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'Hypocritical homilies, no moral standing': India slams Pakistan for remarks on PM's presence at Ram Temple ceremony

(Gns). India on Wednesday slammed Pakistan for its reported remarks against Prime Minister Narendra Modi over his attendance at the flag-hoisting ceremony marking the completion of the construction of Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Temple at Ayodhya.

Addressing a press conference, Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said India rejects the remarks with the contempt it deserves.

The Pakistani Foreign Ministry had reportedly said yesterday, after the ceremony at the Ram Temple, that the event was part of the growing pressure on religious minorities in India.

Responding to the remarks, the MEA spokesperson said

Pakistan has no moral standing to lecture India. It should, on the other hand, focus on its own abysmal human rights record.

"We have seen the reported remarks and reject them with the contempt they deserve. As a country with a deeply stained record of bigotry, repression, and systemic mistreatment of its minorities, Pakistan has no moral standing to lecture others. Rather than delivering hypocritical homilies, Pakistan would do better to turn its gaze inwards and focus on its own abysmal human rights record," Jaiswal said.

MEA on Sheikh Hasina extradition

The MEA spokesperson also commented on Bangladesh's request to India for the extradition of former PM Sheikh Hasina, crimes against humanity.

who has been awarded a death sentence in the neighbouring country for being examined.

"Yes, we have received that request, and the



request is being examined

Jaiswal said the request from Dhaka has been received and the same is

request is being examined as part of judicial and internal legal processes. We remain committed to the

people of Bangladesh including peace, democracy, inclusion in that country. We will continue to engage constructively in this regard with all the stakeholders," the spokesperson told the media.

It may be recalled that Hasina has been living in India in exile ever since being ousted from power

last year.

On China's Arunachal Pradesh claim

The MEA also reacted to the detention of Arunachal Pradesh woman Prema Thangdok, who was detained at the Shanghai airport by the Chinese authorities.

"We had issued a statement... Yesterday we made

a statement, you would have seen that, regarding the arbitrary detention of an Indian citizen from Arunachal Pradesh, who was holding a valid passport and was transiting through Shanghai International Airport on onward travel to Japan.

"We want to say that Arunachal Pradesh is an

integral and inalienable part of India, and this is a fact that is self-evident. No amount of denial by the Chinese side is going to change this indisputable reality. At the same time, I said that we did take up this matter; we did make a strong demarche with the Chinese side, both in Beijing and Delhi.

Constitution ensures equal opportunity and dignity for all Indians, says Amit Shah

(Gns). Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah on Wednesday paid his respects to Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, and all the distinguished members of the Constituent Assembly on the occasion of Constitution Day, and extended his greetings to citizens across the country.

In a post on the social media platform X, Shah stated that the Constitution of India—the guiding framework of the world's largest democracy—provides every citizen with equal opportunities, a dignified life, and a clear set of rights and duties, thereby

paving the way for building a strong and resilient

Shah further said, "From



nation.

He added that Prime Minister Narendra Modi, by initiating the observance of Constitution Day, has helped enhance public awareness and apprecia-

Kashmir to Bodoland, our Constitution grows stronger. Congratulations to our sisters and brothers in Jammu and Kashmir and the Bodoland Territorial Region on the launch of the

Constitution of India in the Kashmiri and Bodo languages."

According to Shah, this historic milestone, marked by the President of India on Constitution Day, will ensure that people in these regions can imbibe constitutional values more deeply and make them an integral part of national life.

The Home Minister also noted that Prime Minister Modi has ushered in an era of peace and progress in these regions by effectively implementing the Constitution on the ground, and that these new translations will provide fresh momentum to those efforts.

India examining Bangladesh's request for Sheikh Hasina's extradition: MEA

(Gns). The government on Wednesday acknowledged that it has received a fresh request from Bangladesh for the extradition of deposed Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, who was handed a death sentence by the "International Crimes Tribunal".

Hasina has been residing in India since August 2024, when she fled Dhaka during the student-led "July



Uprising" that toppled her government.

"Yes, we have received a request. The request is

being examined as part of ongoing judicial and internal legal processes. We remain committed to the best interests of the people of Bangladesh, including peace, democracy, inclusion and stability in that country and will continue to engage constructively in this regard with all stakeholders," Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said at a media briefing.

U'khand govt permits women to work in night shifts

(Gns). The Uttarakhand government has granted conditional permission for working women to work in night shifts in shops and other business establishments that were not allowed till date.

A decision as to this was ratified by the state cabinet on Wednesday along with an increase in ex gratia compensatory assistance to the victims of man-animal conflicts from six lakh to ₹10 lakh.

Women in the Uttarakhand have not been allowed to work in night shifts at shops and business establishments other than that of essential services like medical and IT that were not allowed in the past. Pushkar Singh Dhama cabinet has stamped a proposal of the social welfare department subject to the condition that it must be adhered to by the employers.

Briefing the cabinet decisions state Director General (DG) information department Bansidhar



in night shifts from 9 PM to 6 AM in the shops and other establishments if employers would make adequate provisions for their safety and security.

Tiwari said that according to the cabinet decision employers will first have to take the consent of women employees in black and white to work in night shifts.

"The cabinet will provide more opportunities for women employees to work leading to their financial empowerment. They can be

asked to work the night shift only after their prior written consents by the employers.

Tiwari informed that permission was granted for women employees to work in night shifts from 9 PM to 6 AM in the shops and other establishments if employers would make adequate provisions for their safety and security. Tiwari said that according to the cabinet decision employers will first have to take the consent of women employees in black and white to work in night shifts. "The cabinet will provide more opportunities for women employees to work leading to their financial empowerment. They can be

deceased man-animal conflict victims. Considering the gravity of human losses and the constantly repeated public demand to increase the amount, the state cabinet gave its go ahead to the financial assistance to the man-animal conflict deceased to ₹10 lakh. State cabinet decision was also in sync with a similar resolution made by the government at the 10th Governing Body meet of Tiger Conservation Foundation for Corbett Tiger Reserve (CTR) this year" said Tiwari. Besides these Dhama cabinet has also accepted the proposal for tabling before it the advisory sent by centre on the proposed Metro Neo Project in Dehradun. Tabling audit reports of Uttarakhand Biodiversity Board and Uttarakhand Jal Vidyut Nigam Limited in the state assembly along with restructuring of the prosecution department were other important decisions taken by the state cabinet on Wednesday.

Swavlamban 2025 drives defence innovation through tech dialogues, funding forums

(Gns). Deliberations on emerging technologies, innovation funding and reinforcing the nation's defence innovation architecture featured on the second day of the Indian Navy's flagship Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Organisation (NIIO) Swavlamban 2025 Seminar being organised, here today.

The day included two interactive sessions centred on "Future and Emerging Technologies" and "Boosting the IDEX Ecosystem." Distinguished subject experts, industry leaders, innovators and naval specialists shared insights on next-generation technologies, indigenous design strategies and pathways to accelerate capabil-



collaborative R&D frameworks and strengthening partnerships among industry, academia, startups and government agencies.

