



Sunetra Pawar met PM Modi and Shah...the issue of merger with Sharad faction put on hold

Mumbai (GNS): Maharashtra's newly appointed Deputy Chief Minister Sunetra Pawar met with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah in Delhi. This is her first visit to Delhi since taking over following the sudden demise of her husband and NCP leader Ajit Pawar. Sunetra was accompanied on this visit by her two sons, Parth and Jay, and senior NCP leaders and Rajya Sabha MPs Praful Patel and Sunil Tatkare. During the visit, Prime Minister Modi expressed his deep condolences on the passing of Ajit Pawar and assured Sunetra Pawar of the central government's full support for her new responsibilities. Contrary to these discussions, NCP (Ajit Pawar faction) leaders clarified that the issue of merging with the Sharad Pawar faction is not on the current agenda. Many party MLAs are strongly



opposing the idea of ??a merger. The Ajit Pawar faction of the NCP continues to oppose the merger. Leaders associated with Ajit have refused to go along with any consolidation. There was no discussion about the merger of the NCP and NCP (SP) during the visit, and it was not on the agenda either. It's worth noting that Sunetra Pawar has not yet resigned from the Rajya Sabha. She is currently adopting a "wait and see" approach regarding her next political move. However, there is consensus within the party that Sunetra should be appointed National President. The process of selecting a National President is expected to begin by the end of February. A National Executive meeting will be held in Mumbai to formalize these steps. It is also reported that the party is positive about sending Parth Pawar to the Rajya Sabha.

Taking medication on AI advice can be costly if you fall ill; HIV medication user develops rare disease

New Delhi (GNS): With the increasing use of the internet and artificial intelligence (AI), the trend of self-medication can prove fatal. A shocking case recently emerged from the capital, Delhi, where a 45-year-old man, who took HIV prevention medication on the advice of AI, developed Stevens-Johnson Syndrome (SJS), a rare and potentially fatal disease. According to reports, the man was fearful of contracting HIV after unprotected sex. This fear led him to rely on the internet and AI instead of consulting a specialist doctor. Based on the information he received from AI, he purchased and began a 28-day course of post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) drugs. According to medical experts, PEP drugs are only given within 72 hours of potential infection and under strict medical supervision.

Doctors reported that the patient developed rashes about seven days after starting the medication, a sign of a serious allergic reaction. Despite this, he refused to stop taking the medication. The condition gradually spread to the eyes, mouth, and other sensitive areas of the body. As his condition worsened, he was admitted to the hospital, where, after examination, doctors confirmed Stevens-Johnson syndrome, a serious and rare disease that causes destruction of the skin and mucosa, requiring intensive care in the intensive care unit (ICU). Senior doctors at the hospital also expressed concern about how such sensitive and high-risk medications were available to the patient without a prescription. This incident sends a strong message that in health matters, AI and the internet can only serve as a source of information, not a substitute for a doctor. Taking medications without expert advice can lead to serious organ damage, permanent disability, or even death. Experts have urged the public to consult a qualified doctor in case of any illness or concern rather than self-medication.

Indo-US special forces joint exercise 'Vajra Prahar' will focus on counter-terrorism operations

New Delhi (GNS): In a new boost to defense cooperation between India and the United States, special forces from both countries will participate in the joint military exercise "Vajra Prahar" in Himachal Pradesh. The exercise will be held from February 23 to March 16 in Bakloh, Himachal Pradesh. Counter-terrorism operations will be a key focus during the exercise.



defense diplomacy have remained consistently strong. "Vajra Prahar" is an important part of this cooperation. This exercise was initiated in 2010 and has been conducted alternately in India and the United States since then. "Vajra Prahar" is a specialized military exercise

involving elite special forces commandos from both countries. Its objective is to enhance coordination in joint operations, share operational experiences, and strengthen understanding of modern warfare techniques. During the exercise, special attention is paid to joint mission planning, operational tactics, and advanced technologies used in special operations. In previous editions, special forces from both countries have conducted joint exercises on counter-terrorism operations. These included scenarios such as airborne opera-

tions, para-drops, maneuvers in difficult mountainous terrain, long-range precision shooting, waterway infiltration, and rescue operations. Simulating both conventional and non-conventional combat scenarios prepares commandos for coordinated action in challenging conditions. Bakloh is considered a key training center for Special Forces. Specialized training is provided here for operations in difficult and mountainous terrain, simulating real-life conditions.

Voter turnout in Muslim-majority districts in Assam rises, declines in tribal areas; 2.43 lakh names deleted

Guwahati, (GNS): The final voter list was published on Tuesday after the completion of the Special Revision (SIR) process in Assam. The new list has seen massive changes, with names of over 2.43 lakh voters deleted compared to the draft list. This reduction is about 0.97 percent of the total names in the draft list. According to data shared by the state's Chief Electoral Officer, 24 out of 35 districts in Assam have registered a decline in the number of voters, while 11 districts have seen an increase in the number of voters. Analysis of the data revealed a distinct demographic pattern. Most of the state's Muslim-majority districts saw an increase in the number of voters in the final list

compared to the draft list. In contrast, the three hill districts with a majority tribal population and the five districts within the Bodoland Territorial Region saw a significant decline in voter turnout. Furthermore, the Kamrup (Metropolitan) district, which includes Kamrup and Guwahati city, also saw a decline in voter turnout. State Chief Electoral Officer Anurag Goyal clarified that officials had worked diligently to ensure an error-free voter list. He also argued that similar errors are often encountered whenever a special in-depth revision is conducted in any state. Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma reacted sharply to the development. The Chief Minister claimed that this was

just the beginning and that more suspicious voters would be removed from the list during future special revisions. He praised the BJP workers and said that despite all the intimidation and threats, they lodged complaints against suspicious names, the result of which is visible in this list. Interestingly, even the Chief Minister's own constituency, Jalukbari, has seen a significant decline in voter turnout. In Jalukbari, where Sarma has been a five-time MLA, 4,310 names have been removed from the nearly 2.11 lakh voters. According to an official press release, the draft list published in December last year had 210,624 names, which has now dropped to 206,314.

