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Important meeting between PM Modi and Canadian PM Carney at Hyderabad House

New Delhi (GNS): Prime Minister Narendra Modi warmly welcomed Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney at Hyderabad House in New Delhi on Monday. This meeting is considered significant as it could elevate bilateral relations between the two countries to new heights. Earlier, Canadian Prime Minister Carney met with Foreign Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar. Following the meeting, Carney expressed his happiness in a post on the social media platform X. PM Carney's visit to India comes as relations between the two countries are moving towards normalization. It should be noted that upon arriving in Delhi, PM Carney posted on X, stating that India and Canada are moving towards becoming new partners in energy, talent, innovation, and AI. This meeting will thus open a new door to prosperity for both countries. A crucial meeting took place between PM Modi and PM Carney at Hyderabad House on Monday morning. Following the meeting, bilateral talks began between the delegations of the two countries, with an emphasis on giving a new direction to India-Canada relations. Key issues discussed included increasing investment, expanding trade, strengthening energy cooperation, and advancing the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA). Sources also reported



that discussions were also held regarding controlling Khalistani extremist activities. According to sources, a key objective of Prime Minister Carney's visit is to advance a potential 10-year uranium supply agreement between India and Canada. This proposed deal is reported to be worth approximately \$3 billion. Canada is the world's second-largest uranium producer and has been supplying uranium to India since the nuclear cooperation agreement came into effect in 2013. Annual bilateral trade between the two countries exceeds \$21 billion. More than 600 Canadian companies are active in India, while Canadian pension funds have made significant investments in various sectors, including real estate and logistics. Prime Minister Carney stated that despite political differences, Canada will remain a reliable partner for India's rapidly growing economy.

Middle East Conflict: Impact of West Asia tensions on Delhi airport, passengers appeared worried due to flight disruptions

New Delhi, (GNS): Flights at Delhi airport have been affected due to the escalating conflict in West Asia. Passengers were seen upset at Delhi airport as many flights were cancelled and delayed. A passenger said that due to the worsening situation in the Middle East, there is difficulty in travelling to Mecca-Medina as flights are affected due to the fighting. One Saudi airline is running on time, but flights of airlines from India and other countries are affected, causing inconvenience to the people. A family is traveling from Delhi to Saudi Arabia to perform Umrah. They were seen waiting for their flight at Delhi airport. One passenger said, "We are going to Mecca to perform Umrah. The situation is very difficult, but when our turn came, we decided to go. We applied a long time ago, when everything was normal."

A female passenger said, "All flights between India and Saudi Airlines were running normally. There were no disruptions and no problems. We appreciate that Saudi Airlines has taken full care of its Haj pilgrims. Saudi Airlines has not cancelled any of its flights. The information we have is based on the latest news updates." Another female passenger said, "There is a little fear, but Allah is there. He is there to protect them, that's all. I mean, we should have a little faith. He will not leave you alone. He will be there when you stand up."

On Khamenei's death, the female passenger said, "It's very sad. It's very painful to know that he was a supreme leader. He was an advocate, an advisor, and above all, he was the protector of Islam. He was showing the right direction, he was leading, and he didn't bow to anyone. Until his last breath, he didn't bow to anyone and he remained fearless. This is a great thing, and it gives us courage that we should not bow to any circumstances or conditions. We should bow only to Allah."

Major success in anti-Naxal operation, Bolangir and Bargarh districts cleared of Maoists; many surrender

New Delhi, (GNS): Odisha Police has achieved a major success in the fight against Naxalism. The state government has now officially declared Bolangir and Bargarh districts Naxal-free. Fifteen Maoists active in these two districts have surrendered to security forces. These Maoists laid down their arms at a ceremony held in Mahasamund district of neighboring Chhattisgarh. Senior Odisha Police officials were also present on this special occasion.

Odisha DGP
YB Khurania issued a statement on Sunday stating that security forces have carried out continuous operations across the state. He said that this important milestone has been achieved as a result of this hard work. The total number of Naxal-free districts in Odisha has now risen to seven. The list of safe districts includes Nuapada, Nabarangpur, Koraput, Malkangiri, Boudh, Bolangir, and Bargarh.

Following Khamenei's death, all Indian states are on high alert, embassies' security beefed up

New Delhi, (GNS): The Union Home Ministry has directed all states and union territories to remain on high alert in view of the assassination of Iran's Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei and the subsequent US-Israeli attacks. The ministry has asked all security agencies to remain vigilant due to the possibility of law and order situation deteriorating. Every movement of pro-Iran and anti-Iran groups is being closely monitored. Security has been increased at embassies and sensitive places in Delhi to ensure that Indian soil is not used as a battlefield by any foreign group.

According to media reports, the government has ordered special security deployments at the US and Israeli embassies, consulates, Jewish institutions, and places where foreign tourists gather. Iranian cultural centers



have also been placed under security cover. Police have been instructed to control any demonstrations by pro-Iran or anti-Iran supporters before they become law and order problems. The activities of extremist organizations and pro-Iran radicals on social media are also being monitored closely. The government has stated that any activity that threatens the internal peace of the country will be taken seriously and action will be taken.

Israel-Iran war: Central government ensuring safety of Indian citizens caught in conflict

New Delhi (GNS): Union Minister Kiren Rijju said the central government is working to ensure the safety of Indian citizens stranded in the Israel-Iran conflict. Rijju said the government, under Prime Minister Modi's leadership, is prepared to respond to such situations. Previous governments did not provide the extensive assistance now being provided by the Ministry of External Affairs through its embassies in various countries.

Meanwhile, Odisha Minister Prithviraj Harichandan said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Ministry of External Affairs are making every effort to evacuate Indian citizens stranded

in conflict zones in West Asia. Harichandan, a minister in the Odisha government, said the government has made complete plans and the evacuation process is proceeding on schedule.

Harichandan said that Prime Minister Modi and especially the Ministry of External Affairs are making efforts to evacuate Indian citizens. The central government has made a plan and everything is happening on schedule.

