



**Revenue laws made simpler,
Gujarat becomes a role model
of good governance**

"The aim of the State Government is to uplift citizens' standard of living through revenue reforms."- Shri Harsh Sanghavi, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, Gujarat

President of India inaugurates national conference for the chairpersons of public service commissions at Hyderabad

Public service commissions should not only be guided by the ideal of equality of opportunity but should also try to achieve the goal of equality of outcomes: president droupadi murmu

Public service commissions should give highest priority to the aspect of honesty and integrity of the candidates they recruit: president droupadi murmu

(Gns). The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu, inaugurated the National Conference for the Chairpersons of Public Service Commissions, being organised by the Telangana Public Service Commission, at Hyderabad,

Telangana today (December 19, 2025).

Speaking on the occasion, the President said that our Constitution makers dedicated an entire part of the Constitution to Services and Public Service Commissions. This highlights the significance they attached to the roles and functions of the Public Service Commissions for the Union and for the States.

The President said that our Constitutional ideals of social, economic and political justice, and equality of status and of opportunity are most pertinent to the functioning of the Public Service Commissions. The Preamble of the Constitution,

the Fundamental Right of equality of opportunity in matters of public employ-



ment and the Directive Principle guiding the State to secure a social order for the promotion of welfare of the people indicate the pathways for the Public Service Commissions. The Public Service Commissions

should not only be guided by the ideal of equality of opportunity but should also

process of governance by what is called the 'permanent executive' or the body of public servants selected by the Public Service Commissions. Integrity, sensitivity and competence of the candidates they recruit. Honesty and integrity are paramount as well as non-negotiable. She underlined that lack of skills and competencies can be dealt with through learning interventions and several other strategies. But lack of

that Public Service Commissions should give highest priority to the aspect of honesty and integrity of the candidates they recruit. Honesty and integrity are paramount as well as non-negotiable. She underlined that lack of skills and competencies can be dealt with through learning interventions and several other strategies. But lack of

integrity may cause grave challenges which may be impossible to overcome. The President said that young people seeking employment as civil servants should have the inclination to work for the marginalised and the vulnerable. Our civil servants should be particularly sensitive to the needs and aspirations of women. Gender-sensitisa-

tion should be given high priority by Public Service Commissions. The President said that India, as the world's fastest growing major economy and also a nation marked by enormous diversity, needs most effective governance systems at all levels. The country is aiming to be the third largest economy in the world in the near future.

Jaishankar: India, EU negotiations on FTA have reached decisive phase

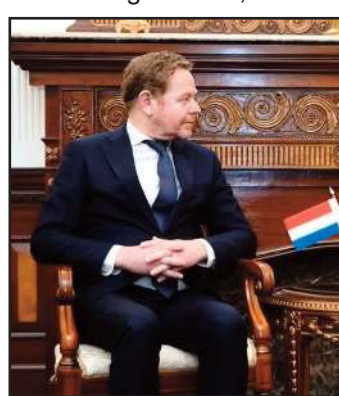
(Gns). External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Friday confirmed that India has reached a "decisive phase" in its negotiations with the European Union (EU) for a Free Trade Agreement (FTA).

He told visiting Netherlands Foreign Affairs Minister David van Weel that India counts on the Netherlands' support in moving towards an early conclusion of the FTA.

Jaishankar's statement came amid reports that the long-pending pact could be signed when top EU leaders visit New Delhi as chief guests at the Republic Day parade in January.

The Indian minister noted that India has a

strategic partnership with the Netherlands in Water and a very strong cooperation in Agriculture, Health,



Science & Technology, and Shipping. "But with the new areas of cooperation, important areas of cooperation like semiconductors now coming up, I think there is scope for raising

the ambition of our relationship. So whether it is semi-conductors, digital, cyberspace or life sciences, we



would like to work more closely with you," he added. Jaishankar recalled the recent meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Netherlands counterpart in

Johannesburg on the margins of the G20 Summit, at which the two leaders reiterated their commitment to take this relationship forward.

"We, of course, value our relations with Netherlands enormously – bilaterally as well as a key player in the European Union. Today as we meet, we will recognise that a number of important agreements have been reached in the last few months, which have added more dimensions to our cooperation," he added.

The two leaders discussed ways to enhance bilateral cooperation and exchanged views on global and regional issues.

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah convenes a meeting for the constitution of a dedicated body, the Bureau of Port Security (BoPS), for the security of vessels and port facilities

Union Home Minister emphasizes need to establish a robust port security framework across the country

Home Minister directs that security measures should be implemented in a graded and risk-based manner, taking into account vulnerabilities, trade potential, location and other relevant parameters

Bureau of Port Security (BoPS) shall be constituted as a statutory body under provisions of Section 13 of newly promulgated Merchant Shipping Act, 2025

The Bureau is being modelled on the lines of the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS)

BoPS shall ensure timely analysis, collection and exchange of security-related information, with a special focus on cyber security, including a dedicated division to safeguard port IT infrastructure from digital threats



CISF has been designated as a Recognised

Security Organisation (RSO) for port facilities with responsibility for undertaking security assessments and preparation of security plans for ports



(Gns). Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah convened a meeting

for the constitution of a dedicated body, the Bureau of Port Security (BoPS), for the security of vessels and port facilities. The meeting was attended by Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways and Minister of Civil Aviation.

During the meeting, Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah emphasized the need to establish a robust port security framework across the country. Shri Shah directed that security measures should be implemented in a graded and risk-based manner, taking into account vulnerabilities, trade potential, location.

GSV to Advance Maritime Sector, Bridge & Tunnel Engineering, Defence Logistics and Multimodal Transport Planning - Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw

Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya Held its 2nd Meeting of University Court

(Gns). Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya (GSV) held its 2nd Court meeting in Rail Bhawan in New Delhi.

Chairing the meeting was the University Chancellor, Sh. Ashwini Vaishnaw (Union Minister of Railways, Information & Broadcasting and Electronics & Information Technology) said "GSV has made tremendous progress with its Industry-driven approach within 3 years of its operationalization, becoming a role model for the country. While continuing its strong focus on Railways and Aviation Sectors, GSV shall deepen the curriculums in Bridge and Tunnel Engineering, Maritime Sector with

emphasis on Ship Building, contribute more to upskill the Defence Forces and Railways; and to perform applied research for integrated transport planning."

