision to ensure safety and efficacy.

Dr. Hemanta Panigrahi, Institute Incharge, CARI, highlighted that CCRAS, as

the apex research body of the Ministry of Ayush, has been committed to promoting scientific research in Ayurveda for decades. He noted that the Ayurveda Unit at Safdarjung Hospital has been functional since 1996, contributing significantly to patient care and collaborative research. "Evidence-based Ayurveda is gaining global acceptance, and this partnership will further strengthen integrative research methods and enhance public care," he added.

not possible without change. Emotional slogans do not do any good to the country. India has always been and will remain a secular nation, but creating an atmosphere of hatred by some people is not in the national interest. The Constitution has given equal rights to all citizens and in a democracy the people form the government.

In the end he expressed confidence that the people will come forward towards positive change and the country will again adopt progressive thinking.

## Student Madhav Chaturvedi with the Indian flag in front of Swami Vivekananda Memorial in Kanyakumari

Student Madhav Chaturvedi with the Indian flag in front of Swami Vivekananda Memorial in Kanyakumari after completing the cycle journey. Residents of Indraprastha Anand Apartment, Indira Nagar welcoming cyclist Madhav Chaturvedi with flower garlands.

Lucknow. Young student Madhav Chaturvedi has created history as the only successful competitor from the state in the cycle journey from Kashmir to Kanyakumari while participating in the 'Ride for Unity' organized on the 150th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. Madhav, who reached home after 16 days after completing the journey, was warmly welcomed by the local people.

Let us tell you that Madhav, the grandson of Pratap Chandra Chaturvedi, who lives in Indraprastha Anand Apartment, Indira Nagar, is pursuing post-

graduate studies in MSc Counseling Psychology from Montfort College,

the Ministry of Youth Sports, Government of India. Madhav Chaturvedi said

that 150 youth from across the country had participated in this cycle journey, out of which 50 youth completed the entire journey. Three youths from Uttar Pradesh participated, out of which only he (Madhav Chaturvedi) completed this cycle journey. The yatra started from Jammu and

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## India-US partnership is strong, stable and expanding across strategic and economic sectors: Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Shri Piyush Goyal

**Trade negotiations must remain fair and balanced to protect domestic stakeholders: Shri Piyush Goyal**  
**Strong fundamentals driving India's rise from 'Fragile Five' to top five economies: Shri Piyush Goyal**  
(Gns).

Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Piyush Goyal, while addressing the Indo American Chamber of Commerce in New Delhi today, emphasised that the India-US partnership remains strong, stable and continuously expanding across strategic and economic sectors. He said there is no cause for concern regarding the bilateral relationship and reiterated that the friendship between the two nations stands on firm pillars of democracy, diversity and a shared developmental vision.

Shri Goyal stated that

the United States views India as a trusted partner, and both countries remain committed to expanding trade and commerce. He noted that a comprehensive partnership such as the



India-US relationship comprises several elements that may progress at different speeds. He added that negotiations are a continuous process and India must safeguard its interests while balancing the sensitivities of farmers, fishermen, small industries and businesses.

Shri Goyal said India

has moved from being among the "Fragile Five" to becoming one of the top five global economies in the last 10-12 years. He projected that India is on track to become the world's third-largest economy by 2027. He cited strong banking systems, low inflation, controlled fiscal deficits, growing consumer sentiment and infrastructure expansion supported by GST reforms as key contributors to India's robust economic fundamentals.

Referring to the Prime Minister's vision, Shri Goyal recalled the statement that India is not merely an emerging market but an emerging model of development. He outlined the pillars on which India's journey

towards Amrit Bharat 2047 is progressing strong macroeconomic fundamentals, inclusive and sustainable growth, a welfare-driven development model covering 140 crore citizens, the strength of a vibrant democracy and the power of India's demographic dividend led by a skilled and talented youth.

He noted that India produces 2.4 million STEM graduates every year and continues to deepen partnerships with several developed countries through Free Trade Agreements, either concluded or under negotiation. He said India is an aspirational nation where every child today gets access to basic needs such as food, clothing, housing, healthcare, education, electricity, clean water and digital connectivity challenges that were widespread in earlier decades.

