



IN BRIEF

Blast in a moving bike...

Young man's legs blown to shreds, death: Was carrying explosives in Sehore, motorcycle burnt to ashes



Sehore(GNS): A moving bike exploded in Sehore. A young man's legs were blown to pieces, and he died on the spot. The bike was completely burned to ashes. The incident occurred on Sunday morning near Ramnagar village on the Ichhawar-Ashta road.

According to reports, Sukhram Barela (30), a resident of Jamli, worked as a well blaster. On Sunday morning, he was traveling to Ramnagar on his bike (MP37 MN 4489) carrying a large quantity of detonators.

Lockheed Martin pitches C-130Js as 'best' choice for IAF's tactical airlift requirement, plans production hub in India



New Delhi(GNS): As India prepares to procure up to 80 military transport planes, US aerospace major Lockheed Martin has pitched its C-130J Super Hercules as the best choice and said an additional fleet of the aircraft will provide it a "stronger" heft for tactical airlift among the Quad nations.

If Lockheed Martin gets the opportunity, then it will set up a mega hub in India to produce the "iconic" aircraft and it will be the first such global facility outside of the US, top officials of the company told PTI.

To date, Lockheed Martin has delivered more than 560 aircraft from the C-130J Super Hercules family, which have accumulated more than three million flight hours. The leading tactical airlift has been serving 28 operators in 23 nations.

The Indian Air Force (IAF) currently operates 12 C-130Js. Alongside the standard transport variant, Lockheed Martin offers multiple specialised configurations of the C-130J which enable the aircraft to perform intelligence, electronic warfare, special forces support, search and rescue and command roles. Besides India, the three other Quad member nations - the US, Australia and Japan; have been operating C-130Js. "The C-130J Super Hercules offers superior performance and capabilities for every theatre of operations. This aircraft will be the best option for India," Patricia Trish Pagan, Vice President, Air Mobility and Maritime Missions at Lockheed Martin, said.



In Mann Ki Baat, the PM listed the achievements of 2025:

Said – Operation Sindoor became the pride of the country, now we are ready to move forward with new hopes

year of proud milestones for India. Whether it was national security, sports, scientific innovation, or the world's largest platforms, India's influence was visible everywhere. "Apart from this, PM Modi expressed his views on sports, Vande Mataram, space, Mahakumbh, Ram temple and 77th Republic Day.

Earlier, the 128th episode of Mann Ki Baat was broadcast on November 30. In it, the PM mentioned the progress of sports in India, winter tourism, Vocal for Local, and the Kashi-Tamil Sangamam to be held in Varanasi.

New Delhi(GNS): In the 129th episode of Mann Ki Baat, Prime Minister Narendra Modi discussed the country's achievements in 2025. In the final episode of 2025, he also discussed the challenges, possibilities, and developments of the new year 2026.

The PM said, "2025 was a

The PM also said these things in the 129th episode of Mann Ki Baat...

- The year 2026 is just around the corner, And as I speak to you, memories of an entire year are flashing through my mind – many pictures, many discussions, many achievements that brought the nation together.
- The year 2025 gave us many moments that every Indian could be proud of. From national security to the sports field, from science laboratories to the world's biggest stages, India made a strong impression everywhere.
- This year, "Operation Sindoor" became a symbol of pride for every Indian. The world clearly saw that today's India does not compromise on its security.
- People's enthusiasm for Swadeshi has also been evident. People are buying products that are tinged with the sweat of an Indian and carry the fragrance of Indian soil. Today, we can proudly say that 2025 has given India even more confidence.
- It's also true that this year we faced natural disasters in many areas. Now, the country is ready to move forward in 2026 with new hopes and new resolutions.

PM expresses concern over increasing use of antibiotics

The PM said that the ICMR recently reported that medicines are proving ineffective

for diseases like pneumonia and UTI. This is due to the reckless use of medicines. Nowadays, people are using antibiotics. They think that if

they take a pill, the illness will go away. I urge everyone to avoid taking medicines on their own. Use them only after consulting a doctor.

Aravalli dispute:

Supreme Court takes suo motu cognizance, hearing today

Hills higher than 100 meters should be considered Aravalli, this decision is being opposed



New Delhi(GNS): The controversy surrounding the Aravalli mountain range has once again reached the Supreme Court. The new definition, which defines hills as those 100 meters or more above the ground, is being opposed. The Supreme Court has now taken suo motu cognizance of the matter. A vacation bench headed

Bharat and Mission Indradhanush, we have recorded a 97 per cent reduction in malaria cases and we will be almost free from malaria in a short time. The government has been able to bring down mortality rate in dengue to just 1 per cent. There has been a 25 per cent reduction in maternal mortality," he said. "From Rs 37,000 crore in 2014, the Centre's health budget now stands at Rs 1.28 lakh crore under

Prime Minister Narendra Modi. All these achievements happen when schemes are implemented on the ground. Work has

by Chief Justice Surya Kant will hear the case on Monday. The bench will also include Justices JK Maheshwari and Augustine George Masih.