Meanwhile, Nasir Khuehami, national convenor of the Jammu and Kashmir Students' Union, wrote to Prime Minister Modi requesting the evacuation of approximately 1,200 Kashmiri students from affected Iranian areas following the US and Israel's military strikes on Iran.



Gujarat Urban Development Mission (GUDM) Bags Best Community Impact Project Award

Urban Development Achieved Through State-of-the-Art Command & Control Centres and Technology Receives National Recognition



Gandhinagar (GNS): Under the leadership of Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel, the cities of Gujarat are being equipped with modern facilities through planned urban development initiatives. The Gujarat Urban Development Mission (GUDM) is strengthening municipal areas across Gujarat with improved infrastructure and civic amenities to improve citizens' well-being. Recognising this focused approach, India Water Foundation (IWF) has announced the 'Best Community Impact Project Award' for the Integrated Command and Control Centre that monitors sewer network cleaning operations in 156 municipalities of Gujarat. Under the



guidance of Shri Kanubhai Desai, Minister of Urban Development and Urban Housing, a state-of-the-art Integrated Command and Control Centre has been established to strengthen sewer network maintenance across Gujarat's municipalities. This has improved monitoring, ensured better upkeep of sewer systems, and enabled water reuse, saving lakhs of litres. The technological integration supports the state's

Shankaracharya is supreme and revered, we will welcome him wherever he goes

Varanasi (GNS): The insult to Shankaracharya Avimuktেশwarananda and the pulling of a child's hair in Prayagraj continues unabated. Amid CM Yogi's harsh comments, Deputy CM Keshav Prasad Maurya has once again supported the Shankaracharya. Maurya, who arrived in Kashi on Monday, expressed his respect for Shankaracharya Avimuktেশwarananda. He said that Shankaracharya is supreme and revered. Wherever he goes, we will welcome him. He also called SP chief Akhilesh Yadav a hypocrite.

According to media reports, Maurya said that Shankaracharya's place is supreme. He is Lord Shankaracharya, and we will welcome him wherever he goes. As a devotee of Lord Rama, I am personally prepared to congratulate him. The Deputy CM also responded to Shankaracharya's allegations of cow slaughter within the UP government. Challenging the opposition on the issue of cow protection, he said that the rule of law now prevails in UP. Our government has unwavering faith in Mother Cow, and no criminal or murderer in the state has the power to harm Mother Cow.

I cannot pay an alimony of Rs 12,000 per month with my monthly income of Rs 9,000... Husband laments in the Supreme Court

New Delhi (GNS): An interesting divorce case is being heard in the Supreme Court of New Delhi, in which the husband's salary and the wife's demand for alimony became the main issue. The husband claimed that he is a daily wage laborer and barely earns 9,000 rupees a month, so he cannot give his wife alimony of 12,000 rupees every month. The husband told the Supreme Court that his daily income is around 325 rupees and despite this, even after working hard, he earns only 9,000 rupees. But the Supreme Court expressed doubts about the husband's claim. The bench of Justice Vikram Nath and Justice Sandeep Mehta said that in today's times, no one pays such a low salary



and this does not seem credible. The Supreme Court said that if the husband cannot provide maintenance, then he should live with his wife so that she can

take care of food and the children's livelihood. During the hearing in the Supreme Court, the husband's lawyer said that his client is declaring his income truthfully and is ready to file an affidavit to this effect. The Supreme Court told the husband that it is his responsibility to arrange money for his wife's maintenance and he must find some way

to fulfill this, even if it means borrowing money. Earlier, the lower court had granted the divorce and ordered the husband to pay Rs 6 lakh to his wife. However, the wife was not satisfied with this amount and demanded an increase in the High Court and the Supreme Court. She presented two options to her husband—either pay Rs 12,000 per month as alimony, with a fixed increase every year, or pay Rs 30 lakh in one go. The court reserved its decision after the hearing. In this case, the Supreme Court made it clear that the wife's rights cannot be ignored by using financial constraints as an excuse and the husband must fulfill his responsibilities, even if it requires extra effort.

Color on the face, difference in the mind...why?

Kapil Bhargava

Holi colors are flying everywhere. Joy permeates the air. No one here is distinguished by their appearance, color, or caste. When you see a large crowd painted in the same hue, you should join them. This togetherness is Holi. Saint Kabir has been explaining this Holi in a very different way and in a different way. In this joy and celebration of Holi, one of Kabir's words comes to mind.

Kabir says...
The sky is dark, there is a festive atmosphere every day.

Knowledge, gular, abir and arghya, friends came running and took it. I have applied colours with great enthusiasm, please give good wishes to my beloved.

Holi is in the middle of the sky, no guru can write from the sorrow.

Wherever you hold the word rope, its beauty cannot be described.

Satguru gave me the name Fagua and quenched the heat of my body.

Kabir says, 'Bhai Birhini, you are happy, you are a traveler.

The true colors of Holi are hidden in these lines... While the message of the joy of abir-gular-faag is clearly visible, the big question here is: what kind of Holi are we playing today? Are we drifting away from our true Holi? In India's cultural tradition, Holi is not just a festival, but a vibrant celebration of social harmony and human relationships. It is an occasion when, through colors, we find an opportunity to brush away the dust within our minds, heal the cracks in relationships, and infuse life with new energy. Holi reminds us that the true beauty of life lies not in external colors, but in

inner feelings. Today is a time of fast pace, competition, and personal ambitions. Families are drifting apart even while living together. Formal messages have replaced communication, and arguments have replaced empathy. Disagreements, ego, and misunderstandings over small matters create walls between relationships. In such a situation, Holi becomes an opportunity to break down these walls and build bridges of intimacy.

Known as the Festival of Colors, this vibrant festival is a time of joyful embraces, with people throwing colorful powder and water on each other. Our country is an agricultural nation, and therefore, all major festivals are celebrated accordingly. Diwali and Holi fall at the junction of seasons. When the new harvest begins to arrive in farmers' homes, the expectation of prosperity brings

joyful joy. The changing seasons also bring changes to food habits. We worship the produce of the new harvest on these festivals. This is the purpose of throwing wheat stalks and sugarcane into the burning Holika. Now that winter is departing and the signs of summer are beginning to be heard, the festival of colors, Holi, has arrived. People will lavishly apply colors, throw gular, and celebrate.