## C-DOT signs MoU with Andhra Pradesh Government to participate in Amaravati Quantum Valley (AQV) initiative

**C-DOT seeks to set up Centre of Excellence (COE) in AQV**  
(Gns).

Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Andhra Pradesh Government to participate in Amaravati Quantum Valley (AQV) initiative. The Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) is the premier telecom R&D centre of the Department of Telecommunications, Government of India, engaged in the design, development of indigenous telecom solutions and deployment of cutting-edge communication technologies to meet the country's strategic and socio-economic needs. C-DOT has now pioneered development of Quantum Security

solutions which have already seen widespread installations at multiple places including premier academic institutes (Government as well as Private), Government R & D labs, actual network carrying live traffic etc.

Andhra Pradesh Government has taken a giant step in shaping India's quantum future with the initiative of setting up Amaravati Quantum Valley (AQV). The project is located in Amaravati and involves state-level partnerships, infrastructure, and training programs. The Amaravati Quantum Valley aims to create an integrated quantum ecosystem uniting hardware manufacturing, software development, talent nurturing, and research excel-

lence.

Through this partnership between AP Govt and C-DOT, C-DOT proposes to



set up a Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Quantum Communication & Security Solutions, along with allied areas like Privacy Enhancement technologies (PETs), in Amaravati Quantum Valley, Andhra Pradesh. C-DOT will focus on Quantum Communication solutions at the proposed Centre at AQV.

C-DOT's expertise in the quantum communication field will help in providing the necessary resources and skill development to emerging players in India. It will support research and testing in the NQM (National Quantum Mission) aligned areas of Quantum Security Solutions, along with the development of PETs to ensure compliance with MeitY's Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) framework. It will also focus on cost-effective sub-component development for quantum communication systems and establish an integrated testbed for quantum security, thereby strengthening the AQV mandate, fostering a quantum-safe ecosystem, and enhancing digital privacy and data protection across the nation.

## India-Germany High Defence Committee meeting held in New Delhi

**Defence Secretary & State Secretary, German Ministry of Defence emphasise on the need for a closer defence partnership and industry collaboration**  
(Gns).

Defence Secretary Shri Rajesh Kumar Singh co-chaired the India-Germany High Defence Committee meeting with the State Secretary, German Ministry of Defence Mr Jens Plötner in New Delhi on November 18, 2025. They discussed a range of bilateral security and defence issues including priority areas for co-development & co-production of defence equipment. The co-chairs reaffirmed commitment to enhance military-to-military cooperation with a focus on developing defence ties as a key

pillar of the Strategic Partnership between India and Germany. They also



exchanged views on the regional security situation and discussed intensifying bilateral exchanges including institution of military exercises. Germany will be participating in TARANG SHAKTI (multinational air combat exercise) and MILAN (multinational naval exercise) which is planned

in 2026.

India is the 'First Responder' and 'Net

Regions). India has been working closely with countries in the IOR on a range of areas from development partnership, defence and maritime security, capacity building and Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief. The German side acknowledged India's role in the Indian Ocean Region.

The two sides emphasised on the need for a closer defence partnership and connecting the industries of both nations, especially in the field of niche technology.

India and Germany have a long-standing relationship, which is underpinned by common values and shared goals. Both countries are celebrating 25 years of 'Strategic Partnership' this year.

## India Re-Elected to Codex Executive Committee; Secures Unanimous Mandate for Collaborative Global Food Governance

**India Reaffirms Collaborative Leadership at CAC48: Focus on Efficiency, Data, and Equitable Standard**  
(Gns).

India has concluded a productive session at the 48th Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC48), securing a unanimous mandate that highlight its commitment to collaborative global food governance, focusing on efficiency, data management, and the development of equitable standards.

The Indian delegation led by Shri Rajit Punhani, Chief Executive Officer of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), alongside representatives from the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and technical expert organizations, achieved several key

strategic outcomes.

