



# During the review, Amit Shah said loudly that the country will be free from Naxalism next month

**Raipur(GNS):** Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah on Monday chaired a high-level security review meeting on the Left Wing Extremism situation in Raipur, the capital of Chhattisgarh. Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Vishnu Dev Sai and Deputy Chief Minister Vijay Sharma, along with the Union Home Secretary, Director General of Intelligence (IB) and Director Generals of CRPF, NIA, BSF and ITBP, also attended this important meeting. Apart from this, Home Secretaries and Director Generals of Police of Naxal-affected states like Telangana, Jharkhand, Odisha and Maharashtra were also present, where detailed discussions were held on better coordination between the Centre and the states. Addressing the meeting, Amit Shah shared a lofty goal and expressed confidence that India will be completely free from the scourge of



Naxalism before March 31, 2026. He stated that positive results are visible on the ground today due to the central and Chhattisgarh governments' robust security-focused strategy, robust infrastructure development, a strong crackdown on Naxalism's financial networks, and an effective surrender policy. The Home Minister clarified that the fight against Maoism should not be fragmented. He directed the states to coordinate among themselves so that remaining Naxalites cannot flee across state borders and seek refuge in another state under pressure from security forces. Shah praised the changing landscape of Chhattisgarh, noting that the state, once considered a stronghold of Naxalite violence, has now become a new hub of development thanks to the double-engine government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He pointed out that the youth of Chhattisgarh are now abandoning the path of violence and showcasing their talent in sports, forensics, and technical education. The Home Minister emphasized that Naxalism has pushed generations into the darkness of poverty and illiteracy, but now equal opportunities for development are reaching every affected area. It is the government's priority to ensure that the benefits of government schemes reach the last person.

## The Dalai Lama never met Jeffrey Epstein, whose name in the files is shocking



**New Delhi(GNS):** The 14th Dalai Lama has never met the controversial Jeffrey Edward Epstein. The Dalai Lama's office on Sunday dismissed recent media reports and social media posts that attempted to link the Tibetan spiritual leader to Epstein as false and baseless. The statement said attempts are being made to create a fabricated connection without any factual basis.

According to media reports, a statement issued from the Dalai Lama's office said that the Dalai Lama never met Jeffrey Epstein nor did he ask anyone to meet or talk to him on his behalf. Arunachal Pradesh CM Pema Khandu said on Sunday that the revered institution of the Dalai Lama should not be dragged into baseless statements or malicious speculation. Khandu made this statement in response to reports claiming that the Dalai Lama's name had appeared in Epstein's files. CM Khandu said in the post that attempts to defame the spiritual institution through misinformation are condemnable.

## Lawyer beaten up in courtroom in front of judge angry CJI says... Goonda Raj is not acceptable

### Lawyer alleges Delhi Police is afraid to take action

**New Delhi(GNS):** On Monday morning, a lawyer approached the Supreme Court bench of Chief Justice of India (CJI) Surya Kant with a complaint that he had been beaten up in front of a judge inside Delhi's Tis Hazari Court. CJI Surya Kant remarked that "goonda raj" (thug rule) is unacceptable. He directed the victim lawyer to first approach the Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court and provide him with a copy of the complaint. The lawyer claimed that the Delhi Police was avoiding taking action against the accused.

The lawyer recounted the incident before a Supreme Court bench comprising Chief Justice Surya Kant, Justice Joymalya Bagchi, and Justice N.V. Anjaria, stating that he was appearing for an accused in the court of Additional District Judge Harjit Singh Pal at Tis Hazari Court when the complainant's lawyer, accompanied by several goons, entered the courtroom and



assaulted him and the other accused in front of the judge. The victim lawyer stated that the attackers had locked the courtroom door from inside and carried out the violence in the presence of the judge. CJI Surya Kant then questioned the lawyer as to why he had approached the Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court with a verbal complaint, rather than a written one. He asked, "Have you brought this matter to the attention of the Honorable Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court? Why haven't you filed this case with the head of the Delhi Judiciary?"

## These good days of BJP came only because of RSS: Mohan Bhagwat

### Mumbai(GNS):

Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat has drawn a significant line regarding the BJP. During the 2024 general elections, then-president JP Nadda stated in an interview that they could win without the RSS. This sparked discontent among RSS workers. Now,

Sarsanghchalak Mohan Bhagwat has stated that the BJP's good days are due to the RSS. He stated that the RSS had demonstrated commitment to the Ram Mandir movement,



and those who supported it benefited. He thus made it clear that the RSS-led Ram Mandir movement benefited the BJP in the elections. According to media reports, Bhagwat made it clear how important the RSS is to the BJP. It is believed that he made this statement to maintain the enthusiasm of RSS workers. Furthermore, it is a message to the BJP leadership that while the party has expanded, its ideological foundation remains the RSS.