This meeting was attended by Her Highness Shubhangini Raj Gaekwad (Rajmata of Baroda), Shri Satish Kumar (Chairman & CEO, Railway Board), Lt. Gen. Pushpendra Singh (Vice-Chief of the Army Staff), Shri Amardeep Singh Bhatia (Secretary, DPIIT), Shri TP Singh (DG-BISAG), Prof. Rajat Moona (Director, IIT GN), representatives of Ministry of Civil Aviation, MoRTH, leading industries such as L&T, AMD, and the functionaries of Gati Shakti

Vishwavidyalaya. Prof. Manoj Choudhary (Vice-Chancellor, GSV) presented a detailed progress and status report.



All the members wholeheartedly praised the excellent progress of the university in such a short time, particularly its collaborations with Industry, executive training for Railways, Defence Forces and PM Gati Shakti for Civil Services. The members of the Court offered several

suggestions and collaborative inputs for future progress in bridge and tunnel engineering, ship building, railways, defense sectors logistics and supply chain. The Vice-Chief of Army Staff advocated for affiliating sector related academies of the Indian Army with the University as well as enhancing scope and scale of the training programs. The University shall design and conduct the probationary training for IRMS officers from this year and work with Industries to set up more Chair Professorships.

On the occasion, BISAG and GSV announced MOU to further accelerate impetus to PM Gati Shakti while AMD announced financial support for the incubation facility at GSV.

Cluster-Based Handloom and Handicrafts Development

Jyotiraditya Scindia Participates in High-Level Task Force Meet to Advance Cluster-Based Handloom and Handicrafts Development in the North East
Skill Upgradation, Sustainable Practices and Market-Led Value Chains
Enhancing Artisan Income through Structured Stakeholder Convergence
(Gns).

Union Minister for Communications and Development of North Eastern Region, Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, today participated in the meeting of High-Level Task Force on Handlooms and Handicrafts, convened by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Nagaland, Shri Neiphiu Rio. The meeting saw participation of Dr. Sukanta Majumdar, Hon'ble Union Minister of State of Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region; Smt. Nandita Garlosa, Hon'ble Minister for Sports and youth Welfare, Assam; Sh. F. Rodingliana, Hon'ble Minister of State for Commerce & Industry, Mizoram; Secretary, Ministry of Development of

North Eastern Region; and senior officers of Government of Manipur and Ministry of Textiles.

A cluster-based development approach for handlooms and handicrafts was discussed, with the objective of strengthening the entire value chain and ensuring sustainable and remunerative livelihood for artisans. The approach focuses on skill upgradation through master craftsman training; quality testing and certification; promotion of sustainable natural fibres and natural dyes, and integration with e-commerce platforms for domestic and export markets.

Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, emphasised that the Ministry of Textiles should take leadership from a handloom and handicrafts perspective and develop a clear structure, beginning with one handloom and one handicraft product, and demonstrate success. With the focus areas already identified, discussions centred on how to move for-

ward, starting with the identification of artisans within handloom or handicraft clusters.

It was highlighted that



the value chain must be developed taking into consideration the market demand and the production chain should be established accordingly, and not the other way around. Product differentiation at the end-product level should also be part of the strategy to promote handlooms and handicrafts and this is possible when markets, and buyers are also integrated into the value chain. The need to identify interventions required from all stakeholders, including MoDNER, Ministry of Textiles, State Governments, private parties, to move from the current situation to the desired

outcome, was also underscored.

The discussions further emphasised the importance of on-ground handholding, with a proposal to deploy one handloom and handicraft resource person at the cluster level and to have a representative of the buyer present on the ground to ensure alignment with market requirements.

Highlighting the long-term impact of the initiative, Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia stated, "By bringing all stakeholders into the value chain, we will be able to see, over the next 2-3 years, how the income of artisans grows. The key question is what impact our interventions will have on the weavers. Our end objective is to ensure that this project brings long term benefit to artisans. Handloom and handicrafts are art forms and India's wealth. Handmade products are witnessing unprecedented value, comparable to precious stones. India must not only preserve this heritage but make it truly remunerative for its artisans."

Editorial

Pahalgam Ramifications

The filing of a detailed chargesheet on the Pahalgam massacre marks more than a procedural milestone in India's counter-terrorism effort; it is a statement about how the state now intends to frame violence in Kashmir. By formally naming Pakistan-based militant outfits and tracing the conspiracy beyond India's borders, the investigation shifts the episode from a tragic security failure to a test of accountability, deterrence, and political resolve. The attack itself carried grim symbolism.

Tourists were deliberately singled out, religious identity was weaponised, and a space marketed as safe and pastoral was turned into a killing ground. That choice of target was not incidental. It was designed to rupture India's claim of normalcy in Kashmir, damage the local economy, and provoke a reaction that could internationalise the crisis. The chargesheet's emphasis on planning, handlers and cross-border coordination suggests the state wants to underline precisely this strategic intent. From New Delhi's perspective, placing named organisations and alleged handlers on record serves several purposes. Domestically, it reinforces the legitimacy of stringent anti-terror laws and justifies the expansive security footprint in the region.

Internationally, it builds a documentary trail that can be cited in diplomatic engagements, even if immediate consequences are unlikely. In an era where kinetic retaliation risks rapid escalation, legal attribution has become a parallel instrument of statecraft. The chargesheet is a vital record, but law enforcement alone cannot restore public confidence or prevent future cross-border attacks. Yet the limits of this approach are equally stark. A chargesheet cannot compel cooperation from across the border, nor can it substitute for political strategy. Pakistan's predictable denial, coupled with the absence of bilateral mechanisms after the suspension of past agreements, means that accountability remains largely unilateral. The danger is that such documentation, however detailed, hardens positions without creating pathways for de-escalation. The episode also exposes a deeper vulnerability. Kashmir's stability narrative rests heavily on optics ~ tourist numbers, elections, and infrastructure projects ~ while militancy adapts to exploit soft targets that fall outside traditional security grids. The killing of a local who tried to intervene complicates any simplistic communal framing and underscores how violence corrodes the social fabric it touches, regardless of identity. Perhaps the most consequential fallout lies in the aftermath: treaty withdrawals, military exchanges, and a fragile truce that feels more like exhaustion than resolution. Each crisis now appears to shorten the distance between accusation and escalation.

