



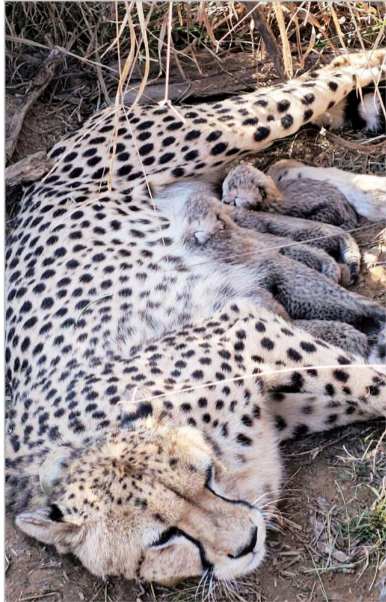
Five cheetah cubs born in Kuno, bringing the total number of cheetahs to 53

Sheopur (GNS): The cheetah population in Kuno National Park, located in the dense forest area of the Chambal Valley in Sheopur district of Madhya Pradesh, is steadily increasing. With the birth of five cubs on Monday, the total number of cheetahs in the country has reached 53.

In Kuno National Park, the first sanctuary selected by the central government for the cheetah project in the country, Jwala, a female cheetah brought from Namibia, has become a mother for the third time. Jwala gave birth to five cubs on Monday, March 9. This joyous moment in

Kuno National Park marks the tenth successful birth of a cheetah on Indian soil, bringing the total number of live cheetahs born in India to 32. With these new cubs, the total number of cheetahs in India has now reached 53. Which is a powerful symbol of the country's determined and historic conservation efforts.

...Jwala Cheetah becomes a mother for the third time: Namibian Cheetah Jwala was brought to Kuno National Park in 2022 along with 8 cheetahs, who were released here by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Jwala has now increased the Indian cheetah family by giving birth to



cubs three times. Female Cheetah Jwala gave birth to four cubs for the first time in 2023, followed by 3 cubs in January 2024. Although some of these cubs died, Jwala has now given birth to five cubs for the third time on March 9, 2026. According to Kuno management, all the cubs are healthy and are being continuously monitored by doctors.

Another good news from Kuno National Park: Chief Minister: Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav shared the news of the birth of cubs by female cheetah Jwala on social media, writing that female cheetah Jwala has given birth to

five cubs, marking another significant achievement for Project Cheetah. With this, the total number of cheetahs in India has crossed the fifty-mark, reaching 53. This is a proud moment for wildlife conservation and a powerful testament to the success of cheetah reintroduction efforts in India. Union

Minister Bhupendra Yadav congratulated: On this occasion, Union Minister for Forest, Environment and Climate Change Bhupendra Yadav, in New Delhi, congratulated, saying that this achievement marks a significant milestone for India's ambitious Project Cheetah. He

said that with these five cubs, the number of cheetahs in India has crossed fifty. He added that behind this success is the continuous efforts and dedication of veterinarians, field staff, and conservation teams who are working day and night on the ground.

Bhupendra Yadav said that this is a historic and proud moment for India in terms of wildlife conservation. It is hoped that Jwala and her cubs will remain healthy and take the story of cheetah conservation in India to new heights.

The cheetah population has grown to 53: Recently, nine cheetahs were brought from

Botswana, and today, with the birth of five cubs by female cheetah Jwala, the total number of cheetahs in the country has reached 53, of which 50 are in Kuno National Park and three in Gandhi Sagar Sanctuary. Of the eight Namibian cheetahs first introduced on September 17, 2022, three are established, and their 22 Indian-born cubs bring the total Namibian population to 25. Of the 12 South African cheetahs introduced on February 18, 2023, eight are established, and their 11 Indian-born cubs bring the total South African population to 19. Of these, 16 are in Kuno and three in Gandhi Sagar.

Opposition uproar in both houses over Iran war:

Demand for discussion; Government says it's ready to debate the motion to remove the Speaker

New Delhi (GNS): The Lok Sabha concluded its proceedings on the first day of the second phase of Parliament's Budget Session. The opposition created a ruckus over the US-Israel and Iran wars. The opposition continued to demand a discussion on the impact of the post-war situation in West Asia on India.



The government stated that the opposition had brought a no-confidence motion against Speaker Om Birla. "We are ready to discuss it," the government said. "But the opposition has

brought another motion, to which the Foreign Minister has responded very eloquently." The House was then adjourned until 11 a.m. on Tuesday. Meanwhile, today the Foreign Minister spoke first in the Rajya Sabha and then in the Lok Sabha about

preparations for the return of Indians from Gulf countries and the energy crisis. He said, "Contact with Iran's leadership is difficult at this time, but India supports peace and dialogue." The opposition staged a walkout during Jaishankar's address to the Rajya Sabha. During his address in the Lok Sabha, the opposition shouted "We want discussion" and created a ruckus. Despite repeated calls from the Chair, the opposition MPs remained unmoved. The Rajya Sabha proceedings are still ongoing.

Our foreign policy has been mortgaged by the Modi government

New Delhi, Agency: Samajwadi Party national president and former Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav on Monday said that regarding the budget session of Parliament and several other issues, there will be a meeting of floor leaders. After this, it will be decided how to proceed further. Taking a dig at foreign policy, he said that the Modi government has mortgaged our foreign policy. The way inflation is increasing, the life of the common man is becoming difficult. Akhilesh said that many Indians are stranded in the Gulf region and West Asia and they are not even able to celebrate festivals. These people must be passing through a lot of trouble, after all, what is the Indian government doing? He said that it has been heard that many journalist colleagues who went with PM Modi as political journalists are returning as war journalists.