A dedicated interaction between MSMEs/Startups

and venture capitalists was also part of the conclave that provided an enabling platform to explore funding

tions can scale efficiently from prototype to deployment.

The exhibition remained open to all visitors, including students, professionals, and defence enthusiasts. The exhibits showcased breakthroughs across AI, autonomous systems, under-water technologies, smart ordnance and advanced communication systems, reflecting the growing depth of indigenous capability.

Swavlamban reaffirmed the Indian Navy's commitment to nurturing innovation, empowering domestic industry and advancing the vision of technological self-reliance, a statement from the Naval spokesperson read.

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Editorial

Upholding justice with conviction

President Droupadi Murmu administers the oath of office to Justice Surya Kant at Rashtrapati Bhavan, as he assumes charge as the 53rd Chief Justice of India. (Pic courtesy: ANI video grab)

Justice is often portrayed as rigid and detached, but Justice Surya Kant has consistently proved that fairness and compassion can coexist. As a distinguished judge of the Supreme Court of India, he is admired not only for his knowledge of the law but also for his deep understanding of the people it serves. His humane approach and accessible nature have made him a respected figure across the legal fraternity.

Coming from a modest background, Justice Surya Kant's rise to the top of the judiciary is a story of perseverance and determination. Despite facing numerous hardships, he remained steadfast in his ambition to serve society through law. He completed his LL.B. from Maharishi Dayanand University, Rohtak, where he stood out for his academic excellence and his strong concern for social issues. Over the last three decades, his judicial career has taken him through several important positions, including serving in the Punjab and Haryana High Court and eventually the Supreme Court of India. Throughout his journey, he has worked with a commitment to ensuring that justice is not merely delivered but is visibly fair and transparent. His time at the Punjab and Haryana High Court is particularly noteworthy: he dealt with more than a thousand cases, many of them high-profile ones, with remarkable integrity and efficiency.

He also served as the Chief Justice of the hilly state of Himachal Pradesh before becoming a judge of the Supreme Court of India. During his tenure in Himachal Pradesh, he left a great impression of simplicity and practicality in the state. Deputy Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh Mukesh Agnihotri told The Statesman about the impact of Justice Surya Kant on improving and easing the right to justice for the underprivileged sections of society. Among his notable contributions is a landmark judgment safeguarding the rights of marginalized groups. This decision was widely appreciated by legal scholars and human rights advocates and continues to guide similar cases today.

Senior Advocate Ravinder Malik, who travelled to Delhi to attend Justice Surya Kant's oath ceremony, remarked, "Justice Surya Kant has always supported young lawyers. He is a role model for the next generation, and his dedication inspires all of us." Likewise, Gujarat Governor Acharya Devvrat expressed pride, saying, "This is a remarkable moment for Haryana. Justice Surya Kant comes from a simple rural family, and he has shown that perseverance and hard work can overcome any barrier." Acharya Devvrat told The Statesman that "his success proves that true talent always finds its way." What truly distinguishes Justice Surya Kant is his heartfelt concern for ordinary citizens.

Known for being approachable, he has consistently worked to make legal remedies accessible to people regardless of their wealth or background. His humanitarian efforts are visible through his association with several initiatives, including his work with the Haryana State Legal Services Authority, where he championed legal aid for those who could not afford it. His passion for the law has influenced countless young students and aspiring advocates, encouraging them to view the judiciary not just as a career but as a path of service to society. His contributions both inside and outside the courtroom have left a lasting imprint on India's legal landscape. As we reflect on the remarkable journey of Justice Surya Kant, we are reminded that justice delivered with compassion has the power to transform lives. He stands as a true guardian of the people and a guiding light for generations of legal professionals to come.

(Gns).

It is a coincidence that the birth anniversary of the former Speaker of Lok Sabha Rabi Ray, an eminent parliamentarian, veteran socialist leader and a valiant freedom fighter falls on 26 November which is the Constitution Day. Odisha has produced many political figures who held important positions but Ray will be remembered as the first Speaker of Lok Sabha from Odisha. His simplicity and modesty were awe-inspiring. He upheld values and principles and fought for the downtrodden and the poor.

At a time when materialism and showmanship has taken a toll of idealism and values, he held them close to his heart. Like a moth drawn to fire, Rabi Ray plunged into the vortex of the freedom movement during his college days. A deep sense of love for the motherland and abhorrence for foreign rule were ingrained in him. In early 1947, while in college, he was arrested for unfurling the National Flag in the college. This brave act of Ray forced the British Government to yield to the students' demand for

unfurling the Tricolour in educational institutions even though the country was still under colonial rule. Born on 26 November 1926 in Bhanagarh village, Puri, he graduated in history from the Ravenshaw College and later studied Law at the Madhusudan Law College.

The foundation of his political career was laid when he was elected President of the Students Union of Ravenshaw College in 1948-49 and then again as the first President of the Madhusudan Law College Students Union in 1949-50. An avowed socialist, he joined the Socialist Party as a member in 1948. Along with a deep sense of commitment to the socialist cause, he possessed leadership qualities which enabled him to remain in the forefront of the socialist movement for a long time. During 1953-54, he held the post of Joint Secretary, All India Samajwadi Yuwak Sabha. In 1956, under the leadership of Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia, Ray founded the Socialist Party in Odisha. He was also a member of the National Executive of the party at

that time. Later, in 1960, he became the General Secretary of the party for about a year. His debut in Parliament began in 1967 when he was elected to the Fourth Lok Sabha from the

Kendrapara. He was unanimously elected Speaker of the Lok Sabha on 19 December 1989. During a short tenure of about one-and-a-half years, he left an indelible imprint.

He regulated the proceedings of Zero Hour for better utilization of time which is appreciated by one and all even today. He allowed members with prior notice to make brief statements on matters of urgent public importance in the House during 'Zero Hour', the interregnum after the Question Hour before the commencement of routine business. He will also be remembered for having introduced three 'subject committees' as the precursor of the Departmentally Related Standing Committees to examine the policies and programmes of the Government and to



The death of Dharmendra at 89 brings with it a wave of nostalgia strong enough to make an entire nation pause

The death of Dharmendra at 89 brings with it a wave of nostalgia strong enough to make an entire nation pause. India has lost more than a film star ~ it has lost a cultural companion who, for decades, made audiences believe in courage, romance, friendship and the goodness of the human spirit. His legacy lies not merely in the 300-plus films he acted in, but in the millions of hearts that beat a little faster when he appeared on screen. Unlike many stars who chased the idea of "number one", Dharmendra was content being the hero who smiled generously from the sidelines of competition.

