



## Rijiju said in the Lok Sabha that he had accused the Prime Minister and asked him to provide evidence

Rahul Gandhi said he was giving evidence but the Speaker stopped him. The government would issue a notice against the Leader of the Opposition

**New Delhi(GNS):** Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, delivered a speech during the Budget Session on Wednesday. He referred to the Epstein Files and the ongoing case against Adani in the US. He said that the case against Adani is a means of pressuring Modi and that it will dismantle the BJP's financial structure.

Union Minister Kiren Rijiju immediately interrupted Rahul Gandhi, saying, "Prove what you have said, otherwise your statement should not be recorded in the House." To this, the Congress leader replied, "I will give it right away. I will provide all the evidence immediately." However, the Speaker interrupted Rahul. He said, "I

haven't asked for any proof. You can continue speaking. Prove it later." Meanwhile, Kiren Rijiju said that he will file a privilege notice against Rahul Gandhi in Parliament. Rahul Gandhi will have to respond to this. **Nirmala Sitharaman said – we are moving on the path of budget reform:** Nirmala Sitharaman said, "We



are on the path of budget reform. Now you will know where your money is going. The government's

strategy for a developed India is to encourage capital in the market." Many people

spoke about the youth. They asked about schemes for them. Five regional medical hubs will promote medical tourism, creating 100,000 jobs. Other schemes will also create many jobs. We will prepare 150,000 caregivers. **Owaisi said – will a fair skinned person tell us where to buy oil?:** AIMIM

MP Asaduddin Owaisi said in the Lok Sabha, "The executive order issued by Donald Trump on February 6th directly mentions Section 4, which states that if we buy anything from Russia, a 25 percent tariff will be imposed. Who is that 'white-skinned person' to tell us from whom we can buy oil? We

gained independence so that we could decide for ourselves who to buy oil from. Who are they to tell us? Are they our parents that they can impose a 25 percent tariff on us?" He further said, Operation Insaaf should take place, and Hafiz Saeed, Masood Azhar, and Lakhvi (Zaki-ur-Rehman) should be brought to India.

Pakistan's Defense Minister said, "The US used us; they threw us away like toilet paper when they got what they wanted; we're still paying the price for our support"



**Islamabad(GNS):** Pakistan's Defence Minister Khawaja Asif said in Parliament on Wednesday that the US used Pakistan for its own benefit and then discarded it like toilet paper after its work was done.

Referring to the Soviet Union's intervention in 1979, he said that this step was taken at the invitation of the Afghan government, but America created its own narrative by calling it a direct attack.

Asif questioned Pakistan's new strategic partnership with the United States after 1999. He said Pakistan is still paying the price for standing with the United States after the September 11, 2001 attacks.

Asif said – Pakistan has not learnt any lessons from history

Asif said that Pakistan has not learned its lessons from history and has always leaned on the US, Russia, and Britain for petty gains. He said that these countries now have more influence here than they did 30-40 years ago.

He also acknowledged Pakistan's history of terrorism. Asif said that Pakistan's involvement in the two wars in Afghanistan was a major mistake, and that the terrorism in the country today is a result of those mistakes.

### Bank Strike Across the Country Today:

## Employees Announce Protest Over New Labour Codes and Demand for 5-Day Work Week

**New Delhi(GNS):** Bank employees across the country will remain on strike today, February 12. Major banking unions, including the All India Bank Employees Association (AIBEA), All India Bank Officers Association (AIBOA), and the Bank Employees Federation of India (BEFI), had announced the strike yesterday.

Due to the strike, the State Bank of India (SBI) has informed customers that banking services may be affected on February 12. Apart from SBI, IDBI Bank has also received a strike notice from the unions. Although the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) or other banks have not declared an official

holiday, work at branches is likely to be impacted due to employee participation in the strike.

### Employees Protesting Against New Labour Codes

The main reason behind the strike is the central government's four new labour codes. Unions claim that these codes will replace 29 existing labour laws, leading to a reduction in employee rights and making the registration of trade unions more difficult. In addition, employees have long been demanding the implementation of a 5-day work week in the banking sector. Unions argue that increasing work pressure has disturbed employees' work-life balance.

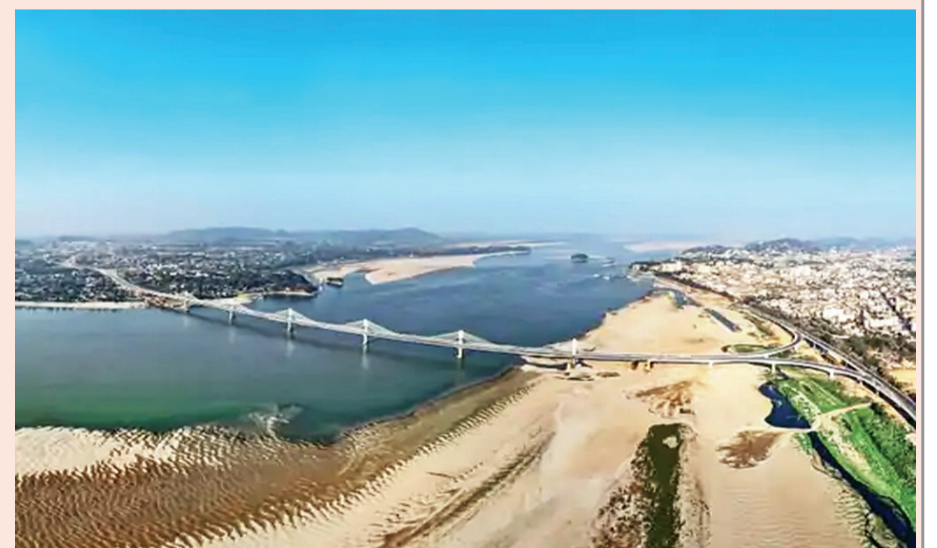
## India's longest earthquake-resistant bridge completed in Assam

Will last for 100 years, will strengthen connectivity to border areas adjoining China

**Guwahati(GNS):** The first 6-lane extradosed bridge, or "Mahasetu," connecting North and South Guwahati over the Brahmaputra River in Assam is ready. This bridge is significant not only for Assam but also for the country, as it will be India's longest extradosed bridge.

