



PM presides over 60th All India Conference of Director Generals/Inspector Generals of Police in Raipur

- PM underscores the need to transform public perception of police, enhance youth outreach, strengthen urban and tourist policing, and promote awareness of new criminal laws
- PM calls for expanded use of technology, Artificial Intelligence and NATGRID integration; Stresses innovation in island security, coastal policing and forensic-based investigation
- Conference witnesses detailed deliberations on national security priorities, including Vision 2047 policing roadmap, counter-terrorism trends, women's safety, fugitive tracking and

- forensic reforms
- PM emphasises need for stronger disaster preparedness and coordinated response; Calls for Whole-of-Government approach to manage cyclones, floods and natural emergencies
- PM urges police leadership to modernize and realign policing practices with the national vision of Viksit Bharat

PM presents President's Police Medals for Distinguished Service; Honours top-performing cities in newly instituted Urban Policing Awards (Gns).

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi attended the 60th All India Conference of Director Generals/Inspector

Generals of Police at the Indian Institute of Management, Raipur. The

sensitivity, and responsiveness. He highlighted the need to strengthen urban

era criminal laws.

Prime Minister directed State and UT Police and the wider administration to adopt innovative strategies for integrating uninhabited islands, make effective use of databases integrated under NATGRID, and link these systems through Artificial Intelligence to generate actionable intelligence. He called for encouraging universities and academic institutions to undertake case studies on the use of forensics in police investigations, noting that enhanced forensic application would further strengthen the criminal justice system.

He reiterated the importance of establishing mechanisms for the regular monitoring of banned outfits, ensuring the holistic development of areas freed from

Left Wing Extremism, and adopting innovative models to strengthen coastal security. The Prime Minister emphasised that tackling drug abuse requires a Whole-of-Government approach, bringing together drug enforcement, rehabilitation, and community-level intervention.

The Conference witnessed in-depth deliberations on a wide range of national security matters. Discussions were held on the long-term Roadmap for Policing towards Vision 2047, emerging trends in counter-terrorism and counter-radicalisation, leveraging technology to enhance women's safety, strategies to bring back Indian fugitives based abroad, and strengthening forensic capabilities to ensure effective investigation and prosecution.

tion and prosecution.

The Prime Minister underscored the need for stronger preparedness and coordination, urging Police Chiefs to reinforce mechanisms for effective disaster management covering cyclones, floods, and other natural emergencies, including the ongoing situation of Cyclone Ditwah. He emphasised that proactive planning, real-time coordination, prompt response, and a Whole-of-Government approach are essential to safeguard lives and ensure minimal disruption during such events.

In his address, the Prime Minister called upon the police leadership to realign the style of policing to meet the aspirations of a developing nation on the path to becoming a Viksit Bharat.

Prime Minister distributed the President's Police Medals for Distinguished Service to officers of the Intelligence Bureau. He also presented awards to the three best-performing cities in urban policing, a recognition instituted for the first time to encourage innovation and improvement in urban policing.

The Conference was attended by the Union Home Minister, the National Security Advisor, Ministers of State for Home Affairs, and the Union Home Secretary. DGsP and IGsP from all States and Union Territories, as well as heads of CAPFs and Central Police Organisations, participated physically, while more than 700 officers of various ranks joined virtually from across the country.



three-day Conference is themed 'Viksit Bharat: Security Dimensions'.

Prime Minister stressed the urgent need to transform public perception of the police, particularly among the youth, by enhancing professionalism,

policing, reinvigorate tourist police, and increase public awareness regarding the newly enacted Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita, Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, and Bharatiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita, which replace the colonial-

TMC Turns Up the Heat on Election Commission Over Bengal's SIR Drive

(Gns).

The Trinamool Congress intensified its criticism of the Election Commission on Saturday, accusing the poll body of using the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls to unfairly target West Bengal. At a press briefing in New Delhi, TMC MP Sajda Ahmed painted a tense picture of the situation on the ground, saying fear and uncertainty were spreading across the state.

According to Ahmed, the party held a prolonged meeting with the Election Commission a day earlier, only to walk away without answers. "We asked five very clear questions," she said. "But there was com-

plete silence from the Commission. That silence speaks volumes. Bengal is being singled out, and its

electoral rolls to unfairly target West Bengal, alleging that 39 Booth Level Officers (BLOs) have died

She also raised alarm over the deaths of several Booth Level Officers, describing them as frontline workers pushed to breaking point. "These BLOs are operating under enormous pressure," Ahmed said. "Only with proper time, support, and protection will they be able to carry out their responsibilities with confidence."

Standing alongside her, TMC's Derek O'Brien delivered a stark statistic: 39 BLOs have reportedly died since the SIR began. He accused the Election Commission of ignoring repeated pleas from the TMC and failing to address what he called a growing humanitarian concern.



people are worried."

The Trinamool Congress (TMC) criticized the Election Commission (EC) for using the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of

since the SIR began. The EC, however, denied the allegations and appointed Subrata Gupta as Special Roll Observer for West Bengal.

Conversion, love jihad, and drugs weakening society, need to remain vigilant: CM Yogi

(Gns).

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said that whenever India has moved towards a golden age, foreigners have tried to attack it through various means. Even today, attempts are being made to weaken society through conversion, love jihad, and drugs, demanding vigilance.

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Sunday participated in the idol consecration ceremony and the grand feast of eight maans held at Baba Palnath Ashram in Kablana village of Jhajjar district, Haryana, and gave a message to the society and the saint community to remain vigilant.

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said,

"Protecting Sanatan Dharma is essential for the protection of India, world humanity, and the entire

the saffron flag hoisted at the Ram Janmabhoomi temple complex in Ayodhya, he said that just as the vic-



inanimate world. Whenever we are divided, we suffer losses. Therefore, we should not divide on the basis of caste, region, or language."

Citing the example of

torious flag of Sanatan Dharma is flying there, the flag of Dharma should be visible in every Sanatani's home.

Thanking the double-engine government, Yogi

Adityanath said that Haryana too is setting new standards of development. He wished peace, progress, and prosperity for the people of the state.

Taking a tough stand on the issue of drug abuse, the Chief Minister said, "Conspiracies are constantly being hatched from across the border to spread the drug trade. Drug abuse is a cause of destruction and destroys society's ability to think. If we do not become aware, future generations will not forgive us."

Yogi Adityanath urged saints to raise their voice against religious conversion, love jihad, and drug abuse at every religious event.