What made him extraordinary was precisely this lack of pretence. His ascent from a humble background

in Punjab to the highest echelons of cinema never turned him into an aloof symbol. He remained the accessible hero, the man next door who just happened to possess superhero charm and strength. His appeal stretched beyond cinema halls, shaping how generations viewed love, friendship, and masculinity ~ strong yet tender, confident yet humble. He became the benchmark for a relatable hero. His timeless appeal was rooted in a rare combination: a breathtaking physicality wrapped in a gentle vulnerability. Films like Sholay and Chupke Chupke showcased extremes of this range ~ the brave daredevil willing to risk everything for friendship, and the mischievous charmer whose eyes did

half the acting. Long before method and flamboyance became central to stardom, Dharmendra proved that sincerity itself could fill cinema halls.

He was often called the

armed his admirers with simplicity and warmth. When he did stunts himself, it was not to boast of invincibility ~ it was to protect the illusion that films create, the magic that first drew



"original He-Man" or compared to Greek gods, but he met such adulation with endearing embarrassment. In an industry that often thrives on vanity, he dis-

him to the screen as a teenager. His partnership with Hema Malini, both on and off the screen, added a mythic dimension to his star persona. Their love

ensure executive accountability. A landmark decision given by Ray as the Speaker in 1991 disqualifying some Members in the context of the Anti-Defection Law demonstrated his unbiased disposition, courage and righteousness, following a split in the Janata Dal on whose ticket he himself was elected to the House.

Another significant decision was about admitting the first ever notice of a motion for presenting an Address to the President of India for the removal of a sitting judge from his office. A Committee was set up to investigate the grounds on which the removal of the judge was sought. The matter was, however, dealt by the Tenth Lok Sabha subsequently. He also took the initiative for the direct telecast of Parliamentary proceedings. During his Speakership for the first time on 20 December 1989, the President's Address to Parliament in the Central Hall was telecast live. Ray was elected the President of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association in 1991. He was keen that the future generation should be made aware of

the valuable contributions made by our national leaders.

He wanted to recall, remember, and place on record the services of eminent parliamentarians, who played a notable role in the country's freedom struggle and contributed in building modern India as well as for the development of our parliamentary system. Therefore, during his tenure the Indian Parliamentary Group decided to celebrate the birth anniversaries of eminent parliamentarians by holding meetings, seminars, symposia etc., and bringing out monographs under the "Eminent Parliamentarians Series". Ray has many literary accomplishments to his credit. He edited Samata, an Odia monthly, and Chaukhamba, a Hindi weekly brought out by the erstwhile Socialist Party. He breathed his last on 6 March 2017 at the age of 90 while undergoing treatment at the SCB Medical College and Hospital in Cuttack. His mortal remains were consigned to sacred flames in his ancestral village in Puri. The nation mourned his death.

story fed tabloids, but it also fed a nation's fascination with romance.

His towering on-screen presence continued through decades, later as a proud patriarch watching his sons forge their own paths in cinema. Dharmendra also experimented with politics, albeit briefly and uneasily. His own acknowledgment of being a "misfit" in the field further demonstrated his honesty. He knew where he truly belonged, among storytellers and audiences, exchanging affection with-

out artifice. Today, tributes pour in from colleagues, politicians, and generations of fans. But perhaps the most fitting farewell is to simply watch him once again on screen ~ laughing, loving, fighting, dancing, living. Because Dharmendra never really acted like a hero; he just lived like one. And as long as Indian cinema continues to thrive, his presence ~ that hearty smile and unmistakable charm ~ will remain impossible to forget.

AP & India's investment map

(Gns).

Andhra Pradesh is suddenly at the centre of India's investment map. Over the past several months, the state has drawn in a flurry of large industrial commitments, ranging from green energy to solar manufacturing, from artificial intelligence infrastructure to futuristic electric air taxis. The numbers being quoted are staggering and the political noise from neighbouring states is even louder. But beneath the headline-grabbing announcements lies a deeper shift in India's competitive federalism. At the heart of Andhra Pradesh's pitch is a simple idea: "Speed of Doing Business."

While many states invoke similar slogans, Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has tried to turn it into a measurable administrative ethos. Companies relocating from other southern states have highlighted faster approvals, direct engagement with policymakers and land allotment timelines that are unusually short by Indian standards. For firms that operate in rapidly evolving sectors, time is quite literally money. Cost is the second lever Andhra is pulling with a sense of urgency.

Industrial land in the state's southern belt ~ particularly Anantapur, Nellore and Kuppam ~ is not only cheaper but also strategically positioned near established tech and manufacturing hubs like Bengaluru and Chennai. This locational advantage means companies can stay close to supply chains, skilled labour pools, and export gateways, without bearing the real estate premiums that come with the neighbouring metros. Inevitably,

this has sparked political friction.

As projects shift from Tamil Nadu, Telangana and Karnataka to Andhra, opposition leaders in those states see an opportunity to paint their governments as inefficient or complacent. Complaints about "unsustainable incentives" are now part of the daily rhetoric. The underlying anxiety is that a race for investment could slip into a race to the bottom, with subsidies, tax breaks and freebies overshadowing industrial fundamentals. But a sharper critique comes from those who ask whether the celebrated MoUs will translate into factories, jobs and durable value. Indian economic history is littered with high-profile commitments that evaporated before taking physical form.

Andhra, too, has seen such cycles in the past. The challenge for Mr Naidu's administration is to convert excitement into execution and ensure that the fiscal burden of incentives does not outweigh the long-term benefits. Still, something important is happening. Investors are responding not merely to subsidies but to confidence signals ~ a government willing to hustle, bureaucrats aligned with a clear mission, and a state that appears hungry to restore its economic standing after the bruising post-bifurcation years. Andhra's resurgence is not guaranteed, but the intent is unmistakable. And Mr Naidu's track record as the builder of a modern Hyderabad is an additional factor boosting confidence. If the state succeeds in delivering on even a significant portion of the promises now on the table.

HISTORICAL MOMENT

(Gns).

President Droupadi Murmu administers the oath of office to Justice Surya Kant as the 53rd Chief Justice of India during the ceremony at Rashtrapati Bhavan, Monday, November 24, 2025. (Photo: IANS)

Yesterday was an important and historical moment when the President of India swore in the 53rd Chief Justice of India. As Hon'ble Mr. Justice Surya Kant becomes the Chief Justice of India, he will have the onerous responsibility of reinvigorating the rule of law on the edifice of constitutionalism and democratic governance. The historical context of the judiciary playing the most important and influential role in establishing a rule-of-law society traces its origins to the Constituent Assembly. Dr. Granville Austin, in his book The Indian Constitution ~ Cornerstone of a Nation, observed, "The members of the Constituent Assembly brought to the framing of the Judicial provision of the Constitution an idealism equalled only by that shown towards Fundamental Rights.