This case is listed number five in the CJ's vacation court. All eyes are now on this Supreme Court hearing, where new directives may be issued to the central and state governments.

also been done to bring about unprecedented changes in the health of citizens," Shah added. He told doctors the efforts they were taking should be aligned with this infrastructure and scheme to ensure better results. The role of doctors and IMA has become more important today because the country needs a "healthy demography" to realise PM Modi's vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047, Shah said.

President Murmu sailed on the submarine INS Vagsheer:

The second President to do so; Dr. Kalam had previously sailed on a submarine



Karwar(GNS): President Draupadi Murmu on Sunday embarked on a submarine at the Karwar Naval Base in Karnataka. Navy Chief Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi accompanied the President on board the Kalvari-class submarine INS Vagsheer.

This is President Murmu's first voyage aboard a Kalvari-class submarine and the second by any President. Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam was the first President to travel aboard a submarine. Kalam traveled aboard a submarine in February 2006.

The President arrived on board the submarine wearing a naval uniform.

The President has also flown in fighter planes: Draupadi Murmu is also the first President of India to fly two fighter aircraft of the Indian Air Force. President Murmu flew a Rafale from the Ambala Air Force Station on October 29. Her pilot was Squadron Leader Shivangi Singh.

With 97% drop in cases, India to eradicate malaria in short time: Amit Shah

New Delhi(GNS): Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday said India has recorded a 97 per cent reduction in malaria cases and the country will be free of the disease in a "short time". He was addressing the 'All India Medical Conference - IMA NATCON 2025' of the Indian Medical Association (IMA) in Shela here.

"Thanks to various healthcare-related schemes like Ayushman

Bharat and Mission Indradhanush, we have recorded a 97 per cent reduction in malaria cases and we will be almost free from malaria in a short time. The government has been able to bring down mortality rate in dengue to just 1 per cent. There has been a 25 per cent reduction in maternal mortality," he said. "From Rs 37,000 crore in 2014, the Centre's health budget now stands at Rs 1.28 lakh crore under

search underway for 30-35 Pakistani terrorists



to hide in the middle and upper mountainous areas, away from populated areas.

Sources told that the army has established temporary bases, observation posts, and patrol

grids and has begun regular patrols in the high hills, forests, and valleys. Previously, terrorist activity decreased during the winter, but now the army has adopted a proactive winter strategy.

Temperatures reached 0°C in Kashmir and 2.1°C in Sikar Rajasthan. Visibility was zero in Amritsar and Jalandhar

the jet stream reached 262 kmph, adding to the chill

New Delhi(GNS): On Sunday, Fatehpur in Rajasthan's Sikar district recorded a temperature of 2.1 degrees, Karauli 2.4 degrees, Sikar 3.5 degrees, Pali 3.6 degrees and Dausa 3.9 degrees.

Severe cold conditions prevailed in Punjab and Haryana. Hisar recorded a low of 2.5 degrees Celsius. Faridkot, Punjab, recorded 3.4 degrees Celsius. Patiala 4.6 degrees Celsius, and Amritsar-Ludhiana 4.4 degrees Celsius. The plains of North India are affected by the jet stream. These are winds blowing at an altitude of 12.6 kilometers above the ground. This time, their speed has reached 262 kilometers per hour. According to the Meteorological Department, there will be a drop in temperature in Jammu and Kashmir, Delhi, Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh for the next 5 days.



Robotics and Artificial Intelligence in Modern Life

Sanjay Goswami

The book, titled "Theory of Robotics," is Sanjay Goswami's original work. It attempts to impart knowledge about robot engineering in simple and understandable language. The health of the highly sensitive machine within humans can be protected and nurtured through this process. How robots will be able to perform like

humans in the future remains a challenge. This book contains material about robots that provides a valuable education for readers, especially new science readers. The idea behind the book is to help readers better understand robotics and, as citizens of a great nation, utilize it in modern life, including medicine, nuclear power, agriculture, and defense.

The book's language is so simple that even less educated readers can read and understand it well. The book also includes illustrations. This book provides comprehensive knowledge about robotics, perfect for science students and engineers. The book's primary purpose is to develop analytical and logical thinking skills, including using robotics kits, and to impart

personal scientific knowledge. The author has written this book in memory of his brother-in-law, the late Anil Kumar Goswami, who passed away suddenly from COVID-19 on April 22nd. We hope readers will read the book with great interest, encourage others to read it, and benefit greatly from it. Book price: ₹50 only. Artificial intelligence is a branch of computer sci-

ence based on the concept of computers behaving like humans. Its founder is John McCarthy. It refers to the ability of machines to perform cognitive tasks such as thinking, understanding, learning, problem-solving, and decision-making. Research on artificial intelligence began in the 1950s. Artificial intelligence refers to artificially developed intellectual abilities. This approach involves creating computer systems or robotic systems that attempt to operate using the same logic as the human brain. AI works on concepts like fully reactive, limited memory, brain theory and self-consciousness. Information on all these topics is given in the book. The price of the book is only ₹70, less than the cost price.