Actor Rajpal is serving his sentence in Tihar Jail No. 2, where gangster Chhota Rajan was also lodged

New Delhi (GNS): Bollywood comedian Rajpal Yadav is currently in Tihar Jail. The Delhi High Court sentenced the actor to this sentence in a cheque bouncing case involving approximately 9 crore (approximately \$1.9 billion). Behind bars, Rajpal Yadav is now receiving support from Bollywood, but for now, he is serving time in Tihar Jail No. 2 like a regular prisoner.



Media reports, citing sources, have stated that Rajpal Yadav is not receiving any VIP treatment in Tihar Jail. He is in Jail No. 2, the same barrack that once housed gangsters like Chhota Rajan and Neeraj Bawana. Rajpal is reportedly quiet most of the time and focused on the legal process. Tihar is considered one of Asia's largest prisons, and the rules for inmates there are extremely strict. Like any other prisoner, Rajpal is subject to the prison manual.

According to sources, Rajpal comes out of his barracks at sharp 6 a.m., where he is given tea and breakfast after his daily routine. After spending the entire day inside the prison, he is served dinner at 6 p.m. Food and drinks are provided according to the prison's established menu, which includes lentils, vegetables, roti, and rice. Due to the high-security ward, other inmates are eager to meet him, but due to strict security, no one is allowed to approach him. The actor's presence in prison in this manner is shocking to his fans, but the rules in Tihar are the same for everyone. Now, all eyes are on what happens next on the legal front and when he will receive relief.

Rajpal had borrowed approximately 75 crore from Murali Projects Private Limited for his directorial debut, "Aata Pata Lapata." The film flopped at the box office, resulting in significant losses. Unable to repay the loan, interest and penalties mounted, bringing the outstanding amount to approximately 99 crore. Rajpal issued several cheques, but they were dishonoured, leading to a criminal case under the Negotiable Instruments Act.

The concept of 'joint family' under Hindu succession law is different from that under Muslim law

Ahmedabad, (GNS): The Gujarat High Court gave its verdict on the property dispute in a Muslim family and the Joint Hindu Family Act. A Muslim woman had filed a petition in the lower court for a share in her father's property, citing the Joint Hindu Family Act. The lower court had given a verdict in the woman's favour, then the matter reached the High Court, which gave a detailed verdict on the entire matter. In the petition filed in the Gujarat High Court, the Muslim woman had challenged a family arrangement made in 1983 and had demanded a share in the immovable properties of her late father.



The High Court clarified that the concept of "joint family" under Hindu Succession Law is completely different from that of Muslim law. In Muslim law, succession is individual. Justice J.C. Doshi's 50-page judgment stated that Muslim law does not, unlike

Hindu law, provide for the benefit of the family as a whole. Therefore, property acquired by some members cannot be considered jointly owned by all. The court ruled that succession to property in a Muslim family applies only after death. This case involves the

descendants of the late Wali Mohammed Kaduji and his wife, Ayesha. Kaduji's daughter had filed a petition in the trial court seeking "administration of the estate," meaning a legal share in her father's property. According to a family arrangement dated April 25, 1983, both daughters were given 30,000 rupees in exchange for their father's property. One sister had already relinquished her rights. The woman claimed that her brothers had falsely promised to grant her a share in the properties. She alleged that the properties were ancestral and that her father had purchased land in the brothers' names to evade

the Tenancy Act. The trial court granted interim relief in her favor in 2024, but the High Court termed this a "serious error" and "perversity." The court stated that the trial court failed to consider that the parties were Muslims and that Muslim law applies, where the concept of "joint family property" or "ancestral property" does not exist. The court explained that while Hindu law grants the right to inheritance by birth, Muslim law does not. The principle of "nemo est haeris viventis" applies, meaning a living person has no heirs. Property is distributed only after death, and no surviving member can claim ancestral property.

Is the opposition's concern about caste discrimination justified?

Dr. Hidayat Ahmed Khan

The greatest strength of Indian democracy is its Constitution, which has established the ideals of equality, liberty, and fraternity as the foundation of national life. Despite this, it is deeply regrettable when, from time to time, disturbing incidents of discrimination based on caste, sect, and religion, and violence and lynching occur. Such incidents indicate that a deep gulf still exists between constitutional values and social behavior. Instead of bridging this gulf, so-called leaders engaging in dirty politics are seen to be engaged in the despicable task of widening it. This issue is discussed before every election, and incidents continue to occur, thus putting everyone, whether in power or the opposition, in the dock. However, the

issue of caste discrimination raised by Leader of the Opposition Mallikarjun Kharge in the Rajya Sabha, draws attention to this gulf. In this context, the opposition's concern is not only justified but also an essential part of democratic discourse. The incident of children being excluded from an Anganwadi center in Odisha because a Dalit woman cooked food, cannot be considered merely a local dispute. This reflects a mindset that challenges modern India's claims of development and progress. Anganwadi centers are among the most sensitive social institutions in the country, laying the foundation for children's nutrition, health, and early education. If exclusions based on caste bias arise there, it not only insults an employee but also violates the rights of children who deserve