## Will India buy oil from America instead of Russia?

### Minister Piyush Goyal clarified the situation

**New Delhi (GNS):** Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal has clarified the country's view on the recent historic trade agreement between India and the United States. He stressed that the purchase of crude oil, LNG and LPG from the United States is in India's strategic interests as it provides India with an opportunity to diversify its energy resources. According to Goyal, the main objective of the trade agreement is to facilitate trade between the two countries and provide special access to Indian products compared to competitors. He said that despite the current 18 percent reciprocal tariff, this agree-



ment gives India an edge over other developing countries, which are India's major competitors in the global market. Discussing India's future energy and technology needs, the Union Minister set a lofty goal. He stated that India would have no difficulty purchasing goods and services worth \$500 billion from the United States over the next five years.

## Himachal Pradesh faces a financial emergency

## Trapped in a quagmire of debt, the closure of the RDG system has shaken its financial balance, and the state is in 'survival mode'

**Shimla(GNS):** A financial emergency-like situation has arisen in Himachal Pradesh. The state's policy of moving forward with debt appears to be proving costly. The situation has become such that even new loans are falling short of repaying old debt. In the upcoming financial year 2026-27, Himachal will receive a new loan of approximately 10,000 crore.

But approximately 13,000 crore rupees will have to be spent on interest



and repayment of old loans. This means that 3,000 crore rupees more will be spent on repaying old loans than the loan amount received. This situation arose due to income of eight annas and expenditure of one rupee. This is worsening the state's financial situation daily. The small state of

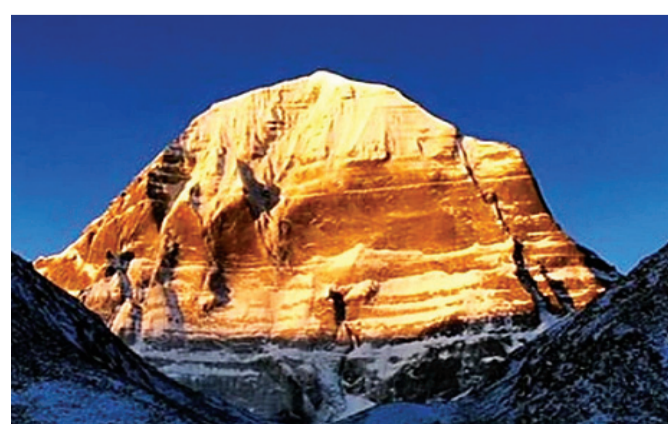
Himachal Pradesh has accumulated a debt of over 1 lakh crore rupees. At this time, the central government's decision to discontinue the Revenue Deficit Grant (RDG) has pushed Himachal into a financial emergency. This is putting pressure on employees, pensioners, the unemployed, and the common man. Employees and pensioners are worried about their arrears, DA, and the new pay commission. The unemployed are worried about jobs, and the common people are worried about the end of subsidies.

# The traditional Kailash Mansarovar walking route is about to be consigned to history, with hundreds of dharamshalas reduced to ruins.

**New Delhi (GNS):** The traditional walking route to Kailash Mansarovar, a symbol of faith, austerity, and cultural heritage for centuries, is slowly receding into the pages of history. This nearly 400-kilometer-long route once echoed with the footsteps of devotees and

chants of "Har Har Mahadev." Now, this path has been cut off in some areas for road construction and lost in other forests and mountains. Nearly 500 dharamshalas (houses) built for travelers and traders are also falling into ruins due to lack of maintenance.

The Kailash Mansarovar Yatra is considered one of the most sacred pilgrimages in Hinduism. In the era of the absence of roads, devotees from across the country undertook this arduous journey on foot. Pilgrims from several states, includ-



ing Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu, traveled from Kathgodam in Haldwani to Pithoragarh via Almora, Bageshwar, or Tanakpur-Champawat. From there, they crossed

the Lipulekh Pass via Askot, Dharchula, and Gunji to enter Tibet (China). This route holds immense significance not only from a religious, but also from a historical and cultural perspective. According to experts, as the road network expanded, the walking routes

shrank. Roads reached Pithoragarh in the 1960s, and with the construction of the Tanakpur-Tawaghat National Highway in the 1970s, travelers began traveling by vehicle to Dharchula. Later, the road extended to Tawaghat and Najang.

# Questions raised at the highest seat of democracy

Sanat Jain

The position of Speaker of the Lok Sabha is the soul of Indian democracy. It embodies the constitutional provision and responsibility of maintaining a balance between the ruling party and the opposition, as defined in the Constitution. The Speaker of the Lok Sabha and the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha will conduct the House above party politics. The Speaker and Chairman are responsible for protecting the interests of all members in both Houses. Recent developments have put this very notion in the dock. The opposition's preparations to bring a no-confidence motion against Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla are no ordinary political incident. Serious questions have been raised about

the impartiality of parliamentary democracy. For the past several sessions, the opposition in the Lok Sabha has been alleging that they are not being given the opportunity to speak in the House. They are being stopped in various ways before they can speak. The freedom of speech of members within the House is being directly and indirectly curtailed. Even on constitutional and traditional occasions like the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address, Opposition Leader Rahul Gandhi was not allowed to speak, while a member of the ruling party was given the opportunity. This has brought the discontent to a do-or-die battle. The opposition claims that the ruling party is given free rein, while the opposition is prevented from speaking, citing ques-

