



GARVI GUJARAT

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Risk-taking is now mainstream; youth no more willing to live life in comfort zone: PM Modi on National Startup Day

(Gns).

Lauding the Startup culture that has been embraced by the youth in India, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said risk-taking has become mainstream in the country.

Speaking at an event to mark the National Startup Day and 10 Years of Startup India, at Bharat Mandapam here, the PM said the Startup India Mission has become a revolution in just 10 years and the country today has the world's third-largest startup ecosystem.

"The youth of my country are not willing to live their lives in a comfort zone anymore. They are not content with following the same old beaten path. They want to forge their own paths because they aspire to

reach new destinations, new heights.

"Previously, risk-taking was discouraged in the country. But today, risk-taking has become mainstream. Those who think beyond a monthly salary are now not only accepted but also respected," the PM stated.

Reflecting further on the risk-taking ability, the PM said it is an old habit of his too.

"The tasks that no one else is willing to do, the issues that previous governments avoided for decades because they feared losing elections and their positions, the tasks that people warn me are political risks — I consider it my duty to undertake them. Like you, I believe that whatever is necessary for the country must be

done by someone. If there are losses, they will be mine, but if there are benefits, they will accrue to

focused on solving real problems, and Startup India is not just a scheme but a rainbow vision.



crores of families of my country," Modi said, talking about some of the difficult decisions he has taken as the head of the government over the last 12 years since becoming the prime minister in 2014.

The PM further said India's youth are today

Startup India connects diverse sectors with new opportunities and now is the time for our startups to focus more on manufacturing, stated PM Modi.

The courage, confidence and innovation of startups are shaping India's future, he said further with

a hope for the years and decades ahead.

The PM also highlighted the empowerment factor of the Startup India policy, stating that people from underprivileged sections as well as women have bene-

fited immensely from the scheme.

"Startup India has given birth to a new culture in the country. Previously, only children from wealthy families would start new businesses or ventures,

because they were the only ones who could easily access funding. Most children from middle-class and poor families could only dream of getting a job. But the Startup India programme has changed this

mindset.

"Women have also played a major role in this transformation. Today, more than 45 per cent of recognised startups have at least one female director or partner," Modi said.

Under the chairmanship of Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel, Collector Conference concludes in Gandhinagar

Chief Minister Urges Development of Robust District-Level System for Listening to Public Representations and Ensuring Swift, Honest Resolution

Chief Minister

* **Emphasis on Monitoring Effective Implementation of Government Schemes Through Priority to Field Visits**

* **Directive to lead the overall functioning of the entire district based on honesty, integrity, competence and effectiveness.**

* **Government Stands with Collectors; Call to Lead District Teams Fearlessly with Wisdom and Integrity**

Gandhinagar, (Gns). Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel has urged the district collectors of the state to develop a more robust system at the district level for speedy and honest resolution after listening to



people's representations.

In this context, he stated that public trust and confidence can be earned only by understanding the difficulties of the person coming with a representation in the district and responding with a sense of empathy and support. He especially emphasised that for issues that can be resolved at the district level, people should not have to approach the government or departments, and that collectors should ensure such issues are resolved locally in a speedy, transparent and effective

manner.

Addressing the Collector Conference held in Gandhinagar, he instructed district collectors to prioritise field visits and monitor the effective implementation of government schemes. He also urged collectors to lead the overall functioning of the district on the core principles of honesty, integrity, competence and effectiveness.

Chief Minister emphasised that the responsibility entrusted to the District Collectors as heads of the districts is a significant

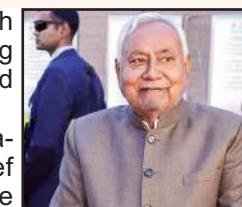
opportunity to serve the public by addressing and resolving the problems of the common man. He added that due to strong financial management in the state, there is no longer any shortage of funds for development works. In such circumstances, collectors should lead district teams and ensure proper supervision so that ongoing development works under various schemes are completed swiftly and with quality. He urged all district collectors of the state to work together through teamwork and mutual consultation, and said that collectors should function responsibly so that circulars and rules are not interpreted differently across districts and people experience ease in getting their work done.

gated the Opposition, saying that his government has been working with complete honesty and dedication to make Bihar a developed state, with the cooperation of the Central government, while "some people merely indulge in baseless talk."