equal opportunities and nutrition. It should not be forgotten that Article 14 of the Constitution guarantees everyone the right to equality before the law. Article 15 prohibits discrimination on the basis of religion, caste, or gender, while Article 17 explicitly declares the abolition of untouchability. Furthermore, Article 21(a) guarantees the right to education, and Article 47 mandates the state to improve nutrition and public health. If caste-based biases lead to exclusions from nutrition programs, it contradicts the spirit of these constitutional provisions. Therefore, condemnation of such incidents and events is insufficient. Other incidents cited by Congress Party President Kharge in the Rajya Sabha include the inhumane treatment of a tribal laborer in Madhya Pradesh, the

suicide of a Dalit employee in Gujarat, and institutional discrimination in Chandigarh. These cases demonstrate that the problem is not limited to the societal level. The situation becomes even more serious if prejudices exist within institutional structures. Stringent laws like the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act are meaningful only if they are effectively and fairly implemented. It is also true that the issue of caste discrimination often becomes a political debate. Accusations and counter-accusations between the ruling party and the opposition sometimes overshadow the underlying problem in the political noise. However, this does not diminish the seriousness of the issue. In a democracy, the role of the opposition is not merely to criticize but also to hold the gov-

ernment and society to account. If the opposition raises issues of social justice, it should be understood within a broader social context rather than merely through a political lens. It is the government's responsibility to address such incidents rather than dismiss them as isolated incidents. It is essential to conduct prompt and impartial investigations, take strict action against the perpetrators, and ensure the safety of victims. It is equally important to launch social awareness campaigns to convey the message that caste-based discrimination is not only illegal but also morally unacceptable. The values of equality and respect need to be implemented, especially in Anganwadis, schools, and other educational institutions. Social justice is not established solely through legislative provisions; it comes from a change in the mindset of society.

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 Munsir, 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. These formalities must be completed on an international platform.



Sarojini Naidu, the renowned poet and freedom fighter known as the Nightingale of India, was born on February 13, 1879, in Hyderabad, India, to Bengali Brahmin parents Aghornath Chattopadhyay and Barada Sundari Devi. Her birth anniversary is celebrated annually as National Women's Day. Sarojini Naidu (February 13, 1879 – March 2, 1949) was a prominent activist in the Indian independence movement, an influential orator, and a poet. She was born in Hyderabad into a wealthy family. Her first marriage was to Sarojini Aghornath Chattopadhyay (Chatterjee).



National Women's Day is celebrated on the occasion of the birth anniversary of Indian freedom fighter Sarojini Naidu

Sanjay Goswami

Aghornath's family was from Brahmanagar village in East Bengal. He came to Hyderabad in 1878 with the aim of establishing an educational institution and later became the Principal of Nizam College. Aghornath, renowned as an educationist and ardent activist, greatly influenced Sarojini. Her mother, Varadasundari Devi, was originally from Bengal and a Bengali poet. From childhood, Sarojini was influenced by her cultured parents, who nurtured her poetic talent and encouraged her to write poetry from an early age. She received her early education privately at home. At the age of twelve, she secured first place in the Madras Matriculation Examination (1892). Naidu began writing at the age of 12. Her Persian play, *Maher Munir*, greatly impressed the Nizam of Hyderabad. She entered the University of Madras (now Chennai) at the age of 12 and studied at King's College London, later attending Garton College, Cambridge (1895-98). During this time, she participated in the suffrage movement in England. She returned to India in 1898 and married Govindaraju Naidu, a South Indian physician she met in England. After returning to India in 1898, she married Dr. Govindarajulu Naidu, a widowed physician serving in the Nizam's court, according to the traditions of the Brahmo Samaj. This marriage was notable for being inter-provincial and inter-caste, linking Bengal and Madras. Their daughter, Padmaja Naidu, followed in her mother's footsteps and entered the

Indian independence movement and politics. Sarojini Naidu believed that the nationalist movement was linked to the women's liberation movement. She was associated with the Women's Indian Association, which aimed to strengthen and secure women's voting rights. In 1917, Naidu, along with British feminist Annie Besant and Indian suffragist Herabai Tata, led a delegation to discuss women's voting rights with Edwin Montagu, Secretary of State for India (1917-1922), and Lord Chelmsford, Viceroy of India (1916-1921). The Government of India Act of 1919 granted women the right to vote in Indian provincial councils. However, this right was limited nationwide. After India's independence in 1947, universal suffrage was established. Mahatma Gandhi and Sarojini Naidu participated together in the Salt March of 1930. This march was a significant event in the Indian independence movement, resulting in the 60,000+ Indians were arrested. During the 1920s, Naidu became increasingly active in politics and supported the Indian National Congress and Gandhi's Non-Cooperation Movement. In 1924, she toured East Africa and South Africa to rally support for Indians living there, and the following year, she became the first Indian woman to become president of the Indian National Congress—a position held eight years earlier by Annie Besant. Naidu also traveled to North America in 1928-29 to lecture on the nationalist movement. Upon returning to India, her anti-British activities—particularly the Salt