Education, Health And Skills Will Create A Developed India: PM Modi

New Delhi, Agency: Addressing the fourth session of the post-budget webinar series, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas - Fulfillment of People's Aspirations" is not just a topic of discussion, but the government's core mission and resolve. He said that core sectors like education, skills, health, tourism, sports, and culture are major vehicles for fulfilling people's aspirations. To this end, the Budget webinar is providing extensive discussion on these crucial areas. The Prime Minister said that suggestions from experts, policymakers, scholars, entrepreneurs, and youth in these sectors are crucial for the effective implementation of the Budget announcements.



Growing opportunities for the care economy in the health sector

The Prime Minister said that today India is pursuing a grand vision for preventive and holistic health. Over the past few years, the country's health infrastructure has

been strengthened, and new medical colleges have opened in hundreds of districts. Through the Ayushman Bharat scheme and Arogya Mandirs, access to healthcare services has expanded to every village.

He stated that the number of senior citizens in the country will increase rapidly in the coming years, and the demand for caregivers is also increasing in many countries around the world. This is creating new opportunities for skill-based employment for youth in the health sector. The

Prime Minister urged experts to suggest new training models and partnerships.

There is a need to increase awareness about telemedicine: PM Modi also described telemedicine as an important means of providing healthcare, saying that people in remote areas are taking advantage of it in large numbers and trust in it is growing. However, he added that there is still a need to increase awareness and ease in this area.

New education policy lays the foundation of modern education system: The Prime Minister said that over the past decade, there has been a significant shift in the mindset of the country's youth. Today, beyond villages, towns, and cities, every young person dreams of achieving something new. He said that to advance this new thinking, the education system must be constantly modernized and updated.

Emphasis on linking education with employment and entrepreneurship: Narendra Modi stated that the country is continuously working to connect education with employment and entrepreneurship. New models like university townships advance this vision. He added that India is promoting the AVGC sector—animation, visual effects, gaming, and comics—and that the country is rapidly moving toward an innovation-driven economy. He urged educators to consider making their campuses centers for industry collaboration and research-driven learning, providing students with real-world exposure.

Commission will adopt 'zero tolerance' policy on electoral violence: Gyanesh Kumar



Kolkata (GNS): Amidst preparations for the upcoming assembly elections in West Bengal, Chief Election Commissioner of the Election Commission of India, Gyanesh Kumar, has assured political parties that the Commission will take all necessary steps to ensure free, fair, and peaceful elections in West Bengal. He categorically stated that the Commission's policy regarding electoral violence will be "zero tolerance."

During the meeting held in Kolkata on Monday, Gyanesh Kumar stated that elections in India are conducted in strict accordance with the law and that the Commission will leave no stone unturned to maintain the fairness of the electoral process. Election Commissioners Sukhbir Singh Sandhu and Vivek Joshi, along with the Chief Electoral Officer of West

Bengal and other senior officials of the Commission, were present at the meeting. According to sources, the purpose of the meeting was to listen to the concerns and suggestions of various political parties and ensure their participation in strengthening the electoral process. The meeting was conducted in an orderly manner, with each political party given approximately 15 minutes to present its views. Representatives from several national and state-level parties attended the meeting, including the Aam Aadmi Party, the Bharatiya Janata Party, the Communist Party of India (Marxist), the Indian National Congress, and the National People's Party. Representatives from the All India Forward Bloc and the All India Trinamool Congress also participated.

Delhi Liquor Policy Case: High Court issues notice to all 23 accused; bans comments against CBI officer, orders no hearing in money laundering case

New Delhi, Agency: The Delhi High Court on Monday (March 9) issued notices to former Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and former Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia, along with 23 other accused, seeking their responses in the Delhi liquor policy case. The High Court stayed the trial court's comments against CBI officials.



Justice Swaran Kanta Sharma also directed that the trial court should defer further hearing in the related money laundering

(PMLA) case till the High Court hears the matter further. The trial court acquitted

all 23 accused in the case on February 27. The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has challenged this order in the High Court.

In its 974-page petition, the CBI alleges that the trial court conducted a mini-trial at the charge-framing stage. The court began examining all the evidence in detail, as if the case were being fully investigated, whereas at this stage, the case is only reviewed superficially.

Death toll crosses 1,200 on the 10th day of the US-Israel-Iran conflict, more than 12,000 injured

Tehran (GNS): The humanitarian crisis appears to be worsening on the tenth day of the ongoing war in West Asia. According to Iran's Deputy Health Minister Ali Jafarian, more than 1,255 people have died in Iran so far in the ongoing conflict between the US, Israel, and Iran, while more than 12,000 have been injured.



In an interview with the media, Jafarian stated that according to data available as of Sunday night,

the ages of those killed in the war range from an eight-month-old infant to 88 years old. He added that approximately 200 women are among the dead. According to the Health Ministry, the conflict has also impacted the medical system. A large number of injured people are constantly being brought to hospitals, putting a heavy strain on the health system. Jafarian

said medical personnel have also borne the brunt of the violence. So far, 11 health workers have died and 55 others have been injured. Officials say hospitals are having to treat a large number of war victims simultaneously, placing an additional strain on resources and health services. If the conflict does not end soon, the humanitarian crisis could worsen.

Mamata Banerjee played Rabindra Sangeet on the fourth day of her sit-in protest

She said the BJP was distributing pamphlets at the protest site, promoting the PM's rally.



Kolkata, Agency: West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's protest continued for the fourth day on Monday. Today, she sang a song at the protest site with a Rabindra Sangeet group. Mamata Banerjee alleged that the BJP and its agencies were distributing pamphlets at her protest site. She instructed TMC workers to apprehend those distributing the pamphlets and hand them over to the police. The pamphlets were promoting Prime Minister Narendra Modi's rally in Kolkata on March 14th.