Holi is not a festival of any particular caste, religion or region in India; it is identified as the culture of the country. The spring season is infusing new consciousness in the life of the people, the golden breeze of Phagun makes the atmosphere pleasant, only then the colors of Holi get mingled in the folk life. Not only this, festivals like Holi are celebrated at different times all over the world, the real purpose of which is

to spend some fun-filled moments away from the tensions and to get rid of the unnecessary things of our surroundings.

Ironically, Holi has now become a terrifying phenomenon. In reality, Holi means "Holi," meaning that what's past is past, and now we can look forward to the future. Let go of grievances, forgive mistakes, and drench each other in the colors of love, affinity, and nature.

The speciality of this festival is that people forget their enmity and hatred and unite, which is why it is also a festival of harmony. Therefore, even while playing Holi, we must be careful not to apply colors that harm or disrupt mutual harmony. In the name of Holi, avoid doing anything to friends and loved ones that might hurt them. You can also play with colors happily, avoiding addictions.

Editorial

Tourist Season Applications

Summer begins far from the clouds, farmers in the fields, bathers in the bathrooms are troubled. Himachal is inherently troubled. In the mountainous regions, garden flowers are entangled in dry branches, and the ravines below are ashamed of their banks. What kind of spring is this, one that is nervous at the news of its arrival? The snow is afraid of the water hidden beneath it. Melting glaciers, and the season of dreams is melting. A few travelers and a few trips will still make Himachal a tourist state. Even though skiing on the slopes was weak this year and Shimla's ice skating rink failed to accumulate snow, the coming summer will require better weather in Himachal. Requests for the tourist season have already arrived, so the coming four months hold the seeds of a whole year. The efforts to appear different from last year and different from every year will reveal how successful we have been in making tourism a festival. The danger in Himachal Pradesh now is that when tourists become a horde, it brings with it a growing problem, bringing with it complaints of negative tourism. To make this season meaningful, at least, it's essential to remove the negative aspects. The ways of spending summers in the mountains are changing. Some want peace, while others crave the ocean of vehicles traversing both ends of the Atal Tunnel. The doors of the tourist season haven't even opened yet, yet the Atal Tunnel is restless with the noise of approximately 1,200 vehicles daily. Traffic jams between McLeodganj and Dharamshala and at almost every road intersection signal the end of the season. We might earn more this time by increasing entry fees, but how will we improve traffic? A tourist versus citizen amenity conflict has also begun. The pressure on roads due to parking needs and the growing holes in the city's reputation ultimately put the season at the mercy of ordinary citizens. Similarly, who will quench the thirst of tourists when water supply data shows a crisis?

There's a conflict between the revenue and costs of the tourist season. While the entire industry will be cloaked in profit and loss, the extent to which the leisure and moments of life of ordinary people in tourist cities are being snatched away requires consideration.



It's said about Holi that when the spring breeze begins to flow, people begin to feel joyful, and nature begins to change its appearance, then understand that Phalgun has arrived, meaning Holi has knocked on your door. Holi is a festival that automatically brings joy to people's hearts and colors them in its colors. This joy of nature gives birth to a new enthusiasm, a new joy, a new energy in people's hearts, delighting them.



The unique tradition of playing Holi while sitting on a donkey!

Dr. Shrigopal Narsan

Celebrate this unique splendor and intoxication of nature as Holi festival.

The tradition of going there has been going on for centuries, where we all become drenched in colors. Holi is traditionally celebrated as Yuvanotsav, Madnotsav, Basantotsav, Dolyatra, and Shimaga. While various stories are prevalent about Holi, the festival of colors celebrated on the last day of the month of Phalgun, the festival actually begins with the transformation of nature. Nature changes its appearance. Trees shed their old leaves, and tree trunks shed their bark and transform into new leaves and new forms. Similarly, even the skin of the human body gradually changes. Since our body, composed of five elements, is also a part of nature, it too experiences changes in both mind and body. This experience is experienced in the form of Holi.

Holi means the festival of purity. If we look at the word Holi in English, its meaning is sacred. That is, Holi is also considered a festival of purity. In which everyone, by eliminating mutual jealousy and hatred, celebrates the joy of the new harvest with a pure heart in the form of Holi. If this festival is sacred, then why the ruckus on this sacred and holy festival? This festival is associated with the new transformation of nature. When nature starts changing its form, spring breeze starts flowing in the weather and starts awakening the feeling of love and affection in the people, then understand that the season of Phalgun has arrived and the opportuni-

ty to get colored in the color of Holi, that is, purity, has also arrived. Holi touches the hearts of people

It knocks and begins to color them with its own colors. This joy of nature gives birth to a new enthusiasm, a new joy, a new energy in people's hearts, delighting them. The tradition of celebrating this unique splendor and intoxication of nature as Holi festival has been going on for centuries.

Famous stories of Holi

Various legends about Holi are prevalent in religious books and scriptures. According to these legends, the Narada Purana depicts this festival as a symbol of the end of Hiranyakashipu's sister Holika and the victory of devotee Prahlad over his faith in God. According to the popular legend, when Hiranyakashipu's son Prahlad refused to accept him as God, the arrogant ruler Hiranyakashipu, in order to kill his son Prahlad, placed him in the lap of Holika, who had the boon of being incinerated in fire, on a burning pyre. However, Holika's boon of incineration failed, and she was reduced to ashes. Prahlad survived unharmed. From then on, the tradition of burning Holika during Holika Utsav began. Mughal rulers also celebrated Holi with great pomp. Mughal Emperor Akbar played Holi with his Empress Jodha Bai. Emperor Jahangir also played Holi with his wife Noorjahan. Similarly, Emperor Aurangzeb, his son Shah Alam, and grandson Jahandar Shah celebrated Holi with colors and joy, as recorded in history. This clearly demonstrates that