In this environment, investigative closure risks being mistaken for strategic closure. For India, the challenge is to ensure that legal firmness does not crowd out political imagination.

Millions Served, Lakhs Empowered: Flipkart's Festive Supply Chain at the Heart of Bharat

Lucknow, 19 December 2025: Flipkart, India's homegrown e-commerce marketplace, today announced key milestones from its 2025 festive season – highlighting scale, speed, and social impact. The Big Billion Days were powered by its robust logistics network, which fulfilled record volumes, enabled near-instant deliveries, and significantly expanded its regional footprint. With over 4 lakh seasonal job opportunities created, a 44% growth in same-day/next-day deliveries, and heightened demand from Tier 2 / 3 cities, Flipkart's supply chain put both technology and people at the centre of India's festive momentum.

Powering Festive India, Minute by Minute

On peak days, Flipkart moved over 5,000 shipments per minute, enabled by a tech-led, demand-sensitive supply chain infrastructure. The company saw a 44% increase in same-day and next-day deliveries compared to last year, reflecting growing customer expectations and enhanced last-mile capabilities. With over 7.3 million shipments fulfilled in a single day – averaging more than 3 lakh an hour – Flipkart's network demonstrated precision at scale. In one standout example, an appliance was delivered in just 15 minutes at midnight, and a TV installation was completed within 36 minutes of delivery, setting new benchmarks for customer delight.

Technology at Scale, Festivities at Doorstep

Flipkart's festive operations were powered by an intelligent supply chain built to move billions of units with speed and consistency. AI-powered forecasting, ML-driven planning and real-time capacity orchestration kept the network agile during surges, while automated inventory placement and AI-led IWIT



arms, cross-belt sorters, and sensor-led tracking reduced turnaround times significantly, supported by AI powered X-ray fraud detection and advanced geocoding that improved accuracy across India's complex addressing landscape. AI-driven packaging tools further optimise materials and reduce waste. With a diverse, well-trained workforce and a tech-enabled network reaching 21,000+ pincodes, these capabilities enabled Flipkart to manage millions of peak-hour orders seamlessly, delivering a dependable, positive experience to households across Bharat.

Bharat at the Centre

The festive momentum

Switching off can be surprisingly expensive. Much like the smoking cessation boom of the 1990s, the digital detox business – spanning hardware, apps, telecoms, workplace wellness providers, digital “wellbeing suites” and tourism – is now a global industry in its own right. People are increasingly willing to pay to escape the technology they feel trapped by. The global digital detox market is currently valued at around US\$2.7 billion, and forecast to double in size by 2033. Hardware manufacturers such as Light Phone, Punkt, Wisephone and Nokia sell minimalist “dumb phones” at premium prices, while subscription-based website blockers such as Freedom, Forest, Offtime and RescueTime have turned restraint into a lucrative revenue stream.

Wellness tourism operators have capitalised too: tech-free travel company Unplug ged recently expanded to 45 phone-free cabins across the UK and Spain, marketing disconnection as a high-value experience. However, my new research, with colleagues at Lancaster University, suggests this commercialised form of abstinence rarely extinguishes digital cravings – instead merely acting as a temporary pause. We carried out a 12-month netnography focusing on the NoSurf Reddit community of people interested in increasing their productivity, plus 21 in-depth interviews (conducted remotely) with participants living in different countries. We found that rather than actively

confronting their habits, participants often reported outsourcing self-discipline to blocker apps, timed lockboxes and minimalist phones.

Joan (names of volunteers changed), a NoSurf participant, explained how she relies on app-blocking software not to bolster her self-control, but to negate the need for it entirely. “To me, it's less about using willpower, which is a precious resource ... and more about removing the need to exert willpower in the first place.” Philosopher Slavoj Žižek defines this kind of behaviour – delegating the work of self-regulation to a market product – as “interpassivity”. This produces what he calls “false activity”: people thinking they are addressing a problem by engaging with consumer solutions that actually leave their underlying patterns unchanged. Several of our detoxing participants described a cycle in which each relapse prompted them to try yet another tool, entrenching their dependency on the commercial ecosystem.

Sophia, on the other hand, just wished for a return to “dumb phones with the full keyboard again, like they had in 2008”, adding: “I would use one of those for the rest of my life if I could.” Individualised digital detox interventions have been found to produce mixed and often short-lived effects. Participants in our study described short breaks in which they reduced activity briefly before resuming

familiar patterns. Many users engaged in what sociologist Hartmut Rosa calls “oases of deceleration” – temporary slowdowns intended not to quit but recover from overload. Like a pitstop, the digital detox offered them momentary relief while ultimately enabling a swift return to screens, often at similar or higher levels of engagement than before. While the commercialisation of digital detox is often portrayed as a western trend, the Asia-Pacific region is the world's fastest-growing market for these goods and services.

But in Asia, we also see some examples of community- or country-level, non-commercial responses to the problem of digital overload. In central Japan, Toyoko has introduced the country's first city-wide guidance on smartphone use. Families are encouraged

aged to set shared rules, including children stopping device use after 9pm. This reframes digital restraint as a community practice, not a test of individual willpower. In western India, the 15,000 residents of Vadgaon are asked to practise a nightly, 90-minute digital switch-off. Phones and TVs go dark at 7pm, after which many of the villagers gather outdoors. What began during the pandemic is now a ritual that shows healthy tech habits can be easier together than alone. And in August 2025, South Korea – one of the world's most connected countries – passed a new law banning smartphone use in school classrooms from next March, adding to the countries around the world with such a rule.