Satyagraha, the Civil Disobedience Movement, and the Quit India Movement—led to her being imprisoned several times in 1930, 1932, and 1942-43. After studying briefly in London and Cambridge, she was forced to abandon her studies due to health problems and, after traveling to Italy, returned to India. During this time, she met the English literary critic Edmund Gosse, who showed her some of her poems and provided valuable guidance for her future writing. As a result, it gained considerable popularity at the time and marked the beginning of Sarojini's social work. They had four children: Jayasuriya, Padmaja, Randhir, and Lailamani. Randhir later became prominent in the political movement in Hyderabad, while Padmaja became the Governor of Bengal. Padmaja Naidu (17 November 1900 – 2 May 1975) was an Indian freedom fighter and politician who served as the fourth Governor of West Bengal from 3 November 1956 to 1 June 1967. Sarojini Naidu considered Gokhale her mentor and followed Gandhi's leadership with complete devotion. During the plague outbreak in Hyderabad, she worked tirelessly to help the people in every possible way. For her efforts, she was awarded the Kaiser-i-Hind Gold Medal, but returned it to the British government in protest after the Jallianwala Bagh massacre. She propagated the principles of the Congress through various movements, including the Rowlatt Act, the Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms, the Khilafat Movement, and the Sabarmati Pact, and actively participated in

Non-Cooperation Movement. She was influenced by the thoughts and conduct of G.K. Gokhale, Rabindranath Tagore, Lokmanya Tilak, Annie Besant, C.P. Ramaswamy Iyer, Jawaharlal Nehru, Mahatma Gandhi, and other eminent figures, and met them frequently. She toured India with Annie Besant and C.P. Ramaswamy Iyer to promote the Home Rule League. In her speeches, she advocated for the welfare of youth and workers, dignity, women's freedom, and nationalism. Gosse wrote the preface to her first collection of poems, *"The Golden Threshold"* (1905), which gained considerable popularity in the literary world of the time and received positive reviews from newspapers. Furthermore, Rabindranath Tagore praised Sarojini's work. Sarojini considered Hindu-Muslim unity and women's right to work equal to men as her life's goals. She delivered numerous lectures across the country on the occasion of the Home Rule Association, and even prominent figures like Gokhale were impressed by her powerful speeches. After Tilak's death, she fully embraced Gandhian principles and made radical changes to her dress and lifestyle. She moved from Hyderabad to Mumbai. She was elected a member of the Bombay Municipal Corporation and later became President of the Provincial Congress in 1921. In 1923, she visited South Africa to interact with Indians there and observe their conditions. In 1925, she was elected President of the All India Congress Session in Kanpur.

Live-in relationships are becoming a threat to life

Manoj Kumar Agarwal

Recently, a case has come to light in which Sunny preyed on young women under the pretext of promising them work in short films. He then pushed them into the quagmire of prostitution. Police have arrested Sunny, his mother Ranjana, and her lover, Pradeep. Live-in relationships are at the root of this crime.

In the case of Sonali of Mahoba's body, which was found wrapped in a blanket and thrown near Yamuna Expressway toll plaza of Khandauli police station of Agra on Friday, the police have sent the woman's lover Sunny, who was living in a live-in relationship with her, his mother Ranjana and her mother's lover Pradeep to jail. The deceased's sister Bharti had lodged an FIR in the matter. During interrogation, it has come

to light that Sunny used to trap young women on the pretext of getting them work in short films and force them into prostitution. He had killed Sonali when she opposed his friendship with another young woman.

In the second case, a young woman found in critical condition on the Sugnadevi College campus in Indore, Madhya Pradesh, died during treatment. Passersby had brought the injured woman to MY Hospital. She had numerous tattoos on her arms and body, and she also had marks of a blade cut on her body. Initial examinations led doctors to suspect she had been abused, and samples were taken.

Police investigation revealed that the woman was attacked by her live-in partner. The accused had struck her with a stone with the intent to kill. The woman died late at night during

treatment.

Live-in relationship or consensual relationship is a system in which a man and a woman live like husband and wife without getting married and also have physical relations with each other and many even have children. Such consensual relationships are common in Western countries. Following their example, this evil has spread to countries like India, leading to tragic consequences. Those in live-in relationships do not hesitate to murder their partners, and a spate of such incidents has been occurring recently. Let us inform you about some more such incidents. On November 27, 2025, in Chhawla area of Delhi, when a man named Virendra Singh was stopped from drinking alcohol by his live-in partner, Virendra Singh got angry and strangled her, due to which she died.

On November 30, 2025, in Chennai (Tamil Nadu), a young woman named Priyanka, who had left her husband and was living in a live-in relationship with a man named Govindaraj, killed Govindaraj due to a dispute over something. On December 8, 2025, in Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh), a widow named Ratna, with the help of her two daughters aged 18 and 14, murdered her live-in lover Surya Pratap Singh by slitting his throat and told the police that he had evil eyes on her elder daughter.

On January 4, 2026, police arrested a South Korean national's live-in partner from Manipur in Greater Noida (Uttar Pradesh) for stabbing him to death. According to police, the deceased was an alcoholic and frequently assaulted the woman, leading to this tragic incident. On January 8,

2026, Ram Singh, a retired railway employee living with Preeti in Jhansi (Uttar Pradesh), was arrested for Preeti's murder. On January 12, 2026, Praveen Kumar, Aarti's live-in partner, was arrested in Ghaziabad (Uttar Pradesh) for the murder. According to police, the two had a quarrel after drinking, leading to Praveen Kumar stabbing Aarti repeatedly in the ribs and chest, killing her. On January 18, 2026, a woman named Sheetal murdered her live-in partner, Hariom Singh, in Chandpur, Bijnor (Uttar Pradesh). During interrogation by the police, Sheetal told that when she got pregnant during their relationship, Hariom Singh got her abortion done and despite her repeated requests for marriage, he was not agreeing. Due to this, she got angry and went to her home on 15th January.