not only Hindus but Muslims have also celebrated Holi. During the annual Urs of Piran Kaliyar, pilgrims from abroad play the Holi of flowers, a festival attended by both Hindus and Muslims. Sambhar Holi in Rajasthan holds its own significance. To celebrate Sambhar Holi, tribal girls cover their bodies with garlands of Tesu flowers instead of clothes and go to the riverbank with their lovers to perform the snake dance. After this snake dance, these girls are married to their lovers. Also in Rajasthan, Hadoti celebrates the Kodamar Holi, in which brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, and brother-in-law and sister-in-law whip each other and become colored in the colors of Holi. In this Rajasthan, the colors and gular of Holi are played by taking out a procession of Akbar Birbal on Holi. In Barmer of Rajasthan, there is a tradition of taking out the funeral procession of living persons with band music for the fun of Holi. In Jalore region of Rajasthan, Luur dance is performed on Holi, whereas in Jhalawar region, there is a tradition of dancing in the joy of Holi sitting on a donkey. In the hilly region, men wear Dhadhra Choli and dance Holi while playing Dhol Ngada and sing Holi songs. The story of Lathmaar Holi of Mathura and Dolchimaar Holi of Bikaner is also amazing.

Lathmar Holi is played in Barsana, Mathura. Women attack men with sticks, while men defend themselves using shields. Devotees from across the country and abroad flock to Mathura to witness this

Lathmar Holi. Although it's celebrated as Lathmar Holi, there's no animosity in anyone's heart. Everyone plays Holi to rekindle love and affection.

Punjab's Holi Mohalla festival is unique. Preparations for Holi Mohalla begin well in advance. People travel from far and wide to participate, immersed in the joy of Holi Mohalla. The purpose of celebrating Holi in the form of Holi Mohalla is to celebrate the new harvest. Similarly, Kangra's devotional Holi has its own charm. This festival of all-encompassing joy is celebrated everywhere to mark the arrival of the new harvest.

Holi is the festival of freedom from vices

Some people have desecrated this sacred festival in the name of Holi's enjoyment. Instead of celebrating Holi with joy, forging a new beginning of mutual love, affection, and brotherhood, for reconciling with those who are upset, and forsaking vices and adopting good qualities, some people consider Holi to be about drinking alcohol, gambling, and smearing mud on others, even though this festival is the best opportunity to renounce these vices. We should welcome the new harvest, the new natural cover, the formation of new blood in the body, and the changing skin cover with natural colors, flowers, and sweets. The meaning of burning Holika is that we should resolve to become pure and holy by burning our vices in Holika. Only then can Holi be made meaningful and we can enjoy it to its fullest.

Rs 7.80 lakh crore lost in the stock market in 30 seconds

Sanat Jain

Following the Israeli-US attack on Iran, the global chaos has had the greatest impact on the Indian stock market. Within 30 seconds of market opening, investors lost approximately 7.80 lakh crore. Subsequently, domestic institutional investors prevented the market from falling by purchasing 2,292.8 crore. As soon as the market opened on Monday, foreign investors witnessed a sell-off. The Indian market was thrown into chaos as foreign investors sold shares worth 7,536.4

crore. Due to the volatile stock market, the index jumped 15% to 15,78. Investors then resorted to heavy selling to avoid sinking. Anticipating a sharp rise in crude oil prices, heavy selling was seen across all sectors. After the Nifty plunged by more than 350 points in a flash, domestic institutional investors were left gasping for breath. At the close of trading in the evening, the Nifty was trading at 24,865, down 313 points, and the Bombay Stock Exchange was trading at 80,238, down 1,043 points. The stock market decline was primarily attributed

to an attack by Israel and the United States on Iran. The situation in many countries deteriorated following the death of Iran's Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. Iran retaliated by attacking countries in West Asia that housed US military bases. The Iranian attack caused significant damage to US military bases, considered the most secure areas for the US. The Iranian attack caused widespread panic in oil-producing countries. Crude oil prices surged by more than seven percent, reaching \$82.5 per barrel. Iran has blocked maritime traffic

through Hormuz. A crude oil ship attempted to force its way out. It was attacked with a missile and set ablaze, resulting in a complete halt to oil supplies. On Monday, global crude oil and natural gas prices surged sharply. Stock markets across the world were in a state of panic. The Indian rupee also fell sharply against the dollar. The dollar index is currently at 97.9. Importers are anticipating the Reserve Bank's intervention to stem this decline. Iran's rapid attacks on the third day of the war have caused panic in European countries. The

United States and Israel have also suffered a significant setback on the third day of this war. They did not expect such strong resistance from Iran. This war is going to have the most severe impact on India's economy. India imports 90 percent of its crude oil and natural gas. Because of the disruption in their supply, the prices of crude oil and natural gas have begun to rise. This has had a significant impact on India's inflation, unemployment and the economy are bound to suffer. India's role in this war is essentially that of a mute spectator.

Don't celebrate yet, case will go to Delhi HC, says CM Rekha Gupta; targets Arvind Kejriwal over liquor policy row

New Delhi, (GNS): Chief minister Rekha Gupta on Sunday hit out at Arvind Kejriwal, saying that "those shouting in his defence should understand that the pot of deceit will not be put on the stove again in Delhi". Addressing a public gathering in Chandni Chowk, she said the AAP chief is "guilty in the eyes of Delhi's people" and will "never be forgiven".

She asserted that he should not celebrate his acquittal in the liquor policy case as the matter will now go to Delhi High Court. Instead, Kejriwal will have to answer for what she claimed were a series of scams involving classrooms in govt schools, fake labour bills, Delhi Jal Board, ED-related cases and "Sheesh Mahal".

Sharpening her attack on Kejriwal, Gupta said he may continue to defend himself, but he would have to face legal scrutiny and answer all the allegations against him.

For the past 27 years, BJP had



worked to safeguard Delhi and protested on the streets whenever the former govt acted against the city's interests, the CM said. Referring to governance under the previous AAP dispensation,

she said schemes were launched without clarity on their ground-level implementation. She cited the Ladli Scheme as an example, alleging that its benefits did not reach 1.75 lakh girls.