tions and rules. The opposition is quick to point out that the Chair treats the ruling party differently from the opposition. The Speaker of the Lok Sabha's argument that "the House will be governed by rules and conventions" is true, but the question is: are these rules being applied equally to everyone? In the last 10 years, whenever the opposition has submitted an adjournment motion to the Speaker, none has been granted. Yet, the conventions and proceedings of the Lok Sabha cite dozens of examples where the opposition has been given the opportunity to speak on adjournment motions. When the ruling party calls the Congress "traitors," is that a violation of the House's decorum? And when the opposition tries to respond, they are stopped by

declaring it "out of proceedings." So, what kind of impartiality is this? The opposition alleges that the Speaker's behavior is not impartial and arbitrary. This is clearly evident. The Chair's behavior is that of a protector of the ruling party. The way bills and laws have been passed in recent years, without any discussion, amidst uproar. This is why the opposition has now decided to take the extraordinary step of a no-confidence motion. In the past 76 years, no-confidence motions have been brought against the Speaker of the Lok Sabha three times. The fourth such situation arising is both extraordinary and worrying.

According to the Constitution, a written notice signed by at least 50 MPs is required to bring a no-confidence motion against the

Speaker. This motion is initiated only when the opposition believes that the Speaker has failed to maintain the impartiality of the House. The opposition is unanimous on this issue. Women MPs have also written to the Speaker of the Lok Sabha expressing their displeasure, indicating that dissatisfaction is not limited to one party or group. The most serious aspect of this entire controversy is that over the past several years, House sessions have become shorter. Frequent stalling of Parliamentary proceedings has become commonplace. The ruling party takes advantage of this to pass bills. Instead of discussing important issues like the budget, the Speaker repeatedly adjourns the proceedings, failing to take the ruling party and the opposition into confidence.

## Editorial

### The many contradictions of the deal

Agricultural products from the US will enter India, but wheat, sorghum, barley, millet, oats, rice, and maize will not be available. The US will also enter the Indian market in the dairy sector, but our farmers, entrepreneurs, and MSMEs will remain safe and protected. Prime Minister Modi has also given this assurance. The draft trade agreement, while tentative, is riddled with numerous contradictions. The US will not grant any exemptions or concessions on wheat, rice, maize, soybeans, poultry, meat, bananas, strawberries, cherries, green peas, mung beans, chickpeas, oil seeds, tobacco, ethanol, and dairy products. India's Commerce Minister, Piyush Goyal, claims that dairy products such as milk, cream, buttermilk, butter, ghee, butter oil, and cheese will not enter India from the US. Spices will also be excluded, but the draft agreement does not mention anywhere that the US will not import milk, GS wheat, maize, and soybeans. The agreement contains several serious contradictions. This means that the US will also engage in trade in our agricultural and dairy sectors. Will Indian farmers be able to compete with American farmers? American farmers' costs are much lower than Indian farmers', as they receive billions in subsidies, while Indian subsidies are like a drop in the ocean. Will the SBI report prove to be accurate, and will Indian farmers and livestock owners suffer losses of over ₹1 lakh crore? However, by the time the final draft of the agreement is made public in mid-March and signed by representatives of both countries, some further amendments may be made, but the broad terms of the trade agreement have been finalized. Therefore, the most sensitive question is: has the US been granted access to sectors that the Indian government has consistently denied? Once American products flood into India, there will be no stopping them.

Can the Indian government impose such high tariffs on American agricultural and dairy products that they lose out on competing with our farmers in the Indian market? The draft agreement does not suggest this at all. However, for now, we must rely on the statements and claims of Prime Minister Modi and Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal.

## Unseasonal political drama in UP... How will saffron vs saffron and saint vs saint end

**It's true that the path to power in Delhi mostly passes through Uttar Pradesh. It's also true that even though there's no alternative to Narendra Modi in the country, Yogi Adityanath's name is unofficially the first name that comes up as his successor. Politics often involves such deliberate and unspoken maneuvers that even seemingly easy paths become increasingly difficult. While there's currently no election fever in Uttar Pradesh, the political activity has been intense, first in the bitter cold of Paus and now in the approaching cold of Magh, and has certainly created a political heatwave-like sensation.**

Rituparna Dave

In fact, the return of Swami Avimukteshwarananda Saraswati, head of Jyotirmath in Uttarakhanda, without bathing at the Magh Mela on January 28th may have been a religious matter, but in reality, it was more political. At the beginning of the new year, the issue of "saffron versus saffron" became a major political and religious topic of debate in Uttar Pradesh. But this does not mean that everything is now alright. The public certainly did not anticipate that the controversy arising from Swami Avimukteshwarananda's insistence on bathing and going with a palanquin, and the administration's refusal to allow him, would escalate to such a large scale. Yes, politicians certainly got a big opportunity without doing anything.

In fact, Avimukteshwarananda often makes headlines for his statements. He spares no one, and this confrontation with him is being considered extraordinary. Had the Prayagraj Mela administration truly wanted, it could have avoided this, but it is said that even the smallest decisions made in politics have far-reaching consequences. That is exactly what happened. Now, people may argue that the government or Swami Avimukteshwarananda erred. But the truth is that it would be meaningless to even call this an administrative oversight or mistake.