A similar policy in the Netherlands was found to

have improved focus among students. The commercial detox industry thrives because personal solutions are easy to sell, while systemic ones are much harder to implement. In other areas ranging from gambling addiction to obesity, policies often focus on personal behaviour such as self-regulation or individual choice, rather than addressing the structural forces and powerful lobbies that can perpetuate harm. To address the problem of digital overload, I believe tech firms need to move beyond cosmetic “digital wellbeing” features that merely snooze distractions, and take proper responsibility for the smartphone technologies that offer coercive engagement by default. Governments, meanwhile, can learn from initiatives in Asia and elsewhere that pair communal

support with enforced rules around digital restraint. At the same time, if you're considering a digital detox yourself, here are some suggestions for how to reduce the chances of getting caught in a commercial detox loop.

1. Don't delegate your agency: Be wary of tools that promise to do the work for you. While you may think you're solving the problem this way, your underlying habits are likely to remain unchanged.
2. Beware content rebound: We found that digital detoxers often seek real experiences like going outdoors and “touching grass” – but then feel pulled to translate them back into posts, photos and updates.
3. Seek solidarity, not products: Like the villagers of Vadgaon, try to align your disconnection with other people's. It's harder to scroll when everyone else has agreed to stop.
4. Reclaim boredom: We often detox to be more “productive” – but try embracing boredom instead. As the philosopher Martin Heidegger has noted, profound boredom is a space where reflection becomes possible. And that can be very useful indeed.

out careful adherence to these frameworks can have catastrophic consequences. Public admiration is fleeting; negligence can transform visibility into notoriety. Their deportation to face investigation marks the start of a judicial reckoning, highlighting the legal and moral imperatives of ensuring safety in public-facing ventures. Beyond legal culpability, the case is a moral caution for entrepreneurs everywhere.

Charisma, vision, and innovation are indispensable for success, but they must be matched by systems, protocols, and a culture of responsibility. When lives are at stake, no level of ambition can justify lapses in governance. The tragedy is a reminder that ethical stewardship and compliance are not secondary to brand-building ~ they are the foundation upon which sustainable success must be built. The lesson is stark yet simple: ambition alone cannot define a legacy. Accountability is what separates celebrated entrepreneurs from remembered failures. In sectors touching human safety, audacity without foresight is a dangerous gamble.



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Called to account

amplified public anger and raised questions about accountability. In the eyes of many, the act of fleeing symbolises a failure to confront the consequences of one's business decisions. Regardless of legal intent, perception matters: public

brothers operated. While some of these were legally cleared, the cumulative pattern indicates a tension inherent in scaling ventures in sectors where public safety is central. Delegating day-to-day oversight to local partners



trust is built as much on transparency and responsibility as it is on business acumen.

The case now tests whether India's regulatory and judicial systems can match entrepreneurial speed with enforceable accountability. The business trajectory of the Luthra brothers also underscores an often-overlooked aspect of rapid growth. Complaints about safety compliance, environmental concerns, and permit irregularities were raised in multiple locations where the

or managers may expedite expansion, but it cannot replace rigorous accountability mechanisms. A brand's visibility does not absolve it of ensuring the safety and well-being of its patrons.

This incident reflects a broader challenge in India's emerging consumer and hospitality markets. Vibrant nightlife and entertainment spaces are not just venues for leisure ~ they are environments where regulations, safety protocols, and ethical responsibility are paramount. Ambition with-

Sanskriti University received National Excellence Award in Delhi

Mathura. On the historic auspicious occasion of Vijay Diwas, Veterans India has set an example for the nation by honoring the great personalities of the country with Pride of Nation Awards in a function organized at NDMC Convention Centre, New Delhi. Sanjay Seth, Minister of State for Defence, Government of India, also honored Sanskriti University, one of the top 13 universities of India, with the National Excellence Award. Vice Chancellor Prof. MB Chetty received this honor on behalf of Sanskriti University.

This prestigious honor was given to the chief guest, Union Minister of State for Defence, Sanjay Seth, All India Contact Head of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, Ramlal Ji, Prof. Anil Sahasrabudhe, President National Forum on Educational Technology,



Sanjay Seth, Minister of State for Defence, Government of India, conferring the National Excellence Award to Prof. MB Chetty, Vice Chancellor of Sanskriti University, one of the top 13 universities of India, in New Delhi.

Chairman, National Assessment and Accreditation Council, Chairman NBA and Prof. T.G. Sitaram President All India Council for Technical Education, Dr. B.K. Mishra Founder was awarded the Karakamals of Veterans India.

In the program Prof. (Dr.) Anil Sahasrabudhe, President (NBA, NAAC and NETF), Prof. (Dr.) T.G. Sitaram, Chairman (AICTE) Prof. Vinay Kumar Pathak, President (AIU) Dr. M.R.

through its Education and Sports Cell, honored eminent sports personalities and educationists from 36 states and union territories with Pride of Nation Awards, Sports Excellence, Lifetime Achievement and Sports Patriotic Ambassadors And strengthened the spirit of national service through education. The program concluded with inspiring patriotic dance performances presented by Dronacharya Institute, in which little boys and girls powerfully expressed national pride, sacrifice and the indomitable spirit of India. The hardworking officials of various states of Veterans India had an unforgettable contribution in the arrangements of this dignified ceremony. While congratulating all the honorees, Yogacharya Sasmita Rai, Librarian Dalchand Gautam etc. praised Veterans India founder BK Mishra openly

Who Is Osman Hadi, Radical Bangladesh Leader Killed By Masked Men?

(Gns). Dhaka has been gripped by a new wave of street violence following the death of Osman Hadi, a 32-year-old radical activist who had emerged as a polarizing figure in the country's post-uprising transition. Hadi, who died on Thursday while undergoing neurosurgery in Singapore, was the spokesperson for Inqilab Mancha, a hardline youth platform known for its aggressive anti-India rhetoric and demands for a total ban on the Awami League. The Shooting and Aftermath The assassination attempt occurred on December 12 in Dhaka's Paltan area, just one day after the interim government announced the

schedule for the general elections set for February

Singapore after being shot in Dhaka on December 12;



2026. Hadi, an independent candidate for the Dhaka-8 seat, was shot in the head at close range by masked gunmen on a motorcycle.

Sharif Osman Hadi, a 32-year-old radical activist and spokesperson for Inqilab Mancha, died in

his death led to attacks, including arson at The Daily Star and Prothom Alo offices, and heightened tensions with India. The interim government, led by Muhammad Yunus, announced a national day of mourning while Hadi, an independent candidate,

was known for his anti-India rhetoric and calls to ban the Awami League.