Editorial

On India and child marriages

India has committed to end child marriage by 2030 through the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), and while it has made comprehensive strides, there are still miles to go to achieve the target. The Union government recently marked the first anniversary of its Bal Vivah Mukt Bharat Abhiyan with a 100-day awareness campaign for a country free of child marriage. It is a fact that child marriages have been consistently dropping, from 47.4% in 2005-06 to 23.3% in 2019-21, according to National Family Health Survey (NFHS) data. But in a diverse country of a population of 146 crore, the ground reality is that progress is varied and uneven across States and socio-economic demographics. While the highest child marriage rates among women aged 18 to 29 years are prevalent in West Bengal, Bihar and Tripura, States such as Jharkhand, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan are not far behind. There is a direct co-relation between child marriage, poverty and education, as the UN Population Fund's analysis of NFHS data shows. While 40% of girls from the lowest quintile of the household wealth index married before they became adults, in comparison to just 8% of those from the highest quintile, 48% of girls with no education were married below 18 years in comparison to only 4% among those with higher education.

The Aravalli mountain range, even older than India itself, has been plunged into crisis by a Supreme Court order, sparking nationwide protests. The sacrifice of the Aravalli mountain range, which is highly significant from scientific, geographical, social, and religious perspectives, has been averted for the time being. The central government has completely banned new mining leases, assuring them that the range's existence will not be compromised. However, the crisis is far from over. People will have to continue their protests until this temporary ban is made permanent. However, the decision has also been challenged in the Supreme Court, and BP Gautam discusses this issue...

BP Gautam

This is the case

The Forest Survey of India (FSI) had stated in 2010 that only those mountains would be considered in the Aravalli mountain range whose slope is more than three degrees, the height should be above 100 meters and the distance between two hills should be 500 meters. However, even many high hills did not meet these standards, after which the Supreme Court formed another committee comprising representatives of the Ministry of Environment, FSI, State Forest Departments, Geological Survey of India (GSI) and its own committee, this committee was given the responsibility of defining the Aravalli mountain range, in this sequence the Supreme Court accepted the report of the committee on 20 November 2025. However, the amicus curiae appointed by the court, Parmeshwara objected, arguing that this definition was too narrow and that all hills less than 100 meters in height would be eligible for mining, impacting the entire range. Additional Solicitor General Aishwarya Bhati argued that the FSI's old



standards exclude a large area of the Aravalli mountain range from the definition of mountain. Therefore, the committee's argument for considering hills above 100 meters as mountain ranges is much better. After hearing these arguments, the Supreme Court directed the development of a comprehensive management plan for the Aravalli mountain range. This plan will pre-determine areas where mining will be completely prohibited, as well as identify areas where only limited or regular mining will be permitted. The court has currently maintained the ban on granting new mining leases. Notably, the Committee found that Rajasthan had a standing rule since 2006, stating that landforms 100 meters or higher would be considered hilly, and mining within that minimum limit would be prohibited. Using this rule as a basis, the Committee directed all other states to adopt it. The Supreme Court, while approving the Committee's recommendation, maintained a complete ban on mining in and around core and non-destructive areas, protected areas, eco-sensitive zones, tiger reserves, and wetlands. The Supreme Court also stated that no new mining leases would be granted in the Aravalli mountain range until a sustainable mining management plan is developed by the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education.

Ban imposed until mapping is done

In March 2025, the committee clarified that mining in environmentally

sensitive areas should be completely stopped. It also proposed stricter regulations on stone crushing units. The committee stated that no new mining leases should be granted or old leases renewed until a complete mapping of the Aravalli mountain range and impact reports are completed in all states. Green Wall Project launched

The central government launched the Green Wall project in June 2025. Under this, a five-kilometer forest area will be created around these mountains in 29 districts of four states falling in the Aravalli mountain range, which will act as a buffer, this will help in rejuvenating 26 million hectares of degraded land by 2030. Ashok Gehlot started the campaign

When the Supreme Court order was made public, environmentalists and the opposition launched protests. A "Save the Aravalli" campaign began nationwide on social media. In Rajasthan, the campaign is being led by former Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot. He stated that scientifically, the Aravalli range is a continuous chain, with its smaller hills being as important as its larger peaks.

Sacrifice of Aravali averted

Compromise with 'Haram' in search of foreign currency Pakistan's helplessness, policy failure and faltering economy

Kantilal Mandot

When decisions regarding alcohol begin to change in countries known for Islamic values, strict religious laws, and social restrictions, it signals not just a policy shift but a deep economic crisis. Recently, Saudi Arabia's limited alcohol consumption by non-Muslims, and now Pakistan's permission to export alcohol to its historic Murree Brewery, are part of this trend. As historic as these decisions are, they also reflect Pakistan's helplessness and economic distress.