The bridge is designed using earthquake-resistant technology and has an estimated lifespan of 100 years. This area of Assam falls in earthquake zone 6, so the bridge features a special pendulum system that absorbs earthquake tremors and transmits them downward.

The extradosed bridge is



based on both girder and cable-stayed technology. This makes it stronger and more economical than conventional bridges.

Construction of the bridge is approximately 99% complete. Prime Minister Narendra Modi is expected to inaugurate it this month.

### India will now buy more oil from the US, not Russia:

## Claim: State-owned companies asked to buy American crude; decision after trade deal

**New Delhi, (GNS):**The Indian government has asked the country's state-owned oil refineries to consider buying more crude oil from the US and Venezuela, US media outlet Bloomberg has claimed in a report.

According to



Bloomberg, the Indian government made this request following the recent trade deal with the United States. During the trade deal announcement, the US President stated that India had promised to completely stop importing Russian oil.

## Industry comes out in support of jailed Rajpal Yadav

Salman Khan, Ajay Devgan, Varun Dhawan offer financial help, manager says bail could be granted tomorrow

**New Delhi, (GNS):** Actor Rajpal Yadav has been incarcerated in Tihar Jail since surrendering in a 9 crore check bounce case. The actor is currently facing financial difficulties and doesn't have the means to repay such a large sum. Following the news, several Bollywood actors have offered financial assistance to Rajpal Yadav, including Salman Khan and Ajay Devgan.

## French teacher raped 89 minors: targeted girls from 9 countries including India, over 50 years; murdered mother and aunt

**Paris(GNS):**A 79-year-old retired teacher in France has been accused of raping and sexually abusing 89 minors between the 1960s and 2022. Etienne Manto, the prosecutor in the French city of Grenoble, made the case public on Tuesday and appealed to victims to come forward.

According to a report by the AP news agency, the accused is named as Jack Levugle. According to prosecutors, Jack Levugle committed sexual crimes against minors between 1967 and



2022 in India, Germany, Switzerland, Morocco, Niger, Algeria, the Philippines, Colombia, and France.

He worked as a French language teacher and a cave study (speleology) trainer, while also traveling to meet young men and having sex with them.

The victims are estimated to be between 13 and 17 years old. The accused, a retired teacher, has been in custody since being charged in 2024. He has also confessed to the murders of his

ailing mother and elderly aunt.

89 victims exposed via USB drive

The matter came to light when the accused's nephew became suspicious. He searched his room and found a USB drive containing images of him having sexual relations with minors.

The drive contained 15 detailed accounts, in which he personally recorded his sexual encounters with minors. Investigators, after reviewing these documents, identified 89 minor victims.

## Friendship or enmity will be decided after the Bangladesh elections

Dr. Hidayat Ahmed Khan

Amid the sudden Zionist movement and violence in Bangladesh, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina steps down from power in August 2024 and seeks refuge in India. Following this, an interim government led by Chief Advisor Yunus assumes power, and a game of manipulation of international relations begins. The most trusted and friendly neighbor is alienated and the enemy is embraced. Meanwhile, neither the violence ceases nor the situation changes. With this, the election date is also announced. The general elections in Bangladesh on February 12th are not merely an occasion for a change of power, but will prove to be a decisive turning point in shaping the country's ideological direction, democratic credibility, and

relations with neighboring countries, especially India. With voting for 299 out of 300 seats and a referendum on the July Charter, these elections are expected to be significant on many levels. Nevertheless, the political environment in which the elections are being held has already raised serious questions about their fairness and transparency. The biggest question is the Awami League not being allowed to contest the elections. This party, led by former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, has been a central pillar of Bangladeshi politics. Consequently, its exclusion from the electoral fray undermines the spirit of democratic competition. Senior Awami League leader and former Foreign Minister Hasan Mahmud has questioned the fairness of the elections, calling

them a conspiracy. He alleges that the electoral process has been rigged to ensure the continued existence of a particular ideology. He even appealed to the international community to boycott such elections. It would not be wrong to say that if a major opposition party is excluded from the electoral process, the credibility of democracy itself becomes questionable. However, as the elections are underway, claims of victory and defeat have also emerged. The contest is primarily believed to be between the Tariq Rahman-led BNP alliance and the 11-party alliance of Jamaat-e-Islami and the National Citizens Party (NCP). Estimated vote percentages indicate a close contest. The return of Jamaat-e-Islami to the electoral fray after a 13-year ban is also a sig-

nificant development. It is contesting elections for the first time since 2008. In an effort to establish itself in mainstream politics, the Jamaat has fielded a Hindu candidate this time, although it is also making headlines for not fielding any women. The party argues that women's safety is a major issue, but this argument seems inadequate when considered inclusive politics.

Foreign policy is also a major dimension of Bangladesh's general elections. Jamaat-e-Islami leaders have indicated that they want to redefine foreign relations based on respect and dignity. Foreign policy of the past 16 years is being criticized as being too one-country, India-centric. The Teesta water sharing issue, border incidents, and the issue of shared river waters

have become major election themes. It is clear that Bangladesh's relationship with India is no longer uncontroversial. If the new government adopts a more rigid stance towards India, tensions in bilateral relations could further escalate. India's refusal to send observers to the elections, citing security reasons, also points to this. This either signals a cautious distance or a wait-and-see approach to internal developments. However, it should not be forgotten that for India, Bangladesh is not only a neighbor but also a vital strategic, economic, and cultural partner. Border security, stability in Northeast India, counter-terrorism cooperation, and regional connectivity all have a direct impact on Dhaka's political direction.