The most notable outcome was the re-election of India to the Executive Committee (CCEXC) for the Asia region. This unani-



mous decision by the global membership confirms India's collaborative leadership role until the end of CAC50 (2027), ensuring the technical and trade priorities of the Asian continent are represented at the highest level.

Earlier in the week, dur-

ing the CCEXC89 session, India, as Member Asia, strongly contributed to discussions on Codex efficiency and future challenges. India particularly empha-

the efficiency of Codex operations, particularly in relation to document translation.

The delegation was active in defending national and regional interests, highlighting the necessity to consider regional data when developing standards. India played a critical role in advancing several global standards, ensuring their relevance and utility for the region. The Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (CCFFV), where India chaired the working groups for both standards, saw the adoption of the Standard for fresh dates at Step 8, a standard vital for harmonizing trade practices and enhancing product quality for this globally significant fruit.

## Second regional meeting of Urban Development Ministers held in Hyderabad

**Cities are the mirrors of the Viksit Bharat: Shri Manohar Lal**  
**Union Minister Shri Manohar Lal encouraged ministers and senior officials to adopt dumpsites to reach 100% remediation**  
(Gns).

The second regional meeting of Urban Development Ministers was held in Hyderabad on November 18, 2025 under the chairmanship of Shri Manohar Lal, Union Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs.

The national level meeting of the Urban Development Ministers held on July 17, 2025 in New Delhi laid the foundation of this consultation at the regional level. The deliberations centered around key issues, challenges, and opportunities in

urban development to chart a collective way forward on lines with the first regional meeting which was held in Bengaluru on 30th October'25.

The meeting was attended by Shri Anumula Revanth Reddy, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Minister in charge of Municipal Administration and Urban Development of Telangana, Shri D. Sridhar Babu, Minister for Information Technology, Electronics & Communications, Industries & Commerce, and Legislative Affairs, Telangana, Shri Kanubhai Desai, Hon'ble Cabinet Minister of Gujarat, Shri Dr Ponguru Narayana, Hon'ble Minister of Municipal Administration & Urban Development of Andhra Pradesh, along

with senior officers from the respective State governments, and participating Union Territories. The meeting was also attended



by the Secretary, Ministry of Housing of Urban Affairs along with other senior officials.

The inaugural regional meeting was hosted by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India in collaboration with the Urban Development Department, Government of Telangana. The meeting brought

together Urban Development Ministers and senior level officials including Additional Chief Secretaries, Principal Secretaries and Secretaries from the South-West States and Union Territories, viz, Andhra Pradesh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, Goa, Gujarat, Maharashtra, and Telangana.

In the opening remarks, Hon'ble Union Minister said "Cities are the mirrors of the Viksit Bharat." The deliberations took place in two parallel sessions- the first focusing on Telangana Rising 2047 vision showcasing Hyderabad's urban priorities, and the second reviewing the progress of central schemes and interventions across the participating States and Union Territories.

## Union Minister Dr. Virendra Kumar and Governor of Punjab Shri Gulab Chand Kataria presided over function at Amritsar to celebrate five years of Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan (NMBA)

(Gns).

The Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan (NMBA), one of the world's largest community-driven drug demand reduction movements, today completed five successful years with a grand national celebration at Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar. The event, attended by over 10,000 participants including school and college students, BSF personnel, Self-Help Groups, spiritual organisations, youth clubs and NGOs, was graced by Hon'ble Governor of Punjab Shri Gulab Chand Kataria and Hon'ble Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment Dr. Virendra Kumar.

A special message from Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi was read out, in which he congratulated all stakeholders and emphasised that a Nasha Mukh Bharat can be achieved only through col-

lective resolve, continuous societal efforts and the active participation of every citizen, especially the youth.

During the programme, Olympians, competition winners, Master Volunteers,

one App.

Hon'ble Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment Dr. Virendra Kumar administered oath to more than 10,000 participants at the function.



drug addict persons who have rehabilitated and outstanding contributors in the field of de-addiction were felicitated.