SWAGAT Online: Solving Public Issues through Technology SWAGAT Online Programme Becomes a Transformative Boon for Moddar Village in Porbandar

- Issues presented in the "SWAGAT Programme" resolved by Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel within four days
- Chief Minister ensures a permanent solution to the decades-old road problem of Moddar village in Porbandar through the SWAGAT Programme
- Chief Minister Directs the Roads & Buildings Department for Prompt Action; Resulting in ₹9 Crore In-Principle Approval for Road and Bridge Works in Moddar



- Enhanced Road Connectivity to Support Farmers Between Pasvari and Moddar; Students to Save Eight Kilometres on Travel to Kutiyana

- Chief Minister Listened to Our Concerns with Care: Shri Lakhman, Farmer, Moddar

"We never imagined such work would be approved so quickly": Shri Rana Katara, Maldhari

Gandhinagar, 30 November 2025: The widely popular SWAGAT Online Programme in Gujarat continues to deliver lasting solutions to core issues faced by residents in

remote regions. A recent example is Moddar village in Porbandar district. This small settlement near Kutiyana, home to about 1,200 people, is celebrating a long-awaited resolution made possible through this initiative.

In detail: During the SWAGAT Online Programme, Lakhman Moddar and other farmers from Moddar village in Porbandar presented their long-pending road concern before Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel. They requested the construction of a road and a bridge to ensure direct access to Kutiyana.

'Anubhav Se Urjaa Tak': Cultural Event Promotes Respect and Inclusion for Elderly

(Gns).

'Anubhav Se Urjaa Tak': Cultural Event Promotes Respect and Inclusion for Elderly

'Anubhav Se Urjaa Tak': Cultural Event Promotes Respect and Inclusion for Elderly (Photo Credits: SNS)

To promote intergenerational bonding, the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment organised a Cultural event, "Aradhana" for the senior citizens at Bhim Hall of DIAC, recently. The event,

conducted in continuation of the series of celebrations of the International Day of Older Persons (IDOP)-2025, was themed



"Anubhav Se Urjaa Tak".

During the cultural event, the Air Force Band played Space Flight, Sujlam

Suflam, Rejoice in Raisana, Evening Star, 'Vande Matram' and 'Sare Jahan Se Achha'. Padma Shree Geeta Chandran, with her team, showcased Bharatnatyam. Performance showcasing 'Tridahara', 'Namah Shivaya', 'Omkaara Karini' in Lavangi Raag and Sankirtan.

Addressing the gathering, Union Minister of State for Social Justice & Empowerment B L Verma stated that "Our senior citi-

zens have always been regarded as symbols of wisdom, patience, and value-based living. Every chapter of their lives—filled with hard work, struggle, sacrifice, and achievements—serves as a guiding light for the younger generation."

"This event is memorable because today, three generations share this stage—the musical performances of our elders, the artistic expressions of our youth and the joyful presence of children.

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प्राप्त करने के लिए आज ही
गरवी गुजरात हिंदी चैनल देखिये

Editorial

Budgetary Dilemma

Rachel Reeves's latest Budget attempts something British chancellors before her rarely managed with conviction: mixing fiscal restraint with visible social compassion. The outcome is a package that is neither radical nor timid, but one that leans heavily on the expectation that voters will tolerate incremental pain today for the promise of stability tomorrow. Whether that calculation survives the political storm already gathering around it remains to be seen. At the heart of the Budget lies a decision that Ms Reeves herself had previously criticised ~ freezing income tax and National Insurance thresholds.

Extending this freeze to 2031 all but guarantees that millions will drift into higher tax brackets, a phenomenon politely couched in the language of "asking everyone to make a contribution." The honesty in her admission that working people will pay more is refreshing, but it does little to soften the reality that fiscal drag has become the government's primary revenue engine. The chancellor's argument, however, is that the burden is distributed upward. A new annual levy on high-value properties, higher taxation of savings, and the long-anticipated move to tax electric vehicle use are framed as measures that target those with the "broadest shoulders." Critics will argue, with some merit, that these steps do not fundamentally overhaul Britain's fractured tax architecture. Yet, they do shift the narrative: Labour is not reaching for sweeping rate hikes but stitching revenue together through multiple smaller taps, each politically more manageable than a single large turn of the wrench.

The politically bold move in the Budget, though, is the decision to end the two-child benefit cap. For a party that has been wary of appearing fiscally indulgent, this reversal signals a clear value choice. It reflects Labour's conviction that the cap punished children without reducing costs or influencing family decisions. The projected lifting of 450,000 children out of poverty offers the government moral ground it has not often claimed in recent years. Still, the Budget's ambitions rest uneasily on strained macroeconomic foundations. Growth projections have been trimmed, and the much-touted increase in "headroom" depends heavily on revenue raised just before the next general election – something independent analysts have already greeted with scepticism. Opposition parties smell vulnerability, accusing Ms Reeves of breaking earlier promises and saddling working households with stealth taxes.

The charge that this is an assault on aspiration will resonate with segments of the electorate already bruised by years of cost-of-living pressures. Yet this Budget is not a reckless one. It is a cautious attempt to rebuild fiscal space while signalling that austerity is no longer the governing philosophy. Ms Reeves is betting that voters will recognise the trade-off: modestly higher taxes in exchange for more predictable public finances and a social safety net that does not fray further. Whether the electorate accepts that bargain will define not just this Budget's fate, but the government's broader economic credibility.

Vibrant Gujarat Regional Conference for Kutch and Saurashtra region to be Held in Rajkot on 8 and 9 January 2026

- Rajkot is emerging as a global aerospace hub in Saurashtra
- Rajkot's Shreeram Aerospace Drives the Prime Minister's Vision From Vocal for Local to Global Excellence
- Rajkot Emerges as a Precision Engineering Hub Reflecting Make in India and Aatmanirbhar Bharat
- Global Partnerships Strengthen Through Quality Production as per Standard SOP: Shri Sandip Satani, Managing Director, Shreeram Aerospace

Gandhinagar, 30 November 2025 : Under the visionary guidance of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, India is accelerating its journey to becoming a global manufacturing powerhouse. Under the leadership of Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel, Government of Gujarat has

announced the second edition of the Vibrant Gujarat Regional Conference (VGRC) for the Kutch & Saurashtra region, scheduled on 8–9 January 2026 in Rajkot. In conjunction with the conference, the Vibrant Gujarat Regional Exhibition (VGRE) will be held at the same venue from 8–11 January 2026, offering an enhanced platform for industries, MSMEs, government bodies, and entrepreneurs from across the region.

Vibrant Gujarat has enabled many indigenous enterprises to thrive. Rajkot, known for its strong auto industry base, is now advancing into aerospace and space technology, with Shreeram Aerospace and Defence LLP poised for significant growth. The company reflects the New India and embodies the core spirit of Prime Minister's initiatives 'Adopt Swadeshi,' 'Make in India,' and 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' by transforming local capa-



the momentum of Vibrant Gujarat, Saurashtra is steadily evolving into an innovation driven industrial corridor.