### Editorial

## Pakistan's drama is over

This was Pakistan's fate. It was destined to suffer this fate. It boycotted the match against Team India solely to advocate for Bangladesh and ultimately for the Muslim Brotherhood. This T20 World Cup is an International Cricket Council (ICC) event. Whether it's Pakistan or any other country, the meaningless boycott of this event has serious and sensitive implications. Countries can even lose their identity, face long-term sanctions, and the economic losses are unbearable. During Bangladesh's "Liberation War" in 1970-71, Pakistan left behind the bodies of millions of innocent people, brutally raped women, and massacred children. How can Bangladesh forget that era? How can it foster a new relationship with Pakistan? Even a dictatorial, insensitive person cannot answer these questions. However, consider the irony of Pakistan: Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif had also announced that his cricket team would not play against India. However, just two days later, he had to retract his statement, stating that friends had requested it, and therefore, his team would play in the India-Pakistan match on February 15th. How dwarfish, helpless, and foolish is Pakistan's Prime Minister! This dwarfishness is also noteworthy and worrying because Pakistan's "constitutional king," General Munir, and his brother-in-law, Pakistan's Home Minister and Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) Chairman Mohsin Naqvi, secretly wanted the match to be played against India. Therefore, certain conditions were also pretentiously imposed, for example, that the ICC should direct that an India-Pakistan bilateral series be played.

Of course, the series should be held on a neutral ground. The ICC should also direct a trilateral cricket series between India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh. A condition was also imposed that Team India tour Bangladesh. Significantly, the ICC rejected all three hypocritical conditions and clarified that this was not its prerogative. The ICC demanded Pakistan's final decision on playing the match with India.

## No-confidence motion against the Speaker of the Lok Sabha: A litmus test for democracy

**The preparations to bring a no-confidence motion against Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla are a worrying development for democracy.**

**Democracy is not merely a system of governance, but a vibrant tradition built on continuous dialogue, respect for dissent, and institutional trust. In a vast and diverse country like India, Parliament is the highest forum of democracy, where not only policies are formulated but the soul of the nation speaks. Therefore, when news of preparations to bring a no-confidence motion against a constitutional post like the Speaker of the Lok Sabha emerges, this incident is not limited to any one individual or party but calls into question the entire democratic structure. The allegations by opposition parties that they, especially the Leader of the Opposition, are not being given adequate opportunities to speak in the House, and the questioning of the Speaker's impartiality on this basis, are a matter of deep concern.**

Lalit Garg

This concern is all the more serious because the Speaker's position has traditionally been considered a symbol of balance between the ruling party and the opposition.

The role of the Speaker of the Lok Sabha is not limited to conducting proceedings; he also fulfills the constitutional responsibility of ensuring the dignity of the House, democratic decorum, and equal opportunity for all parties. If a large section of the opposition begins to feel that the Speaker's behavior is biased or that their voices are being systematically suppressed, it indicates not just political discontent but institutional distrust. The signatures of over 100 MPs to introduce a no-confidence motion indicate that the matter is not a matter of momentary anger, but the result of long-simmering disagreement and communication gap. The Speaker of the Lok Sabha serves as the guardian of the House, requiring trust and expecting impartiality. While it is equally true that such a motion is difficult to pass based on numerical strength, in a democracy, even symbolic steps sometimes convey profound messages.

The opposition parties' clear assertion that they are open to both confrontation and reconciliation, and the subsequent attempts by various senior leaders to meet with the Speaker to initiate dialogue, indicate that the scope for a solution remains unexpired. This situation compels us to consider why, in the highest forum of Parliament, dialogue is increasingly dominated by uproar, slo-

ganeering, and deadlock. Is this merely a result of distrust between the ruling party and the opposition, or a sign of the erosion of parliamentary traditions? Over the years, it has been repeatedly observed that, instead of serious discussion on important bills and issues of national importance, the House's proceedings are disrupted. This not only impacts legislative work but also sends a message to the public that their elected representatives are not serious about their responsibilities.

The greatest strength of democracy is that it allows space for dissent. The opposition's role is not only to oppose, but also to hold the government accountable and present alternative viewpoints. This requires the opportunity to speak in the House, the freedom to ask questions, and respect for criticism. If the opposition feels these avenues are being narrowed, its anger erupts in the form of protests on the streets or sloganeering, ultimately undermining the dignity of Parliament. On the other hand, the opposition's repeated disruption of House proceedings is an equally serious flaw, as it stalls the governance process and leaves public issues behind. Amidst this mutual distrust and aggression, the fundamental purpose of democracy seems to be lost.

In the world's largest democracy, if Parliament is repeatedly in the news for uproar, suspensions, and deadlock, it impacts India's democratic image internationally. If conflict and distrust take center stage instead of discussions on development, policy, and public welfare,

this does not bode well for the future. The strength of democracy comes not only from a strong government, but also from a strong opposition and impartial institutions. A position like the Speaker of the Lok Sabha is expected to not only enforce rules but also serve as a bridge of trust. The opposition is also expected to make its opposition constructive, not a means of obstruction.

Today, the need is to reinstate Parliament as a platform for dialogue, where even sharp disagreements are expressed within limits, and where both the ruling party and the opposition reiterate their commitment to democratic values. If steps like the no-confidence motion are being taken as a warning, they should also serve as an opportunity for introspection. The question is not who is right or wrong, but how to make the institution of democracy healthy, credible, and effective. The public has elected MPs not to shout slogans or disrupt proceedings, but to engage in serious debate on the country's future. If Parliament fails to live up to this expectation, the foundation of democracy weakens. It is also a fact that Shri Om Birla's parliamentary conduct as Speaker of the Lok Sabha has generally been considered disciplined, efficient, and rule-based. His tenure has clearly demonstrated his efforts to ensure timely progress in the Lok Sabha, prioritize legislative work, and engage with various parties. On numerous occasions, he has attempted to strike a balance between

the ruling party and the opposition, emphasizing adherence to parliamentary traditions and rules. He has a reputation as a Speaker who employs prudence, patience, and practical understanding to ensure the smooth functioning of the House. Given his commitment to democratic institutions, his insistence on parliamentary decorum, and his tendency to keep the doors open for dialogue, the introduction of a no-confidence motion against a Speaker like him appears to be a tragic and worrying event. This incident, more than any individual, points to an environment where distrust has become so deep that the bridges of dialogue and trust are weakening. Finally, it is time to move beyond blame and accept responsibility. The ruling party must understand that a strong opposition is not a weakness of democracy, but its strength. The opposition must accept that opposition also has its limits and creativity. And constitutional positions like the Speaker must remember that their impartiality is determined not only by adherence to rules, but also by equal treatment and opportunity. If we fail to maintain Parliament as a platform for dialogue, it will not be the failure of just one session or one government, but our collective failure to uphold democratic values. This is the point where every citizen, every public representative, and every institution must introspect, so that the path to development is paved not with the potential for destruction, but with dialogue, trust, and democratic maturity.