Mamata Banerjee told her supporters, "They have no right to distribute such pamphlets at any other party's events. Catch them and hand them over to the police." Banerjee also directed State Minister Shashi Panja to file a police complaint in the matter. She also claimed that those involved in distributing the pamphlets fled after being questioned. Mamata Banerjee has begun a sit-in protest at Kolkata's Esplanade Metro station starting at 2 pm on March 6th to protest the deletion of names from the voter list in the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) in the state. Mamata Banerjee alleged that the BJP is trying to manipulate the electoral process. "They don't have public support. They are vote thieves. They use agencies," she alleged.

The extremes of political hatred and the nation's prestige

Dr. Priyanka Saurabh

Dissent and criticism are considered a healthy tradition in a democracy. Questioning the government in power, its decisions, and its leadership is both a citizen's right and a testament to the strength of democracy. However, when criticism crosses the line and reaches the level of personal sarcasm, ridicule, and insults, it ceases to be merely political disagreement but takes the form of a mindset that undermines democratic discourse.

In recent years, bitterness and hatred have increasingly replaced ideological differences in Indian politics. There is a growing tendency to judge any event, achievement, or national event through a political lens. This is why some people often view national achievements or events with disdain simply because they are linked to a leadership or

government with which they ideologically disagree.

The playing field is generally considered separate from politics. Sports involve competition, wins and losses, but ultimately, the spirit of sportsmanship reigns supreme. However, when the sporting arena is turned into a medium for political sarcasm and personal comments, it undermines both the dignity of the sport and national sentiment. When a sport like cricket, which is deeply connected to the sentiments of millions of people in India, is made the subject of political taunts, this trend appears worrying.

Ironically, India made history by winning the World Cup on the same stadium whose name has been subjected to sarcasm and satire by some. This event speaks volumes not only from a sporting perspective but also symbolically. It

demonstrates that fleeting political commentary and negative rhetoric ultimately fail to match real achievements.

In a vast and diverse democracy like India, it's natural that not everyone will share the same political ideology. No leader or government is beyond criticism. However, it's equally essential that criticism be based on facts, logic, and decorum. When criticism degenerates into mere sarcasm, insults, and ridicule, it undermines the dignity of democratic discourse.

The proliferation of social media has further complicated this problem. Today, everyone has a platform to express their opinions. This is positive from a democratic perspective, as it has expanded freedom of expression. However, it is also evident that sometimes, without fact-checking or thinking seriously, people make comments that

spark unnecessary controversy and bitterness. Sometimes, simply to please a particular group or to fit in, people use language that is inappropriate in any way.

The decorum of language is of particular importance in political discourse. Words not only express ideas but also influence the social environment. When the language used in public life becomes increasingly harsh and offensive, it impacts general social behavior. Gradually, the tendency to perceive disagreement as hostility and criticism as insult begins to grow.

Satire and sarcasm have always had their place in the Indian political tradition, but they were also accompanied by a certain balance and decorum. Today, the situation often appears to be one where the intensity of words and harsh language eliminate the possibility of dialogue. This creates unnecessary

tension and division in society.

In this context, it's also important to understand that healthy criticism is essential in any democracy. If the government or leadership makes a mistake, criticism is natural. It's the responsibility of the media, intellectuals, and ordinary citizens to question those in power. But criticism should aim for reform, not merely insult or ridicule.

The biggest challenge facing society today is to understand the difference between healthy criticism and unnecessary hatred. Political differences are a natural feature of democracy, but if these differences become a source of social division, it becomes a matter of concern. Therefore, it is essential that we embrace disagreement as a form of respectful dialogue, rather than turning it into a means of personal attack.

Editorial

Nitish suddenly goes to Rajya Sabha!

Why has Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar suddenly decided to join the Rajya Sabha? He became Chief Minister for the 10th time just 105 days ago. He held the position for 19 years and 4 months and can still remain Chief Minister until April 15th. The new mandate was given to the BJP-JD(U) and the NDA. Power was retained by defeating the opposition RJD. Why has Nitish suddenly expressed his desire to leave the Chief Minister's post, for which he even endured epithets like "Paltu Ram"? Only Nitish or the BJP leadership can answer these questions, but this is explosive political news. SP President Akhilesh Yadav has termed it a "political kidnapping." Now, who will be the new Chief Minister of Bihar? This is a common question. It is certain that the BJP's dream of the past 20 years is about to come true. Even Nitish's close friend and former MP KC Tyagi has confirmed that the Chief Minister will be from the BJP. However, Nitish was old and unwell even during the Bihar elections. Opposition allegations aside, there have been numerous public moments when it appeared Nitish was mentally unstable. If Nitish Kumar had expressed his desire to resign and join the Rajya Sabha just 105 days after receiving the mandate and becoming Chief Minister, he would not have taken the oath of office. Nitish had been given five new years of power. Despite his advancing age and declining health, he could have comfortably run the government. He could have made efforts to fulfill the promises he made to the people on the basis of which he won the mandate. If he were now appointed a Union Minister by joining the Rajya Sabha, he would have charge of the ministry, the government's policy agenda, and the day-to-day responsibilities of the ministry. If Nitish was uncomfortable and unable to remain Chief Minister, the same situation would arise if he became a Union Minister. So why did he make this decision? Or was he forced by the BJP's top leadership?

The question also arises: what will Nitish prove by becoming a Union Minister? He has served as Minister of Agriculture, Railways, and Road Transport in the Central Government.



Savitribai Jyotirao Phule was a renowned Indian social reformer, educator, and poet who played a key role in the education and empowerment of women in the nineteenth century. Considered one of the few educated women of her time, Savitribai, along with her husband Jyotirao Phule, is credited with opening the first girls' school in Bhide Wada, Pune. She worked tirelessly for the education and emancipation of child widows, campaigned against child marriage and the practice of Sati, and advocated for the remarriage of widows.