She said her govt identified the beneficiaries and transferred Rs 90 crore via direct benefit transfer to 30,000 girls, and is set to transfer another Rs 100 crore to 40,000 more. The Ladli Scheme, she said, was replaced with Lakshmi Beti Yojana, under which each girl will receive Rs 1.25 lakh for education support.

Delhi BJP president Virendra Sachdeva said despite getting the chance to govern Delhi for 11 years and now Punjab for the past three and a half years, AAP delivered "zero development" in both places. "Yet they (AAP functionaries) do not speak about that; instead, they want to question the one-year-old BJP govt in Delhi. Even after being repeatedly rejected (by people) in Gujarat and Goa, AAP seeks answers from BJP govt there," Sachdeva said, adding that Kejriwal keeps on blaming BJP for issues, including Israel and America.

In contrast, the Delhi BJP govt's one-

year tenure has been characterised by change and development, Sachdeva said, adding that CM Gupta set a unique example by presenting her govt's report card before the public in all seven parliamentary constituencies within seven days.

He said through Public Works Department, DJB, flood control department and transport department, the Rekha Gupta govt has initiated development work worth thousands of crores. Additionally, Rs 100 crore has been allocated as a separate fund to each assembly constituency, providing public representatives with new opportunities for development, he added.

Nearly Rs 1 lakh crore worth of new schemes have now been taken up, he said, detailing projects involving a sewage master plan, new sewage treatment plants, steps to clean the Yamuna, improved roads, new buses and public-oriented house tax and DJB schemes, Sachdeva added.

Passengers Stranded As Over 100 Flights Cancelled

New Delhi, (GNS): Airspace closures over parts of West Asia continued to disrupt flight operations, leading to the cancellation of 104 flights to and from Delhi on Sunday.

Delhi airport wrote on X that due to the ongoing political developments in West Asia, west-bound international flights may face delays or scheduled adjustments. "Passengers are strongly encouraged to contact their respective airlines for the latest flight information before heading to the airport," it added. Many passengers took to social media to say that they were stranded at Delhi airport.

An airport official said: "At least 104 flights, including 62 departures and 42 arrivals, were cancelled until Sunday evening. Most of them were cancelled on Saturday, and passengers were intimated in advance."

As many airspaces remained closed, several flights, including domestic ones, were delayed. According to FlightRadar24, the live flight tracking website, over 300 flights, including around 250

arrivals, were delayed at Delhi airport. The average delay time for arrivals was nearly 25 minutes. Apart from West Asia, flights to and from Delhi were impacted on other routes such as London, Birmingham, Zurich, Amsterdam, Milan, Vienna, Frankfurt, Copenhagen, Chicago, New York and Paris. Harsh, a passenger whose Delhi-Toronto flight via Doha was cancelled on Saturday, wrote on X, "I haven't received any rescheduled flight until now. Please reschedule my flight ASAP as I am stuck here at the airport in Delhi."

Gordon Dimmack, who was travelling to England after arriving from Phuket, was among the passengers stranded in Delhi for over 24 hours. In a series of posts on X, Dimmack said the bombing began shortly after they landed in Delhi, following which passengers were asked to get off the aircraft after waiting for nearly three hours. He described the terminal as "chaotic". He and his wife eventually slept on bean bags that were provided only after screaming at airline staff, he said.

Multiple Delhi schools, bank receive bomb threat emails; security checks underway: 'Blow up the building'

New Delhi, (GNS): Multiple schools and a bank in the national capital received bomb threats on Monday morning. According to the fire department, the first call was received at approximately 8.20 am regarding a bomb threat at Army Public School in Delhi Cantt. Shortly thereafter, at 8.36 am, another alert was reported from Salwan Public School in Mayur Vihar. A third call came in at 8.45 am concerning Meera Public School in Janakpuri.

The series of threats continued later in the morning, with authorities receiving a call at 9.48 am about a bomb threat at a private bank located in Statesman House in Barakhamba Road. At 9.58 am, yet another alert was reported from Rabia Girls' Public School in Lal Kuan.

A senior police officer said the threat email stated, 'Blow up the building'.

Following the alerts, teams from the Delhi Fire Services, local police units, bomb detection squads, and K9 teams were promptly dispatched to all the affected locations. Comprehensive anti-sabotage inspections were subsequently carried out at each site. This is not the first



time educational institutions in Delhi have been targeted with such threats. On February 23, multiple schools across the city received bomb threats, prompting similar emergency responses.

Earlier in the same month, three schools located in Dwarka, Najafgarh, and Paschim Vihar were also subjected to bomb threats. In each instance, students and staff were evacuated as a precaution, and intensive searches were carried out by law enforcement agencies. Although no explosives were discovered in those cases.

Nearly a week before those threats,

several other schools in Delhi had received alarming emails claiming that explosions would occur at approximately 1:11 pm on a Monday. The sender of the emails further alleged that Parliament would be targeted at 1:11 pm on February 13. Security agencies had treated the warnings with utmost seriousness, increasing vigilance at sensitive installations across the capital.

In January as well, multiple schools across Delhi were sent similar threatening emails, resulting in heightened security measures and repeated evacuations.

Weeklong operation, 10 states, 27 arrests: Delhi Police busts cyberfraud syndicates

New Delhi, (GNS): Police have arrested 27 people after a weeklong operation in 10 states allegedly linked to cyber fraud syndicates involved in investment scams, APK file frauds, social media impersonation, credit card scams, task-based fraud and visa-related cheating.

The arrests were carried out by Cyber West police station in Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Bihar and West Bengal after raids at multiple locations.

DCP (West) Darade Sharad Bhaskar said: "The action was connected to 10 major cyber fraud cases involving more than Rs 1.5 crore allegedly cheated from victims. Around 150 complaints registered on the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal (NCRP) were linked to the bank accounts and mobile numbers used by the accused."



Financial scrutiny of the accounts under investigation revealed suspicious transactions amounting to nearly Rs 14 crore which police suspect were connected to fraudulent activities. The syndicates allegedly lured targets through fake online investment platforms promising high returns, circulated malicious APK files

posing as legitimate banking applications, and faked identity on social media to extract money from people.