The company's Managing Director, Shri Sandip Vallabh Satani, stated that the organisation began its journey in 2017. Through Shreeram Aerospace, they received the opportunity to contribute to New India's technological aspirations. Guided by his father,

Vallabhbhai Satani, the company, built on a strong

aerospace components to global leaders such as Airbus, Boeing, Rolls Royce, Dassault Aviation, ISRO, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited and others.

He states that with the support of their technical team, they have achieved proficiency in ultra precision machining, complex aerospace tooling, high strength alloys and critical assemblies at the highest technological standards. They have also developed India's first 6 micron RMS Terahertz Antenna and Navigation Antenna for SAC ISRO. The company has delivered more than three thousand aerospace tools, including eight metre wing fixtures, INVAR composite layup tools, stretch forming dies for aero engine parts, reflector panels and several others. Additionally, they have successfully delivered the left and right wing box assembly jigs for the TATA Airbus C295 aircraft, each meas-

uring 11.5 metres in length, weighing 25 tonnes and comprising more than fifteen thousand individual parts. He added that Prime Minister often emphasises that every challenge presents an opportunity. Inspired by this approach, the company has developed an ultra precision multi - axis machining infrastructure, a robust quality management system aligned with global standards such as the AS9100D certification, and an integrated fabrication, assembly and inspection ecosystem. All of this is supported by a highly skilled workforce trained in international best practices.

Rajkot's engineering strength is fostering innovation and reinforcing Gujarat's leadership in India's manufacturing growth. The city continues to demonstrate that local talent and technological capability can significantly advance India's global aspirations.

Data is only as reliable as the systems it supports

(Gns).

The recent assessment of India's national accounts by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) serves as a sobering reminder that numbers, however precise they appear, are only as reliable as the systems that generate them. India's GDP and related statistics received a "C" grade by the IMF, highlighting persistent shortcomings in methodology, coverage, and relevance. This is not a trivial critique; these numbers form the backbone of economic policymaking, investor deci-

sions, and public understanding of growth.

One of the key concerns is the outdated nature of the statistical framework. The national accounts and inflation measures are still largely based on 2011-12 benchmarks. Such lagging reference points fail to reflect contemporary economic realities, particularly in a country where consumption patterns and sectoral contributions have evolved rapidly over the last decade. The informal sector, which constitutes a substantial portion of economic activity, remains



underrepresented. Differences between the production-based and expenditure-based GDP estimates further expose

gaps in data collection and methodology. When two widely used approaches yield inconsistent results, it signals that a comprehensive view of the economy is still beyond reach. Inflation data, while more timely and frequent, is similarly constrained by outdated baskets and weights, meaning that the measure may not accurately capture the cost pressures felt by ordinary households today. Other economic indicators ~ covering government finances, external trade, and monetary statistics ~ are better but still not flawless.

board suggest a system that is functional but not fully robust, one that can support broad analysis but struggles to provide the granularity needed for detailed policy interventions. The implications of such shortcomings are serious. Economic decisions based on incomplete or misrepresentative data

can erode trust in official statistics, making it harder for citizens and businesses to make informed decisions or engage confidently with government policies. Encouragingly, efforts are underway to modernise both GDP and inflation series, with new methodologies expected soon.

These updates are vital, not just as a technical exercise but as a foundation for credible, evidence-based economic management. Timely, detailed, and reliable statistics are a precondition for effective governance, sound investment decisions, and meaningful public debate. India's economic performance is frequently celebrated, but robust statistical systems are what truly validate such claims. Until the ongoing reforms are fully implemented, caution is warranted in interpreting the numbers. Data modernisation is not a bureaucratic luxury ~ it is essential infrastructure for an economy aspiring to global leadership, capable policy, and inclusive growth.

Everything we see is the result of an idea

Matter is materialized mind stuff. Everything we see is the result of an idea. We could not visualize anything without a thought. Invisible thoughts precede and give all things their reality. If we can control our thought process, we can dematerialize and materialize anything by the power of concentration developed through deep meditation. As we all know, matter is composed of different forms of electronic vibrations. Ice becomes water and when electricity is passed through water, it breaks further into hydrogen and oxygen which are nothing but forms of electronic vibrations or invisible electrons.

So, anything which can be dissolved into invisibility cannot be said to have valid existence. In this sense, matter can be considered as not existing. But the basic building blocks, like invisible electrons or protons, always exist as forms of energy in motion. Thus, matter exists in relation to our mind and as a materialized expression of invisible electronic forces that do exist, but are unchangeable and immortal. Both water and ice are manifestations of invisible gases and have transitory existences as such. Both our mortal mind and matter are manifestations of Divine Consciousness. In reality, only the cosmic mind exists. As a person remembers everything he creates; similarly, God remembers everything He has created.

The ordinary man's memory cannot hold the consciousness of all experiences, but the underlying divine power or memory retains everything. Put differently, an ordinary mortal may forget things, but his subconscious 'self' registers everything. However, his super-consciousness, with divine felicity, remem-

bers everything. Through this timeless memory, He (God) wants us to remember our own divine origin and go back to it. But before we can do it, we need to get over and get beyond the mundane temptations of our senses. God's whole creation is so designed as to disillusion us, disillusion us enough to understand the futility of remaining stuck in sensual temptations and thereby try to explore the unexplored and know the unknown. Through this realization, which dawns as we deepen our longing for Him, He tries to draw us back to Him.

While Satan makes us think that God is unattainable, God makes it that much easier for us. However, man's misuse of God-given freedom and his misidentification with the physical body as 'real self' is the cause of all our suffering. The joy we keep searching for through physical means is always temporary because the source is temporary. To find eternal joy and bliss, we must find an eternal source which is God. Because of our differential faculties, we face the same challenges differently. Man lives in the body as a prisoner. Love of our body is nothing but the love for a prison. While it is okay to enjoy life, we need not become attached to anything. We, unfortunately, become slaves to our habits. It is natural for a man to yearn for the role of a king on life's stage. But if all were to be kings, there would be no play.

By our selfish actions, we set in motion the karmic law of cause and effect which inevitably destroys our own and others' happiness. Heaven will not be delivered to us at our doorstep. We shall have to discover or create it ourselves. Even though we all want to go to Heaven on

our death, we can create this Kingdom of God on earth if all societies unite in cooperation and harmony. A federation of all religions and nations is necessary. We must find our heaven



by choosing the best from all faiths. We must develop an inner consciousness of divine peace that remains unruffled by the experience of this earth. The Bible says, 'Love thy neighbour'. God made this world. We need to make it better. We can enjoy solitude, but when we mix with others, we should do so with all our love and friendship.