Savitribai Jyotirao Phule's role in women's education and empowerment

Sanjay Goswami

A well-known figure in Maharashtra's social reform movement, she is considered an icon of the Dalit community, alongside figures like B.R. Ambedkar and Annabhau Sathé. She campaigned against untouchability and actively worked to eliminate discrimination based on caste and gender. Savitribai was born on January 3, 1831, into a peasant family in Naigaon (now in Satara district), British India. Her father's name was Khandoji Neveshe Patil, and his eldest daughter was Lakshmi. In those days, girls were married early, so according to common custom, 9-year-old Savitribai was married to 12-year-old Jyotirao Phule in 1840. Jyotirao later became a thinker, writer, social activist, and anti-caste social reformer. He is considered a prominent figure in Maharashtra's social reform movement. Savitribai's education began after marriage. Her husband taught her to read and write when he saw her desire to learn and educate herself. She passed the third and fourth year examinations from a normal school and developed a passion for teaching. She received training at the Ms. Farrar Institution in Ahmednagar. Jyotirao stood firmly by Savitribai's side in all her social work.

The first indigenous school for girls in Pune (then Poona) was started by Jyotirao and Savitribai in 1848, when Savitribai was still in her teens. Although ostracized by both family and society for this move, the determined couple was sheltered by their friend, Usman Sheikh, and his sister, Fatima Sheikh, who also

offered their space to the Phule couple. Savitribai became the school's first teacher. Jyotirao and Savitribai later started schools for children from the Mang and Mahar castes, who were considered untouchables. By 1852, three Phule schools were operating. On November 16 of that year, the British government honored the Phule family for their contributions to education, with Savitribai being chosen as the best teacher. That year, they also founded the Mahila Seva Mandal, aimed at raising awareness among women about their rights, dignity, and other social issues. She successfully organized a strike by barbers in Mumbai and Pune to protest the prevailing custom of shaving widows' heads. All three schools run by the Phule couple closed by 1858. This was due to several reasons, including the drying up of private European donations after the Indian Rebellion of 1857, Jyotirao's resignation from the school management committee due to differences over curriculum, and the withdrawal of government support. Undeterred by the situation, Jyotirao and Savitribai, along with Fatima Sheikh, took up the responsibility of educating people from oppressed communities. Over the years, Savitribai opened 18 schools and taught children from various castes. Savitribai and Fatima Sheikh began teaching not only women but also other members of oppressed castes. This initiative did not sit well with many, especially the upper castes of Pune, who were opposed to the education of Dalits. Savitribai and Fatima Sheikh were threatened by the locals,

harassed, and humiliated by society. When Savitribai went to school, she was pelted with dung, mud, and stones. However, such oppression did not deter the determined Savitribai from her goal, and she carried two saris with her. Savitribai and Fatima Sheikh were later joined by Saguna Bai, who eventually became a leader in the education movement. Meanwhile, in 1855, the Phule couple opened a night school for farmers and laborers so that they could work during the day and attend school at night. To curb school dropouts, Savitribai started the practice of providing stipends to children for attending school. She remained an inspiration to the young girls she taught, encouraging them to pursue activities like writing and painting. An essay written by Mukta Salve, a student of Savitribai, became the face of Dalit feminism and literature at that time. She organized parent-teacher meetings at regular intervals to make parents aware of the importance of education and encourage them to send their children to school. In 1863, Jyotirao and Savitribai also started a care center called the Balhatya Pratyavrodh Griha, perhaps the first infanticide prevention home in India. It was created to allow pregnant Brahmin widows and rape victims to give birth to their children in a safe place. This helped prevent the killing of widows and reduce the rate of infanticide. In 1874, Jyotirao and Savitribai, who were childless, adopted a child from a Brahmin widow named Kashibai, sending a powerful message to progressive members of society. The adopted son, Yashwantrao, grew up to become a doc-

tor. Jyotirao advocated for the remarriage of widows, while Savitribai worked tirelessly against social evils like child marriage and the practice of Sati, two highly sensitive social issues that were gradually undermining women's existence. She also tried to bring child widows into the mainstream by educating and empowering them, and advocated for their remarriage. These efforts were strongly opposed by conservative upper-caste society. She, along with her husband, supported efforts to eradicate untouchability and the caste system, secure equal rights for lower castes, and reform Hindu family life. The couple opened a well in their home for the untouchables, at a time when even the shadow of an untouchable was considered impure and people hesitated to give water to thirsty untouchables. She was also associated with the Satyashodhak Samaj, a social reform society founded by Jyotirao in Pune on September 24, 1873. The society, which included Muslims, non-Brahmins, Brahmins, and government officials as members, aimed to liberate women, Shudras, Dalits, and other vulnerable people from oppression and exploitation. The couple performed low-cost marriages within the society, without a priest or dowry.

In such marriages, both the bride and groom exchanged marriage vows. Savitribai served as the head of the women's section, and after her husband's death on November 28, 1890, she became the society's chairperson. Savitribai continued her husband's work through the society until her last breath.

America should tell Putin what it wants to do.

Sanat Jain

Russian President Vladimir Putin's recent statement has sparked a new debate in international politics. This statement is likely to increase America's difficulties. Putin stated clearly that Russia is not neutral in the current conflicts between many countries around the world. Russia stands with Iran in the attack on Israel and the United States. This statement comes at a time when global tensions are rising following the attacks on Iran by the US and Israel. The entire world is facing an economic recession. Putin's stance is not merely a statement but is being seen as a direct challenge to the policies and bullying of Western countries. Russia alleges that the US and its allies are acting arbitrarily and ignoring international

law. In this context, Putin has proposed convening a meeting of the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council (P5), consisting of the US, Russia, China, France, and Britain. Putin says the world's superpowers must decide whether the international system will be governed by the "rule of law" or whether countries will treat each other based on power. Russia argues that in today's situation, international law is limited only to paper. The role of the United Nations, the Security Council, and other international institutions is nonexistent. Putin warned that, in reality, powerful countries are making decisions and taking actions based on their own interests, which do not comply with international law. If this situation continues, other countries will be forced to follow the