## Swami Dayanand, who awakened the consciousness of religion, society and nation

Yogesh Kumar

Maharishi Swami Dayanand Saraswati, revered as the founder of the Arya Samaj, was born in Tankara, Gujarat, on February 12, 1824. His birth anniversary will be celebrated on February 12. Swami Dayanand was a patriot, social reformer, guide, and a great thinker of modern India, who not only fiercely challenged British rule but also provided new direction and energy to society through his actions. He played an invaluable role in the 1857 Revolution. Swami Dayanand had a very happy childhood, but an incident in his life so deeply influenced him that at the age of 21, he left his home and family in search of spiritual and religious truth, becoming a monk. In his quest for knowledge, he met Swami Virjanand, whom he considered his

guru and acquired knowledge of Vedic and Yoga scriptures in Mathura. During his journey of renunciation spanning a total of 25 years from 1845 to 1869, he also practiced various types of yoga along with many types of divine activities.

Swami Dayanand played a crucial role in India's freedom struggle, coining the slogan "Swaraj," which was later adopted by Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak, who coined the slogan "Swaraj is my birthright." He also traveled across the country to propagate the Vedas and explain their importance to the people. Swamiji, who devoted his life to the study of the Vedas and Upanishads, benefited the entire world with this knowledge. His book "Satyarth Prakash" continues to serve as a guide for many people worldwide. Swami Dayanand, who considered the Vedas supreme, vehemently

opposed the evils and superstitions prevalent in Hindu society, citing the Vedas as evidence. His contributions to eradicating social evils like casteism, child marriage, and the practice of Sati are remarkable, leading him to be known as the "Sanyasi Warrior." He also led numerous movements for Dalit upliftment and women's education. He strongly denounced the evils and superstitions prevalent in Hinduism, Islam, and Christianity. He dedicated his entire life to human welfare, the prevention of religious evils, and global unity. He was a messenger of spiritual revolution.

Swami Dayanand founded the Arya Samaj in Girgaon, Mumbai, on the occasion of Gudi Padwa, April 10, 1875. Its primary objective was to unite the entire world through physical, spiritual, and social progress. Through the Arya Samaj, he advo-

cated following ten values. In addition to idol worship, he was strongly against caste marriages, inequality against women, meat consumption, animal sacrifice, and offerings to temples, and made tireless efforts to raise awareness about these issues. During his 59-year lifespan, Maharishi Dayanand not only awakened people against the evils prevalent in the country but also spread new light across the country through his Vedic knowledge. Although many people strongly opposed him, even eminent scholars and pundits bowed before Swami Dayanand Saraswati's logical wisdom. He believed that his life was based on the four pillars of reincarnation, celibacy, renunciation, and the principle of karma.

Swami Dayanand was a strong supporter of the Hindi language and believed that a single language,

Hindi, should be spoken throughout the country, from Kashmir to Kanyakumari. Describing the human body as mortal, he said that we have only one opportunity through this body to prove to ourselves what "humanity" and "self-conscience" are. He used to say that power is not for displaying any supernatural powers or miracles. He wanted to see all religions and their followers united under one flag. In fact, he believed that third parties always benefit from mutual conflict, and therefore, it is necessary to remove this distinction. Regarding action, Swamiji argued that thinking before action is wisdom, thinking while acting is caution, and thinking after action is foolishness. He used to say that giving the world your best will return to you the best. He said that it is not wrong to be ignorant, but it is wrong to remain ignorant.

## AI Impact Summit in Delhi: What to know - dates, venue, security, traffic and global buzz

**New Delhi, (GNS):** Delhi is gearing up to host the AI Impact Summit 2026, one of the largest global gatherings on artificial intelligence, bringing world leaders, top tech CEOs and thousands of delegates to the city amid unprecedented security and logistical arrangements.

10,000+ cops, tight security at Bharat Mandapam

More than 10,000 Delhi Police personnel will be deployed in and around Bharat Mandapam as the capital hosts the AI Impact Summit 2026 from February 16 to 20, as per news agency PTI. The force includes district police, traffic cops, specialised units and reserve forces, with deployment already underway.

The summit will see an extraordinary lineup of global leaders and tech chiefs, including French President Emmanuel Macron, Brazilian President Luiz



Inacio Lula da Silva, NVIDIA CEO Jensen Huang, OpenAI CEO Sam Altman, Anthropic CEO Dario Amodei, and Google CEO Sundar Pichai, alongside leaders from Europe and Asia.

1.5 lakh registrations, 10,000 international delegates With 1.5 lakh registrations, including

10,000 foreign delegates from over 30 countries, the event is among the largest international gatherings Delhi has hosted in recent years.

**Traffic curbs, diversions in Central Delhi:** Nearly 5,000 traffic police personnel will manage traffic and diversions, espe-

cially during VVIP movements. The Delhi Traffic Police will issue real-time advisories through social media during the summit days.

**Hotels sold out, prices skyrocket:** Luxury hotels including Taj, Oberoi, Leela, Maurya, Imperial and JW Marriott are fully booked. Suites are fetching Rs 11-30 lakh per night, while regular rooms for February 19-20 are touching Rs 5.5 lakh per night. The summit coincides with Class XII board exams, beginning February 17. Authorities are coordinating with exam centres near the venue to minimise disruption. Entry to the venue will be via QR-code passes only. A dedicated AI Impact Summit Cell has been set up for coordination, intelligence sharing and real-time response. Ambulances will remain on standby along VVIP routes.