Nitish Kumar begins 'Samriddhi Yatra', RJD questions claims of prosperity

(Gns).

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar on Friday launched the 'Samriddhi Yatra' (Prosperity Tour) from Bettiah in West Champaran district, marking his 16th statewide tour as Chief Minister since assuming office in 2005, and his first such tour after taking oath for a record tenth term.



On the occasion, the Chief Minister laid the foundation stone for 125 development projects worth Rs153 crore to

accelerate the district's overall development, and also inaugurated 36 completed projects costing Rs29 crore.

Addressing a gathering in Bettiah, Nitish Kumar tar-

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Commonwealth Speakers resolve to make democratic institutions more people-centric

(Gns).

The three-day 28th Conference of Speakers and Presiding Officers of the Commonwealth (CSPC) concluded on Friday evening with a renewed commitment to make democratic institutions to make democratic institutions more people-centric.

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla handed over the chairmanship of 29th CSPC to Sir Lindsay Hoyle, Speaker of the UK House of Commons, and wished him best for the success of the next CSPC in London.

In his valedictory address, Birla noted that democratic institutions can remain strong and relevant when they are transparent, inclusive, responsive and accountable to people.

He observed that transparency fosters public trust

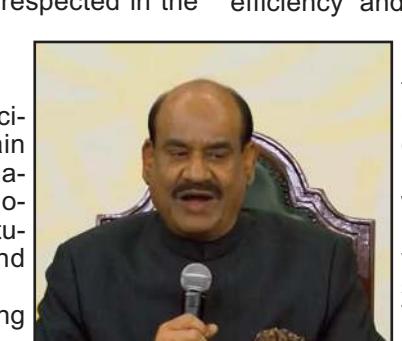
by ensuring openness in decision-making, while inclusivity guarantees that every voice—especially those on the margins—is heard and respected in the democratic process.

Together, these principles sustain the legitimacy of democratic institutions and strengthen the enduring bond between the citizen and the State, he opined.

Recalling the vision behind the establishment of CSPC, 56 years ago, the Speaker said that the Conference was conceived to ensure continuous dia-

logue among democratic legislatures of the Commonwealth and to explore new ways of enhancing parliamentary efficiency and responsiveness.

He stated that the 28th CSPC had carried this legacy forward with renewed vigour and substance. The unprecedented participation of the largest number of countries in CSPC's history was highlighted by the Speaker as a defining feature of this Conference. This wide and inclusive representation, he said, would ensure that the New



obligation, a duty, to shape the global order. And in the current uncertain global situation, it's even more important that we work closely towards shared strategic goals."

He said, "Economic security today is particularly paramount. Both our countries attach enormous importance to it. And how to de-risk our own economies and how to de-risk the international economy are both very important. We will be discussing resilient supply chains, critical minerals, and how to address energy, health, and maritime security in our tasks today," he added.

Jaishankar also noted that India and Japan will mark 75 years of diplomatic relations next year, expressing confidence that the special, strategic, and global partnership will continue to strengthen.

Talking about the shared Indo-Pacific vision, Jaishankar pointed out that former Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe had, in an address to the Indian Parliament, laid the foundation for the Indo-Pacific as a political, economic, and strategic construct.

"Much time has passed, but the relationship today sees that our initiative, what we call MAHASAGAR and visions for the Indo-Pacific align closely with your free and open Indo-Pacific," he told his Japanese counterpart. Jaishankar said, "We are leading democracies. We are the major economies of the world. And we have today not just an opportunity but also an

Kuashankar underlines importance of economic security in uncertain global environment

(Gns).

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar on Friday said India places a very high priority to its relationship with Japan, which has evolved over the past two decades into a broad, comprehensive and strategic partnership.

Co-chairing the 18th India-Japan Strategic Dialogue with visiting Japanese Foreign Minister Toshimitsu Motegi here, he underlined the importance of economic security, calling it 'paramount' and emphasising the need to de-risk both national and global economies amid an uncertain international economic environment.