In several cases, the targets were allegedly drawn into task-based earning schemes and visa-related frauds.

"Among the cases were a visa-related fraud of Rs 15 lakh, a task-based fraud of Rs

4.7 lakh, and multiple investment frauds involving Rs 12.4 lakh, Rs 33.3 lakh, Rs 19.5 lakh, and Rs 6.5 lakh. Instances of APK-based impersonation of bank officials, as well as credit card and social media impersonation, were also part of the probe," DCP Bhaskar said.

Police said the accused, aged between 20 and 42 years, hailed from Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Bihar, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal. The network was inter-state, with different members handling bank accounts, SIM cards, digital transactions and withdrawals. During the operation, police said they seized 25 mobile phones, 28 SIM cards, 20 banking cards, one point-of-sale (POS) machine, a motorcycle and various bank documents and account kits suspected to have been used in the frauds.

Teen and two minors held for burglary worth rs 1.2 crore in west Delhi

New Delhi, (GNS): An 18-year-old has been arrested and two minors apprehended for allegedly stealing valuables worth around Rs 1.2 crore during a late-night burglary at a shop and residence in Possang Pur village in West Delhi's Janakpuri last week.

The complainant told cops that he runs the shop and lives in a rented accommodation in Janakpuri. He had reportedly closed the shop and house around 9.30 pm and Feb 21 and then left for his rented accommodation. When he opened the premises the next day around 11.15 am, he found that the house had been broken into and gold jewellery, diamond jewellery, silver articles and cash had allegedly been stolen.

A case was registered at the Janakpuri police station. "The team gathered manual intelligence and conducted technical surveillance. A tip-off was received on Feb 24 about two minor suspects, who were apprehended near the Possangpur park,"



said DCP (west) Darade Sharad Bhaskar.

The juveniles led police to their co-accused, identified as Divyansh Sharma from Possangpur village, who was then arrested. Police have recovered around 650 grams of gold jewellery, around 3 kg of silver articles and cash amounting to around Rs 7 lakh from their possession. The valuables are estimated to amount to Rs 1.2 crore. The motorcycle allegedly used in the commission of the offence has also been seized.

'Silent pandemic': Experts for early detection as kidney diseases rise

New Delhi, (GNS): Kidney diseases rarely announce themselves. There is no sharp pain at the start, no obvious warning. For many Indians, the first real shock comes when a doctor says dialysis is now unavoidable.

Ahead of World Kidney Day on March 12, doctors, policymakers and patient groups gathered at a conclave organised by Kidney Warrior Foundation in Delhi to mark 50 years of nephrology in India. The focus was not celebration, but concern - that India is detecting kidney ailments far too late.

Progressive kidney disease affects about 5%-6% of

people. Instead of testing everyone, experts said the country must focus on early detection among high-risk groups - people with diabetes, hypertension, obesity or a family history of kidney diseases. Every clinic visit should be used as an opportunity to test vulnerable patients. Two simple checks - a blood test for serum creatinine and a urine test for albumin - can catch damage early.

Senior nephrologists at



the conclave, including D S Rana of Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, Urmila Anandh of Amrita Hospital, Shyam B Bansal of Medanta Institute of Nephrology and D Bhowmik of All India Institute of Medical Sciences, emphasised that

these tests are affordable and widely available, yet many diabetic and hypertensive patients are never properly screened.

The urgency is growing as the drivers of kidney diseases rise sharply. Chief guest Anupriya Patel described chronic kidney disease as a "silent pandemic",

closely linked to diabetes, high blood pressure, unhealthy diet and sedentary lifestyles. Air pollution and extreme heat, she added, are emerging risk factors, and younger people are increasingly being

affected.

Regarding treatment, she cited the expansion of free dialysis under Pradhan Mantri National Dialysis Programme across 751 districts, with over 1,700 centres and more than 12,800 machines. Since 2016, over 31 lakh patients have received more than 4 crore dialysis sessions. Financial support for transplants and post-transplant medicines is also available under public schemes. Yet nephrologists stressed that dialysis is the final stage of disease, not the solution. By the time a patient requires dialysis three a week, kidney damage is often severe and irreversible - underscoring

the need for earlier detection. Another concern that emerged was poor communication between doctors and patients. A study presented earlier this year at the conference of Indian Society of Nephrology surveyed 708 kidney patients across the country. Led by Vasundhara Raghavan, founder of Kidney Warrior Foundation, the research found that only 28% of patients said the purpose of their medicines was explained, and just 14% were told about side effects. Many admitted they did not understand why they were taking certain tablets. Those who felt hesitant to question their doctors were

twice as likely to skip medicines. The foundation's journey reflects the human cost behind these numbers. It began after Raghavan donated her kidney to her teenage son when he developed end-stage disease. What started as an online support group in 2017 has since grown into a national patient movement

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Arvind Kejriwal targets PM Narendra Modi over question paper leaks, air pollution, graft in Gujarat

New Delhi, (GNS): Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) national convener Arvind Kejriwal on Sunday launched a sharp attack on the BJP-led central govt at a rally at Jantar Mantar, claiming that 140 crore Indians will unite to uproot a "dictatorial regime".

This was the party's first big public gathering in Delhi since it had been defeated in the 2025 assembly polls. Senior functionaries, including former ministers Manish Sisodia, Atishi, Satyendar Jain and Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh, were present.

A banner displayed at the venue read, "Ek saal, Dilli behaal - yaad aa rahe Kejriwal," echoing the party's claim that the capital has deteriorated within a year of BJP coming to office in Delhi, and people are already missing the tenure of Kejriwal as chief minister.

Addressing AAP functionaries, workers and supporters, Kejriwal said the "historic" verdict in the liquor policy case on Feb 27 vindicated him and



made it clear that he was, is and will remain "kattar imandar (staunchly honest)" despite repeated allegations of corruption levelled against him by PM Narendra Modi. He thanked the judge for his "bold verdict" delivered amid an "atmosphere of fear".