Switch To Shorts Who Sharif Osman Hadi Radical Bangladesh Leader Killed By Masked Men

Photo courtesy: Facebook account

The news of his death sparked immediate and coordinated attacks across the capital. In a significant escalation, mobs targeted the offices of the country's leading secular newspapers, The Daily Star and Prothom Alo. Protesters vandalized the buildings and set parts of The Daily Star office on fire, trapping at least 25 journalists who had to be rescued by the army and firefighters after a four-hour standoff.

17-Year-Old Student Sexually Abused, Blackmailed With Videos For Several Months; Three Held in Magadi

(Gns). Police in Magadi have arrested three men in connection with the alleged sexual assault and online blackmail of a 17-year-old college student, in a case that investigators say involved months of intimidation, abuse and exploitation.

The accused, identified as Vikas (25), Prashant (19) and Chetan (28), are currently in custody. Police said the incident came to light after the teenager approached her family earlier this week, unable to endure the alleged harassment any longer.

Magadi police arrested three men, Vikas (25), Prashant (19), and Chetan (28), for allegedly sexually assaulting and online blackmailing a 17-year-old college student. The victim

reported the incident, involving months of abuse and exploitation, leading to the arrests under the

helped establish trust. Investigators allege that Vikas promised to marry the teenager, drawing her



Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, as confirmed by Srinivas Gowda, Superintendent of Police for Bengaluru South.

According to the police, the victim first became acquainted with Vikas around eight months ago. The two lived in the same locality and belonged to the same community, which

into a relationship under false pretences.

In September, Vikas allegedly invited the student to his house in Magadi, where he is accused of sexually assaulting her. Police said the act was secretly recorded on his mobile phone without the victim's knowledge, creat-

ing material that would later be used to threaten and control her.

The situation reportedly escalated in October. Police allege that Vikas used the video to blackmail the teenager, forcing her to return to his residence by threatening to make the footage public. During that visit, investigators say she was gang-raped by Vikas along with Prashant and Chetan.

Police further allege that the assault was recorded and that the explicit content was circulated digitally. When the teenager later resisted further demands, Vikas allegedly sent the video to her through social media as a direct threat, intensifying the pressure and fear of public humiliation.

Parliament Passes VB-G RAM G Bill; Oppn Cries Foul & Sits On Dharna

(Gns). Parliament on Thursday passed the Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) Bill (VB-G RAM G), a landmark legislation that seeks to replace the 20-year-old Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA). The new scheme promises 125 days of rural wage employment annually, but its passage was marred by loud protests, walkouts, and accusations from opposition parties.

The Bill was first cleared in the Lok Sabha after an eight-hour debate and later passed in the Rajya Sabha through a voice vote. Opposition members strongly objected to the removal of Mahatma

Gandhi's name from the existing scheme and accused the government of

the removal of Mahatma Gandhi's name; Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan



shifting financial responsibility onto the states.

Parliament passed the Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) Bill (VB-G RAM G), replacing MGNREGA, promising 125 days of rural wage employment, amid opposition protests and accusations regarding financial responsibility and

The Rajya Sabha witnessed chaotic scenes as several opposition MPs tore pages of the Bill and staged a walkout.

Chairman C. P. Radhakrishnan warned members against approaching the treasury benches amid the uproar. Following the walkout, opposition parties sat on a

dharna outside Samvidhan Sadan, pledging to launch a nationwide agitation against the legislation.

The Trinamool Congress (TMC) announced a 12-hour protest on the Parliament stairs, while other opposition leaders demanded that the Bill be referred to a parliamentary committee for further scrutiny.

Union Rural Development Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, who piloted the Bill, defended the move, arguing that MGNREGA had "outlived its utility" and was plagued by corruption during the UPA regime. He accused the Congress of repeatedly "killing Gandhi's ideals" and using his name for electoral gains.

Bangladesh urges citizens to 'resist mob violence', condemns lynching of Hindu man

(Gns). The interim government of Bangladesh, led by Mohammad Yunus, on Friday unequivocally condemned the violence witnessed in the country following the death of Sharif Osman Hadi, a key Inqilab Mancha movement leader. Hadi was shot in the head earlier this month by assailants during an election campaign event and died at a hospital in Singapore while undergoing treatment.

The interim government issued a statement after a night of violence that targeted Indian missions, media offices, and press people, and political leaders, calling on the citizens of the country "to resist all forms of mob violence".

said the mob violence was led by a few "fringe elements" who also targeted Sheikh Mujib's residence-turned-museum.



"We strongly and unequivocally condemn all acts of violence, intimidation, arson, and destruction of properties," the government statement read.

It added that the country was going through a "critical moment" and its citizens must not allow "it to

be derailed by those few who thrive on chaos and reject peace".

The interim government further said that the upcoming

came out in support of "journalists of The Daily Star, Prothom Alo and New Age" who were targeted during the mob violence.

The Yunus government also condemned the lynching of a Hindu man in Mymensingh, stating that "there is no space for such violence in new Bangladesh".

It may be noted that in the middle of the ongoing anti-India protests, a mob attacked and lynched a young Hindu man in Bhaluka Upazila of Mymensingh district. The factory worker was targeted after allegations spread that he had insulted Islam. According to local media reports, the body of 30-year-old Dipu Chandra Das was later set afire by the mob.

ing February elections and referendum are "inseparable from the dream" of Sharif Osman Hadi, and "honoring his sacrifice and memory demands restraint, responsibility, and abiding commitment to reject hatred".

The government also

Tribal MPs Join Hands under Jual Oram's Leadership to Accelerate Tribal Development Nationwide

(Gns). Union Minister for Tribal Affairs Shri Jual Oram on Thursday led a high-level interaction with Tribal Members of Parliament and Ministers, highlighting the collective resolve of elected tribal leadership to fast-track the holistic development of India's tribal communities under the leadership of PM Shri Narendra Modi.