Pakistan's Shahbaz Sharif government has lifted the export ban on Murree Brewery after nearly fifty years, allowing it to sell its products in the international market. Established in 1860 during British rule, Murree Brewery is Pakistan's oldest brewing company. In a Muslim-majority country, where alcohol is considered haram and there are legal and social restrictions on its consumption and sale, the company's decades-long survival is remarkable. Now, its granting of an export license reflects the extent of economic pressure Pakistan is facing. Ifsang Bhandara, head of Murree Brewery, says that both his grandfather and father attempted to obtain permission to export alcohol, but the governments of the time backed down due to religious and political pressure. Today, the same government, the same state apparatus, desperately in need of foreign currency, is opening the way for the sale of this "haram" product on the international market. This is not a contradiction but a compulsion of Pakistan's ailing economy. Pakistan is currently facing a deep economic crisis. Foreign exchange reserves are under constant pressure. Imports are increasing, while export capacity is becoming limited. Efforts are being made to shore up the economy with the help of loans from the IMF, credit from China, and

temporary relief from Gulf countries. In such a situation, the government is considering every avenue to raise dollars. The decision to export alcohol is a result of this thinking. This issue isn't limited to alcohol; it also tells the story of Pakistan's policy failures. For years, the country was portrayed as a "religious state." Policies were decided in the name of faith, but economic reforms, industrial development, education, and human resources weren't given the necessary attention. As a result, Pakistan today has only a handful of export products. The textile industry is in crisis. Agricultural production is struggling with inflation and climate impacts. The IT and services sectors have fallen behind in global competition. Consequently, the government is forced to return to options it once rejected. The situation has become extremely difficult for the average Pakistani citizen. Inflation has broken the back of the common man. Flour has reached ₹120 per kg, which is nothing less than a curse for the poor and middle class. The prices of vegetables, pulses, oil, and fuel are constantly rising. Electricity and gas bills have exceeded the income of ordinary people. Unemployment is rising and employment opportunities are shrinking. In such a situation, the government's talk of bringing in foreign currency through liquor exports seems like rubbing salt into the public's wounds. A look at the government's policies clearly

shows that long-term values and principles are being compromised for immediate relief. On the one hand, religious sentiments are being addressed, while on the other, decisions are being taken that contradict those sentiments. This not only raises questions about the government's credibility but also fuels confusion and discontent in society. The question is: if alcohol exports were the only way to save the economy, why was it banned for decades as "haram"? Pakistan's deep friendship with China is also complicating its economic difficulties. The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor was launched with great ambitions, but over time, the project has become a debt burden for Pakistan. Chinese companies were granted special concessions, while local industries did not receive the expected benefits. In 2017, Pakistan even granted a Chinese company permission to produce alcohol, primarily for employees working on Chinese infrastructure projects. This decision also became an example of discrimination against domestic industries and local regulations. The unbalanced economic relationship with China has resulted in Pakistan's policy-making shifting from self-reliance to dependence. Long-term strategic and economic pressures have been accepted in exchange for cheap loans and investment. Today, Pakistan can neither fully rely on the West for its economic

needs nor find a lasting solution with China's support. The liquor export permit is a product of this dilemma. Looking at international examples, many countries have been relaxing their traditional rules in times of economic crisis. Saudi Arabia is a prime example, where non-Muslims were recently allowed to consume alcohol within limited limits. This was stated to be aimed at boosting tourism, investment, and strengthening its global image. However, Saudi Arabia took this step as part of a broader economic reform and diversification policy. Pakistan's case is different. Here, there appears to be no long-term vision, but rather a rush to raise immediate foreign exchange. While Murree Brewery's export license is certainly a business achievement, it cannot provide a lasting solution for Pakistan's economy. Alcohol exports will certainly bring in some foreign exchange, but they will neither reduce inflation nor unemployment nor address the food crisis. It is merely a temporary solution, a salve applied to a deeper ailment. Pakistan's current economic situation demonstrates the country's need for fundamental reforms. Without reforms in education, health, agriculture, industry, and governance, no immediate decision can pull the country out of crisis.

Unnao rape case: SC to hear CBI's plea against suspension of Kuldeep Sengar's sentence on Monday

New Delhi, Agency: The Supreme Court will on Monday hear the CBI's petition challenging the Delhi High Court's order suspending the life sentence of expelled BJP leader Kuldeep Singh Sengar and granting him bail in the 2017 Unnao rape case during the pendency of his appeal against his conviction.

According to the Supreme Court cause list for December 29 released on its website, the CBI's appeal against the December 23 order of the high court is listed before a three-judge Special Vacation Bench of CJI Surya Kant, Justice JK Maheshwari and Justice AG Masih.

The CBI has requested the top court to stay the order that has created an uproar.

The top court will also take up another petition filed by advocates Anjale Patel and Pooja Shilpkar challenging the suspension of sentence and grant of bail to Sengar. They have contended that the high court passed the order without considering that the trial court had said that Sengar must remain in jail for the rest of his natural life.

Crying foul over the Delhi High Court's order granting bail to Sengar, the victim on Saturday demanded that the CBI should register an FIR against the then-investigating officer for being "hand in glove" with Sengar.

Holding that aggravated offence provisions under Section 5(c) of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act and Section 376(2) of the Indian Penal

Code were not attracted in Sengar's case, as he could not be categorised as a "public servant" within the meaning of the relevant provisions of the law.

On that basis, the high court had suspended his sentence.

The high court had suspended the jail term of Sengar — serving life imprisonment in the Unnao rape case — not

ing he has already served seven years and five months in prison.

Sengar's sentence has been suspended by the high court till the pendency of his appeal challenging his conviction and sentence in the rape case. He has challenged a December 2019 trial court verdict in the case.