Foundation stones laid for IIT-Delhi expansion

New Delhi, (GNS): Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan on Wednesday laid the foundation stones for Academic Block 103 and Girls Hostel 50B at the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IIT Delhi), marking a major expansion of the institute's academic and residential facilities.

Academic Block 103, IIT Delhi's first 10-storey academic building, will have a built-up area of nearly five lakh square feet, rising 36.75 metres with two basement levels. It will house 31 classrooms and lecture theatres, 150 research laboratories, 150 faculty offices, conference rooms, the Educational Technology Services Centre, and amenities including a cafeteria and banking facilities.

The new Girls Hostel 50B, spanning 3.9 lakh square feet in a B+G+12 configuration, will accommodate around 1,400 students. It will feature double occupancy rooms with built-in cupboards, study tables, universal charging points, and a dining hall.



Both projects aim for a 4-star GRIHA rating and incorporate sustainability features such as rooftop solar panels, passive design strategies, rainwater harvesting systems, landscaped public spaces, and low-VOC materials. Planning has preserved exist-

ing trees, avoiding the need for tree-felling permissions. The estimated cost for the projects is ₹430 crore, funded through various Government of India schemes.

The foundation stone-laying ceremony was attended by senior Ministry of Education officials,

IIT Delhi Director Prof. Rangan Banerjee, faculty, staff, and students. These developments are expected to significantly enhance IIT Delhi's academic capacity and residential infrastructure while emphasizing sustainable and eco-friendly design.

2 killed, 3 injured as SUV rams into truck on Delhi-Meerut Expressway



New Delhi, (GNS): Two women were killed and three others, including two children, injured when their SUV collided with a container truck on the Delhi-Meerut Expressway on Thursday morning.

The two women, identified as Deepanjali (38) and Neelam Garg (55), were declared dead at the scene. One victim was found outside the vehicle, while the other was trapped in the front left passenger seat.

The driver, Deepanshu Garg, along with two minor

children, Vivan (5) and Vashu (3), sustained injuries and were taken to hospital for treatment.

Police received information about the accident at around 6:43 am near the MCD Toll on NH-9, in front of the Vinod Nagar Depot in Delhi. Officers rushed to the scene immediately.

Preliminary investigations revealed that the car, coming from the Ghaziabad side, crashed into a container truck near the toll booths.

HC Issues Contempt Notice On Tihar Death

New Delhi, (GNS): Delhi High Court on Wednesday issued contempt notices to the Delhi Police commissioner and the Tihar Jail authorities in a case involving the death of an undertrial in judicial custody on Feb 10.

Asham Sayed died while receiving treatment at RML Hospital after being shifted from Tihar Jail, even as his family alleged negligence and delay in getting proper treatment despite a high court order on the same day.

"Considering the circumstances of the case, and in particular, the fact that the petitioner admittedly died while in judicial custody, having been admitted to hospital by the jail authorities, all authorities concerned are directed to forthwith provide all requisite approvals, permissions and all necessary documents, to ensure that the petitioner's postmortem is conducted expeditiously," Justice Anup J Bhambhani ordered, after it emerged that Sayed's postmortem could not be conducted as the hospital had sought documents from the jail authorities. In a swift interven-



tion, HC ordered the medical superintendent of RML Hospital "to seize and seal all medical records and documents relating to the petitioner's admission and treatment at that hospital, including the CCTV footage relating to the petitioner's admission and his stay at the hospital, and forward the same under sealed cover to the registry of this court within three days". The court further directed the medical superintendent to submit a copy of the postmortem report and ordered the jail superintendent to make available all medical records to Sayed's wife.

One unnatural death every second day in Delhi in the past 40 days

New Delhi, (GNS): The national capital recorded two deaths in a span of five days as a 25-year-old youth died after falling into a pit in West Delhi's Janakpuri and a labourer died after falling into an open manhole in Rohini, which exposes the civic infrastructure of the national capital and negligence of subsequent governments. These are not lone cases as an analysis by The Tribune correspondent revealed that one unnatural death occurred in the national capital on every second day in the past 40 days.

The analysis revealed that the city recorded 16 fatal incidents in which 32 people lost their lives. The primary categories of these deaths were homicide (murders), suicide and accidental deaths (mostly road, infrastructure related). On the first day of the year, three stabbing incidents were reported in the national capital that left three people dead.

In the first incident, a 15-year-old boy was stabbed to death. In another case, a 20-year-old e-rickshaw driver was stabbed over personal enmity and a 50-year-old tailor was killed for asking to stop loud music. The accused in these cases were later arrested by the police.

Just a few days after on January 5, an elderly couple Virender Kumar Bansal



(75), a retired teacher, and his wife Parvash Bansal (65), was found murdered at their home in East Delhi's Shahdara district. Later, the police arrested a house help who killed them in a robbery bid.

On January 6, a 17-year-old student was beaten to death by a group of teens in the Trilokpuri area. Cops detained all six accused in this regard.

On the same day, a 25-year-old man allegedly killed his mother, sister and minor brother after feeding them food laced with dhatura and later strangled them at their home, before walking into a police station to confess. The police said the crime was allegedly driven by severe financial distress faced by the family.