On one hand, an angry Swami Avimukteshwarananda sat on a dharna, while on the

other, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, without naming him directly during the Shankaracharya controversy, called those who pursue anti-national or anti-Sanatan agendas under the guise of Sanatan Dharma "Kalanemish." The reference was clearly to Avimukteshwarananda. The country later witnessed what happened in Prayagraj. When the matter reached the real and fake Shankaracharyas, how could Avimukteshwarananda remain silent? He too adopted a strategy of directly confronting Adityanath. Meanwhile, the administration served a notice to Shankaracharya, stating that his attempt to forcibly enter the Triveni Sangam on January 18th could have caused a stampede. Furthermore, they even asked why he should not be barred from participating in future fairs. The tension escalated further when, in a subsequent notice, fair officials, citing a 2022 Supreme Court order, questioned the title of Shankaracharya, deepening the controversy. This was the first time the country had witnessed such a thing.

In this game of checkmate, Swami Avimukteshwarananda responded by asking, "Neither the administration, nor the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, nor the President of the country will decide who will be the Shankaracharya?" Although Shankaracharya faced accusations of being a Congress ideologue, he did not spare Rahul Gandhi. The matter escalated further when the Samajwadi Party expressed support and

several prominent leaders met with him. Indeed, over time, the Shankaracharya controversy took on a political dimension, taking several turns. While former Union Minister Uma Bharti expressed confidence that a positive solution would emerge between Swami Avimukteshwarananda Maharaj and the Uttar Pradesh government, the state's Deputy Chief Minister, Keshav Prasad Maurya, urged him to take a bath, saying, "I bow at the feet of Jyotirpeethadhiswar Shankaracharya Swami Avimukteshwarananda and request him to take a bath and conclude this matter." But this did not happen.

From here, what was originally a saffron versus saffron issue began to be interpreted along party lines. Factionalism within the BJP in Uttar Pradesh is well known. This became even more apparent when, on January 30th, BJP MLA Brijbhushan Rajput and Yogi cabinet minister Swatantra Dev Singh clashed with each other in Mahoba. The minister was returning from an event when, at around 3:30 in the afternoon, the MLA, along with 100 village heads, blocked his path, expressing displeasure over the lack of water supply to 100 villages and the failure to repair roads dug for pipelines. Similarly, Keshav Prasad Maurya's statement is not unusual. While there has been no response from the BJP, Maurya's request is being seen as the high command's stance, and the district administration's action is being seen as the Yogi government's. Undoubtedly, there is a deeper political agenda

behind such incidents, beyond the understanding of ordinary people. However, everyone knows the process through which Yogi became Chief Minister for the first time. His style of functioning has steadily increased his stature since then.

Shankaracharya Swami Avimukteshwarananda took leave from Varanasi on January 28 with a heavy heart and returned without taking a bath. He described the incident as unimaginable. However, two opposing groups have emerged among the saints. Avimukteshwarananda is also ready with all his might. He gave a 40-day deadline to give the cow the status of Queen Mother in Uttar Pradesh and to stop cow slaughter, on which Saint Paramhansacharya called it politically motivated and said that complete cow protection is possible only if not only the cow but the entire cattle (bulls, calves and Nandi) are declared national heritage.

However, people are also linking this verbal war between Yogi Adityanath and Shankaracharya Swami Avimukteshwarananda to high-level politics. Some in the political circles consider it a matter between the central and state governments, while others are linking it to Yogi Adityanath's growing stature. However, such incidents automatically reveal the underlying issue. Now, with elections due in Uttar Pradesh next year, who will gain or lose in this battle of saffron versus saffron and saint versus saint, because the silence of the BJP's central leadership or the party on such a major issue is certainly a significant signal.

## The misguided young generation is burning the Holi of values

Vijay Kumar Jain

Values play a vital role in a person's life. The first school for these values is the mother.

It is said that the potter shapes the clay to its shape. All great men have succeeded in every aspect of life by climbing the ladder of values. Values are the very essence of culture. Today, parents are not conscious of instilling good values in their children. Blindly imitating Western culture and being swept away by the current materialistic glitz, the young generation is forgetting values and heading towards decline. The young generation cannot be blamed for this decline; we are also responsible for bad values. A child receives values from his mother during pregnancy. The great warrior Abhimanyu received the

training to enter the Chakravayuh from his mother in the womb. Values build character. Those with a bright character are revered. Values are called vrittis (traits), and our tendencies are formed from vrittis (traits). If we look back about 50 years ago, parents would instill good values in a child from birth and guide them towards a successful life. Co-education of boys and girls was prohibited. Families used to keep a close eye on the daily activities of boys and girls. You are well aware of the current lack of values among the younger generation. Love marriages, inter-caste marriages, the growing trend of drug abuse, Saturday night parties for young men and women in clubs, abortion, female foeticide, pre-marital filming, suicides due to the bad habit of using mobile phones, drug