## Roshanara Club reopens with addition of 600 lifetime members

**New Delhi, (GNS):** More than two and a half years after Delhi Development Authority (DDA) officially took possession of the century-old Roshanara Club, its doors finally reopened to the public on Tuesday with the induction of 637 lifetime members.



The authority announced the completion of the process and released the final list of members, comprising 339 under the non-govt and 298 under the govt categories.

The club remained closed to public membership for several years. Calling it an opportunity for sports lovers and heritage enthusiasts, officials said the members would have access to exclusive facilities, including the recently launched clubhouse offering food and beverage services, a card room and a gymnasium. All facilities will be available to members and their

dependants while up to six guests will be allowed per member. Officials said the response to the membership drive would be reviewed following which a decision might be taken on reopening it.

DDA took over the property following a court order upholding the eviction of the earlier management and carried out a comprehensive revamp under the supervision of lieutenant governor VK Saxena to restore the club's heritage character while upgrading its infrastructure.

## General Naravane book controversy: Delhi Police ask Penguin to join probe amid leak storm

**New Delhi, (GNS):** Delhi Police's Special Cell sent a notice to Penguin Random House India Pvt Limited regarding the alleged leak of a pre-print copy of the book "Four Stars of Destiny".

The police took cognisance of information found on social media claiming the book was circulated without clearance from authorities.

Upon verification, a PDF copy of the book was found on certain websites, and some online platforms displayed the book cover as if it was available for purchase.

Delhi Police's Special Cell earlier registered an FIR over the alleged leak of former Army Chief General MM Naravane's unpublished memoir, "Four Stars of Destiny".

According to the police, a PDF copy of the book, apparently prepared by Penguin Random House India, was available on certain web-



sites, and some online marketing platforms displayed the finished book cover as if it was available for purchase. Penguin Random House India clarified that it held the sole publishing rights for the book and did not yet publish it in any form. "We wish to make it clear that the book did not go into publication. No copies of the book - in print or digital form - were published, distributed, sold, or otherwise made available to the public by Penguin Random House India," the publisher stated on X.

## 'He was entering the middle of our call'

Lawrence Bishnoi gang claims Delhi bizman killed in Bawana for 'interfering in their work'

**New Delhi, (GNS):** The Lawrence Bishnoi gang allegedly claimed responsibility for the daylight murder of a 35-year-old businessman in northwest Delhi's Bawana. Accusing the trader of "interfering in their work", the gang warned against any hurdles in its operations, saying it would now shoot the guilty without intimidation. The authenticity of the claim, posted on social media, is being verified. The account used to post the claim is new and not the usual one used by the gang, sources said.

Lawrence and other gangs usually fire at a target's car and house to scare them into paying money. The brazen killing, if for extortion, would be new for the city. While police are probing the involvement of the Lawrence gang, a robbery gone wrong is also a strong line of probe. Sources said the shooters might have been tipped off about a cash movement in the businessman's car and targeted him. The shooters allegedly asked for Rs 1-1.5 crore at the spot and even peeked into the target's car, in which some cash was allegedly kept.

The victim, identified as Vaibhav



Gandhi, was a plastic granules manufacturer who was chased and shot on Monday afternoon near his factory in Sector 4 in the industrial area. The cops suspect the involvement of some Haryana-based shooters based on their movement after the crime.

Other angles being explored are the possibility of a business rivalry or a misunderstanding where the Lawrence gang

mistakenly identified the victim as a hawala trader who had a dispute with it over a payment of Rs 1-1.5 crore in a case involving another businessman, an investigator said.

The latest claim surfaced via a social media post authored by an account under the name 'Randeep Malik Anil Pandit'. In the post, which features a picture of Lawrence wearing a hoodie, the perpetrators stated that they had carried out the killing on behalf of the Lawrence Bishnoi, Jitender Gogi Maan, Hasim Baba and Kala Rana groups.

The message, written in a mix of Hindi and English, alleged that Gandhi was "interfering" in their operations. "He was entering the middle of our call, so we exited him from his life," the post read, adding a warning that anyone else who attempts to obstruct their "work" will be eliminated without prior notice or call.

The murder occurred around 12.51pm on Monday when Gandhi was inside his car outside the factory. According to preliminary police investigations, four assailants on bikes approached him and one of them started firing from a pistol.

## Questions raised over delay in assistance to MCD students

**New Delhi, (GNS):** With the academic session nearing its end, questions have been raised over the release of the annual Rs 1,670 assistance meant for uniforms, stationery and school bags to MCD school students, with AAP alleging delays and the BJP-led Municipal Corporation of Delhi saying that only around 30% of the beneficiaries did not receive the amount due to pending KYC issues.

AAP's MCD co-in-charge, Praveen Kumar, alleged that lakhs of students were still waiting for the annual assistance. Although Rs 109 crore was to be transferred to students' bank accounts through direct benefit transfer, only Rs 58 crore has been released, he claimed.

With the final examinations ending in Feb and the new academic session beginning in April, Kumar said the delay effectively denied children the



benefit during the current academic year.

Accusing BJP of failing poor students, Kumar said nearly 2.3 lakh children study in MCD schools, most of them from economically weaker families, including children of street vendors and daily-wage labourers. "What purpose will the money serve once the academic year ends?" he asked, alleging that BJP was

indulging in blame-shifting between Delhi govt and MCD instead of ensuring timely disbursement.

AAP's Preeti Dogra claimed that despite having control over the mayoral post and the standing committee and a majority in the MCD house, BJP failed to ensure that students received the benefit. She demanded immediate release of the pending amount, action

against officials responsible for the delay and a fixed timeline to ensure funds are credited before the start of every academic session.