A shocking incident took place on January 10 when a 44-year-old woman,

who was coming back to her house, was shot dead at point-blank range in north-west Delhi's Shalimar Bagh area. The deceased was identified as Rachna Yadav, a resident of Shalimar Bagh and the resident welfare association (RWA) president of her locality. Three men, Bharat Yadav, alongside two associates, Nikhil (22) and Sumit (23), were arrested from Bihar and Haryana following an intensive, multi-state operation.

The motive behind the murder was that Bharat Yadav, who was already a proclaimed offender in the 2023 murder of the victim's husband (Bijender Yadav), orchestrated this killing to prevent Rachna from testifying in court. On January 31, a couple was found dead in separate rooms at Delhi's home in a suspected suicide pact; note hints at financial distress. On Sunday three bodies, including those of an elderly man and a woman, were found in a car parked near the Peeragarhi flyover in west Delhi, sending police scrambling to find out whether it was a case of triple suicide or homicide. Later, it turned out to be murder and an occult was held in this regard. Recently, a 49-year-old property dealer was found dead at his house on Monday in South Delhi's Vasant Kunj.

In hope of 'dhanvarsha', 3 Delhi residents fall prey to tantrik's evil plan

New Delhi, (GNS): The Outer District Police have solved a sensational triple murder case involving Delhi residents who were allegedly poisoned as part of a well-planned conspiracy for financial gain.

A self-styled tantrik, identified as Kamruddin, alias Baba, has been arrested in the case. He was operating a so-called tantric centre in Loni and Firozabad.

Police investigations revealed that he lured victims by promising "dhanvarsha (a shower of wealth)" through tantric rituals, gradually gaining their trust and mentally influencing them. He allegedly mixed poison in laddoos to kill them and then robbed them of cash and valuables.

During inspection of the vehicle, police recovered liquor bottles, cold drink bottles, empty glasses, mobile phones, cash, helmets, jackets,



Aadhaar cards, and other personal belongings and documents.

Taking the case with utmost seriousness, police conducted detailed technical analysis and interrogated connected persons.

Investigations revealed that all three victims were in contact with a tantrik who had assured them of financial gains

through rituals.

Technical evidence showed that the victims had visited Loni, Ghaziabad, one day prior to the incident and again on the day of their deaths, remaining in constant contact with Kamruddin.

Further analysis indicated that an additional person was present in the car during their return journey. This person

was identified as Kamruddin, who allegedly boarded the vehicle in Loni and later abandoned it at the place of occurrence before the incident came to light.

Kamruddin was apprehended and initially attempted to mislead investigators. However, during sustained interrogation, he disclosed that around two months earlier, Laxmi had been introduced to him through an acquaintance named Salim. Laxmi later introduced Shiv Naresh and Randhir to him. He allegedly convinced the victims to perform a "pooja" for "dhanvarsha" and asked them to bring Rs 2 lakh in cash along with liquor and cold drinks.

According to his disclosure, he prepared laddoos mixed with poison and accompanied the victims in their car. During the journey, he induced them to consume liquor, cold drinks, and the poisoned laddoos.

4 robotic telesurgeries performed from Delhi on patients 1,200 km away in Gujarat



New Delhi, (GNS): Four robotic tele surgeries were completed at Delhi's Sir Ganga Ram Hospital with surgeons operating on patients 1,200 km away in Gujarat's Vapi using a high speed internet. The hospital's expert team accomplished four complex procedures across urology and general surgery within 24 hours with ultra-low latency.

Surgeons said they can now perform remote surgical procedures through telesurgery, which uses secure high-speed connections to link different operating sites.

"Telesurgery allows us to deliver the same precision and surgical confidence across distances as we would in the operating room," said Dr Vipin Tyagi, Robotic Coordinator.

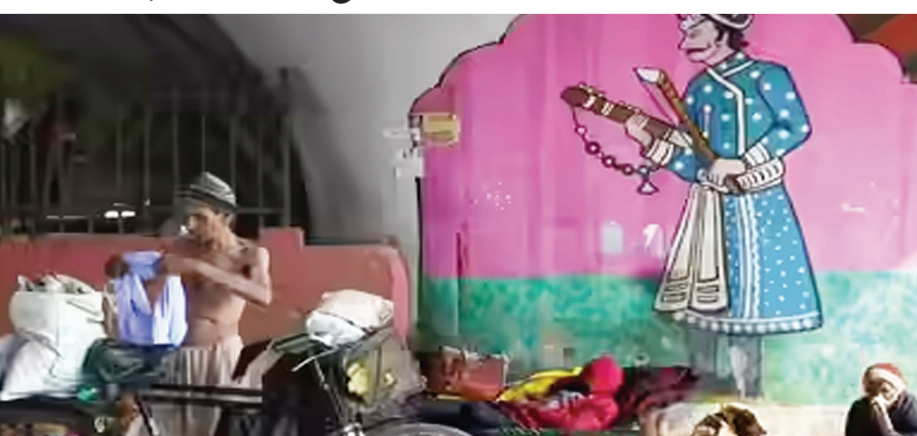
Dr A K Bhalla, honorary secretary of the Board of Management, said, "The integration of robotics and digital connectivity represents a meaningful step forward in surgical science. The ongoing development of connectivity together with surgical technology will create more chances to connect treatment facilities with patients in remote areas."

'Used To It', Say Homeless, As Another Shift Beckons

New Delhi, (GNS): As Delhi gears up to host high-profile dignitaries for the upcoming AI summit, those who spend their lives beneath its flyovers, on footpaths and central verges say they are accustomed to being asked to temporarily "move aside" whenever the city prepares to present a polished face.