Indeed, the Judiciary was seen as an extension of the Rights, for it was the courts that would give the Rights force... The courts were also idealised because, as guardians of the Constitution, they

would be the expression of the new law created by Indians for Indians... The courts were, therefore, widely considered one of the most tangible evidences of independence." The new CJI may consider focusing on four important aspects that will reinvigorate



rate the rule of law with strong emphasis on institutional capacity building within the judiciary: Timelines and predictability in adjudication: No efforts to reinvigorate the rule of law can ignore the urgency of addressing the pendency in Indian courts. The backlog of more than 5 crore cases pending across all courts requires both reimagination and technology-driven solutions.

NITI Aayog has provided a grim estimate that at the current rate of case disposal, it will take more than 300 years to clear pendency without pathbreaking reforms. This is obviously too long, and we simply cannot accept this as a practicable solution. India

has succeeded in dealing with major challenges in other sectors, especially in public health. For example, India's polio-eradication mission is considered one of the greatest public health achievements in history. The reason for this success was a combination of fac-

tors, including but not limited to scientific strategy, massive community mobilisation and support, political commitment and consensus, and international collaboration. Justice Surya Kant, along with other judges of the Supreme Court of India, especially including judges who will serve on the Bench for the next decade, could launch a National Backlog Liquidation Drive 2025-2035. Strengthening judicial independence through institutional architecture: The role of strong and independent institutions is central to the ideal of the rule of law. The 2024 Nobel Laureates in the Economic Sciences ~ Daron Acemoglu, Simon

Johnson and James Robinson ~ demonstrated the role and significance of societal institutions for a country's prosperity and development. Through their research, they have underscored that societies with a poor rule of law and institutions that exploit the population do not generate growth or change for the better.

While the Constitution of India has provided the necessary framework for ensuring independence, there is a need for creating an enabling institutional architecture that will strengthen these mechanisms. There is a case for establishing a CJI-led National Judicial Financial Commission and a Judicial Infrastructure Mission. Both these initiatives will have to be deliberated at the highest levels of government, as they require significant political will and resources by the government at the state and central levels. These two initiatives have a direct correlation to our aspiration to become a US \$7 trillion economy by 2035, as rule of law is indeed a central determinant of trust, investment, contract enforcement, dispute resolution, and institutional credibility.

Enforcing equality before the law through bail and criminal justice reforms: The crisis of undertrial prisoners ought to shake the foundations of

India's criminal justice system. More than 70 per cent of India's prison population are undertrials (more than 85 per cent in some states), and hence, it is important to have greater legal clarity and jurisprudential consistency in bail jurisprudence. In a recent judgement in the case, Jagjeet Singh v. Ashish Mishra, Justice Surya Kant held, "...that a Court, while deciding an application for bail, should refrain from evaluating or undertaking a detailed assessment of evidence, as the same is not a relevant consideration at the threshold stage... an extensive consideration of merits which has the potential to prejudice either the case of the prosecution or the defence, is undesirable...".

The arbitrariness and unpredictability in bail jurisprudence begs a strong case for a judiciary led National Bail & Bond Guidelines framework that will provide valuable guidance to the High Courts and the District and Subordinate Courts. Securing access to justice for every citizen: The National Legal Services Authority needs significant empowerment and resources. It has been doing a phenomenal job within its limitations. However, the demands of seeking justice and social expectations generated through its contributions

require a reimagination of access to justice for every citizen. Some of the important solutions that could be led by Justice Surya Kant relate to launching a National Legal Literacy Mission in which Panchayat-level legal clinics could be established through the contributions of young lawyers and law schools.

The legal aid framework also requires significant reform. Legal Aid 2.0 should focus on quality metrics for legal aid lawyers, with a stronger emphasis on specialised legal aid mechanisms for women, children, the elderly, and other vulnerable sections of society. Justice Surya Kant can consider institutionalising a 25-year vision for the Indian judiciary on the lines of the Viksit Bharat vision. A white paper entitled "Judiciary 2047: A Plan for India at 100" could comprehensively develop the vision for the future of the rule of law in India and what efforts need to be taken towards addressing these challenges.

Curtsey : (The writer, a Rhodes Scholar, is the Founding Vice Chancellor of O.P. Jindal Global University. He has degrees in law from the University of Delhi, University of Oxford, Harvard Law School and the University of Hong Kong and can be reached at VC@jgu.edu.in)

76th CONSTITUTION DAY OBSERVED OVER WESTERN RAILWAY

Mumbai, On 26th November, 2025, the 76th Constitution Day of our nation was observed with great enthusiasm over Western Railway. The day commemorates the auspicious occasion when the Constitution of India was adopted on 26th November, 1949 by the Constituent Assembly. Shri Vivek Kumar Gupta - General Manager of Western Railway administered the Preamble to railway officers and staff at WR HQs office,



Shri Vivek Kumar Gupta - General Manager of Western Railway administered the Preamble on the 76th Constitution Day celebrations at WR HQ at Churchgate.

Churchgate. According to a press release issued by Shri Vineet Abhishek, Chief Public Relations Officer of Western Railway, General Manager Shri Gupta administered the reading of the Preamble to the Constitution of India at the Headquarters Office. The event was attended by

Additional General Manager, Principal Head of all Departments, Senior Railway Officers and staff. At the Divisional level, the respective DRMs led the administration of the Preamble to the staff and officers. An essay competition for the wards of hospital staff was organized in Jagjivan Ram Hospital, Mumbai Central. Additionally, the Railway Secondary School, Valsad conducted a debate/quizz and essay competition as part of the observance.

Pol parties creating a scare: EC to SC on pleas challenging SIR in Kerala, WB, TN

(Gns). The Election Commission on Wednesday told the Supreme Court that political parties were "creating a scare" over the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls underway in Kerala, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal.

A bench of Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi were hearing multiple petitions questioning the procedure including timelines that is being followed in the intensive revision of the electoral rolls in Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Kerala.

Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, appearing for Tamil Nadu, pointed to the compressed timelines, stating that Booth Level Officers (BLOs) have verified 50 per cent of forms in the last 20 days and were now to complete the remaining 50 per cent within eight days, before the December 4 deadline. He submitted that BLOs were required to verify "50 forms a day and

from December 5, 10 forms a day. Countering the submissions,



senior advocate Rakesh Dwivedi, for the EC, said that "political parties were creating a scare", prompting Sibal to respond that he was only reading from the Commission's own notification.

On the Kerala government's plea seeking deferment of the SIR due to the ongoing local body elections, the Court directed both the EC and the State Election Commission (SEC) to file their responses by December 1, and

posted the matter for hearing on December 2. "Let EC, SEC file the

said there was "no urgency" to conduct the SIR now and that simultaneous processes would strain the administration.

The Kerala government's petition, filed through its Chief Secretary, said the SIR was "not conducive to the democratic polity of the country" and sought its deferment until December 21, 2025, by which time the local self-government election process would be completed.

Polling for Kerala's local bodies is scheduled for December 9 and 11, with counting on December 13 and the entire process concluding by December 18. The State, which has over 1,200 local bodies and 23,612 wards, informed the Court that elections already require 1.76 lakh staff and nearly 68,000 police and security personnel.