He will, however, remain in jail as he is also serving 10

years' imprisonment in the custodial death case of the victim's father and has not been granted bail in that case.

The high court had directed Sengar, who kidnapped and raped a minor, to furnish a personal bond of Rs 15 lakh with three sureties of the amount.

It had also ordered him not to come within a 5-km radius of the survivor's residence in Delhi and not to threaten her or her mother. Violation of any of the conditions would lead to the cancellation of bail, the high court said.

The petitioners said the high court has committed a grave error in law as well as on facts in granting bail/suspension of sentence to Sengar despite his serious criminal antecedents and his established involvement in the

heinous offences of rape.

"The High Court failed to appreciate the material evidence relied upon by the prosecution which clearly demonstrates the barbarity and brutality of the accused, coupled with his demonstrated muscle power, financial influence and criminal

propensity, as evidenced from the fact that even while the victim's father was under judicial custody,

the accused orchestrated and executed victim's father's murder to silence the family and frustrate the due course of justice," they submitted.

The high court suspended the jail term of Sengar — serving life imprisonment in the Unnao rape case — noting he has already served seven years and five months in prison.

Delhi Govt notifies Abadi Deh Survey rules

New Delhi, Agency: The notification, issued by the Revenue Department, provides the statutory framework for conducting drone-based aerial surveys, ground verification, preparation of digitised land records and resolution of disputes — effectively operationalising the government's December 19 announcement on transforming rural land management.

Under the rules, Abadi Deh areas — traditionally excluded from formal revenue records — will be surveyed using modern GIS and drone technology, followed by mandatory "ground truthing" to verify boundaries, structures and land use. Each plot will be mapped, numbered and recorded through a multi-stage verification process before finalisation of records.

Officials said the move aligns Delhi with the Centre's SVAMITVA Scheme, launched in 2020, aimed at providing rural residents with legal proof of property ownership. Once records are



finalised, eligible occupiers will be issued property cards, enabling access to bank loans, financial assistance and government schemes.

The rules lay out a detailed, village-wise process beginning with government notification, public meetings and physical demarcation of Abadi Deh boundaries, followed by aerial surveys, preparation of preliminary maps and spot verification by revenue officials. Objections will be invited

from residents, with disputes to be resolved through conciliation or summary enquiry by the Revenue Assistant, and appeals allowed before the Deputy Commissioner.

Crucially, land marked as "disputed", "pending", government-owned, Gram Sabha land or common utility areas will not be issued property cards or unique geo-linked identification numbers, known as Bhu-Aadhar. Officials said this safeguard is intended to prevent legitimisation of contested or public land.

The notification also provides for complete computerisation of Abadi Deh records and development of a dedicated digital portal through which citizens can obtain certified copies of land records. Finalised GIS-based maps will be integrated into the Record of Rights of each revenue village.

The government is expected to begin phased implementation of the Abadi Deh Survey across Delhi's rural villages in the coming weeks.

Men in high-speed cars perform deadly stunts; Delhi Police responds



New Delhi, Agency: A group of men was captured on video performing reckless stunts on the streets of Delhi, raising concerns about public safety. The footage, which has been widely shared on social media, also showed the men racing at high speeds.

The video, reportedly filmed on the night of December 26, shows several men in four to five cars carrying out dangerous acts, including standing out of sunroofs and screaming as the vehicles sped past.

The cars were also seen swerv-

ing and zigzagging through traffic, reportedly travelling from ITO towards Noida, putting other road users at serious risk.

Shared widely on X, the video also drew the attention of the Delhi Police.

In response to a user demanding action against the occupants, the police said, "Thank you, Area Traffic Inspector has already been informed." One user wrote, "This is a everyday thing in Delhi, sorry to say but police and government are not just not in control."

'No fuel without PUCC, restricts entry of non-BS6 vehicles': Delhi environment minister enforces permanent curbs to tackle pollution

New Delhi, Agency: Environment Minister Manjinder Singh Sirsa announced on Saturday that two key restrictions under the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP-4) will now be permanent, in a bid to tackle the city's persistent severe air pollution.

Speaking to the media, Sirsa said vehicles will not be provided petrol without a valid Pollution Under Control Certificate (PUCC) until further notice, according to news agency ANI.

"Out of the restrictions under GRAP-4, we have decided to make two permanent



First, the PUCC requirement: you will not get petrol anywhere without a PUCC certificate until the next orders," he stated.

The minister also confirmed that vehicles entering Delhi from outside the city that do not meet Bharat Stage VI (BS6) emission standards will face restrictions. "Vehicles

from outside Delhi that are below BS6 will also be restricted from entering the city," he added. Sirsa noted that authorities are closely monitoring the weather, as the Western Disturbance may lead to adverse conditions. "The possibility of bad weather is being indicated. Therefore, we are continuously monitoring the situation," he said, emphasizing that the government's priority is to minimize pollution-related hardships for Delhi residents.