same path, which will once again plunge the entire world into a state of conflict. This will make controlling the global order impossible. An important aspect of Putin's statement is that Russia has directly expressed its support for Iran. He completely rejected the arbitrary actions being taken by Western countries and warned against it. Western and some Arab countries have blamed Iran as the main culprit in this conflict. Putin has blamed them for this. Russia says Iran is merely responding to the attacks. Iran has every right to defend itself against the attacks launched by the US and Israel. Western countries are portraying this as an act of aggression by Iran. The US and its allies believe that Iran's activities pose a threat to regional stability. This is why, Tensions in the Middle East are

steadily rising, impacting the global economy, international peace, and politics. Given this situation, Putin's proposal that the P5 countries meet to clarify their position on international rules in the current situation is significant. This statement by the Russian President can be seen as an important initiative in the international context. The world's major powers are openly discussing this issue. Such a situation will help create a better message and solidarity among countries around the world. If any country is not adhering to established international law, a global obligation to comply with international law should be established to restore trust and security in the global system. This is the need of the hour. It is the responsibility of the superpowers to ensure that countries are willing to maintain peace

throughout the world by strengthening international law and the multilateral system. Putin's concern is justified. Countries like the United States are once again moving towards a reign of terror through bullying. International rules and regulations are not being followed. The way countries are being manipulated based on the balance of power is once again creating a new world order of dominance. If this is not stopped in time, the situation similar to World Wars I and II could resurface. The United States and other major superpowers must give a clear answer to all the world's nations. Given the current situation, countries around the world are grappling with the threat of war. A global economic recession is developing, affecting the lives of people around the world.

'No Excuses, Only Work': PM Rolls Out 33,500cr Projects

New Delhi, (GNS): Prime Minister Narendra Modi rolled out projects worth Rs 33,500 crore in Delhi on Sunday and said that after BJP came to power, "development has gained great momentum".

He said the difference between BJP gov't and the "AAPda" gov't is clear. "The method of the AAPda gov't was less work and more excuses. Today, the development model in Delhi is no excuses, only work. Earlier, projects used to die in files. Today, projects are being implemented on the ground," he said, adding that the launch of the projects was also proof of "how necessary it was for Delhi to be freed from the AAPda" a year ago.

BJP formed its gov't in Delhi in Feb 2025 after a gap of 27 years,



defeating AAP, which had ruled since 2015.

AAP did not speak on the Prime Minister's criticism of the party's rule in Delhi when media reached out for a reaction.

The Rs 33,500-crore projects include two new corridors of Delhi Metro Rail Corporation - Majlis Park-Maujpur Babarpur (Pink Line) and Deepali Chowk-

Majlis Park (Magenta Line) - and three new corridors under Delhi Metro's Phase V-A work. The package includes redevelopment projects worth Rs 15,200 crore under the General Pool Residential Accommodation (GPRA) plan to modernise ageing gov't housing colonies and create infrastructure for gov't employees and administrative offices.

The event, held on the DDA Ground in north Delhi's Burari, was attended by chief minister Rekha Gupta and Union minister Manohar Lal Khattar.

"The new metro section... will provide convenience to lakhs of people. In particular, daily commute will become much easier for people in East and North-East Delhi. Travelling between Delhi and NCR cities like Ghaziabad, Noida, Faridabad and Gurgaon will become easier," Modi said. "If the AAPda gov't was not here, this project would have been completed much earlier."

Modi said modernising infrastructure and connectivity, such as the recently inaugurated Namu Bharat train and the expansion of the metro network to 375 km, was essential to showcase India's confidence globally.

How spring has set Delhi ablaze



New Delhi, (GNS): Spring in Delhi transforms the 'concrete jungle' into a vibrant, blooming landscape with the city getting covered in shades of red, green, purple and yellow.

Flaming red semal (cotton silk) trees and bougainvillea spill over several walls.

These also splash hues of

different colours with modern buildings in the backdrop. Street art and murals add artistic colour.

Many dividers turn into yellow islands due to Tecoma stans, commonly known as yellow bells or trumpetbush. It is a fast growing evergreen shrub frequently seen in the city's parks, gardens and roadsides.

Early summer tightens its grip over capital



New Delhi, (GNS): Delhiites continued to reel under intense heat conditions as the maximum temperature settled at 35.6 degrees Celsius, seven degrees above normal, on Sunday at Safdarjung, which is the city's base station. It rose further to 38.9 degrees Celsius, 10 notches above normal, at Ridge Observatory in north Delhi.

The mercury at Safdarjung was 35.7 degrees Celsius on Saturday, marking the earliest time in at least 15 years that the mercury crossed the 35 degrees Celsius mark, according to India Meteorological Department (IMD) data available since 2011. No respite is expected in the coming days, with daytime temperatures expected to remain 5-6 degrees Celsius above normal through the week.

According to IMD, the mercury may rise further to around 37-39 degrees Celsius by March 11. However, a slight dip of around 1-2 degrees Celsius may happen thereafter. "Persistent clear skies have been driving temperatures higher in the capital. Delhi has largely witnessed dry conditions since the last spell of intense rainfall towards the end of Jan. Feb saw only two instances of very light showers. In the absence of an active western disturbance affecting the region, the city consistently experienced clear skies, leading to a steady rise in the mercury," said a Met official, adding that a gradual increase in the mercury is expected over the next few days. The minimum temperature on Sunday was recorded at 16.7 degrees Celsius, three degrees above normal and slightly lower than Saturday's minimum of 17.4 degrees Celsius. Forecasts indicate that nights will remain relatively warm, with minimum temperatures likely to stay between 15 degrees Celsius and 18 degrees Celsius. Meanwhile, Delhi's air quality remained in the 'poor' category, with the average AQI of 247 on Sunday.