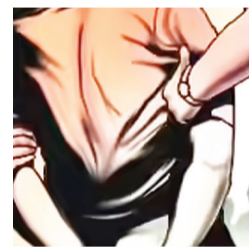
Responding to the allegations, education committee chairperson Yogesh Verma rejected claims of large-scale non-payment. Around 70% of the amount was already transferred to students' bank accounts while the remaining 30% was pending largely due to bank account and know your customer issues, he claimed. Verma added that teachers, school principals and parents had been asked to work together to complete the necessary formalities so that the remaining amount could be released at the earliest. He also said the academic session was nearing the end and efforts were being made to ensure that all eligible students receive the funds without further delay.

## Pit death: Cops add conspiracy evidence destruction charges

**New Delhi, (GNS):** Police have added charges of criminal conspiracy, destruction of evidence and common intention in the case of 25-year-old Kamal Dhyani's death after he fell into a pit in west Delhi's Janakpuri. Initially, the case was filed for culpable homicide not amounting to murder.

According to sources, the section on common intention was added as despite being aware of the incident, all the suspects didn't inform police and conspired to conceal the matter with a shared intent.

Police claimed one of the accused, sub-contractor Rajesh Kumar Prajapati, had instructed a labourer, Yogesh, to cover the site with a green sheet and place barricades near the accident spot, an act investigators said amounted to tampering with evidence. "Prajapati also allegedly directed Yogesh to leave the city," the



source added.

Raids were being conducted in Delhi and neighbouring states to apprehend two contractors, Himanshu Gupta and his brother Kavish. The brothers have moved an application for anticipatory bail

and the court directed police on Tuesday not to take any coercive action against them till Feb 18 as they have agreed to appear before the investigating officer at 11am on Wednesday. The victim's brother, Karan, said the family would hold a candlelight march on Wednesday at the site on Joginder Singh Marg. Kamal was returning home from work when he fell into the pit dug up just a few hours earlier for Delhi Jal Board's work. Although he probably fell around midnight on Feb 6, his body was discovered only around 8am after a passer-by alerted the police control room.

## From Grainy Pics To Forensics: Inside Police Unit That Finds Missing People

**New Delhi, (GNS):** Head constables Amit and Upender sit before a flickering computer monitor at the nodal headquarters of the Anti-Human Trafficking Unit (AHTU) in Rohini, their eyes scanning a grainy photograph of a teenager who vanished from a bus terminal in Delhi three years ago. For them, this isn't just another file in a mountain of paperwork; it is a puzzle that spans the breadth of the country.

Over their two-year-long tenure at the unit, they have developed a sixth sense for the digital breadcrumbs left behind by the missing. They move seamlessly between the ZIPNet portal and the Vatsalya database, cross-referencing blurred CCTV stills with records from child care institutions (CCIs) in West Bengal and Odisha.



Both are part of the AHTU under Delhi Police crime branch, a force that has turned the desperate search for the lost into a data-driven science of reunion. The genesis of this specialised unit dates back to 2014, following a directive from the Union home ministry to create a bulwark

against human exploitation. What began as a focused response to human trafficking has evolved into a sophisticated 18-unit network that blankets the NCT of Delhi.

From the bustling corridors of Indira Gandhi International airport to the sprawling railway terminuses, the AHTU operates with a mandate that covers the darkest corners of urban life: kidnapping, abduction, child labour, sexual abuse, and the rescue of those forced into begging. Stationed at Sector 16, Rohini, the AHTU acts as the central nervous system for

these operations, coordinating with district units and non-governmental organisations to ensure no child falls through the cracks of a fragmented bureaucracy.

For police commissioner Satish Golcha and special CP (crime) Devesh Srivastava Police, the AHTU is a high-priority unit that functions with a lean but elite force of inspectors, sub-inspectors and subordinate staff who treat every missing person report not as a statistic, but as a ticking clock.

The AHTU's methodology is a blend of rigorous legal enforcement and empathetic social intervention. When a minor goes missing in Delhi, the machinery of the AHTU begins to grind within minutes. The law dictates the immediate registration of an FIR, but the unit's internal protocols go further.

Within 24 hours, the details of the missing child are broadcast across ZIPNet

and the Vatsalya portal, making the information instantly accessible to every police station in the city. This digital net is cast wide, involving the State Crime Records Bureau, the National Crime Records Bureau and the CBI, when necessary. The most effective work often happens on the ground though. Officers like assistant sub-inspector Gopal Krishan, who has spent seven years in the unit, know that the digital trail is only half the battle. Krishan has personally traced more than 750 missing or kidnapped persons, often travelling to remote villages in Bihar or Rajasthan to follow a lead.

### CHANGE OF NAME

I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM YOGESH JIWAT TO YOGESH JIWATRAM VIRJIANI, B-201, GALA ETERNIA, OPP T.V. TOWER, DRIVE IN ROAD, THALTEJ-380054, AHMEDABAD, GUJARAT, INDIA

# 'Mule Account Hunter' Can Purge Cyber Fraud: Shah

**New Delhi, (GNS):** In a major push to secure India's digital financial landscape, Union home minister Amit Shah on Tuesday called for the universal adoption of the 'Mule Account Hunter' software to dismantle the evolving ecosystem of cyber-enabled frauds.

Speaking at a conference in the city, Shah revealed that India had frozen Rs 8,189 crore of the Rs 20,000 crore lost to cyber-criminals, a significant milestone in victim restitution. Till Dec 2025, enforcement agencies have cancelled 12 lakh SIM cards, blocked three lakh mobile IMEIs and arrested 20,853 people linked to cybercrimes, he added.

The software, a joint initiative by central govt and Reserve Bank of India, is a crucial tool for banks to identify and purge fraudulent



accounts used to launder stolen money.

Shah said the scale of India's digital transformation had necessitated an aggressive stance. "The country records every second digital transaction globally, with 181

billion UPI transactions valued at over Rs 233 trillion in 2024 alone," he said. With 100 crore internet users and 57 crore Jan Dhan accounts, the minister noted that cyber security had transitioned from a matter of eco-

nomics to a pillar of national security.

He pointed out that 11 years ago, the country had only 250 million internet users, whereas it had crossed 1 billion internet users today. "Broadband connections have increased nearly 16 times and also surpassed the one-billion mark. The cost of one gigabyte of data has declined by 97%, which has significantly expanded both internet access and usage." Under the BharatNet project, only 546 village panchayats were connected 11 years ago, while more than 2,00,000 village panchayats are covered now.