Delhi's air quality has deteriorated, with the Air Quality Index (AQI) reaching 390 at 6 pm on Saturday, placing it in

the 'Very Poor' category, according to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB). Experts advise vulnerable groups, including children, the elderly, and those with respiratory conditions, to limit outdoor exposure and use protective masks. Thick smog and fog are trapping pollutants, reducing visibility, and disrupting daily life. Authorities are enforcing measures such as the 'No PUC, No Fuel' rule and Stage III restrictions under GRAP, including limits on construction and industrial activities. Earlier, the Delhi Cabinet, led by chief minister

Rekha Gupta, approved measures to strengthen environmental

governance in the capital.

WESTERN RAILWAY

Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Mumbai Central Division, Western Railway Divisional Railway Manager, Commercial Department, NFR Section, Mumbai Central, Mumbai - 400 008 Work - Display of Advertisement through various NFR media over Mumbai Division			
AUCTION CATALOGUE NO.		AUCTION START (ALL LOTS) MMCT-ADVTM25-46 14-01-26 12:00:00	
Sr. No.	LOT NO.	LOCATION / AREA	DAY
1	MSS-BCT-MRU-MedStn-45-24-1 (Misc-Static-Services-Medical facilities at station)	Providing round the clock Medical Facilities through Emergency Medical Room at Matunga Road Railway Station for a period of 5 years.	1826 14-01-26 12:30:00
2	MSS-BCT-GTR-MedStn-94-25-1 (Misc-Static-Services-Medical facilities at station)	Providing round the clock Medical Facilities through Emergency Medical Room at Grant Road Railway Station for a period of 5 years.	1826 14-01-26 12:40:00
3	MSS-BCT-BDTS-MedStn-93-25-1 (Misc-Static-Services-Medical facilities at station)	Providing round the clock Medical Facilities through Emergency Medical Room at Bandra Terminus Railway Station for a period of 5 years.	1826 14-01-26 12:50:00
4	MSS-BCT-RMAR-MedStn-92-25-1 (Misc-Static-Services-Medical facilities at station)	Providing round the clock Medical Facilities through Emergency Medical Room at Ram Mandir Railway Station for a period of 5 years.	1826 14-01-26 13:00:00

Contact details: Landline no.: 02267644212, Email ID: acmadvgtbct@gmail.com
Note: Prospective bidders are requested to visit e-Auction leasing module on IREPS website (www.ireps.gov.in). The lot wise details are available here in under the mentioned catalogue.

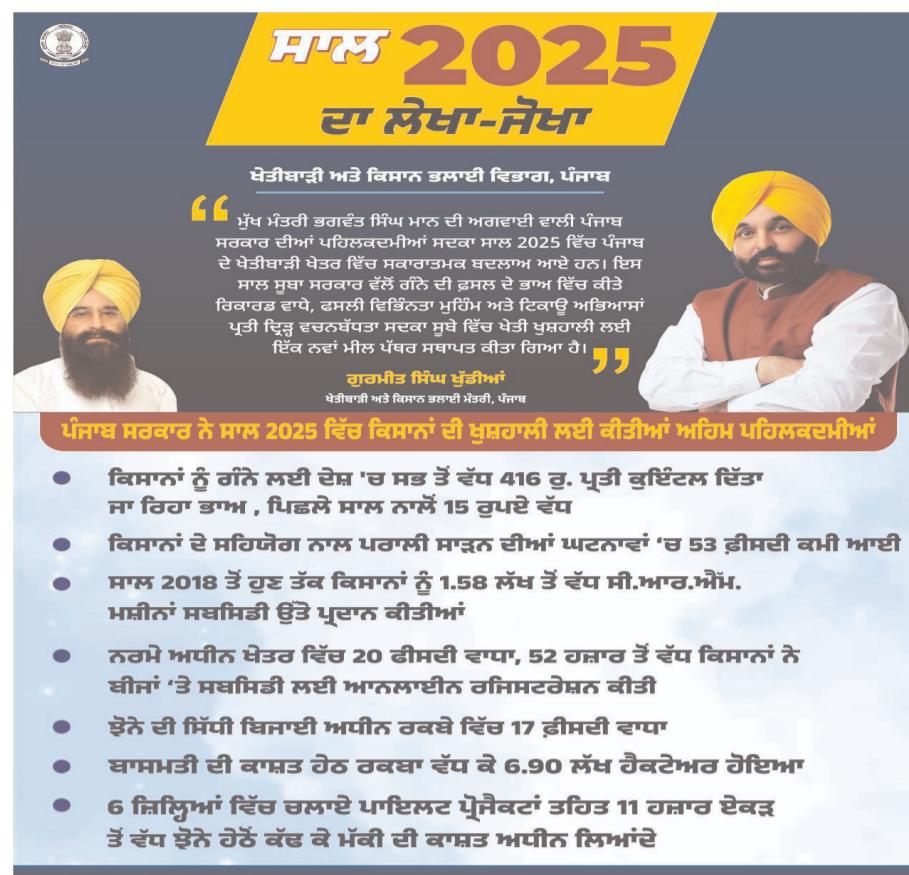
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Mann government has made 2025 the year of prosperity for farmers: Punjab government's historic initiative is bringing significant changes to Punjab's farms

Chandigarh: As the year of 2025 concludes, Punjab's agricultural landscape stands transformed, driven by Chief Minister S. Bhagwant Singh Mann led the state government's bold initiatives. The year has been marked by record farmer remuneration, significant strides in crop diversification and a steadfast commitment to sustainable practices, setting a new benchmark for farm prosperity in the state.