The Hindu idea of social division into four classes are not about rigid social stratification, but dynamic qualities informing different members of a society. Thus seen, Shudra is the sense-bound state of existence where souls, as mortals, remain tied to the sensual temptations. Vaishya is the business or creative stage of a man. So, all of us, who are engaged in commerce, business or creative activities, are Vaishyas. Kshatriya is the warrior state of a soul where the man tries to engage in battle with the senses and to conquer his attachment with the senses. Brahmin is the ultimate wisdom state where the individual has overcome all attachment to the senses and is immersed in God. Our life is a dream and we wake up on our death. If we know that we are dreaming, we will not suffer the bad expe-

riences of different nightmares.

Same is the case with our life which is also a dream which we realize on our death. The universe is a divine dream. As we can-

not change a dream by imagination or by denying its existence, the same is the case with our life. We need to rise above the duality of a dream and reality. Everything in the universe is a product of the Divine Mind in the same way that all we see in our dreams are creations of our mind. Dreams are lessons in the working of the cosmic consciousness. They come to us for a reason. Their purpose is to awaken in us a realization of the dream nature of our life, of the universe and of the method of its operation. In sleep, we have a heightened creative power of visualization and manifestation. The sages of India have spoken of the universe as a materialization of God's thought.

It is necessary that we first develop mind power to realize this. We may feel sad because of the hurts received in a dream, only to realize on our waking that it is nothing but a dream. Truly speaking, says Paramhans Yogananda, the visible man is of little importance; the invisible self or soul is of utmost importance. During sleep, we are unaware of the visible self, but we are aware of ourselves, our real 'self'. Take that away and our

outer visibility is meaningless. Without the invisible self, the body would be worthless as a corpse. If one of our fingers is cut off, we still feel the finger to be there. There is an invisible astral part for all the body parts.

Behind our physical heart, there is an invisible astral heart. Without it, our physical heart would not beat. We have invisible organs of sight and hearing, an invisible brain, invisible bones, and nerves. These parts constitute the astral body of the invisible man. The astral body looks exactly like the visible one, except that its form, being made of light and energy, is exceedingly subtle. The wire exists merely for the passage of electricity; electricity does not exist for the wire. Similarly, it is electricity which lights the bulb, not the other way round. While electricity can exist without the bulb; the bulb has no existence or relevance if there is no electricity flowing through it to make it emit light. So, the body exists for the use of the invisible self, but our real self or soul does not exist for the body.

But for our remaining tied to the body, we can walk on the water or fly in the sky and re-enter the physical body again. The astral body of the invisible self has sensory perceptions much greater than those of its physical counterparts. When our consciousness of the physical astral body is developed, it can smell, taste and touch objects far beyond the range of physical senses. And we can make them large or small at will. If there is no invisible man, there would be no visible man. When the invisible man leaves the physical form, the body disintegrates. Those who understand the subtle relationship between the visible

All-Party Meet Sets Stage for High-Stakes Winter Session in Parliament; 14 Bills Likely To Be Tabled

(Gns).

A day before Parliament's Winter Session kicks off, the government gathered leaders from across party lines for an all-party huddle on Sunday - a meeting that set the tone for what is expected to be a charged but short season of debates.

Though brief, the session carries plenty of political weight. At the meeting inside Parliament House, opposition leaders pushed a long list of concerns: the revision of electoral rolls, recent security lapses, and the government's approach to foreign affairs.

The Centre, on its part, laid out its legislative roadmap and appealed for smooth, disruption-free proceedings.

Ahead of the Winter Session, which begins Monday and runs until December 19 with only 15 sittings, the government met with opposition leaders to discuss key issues like electoral rolls, security lapses, and foreign affairs. The government plans to just 15 sittings - one of the shortest in recent years. The reduced timetable has angered the Congress.

Ahead of the session, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju held separate interactions with floor leaders from both Houses. A meeting of the Business Advisory Committee followed, with more coordination meetings lined up through the week. Rijiju urged MPs to maintain calm during debates, remarking, "With winter here, we hope discussions stay cool. Healthy debate is welcome, but disruptions aren't. A composed mindset will help the House function better."

The government is preparing to table 14 bills. Among the most significant is the Atomic Energy Bill, 2025, which seeks to modernize the regulation of atomic energy and bring private players into the sector. Another major proposal, the Higher Education Commission of India Bill, 2025.

Party MP Gaurav Gogoi slammed the move, saying the government appeared intent on limiting discussion. "It could be the briefest Winter Session ever, with hardly 15 days for real debate," he said. "It seems the government itself is trying to derail parliamentary functioning."

This Winter Session, running only from Monday to December 19, will have table 14 bills, including the Atomic Energy Bill, 2025, and the Higher Education Commission of India Bill, 2025; key figures like Kiren Rijiju, Gaurav Gogoi, and others attended the meeting.



Kannada Comedy Icon M.S. Umesh Passes Away After Cancer Battle

(Gns).

Veteran Kannada comedian M.S. Umesh, known for his iconic roles, has passed away. Recently, he was hospitalised due to health issues, where doctors diagnosed him with cancer. Despite treatment efforts, he breathed his last at Kidwai Hospital. Umesh's memorable dialogue, "Apartha Madkobedi," along with his comedic expressions, made him a household name in over 350 Kannada films.

His career began with a significant role in the 1960 film "Makkala Rajya." Umesh gained immense popularity for his humorous roles in films like "Gurushishyaru," "Halu Jenu," and "Apoorva Sangama." He was especially known for his part in the hit movie "Katha Sangama" (1977), where he portrayed the character "Thimmaraya." This role earned him the Karnataka State Film Award for Best Supporting Actor.

Veteran Kannada comedian M.S. Umesh, known for iconic roles and the dialogue "Apartha Madkobedi", passed away after being diagnosed with cancer and receiving treatment at Kidwai Hospital, leaving behind a legacy of over 350 Kannada films, including notable roles in "Gurushishyaru" and "Katha Sangama" where he earned the Karnataka State Film Award.

Umesh's Battle with Illness

Unfortunately, Umesh recently suffered a fall at home, prompting a hospital visit. Scans revealed he was in the third stage of cancer. Despite receiving care at a Bengaluru hospital, his condition worsened. Doctors found cancer had spread to multiple parts of his body, complicating surgical options. Umesh maintained a positive outlook, assuring fans through a video message, "Doctors are taking good care of me. Don't worry, I'll recover soon."

Throughout his six-decade career, Umesh entertained Kannada audiences with his comedic prowess. He also played a notable role as an elderly widow in one film and appeared in the song "Bombayatavayya" with Rajkumar. Despite his health struggles, Umesh remained optimistic, expressing gratitude for the care he received and the support of his fans.