The enforcement strategy is anchored by Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre, which links over 795 institutions, including fintechs, NBFCs and e-commerce platforms.

## Pleas for PM's degree a bid to sensationalise issue: DU to HC

**New Delhi, (GNS):** Delhi High Court on Tuesday gave three weeks' time to Delhi University to place its objections against entertaining appeals challenging the refusal by the varsity to disclose details of PM Narendra Modi's bachelor's degree.

Appearing for DU, solicitor general Tushar Mehta told a bench of Chief Justice D K Upadhyaya and Justice Tejas Karia the matter was being pursued "only to sensationalise", despite there being "no merit". He sought time to respond on why the delay in filing the appeals against a single judge's order passed in Aug 2025 should not be condoned. HC listed the matter for hearing on April 27. In response, Shadan Farasat, counsel for parties to the appeal, said objections to the delay were not filed even after two and a half months of the court permitting DU to do so, and pointed out it was a



"small" delay of 15 to 45 days which the court can condone. He also pressed the court to issue notice, but the SG opposed it.

Appeals were filed challenging a single judge's order, which set aside a CIC decision directing disclosure of PM Modi's degree. Those appealing included RTI activist Neeraj, AAP leader Sanjay Singh and advocate Mohd Irshad. The single judge held that just because PM was holding a public office, it did not render all his "personal information" subject to public disclosure.

## Bhullar's plea for premature release rejected once again

**New Delhi, (GNS):** Sentence Review Board (SRB) of Delhi govt has once again rejected the premature release plea of Davinderpal Singh Bhullar, a convict in the 1993 Delhi Youth Congress office bomb blast case. "The board, in its meeting, considered the cases of 51 convicts for premature release. Out of them, 24 cases were rejected. The board recommended remitting the unexpired term of sentence of 26 life-term convicts," said an official. The blast had killed nine people and injured several. The plea for Bhullar's premature release had been rejected on multiple occasions over the years by SRB. Each time, the decision was taken after a detailed assessment of legal provisions and security considerations, said officials. The case has remained politically sensitive, with several Sikh organisations and Punjab-based parties pressing for his release on humanitarian grounds.

SRB is a high-level seven-member committee chaired by the home minister, which meets occasionally to evaluate the premature release of life

convicts. Its members include the principal secretary (home), the secretary of law and justice, the director general of prisons and a district and sessions judge. To maintain security and social perspectives, the board also features a senior officer from Delhi Police and the director of the social welfare department. The board's decisions are subject to the approval of the lieutenant governor.

"Each case placed before SRB is examined on its own merits. The board takes into account the nature of the offence, legal parameters and other relevant factors," said an official. LG has approved the remission for the 26 convicts, stated an order issued by the home department on Feb 5. The convicts who are granted the relief have to follow certain conditions, such as not entering Delhi for a year from the date of his release except with prior intimation to police for a cogent reason. Each of them should also report to the station house officer of the native police station in the first week of every month for the same duration.

## Rajpal Yadav in Tihar jail: After Sonu Sood and Gurmeet Chaudhary

### Tej Pratap Yadav extends helping hand to actor, announces Rs 11 lakh aid

**New Delhi, (GNS):** Actor-comedian Rajpal Yadav has received support from members of the film fraternity and political leaders after surrendering before Tihar jail authorities in connection with multiple cheque-bounce cases linked to his 2010 directorial debut *Ata Pata Laapata*.

Jan Shakti Janata Dal president Tej Pratap Yadav announced financial assistance of Rs.11 lakh for the jailed actor and his family. In a post on X, the elder son of Lalu Yadav expressed solidarity, stating that he and his party stand in "complete empathy and solidarity" with Rajpal Yadav's family during this difficult period.

"On behalf of the JJD family, I am providing financial assistance of Rs.11,00,000 (eleven lakh rupees) to their family in the spirit of human compassion and support," he



wrote. Actor Sonu Sood also came forward, offering professional support to Yadav. In a social media post, Sood said he would cast the comedian in his upcoming film and provide him with a signing amount as immediate assistance.

"Rajpal Yadav is a gifted actor who has given years of unforgettable work to our



industry. Sometimes life turns unfair, not because of talent, but because timing can be brutal. He will be part of my film. This is the moment for all of us—producers, directors and colleagues—to stand together," Sood wrote.

He added that such gestures should be seen as dignity, not charity. "A small sign-

ing amount, adjustable against future work, is not charity—it's dignity. We must remind him he's not alone."

Actor Gurmeet Chaudhary described the situation as heartbreaking and urged members of the film fraternity to unite in support. "Our industry is a family, and family does not abandon its own," he wrote.

**Why Rajpal Yadav was jailed:** Rajpal Yadav surrendered after the Delhi high court rejected his plea seeking additional time to repay dues in seven cheque-bounce cases. The court had directed him to pay Rs.1.35 crore in each case, amounting to nearly Rs.9 crore in total, and ordered that the amount already deposited be released to the complainant. When he failed to adhere to the payment schedule, the court declined further relief.

## Triple deaths in car in Peeragarhi: Police probe occult angle

**New Delhi, (GNS):** Delhi Police is investigating a possible occult angle in the case in which the bodies of three persons were found inside a car near Peeragarhi flyover in northwest Delhi.

According to sources, police have questioned 10 people, including a self-styled godman who was allegedly the last to be seen with the victims - Randhir (78), Shiv Naresh (47) and Laxmi (40) - before their deaths. Several criminal cases were previously registered against him.

When police had reached the spot, they found Randhir in the driver's seat and Laxmi and Shiv Naresh in the rear seat. The passenger seat was vacant. Investigators are trying to ascertain if the 'baba' had been seated there initially and exited the vehicle later.