The India-Japan relationship, he recalled, was primarily an economic partnership earlier. But it has evolved over the past two decades, the Indian minister said, referring to coop-



eration between the two nations in various international forums, including Quad, the United Nations, G4, and G20.

Editorial

Voice of the Hills

For the hills of Darjeeling and the wider Gorkha belt, Prashant Tamang was never just a reality-show winner or a screen actor. He was a moment in history. In a country where visibility often decides belonging, his rise from a police constable to a national stage did something quietly radical: it made the Gorkha identity visible, relatable, and proudly Indian in the public imagination. His victory years ago was not merely about musical talent.

It was about recognition. In towns where people pooled money to buy phones just to vote, in homes where prayers were offered for his success, one could sense that something deeper was unfolding. A community that had long felt peripheral suddenly found itself at the centre of a national conversation. For many in the hills, he was the first face on mainstream television that looked like them, spoke like them and carried their cultural confidence without apology. That emotional investment explains the scale of grief now visible in Darjeeling. The crowds, the tears and the tributes are not performative. They are deeply personal. Tamang was not admired from a distance; he was claimed. He represented the possibility that talent from the margins could break through without being diluted or stereotyped. In doing so, he challenged a long-standing hierarchy of who gets to be seen and celebrated in India. It is also telling that his success once triggered ugly reactions and backlash.

That tension exposed an uncomfortable truth: that representation is not always welcomed, and that the ascent of marginalised identities can unsettle entrenched ideas of who "belongs". Yet it is precisely this disruption that made his journey important. He did not just sing; he shifted perceptions. In later years, his transition into acting, including darker, more complex roles, showed an artist unwilling to be boxed into a single narrative. He was not content being remembered as a one-season wonder or a sentimental figure from the past. He wanted range, depth, and credibility. In doing so, he proved that his early success was not an accident of public sympathy but the foundation of a serious creative life. For the Darjeeling hills, his story carried a second meaning. It was proof that one did not have to leave one's identity behind to move ahead. That one could step into the national spotlight without shedding local roots. That one could be from "the hills" and still be central to India's cultural bloodstream. His sudden passing feels cruel because it interrupts that arc. It leaves behind unanswered questions about what more he might have become, and what more he might have represented. But even in its brevity, his journey has already done something lasting. It has expanded the space for the Gorkha community in India's cultural map. Long after the music fades and the screens go dark, that may be his most enduring legacy.

Bridging the gap between expression and access

(Gns).

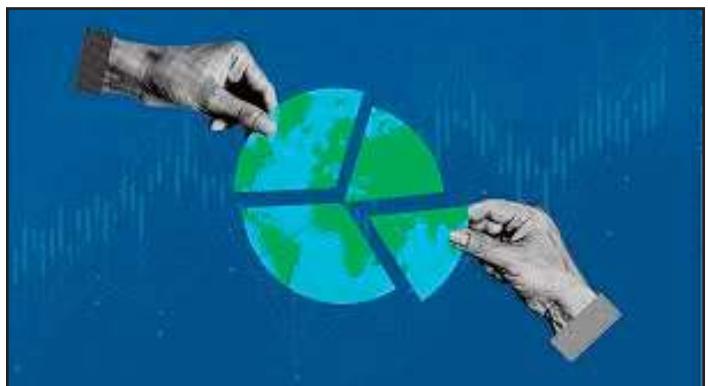
Public institutions generally factor progress through statistics, files, and milestones. Yet, there are moments when the country reveals itself far more eloquently through colour, form, creativity, and imagination. The 64th National Exhibition of Art (NEA) offered precisely such a moment. As I walked through the curated galleries, what unfolded was more than an exhibition of artworks; it was a living conversation between traditional and contemporary, between masters and budding artists, and between creative expressions and public engagement.

The National Exhibition of Art is the most prestigious annual event of the Lalit Kala Akademi. Begun in 1955, it has served as a platform for the convergence and confluence of the visual arts in India. Over the decades, the Akademi and NEA have consistently upheld excellence through continuity, credibility, experimentation, and inclusivity. In April 2025, I joined the Ministry of Culture, where the curation of the exhibition was in a preliminary stage. On reviewing the preparations, I realised that the NEA had the potential to be transformed into a facilitative ecosystem, one that could redefine institutional support for the arts and the creative economy.