For 23 years, 1st ride every time: Meet Anil Marwah, who never misses Day 1 journey on new Delhi Metro; clocks 41st ride

New Delhi, (GNS): Anil Marwah (65) has never missed riding the Delhi Metro on the first day of any inauguration since it began operations on Dec 25, 2002.

On Sunday, he completed his 41st inaugural ride on the first train from Deepali Chowk-Majlis Park. He followed that with a second ride on the Majlis Park-Maujpur Babarpur stretch too.

"It all started as fun thing to do," Marwah said. "I work with an airline and had earlier lived in Japan, where I enjoyed travelling by metro. When Delhi got its first metro in 2002, my son and I decided to take a ride from Shahdara. Since then, I have made sure to travel on the first train of every extension," he said.

As the two corridors opened simultaneously, he could not catch the first train



on the Majlis Park-Maujpur Babarpur corridor. The Majlis Park-Maujpur-Babarpur stretch is an extension of the Delhi Metro Pink Line, while the Deepali Chowk-Majlis Park section extends the Delhi Metro Magenta Line.

During the event, Prime Minister Narendra Modi also laid the foundation stone for three corridors under the

metro's Phase V-A expansion, which will add 16.1 km to the network. The planned corridors are RK Ashram Marg-Indraprastha, Aerocity-Indira Gandhi Airport Terminal-1, and Tughlakabad-Kalindi Kunj. With the addition of the Majlis Park-Maujpur-Babarpur corridor, the Pink Line has become the first line in the Delhi Metro network to

form a complete circular route. Stretching 71.5 km with 46 stations, it is currently the longest line in the system.

Two engineering highlights of the corridor are the Yamuna bridge and a double-decker viaduct. Delhi's first 1.4-km double-decker viaduct, located between Bhajanpura and Yamuna Vihar, will significantly reshape the landscape of northeast Delhi. Metro trains run on the upper deck, while the lower deck has been designed for vehicular traffic. Trains have already begun operating on the structure, though the road ramp connecting to the viaduct is expected to be completed in a few months.

"The construction of the ramp for the road section of the double-decker viaduct, which was pending, is now being started as tree-cutting

permission has just come. It will be completed this year," an official said earlier.

With the new corridor operational, the metro will cross the Yamuna using its fifth bridge, linking Soorghat and Sonia Vihar. The bridge is among 25 structures spanning the 22-km stretch of the Yamuna between the Wazirabad and Okhla barrages. The other four metro bridges include Yamuna Bank on the Delhi Metro Blue Line, Shastri Park on the Delhi Metro Red Line, Kalindi Kunj on the Magenta Line, and Nizamuddin on the Pink Line.

Meanwhile, the fully elevated Deepali Chowk-Majlis Park section of the Magenta Line has seven stations, including three interchange points: Madhuban Chowk (Line-1), Haiderpur Badli Mor (Line-2), and Majlis Park (Line-7).

Parking, garbage among old grudges: How 50-year feud exploded on Holi in Delhi's Uttam Nagar, left 26-year-old dead

New Delhi, (GNS): What began as a minor Holi mishap in southwest Delhi's Uttam Nagar spiralled into a deadly clash between two neighbouring families whose disputes date back nearly five decades - a feud fuelled by everyday frictions over parking, garbage disposal and neighbourhood tensions.

The violence on March 4 left 26-year-old Tarun dead and triggered protests, arson and heavy police deployment in the area. Police said eight people, including a minor, have been apprehended so far in connection with the incident. On Sunday, officers arrested the eighth accused, 38-year-old Imran alias Bunty.

Investigators found that the two families had been neighbours for nearly 50 years and had long-standing disputes over issues such as park-



ing and garbage disposal.

During the clash, eight people sustained injuries - three from one family and five from the other. Most were discharged from hospital the same day, but Tarun was admitted with serious injuries.

An FIR was initially registered under provisions related to attempt to commit culpable homicide under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita. After Tarun

died during treatment on March 5, the charge of murder was added.

Police said the situation in the locality remains tense but under control. Residents have been urged not to believe rumours, and authorities warned that action would be taken against anyone attempting to give the incident a communal colour or disturb law and order.

NDMC readies plan for 24x7 water supply

New Delhi, (GNS): To accomplish the target for round-the-clock water supply in Lutyens' Delhi, NDMC has started the process of appointing a consultant to prepare a 25-year water supply master plan. The consultant will do a study of the NDMC area, assess leakage and shortcomings in the pipeline network, examine the condition of the infrastructure and prepare zone-wise networking plans. "These plans will be revisited every five years to incorporate improvements," an official said.

Tenders have been invited, and more than 10 agencies have expressed interest. "Issues raised during the pre-bid meeting will be addressed. We expect to complete the process in the next 21 days. Based on the consultant's proposals, an expert agency will be hired to execute the plan,"



the official added.

Thereafter, work will be undertaken in a phased manner, which will eventually eliminate the need for overhead tanks in the NDMC area. With continuous pressurised supply, residents will no longer need to store water.

NDMC provides potable water in the morning and evening, which is stored in overhead tanks. Under the proposed system, supply lines will remain pressurised throughout the day.

Darknet to doorstep: How drug cartel 'Team Kalki' built 4-star reputation on LSD, MDMA across India

New Delhi, (GNS): In a major blow to the growing digital narcotics trade, Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) has recently busted a darknet-enabled pan-India synthetic drug distribution network. It was the result of a three-month intelligence-led operation in the national capital. Two suspects, including the alleged kingpin, have been arrested. The cartel was known as 'Team Kalki' and had acquired a four-star rating over the darknet because of its purported "reliability and quality of the drugs it used to supply".