abuse in hookah pubs and clubs, live-in relationships without marriage, forcing parents to live in old-age homes, and earning money through unethical means. Many other bad habits are on the rise among the younger generation. Currently, the younger generation is pursuing higher education and occupying administrative and technical positions. There is a competition to go abroad for jobs. I believe that whether we pursue a job or business, we should adhere to our basic values. The modern communication revolution—mobile phones, the internet, Facebook, Instagram, and tutors—is being misused beyond its benefits. These are contributing significantly to the misguidance of the younger generation. Basic behaviors like waking up in the morning, wearing clean clothes, visiting the temple,

filtering water before drinking, and not eating dinner are now the responsibility of the elders of the family. Family traditions used to be followed, but we have forgotten them. Following family traditions prevented misconduct. Muniraj and saints are constantly inspiring the younger generation to follow the right path. Addressing students, the revolutionary national saint, Muni Tarun Sagar Ji Maharaj, who has attained enlightenment, made them take three pledges: 1. I will never commit suicide out of despair. 2. I will respect my elderly parents and keep them with my family. 3. I will not diminish my patriotism. Addressing a large public gathering in Shahdara, Delhi, Acharya Gyan Sagar Ji Maharaj, who has attained enlightenment, urged the younger generation to pledge that if they have a son, he will not leave his

parents and go abroad for a job. If he has two sons, one will work. The other will pursue his family business. Acharya Guruvar Vidya Sagar Ji Maharaj's most beloved disciple, the pilgrim-savior, culture-promoting, exporter, and Shramana Muni Sudhasagar Ji Maharaj, clearly states that parents are responsible for the young generation's lack of values and misguidance. Parents neglect their children from childhood. Mothers give children mobile phones in their infancy, instilling in them the habit of watching games on them. These children then become corrupted in their youth. Renowned Shwetambar Jain Muni Chandraprabh Ji Maharaj, who is instilling values in the nation's youth, delivered a sermon, saying, "A family where parents are not respected is like a graveyard."

# Delhi CM Rekha Gupta flags off 500 electric buses as BJP govt marks 1 year

**New Delhi, (GNS):** Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta on Sunday flagged off around 500 electric buses and the Delhi-Panipat bus service to mark the BJP-led government's first year in office. She was joined by Transport Minister Pankaj Kumar Singh, PWD Minister Parvesh Verma and BJP national president Nitin Nabin at the event.

Addressing the gathering, Gupta said Delhi's development had stalled for years before the BJP came to power. "For eleven years, Delhi lagged behind in development. The hopes and aspirations of the people of Delhi withered away. Delhi stopped dreaming of development. People were left yearning for basic amenities like water, sewage and healthcare. But in the 2025 assembly elections, the people of Delhi gave a befitting reply to



those who claimed to be the masters of Delhi," she said.

Taking a swipe at former CM Arvind Kejriwal, Gupta added, "Arrogant Kejriwal used to say, 'You will have to be reborn to defeat me.' But the people of Delhi, in this very lifetime, in this

very Ramlila Maidan, changed the atmosphere of Delhi by forming the BJP government. The people of Delhi showed that if they can elevate someone to power with love and affection, they also know how to bring them down." Transport Minister

Pankaj Singh said the government was delivering on its promises as it completed one year in office. "It is a matter of great joy that today marks one year since our government came into power. Even more gratifying is that we are continuing to fulfil the promises we made to the people of Delhi. Today, we have introduced 500 electric buses for the people of Delhi and are increasing connectivity between Delhi and Panipat. Our work is progressing day by day," he said.

BJP MLA Anil Goyal said the induction of electric buses would help improve the capital's environment. "This celebration is for Delhi and to fix Delhi's environment. To fix the polluted air of Delhi, 500 EV buses are being inaugurated. I thank Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, Minister Pankaj Singh and the entire team," he said.

# Biker death case: Sub-contractor's labourer arrested for not reporting fall, misleading family



**New Delhi, (GNS):** Delhi Police on Sunday arrested a labourer employed by the sub-contractor who was held in connection with the death of a 25-year-old biker who fell into an uncovered 15-foot deep pit in Janakpuri, officials said.

The labourer, identified as Yogesh, 23, was arrested for allegedly not informing the police or emergency authorities regarding the biker's fall and

also for misleading the victim's family when they came inquiring about him, Deputy Commissioner of Police (West) Darade Sharad Bhaskar said.

Yogesh was present at the spot at the time of the accident and was among the first to become aware that a biker had fallen into the pit dug by the Delhi Jal Board (DJB) for a sewer-related project, the DCP said.

# Triple suicide? 3 found dead in car parked near west Delhi flyover; 'poisonous' smell detected in vehicle

**New Delhi, (GNS):** Three bodies, including those of an elderly man and a woman, were found in a car parked near Peeragarhi flyover in west Delhi on Sunday afternoon, sending police scrambling to find out whether it was a case of triple suicide or homicide.