Central institutions must respond to the contemporary realities of artists and act as enablers, fostering an environment that supports market access and economic sustainability. With this conviction, I was determined that NEA must move beyond being a mere showcase and evolve into a purposeful engine of the creative economy. In letter and spirit this led to the decision to open the awarded artworks for sale. The vision was clear – to remodel the outlook of the NEA, from being perceived solely as an exhibition to becoming a viable platform

within the art marketplace. Creativity belongs to the artist to conceptualise; as administrators our role is to support them through policies and mechanisms that provide funding platforms, digital infrastructure, and exposure.

Guided by this conviction, the Lalit Kala Akademi was steered to formulate a focused action plan to reimagine the NEA on a grand scale. Working in mission mode, the aim was



to create a credible and contemporary marketplace for artists, something not attempted earlier in this form.

To match this renewed purpose and intent, the outreach and publicity strategy of NEA was scaled up. Gallery owners, curators, collectors, connoisseurs, and artists from India and abroad were proactively engaged through targeted outreach, expanding the Exhibition's footprint within the global art ecosystem. Dedicated preview sessions were organised for potential buyers and the target group to generate an outcome aligned with the objectives.

These curated engagements enabled direct interaction between artists and potential buyers, ensuring that the final curation of the NEA aligned seamlessly with its long-term goal – empowering artists through market access and meaningful economic opportunity. The comprehensive makeover, backed by wide publicity, sustained engagement, and the presence of eminent figures from the art fraternity, infused renewed momentum

Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel distributes assistive devices worth ₹1.16 crore to 1,017 Divyangjan in Bhavnagar

Under the ADIP Scheme of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, and the CSR initiatives of GETCO and PGVCL, a free Divyang assistive devices distribution camp was organised by ALIMCO.

In the last five years, the State Government has provided assistance of over ₹820 crore to more than 4 lakh Divyangjan through various welfare schemes:-

Chief Minister:-

→ Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has undertaken major initiatives towards the welfare of Divyangjan through the Accessible India campaign.

→ Divyasha Kendras have emerged as a boon for Divyangjan.

→ A Para Athletes High Performance Sports Centre is being developed in Gandhinagar at a cost of ₹316 crore to train Divyang athletes, enabling them to secure more medals at global competitions.

→ With the vision of 'Empowered Divyangjan means Empowered India', expenditure on Divyang welfare schemes has increased threefold over the last 10 years under the leadership of the Prime Minister.

Several revolutionary changes have taken place in the country under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi:- Union Minister of State Smt. Nimuben Bambhaniya

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi took a sensitive initiative to bring Divyangjan into the main-



stream: Agriculture Minister Shri Jitendra Singh

Gandhinagar, (Gns).

Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel stated on the occasion of the Divyang assistive devices distribution programme in Bhavnagar that, under the guidance of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the State Government has taken several decisions in the interest of Divyangjan to make their lives easier and more dignified.

In Bhavnagar, a free Divyang assistive devices distribution camp was organised by ALIMCO and the Bhavnagar district administration under the ADIP (Assistance to Persons with Disabilities for Purchase/Fitting of Aids /Appliances) Scheme of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, and the CSR initiatives of GETCO and PGVCL.

Chief Minister described the free assistive devices distribution programme—under which assistive devices worth ₹1.16 crore were provided to 1,017 Divyangjan in a single day by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India—as a reflection of the Government's commitment towards Divyangjan welfare.

CM congratulated Union Minister Smt. Nimuben Bambhaniya and her team for promoting Atmanirbhar Bharat by organising camps over 15 days in Bhavnagar and Botad districts and distributing more than 4,800 assistive devices worth ₹3.51 crore free of cost to over 2,600 Divyangjan. He also lauded GETCO and Paschim Gujarat Vij Company Limited (PGVCL) for their contributions in the context of the CSR initiative.

On this occasion, the Chief Minister said that in the last five years, more than 4 lakh Divyangjan in Gujarat have been provided assistance of over ₹820 crore through various welfare schemes. He further added that Divyangjan have also been relieved from the hardship of repeatedly undergoing medical check-ups for certification, as the decision to make disability certificates valid for a lifetime has provided significant relief.