NCB has seized designer narcotics like 2,338 LSD blotters, 3.6 kg of liquid MDMA and 160 MDMA pills, besides hashish



and amphetamine worth several crores in the international market. The contraband was inter-

cepted from 13 domestic parcels and two international shipments originating from the Netherlands.

"The network was spearheaded by one Anurag Thakur and Vikas Rathi, two suspects who have previous criminal records," an NCB spokesperson said, adding that the two crossed paths while serving time in Tihar jail for prior drug-trafficking offences.

Thakur, who has a BBA degree from a private university, was the technical expert and the brains behind the cartel. Rathi, a graduate from Rohtak, was its 'boots-on-the-ground' and handled distribution and clientele. Thakur was earlier jailed for

methamphetamine trafficking, while Rathi was held for distributing charas. Upon their release, the duo leveraged their criminal connection to launch 'Team Kalki' in Jan 2025 and built a reputation on Dread, a dark web forum. It eventually migrated its operations to Session, an encrypted messaging application, to further anonymise their dealings with select clientele.

The network's reach was expansive. It used to source high-grade LSD and MDMA from international suppliers in the Netherlands, Poland and Germany. To evade law enforcement, it employed a 'dead drop' technique, which involved leaving drugs at pre-determined hidden locations, for trusted clients in Delhi. "The cartel used a rotat-

ing array of different courier services and Speed Post to complete more than 1,000 orders across states, including Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Kerala and Karnataka," said an official.

Its financial backbone was complex, involving the use of un-hosted cryptocurrency wallets to accept payments in Monero and USDT. To obscure the money trail, it routed funds through multiple intermediary 'mule' wallets and layers of conversion, eventually moving the proceeds into cold storage or the formal banking system via KYC-compliant accounts.

While multiple electronic devices and a cryptocurrency wallet have been recovered, NCB's investigation remains active as it works to trace the full

international supply chain.

The cartel's focus was on distributing LSD and MDMA due to their clique user-base, which likes the kind of high these designer drugs provide.

LSD, or lysergic acid diethylamide, is a potent psychedelic derived from ergotamine. Usually distributed as small paper blotters or in liquid form, it is known for inducing vivid hallucinations.

MDMA functions as both a stimulant and a hallucinogen. Frequently sold as 'ecstasy' in pill form or 'molly' as a powder, the drug works by triggering a massive release of serotonin, dopamine and norepinephrine in the brain, resulting in intense euphoria, emotional warmth and heightened sensory perception.

1,000 robotic surgeries at AIIMS Delhi, but 'miles to go', says doctor who started it

New Delhi, (GNS): In a landmark that doctors said called for celebration, AIIMS Delhi has completed 1,000 robotic surgeries since the programme began in the hospital. The milestone follows installation of the "da Vinci robotic surgical system", with the first such procedure led by Dr Hemanga K Bhattacharjee in Nov 2024 after years of preparation by the surgical team.

Surgeons at the top hospital are now performing robot-assisted surgeries free of additional cost. This, doctors said, makes AIIMS one of the fastest-growing robotic surgery centres in the public sector and the programme now covers a wide range of complex procedures including cancer operations, pelvic surgeries and organ transplants. For patients, the shift represents a



technological leap in how surgery is performed.

"Studies have consistently shown that the technological aspects of robotic surgery result in less pain and better precision," Dr Bhattacharjee told media. "The robot allows the surgeon to achieve outcomes that are often more precise than conventional techniques."

Robotic surgery belongs to a broader category of minimally

invasive procedures that emerged over the past three decades. Traditional open surgery involves large incisions to access organs, often leading to longer recovery times and greater pain. Laparoscopic surgery—which uses small incisions and instruments guided by cameras—revolutionised the field in the 1990s. Robotic surgery takes this approach a step further.

The surgeon operates from a console that provides a highly magnified, three-dimensional view of the patient's anatomy. Instruments attached to robotic arms mimic the surgeon's hand movements but with greater flexibility and steadiness, eliminating tremors and allowing access to difficult areas deep inside the body. For certain types of procedures, particularly pelvic surgeries, the advantages can be signifi-

cant. The enhanced precision helps surgeons preserve delicate nerves and reduce bleeding during the operation, which in turn improves recovery and long-term outcomes. Despite these advantages, India's adoption of robotic surgery came relatively late. The technology has existed for more than two decades, but its expansion was slowed by one major barrier: cost.

Robotic surgical systems can cost several crores of rupees, with additional expenses for maintenance and specialised instruments. As a result, most early adopters in India were large private hospital chains, where patients often paid several lakh rupees for robotic procedures.

But all that is about to change. Govt hospitals are increasingly entering the field, bringing the technology within reach of a wider segment of patients.

VK Saxena readies for new role, leaves behind greener, cleaner Delhi

New Delhi, (GNS): All set to take oath as the Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh on March 13, VK Saxena, the L-G of Delhi, leaves behind a greener and cleaner Capital.

The first non-bureaucrat L-G of the city leaves behind a legacy of rejuvenation of the Yamuna floodplains, turnaround of the Delhi Development Authority, easing of business through simpler licensing procedures and enhancement of Delhi's nightlife by way of relaxed rules for restaurants.

Officials who worked with Saxena flag the following as major works under his term that commenced on May 26, 2022 - infrastructure as on priority agenda; creation of permanent green assets in Baansera, Asita and Mehrauli Archaeological Parks; turnaround of the DDA; Yamuna as the focus area; comprehensive action to address garbage mountains in Okhla, Bhalswa and Ghazipur and cleaning of the Yamuna floodplains.

Officials say Saxena, who had

called himself the "Local Guardian" when he took charge conducted 1,349 inspections of sites through his 1383 days in office. Government data show Yamuna's degraded floodplains have been revived considerably.

Official records state that the Asita ecological restoration project spread over 225 acres saw the plantation of 5 lakh riverine grasses of 15 species, 31,770 native trees and attracted 190 species of resident and migratory birds. This park has a wetland that can hold 139 million CuM of water.