An additional 25,668 personnel are required for the SIR, creating an "administrative impasse", the State said.

counter in Kerala SIR case by December 1. List the case on December 2," the Bench ordered.

Petitions challenging the SIR process in Tamil Nadu will be taken up on December 4, whereas the West Bengal challenge will be heard on December 9.

Earlier, the Kerala government had moved the Court stating that the SIR overlapped with the local body elections and would impose a severe administrative burden. The State

CJI flags health impact of Delhi's toxic air as lawyers seek virtual hearings

(Gns). With the national capital's Air Quality Index plunging to hazardous levels, Chief Justice of India Surya Kant on Wednesday remarked that he is unable to go for his routine morning walk due to the toxic air, prompting senior lawyers to request that the Supreme Court allow virtual appearances to limit exposure.

The CJI said that two days ago he went for his usual 55-minute morning walk but returned home feeling "discomforted," a condition that persisted for the next two days.

"Now I walk only in the evening," he said, to which senior advocate Kapil Sibal suggested discontinuing that as well, pointing out that the AQI even in the evening remains between

300 and 400—categorised as "very poor" and posing serious health risks.

Sibal urged the CJI to consider allowing senior lawyers to appear virtually. Justice Surya Kant responded that any decision taken would apply uniformly to all, adding that he would raise the matter at an evening function and convey the concerns of the Bar.

Sibal also referred to submissions made in an earlier pollution-related case, in which a lawyer had informed the Court that air pollution in Delhi had been worsening each year, forcing schools to shut for as

many as 55 days in 2024 and shift to online classes.

He reiterated that the situation continued to deteriorate annually, noting that schools had indeed remained closed for 55 days last year due to hazardous air quality.

The discussion arose after senior advocate Rakesh Dwivedi sought permission to argue virtually, saying he was suffering from severe congestion due to exposure to polluted air.

Representing the Election Commission of India, Dwivedi informed the Bench that lawyers assisting him would be physically



present in court to take notes on arguments being advanced in the ongoing challenge to the constitutionality of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) exercise.

He echoed the CJI's concerns, saying the air pollution was causing "serious adverse health effects" and that he too had been affected.

The Court granted Dwivedi permission to appear online, and he will now present his submissions on December 4, 2025. When another lawyer suggested responding the next day, Dwivedi said he was unable to argue for more than "15 to 20 minutes" given his current respiratory condition. Sibal immediately intervened, saying, "Health is first..."

Agitated over unhygienic conditions, VIT College students resort to violent protest, arson

(Gns). Scores of students of the renowned Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT), Bhopal branch, located in adjoining Sehore, set fire to vehicles and parts of the college building and damaged property while staging a violent protest over their allegations of unhygienic conditions leading to spread of jaundice and other diseases in the campus.

The agitation turned even more volatile when some private guards of the college allegedly assaulted some of the protesting students. This prompted the police force from five police stations to rush to the campus on Tuesday night. For further security, personnel of para-military forces were also sent to the VIT cam-

pus. Some protesters ignited fires in some rooms and

stone pelting during the protest.

Meanwhile, the college



offices of the college on Wednesday morning too.

The protesters overturned cars and climbed on them raising slogans. They damaged some buses of the college too. Many window panes of the college buildings were broken in

management has declared holidays till 30 November. Many students vacated the hostels on Tuesday night itself while many others left the campus on Wednesday.

Additional police force from the police stations of

Aashta, Jawar, Parvati, Kotwali, and Mandi has been deployed at the spot.

The protesting students have alleged that poor quality food and water at the university caused several of their peers to fall ill with jaundice. They claimed that around 100 students have been admitted to hospitals.

The state government deployed a Health Department team to collect blood samples and carry out tests.

State Higher Education Department Additional Chief Secretary Anupam Rajan said that a team from the Higher Education Department is being sent from Bhopal to Sehore to investigate the incidents at VIT College.

'Will not vacate': RJD protests govt order on Rabri Devi's official bungalow

(Gns). A political row has erupted in Bihar after former Chief Minister and Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Council, Rabri Devi, was directed to vacate her official residence at 10, Circular Road, Patna.

On Tuesday, the Building Construction Department of the new government cancelled the allotment of the bungalow, where the Lalu Prasad family has been living for nearly two decades. The department has now allotted her a new residence at 39 Harding Road, which will serve as her official address.

The issue escalated into a major political controversy on Wednesday as RJD state president Mangni Lal

Mandal alleged that the move was driven by politi-

asserted. Mandal further accused



cal vendetta. Challenging the Nitish Kumar government, he said they would do everything possible but would not vacate Rabri Devi's current residence. "Whatever we have to do, we will do... but we will not vacate the bungalow," he

the state government of acting out of resentment and political hostility toward Lalu Prasad and his family, claiming that the decision was entirely politically motivated. "Arguments are being fabricated; there is no basis

for any administrative compulsion," he said.

He also alleged that the decision reflects political coordination between the central and state governments. According to him, Chief Minister Nitish Kumar is targeting Lalu Prasad's family to win the favour of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Bharatiya Janata Party, and the RSS.

"It is clear that the attempt to humiliate Lalu Yadav and his family is being made solely for political gain. This action is neither impartial nor just," he said.

Responding to Mandal's remarks, Bihar BJP spokesperson Prem Ranjan Patel said the RJD was trying to regain its lost influence by "creating a hue and cry to gather sympathy."

Income growth linked to developed India goal at Constitution Day workshop in Ranchi

(Gns). A Constitution Day workshop held in Ranchi urged citizens to treat income enhancement as a national responsibility, placing it at the centre of India's ambition to become a developed nation by 2047.

The programme was organised by the National Service Awareness Campaign and chaired by Gopal Singh, former Chairman of Coal India and head of the Service Awareness Forum.

Singh said the Constitution obliges the state to improve living standards and this spirit should guide India's long-term economic vision. He said the 2047 target would require the economy to expand from 4.3 trillion dollars to nearly 40 trillion dol-

lars and called on citizens to work toward a tenfold rise in their income over the next 22 years.

Participants from several districts attended the workshop, which discussed practical ways to widen income opportunities, strengthen skills and ensure equal access to growth across rural and urban areas.

Former Jharkhand Chief Secretary R S Poddar said the Constitution remains one of the world's strongest democratic frameworks. Education, employment

and equal opportunity shape the direction of national development, he said, adding that strong institutions and active public participation are essen-



tial for India to take its place as a major economic power.

Former state election commissioner N N Pandey said equality and rights form the core of India's

constitutional promise. He pointed to the country's rapid progress in digital payments, startups and skill development and said access to employment and training for young people aged 19 to 25 would be crucial for meeting the 2047 goal. He said development becomes meaningful only when basic services and equal opportunities reach every citizen.

Service Bharati national trustee Gurusharan said growing public awareness about the Constitution is a positive sign. He said Indian cultural values stress duty and fraternity and called for a development path guided by ethics and accurate information. He urged young people to trust their abilities and move towards self-reliance.