He further stated that visually impaired persons with 60 per cent or more disability are now eligible for benefits under the Sant Surdas Yojana, enabling them to live with dignity and self-respect.

Highlighting the Prime Minister's role in transforming the lives of persons with disabilities, the Chief Minister said that the Accessible India initiative has led to the creation of special facilities in government offices, railway stations, airports, and public

spaces across the country, significantly improving ease of living.

Elaborating on the Prime Minister's initiative to establish "Divyasha" Kendras, the Chief Minister said that through these centres, free assistive devices are being provided to Divyangjan and senior citizens. He added that out of the target of establishing 300 Divyasha Centres across the country, around 100 have already become operational.

Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel also outlined the Prime Minister's systematic approach to nurturing the talent of Divyang athletes at national and international levels. He said the Para Athletes High Performance Sports Centre, being built in Gandhinagar at a cost of ₹316 crore, will offer advanced training to help athletes achieve greater success in global competitions.

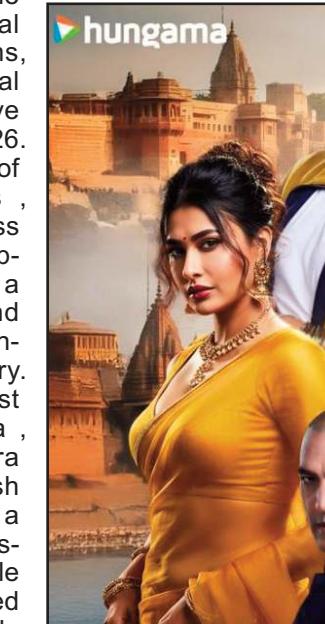
CM stated that the Prime Minister's vision of Viksit Bharat@2047 includes making Divyang people equal partners in education, employment, technology, and industry.

Union Minister of State for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Smt. Nimuben Bambhaniya said that under Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's leadership, India has witnessed numerous revolutionary changes. Several welfare schemes for Divyangjan are being effectively implemented.

What happens when a romantic trip goes horribly wrong ? Watch Hungama OTT's Prayagraj Ki Love Story to find out

Lucknow, 16 January 2026: Hungama OTT, one of India's leading digital entertainment platforms, launched its new original series Prayagraj Ki Love Story on January 8, 2026.

Set against the backdrop of Prayagraj's soulful lanes, historic ghats, and timeless ambience, the series subverts the concept of a romantic getaway and transforms it into a high-stakes survival story. Starring a stellar cast including Gaurav Sharma, Ambika Vani, Pavitra Punia, and Manish Wadhwa, the series is a blend of romance and suspense as a young couple finds themselves stranded in a city that suddenly seems completely unfamiliar to every scene. You



The story centers on Anshul Singh and Sonia Shukla, whose romantic journey takes a dangerous turn when they unwittingly find themselves caught in the trap of a ruthless gang that claims to be their protectors. What begins with trust quickly turns into betrayal.

The couple is forced to flee through dense forests, narrow lanes, and crowded markets, constantly trying to stay one step ahead of those intent on capturing them. Danger and mounting fear at every turn test their relationship to the limit, leaving no room for error.

Speaking about his character, Gaurav Sharma, who plays Anshul Singh, said, "Anshul is a sensitive and intelligent boy, but he's also deeply influenced by social media. When things get out of hand, his instincts kick in. I really enjoyed portraying the transformation where comfort slowly turns into crisis. Shooting in real locations in Prayagraj brought authenticity to the story."

Ambika Vani, who plays Sonia Shukla, said about the series, "This was my first project, and I couldn't have asked for a better start. Sonia starts as a girl in love and gradually transforms into a person fighting for her life. This transformation was emotionally intense. What stayed with me was her strength. Even after losing everything, she doesn't lose faith in herself and love."

Pavitra Punia, who plays Rajni Singh, said, "Rajni is a complex character who defies any one definition. She's layered, unpredictable, and driven by emotions. Prayagraj Ki Love Story challenged me as an actor, especially with its blend of romance, thrill, and survival. Working with Hungama OTT again felt like a natural creative partnership."

Veteran actor Manish Wadhwa said, "What sets this series apart is its emotional authenticity. The fear

the welfare of Divyangjan.