Reading out a detailed statement, Shri Oram underscored that the interaction reflected a shared responsibility and unified approach towards inclusion, empowerment, and dignity of tribal citizens, in alignment with the national vision of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayas. He emphasized that Tribal MPs play a crucial role not

only in policy advocacy but also in ensuring effective implementation and last-mile delivery of welfare initiatives.

The Minister outlined key national programmes such as PM-JANMAN, Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan, Eklavya Model Residential Schools, and strengthened implementation of the Forest Rights Act, which are collectively transforming tribal and PVTG-dominated regions through saturation-based development. Major gains in housing, drinking water, electrification, healthcare outreach, education, livelihoods, and cultural preservation were highlighted.

Special emphasis was laid on quality residential

education for tribal children, elimination of Sickle Cell Disease, expansion of livelihood opportunities through Van Dhan initiatives, and community



empowerment through forest rights recognition.

The interaction reaffirmed the collective endeavor of Tribal MPs, guided by the Union Government, to ensure inclusive growth, social justice, and sustainable development for tribal communities across the country.

Minister of State Tribal Affairs Shri. Durgadas Uikey, Smt. Savitri Thakur-Dhar (MP), Shri Patel Umeshbhai Babubhai-Daman & Diu, Shri Sukhdeo Bhagat-Jharkhand, Shri Rajkumar Roat-Rajasthan, Shri Manoj Tigga- West Bengal, Shri Amarsing Tisso-Assam, Shri Pradeep Purohit-(Bargarh) Odisha, Shri Balabhadra Majhi-(Nabrangpur) Odisha, Shri Naba Charan Majhi-(Mayurbhanj) Odisha, Smt. Malvika Devi-(Kalahandi) Odisha. Besides it was attended by the Secretary Tribal Affairs Smt. Ranjana Choppra, Joint Secretary Shri. Anant Prakash Pandey, Additional Secretary Shri. Manish Thakur, Commissioner NESTS Shri Ajit Kumar Srivastav.

Deepika, Aryan Khan, Saif Ali Khan: Bollywood's Most Talked-About Controversies This Year

(Gns). Bollywood has spent much of 2025 battling courtroom disputes, safety scares, political arguments and viral online storms. The Hindi film industry has repeatedly stayed in the news, not only for releases, but for controversies involving several leading names. Together, these flashpoints have raised questions about creative freedom, workplace expectations, security for public figures and the intense gaze of social media in India.

From Deepika Padukone's project exits and Aryan Khan's legal trouble to Saif Ali Khan's stabbing and Diljit Dosanjh's casting row, many incidents have dominated headlines. Added to that are inheritance claims

around Karisma Kapoor's children, a social media stir involving Virat Kohli, and sharp comments by Jaya Bachchan, all shaping pub-

Karisma Kapoor's children, and social media reactions to Virat Kohli's actions, shaping public debate. These incidents sparked



lic debate around Bollywood's 2025.

In 2025, Bollywood faced controversies involving Deepika Padukone's work-life balance, Saif Ali Khan's stabbing, Aryan Khan's legal issues, Diljit Dosanjh's casting, inheritance claims around

discussion on creative freedom and workplace expectations, and brought scrutiny to the industry.

Deepika Padukone has reportedly stepped away from Sandeep Reddy Vanga's Prabhas-starrer Spirit, and Triptii Dimri has taken the role. Reports

have said Deepika and the team disagreed over an eight-hour workday, profit sharing and dates. The decision followed Deepika's wish to prioritise motherhood after welcoming a daughter in 2024, and Deepika also later exited the Kalki 2898 AD sequel for similar reasons.

Neither Deepika nor Sandeep Reddy Vanga has issued a formal statement, yet discussions around the exit have grown. Many conversations have focused on how film schedules affect new parents, particularly women returning to demanding sets. The Spirit episode has therefore fed a larger conversation within Bollywood about work-life balance, contracts and flexibility in 2025.

Red Fort Blast Case: NIA Custody Extended For Dr Bilal Naseer Malla

(Gns). A Delhi court has extended the National Investigation Agency custody of Dr Bilal Naseer Malla, an accused in the Red Fort blast case, by seven days. In the same proceedings, the court sent Faridabad resident Soyab to five days of judicial custody in connection with the investigation.

Both accused were brought to Patiala House Court under tight security after their earlier four-day NIA custody, granted on December 15, ended. Media personnel were not allowed inside the courtroom, and the hearing took place behind closed doors.

A Delhi court extended the National Investigation Agency (NIA) custody of Dr.

Bilal Naseer Malla for seven days and sent Faridabad resident Soyab

gious preacher. The accused appeared before Principal and



to five days of judicial custody in connection with the Red Fort blast case. The NIA alleges Soyab provided logistical support to Umar-un-Nabi, who allegedly drove the explosive-laden car, and the investigation involves nine other arrested individuals, including doctors and a reli-

Sessions Judge Anju Bajaj Chandna, who permitted the agency to continue questioning Dr Bilal Naseer Malla for another week. The judge ordered that Soyab remain in judicial custody until December 24, shifting responsibility for Soyab from investigators to jail authorities.

An NIA spokesperson had earlier stated that Soyab, a resident of Dhaui in Haryana's Faridabad district, was arrested for allegedly extending logistical support to "terrorist" Umar-un-Nabi ahead of the Delhi terror bomb blast. The agency claims this support formed a crucial link in the build-up to the attack.

Dr Naseer Bilal Malla was arrested in Delhi on December 9, with the NIA describing Malla as a key figure in the conspiracy. Investigators allege Malla knowingly sheltered Umar-un-Nabi, arranged logistics, and later helped destroy evidence linked to the terrorist attack near the Red Fort.

Western Railway Observes Energy Conservation Week to Promote Sustainable Practices

(Gns). Railways' is taking significant steps to promote sustainability across its network, reinforcing its commitment to energy conservation and environmental responsibility in today's rapidly evolving world.

Continuing with this trend, Western Railway observed Energy Conservation Week from 08 th to 14 th December 2025 on the occasion of National Energy Conservation Day, which is celebrated every year on 14 th December, with the aim of creating awareness about energy conservation and highlighting the initiatives undertaken by Western Railway.