Five killed, three injured as scorpio collides with truck on NH-49 in Chhattisgarh

(Gns). At least five people were killed and three others critically injured in a late-night road accident Tuesday along National Highway-49 in Chhattisgarh's Janjgir district, when a Scorpio SUV collided head on with a speeding truck near Pendri Chowk, close to Sukli village.

According to police officials, all the occupants of the Scorpio were residents of Shanti Nagar in Nawagarh and were returning from a wedding ceremony when the incident occurred. As the vehicle turned towards Nawagarh, it was hit by an Odisha-registered truck coming from the opposite direction. The impact of the collision was so severe that it left two occupants dead on the spot while three others succumbed to their injuries during treatment.

The injured were initially taken to the district hospital

and later referred to the Chhattisgarh Institute of Medical Sciences (CIMS), Bilaspur, due to the critical nature of their condition.

time of the accident. "The collision occurred when the vehicle attempted to turn at Pendri Chowk and was struck by a fast-moving



Police confirmed that the truck driver fled the scene immediately after the crash and a search operation has been launched to trace him.

Superintendent of Police Vijay Kumar Pandey said the Scorpio was carrying eight passengers at the

truck. Two victims died instantly, and three more passed away during medical treatment. A case has been registered and efforts are underway to apprehend the absconding driver," he stated.

Among the deceased

were two serving personnel of the Indian Army, Rajendra Kashyap (27) and Pomeswar Jaltare (33). They will be accorded full military honours during their last rites, officials said. The other victims have been identified as Vishwanath Devangan (43), Bupendra Sahu (40) and Kamalnayan Sahu (22).

Post mortem examinations were conducted at the district hospital, and the bodies were later handed over to the bereaved families. The district administration has announced immediate ex-gratia assistance for the next of kin.

The police have initiated a detailed investigation to determine the exact cause of the accident, including factors such as vehicle speed and road conditions.

Meanwhile, authorities have urged motorists to exercise caution on highways, particularly at night and near turning points.

Three Indian Navy Ships visit Colombo, boosting bilateral naval cooperation

(Gns). Three Indian Naval Ships - Landing Craft Utility (LCU 51, LCU 54, and LCU 57)—visited Colombo, Sri Lanka from 22-25 November 2025 as part of a port call. Upon arrival, the ships were accorded a ceremonial welcome by the Sri Lanka Navy (SLN). During the Operational Turnaround (OTR), the Commanding Officers of the three LCUs called on the High Commissioner of India to Sri Lanka and the Commander Western Naval Area (CWNNA), Sri Lanka Navy.

According to a statement by the Indian Navy's spokesperson, discussions

laborative engagements between the two navies.

As part of the visit, a



during the visit centred on operational interoperability, ongoing maritime initiatives and avenues for future col-

friendly volleyball match between personnel of the Indian Navy and the Sri Lanka Navy was conducted,

promoting camaraderie, sportsmanship, and mutual goodwill. A structured ship-visit programme was also organised for SLN officers and sailors, providing them with an opportunity to interact with the crew and gain insights into the operational capabilities of the LCUs.

The port call by LCUs from the Andaman and Nicobar Command further strengthened bilateral naval engagement and reinforced the longstanding tradition of friendship, mutual respect and cooperation between the Indian Navy and the Sri Lanka Navy.

Constitution Day 2025: congress leaders pledge to safeguard India’s founding charter

(Gns). On Constitution Day, senior Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and Mallikarjun Kharge reaffirmed their commitment to protecting the Indian Constitution and its core values of justice, liberty, equality, fraternity, secularism, and socialism.

In his message on X, Gandhi called the Constitution “not just a book; it is a sacred promise made to every citizen of the country.” He emphasised that the document “is a protective shield for the poor and the deprived... As long as the Constitution is secure, the rights of every Indian are secure.” The Raebareli MP urged citizens to pledge against any “attack on the Constitution” and declared, “It is my duty to protect it, and I will stand

first in front of every assault on it.” He concluded with, “Heartfelt greetings to all of you on Constitution Day. Jai Hind, Jai Constitution.”

Congress president Kharge posted separately that the Constitution “is not merely a document for lawyers; rather, it is a means of living life, and its spirit remains ever constant.” He paid tribute to the architects of the Constituent Assembly—including Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, Maulana Azad, Rajendra Prasad, Sarojini Naidu, and Dr BR Ambedkar—and stressed the “need of safeguarding the fundamental principles of the

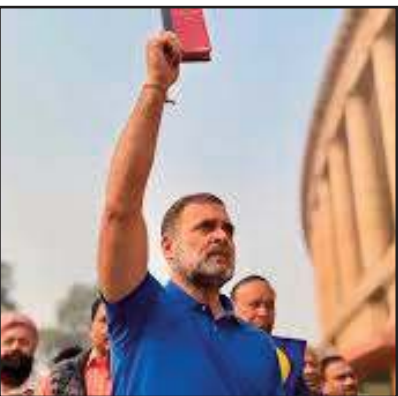
Constitution—justice, equality, liberty, fraternity, secularism, and socialism.” Kharge called on fellow

Government of India in 2015 to mark the adoption of the Constitution on 26 November 1949, is observed annually to promote awareness of the Constitution’s values and the rights and duties of citizens. The day also honours Dr Ambedkar, the principal architect of the Constitution.

Both Congress leaders alleged challenges to Constitutional values. Kharge’s earlier Republic Day message had warned that “every sacred tenet of the Constitution is being shredded into pieces by an authoritarian regime”. and called for “protecting the core constitutional values.” Rahul Gandhi’s Republic Day letter of 2018 had similarly urged citizens “to protect the Constitution... whenever it is endangered.”

citizens to “uphold the freedom of democracy and the Constitution for the sake of the country’s unity and integrity, for love and brotherhood, and for harmony and goodwill,” ending with “Jai Hind.”

Constitution Day, officially designated by the



International Symposium on the Application of Veda-knowledge in the light of Sri Aurobindo to be Held at Sanskriti University on November 28-29

Mathura: For the first time in the state, an international symposium on the practical application aspects of the Veda in the backdrop of Sri Aurobindo’s insight will be organized at Sanskriti University on 28–29 November, 2025. The symposium is being jointly organized by Sanskriti University, Mathura; Central Sanskrit University, Delhi Sri Aurobindo Society, and SAKSHI Trust, Bengaluru.

The objective of this conference is to understand the ever-relevant vedic wisdom of the Vedas and their need in today’s world, with a focus on Indian history, holistic living, sustainable practices, and spiritual well-being. A large number of scholars, researchers, practitioners, and spiritual leaders from India and abroad will participate to share their views and perspectives on how Vedic knowledge can be used for a balanced and meaningful life in contemporary society.