Authorities have already told Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board to start shifting the homeless as part of measures to ensure smooth traffic movement, security and general preparedness during the next week's high-profile international event.

On Wednesday afternoon, Media visited some stretches near Lodhi Road, Red Fort railway bridge, M G Road, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg and Bhairon Marg, and found several people resting, eating, playing cards, shaving and changing their clothes in the



open. Most of them, migrants from Bihar, UP, West Bengal and Nepal, are daily-wage labourers, ragpickers and, in some cases, beggars. Many said thefts and overcrowding deter them from moving into shelter homes and that they would rather shift to other roadside locations. "The shelters are

cramped, money and personal belongings are often stolen from there," claimed a man who stays on a footpath on M G Road. Others said they would prefer putting up in the shelters instead of sleeping in the open, but can't do so as they lack identification documents. Though none has so far been asked to shift because of the AI summit, they said temporary displacement during VVIP movement is common. "Whenever dignitaries pass from this stretch, police ask us to clear it for some time. We cooperate. After all, this is not our personal land," said Krishna, 43, who stays near the Red Fort railway bridge and is part of a team that

itches tents at weddings and events. Ashok Ram (40) from Bihar, who sleeps on a footpath on MG Road, said, "We stay here, so in a way it feels like home. We work here and there, and we sleep wherever we find space. However, when I was first asked to shift to another place ahead of the visit of a dignitary, it felt disturbing. Now, we are used to it. If they ask us to cooperate, we do." An elderly couple Media spoke to near Hanuman Mandir close to the Red Fort flyover said police usually ask them to vacate the area for a few hours or days when a major event is scheduled nearby. "Sometimes they drop us off at shelter homes, but we don't stay there for long," Pooja (50) said, alleging lack of space and safety. Her belongings had gone missing during previous stints at such shelters, she claimed. Abdul, 60, originally from Kolkata, has been living intermittently near Bhairon Marg for nearly a year. Paralysed in both legs following a stroke in 1981, he

depends entirely on his wheelchair. "I have been staying outside a temple," he said. "If I am asked, I will shift somewhere else. We already live on the road without a roof. What more discomfort can there be?" However, he is wary of shifting to a shelter. "This wheelchair is my everything. If it is stolen, I can't even move around to get food," he said. "In shelters, there are so many people.

WESTERN RAILWAY
FINAL LOCATION SURVEY & DETAIL PROJECT REPORT
 Deputy Chief Engineer (C) Works/pw, Western Railway, 1st floor, Station Building, Churchgate, Mumbai - 400 020
 Invites Tender No. CAO-C-Works-FLS-DPR-4, Date: 10.02.2026. Name of Work: Carrying out Final Location Survey (FLS) and Preparation of Detail Project Report (DPR) for New BG Railway Line between Nimach-Banswara-Dahod-Airajpur-Nandurbar over Western Railway.
 NIT Cost: ₹ 6,72,17,820/- Bid Security: ₹ 4,86,100/- Bidding Start Date: 16/02/2026. Bid Submission Closing on: 02/03/2026. Tender Document Opening on: 05/03/2026. For further details please visit our website www.ireps.gov.in 1113
 Like us on: facebook.com/WesternRly

1st year laid foundation; infra, Yamuna, pollution focus areas, says Delhi CM Rekha

New Delhi(GNS): CM Rekha Gupta outlined Wednesday a series of measures taken by her govt over the past one year to curb dust and vehicular pollution in the capital, while rejecting allegations that air quality data was, in any way, manipulated or deliberately concealed.

In a free-wheeling interview with Media, Gupta said dust and smoke remained the two major contributors to Delhi's air quality crisis. The CM asserted that in its first year, her govt was grappling with "legacy issues" while vowing that Delhi would breathe easier within a couple of years.

She said her govt had implemented a structured dust mitigation plan with short-, mid- and long-term interventions. Among long-term solutions, she pointed to the ambitious target of "wall-to-wall carpeting" of roads. Gupta said her



govt had prioritised electrification of public transport. "Today there are 4,200 EV buses in Delhi, more than any state in the country," she said.

Gupta expressed regret over the twin deaths in less than a week linked to civic neglect. "As CM and as a woman and a mother, I under-

stand that there can be no greater pain than this," she said.

Referring to trolling, she said, "When your statement, your words are twisted and presented by removing commas and hyphens... it hurts."

What are your govt's biggest achievements so far?

CM: One year is a very short time to achieve major milestones, but it has certainly been a year of laying strong foundations for big projects. One of our biggest achievements is the implementation of Ayushman Arogya Yojana, ending a wait of nearly 10 years. Today, around 7 lakh people have registered under the scheme. Approximately 25,000 people have already received treatment, and govt has made payments of about Rs 45 crore. Many elderly citizens and families are now covered under the Rs 10 lakh health insurance cover, which is a significant relief for them. I consider this one of our most impactful initiatives. The second major initiative is Atal Canteen scheme, which is both important and humane. The guiding principle behind it is that no one should go to bed hungry. If a labourer or a poor person can get a meal for Rs 5, they do not have to beg or

depend on anyone. This scheme ensures dignity, along with food security.

Another milestone is the addition of 4,200 EV buses. Since there are limited manufacturers of EV buses and delivery takes time, we have already placed advance orders to meet Delhi's future transport requirements. We are focusing on improving last-mile connectivity. We are working on important policies in health, education and sports. For example, Delhi now offers the highest prize money for sports in the country. We are investing in expanding Delhi's metro infrastructure, which is already the largest in India, and ensuring it continues to grow.