The Minister also noted that under the Prime Minister's guidance, both government and private sector entities are ensuring meaningful utilisation of CSR funds for social welfare. Assistive device support enables Divyangjan to become Atmanirbhar and integrate into the societal mainstream.

On this occasion, the goodwill message of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi was read out.

Bhavnagar Collector Dr Manish Kumar Bansal delivered the welcome address, while District Development Officer Shri Hanul Choudhary presented the vote of thanks. The programme outline and contextual address were presented by Shri Vivek Dwivedi, General Manager of ALIMCO.

The event was attended by Bhavnagar's In-charge Minister Shri Kaushik Vekariya, Mayor Shri Bharat Barad, Standing Committee Chairman Shri Raju Rabadiya, and Deputy Mayor Smt. Monaben Parekh, MLAs Smt. Sejal Pandya, Shri Bhikha Baraiya, Shri Shambhu Nath Tundiya, Shri Gautam Chauhan, Shri Shiva Gohil, Joint Secretary to the Government of India for Food and Public Distribution, Shri Ravi Shankar, Leader Shri Kumar Shah, Shri Digvijay Singh Gohil, along with senior officials and office-bearers.

He further said that Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel, through his simplicity, transparency, and empathetic leadership, has established strong governance in Gujarat. Under his guidance, such programmes have become a source of inspiration for society, and he praised the government's initiatives for

feelings real, the relationships feel lived-in, and no one is completely right or wrong. This moral ambiguity gives the story weight."

Director and producer Arvind Babbal said, "As a director, my focus in Prayagraj Ki Love Story was to present a love story that doesn't shy away from reality. I wanted the audience to feel the tension, fear, and emotions of two people whose romantic journey suddenly turns into a fight for survival. Every scene has been designed to keep the audience emotionally connected to the couple and their decisions. The natural truth that Ambika Vani and Gaurav Sharma bring to their performances keeps the story grounded and makes the experience even more immersive for the audience."

Sharing his thoughts on the series, Neeraj Roy, Managing Director, Hungama Digital, said, "The love story of Prayagraj is rooted in the city I come from and understand intimately. It depicts relationships as they are often lived, shaped by culture, circumstances, and decisions that aren't always easy. The series follows a love story that unfolds amidst real pressures and their consequences. This is why it feels honest and relatable rather than idealistic. We hope audiences connect with its authenticity and see their own familiar emotions and realities reflected on screen."

Prayagraj Ki Love Story is now streaming on Hungama OTT and its partner platforms including Tata Play Binge, Watcho, BSNL, PlayboxTV, RailWire Broadband, Airtel Xstream Play and Door TV.

WR to introduce 12 more ac local train services over mumbai suburban section w.E.F 26th january, 2026

Mumbai,
Total number of AC services increased from 109 to 121

Looking at the popularity and growing demand by the commuters, Western Railway has decided to increase the number of AC local services over Mumbai Suburban section with effect from Monday, 26th January, 2026. With the introduction of 12 new AC services, the total number of AC services will now increase from 109 to 121.

According to a press release issued by Shri

Vineet Abhishek – Chief Public Relations Officer of Western Railway, there has been a substantial rise in the number of commuters traveling by AC local trains.

will run as AC services on all days of the week. There will be no change in the total number of services, i.e. the count of local services is 1406 including the

the UP direction, there are 2 services each between Virar – Churchgate & Goregaon – Churchgate and one service each between Borivali –

Churchgate & Bhayandar –

Churchgate.

Similarly, in the DOWN direction, there are 2 services each between Churchgate – Virar & Churchgate –

Goregaon and one service

each between Churchgate – Bhayandar & Churchgate – Borivali. The details of the additional 12 AC EMU services are enclosed as Annexure-I.

Hence, for the benefit of passengers and to ease the crowd, 12 more AC services are being augmented over WR by replacing existing non AC 12 car services. These services

121 AC local train services. Shri Vineet further stated that, out of the additional 12 services being introduced, 6 services are in UP direction & 6 services are in DOWN direction. In

en the enduring bond between the citizen and the state."

The conference, inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday, concluded with a renewed collective commitment by Commonwealth legislatures to make democratic institutions more people-centric, accountable and effective.