During these two days, various eminent personalities from across the country including Chairman of the Executive Committee of the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) Prof. Anil Sahasrabudhe; Shri Shaileja Kant Mishra; Vice Chairman of Uttar Pradesh Teerth Vikas Parishad, Chancellor of Sanskriti University Dr. Sachin Gupta; Vice Chancellor of Central Sanskrit University Prof. Srinivas Varkhed; Vice Chancellor of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Mathura Dr. Abhijit Mitra; Chairman of Sri Aurobindo Society, Karnataka Dr. Ajit Sabnis; and several other distinguished figures will shed light on the importance of Vedic knowledge as explained by Sri Aurobindo.

Chairman of Sri Aurobindo Society (Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand) Shri Vishnu Goyal and Vice Chancellor of Sanskriti University Prof. M.B. Chetti informed that preparations for this two-day international symposium, to be held at Sanskriti University’s

Santosh Memorial Auditorium, are underway on a war footing. They shared that those who know about India generally know that the Vedas are very ancient, sacred, and the foundation and source of Indian culture and civilization. Yet, most people do not clearly understand the true value or significance of the Vedas.

The Vedas are the oldest surviving treasure of literature available to humankind. Many Indian and Western scholars have written explanations and commentaries on the Vedas. However, despite all these commentaries, one may still feel dissatisfied, as there is no definitive answer to what unifying formula can integrate all the diverse parts of the Vedas. Confusions and misunderstandings regard-



Be alert and provide the calculation form to BLO immediately: District Magistrate

Mathura. On the occasion of Constitution Day, District Magistrate Chandra Prakash Singh has made an important appeal that all the Braj residents should be alert and fill the enumeration form under the Special Intensive Revision Campaign (SIR) and provide it to the concerned BLO immediately, this is both your right and responsibility. The District Magistrate said that under the same Constitution which has given us the right to vote, it is the duty of every citizen to cooperate in administrative work. In this sequence, he appealed for full cooperation from the people in filling the census form and making it available to the BLO under the

Special Intensive Review Campaign (SIR) going on in the district. The District Magistrate has informed that work is being done by 2130 BLOs in the district. In the Special Intensive Review Campaign (SIR), the work is being ensured with full devotion and determination by the Deputy District Magistrate, Tehsildar and Naib Tehsildar of all the 5 tehsils. 2-2 EROs have been installed in all the tehsils. In Mathura tehsil, duty of one deputy collector has been imposed on every 50

booths. District level officers have also been put on duty. 100-100 computer operators have been appointed in all the tehsils, who are doing the work of feeding/digitization. Digitization/feeding work will be done by December 4, 2025. He said that SIR work in the district will be completed on time. The District Magistrate has directed that negligence will not be accepted at any level in the district. While giving instructions to the officers and employees, he said that every work related to SIR should be done with complete transparency, alertness and

timeliness. The District Magistrate said that the Constitution has given us rights, but also duties. Just as it is our right to vote, it is also necessary to give correct information in the counting form. The District Magistrate said that all the employees who are working honestly, they actually become a strong link between the government and the public. The District Magistrate has told the employees not to be stressed about work, because the administration stands with them at every level. He said that by working with a calm mind, restraint and systematic manner, the survey will be completed quickly and accurately



District Magistrate Chandra Prakash Singh

CII Northern Region Applauds Streamlined Labour Framework

Labour Code Reform to Drive Inclusivity, Safety, and Productivity Across Industries – CII NR Consolidated Labour Codes Will Power India’s Journey Toward a Developed Economy by 2047, Says CII Northern Region

Chandigarh, 26 November 2025 - CII Northern Region welcomes the recent implementation of India’s four consolidated Labour Codes — a major structural reform that streamlines 29 laws into a simpler, more contemporary framework. Though many provisions existed earlier, the restructured Codes introduce several new and progressive elements, categorized across four broad areas: simplified compliance, enhanced worker welfare, greater inclusivity, and strengthened workplace safety. Together, these reforms are poised to positively impact India’s economy and accelerate the nation’s journey toward becoming a developed nation by 2047.

Mrs Anjali Singh, Chairperson, CII Northern Region and Executive Chairperson, ANAND Group India, stated that the new Labour Codes mark a pivotal shift in India’s world of work. “These reforms are not just a consolidation exercise—they reflect a fresh, people-centric vision that prioritizes better working conditions, improved health and safety standards, and a more transparent industrial environment. By simplifying compliance and bringing more enterprises into the formal economy, the Codes strengthen both workforce well-being and India’s economic competitiveness. This is a transformative step toward India’s goal of becoming a developed

nation by 2047.”

A long-standing challenge for Indian industry has been the complexity of labour regulations, often seen as a bottleneck to manufacturing growth. The unified Codes, with clearer definitions and uniform applicability, are expected to remove ambiguity and improve ease of doing business.

Mr Puneet Kaura, Deputy Chairperson, CII Northern Region and Managing Director & CEO, Samtel Avionics, highlighted the relevance of these reforms in the current landscape. “The simplification of labour laws sends a powerful signal to global investors

that India is committed to a stable, transparent, and business-friendly environment. Streamlined processes will support manufacturing expansion, encourage long-term planning, and help position India as a preferred investment destination. This reform is timely and strategic for our economic growth.”

A significant portion of India’s economy still operates in the informal sector. The new Codes, with provisions that encourage formalization and clearer regulatory norms, are expected to benefit MSMEs and smaller enterprises.

Mr Sushil Baveja, Chairman, Regional Committee on HR & IR, CII Northern Region and CHRO, Jindal Stainless Ltd, emphasized the inclusivity embedded in the reforms. “These changes bring long-awaited clarity and structure, helping more enterprises transition into the formal sector. Importantly,



Will write to PM to rename IIT Bombay as IIT Mumbai: Fadnavis

(Gns). Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Wednesday promised to write to Prime Minister Narendra Modi over renaming IIT Bombay to IIT Mumbai, after MNS chief Raj Thackeray severely criticised Union minister Jitendra Singh’s recent statement of being happy that IIT Bombay was not renamed as IIT Mumbai.

Union Minister for Science and Technology Dr Jitendra Singh had stated at a function at IIT Bombay on Monday that “As far as IIT Bombay is concerned, thank God it still has this name. You have not changed it to Mumbai. So that’s another compliment to you. And also true for Madras. It remains IIT Madras”.

Dr Jitendra Singh’s statement about IIT Bombay raised a huge controversy and MNS chief Raj Thackeray reacted to it saying, “There is an attempt to connect Mumbai and Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR) to Gujarat. Jitendra Singh’s statement is a symbol of the government’s mentality. The nausea in the stomach of those against Maharashtra has come out again.”

“What is Jitendra Singh’s connection with Mumbai, your eyes now”.

After Union Minister of State Jitendra Singh’s statement, the MNS became aggressive and put up a poster right in front of IIT Mumbai’s Powai campus with the text ‘IIT Mumbai’ instead of IIT Bombay as it is presently known.