Four new digital initiatives launched at the function by Hon'ble Governor of Punjab Shri Gulab Chand Kataria to further strengthen NMBA. This included launch of three portals and

Organised by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in collaboration with the Government of Punjab, the celebration witnessed unprecedented nationwide participation of over six crore persons through physical and virtual modes.

Speaking on the occasion, the Hon'ble Governor

of Punjab and the Union Minister lauded the transformation of NMBA into a true Jan Andolan through the collective efforts of citizens, youth, women, educational institutions and spiritual organisations. The Union Minister reiterated the Government's unwavering commitment to eradicate substance abuse and build a healthy, aware and empowered India.

States and UTs Gear Up for NMBA National Culminating Event

Events were held in all States and Union Territories at more than 2,10,000 locations which included over 2,000 locations through district administrations/municipalities, over 6,100 higher educational institutions, 35,000+ schools, more than 1.35 lakh SHG/ASHA groups and various government departments.

## Doctors with degrees from Pak, Bangladesh, UAE, China under scanner!

(Gns).

In the aftermath of the Red Fort blast case, central investigative agencies, including the CBI, Delhi Police and the NIA, are gathering information on doctors who obtained their degrees from Pakistan, Bangladesh, the UAE, and China, sources said on Tuesday.

The agencies plan to question these doctors to determine if they had any knowledge of the alleged "Doctor Terror Module" or were in contact with its members.

All institutes, nursing homes, and hospitals have been directed to provide details of doctors on their payrolls, particularly those

with educational back-

grounds in the four specified countries. This newspaper has accessed a copy of the letter sent to hospital authorities.

"Kindly provide details of the doctors working in your hospital who have obtained degrees from Pakistan, Bangladesh, UAE, and China, in view of the prevailing situation following the bomb blast at Red Fort on 10.11.2025. Kindly treat this as most urgent," the letter stated.

Some hospitals have

advised the CBI and other



agencies to collect this data from the Delhi Medical Council (DMC), which is the official government

body for maintaining such records.

"Agencies will question all doctors who completed their degrees from these four countries. Their criminal records and financial transactions will be thoroughly checked," a source close to the investigation said.

To date, the NIA has arrested two individuals in connection with the case. Amir Rashid Ali, an aide to the main accused, Dr. Umar Nabi, was the first to be arrested on November 16. Jasir Bilal Wani, also known as Danish, a resident of Kashmir, was arrested on November 17 from Srinagar in Jammu & Kashmir.

## Finance Department approves phase-wise recruitment of 345 veterinary inspectors in Punjab

(Gns).

Punjab Finance Minister Advocate Harpal Singh Cheema on Tuesday said that the Finance Department has approved the proposal for the Phase-Wise Recruitment of 345 Veterinary Inspectors in the Animal Husbandry Department.

Revealing this in a press communiqué issued here, Finance Minister Cheema said that the Animal Husbandry Department currently has a total of 2,010 approved posts for Veterinary Inspectors, and out of the approved posts, 345 positions are currently vacant, with 1,665 being filled.

He said that the Finance Department has approved

the filling of these 345 vacant posts in a phased manner, with 150 posts to be filled in the first phase

2026-27.

The finance minister, who is also chairman of the Cabinet Sub-Committee



during the current fiscal year 2025-26, and the remaining 195 posts will be filled in the second phase during the next fiscal year

formed to resolve the employees' issues, said the need to fill existing vacancies were highlighted during a meeting with the

Punjab State Veterinary Inspectors Association. During the meeting, the Animal Husbandry Department noted that the number of animals receiving treatment at the state's 22 Veterinary Polyclinics is increasing, leading to a shortage of staff.

Hailing the move to fill all 345 vacant posts as a major stride in maintaining seamless and efficient animal health services for Punjab's livestock keepers, Finance Minister Cheema said the Animal Husbandry Department has been delivering its services through the state's vast network, comprising 22 Veterinary Polyclinics, 1,367 animal hospitals, and 1,489 animal dispensaries.