During the valedictory session, Birla formally handed over the chairmanship of the 29th CPOC to Sir Lindsay Hoyle, Speaker of the UK House of Commons, and wished him success for the next conference to be held in London.

Reflecting on CPOC's 56-year journey, the Lok Sabha Speaker recalled

that the forum was conceived to ensure continuous dialogue among Commonwealth legislatures and to explore innovative ways to enhance parliamentary efficiency and responsiveness.

He said the 28th edition had carried this legacy forward "with renewed vigour and substance," noting that it witnessed the largest-ever participation of countries in CPOC's history.

This unprecedented representation, he said, would ensure that the New Delhi conference is remembered as "a significant milestone in the history of Commonwealth parliamentary cooperation."

Birla said deliberations during the conference on the responsible use of arti-

ficial intelligence in Parliaments, the impact of social media, citizen engagement beyond elections, and the health and well-being of Members of Parliament and parliamentary staff were particularly thought-provoking. These discussions, he noted, provided greater clarity to Presiding Officers about their evolving roles at a time when democratic traditions are intersecting with rapid technological change.

"Technology, inclusion and global partnerships will shape the new world order," Birla remarked, underlining that initiatives such as e-Parliament, paperless functioning and digital databases have significantly enhanced transparency, efficiency and responsiveness of legislatures. Responsible use of technology, including for linguistic inclusion, he said, is a key enabler of more citizen-centric Parliaments.

During the hearing, he said, the responsible use of arti-

edged that even during the Fodder Scam investigation, the CBI office in Patna was never attacked. This is the

ment has informed the court that suspicious evidence was found, indicating that Rs 20 crore related

Supreme Court has made sharp remarks in this matter and has also issued a notice to the Chief Minister. The ED has demanded the suspension of the DGP. The next hearing will be held on 3 February. He expressed confidence that justice will be delivered.

Taking a jibe at the Opposition leaders, he said that those who speak about the Constitution and its protection every day are silent. Their double standards are now exposed before everyone.

"They are silent even on such grossly unconstitutional conduct. The people of the country have recognised their true face. The people of West Bengal will expose them through their votes," he added.

Addressing the media in Patna on Friday, the BJP leader also questioned the Opposition's silence over the issue, saying "for the first time in the history of independent India, a Chief Minister snatched a file from an agency investigating corruption."

The Patna Sahib MP said, "It must be acknowledged that the government has informed the court that suspicious evidence was found, indicating that Rs 20 crore related

to money laundering in the coal scam had been deposited with the I-PAC, making the investigation necessary. The total scam is estimated to be worth around Rs 3,000 crore.

Prasad said that the

first time that a Chief Minister, along with her officials, stopped an ED investigation into corruption and the coal scam, forcibly took away files, and brought the investigation to a halt."

He said that the govern-

ment has informed the court that suspicious evidence was found, indicating that Rs 20 crore related

to money laundering in the coal scam had been deposited with the I-PAC, making the investigation necessary. The total scam is estimated to be worth around Rs 3,000 crore.

Kashmiri students stranded in Iran

greatest destruction in Muslim countries has been caused by America. The example of Gaza is right in front of us. The people of Iran should not fall for this deception and should stand with their own government," she said.

Mufti also took a dig at the BJP government for the changing relations between India and Iran. She said, "Iran and India have had very close relations. Iran has also had very close relations with Kashmir, but ever since the BJP government came to power in India, the entire system in the country has changed..."

The unrest in Iran began

in December 2025, with reports of clashes escalating between protesters and security forces in recent days. The violent protests

from Kashmir, being stranded in Iran. Expressing concern for their children, the families of these students have urged the Indian Government to ensure their early evacuation. According to sources, the MEA is preparing to facilitate the return of Indian nationals from Iran amid the evolving situation there.

Several political leaders, including PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti and Baramulla MP Abdul Rashid Sheikh, have written to External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, seeking immediate measures from the government for the rescue of Kashmiri students trapped in Iran amid the tense situation there.

Tourism and Culture

Minister Jaiveer Singh said here on Friday that the initiative aims to ensure that tourism growth translates into direct livelihood opportunities for local communities.