Reacting to MNS chief Raj Thackeray’s aggressive statement, Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis said “The biggest contribution for changing the name of Bombay city to Mumbai is due to BJP leader Rambhau Naik. For us, it is not Bombay, but Mumbai. All traces of Bombay should be erased and Mumbai should be everywhere.

Maharashtra and Gujarat? Jitendra Singh is from Jammu, he wants to get praised for saying this. All Marathi people must open



PNB Celebrates 76th Anniversary of Constitution Day, Reaffirms Commitment to National Values

26 November 2025: Punjab National Bank (PNB), nation’s leading public sector bank, today commemorated the ‘Samvidhan Diwas’ (Constitution Day) at their corporate office in New Delhi. Senior leadership and employees came together to honour the adoption of the Indian Constitution and reiterate their dedication to the values it embodies.

The event began with the collective reading of the Preamble, led by PNB MD & CEO Shri Ashok Chandra, joined by Executive Directors Shri M. Paramasivam, Shri D. Surendran, and Shri Amit Kumar Srivastava, Chief Vigilance Officer Shri Raghvendra Kumar, and other senior officials of the bank.

Reflecting on the significance of the day, PNB MD & CEO Shri Ashok Chandra said, “The idea of Loktantra

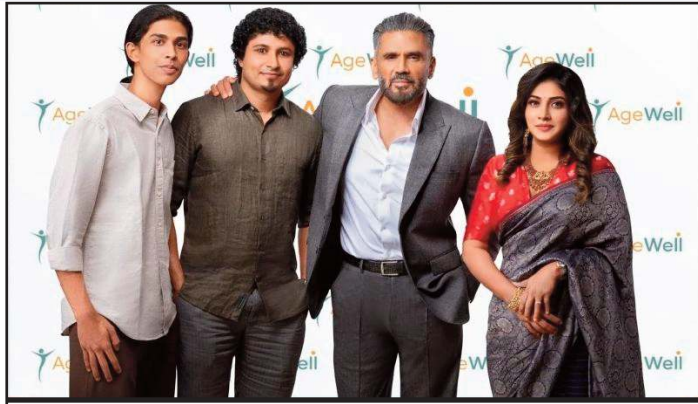
in Bharat is centuries old, rooted deeply in our civilisational ethos. As we observe Constitution Day, we honour the visionaries who crafted our Constitution, especially Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar, who inspired the declaration of this day. His foresight continues to guide our nation’s pursuit of justice, equality, and inclusive growth. On this occasion, we reaffirm our pledge to uphold the Constitution and remain committed to the values that strengthen our democracy.”



India’s First Integrated Wellness Ecosystem for Adults Over 40

Mumbai, 26th November 2025: Serial entrepreneur Tanooraa Swetha Menon has partnered with wellness icon and fitness champion Suniel Shetty to launch AgeWell—India’s first complete wellness ecosystem designed specifically for adults over 40, combining anti-aging products, healthy aging solutions, and longevity-focused community platforms. AgeWell

marks not just a product launch, but the start of a national health movement built on the lived experiences of co-founders Tanooraa Swetha Menon, Mitlaj, and Shahin Farzeen—who witnessed the unique needs, missed opportunities, and gaps in Indian eldercare and built an integrated ecosystem to address them for every family.



Tanooraa Swetha Menon and Suniel Shetty Launch AgeWell

Weekend plans? Sorted! COLORS’ biggest homegrown franchise ‘Laughter Chefs Unlimited Entertainment’ is back and it’s bigger, crazier & spicier!

The kitchen fires are crackling, the aprons are on, and the laughter is already bubbling over as COLORS brings back the no. 1 non-fiction show of 2025, ‘Laughter Chefs Unlimited Entertainment’. This homegrown culinary comedy reality show has won the hearts of audiences with its unfiltered celebrities and unscripted kitchen conversations. With a staggering reach of 185 million* on television and dominating COLORS’ social media conversations with 1 in 3 interactions about Laughter Chefs. Now, it returns, plating fresh chaos and a brand-new season of kitchen mayhem with a bigger appetite and even bigger ambition. The sparks are about to fly from the stove as your favourite bawarchis cook up a bawaal like never before. In its third season, the nation’s favourite family ritual turns the kitchen into a comedy war zone of ‘Team Kaantas’ and ‘Team Chhuris’, guaranteeing an unmissable laugh riot each weekend! The OG troublemakers return in all their glory, now joined by an energetic new squad ready to stir, spill, and spice their way into the chaos of cooking up a good time.

From the charismatic and fiercely competitive duo Karan Kundrra –Tejasswi Prakash, to the adorable patipatni pair Debinna Bonnerje e–Gurmeet Choudhary, to the playful and the no-nonsense Eisha Singh–Vivian Dsena, the laugh riot is brimming with surprises. Adding to the heat, the high-voltage jodi Abhishek

Kumar–Samarth Jurel is all set to dial up the macho drama. All the rules go down the sink when the explosive Elvish Yadav–Isha Malviya step in, while the mischievous Kashmera Shah—

strive to deliver non-fiction IPs - whether original or adapted - that travel across seasons and demographics. Laughter Chefs Unlimited Entertainment’s success is a testament to that approach,

sense, this show feels tailor-made for me! People keep asking me everywhere I go, harti, yeh celebs sach mein k hana banate hai kya?’ And I tell them - I wish you could see what I see in that kitchen! There are moments when these ‘non-chefs’ surprise us with brilliant dishes and moments when my stomach hurts from laughing. This season, I am excited to see what storm everyone cooks up! It is my absolute pleasure to welcome our old favourites and new members to the LC family!”

Pairing up with the love of his life this time, Karan Kundrra says, “Coming back to L a u g h t e r C h e f s with Tejasswi feels like a full-circle moment for us. We’ve always had incredible chemistry, but this show brings out a different side of our partnership — we’re both super competitive, extremely driven, and honestly a little obsessed with winning! Last season, I won the trophy... and yes, I fully intend to bag those stars again. But this time, a victory would mean so much more because I’m competing with Teja by my side. We work well as a team, we push each other, and when we’re in competition mode, we are ready to turn the heat up.”

Excited to kick off Season 3, Krushna Abhishek says, “I genuinely treasure the chance to strengthen my bond with this show because the love we get is unbelievable. Everywhere I go, people ask, ‘Season 3 kab aa raha hai?’ And that kind of anticipation

proving how differentiated homegrown formats can scale into one of India’s most beloved and top-rated reality shows. The sustained demand for the show even before a season concludes reaffirms our belief that when we anchor content in strong cultural insight — family fun and food — it naturally becomes a part of the country’s weekend routine. We are confident the season will build on that momentum as we continue our legacy of crafting successful homegrown shows and setting benchmarks in delivering formats that become household favorites. We are grateful to our sponsors for placing their trust in an IP that continues to deliver both reach and relevance.”

Host of the show Bharti Singh says, “Laughter Chefs Unlimited Entertainment is very close to my heart because it brings together the two things I love - cooking and comedy. In that



Laughter Chefs Unlimited Entertainment