Responding to a call around 3.50pm informing them that three persons sitting in a car weren't responding and appeared unconscious, police found the vehicle near one of the service lanes of the flyover. On forcing the car open, cops found all three dead and a strong smell of a "poisonous substance" in the vehicle. The car's occupants were identified as Randhir Singh (76), a resident of Baprola village, Shiv Naresh Singh (47), also from Baprola, and Laxmi Devi (40). Police said Randhir Singh was found on the driver's seat, while the other two were sitting on the rear seat. The car belongs to one of the victims, police said. Cops said crime and forensic teams were called to examine the vehicle and the sur-

rounding area. Evidence was collected from the spot, and documents recovered from the car helped establish the identities of the victims.

Police subsequently contacted Randhir Singh's family, and a relative reached the spot to identify him and Shiv Naresh, who are not related but acquainted. However, the relative could not clarify Laxmi Devi's connection to the two men. Cops said cash, mobile phones and jewellery worn by the woman were found intact in the car. Forensic experts also found a soft drink bottle in the car and have sent it for forensic examination to determine whether a toxic substance was mixed in it.

# Drumbeats, rainbow flags & chants of 'azaadi' mark Delhi Pride parade

**New Delhi, (GNS):** The drumbeats arrived first, rolling down the street, followed by laughter, rainbow flags and chants of "azaadi, azaadi" echoing through the crowd. What began as a short march soon unfolded into something deeper: a shared space of joy and courage where strangers walked together and personal expressions found a voice. This was the Delhi Queer Pride parade on Sunday on Tolstoy Marg at the centre of the city. Members of the LGBTQ+ community and their allies came out in solidarity.



Among the most eye-catching participants was Khushi, who had travelled from Kanpur and was dressed like a fairy. Her wings were glinting in the sunlight. It was her first Pride march. "Only my sister knows that I identify with this community," she said. "I was not able to tell anyone else because of the social stigma attached to it even today. I want freedom from that." Her words reflected the reality many queer people from smaller towns face because visibility comes at a personal cost.

For others, Pride was about continuity and reassurance. Kohi, a student studying in London, said she last attended the march in 2023. "Now I am back," she said. "Many of my friends are from the commu-

nity, and this is the only way we can show support to each other." The march, she said, offered a sense of belonging that distance and time could not erase.

The question of acceptance, or the lack of, came up at the gathering often. Kohen, a student marching with friends, stressed that visibility was often misunderstood. "We are not telling people to go out and become LGBTQ+," they said. "We are only trying to tell them that they should accept us." Placards held aloft at the event had slogans such as "I eat gender norms for breakfast" and "Resist to exist". A long

rainbow flag moved through the crowd like a cascading banner.

Music and movement kept the energy high. Dhols set the rhythm as people danced, sang and waved flags. There was bhanga in the middle of the road. A few participants also turned up with their dogs. For those who have been a part of the movement for years, the day carried memories of a different time. Ronit recalled attending Pride events when many participants hid their identities. "Section 377 was still in force and the people feared their true selves would be revealed," he said. While the Supreme Court's 2018 ruling marked a major legal shift, he noted that social acceptance has been slower to come.

"I think we should move towards legalising marriage. That is one step that would give everyone greater strength," said Shivam, a student.

There were also many who joined to show support. An Israeli couple, Maya and her husband, became part of the march after encountering it by chance. "We did not know what was happening and came out of curiosity," Maya said, standing with her child. "But when we understood what it was about, we decided to stay and show our support."

# Delhi pit death case: Labourer who 1st spotted biker arrested for not informing authorities; called his boss and left

**New Delhi, (GNS):** A labourer who first spotted 25-year-old biker Kamal Dhyani lying injured in a 14-foot-deep pipeline pit and allegedly failed to alert authorities has been arrested from Firozabad in UP.



Yogesh (23) was present at the Janakpuri site when Dhyani fell into the pit late Thursday and informed his boss, sub-contractor Rajesh Kumar Prajapati, who also reached the site, saw Dhyani and allegedly left without informing police or arranging any rescue. Prajapati was arrested Saturday and remanded in police custody for one day.

Investigators said an eyewitness, Vipin Singh, saw the motorcycle fall into the pit and alerted a nearby residential complex guard, who then

informed Yogesh.

Meanwhile, a candlelight march was organised to mourn Dhyani's death and demand accountability for the lapse. According to a PTI report, AAP's Delhi unit chief Saurabh Bharadwaj was briefly detained, with police saying the action was taken as he was

trying to stage a protest. According to police, Yogesh reached the spot and saw Dhyani lying in the pit with the motorcycle's headlight still on. At 12.22am, he called Prajapati, who reached the site within 15-20 minutes from his Tri Nagar residence. Dhyani remained in the pit

for almost eight hours before police were alerted around 8.03am by a woman passing by while dropping her son to school. According to her family, she initially informed a security guard who paid no attention. As bystanders hesitated to contact police, she dialled PCR herself.

Police have questioned security guards to establish the sequence of events and are set to examine the main contractor who hired Prajapati. Sources said Prajapati made 2-3 phone calls on the night of the incident, and those he contacted will be questioned. Investigation revealed the pit had been freshly dug a day before the accident. While another older excavation nearby was familiar to regular commuters, this new pit allegedly lacked proper barricading.