He added that the programme focuses on digital

have resulted in an estimated death toll ranging from under 3,000 to more than 12,000, according to media reports.

Amid the nationwide unrest in Iran, there are reports of several Indians, including many students

stranded in Iran

The unrest in Iran began

CM Vishnu Deo Sai pays tribute to Hiraben Modi at Shiv Mahapuran Katha

Addressing the gathering at the village of Khamhar, the Chief Minister said spiritual and cultural traditions play a vital role in nurturing values such as social harmony, moral responsibility and collective consciousness.

(Gns).

Chhattisgarh Chief

Minister Vishnu Deo Sai on

Friday attended a Shiv

Mahapuran Katha

organised in a remote

tribal pocket of Raigarh

district, paying tribute to

the late Hiraben Modi,

mother of Prime Minister

Narendra Modi.

The religious discourse is

being held in Kharsia block's

Bargad Kholia area as a

mark of remembrance for Hiraben Modi, drawing

large participation from local residents.

Addressing the gathering at the village of

Khamhar, the Chief

Minister said spiritual and

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(Gns).

Chhattisgarh Chief

Minister Vishnu Deo Sai on

Friday attended a Shiv

Mahapuran Katha

organised in a remote

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mother of Prime Minister

Narendra Modi.

The religious discourse is

being held in Kharsia block's

Bargad Kholia area as a

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Saint Premanand reaches Sudama Kuti Ashram in Vrindavan, participates in centenary celebrations

(Gns). Saint Premanand Maharaj arrived in Vrindavan on Friday to participate in the centenary celebrations marking 100 years since the arrival of Saint Sudama Das Maharaj, the founder of Sudama Kuti, in Vrindavan.

Premanand Maharaj had darshan of Lord Kaushal Kishore and performed a circumambulation of the Shri Ram Mahayaga site. He stayed there for about half an hour.

Saint Premanand Maharaj arrived at Sudama Kuti Ashram to participate in the ongoing centenary celebrations. There, he met with Shri Mahant Sutikshan Das Maharaj and Mahant Amar Das Maharaj. Afterwards, he went to the

celebrations at the Kumbh Mela grounds, where he performed a circumambula-

Seeing Lord Kaushal Kishore, Saint Premanand Maharaj and his accompa-

Maharaj upon his arrival at Sudama Kuti Ashram and the Kumbh Mela grounds. The ashram staff and Saint Premanand Maharaj's attendants escorted him through the crowd and back to Kali Kunj Ashram. Saint Premanand Maharaj remained at the celebrations for about half an hour.

Various religious and spiritual programmes are being organised as part of the centenary celebrations at Sudama Kuti Ashram. Saints and Mahants are attending the event. A ten-day Shri Ram Mahayaga is also being held as part of the celebrations, with devotees participating and offering oblations in the 108-kundinya (fire pit) Mahayaga.

tion of the Shri Ram Mahayaga site.

Upon arriving at Sudama Kuti Ashram, Saint Premanand Maharaj had darshan of Lord Kaushal Kishore and performed aarti (a ritual of worship). A large crowd gathered to see Saint Premanand

nying disciples were overcome with emotion. Here, Shri Mahant Sutikshan Das Maharaj honoured him by presenting him with a memento of the celebration.

A large crowd gathered to see Saint Premanand

Mathura, Vrindavan. Bar Council Mathura elections were concluded on Friday. In which advocates exercised their franchise to protect advocate interests. 35 candidates tried their luck for 6 posts in the elections. Whereas 3500 advocates used their franchise. There were 5 candidates in the fray for the post of President, 3 candidates for the post of Vice President, 12 candidates for the post of Secretary and 9 candidates for the joint post. Advocate Kunjbihari Verma also voted. He is currently serving as the Vice President of Village Organization and Ekal Abhiyan. Kunjbihari Verma, who is constantly active in the works of social har-

mony, constantly keeps his awareness towards

Sanatan Dharma sharp. He has also been the Vice

President of Vishwa Hindu Parishad Vrindavan

Braj Press Club President Dr. Kamal Kant Upmanyu Advocate and Special DGC POCSO Court Mrs. Alka Upmanyu Advocate and Kunj Bihari Verma Advocate exercising their vote in the annual election of the Bar Association.

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