A Celebrated Career in Comedy

Umesh's journey in cinema is marked by his contributions to countless films, including "Nagara Hole," "Guru Shishyaru," "Kamanabillu," "Apoorva Sangama," "Shruthi Seridaaga."



India overcome scare from Breetzke-Jansen-Bosch trio to secure 17-run win over South Africa in 1st ODI

(Gns).

A stunning 52nd ODI century by Virat Kohli, a record-breaking fifty by Rohit Sharma and four-wicket haul by Kuldeep Yadav were the highlights as India overcame a tough fight shown by Proteas trio of Matthew Breetzke, Marco Jansen and Corbin Bosch, beating them by 17 runs in the first ODI of the three match series at JSCA Stadium in Ranchi on Sunday.

India is 1-0 up in the three-match series. Putting India to bat first, SA paid the price as Virat Kohli (135 in 120 balls, with 11 fours and seven sixes), KL Rahul (60 in 56 balls, with two fours and three sixes) and Rohit Sharma (57 in 51 balls, with five fours and a six) took India to 349/8 in 50 overs. Reduced to 11/3, Proteas was lifted by some sensational knocks from Matthew Breetzke (72 in 80 balls, with eight fours and a six), Marco Jansen (70 in 39 balls, with eight fours and three sixes) and kept alive by Bosch (67 in 51 balls, with five fours and four sixes) even though SA kept losing wickets. Kuldeep (4/68) and Harshit Rana (3/65) were the top bowlers for India.

During the run-chase of 349 runs, Proteas were off to a poor start as pacer Harshit Rana removed both Ryan Rickelton and Quinton de Kock for ducks in the second over, Proteas were two down for seven runs in 1.3 overs.

The pair of Arshdeep Singh and Harshit did not let Proteas rest, as it was the left-arm Arshdeep who removed skipper Aiden Markram for just seven runs. SA was 11/3 in 4.4 overs.

Following that, the duo of Tony de Zorzi and Matthew Breetzke posed a counter-attack against the pace duo, collecting seven boundaries within a matter of the next 14 balls.

At the end of 10 overs, SA was at 47/3, with Breetzke (21*) and Zorzi (18*) unbeaten. With a four from Zorzi, Proteas reached their 50-run mark in 10.1 overs.

The left-right duo continued collecting boundaries against spinner Washington Sundar and pacer Prasidh Krishna, completing their 50-run partnership in 49 balls.

Kuldeep Yadav ended the 15th over on a happy note for India, trapping Zorzi for a 35-ball 39, with seven fours. SA was 77/4 in 15 overs.

Breetzke continued his counter-attack despite all odds, while Dewald Brevis welcomed spin veteran Ravindra Jadeja with two sixes in the 18th over, one a straight hit and one over long-on. The 100-run mark came for SA at 17.1 overs. In the 20th over, Brevis continued collecting runs, smashing Rana for a four and a mesmerising no-look six, bringing the score to 123/4 in 20 overs.

The duo collected their 50-run stand in just 35 balls.

The partnership was cut short at 53 runs in the 21st over, with a slice from Brevis caught by Ruturaj Gaikwad at sweeper cover.



Sabarimala gold loot: SIT records Tantri's statement

(Gns).

The Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing the Sabarimala temple gold looting case has recorded the statement of Tantri Mahesh Mohanararu.

Mohanararu's statement was recorded a few weeks ago as part of the investigation into the alleged permission granted to prime accused Unnikrishnan Potty in 2019 to remove the gold-clad plates from the Dwarapalaka idols and the door frames of the Sreekovil.

The SIT sought clarity from the Tantri regarding the permission said to have been granted in 2025 to hand over the Dwarapalaka panels to Unnikrishnan Potty. He has reportedly stated that the permission was given based on directions from the Devaswom Board.

Mahesh Mohanararu has also provided clarification on conducting poojas at Govardhan's jewellery shop in Bellary. He reportedly said that he attends poojas whenever invited, and this visit too was on such an invitation.

When asked about his relationship with Govardhan, Mohanararu said that Govardhan was a regular visitor to Sabarimala and that he was therefore familiar with him.

Meanwhile, former Thiruvabharanam Commissioner K. S. Baiju has been remanded again in the Sabarimala gold robbery case. He has been sent to 14 days' judicial custody after the Kollam Vigilance Court rejected his bail application.



Elon Musk Praises Skilled Indians, Criticises US Immigration Policies on Podcast

(Gns).

Elon Musk has once again drawn attention to the vital role played by skilled Indian professionals in the United States. Speaking on the "WTF is" podcast hosted by Zerodha co-founder Nikhil Kamath, Musk discussed both the value of global talent and the shortcomings he sees in America's current immigration policies, especially around the H-1B visa programme.

Musk argued that strong border controls are essential for any nation, criticising what he described as a "free-for-all" during the Biden administration. He said the lack of strict controls encouraged illegal immigration driven by financial incentives and government benefits, creating an unsustainable situation. "Unless you've got border controls, you're not a country," he stated bluntly.

Elon Musk, while calling for tighter borders, Musk simultaneously emphasized that his companies-Tesla, SpaceX, X, and xAI-actively seek the most talented people from around the world. He rejected claims that foreign workers steal American jobs, noting a persistent shortage of highly skilled workers. "My direct observation is that there's always a scarcity of talented people," he said, adding that his teams often struggle to hire enough skilled professionals.

H-1B Visa Debate

Discussing the H-1B programme, which has long enabled young professionals-especially from India and China-to pursue careers in the US, Musk acknowledged that some outsourcing firms have "gamed the system." However, he clarified that the solution is reform, not cancellation. "We need to stop the gaming of the system, but I'm not in the school of thought that we should shut down the H-1B programme," he said.



UN Sounds Alarm Over Pakistan's Expanding Military Power and Weakening Judiciary

(Gns).

The United Nations has issued a strong warning over Pakistan's latest constitutional amendments, cautioning that the changes could tip the country's fragile balance of power. The controversial 27th amendment, passed on 12 November, significantly strengthens the military's authority while reducing the Supreme Court's influence. UN Human Rights Chief Volker Türk said the shift threatens the rule of law and could destabilise Pakistan's governance system.

The new amendment paved the way for the creation of a powerful role - Pakistan's first Chief of Defence Forces (CDF). General Asim Munir assumed the position on 27 November, reinforcing the military's central role in national affairs. A newly formed National Strategic Command will now control nuclear and missile systems, authority previously held by the civilian-led National Command Authority.