# Second merit list for nursery admissions to be declared today

**New Delhi, (GNS):** After the release of the first nursery admission list, parents whose children did not secure a seat are now waiting for the second list, scheduled for Monday. Several schools are expected to have vacant seats due to withdrawals or non-reporting. As a result, eligibility points may ease slightly in the next round, offering renewed hope to families still in the race. The Directorate of Education (DoE) will release the second merit list for admissions to nursery, KG and Class I in Delhi schools. The list will be prepared through a lottery system and will be available online on the DoE's official website, edudel.nic.in. Parents who applied for admission will be able to check the results once the list is published.



Apart from the official portal, parents can also access admission results through the websites of the schools they applied to or by visiting the

schools in person. Schools are expected to display the relevant information on their notice boards for applicants.

Following the release of the second merit list, parents who have any objections, queries or concerns related to the admission process will be able to approach the concerned schools between Feb 10 and Feb 16 to seek resolution of their issues.

If seats remain vacant after the completion of the second phase of admissions, the next merit list will be released on March 5.

# At Delhi Airport, airside transfers between T1 and T3 inch closer as DIAL seeks BCAS, DGCA nod

**New Delhi, (GNS):** Passengers flying in and out of Delhi will see some major changes at Indira Gandhi International Airport in the next two-three months. The blueprint for ensuring a slightly smoother approach to India's busiest flying hub could also be laid during this period by planning a flyover between terminals 1 and 3 for signal-free access on wider roads.



The long-awaited air train for inter-terminal transfers is, however, stuck with little chance of it becoming a reality in the remaining one decade of GMR-backed Delhi International Airport Ltd's (DIAL) first 30-year concession period that ends in 2036. The upcoming Golden Line of Delhi Metro, which will link T1 to

Aerocity, is now being seen as the possible mode of transfer. meida takes a look at what will change by March-April at IGIA and what will remain unchanged, at least for now. DIAL has sought Bureau of Civil Aviation Security's (BCAS) nod to start airside

transfer of domestic-to-international and vice-versa passengers between T1 and T3, about eight km apart. It has also sought clearance from Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) as these buses will cross some taxiways. While BCAS will exam-

ine the move from security angle, DGCA will look at it from an aviation safety perspective. Domestic-to-domestic transfer passengers will continue to be ferried by buses from the city side between T1 and T3.

DIAL is also getting the T2-T3 airside linkage examined by multiple technical experts from various angles, including the structural integrity impact of any intervention in T2. This transfer may happen by the middle of this year.

"DIAL has applied for BCAS clearance for airside transfers between T1 and T3. Hopefully that should be in place by March and airside transfers of domestic to international and vice-versa may start by April," said people in the know.

Among IGIA's three terminals, T3 is the only one that handles international flights while T1 and T2 are all domestic. Going ahead while T1 will remain all domestic and for low-cost carriers, the proposed T4 that will eventually be built in place of the 1986-era T2 may handle both domestic and international flights. However, when the process of razing down T2 and starting work on T4 starts remains to be seen. DIAL will wait to see the impact of the long-delayed Noida Airport on the IGIA footfall. Another reason for T2 getting another extension is DIAL's 2036 timeline. DIAL can get a 30-year extension till 2066 if the then govt agrees. But big ticket decisions may have to wait till then.

Four govt agencies - BCAS, Central Industrial Security Force, immigration and Customs - are giving final touches to the process of converting T3's Pier C from all domestic to all international. DIAL expects all the clearances in Feb and then Pier C can start handling international flights by March. The airport operator had toyed with the idea of having 'swing gates' for Pier C. That would have meant this pier handling international flights at night peak hours and domestic flights during the day. However, this was not approved due to fears of domestic and international passengers getting mixed up. This summer, T3 should have three piers - A, B, C - for international flights and only D for domestic.

# PWD proposes better central verge and toe wall on Ring Road near Sarai Kale Khan

**New Delhi, (GNS):** The Public Works Department (PWD) proposed construction of a central verge and toe wall along the high-traffic Ring Road stretch near Sarai Kale Khan, aiming to curb accident risks and prevent road-edge damage on one of Delhi's most critical mobility corridors. The project, estimated at Rs 95.8 lakh, is expected to be completed within 60 days once the tender is awarded.

The Sarai Kale Khan stretch holds strategic importance in Delhi's road network. It connects key entry and exit routes to central and east Delhi and sits close to major transit hubs, including the Sarai Kale Khan ISBT, Hazrat Nizamuddin railway station, and arterial links towards Noida and the DND corridor. The road witnesses a constant mix of heavy interstate buses, commercial vehicles and daily commuter traffic. Any infrastructure weakness here can quickly translate into congestion, accident risks and faster deterioration of road edges due to heavy vehicle load



and encroachment onto shoulders. "The proposed central verge will physically separate traffic moving in opposite directions, helping reduce

head-on collision risks and lane cutting. The toe wall, meanwhile, plays a protective structural role. Reinforcing the road edge prevents soil erosion, shoulder collapse, and damage caused by heavy vehicles riding onto the edges. This is particularly important on such stretches as continuous heavy axle load can weaken pavement sides and lead to cracks, potholes and water seepage," sources said.