The case was monitored at every step to politically target AAP functionaries and dismantle the party, Kejriwal alleged. Challenging his political opponents, he said during his tenure as CM, he had signed numerous files, but no contractor or vendor could claim

he ever demanded a bribe. "I earned my honesty," he said, adding he will quit politics if anyone could prove otherwise.

Kejriwal said that in 2014, people of the country voted UPA out of the Centre, hoping for change, and gave a full majority to Modi. However, after 12 years, every sector, including airlines, railways, banks, education and health-care, is in decline, he claimed, adding that roads are broken, water is contaminated and power supply disrupted, both across India and in Delhi. He said that the AAP rally signalled the countdown of BJP's removal from office.

Citing alleged unfulfilled promises of the BJP govt in the city, Kejriwal accused it of failing to deliver Rs 2,500 per month to women and of not regularising bus marshals despite assurances. He claimed that thousands of marshals, DTC drivers and conductors, mohalla clinic staff and other employees were removed from service. During

a period of high inflation, govt took away existing employment instead of creating jobs, e said.

Kejriwal also targeted Modi over issues like paper leaks in competitive exams, air pollution and alleged corruption in Gujarat. He said if the Centre is serious about ending corruption, it should act against "illegal liquor sales, drug menace and questionable land deals". He alleged that bridges and roads have been collapsing soon after inauguration and questioned the Centre's priorities.

The AAP chief said his arrest was meant to send a message that anyone working honestly would meet the same fate and was an attempt to discourage educated youth and ordinary citizens from entering politics.

Punjab CM Bhagwant Mann, addressing the rally via video conferencing, termed the court verdict in Kejriwal's favour a historic victory of truth in Indian politics.

44 schools made disabled-friendly with ramp, signage

New Delhi, (GNS): The New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) has identified 63 buildings to be upgraded with disability-friendly infrastructure, with 44 school buildings already retrofitted and the remaining 19 under execution. For children navigating school corridors, elderly citizens visiting community centres and residents accessing civic services, the initiative aims to remove physical barriers and create a more inclusive environment in public spaces under the council's jurisdiction. The project details say that the remaining upgrades are expected to be completed in the next six to eight months.

A senior NDMC official said the initiative reflects the council's commitment to ensuring equal access to civic infrastructure. "Public buildings must be designed and upgraded in a manner that enables independent access to all citizens. This initiative is a step towards making our civic spaces more inclusive and responsive to the needs of persons with disabilities." The estimated cost for upgrading the 19 buildings is approximately Rs 4.5 crore.

IMD forecasts above-normal heatwave days in several states: What you need to know

New Delhi, (GNS): An above-normal number of heatwave days is expected across large parts of India between March and May, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) has said, warning that several states could see prolonged spells of high temperatures as summer sets in, news agency Media reported.

However, March is expected to begin on a relatively moderate note for much of the country.

"In March, however, maximum temperatures are likely to be normal to below normal over many parts of India, except northeast, east, and some parts of Western Himalayan region, central and peninsular India. This could be because rainfall averaged over India is most likely to be normal during March," IMD said.



The IMD defines "normal" rainfall as 83% to 117% of the long period average (LPA). For March, the LPA - based on data from 1971 to 2020 - stands at 29.9mm. While below-normal rainfall is forecast over parts of northeast India and some areas of northwest India, most regions are expected to see near-normal precipitation.

Chandigarh: No significant heat risk in March: In Chandigarh, the IMD has forecast largely normal weather conditions for March 2026, with

rainfall expected to remain within the normal range and temperatures likely to stay near average levels. The monthly outlook indicates no significant increase in heatwave activity for the city.

The IMD has indicated that Chandigarh is unlikely to face heat spells this March, with maximum temperatures expected to remain broadly normal. While parts of central and peninsular India and the western Himalayan region may see above-normal daytime temperatures, northwest India - including the UT- is likely to experience normal to slightly below-normal trends. Minimum temperatures across most regions are also expected to stay normal, with some pockets of northwest India likely to record normal to slightly belownormal night temperatures.

List of states to face more heatwave days than usual during the three-month period

- West Rajasthan
- Gujarat
- Haryana
- Punjab
- South and East Maharashtra
- Eastern Uttar Pradesh,
- Bihar
- Jharkhand
- Gangetic West Bengal
- Odisha
- Chhattisgarh
- Telangana
- Andhra Pradesh
- North Karnataka
- North Tamil Nadu

DMRC refurbishing 130 escalators at 15-yr mark to avert mid-life crisis

New Delhi, (GNS): Delhi Metro is overhauling 130 escalators, which have completed 15 years of service, in a phased manner. Another 130 such escalators that have completed their midlife will be overhauled in the second phase, followed by work on those installed during Delhi Metro's Phase I and II expansions. Though the machines have a design life of 30 years, Delhi Metro Rail Corporation said it follows stringent international standards, including those of London Underground, Tokyo Metro and Singapore MRT, when it comes to maintaining them.

Work on escalators in stations like Akshardham, Mayur Vihar Phase I, Mayur Vihar Extension, New Ashok Nagar and Noida Sector 15 on the Blue Line have been recently completed. Routine or preventive maintenance involves planned servicing activities, which are carried out on a monthly, quarterly, half-yearly and



annual basis. "In contrast, mid-life overhauling involves extensive inspection of an escalator; dismantling its major components; replacement of step chains, axles, profiles, floor plates, and rollers; system recalibration and load testing, a metro official said. The aim is to enhance passenger experience and safety, restore performance, reduce the chance of sudden breakdown and extend the service life of the machines so that they last 30 years.

Dal Lake to Mahakumbh, Maity returns to landscapes

New Delhi, (GNS): In the late 19th century, Impressionists changed the course of art by stepping out of their studios and into the open air. Painters like Claude Monet and Pierre-Auguste Renoir sought to capture fleeting light and atmosphere directly from nature, often working outdoors to seize a passing cloud or a reflection in water.