The United Nations warned that Pakistan's 27th constitutional amendment, passed on November 12, could destabilize the country, as it strengthens the military's authority and reduces the Supreme Court's influence and paves the way for a power-play, as it strengthens the military's authority and reduces the Supreme Court's influence and paves the way for a power-

Constitutional Court. Its judges will be appointed by the government, raising fears that political interference could undermine judicial independence. The Supreme Court, which has historically contested government overreach, now faces a major reduction in its powers.

Volker Türk warned that these changes could erode the judiciary's ability to uphold human rights. "A key measure of judicial independence is that the government should not interfere in the courts," he emphasised, urging Pakistan to revisit the amendment.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has defended the amendment, describing it as a unifying step that honours the armed forces.



37 Maoists, including 27 carrying rewards of Rs 65 lakh, surrender in Chhattisgarh

(Gns).

The "Poona Margem-Rehabilitation to Rejuvenation" initiative registered another significant breakthrough in Dantewada district, southern Chhattisgarh, on Sunday. A total of 37 Maoists renounced violence and joined the social mainstream, reflecting the growing acceptance of the rehabilitation model in South Bastar.

This includes 27 rewarded cadres collectively carrying Rs 65 lakh on their heads, a development officials described as a decisive indicator of changing ground realities.

District police officers said the surrender was the result of coordinated efforts by the Chhattisgarh Government, the Union Government, Dantewada Police, local administration and the Central Reserve Police Force, who remain committed to building lasting peace and inclusive development in the region.

Superintendent of Police Gaurav Rai noted that the surrender was made possible through active support from the DRG, Bastar Fighters, Special Intelligence Branch Dantewada, 111th Battalion CRPF, 230th Battalion CRPF Dantewada and the RFT Jagdalpur teams.

Under the state's surrender and rehabilitation policy, each Maoist will receive Rs 50,000 in immediate assistance, along with other entitlements such as skill development training, livelihood support and access to agricultural land where applicable.

The 37 cadres who surrendered include members of the Company No. 06 and 10 units, Area Committees, ACMS, Platoon 16, RPC units, CNM commanders, militia members, Janatana Sarkar functionaries, and other affiliates from across Amadai, Indravati, Bhairamgarh and neighbouring sectors.

Officials confirmed that 27 Maoists were listed with cash rewards ranging from Rs 50,000 to Rs 8 lakh, including Kumli alias Anita Mandavi, Company No. 06 member and SZCM Kamlesh's guard (Rs 8 lakh), Geeta alias Lakhmi Madkam, Company No. 10 member (Rs 8 lakh), Ranjan alias Soma Mandavi, Company No. 06 member (Rs 8 lakh), Bheema alias Jahaaz Kalmu, Company No. 02 member (Rs 8 lakh).



Infant killed in leopard attack in Balrampur

(Gns).

Hearing commotion, although family members came out to the infant boy's rescue and gave the leopard a hot chase, the animal managed to disappear into the darkness with the child, police said on Sunday.

The body of child was later found about 150 meters away from the house, deep inside the forest area. Villagers immediately informed the police and the Forest Department. The body was sent for post-mortem and forest officials began efforts to trace the predator.

The family had come to the village for a wedding ceremony. The incident occurred between 2 and 3 am on Sunday in Reharpurwa Jhauhna village under the Bankatwa forest range. Shesharam, a resident of Gurdaspurwa village in the Harya Police station area, was on a visit, along with his wife, Chanawati Devi, and their son, Rohit, to attend the ceremony at the home of their relative, Bhagwat Ram.

According to Chanawati, she was sleeping with Rohit when the leopard entered the house and snatched the child. She immediately ran after the animal, raising an alarm. She was joined by other members of the family carrying sticks. Despite their efforts, the leopard vanished into the night with the child.

Following the incident, the family informed the police and forest officials. Soon after, a search operation was launched, and the child's partially eaten body was discovered in a nearby forest patch.

Reharpurwa village is located close to dense forest, with the tree line beginning around 500 meters from the settlement. Forest Range Officer Satrohan Lal confirmed that the child had been attacked by a wild animal. Additional forest teams have been deployed in the area as a precaution.

Earlier on Saturday morning, a leopard in Trilokpur village under the Gaura police station area of Tulsipur Unit had hunted a nilgai near the village. The animal was reportedly sighted several times near human habitation, causing alarm among villagers. According to village head Mohammad Irfan, the leopard has been seen near the settlement four to five times since Sunday morning.



71% of enumeration forms digitised in UP SIR

(Gns). With the Election Commission of India (ECI) extending the date for submission of enumeration forms for the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) by a week on Sunday, the digitisation work for 15.44 crore voters has reportedly reached 71%.

A total of 9,177 booths also achieved 100% digitisation in the state out of the total 1.62 lakh booths.

The Chief Electoral Officer of Uttar Pradesh, Navdeep Rinwa, on Sunday said that the ECI has issued revised dates, extending the dates announced for the ongoing SIR drive in the state by one week, based on the eligibility date of January 1, 2026.

The CEO said that, as per the revised dates, the submission date of enumeration forms has been extended till December 11,

2025, and polling stations will also be allotted by the same date. Control tables will be updated, and draft electoral rolls will be prepared from December 12 to



December 15, 2025.

He informed that the draft electoral rolls will be published on December 16, 2025. Claims and objections will be received from December 16, 2025, to January 15, 2026.

From December 16, 2025, to February 7, 2026, EROs will adjudicate and

resolve claims and objections during the notice phase. Final approval for publication will be required from the Commission on February 10, 2026, with the



final electoral rolls (voter lists) in the state scheduled for publication on February 14, 2026.

Rinwa stated that over 10.75 crore (70%) counting forms have been digitised in the state so far. Furthermore, BLOs have completed 100% of the digitisation of counting

forms at 9,177 polling booths.

The CEO directed all District Election Officers that, since an additional week has been granted, their subordinate officers and staff, especially BLOs, need not be subjected to unnecessary mental pressure. There is sufficient time to complete all the work. Those BLOs who have lagged in their work for any reason and who require assistance should be provided with the necessary assistance.

He stated that before the publication of the draft voter list, a meeting would be held at each polling booth between BLOs and Booth Level Agents (BLAs) deployed by political parties. In this meeting, BLOs will provide BLAs with a list of voters whose names are not included in the draft voter list, along with the reasons for their exclusion.

Vinay Kumar takes charge as Himachal Pradesh Congress president

(Gns). The newly appointed Himachal Pradesh Congress Committee president, Vinay Kumar, on Sunday formally assumed charge, marking a significant organisational shift for the party as it prepares for upcoming political challenges in the state.

Almost all factions within the party have expressed satisfaction over Kumar's elevation. While the development has strengthened Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu's camp, insiders say the Holly Lodge faction is also not opposed to him, given Kumar was once a loyalist of six-time former Chief Minister Virbhadra Singh.