According to cops, the 'godman' lives a 'simple' life, has a family, and does not wear disguises or look like a typical baba. He claims to perform occult rituals and promises to multiply money, thousands into lakhs and lakhs into crores, they said. Police officers are checking if the victims approached him in connection with financial matters, and whether any ritual or meeting took place on the day of the inci-



dent. Investigators are also trying to establish if the suspected poisonous substance was administered by the 'godman' or consumed by the victims on his advice. Police said at this stage, there is no conclusive evidence to determine whether it was a case of coercion, deception or a voluntary act.

"The 'godman' has previous criminal antecedents and has been named in other complaints of a similar nature. Many of his clients died under suspicious circum-

stances or disappeared. However, in those cases, establishing his direct culpability proved difficult because of a lack of evidence, allowing him to evade strong legal action. His recent association with Randhir and Shiv Naresh is also under scrutiny," a senior police officer said.

The victims' contact with the 'godman' appears to have started only some time ago, he added. "They were in contact with not just one but several babas, all of whom are now under scrutiny as part of the probe," a police source said.

Randhir's relative Mohit told media that less than a week ago, locals saw four unidentified 'godmen' frequently visiting the property dealer's office around 1.30am, and even during the early morning hours. According to police, preliminary findings from the post-mortem indicate Randhir and Shiv Naresh consumed alcohol. Laxmi's family has not yet arrived in the city, and details of her post-mortem report are awaited. "Laxmi was married twice. Her family was already acquainted with the 'godman'. On the day of the incident, her husband saw her off as she left with Randhir and Shiv Naresh in the car to pick up the 'baba'.

## Delhi police nab 3 men for investment fraud and arrest 4 for APK scam

**New Delhi, (GNS):** Delhi Police's Crime Branch has nabbed three men, including an LLB graduate, for their alleged role in a Rs 31 lakh investment fraud targeting an employee of a multinational technology firm. They allegedly posed as representatives of a leading investment firm and lured victims with promises of high returns on IPO through self-designed online portals.

"The syndicate recruited financially weak people to open mule bank accounts," said DCP (crime) Aditya Gautam, adding that the accused were linked to multiple complaints on the NCRP. Technical surveillance led police to Saharanpur in Uttar Pradesh, where one accused was arrested, while two were bound down.

Sarvjeet (35), an LLB graduate, allegedly provided a mule bank account in the name of a charity for money and handed it to co-accused Pawan (33) and Puneet (32), who supplied such accounts to cyber



fraudsters. Puneet also allegedly received a bank account kit from Sarvjeet and a previously arrested accused, Deepak Saini. In another case, four men were arrested for allegedly cheating a chartered accountant from Krishna Nagar in Shahdara by posing as a private bank agent. The accused allegedly sent her an APK file on social media and debited Rs 75,694 from her credit card.

DCP (Shahdara) Prashant Gautam said the money was used to purchase electronic items online, which were delivered to Charmwood village in Faridabad.

## Childhood, Interrupted: Covid, Pollution - And Bomb Hoaxes

**New Delhi, (GNS):** The school bell rings on time, but inside classrooms, there seems to be chronic uncertainty about whether the day will be devoted to learning or disrupted by yet another crisis.

In recent years, multiple academic sessions had been fractured by prolonged Covid-induced closures, severe pollution alerts and choking winter fog. Now, a new and deeply unsettling pattern - bomb hoaxes targeting schools across the city - is worsening the situation.

In recent months, dozens of institutes received emails claiming explosive devices had been planted on their campuses, prompting evacuations, police sweep along with bomb-disposal

units - triggering intense anxiety among students, staff, and parents. Inevitably, these threats later turn out to be hoaxes.

With parents reporting growing concern over the toll these incidents take on their wards' sense of safety, schools are working with law enforcement and cyber units to trace the origins of the threatening messages and strengthen their response procedures. Amid this relentless uncertainty, teachers struggle to ensure both safety of children and ensure continuity in their studies.

For younger kids, the impact is immediate and deeply emotional. Repeated evacuations, educators say, are quietly eroding their sense of

safety. "What worries me most is their reaction," says Tania Joshi, principal of Indian School. "The other day after we received one such mail, I saw nursery children sitting on the lawn, with teachers trying to make it feel like a picnic. But some of the kids kept asking why they weren't going back to class. It will be criminal to explain the meaning of bomb threats to very young children. You need to choose your words very carefully."

Jyotika Jakhar, principal of Tagore International School, echoes this concern. "Students come to school with a plan for the day, and suddenly everything changes. For them, the entire experience can be frightening.

You end up explaining that this is part of the world they are growing up in, which is actually sad. Schools are following all protocols and drills, but they still have to face the disruption," she says.

Yet shielding the children completely from the menace is nearly impossible. "The reality is that they know," Joshi says. "Parents talk about it at home, and with the wide exposure today, nothing is really hidden. Recently, a Class II child asked me whether police had been informed about the bomb threat."

Parents, too, are witnessing the impact spill over beyond school gates. Prateek Kapoor, whose son is in Class III, says uncertainty has begun to affect

the kid's daily routine. "My son cling to me some mornings, asking if he will get to attend classes. He doesn't fully understand what's happening, but knows something is wrong."

Some schools have adopted a more calibrated approach. At Ahlcon School, principal Sanjay Yadav says classes continue as usual following police clearance. "Initially, evacuations did cause anxiety, but over time, with repeated counselling, our students have become more settled," he says, adding that "more than them, it's the parents who panic once such a news breaks."

Educators agree that the cumulative impact of these threats is significant. "Beyond disrupting the academic calen-

dar, these false alarms trigger emotional trauma and a sense of insecurity among children," says Jas Elanjikal, principal of St Michael's Senior Secondary School, Pusa Road.

The scale of the disruption is stark. "Over 150 schools in Delhi-NCR have received such threatening mails in 2025 and this year," says Rooma Pathak, principal of M M Public School, Pitampura. "Beyond the academic loss, it takes a toll on students' mental health, making it difficult for them to focus and for schools to ensure holistic learning." For many educators, the deeper fear, though, is normalisation of the threat. "One day, it may turn out to be real. So, we can't take any chance," Joshi says.