Punjab's Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister, S. Gurmeet Singh Khudian, highlighted the year's landmark achievements, stating that the government's resolve to empower farmers is matched by its commitment to ecological sustainability. "Our schemes have driven transformative change, and the record sugarcane price reflects our pledge to reward farmers' hard work," he said.

In a historic decision, the state government announced the high-



est State Agreed Price (SAP) for sugarcane in the country at Rs 416 per quintal, an increase of 15% from the previous year. This ensures Punjab's cane growers are the best compensated nationwide. A major environmental success has been the 53% reduction in stubble burning incidents during the Kharif season, with cases falling to 5,114 this year from 10,909 in 2024. This achievement is backed by the provision of over 1.58 lakh subsidised Crop Residue Management (CRM) machines to farmers since 2018, with more than 16,000 sanction letters issued this year alone. Crop diversification saw robust growth, with the area under cotton expanding by 20% to 1.19 lakh hectares, supported by a 33% subsidy on PAU-recommended BT Cotton seeds. Over 52,000 farmers enrolled online for availing the benefit, showcasing strong confidence in government initiatives.

Progressive Punjab Investor Summit-2026: 1.50 lakh crore investment in Punjab since 2022, 5 lakh jobs created

Chandigarh: Cabinet Minister Sanjeev Arora today said that Punjab has attracted 1.50 lakh crore (approximately USD 19 billion) in investments since the formation of the AAP Government, resulting in the generation of more than five lakh employment opportunities across the State. He said this reflects the Government's firm commitment to making Punjab a preferred destination for investors and a leading industrial hub. Major Investments announced for Punjab in last 5 months are

HPCL Mittal Energy Limited (HTEL) - 2,600 Crores, Vardhman Steels-

3,000 Crores, Trident Group - 2,000 Crores, IOL Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals Limited - 1,400 Crores, Happy Forgings Limited - 1,000 Crores, Veerka Beverages Private Limited - 987 Crores, Fortis Healthcare (Mohali) - 900 Crores, Amber Enterprises India Limited - 500 Crores, Infosys Limited - 285 crore, Toppan Speciality Films Pvt. Ltd - 300-400 Crores.

Highlighting the future roadmap, the Minister informed that the 6th Progressive Punjab Investors Summit-2026 will be held from March 13 to 15, 2026, at Mohali,

which is expected to provide a major boost to the State's industrial ecosystem. He stated that the recent Japan and South Korea visits to Tokyo, Osaka & Seoul were highly successful, and significant fresh invest-

ments are expected following the overseas outreach, opening new avenues for foreign entrepreneurs. To further facilitate investments, the State Government is ensuring that all industrial approvals are granted within a timeline of 5 to 45 days.

Punjab has been awarded "Top Achiever" status under the Business Reforms Action Plan (BRAP)-2024 by the Government of India, he added. In a major relief to industry and traders, the State has introduced a single 0.25% stamp duty on the total loan amount, covering all related instruments and capped at 5 lakh.

Year Ender 2025

CM Yogi govt's investment model emerges as Uttar Pradesh's defining identity

Lucknow: As 2025 draws to a close, the institutional, digital, and policy-driven reforms undertaken in Uttar Pradesh to promote investment, industry, and foreign

capital remained a major point of discussion throughout the year. Strengthening investment facilitation and investor handholding through Invest UP under the leadership of the Yogi government emerged as one of the state's most significant achievements. In 2025, the Uttar Pradesh government, led by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, placed investment promotion at the core of its administrative priorities, focusing on building a trustworthy ecosystem backed by transparent policies, efficient processes, and timely support, thereby positioning the state as a growing hub for industry and employment genera-

tion. Invest UP, the state's dedicated investment promotion agency, extended end-to-end support to investors, from project conceptualization to on-ground execution. Its integrated framework for facilitation, coordination, and grievance resolution strengthened investor confidence and made Uttar Pradesh a preferred investment destination. The Nivesh Sarathi portal played a key role in simplifying and bringing transparency to the investment process by integrating MoU signing, expression of interest, grievance redressal, and project monitoring on a single platform. Complementing this, Nivesh Mitra, the online incentive management system, fully digitised the application and tracking of incentives, ensuring efficiency and accountability.

UP model gains national recognition; strong security and rule of law make the state a preferred investment destination: CM

Lucknow: Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath described the rule of law as Uttar Pradesh's greatest strength, stating that it has eliminated the sense of insecurity among the people and fostered an atmosphere of trust. The Chief Minister was addressing the closing ceremony of 'Police Manthan-2025' held at the Police Headquarters on Sunday.

He said, "Security and a strict rule of law have transformed the state into a dream destination for investors." The rule of law, he added, builds confidence and strengthens democracy. Commending the police force, the Chief Minister said that the "UP model" is now being discussed across the country.