Western Railway Observes Energy Conservation Week to Promote Sustainable

Practices Shri Vivek Kumar Gupta - General Manager of Western Railway is seen

December 8th to 14th, 2025, in line with National Energy Conservation Day, conducting awareness pro-



along with Shri Pradeep Kumar - AdditionalGeneral Manager and Shri Rajnish Kumar Goyal - Principal Chief Electrical Engineer.

Western Railway observed Energy Conservation Week from

grams across divisions and workshops; Shri Vivek Kumar Gupta, General Manager, chaired a seminar highlighting sustainable energy usage and felicitated officials for energy conservation efforts.

According to a press release issued by Chief Public Relations Officer of Western Railway, Shri Vineet Abhishek, throughout the week-long observance, a variety of energy conservation awareness programs were conducted across all six Divisions, five Workshops and in the Western Railway Headquarters. These initiatives included seminars, distribution of pamphlets, public announcements at railway stations, SMS alerts, display of banners etc. Participative activities such as essay writing and painting competitions were also part of the celebration with the objective of sensitizing railway staff as well as the public about the importance of energy conservation.

Naqaab controversy turns into political slugfest in Kashmir after PDP leader seeks FIR against Bihar CM

(Gns). A political slugfest erupted in Kashmir on Friday after the PDP leader Iltija Mufti moved a police complaint seeking an FIR against Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar over the alleged removal of a Muslim woman's naqaab. The move immediately drew a counterattack from the ruling National Conference, with party spokesperson Imran Nabi Dar accusing Mufti of selective outrage and political grandstanding, turning the issue of women's dignity into a partisan battleground.

Dar asked Iltija to seek similar legal action against her own mother for an alleged similar incident of 2004. He said justice must remain blind to personal and political ties.

Earlier, PDP leader Iltija Mufti lodged a complaint at the Kothi Bagh Police Station, seeking registration of an FIR against Nitish Kumar for "violating the dignity of a Muslim woman by forcibly removing her naqaab".

However, there was no word from the police on whether an FIR has been registered against Nitish or

not. "I'm writing to bring to your attention a vile incident which has caused



immense distress and hurt among Muslims, especially women. A few days ago, we watched with shock, horror and worry as Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar pulled down the naqaab' of a young Muslim doctor in full public glare at a government function," Iltija said in her complaint to the SHO.

She added that what made "matters worse was the unsettling reaction of the people around, including the deputy chief minister, who chuckled and watched with glee".

"The forceful stripping of her 'naqaab' wasn't just a brutal assault on a Muslim lady but on the autonomy,

identity and dignity of every Indian woman," she said.

The incident, a video clip of which has been cir-

"BJP ministers and the men in power are justifying Kumar's indecency. On the contrary, they are condoning and celebrating it. I am sure you will agree that the rule of law must be applied uniformly and unequivocally to every Indian citizen".

"Being a chief minister doesn't exonerate an individual just because he enjoys political power and patronage," Iltija said, and urged police to immediately file an FIR against Kumar.

Meanwhile, PDP President Mehbooba Mufti strongly criticised Union Minister Giriraj Singh over his recent statement, alleging it has created an atmosphere of hate and harmed social harmony. She welcomed the FIR lodged by PDP leader Iltija Mufti against Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, saying it reflects the party's commitment to accountability through legal and democratic means.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah yesterday said "An India where an elected Chief Minister can pull off the face covering of a young woman on a whim and not face any blowback. It is deeply distressing. Nobody should do that".

Dr. Vishal Singh (Food Man) organized a party full of affection. Many great personalities arrived with Aina family

Lucknow, Dr. Vishal Singh, the sevadar who has created a distinct identity in many countries of the world including India, famous by the name of Food Man, who provides food to the poor, the hungry and the family members, who has helped selfless people during the Corona period, Dr. Vishal Singh, while leaving today, organized a song, ghazal and spiritual food at his place on the occasion of the year, in which Aina family along with PMWJ National President Aziz Siddiqui, N Alam, Jamil Malik, Sarfaraz Zahid, National Patron of Aina family Dr. Mohammad Kamran, State President Paramjit Singh, Women's Cell President Gurmeet Kaur, Accredited Correspondent Committee Joint Secretary Anil Saini, members Renu Nigam, Sarvjeet Kaur, Hemant Chandani and dozens of journalist servants and many great personalities

participated. Like Vishal Singh, a few months ago, while returning from Ujjain after visiting Mahakal, Dr. Vishal Singh

During the meeting, a formal invitation was also given to Dr. Vishal Singh (Foodman) to be honored under the prestigious "Atal

unforgettable event.

Amidst the mutual dialogue, intimacy and cordial atmosphere regarding the program, the Aina family



met with a terrible accident in which there was no hope of his survival, but due to the blessings received from a kind hearted person and the help of the poor, he has conquered death and is present among us today. Aina family representative and service partner Dr. Vishal Singh (Food Man) reached the event and wished good health and long life to Aina family.

Samman" program being organized by Aina Parivar. On this occasion, Bhair Noor enthralled the audience with his songs. Everyone participated enthusiastically in the event with great enthusiasm and gaiety. The guests present in the program created a colorful atmosphere. Everyone tasted the wonderful Chokha Baati along with many dishes in an

members shared light moments with good wishes, due to which the atmosphere remained positive and enthusiastic.

Dr. Vishal Singh (Food Man) expressed his gratitude towards Aina family and said that service, compassion and social cooperation only empower the society.

, Ajay Kumar Verma, National President Aina

District Judge, DM-SSP inspected the District Jail

Mathura.The district jail was inspected by District Judge Vikas Kumar, Additional District Judge Pratham Ram Kishore Pandey, Additional District Judge/Secretary District Legal Services Authority Surendra Prasad, Chief Judicial Magistrate Utsav Gaurav Raj, District Magistrate Chandra Prakash Singh, Senior Superintendent of Police Shlok Kumar. He took stock of the barracks, kitchen, hospital etc. He checked the quality of the food. He talked to the prisoners present in the barracks, took information about the problems of the prisoners and gave instructions to the officers to solve them. He



District Judge Vikas Kumar, Additional District Judge Pratham Ram Kishore Pandey, Additional District Judge/Secretary District Legal Services Authority Surendra Prasad, Chief Judicial Magistrate Utsav Gaurav Raj, District Magistrate Chandra Prakash Singh, Senior Superintendent of Police Shlok Kumar while inspecting.

distributed fruits, chips, the women's barrack. He chocolates, biscuits etc. inspected the arrangements for health, safety, the children. He inspected

cleanliness etc. and gave necessary directions to the officials. After inspection of the District Jail, District Judge Vikas Kumar, Additional District Judge Pratham Ram Kishore Pandey, Additional District Judge/Secretary District Legal Services Authority Surendra Prasad, Chief Judicial Magistrate Shri Utsav Gaurav Raj, District Magistrate Chandra Prakash Singh, Senior Superintendent of Police Shlok Kumar, District Probation Officer Vikas Chandra inspected the Government Observation Home (Kishore).He took stock of the security arrangements. He inspected the basic facilities.