In addition, the installation of flexible median markers-made from high-impact resistant thermoplastic with fluorescent yellow retro-reflective material-will improve lane visibility, especially at night and during fog or rain. These markers guide drivers along lane paths without causing major vehicle damage if struck, making them suitable for high-speed corridors.

Given the corridor's round-the-clock traffic volume, officials have also specified that the contractor must carry out construction in a manner that minimises traffic disruption.

# 'Delhi will become Khalistan': Multiple schools in Delhi get bomb threat emails; security on high alert

**New Delhi, (GNS):** Several schools in the national capital received bomb threat emails on Monday, triggering panic among students, parents, and school authorities, and prompting an immediate response from security agencies.



Teams from local police stations, along with K9 units and bomb detection and disposal squads, were rushed to the affected schools as a precautionary measure.

The bomb threat message stated that "Delhi will become Khalistan," police said. School premises were promptly evacuated, and extensive anti-sabotage checks were carried out to ensure the safety of students and staff. Police said no suspicious

objects were found during the searches. Investigations are currently underway to trace the origin of the threatening emails and identify those responsible.

According to sources, the email was sent at around 7.22 am. The sender claimed that an explosion would take place at approximately 1.11 pm on Monday. The message also alleged that Parliament would be targeted at 1.11pm on February 13.

# Consumers May Soon Get To Buy & Sell Electricity Among Themselves

**New Delhi, (GNS):** The govt is set to launch a facility that will allow consumers to directly buy and sell electricity among themselves, with the amount adjusted in their monthly power bills. Peer-to-peer (P2P) energy trading under the India Energy Stack (IES) will enable electricity consumers and prosumers - consumers who also generate power through renewable sources such as rooftop solar - to trade surplus renewable energy directly with other consumers, including across state boundaries. The transactions will be facilitated through a trust-based digital framework to ensure a secure, verifiable and scalable P2P energy network.



While the buyer will need a smart electricity meter, the seller

must have a rooftop solar plant and a net meter to trade surplus energy. The two parties will be able to negotiate prices through a mobile application and complete the transaction. Officials said consumers will continue to

receive their regular electricity bills and P2P energy trades will be reflected as cumulative adjustments within the discom billing system for both buyers and sellers. They added that the system will help prosumers easi-

ly sell surplus electricity, while buyers will get power at rates cheaper than those charged by distribution companies.



P2P trading is part of the IES being developed by REC Limited and is likely to be launched during the IndiaAI Summit later this month. Initially, consumers in south, southwest, west, north and northwest Delhi, and parts of western Uttar Pradesh, will be able to trade electricity as the facility will be rolled out by three distribution companies - BSES Rajdhani Power Limited, Tata Power-Delhi Distribution Limited and Paschimanchal Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited. Eventually, all discoms are expected to offer the facility.

The three utilities together have about 1.25 crore con-

sumers, but the pilot will begin with around 1,000 consumers in each discom area. PVVNL managing director Raveesh Gupta said consumers from varied backgrounds are being identified for the pilot. "Our teams are talking to farmers, small businessmen and domestic users to onboard them for P2P energy trading," Gupta said.

Sources said similar P2P energy trading models are already operational in parts of Europe and Australia, where regulated local energy markets allow consumer-to-consumer trading of renewable power. India currently has an installed power capacity of 513.7 GW, including 266.8 GW of non-fossil energy. Solar comprises 135.8 GW of installed capacity. The govt has set a tar-

get of achieving 500 GW of non-fossil energy by 2030. Under the Pradhan Mantri Surya Ghar Yojana, launched in Feb 2024, over 20.8 lakh rooftop solar systems have been installed, benefiting more than 26.1 lakh households. A Tata Power-DDL spokesperson said consumers and prosumers will be onboarded through digital platforms for registering and operating trades. "Customers will have to download one of the applications developed by trading platform service providers as per their preference. Details regarding user interfaces, including whether a dedicated app or web-based access will be shared at the time of onboarding by the respective discoms," the spokesperson said.

## A Unique Confluence of Devotion, Culture and Nature

Held at the divine grounds of Bhavnath Mahadev, Mahashivratri Mela is a sacred celebration rooted in centuries of faith and tradition. Witness the holy dip at Mrigi Kund and the midnight procession of the Digambar ascetics, a spiritually transformative experience believed to bless lifetimes.

Be part of this historic gathering and immerse yourself in devotion with the powerful chant of "Har Har Mahadev".

Main Attractions

11<sup>th</sup> February, 2026


- ≡ Flag Hoisting Ceremony
- ≡ Maha Aarti
- ≡ Damru Yatra

11<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2026



- ≡ Sacred Dhuna of the Digambar ascetics
- ≡ Grand cultural performances
- ≡ All-day Annakshetra (community meals)

15<sup>th</sup> February, 2026

- ≡ Divine darshan of the holy procession (Ravedi) of the Digambar ascetics



# महाशिवरात्री मेला 2026

"Mahashivratri Mela at Bhavnath Mahadev Temple, nestled at the foothills of Girnar, is not merely a festival but a resounding celebration of spiritual consciousness and the eternal faith of Gujarat." - **Shri Harsh Sanghavi**, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, Gujarat