What has govt done to improve infrastructure?

Delhi's roads require comprehensive redevelopment. We have planned large-scale upgradation

and wall-to-wall carpeting of nearly 1,400km of roads under PWD. There is focus on overhauling Delhi's decades-old drainage system as well, much of which is nearly 50 years old. To replace this outdated infrastructure and build a modern drainage network, we are undertaking a project estimated at

Rs 56,000 crore. This will be funded through a combination of bank loans, support from the Centre, and contributions from Delhi govt. The goal is to permanently address chronic issues, such as waterlogging, sewer overflow and drain mismanagement. We are investing in new water supply lines and sewer networks. On the social infrastructure front, we are constructing schools and hospitals, developing mini-secretariats to decentralise administration and building residential accommodation for govt employees.

Court acquits two in murder of IAF staffer

New Delhi(GNS): A Delhi court has acquitted two men accused of murdering a 33-year-old Indian Air Force (IAF) staffer in 2014, holding that the circumstantial evidence was inadequate and failed to form a complete chain pointing to their guilt.

Additional sessions judge Gurmohina Kaur was hearing the case against Brahm Prakash and Khajaan Singh, accused of killing the IAF staffer, Arun.

According to the prosecution, on the intervening night of Dec 27-28, 2014, the two allegedly struck Arun multiple times on the head with a stone before running him over with a van. His body was later found near a DJB site in Dwarka. Initially treated as a road accident, the case was later investigated as murder. The prosecution alleged that the accused tried to destroy evidence by discarding the victim's mobile phone and washing bloodstains from the vehicle. An FIR was registered at Dwarka North police station, and charges were framed under various sections of Indian Penal Code, including murder.

On Feb 5, the court said that suspicion alone could not justify conviction.



"Merely on the basis of doubt of the family of the deceased, the accused cannot be convicted, especially when the circumstantial evidence is insufficient and does not form a complete chain of events leading to the inescapable conclusion of guilt," the judge noted.

Emphasising that the burden of proof lay on the prosecution, the court added, "Every accused is presumed innocent until proved guilty."

The court pointed to key gaps in the investigation, including the fact that the alleged weapon was never recovered and no evidence was collected to show when or where the tyres of the vehicle were washed.

4-year-old boy dies after e-rickshaw hits him outside school

New Delhi(GNS): A four-year-old boy died after a rashly driven e-rickshaw hit him outside a school in southwest Delhi's Chhawla on Feb 3. Police arrested the e-rickshaw operator.

The boy, Aarav, who was set to be enrolled in school soon, was rushed to hospital where he was declared dead. At least three children had lost their lives in accidents involving e-rickshaws in the city last year, reinforcing a general perception that they are an unsafe mode of transport.

Aarav accompanied his mother and aunt to the school to pick up his elder sister in the afternoon. They were waiting near the school gate around dispersal time, his father, Bharat Sharma, said. The area was crowded, with around 10 to 15 parents waiting for their wards to come out of the school.

At around 2pm, minutes before the classes were to end, an e-rickshaw hit Aarav, who was holding his mother's hand. He fell down and was run over by the vehicle, which then sped away, Sharma, a sales executive and a resident of Goyla Dairy in Chhawla, said. Aarav's mother Janki and her sis-



ter-in-law, Archana, took the unconscious child to a hospital in Dwarka in another e-rickshaw. Doctors examined him, but he had died by then.

A case under sections 281 (rash driving or riding on a public way) and 106(1) (causing death by negligence) of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita was registered at Chhawla police station on Feb 4. Cops scanned CCTV footage before catching 25-year-old Deepanshu, the e-rickshaw operator, who lives in Goyla village.

Sharma said the family was looking to a new chapter in Aarav's life. "We were planning to enrol him in school this year. He was excited to begin his classes. But our dreams have been shattered," he said.

In March last year, a 10-year-old child lost her life after being crushed by an e-rickshaw in Jailorwala Bagh in northwest Delhi's Ashok Vihar. In Aug, an eight-year-old girl died after an e-rickshaw overturned and fell on her in northeast Delhi's Jafraabad. In Oct, a five-year-old girl was killed after a speeding e-rickshaw lost control, overturned and hit her while she was playing near her home in southwest Delhi's Uttam Nagar.

**सोमनाथ
स्वाभिमान
पर्व**
अटूट आस्था के
1000 वर्ष
महाशिवरात्रि

Incredible India

Shri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister

Shri Bhupendrabhai Patel
Hon'ble Chief Minister, Gujarat

A symbol of India's unwavering faith, courage and enduring spirit

On the auspicious occasion of Mahashivratri, Somnath Dham, the first Jyotirling, will be illuminated once again by a sacred confluence of devotion, culture, and sādhana

INAUGURATION BY **Shri Bhupendrabhai Patel**
Hon'ble Chief Minister, Gujarat

14 February, 2026 | 6:00 PM onwards | Somnath Temple Premises

Festival Highlights

Performances by Renowned Artists and Diverse Cultural Programmes

Maha Aarti at Triveni Sangam

Sand Art Installations

"Somnath Mahadev is the first Jyotirling and the epicentre of Sanatan Sanskriti. Celebrating Mahashivratri here brings forth a divine confluence of devotion, art, and faith. Let us bow at the feet of Lord Shiv and seek his blessings"

Shri Harsh Sanghavi, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, Gujarat

Tourism Corporation of Gujarat Limited
Udyog Bhavan, Block No. 16,
4th Floor, Sector 11,
Gandhinagar - 382011
@gujarattourism.com