He congratulated the Director General of Police and his team for the innovative initiative of Police Manthan, and honoured police officers and personnel during the medal presentation ceremony. The Chief Minister also reviewed and discussed



all 11 key sessions of the conference.

Emphasizing that human intelligence is the most powerful resource, CM Yogi said, "It must be used more effectively." Stressing the importance of dialogue, he directed station house officers, beat constables, circle officers, district police chiefs, and range and zone-level officers to regularly engage with different sections of society.

He noted that while peace committee meetings are held during festivals, such dialogue often stops thereafter. Public representatives, he said, are a vital link in the democratic system

and should be met at least once a month. No public representative supports wrongdoing, he added, and officers should share the ground reality with them and respond to their calls.

Regular interaction with religious leaders, entrepreneurs, traders, and other social groups, he said, helps police understand ground realities, as policing cannot be done from headquarters alone.

The Chief Minister stressed the need for better coordination at the police station, circle, and police line levels. He pointed out that while station in-charges are usually held accountable after an incident, the role of the circle in coordination is often overlooked. Strengthening coordination among all three levels, he said, would significantly reinforce the security system. He added that the police force's empathy and friendly conduct not only resolve public grievances but also improve the public's perception of the police.

Former Tihar Jail official challenges validity of solitary confinement provisions in new criminal laws

New Delhi, Agency: Former Tihar jail administrator and ex-law officer Sunil Gupta has challenged in Delhi High Court the provisions in the newly enacted criminal laws that allow prisoners to be kept in solitary confinement.

Drawing on nearly four decades of experience at Tihar, Gupta has urged the court to implement the Supreme Court rulings and Law Commission recommendations aimed at abolishing the colonial-era punishment, historically used to torture freedom fighters.

The public interest litigation (PIL) questions the constitutional validity of Sections 11 and 12 of the Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), arguing that they "mechanically" import the draconian solitary confinement regime from the repealed Indian Penal Code while "ignoring decades of progressive

jurisprudence labeling such isolation as barbaric and torturous." Gupta, well-acquainted with prison conditions, has said he is filing the petition for the benefit of inmates.

A bench of Chief Justice DK Upadhyaya and Justice Tushar Rao Gedela earlier this week tagged Gupta's plea with two other PILs raising similar challenges and agreed to hear the matter next month. The PIL seeks a declaration that the relevant BNS provisions are invalid,

asserting that they were introduced without considering the Supreme Court observations that solitary confinement, cellular segregation and similar practices are inhuman, irrational and violate the Constitution.

"Solitary confinement, i.e., keeping a prisoner in a small cell with no meaningful human contact, is an



assault on the human spirit and violates the 'Golden Triangle' of Fundamental Rights—Articles 14, 19 and 21 of the Constitution," the petition states.

Gupta's plea further argues that a combined reading of BNS and the Prisons Act reveals a statutory gap that prison authorities exploit to impose illegal solitary confinement. Citing death row convicts, the PIL notes that until a trial court decision is confirmed by the high

court—often taking years—a convict is technically a "prisoner subject to confirmation" rather than a "prisoner under sentence of death."

However, prison regulations, including Rule 59 of the Delhi Prison Rules, are mechanically invoked to immediately segregate such prisoners upon the trial court's verdict, constituting a fraud on the statute and an unconstitutional deprivation of liberty," it claims.

The petition also contends that solitary confinement reduces prisoners to a state of forced vegetativeness and deprives them of human contact, amounting to psychological torture.

It argues that rigorous imprisonment is meant to involve hard labour, not isolation and imposing solitary confinement in addition to rigorous imprisonment—especially

without a judicial order—amounts to a second punishment for the same offence. T

he PIL seeks a direction to the Centre and Delhi govt to "immediately cease the practice of solitary confinement in all prisons under their jurisdiction."

Additionally, the plea requests the court to strike down Chapter IX of the Delhi Prison Rules, 2018, to the extent it facilitates solitary confinement, and direct that no prisoner, including death row inmates, be segregated prior to the final exhaustion of judicial and executive remedies. It also advocates replacing the archaic practice with modern surveillance, such as 24/7 CCTV monitoring in high-security wards, allowing inmates to maintain human interaction while ensuring security.

Year Ender 2025

UP records major gains in Ease of Doing Business

Lucknow: In 2025, Uttar Pradesh has set new benchmarks in Ease of Doing Business, emerging as a preferred investment destination under the leadership of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. Guided by the principle of 'Minimum Government, Maximum Governance', the state government has focused on simplifying business and investment processes through comprehensive administrative and digital reforms. Transparent procedures, investor-friendly policies, and large-scale digital initiatives have positioned Uttar Pradesh as one of India's most business-friendly states.

From being ranked 12th in 2017-18, Uttar Pradesh climbed to 2nd position in 2019. The state continued its stellar performance, being recognized as a 'Top Achiever' in 2022 and 2024, and also earned the 'Achiever' status in logistics rankings from 2022 to 2024. In the 2021 Good Governance Index, UP topped the Commerce and Industry category.

Under the Business Reform Action Plan (BRAP) 2024, the state was declared a 'Top Achiever' in three critical areas: enterprise establishment, labor regulation simplification, and land administration.

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