A three-time MLA from Sri Renukaji in Sirmaur dis-

trict and former Deputy Speaker of the Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly, Kumar's appointment is seen as an effort to strengthen the party's grassroots connect and organisational discipline.

At the handover ceremony held at the Congress headquarters in Shimla, senior party leaders, office-bearers, MLAs and workers welcomed Kumar with enthusiasm. Senior leaders expressed confidence that his administrative experience, understanding of organisational matters and strong connect with rural constituencies will help revive the party's presence

across the state.

Addressing party workers after assuming office, Kumar said his primary focus would be to energise the organisation at the booth and block levels, ensure better coordination between the party and the government, and prepare a more robust structure ahead of the next electoral cycle.

He said the Congress government in Himachal Pradesh, led by CM Sukhu, is working under difficult economic conditions but remains committed to fulfilling its guarantees and delivering welfare to the people.

He added that the party machinery must comple-

ment the government's efforts by effectively communicating achievements, addressing public concerns and countering misinformation.

Kumar emphasised that unity within the party would be crucial, urging workers to put aside personal differences and prioritise the organisation's interests.

He thanked the national leadership, including Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge and senior leaders Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi, for reposing faith in him. He said he would strive to justify this trust by strengthening the party at a time when the state is grappling with economic pressures, unemployment and agrarian distress.

A felicitation ceremony was organised to mark the completion of 65 years of Yoga Bhawan, Lucknow.

Lucknow Samman Bharatanatyam and Dance Performance marks 65 years of Yog Bhawan

Yog Bhawan is working with utmost dedication, passion and sincerity for last 65 years (1960-2025) in the field of Yoga, Therapy Yoga and Meditation even when Yoga was not popular. Yog Bhawan has served people of Lucknow and beyond tirelessly for more than six decades to improve physical, mental and spiritual health and uplift people of sorrows. It is a great achievement for any Institution to exist, sustain and serve the people for more than six decades and continues to do so The newly renovated premises of Yog Bhawan was inaugurated by Shri Vishnu Kant Shahstri Ji, former Governor of Uttar Pradesh in 2002.

To mark the 65th year of Yog Bhawan, a Samman

Samaroh was organised on 29-11-2025 in which Guru Ji Shri Sudhir Sharma who is looking after Yog Bhawan for last 50 years will felicitate to extend gratitude to yoga teachers and support staff associated with the



institution in the past. The event was followed by a Bharatanatyam Dance Performance based on Lord Shiva by 'Kalashree Syed Shamshur Rehman and troupe. Shri. Saumil Sharma, Coordinator and Yoga and Meditation Expert, said "Yoga is legacy based on Guru Shishya Parampara, just how India is a guru of Yoga to the world. Everyone must practice yoga daily to remain disease-free and stress-free and adapt a yogic

lifestyle. Mrs. Aruna Sharma, Director said, "Yoga and Meditation is the need of hour - it is more relevant and required today than every before due to rise in stress, crime and violence."



Yoga and Meditation play a significant role to cure diseases, reduce stress, anxiety, depression and increase immunity to combat season changes. People suffer from specific health issues like sinusitis, cold, cough, allergy, increased blood-pressure, fever linked to low-immunity, increase in episodes of depression, increase in pain-arthritis due to cold and other such sudden season changes has an adverse impact on physical,

mental and emotional health of an individual. If one practices yoga daily for 25-30 minutes then it is sufficient to build a strong body, a healthy mind and a peaceful soul to address the challenges of modern lifestyle. People are having outside junk food, lack of water intake, insomnia, heightened desires and increased work pressure so they do not focus on health. Moreover, yoga does not require any equipment or expensive investment. it only requires investment of time and regularity if you have learned it once under guidance of an able-Guru.

Guru Ji Shri Sudhir Sharma felicitated-Mr. Shashi Srivastava, Mr. Arun Pandey, Mrs. Ruma Mehta, Mr. J.P. Dubey, Mrs. Nidhi Gupta, Mrs. Kalpana Singh, Mr. Vijendra Singh, Mr. R. R. Tiwari, Mrs. Chandraprabha Singh, Mr. Sher Singh, Mrs. Neeti Gupta, Mr. R. K. Awasthi, Mr. Mukund Goswami

Lucknow's Young Borrowers Embrace Digital Credit with a Trust-Driven Approach: Reveals How India Borrows 7.0 Study

Lucknow, 30 November 2025: Gen Z in the city of Nawabs have been embracing digital credit in a faster manner compared to other cities. More and more youths in Lucknow are inclined towards online shopping also.

Home Credit India, a leading consumer finance company, today released the 7th edition of its flagship annual study, How India Borrows (HIB) highlighting the evolving role of credit in India's lower-middle class, who represent nearly two-thirds of the population and are often considered the silent drivers of India's economic growth. This year's study shows a marked transfor-

mation in borrowing behaviour and attitudes among this segment - from credit as a safety net for necessity to a catalyst for aspiration and self-reliance.

According to the study 64% of Lucknow's borrowers shop online and use mobile banking. This shows high digital adoption in Lucknow. In Lucknow 55% prefer online loan channels, signalling growing comfort with digital borrowing. While 54% check EMI affordability before taking a loan, showing prudent financial behaviour. In the city of Nawabs 37% value lender reputation, reflecting the city's trust-driven credit mindset. However among youths 51% prefer fast,

stress-free loan processes through online lenders. This mix of digital comfort and trust-based decision-making highlights Lucknow's emerging position as a city where credit is not just about access, but about smart, transparent, and responsible use.

In the study younger borrower base indicates the city's tilt toward digital-first financial habits.

"How India Borrows 7.0' reflects a shift in India's credit culture - from borrowing for survival to borrowing for success," says Ashish Tiwari, Chief Marketing Officer, Home Credit India. "Gen Z, Millennials, women, and smaller cities are leading the digital lending revo-

lution, valuing speed, simplicity, and personalisation. Embedded finance is driving frictionless borrowing, where trust, technology, and value converge to redefine how India borrows. The lower middle class is increasingly strategic in its ambitions, using credit as a bridge to entrepreneurship, homeownership, and education. At Home Credit India, we see them as Prudent Planners and Confident Builders. We go beyond transactional lending and empower our customers with a transparent financial journey that fuels personal progress, national growth, and financial inclusion, making every borrower's life hit.

Rajnath Singh Hints At 'Operation Sindoor 2.0': Tells Nation To "Stay Mentally Prepared

(Gns). Defence Minister Rajnath Singh's latest remarks have fuelled speculation about a possible Operation Sindoor 2.0, as he urged citizens to remain "mentally prepared" for any future situation. Speaking on Saturday, Singh said India exercised considerable restraint during Operation Sindoor, but Pakistan's continued intransigence has prevented stability along the border.