That same impulse - to go out, observe and respond to landscape and light - anchors artist Paresh Maity's new solo exhibition 'Luminous Terrains', organised by Art Alive Gallery at Bikaner House. Following the success of his 2022 show 'Infinite Light', the exhibition marks the renowned contemporary artist's return with a body of work devoted entirely to landscapes across India, Venice and France.

"The last solo had many things mixed-painting, sculpture, water-colour, ceramics, mixed media. The new show is mainly oil and acrylic on canvas and drawings (pen and ink on paper). And it's fully dedicated to landscapes," Maity told Media. It brings together views of Dal Lake in



Srinagar, the ghats of Varanasi, Rajasthan's deserts, the Venetian lagoons, the French Riviera and the rugged charm of Madhya Pradesh in the sensorial language of Impressionism.

"I started my life with landscapes because I grew up in the historic town of Tamluk (in West Bengal), a place with lush green fields, open spaces, ponds and lakes. And I believe the more you go close to nature, the better off you are in life. People are forgetting that. So, I thought let me go back to landscape and show people that nature is everything."

Bus marshals, conductors find voice at AAP rally

New Delhi, (GNS): Bus conductors who lost their jobs because of the DIMTS-to-DTC transition and unemployed bus marshals emerged as some of the most visible participants at AAP's gathering at Jantar Mantar on Sunday.

They highlighted job losses and prolonged uncertainty following administrative changes in Delhi's public transport system, with many demanding reinstatement or absorption into govt services, saying their contractual roles had been abruptly discontinued. While addressing the gathering, Arvind Kejriwal acknowledged this section of the crowd, gesturing and waving towards it.

Jagbir, who was a bus conductor on route no. 73, said thousands of families have been affected by the transition. "Around 650 people are in attendance today, but overall, more than 10,000 have been impacted. We were promised that we would be given permanent positions. Even today, our only demand is that we should be reinstated," he said.



For many of them, Sunday's "protest" reflected an unresolved uncertainty. Prem Jeet, who claimed to be their representative, questioned political assurances made in the past. "Where have the promises gone? If we couldn't be made permanent, then why were we given the assurance? Nothing's happened so far. We want to be reinstated or given permanent jobs," he said.

Former civil defence volunteers who used to serve as bus marshals also voiced their frustration. One of them said, "We were told civil defence personnel are required only

during emergencies, but even today, many of them are posted in several govt departments. Why were some removed while others continue to work?"

Others described how operational changes left them without any work. Vishal, a former bus conductor, claimed drivers were re-absorbed, but conductors left out. "Thousands lost jobs after DTC took over. We were told the company was only changing, but everything changed for us," he said.

Babu Ram, another worker associated with bus operations, echoed similar concerns.

"As we were working within a govt system, we should not have been laid off," he said.

Their grievance originates from a policy conflict that arose after thousands of civil defence volunteers deployed as bus marshals on DTC and cluster buses lost their positions when authorities questioned the legality of using them for routine transport duties rather than emergency response work. Their payments were halted and deployments discontinued, sparking a prolonged political tussle, with those affected repeatedly staging protests seeking their reinstatement. Also, conductors employed under Delhi's cluster bus system, earlier operated through Delhi Integrated Multi-Modal Transit System (DIMTS), face growing uncertainty as services were gradually integrated into the DTC fold. Many hired through private operators on contractual terms were not absorbed into the permanent workforce when their contracts expired or service models changed.

Delhi quadruple murder: How a call from lender triggered tragic chain of events

New Delhi, (GNS): On Feb 23, 42-year-old Munchun Kewat received a phone call that, police claim, triggered a chain of events culminating in the death of his wife and three daughters, aged between three and five years, in outer Delhi's Samaypur Badli two days later.

Within hours of that call, Kewat allegedly purchased a Rs 90 knife meant to cut jackfruits. Police believe he used it to murder the four at their residence in Chandan Park, Sirasapur. He has been arrested.

A habitual gambler who wagered both online and offline on cricket matches and card games, Kewat suffered heavy losses and accumulated debt. Last month, he borrowed Rs 2 lakh from his in-laws and report-



edly repaid Rs 60,000 to one of his lenders, Mithilesh, and Rs 40,000 to a ginger supplier to clear parts of the dues, but lost the remaining Rs 1 lakh in further betting. Police said that the family was under extreme finan-

cial pressure due to a "huge loan", which led to frequent domestic disputes.

On Feb 23, Mithilesh had called up Kewat demanding he clear the dues. The conversation escalated into a heated exchange,

during which Mithilesh allegedly threatened to "keep" Kewat's wife, Anita (30), and make her and her children work if the money was not returned.

Enraged, Kewat blocked Mithilesh and decided to kill his own family as well as himself. Around 1 pm that day, he bought the knife from a mandi, brought it home and hid it under a bag. According to police, he planned to carry out the act that very night, but could not do so.

The next day, he went to work and returned home at 1 pm. He even fasted, like he did every Tuesday. He then took the family for Holi shopping in the evening. When Anita told her husband that she had received a call from Mithilesh, an argument over finances broke out

between the couple around 11.30 pm, police said.

At 4 am, when she reportedly questioned him why he was still awake, he allegedly slit her throat. Police said the injury marks suggest a brief struggle might have taken place. The commotion woke up the eldest daughter, who began crying, after which he allegedly killed her and the two other girls, cops said.

Kewat told police that he then tried to kill himself, but could not. Instead, he fled towards Ajmer, where he had previously worked. He boarded a train without a ticket and got down at Kishangarh, a station near Ajmer. Meanwhile, special CP (law and order) Ravindra had formed six teams to crack the case. "We took note of Kewat's

earlier employment stints in Panapakam in Tamil Nadu and Ajmer, and sent our teams to these places and other locations," said DCP (outer north) Hareshwar Swami, adding that they had analysed footage from over 800 CCTV cameras and used the facial recognition system to track his movements for the next 72 hours. Once Kewat was arrested in Kishangarh, police found out that he had attempted to contact a contractor he had earlier worked with in Ajmer, but could not. In the meantime, he slept inside on mandi premises and survived on roadside meals. Kewat was previously involved in a case of theft at Adarsh Nagar and was seen in social media posts brandishing weapons, police said.