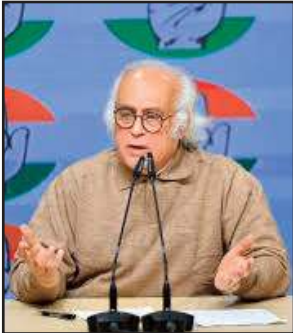
Congress vows to fight "assault" on rural job guarantee scheme

(Gns). The Congress Party Friday launched a sharp offensive against the newly-passed Viksit Bharat - Guarantee for Rozgar - Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) Bill, 2025 (VB-G RAM G), labeling the replacement of the MGNREGA with the new legislation a direct insult to India's founding icons.

The legislation cleared Parliament early Friday

after a contentious session in the Rajya Sabha, where Opposition protests failed to stall the Bill's passage.

The VB-G RAM G legislation restructures the funding pattern of the existing Mahatma



National Rural Employment

Guarantee Act.

While MGNREGA currently has the Central government covering full wage costs, up to 75% of material costs, and some administrative expenses, with states contributing the rest along with unemployment allowance

and delay compensation, the new bill designates the scheme as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme. Under this, the Central and state governments will share the costs in a 60:40 ratio (90:10 for North-eastern and Himalayan states), with states required to cover any expenditure beyond their normative allocations determined annually by the central government.

41 Maoists surrender in Telangana

(Gns). In another setback to the banned CPI (Maoist), a total of 41 underground cadres, including six senior leaders, along with their arms, surrendered before the Director General of Police, B Shivadhar Reddy, in Telangana. According to the police, the cadres decided to join the mainstream after the CPI (Maoist) leadership deployed them in unfamiliar terrain outside Chhattisgarh, posing logistical problems and mobility constraints.

The DGP said the surrender with arms would lead to significant erosion of organisational strength, morale, and leadership credibility of the CPI

(Maoists). The cadres surrendered with the 24 firearms, including an INSAS Light Machine Gun (LMG), three

.303 rifles, one single-shot rifle and two air guns. They also handed over 24 firearms and 733 live rounds of ammunition, and



AK-47 rifles, five SLR rifles, seven INSAS rifles, a barrel-launched grenade launcher (BGL gun, four

eight BGL shells. Several of the surrendered Maoists carried rewards on their heads. The total amount of

rewards that will be disbursed is Rs 1.46 crore.

In the press statement, the police stated, "The CPI(Maoist) leadership has been arbitrarily deploying cadres to unfamiliar and distant areas without their consent, often to regions where they lack basic geographical knowledge and local support. This has resulted in serious mobility constraints and acute logistical difficulties, including a shortage of essential day-to-day necessities. Such conditions have caused growing frustration and hardship among the cadres, compelling many to disengage from the CPI (Maoist) organisation and choose to return to the mainstream of society."

Punjab sets new benchmarks in social security and inclusive governance

(Gns). Under the leadership of Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann, the Punjab Government continues to implement people-centric policies aimed at ensuring the welfare of every section of society.

During the year 2025, several landmark initiatives have been undertaken to strengthen the social and economic security of senior citizens, women, children and Persons with Disabilities. This was stated by Social Security, Women and Child Development Minister Dr Baljit Kaur.

Dr Kaur said that a budget provision of ₹6,175 crore was made under Social Security

Schemes during 2025, out of which ₹4,683.94 crore has already been released up to November 2025 towards old age pension and other financial assistance schemes.

She informed that 35,29,216 beneficiaries are presently receiving continuous financial assistance, reflecting the

Punjab Government's commitment to building a strong and reliable social security framework.

Highlighting the government's resolve to eradicate child begging, the Minister said that Project JIWANJYOT has been launched, under which special enforcement drives are conducted across all districts during the second week of every month. Further strengthening



Statewide initiative across 25 districts to promote youth entrepreneurship

The Invincible Bharat 5.0 -Uttar Pradesh Mukhyamantri Yuva Udyami Yatra will commence from Lucknow on January 24 with the objective of strengthening the on-ground implementation of creating entrepreneurs in support with the Chief Minister Yuva Udyami Vikas Abhiyan (CM YUVA Mission) and enabling trained yet unemployed youth to take up entrepreneurship. The Yatra will cover 25 districts across Uttar Pradesh, along with selected academic and institutional centres in Delhi, creating a direct bridge

between youth, government support systems, financial institutions and market opportunities.

practical execution platform, where young aspirants can complete the entire process of starting a business at a

for preparing Detailed Project Reports (DPRs), filing applications in real time on the CM YUVA portal, and establishing direct credit linkages with banks and NBFCs, District Industries Centres, financial institutions and franchise partners will engage directly with youth at every stop of the Yatra.

Covering nearly 2,500 kilometres, the Yatra will organise a two-day programme in each of the 25 districts. Every district event will feature a Kaushal Mela, multi-sector skill and career pavilions, on-the-spot skill registrations.



Invincible Bharat 5.0 - Uttar Pradesh Mukhyamantri Yuva Udyami Yatra' to Begin from Lucknow

The initiative has been designed not just as an awareness drive, but as a

single location. Through this Yatra, participants will receive on-the-spot support



Jio Air Fiber



Jio Tv +



Jio Fiber



Daily Hunt



ebaba Tv



Dish Plus



DTH live OTT



Rock TV



Airtel



Amezone Fire



Rocu Tv-US.UK

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