"Operation Sindoor took place just recently. Our forces destroyed Pakistan-based terrorist camps. Although we gave a highly balanced response and avoided escalation, Pakistan's attitude has not allowed normalcy on the border after Operation Sindoor," Singh stated.

Defence Minister

Rajnath Singh's recent remarks suggest a potential Operation Sindoor 2.0, as Pakistan's actions have allegedly hindered border stability since the initial operation, which saw Indian forces destroying Pakistan-based terrorist camps; the BSF is ready for further action.

He praised the nationwide mock drills conducted during the operation, noting that administrative officials ensured they were effectively communicated to the public. "The way mock drills were carried out across the country is an excellent example of public service. All of you must keep yourselves mentally prepared for any such situation that may arise

ahead," he added.

BSF Signals Readiness for Operation Sindoor 2.0

Rajnath Singh's comments came soon after the Border Security Force



(BSF) held a press briefing highlighting its achievements in 2025, including its frontline involvement in

Operation Sindoor.

BSF DIG Vikram Kunwar revealed that Pakistan, shaken by India's large-scale crackdown on terror infrastructure, has shifted more than six dozen terror launchpads deeper inside its territory. He said the BSF stands ready to inflict further damage if the government orders another cross-border strike.

"After the BSF destroyed many terror launchpads along the border during Operation Sindoor, the Pakistan government moved these facilities into deeper areas... Around 12 launchpads are operating from depth zones in Sialkot and Zaffarwal, not directly on the border. Another 60 launchpads are functioning in other deeper regions," Kunwar explained.

11 killed, 30 injured in head-on collision of two buses in TN

(Gns). In a horrific head-on collision involving two state-owned buses, 11 people, including nine women and a driver, were killed and nearly 30 others injured near Thirupathur in the Sivaganga district of Tamil Nadu on Sunday evening.

According to police, the collision occurred due to over speeding of both the buses coming from opposite directions on a single-lane road towards Pillaiyarpatti, a pilgrim centre. While one bus was heading to Madurai, the other one was on its way to Karaikkudi and they collid-

ed head on near the bridge at Kumbangudi.

lision. And rescue teams faced great difficulty in



The 11 victims, including a driver of a bus, died on the spot. The front of the buses were badly damaged under the impact of the col-

retrieving the bodies.

On information, ambulances were rushed to the spot and the injured taken to the government hospital

at Thirupathur. The district collector has directed that additional doctors and paramedical personnel be in place to treat the injured. With the condition of many remaining critical, the toll might go up, the police said.

Tamil Nadu Minister KR Periyakaruppan rushed to the spot to supervise the rescue mission. Further, post mortem of the deceased could be conducted tonight itself, sources said.

This tragedy comes close on the heels of a recent head-on collision involving two buses in Tenkasi district.

CPI(M) flags deepening economic crisis in Himachal, blames Centre's policies

(Gns). The State Secretariat of the Communist Party of India (Marxist), in its meeting held in Shimla, expressed serious concern over Himachal Pradesh's rapidly deteriorating economic condition. The party alleged that under pressure from the BJP-led Modi government at the Centre, the state's Congress government is also pursuing neoliberal policies that are worsening unemployment, inflation, and the agrarian crisis, increasing the financial burden on the people.

The party stated that the state is heading toward a severe economic crisis, with government debt now exceeding Rs 1 lakh crore. It said the revenue deficit grant earlier provided by the Centre, which was Rs 8,058 crore, has been reduced to Rs 6,258 crore. For the 2025-26 financial year, the state will receive

only Rs 3,257 crore, marking a further reduction of Rs 3,000 crore. In addition, the Centre discontinued

reduce the fiscal deficit from 6 per cent to 4 per cent." The Centre has further capped the state's



GST compensation to the state in 2022.

According to CPI(M), "Himachal's limited revenue resources have forced the state government to depend heavily on financial assistance and loans from the Centre. The debt-to-GSDP ratio has risen from 40 per cent in 2020 to 43 per cent in 2025. The Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act (FRBM) is also pressuring the state to

annual borrowing at Rs 7,000 crore, a move the party says has intensified after the state restored the Old Pension Scheme.

The CPI(M) claimed that this financial distress has made it difficult for the government to ensure the timely payment of salaries, pensions, and allowances. It is alleged that the Centre is using the crisis to push the state toward neoliberal reforms, including privati-

sation of essential services such as education, health, transport, electricity, and water. The party criticised the government's move to halt regular recruitment and rely on temporary or fixed-term appointments like forest friends, patient friends, traffic friends, and animal friends—categories that, it said, do not receive minimum wages and face job insecurity.

The party also opposed the large-scale installation of prepaid smart electricity meters, alleging that this is a step toward privatising the power sector. It claimed that the work is being outsourced to private firms and warned that attempts are underway to dismantle the State Electricity Board.

The CPI(M) demanded that all vacant posts be filled immediately and that the installation of prepaid meters be halted.

NACO to lead World AIDS Day observance in Delhi, as India accelerates drive to end AIDS

(Gns). Reaffirming India's commitment to accelerating progress toward ending Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), the National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO) will observe the national-level commemoration of World AIDS Day 2025 at Vigyan Bhawan, in the national capital on Monday.

Union Health Minister Jagat Prakash Nadda will lead the national-level observance. Senior Health Ministry officials, including the Secretary, Additional Secretary and Director General of NACO, and the Director General of Health Services, will join the observance, which will highlight the nation's gains under NACP-V, marked by a 49% decline in new HIV infections and an 81%

reduction in AIDS-related deaths, and unveil new initiatives focused on youth engagement, prevention,

ple living with HIV (PLHIV), and frontline health workers, reflecting a united approach to India's journey



digital innovation and a stigma-free India.

In a statement issued here on Sunday, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare stated that the event would bring together government leaders, development partners, youth representatives, community advocates, peo-

towards ending AIDS as a public health threat.

A youth-led flash performance will underscore the importance of awareness and responsible behaviour. This will be followed by the inauguration of a thematic exhibition, showcasing digital innovations, programme achieve-

ments, and community-led models implemented under the National AIDS and STD Control Programme. Beneficiary experience stories and an audio-visual presentation will highlight India's progress under NACP-V, along with upcoming priorities.

A major highlight of the observance will be the launch of a new campaign video series under NACO's national multimedia initiative, centred around three core pillars — Youth and Awareness, Elimination of Vertical Transmission, and Stigma and Discrimination. In addition, key national programme resources will be released, including, 7th Edition of Sankalak, India HIV Estimates 2025, Research Compendium, and IT-enabled Virtual Intervention Landing Page.