Bansera (37 acres), Vasudev Ghat (225 acres) and Yamuna Vatika (450 acres) have been similarly restored.

On the heritage front, Saxena's term saw the restoration of Mehrauli Archaeological Park housing key monuments like Quli Khan Tomb, Metcalfe Estate, Chaumukha Darwaza and Rajon Ki Baoli and Anang Pal Tomar Van, an early medieval wonder which houses the remnants of Delhi's pre-Islamic past.

Man shot dead in broad daylight in Bawana

New Delhi, (GNS): A 24-year-old man was shot dead near a banquet hall in broad daylight in the Bawana area on Sunday, the police said.

The deceased has been identified as Bhupender (24), a resident of Panaa Basti Wada, Pooth Khurd, Delhi. The incident took place near Raj Vatika in the Pooth Khurd area, they said.

"After getting information, a police team rushed to the spot and found the man lying critically injured with a gunshot wound. He was shifted to a nearby hospital where doctors declared him dead on arrival," a police officer said.

"We have registered an FIR and initiated further investigation. Police teams have been deployed to gather manual and technical intelligence to identify and apprehend the accused involved in the incident," the officer said, adding that investigators are scanning CCTV footage from nearby areas.

A case was registered under Section 103(1) of the BNS and other relevant section at the Bawana police station.

The body has been shifted to a mortuary for post-mortem examination to ascertain the cause and circumstances of death, the police said. The incident took place when Bhupender left his house. He was shot multiple times by scooty borne assailants, who fled from the spot after the killing. The cops suspect that the killing might have linked to the ongoing property dispute between the deceased's family and another family.

Assault, racial slurs against female student from Manipur in Saket



New Delhi, (GNS): Days after an incident involving racial slurs against students from Arunachal Pradesh in south Delhi, two students from Manipur were allegedly attacked and racial slurs were used against them near the Saket District Court complex on Sunday evening, the police said. According to cops, the incident occurred when a woman from Manipur and her friend were taking a walk in a park in Saket. A group of men allegedly passed remarks at them, which led to a confrontation. When one of the women objected to the comments, the situation escalated and she was allegedly assaulted with belts by the accused.

The injured woman was taken to Safdarjung Hospital for medical examination and treatment.

A preliminary report suggested that she suffered minor injuries and was currently stable, a police official said. The police said a team had reached out to the victim and was in constant touch with her.

"Strict action will be taken against the culprits," the official added.

The incident comes days after a man, allegedly racially abused three women from Arunachal Pradesh in south Delhi on February 20 at around 3.30 pm. Following widespread outrage, the Delhi Police arrested Harsh Singh and Ruby Jain. Both were later sent to 14-day judicial custody.

An FIR was registered under provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) for promoting enmity, criminal intimidation and insulting the woman. Subsequently, Sections of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act were also added.

When uniform's weight becomes badge of honour for SWAT team

New Delhi, (GNS): When 26-year-old constable Aashima left her village in Haryana's Ambala district to join the Delhi Police, she became the first woman in her family—and in her village—to secure a govt job. Today, armed with an MP5 submachine gun and trained for high-risk operations, she is one of the 34 women who make up Delhi Police's elite Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) unit.

These commandos, trained in counter-terror operations, hostage rescue and VVIP protection, are experts in Krav Maga, building interventions and advanced weapons handling. The unit currently includes three women sub-inspectors and 31 women constables.

"A commando's father—that's how the village knows him" Speaking with media, Aashima said her journey still feels unreal. "I used to see cops in movies as a child and feel



inspired. Now my younger siblings tell me that they are inspired by me," she said.

Her pride deepens when she hears villagers refer to her father as "a commando's father". A trained sniper, she won a medal at an all-India shooting competition in 2024—a moment that further cemented her confidence.

"The uniform is more than a career, it's a legacy": For constable Anshu, 26, from Meerut, the love for the

uniform runs in the family. With her father in the Indian Army and her brother in UP Police, she grew up watching the Republic Day parade in awe. "My favourite class was games, and I always enjoyed adventure sports," she said. The SWAT's gruelling physical regimen became an extension of that spirit. "The uniform is more than a career—it's our family's legacy."

Rising after injury, determined to stand tall

Pink Line comes full circle as Delhi Metro grows to 416km

New Delhi, (GNS): Prime Minister Narendra Modi's inauguration of the two metro corridors - Majlis Park-Maujpur-Babarpur and Deepali Chowk-Majlis Park - on Sunday has made the network 416-km-long with 303 stations across NCR.

Majlis Park-Maujpur-Babarpur is an extension of the Pink Line, and Deepali Chowk-Majlis Park is an extension of the Magenta Line.

Modi also laid the foundation stone for three corridors under metro's Phase V-A expansion that will cover 16.1 km. The corridors are RK Ashram Marg-Indraprastha, Aerocity-Indira Gandhi Airport Terminal-1, and Tughlakabad-Kalindi Kunj. With the addition of the Majlis Park to Maujpur-Babarpur corridor, the Pink Line is the first line to form a circular route. The line is the longest with 71.5 km and 46 stations.

The two highlights of this



corridor are the bridge over the Yamuna and the double-decker viaduct. Delhi's first 1.4 km-long double-decker viaduct between Bhajanpura and Yamuna Vihar will transform the landscape of north-east Delhi. It will have the metro move on the upper deck and vehicles on the lower deck. The metro trains have started moving on this viaduct, but a ramp connecting the viaduct for vehicles will be ready after a few months.

"The construction of the ramp for the road section of

the double-decker viaduct, which was pending, is now being started as tree-cutting permission has just come. It will be completed this year itself," an official said earlier.

Following the operation of the new corridor on the Pink Line, the metro will now cross the Yamuna taking its fifth bridge while connecting Soorghat and Sonia Vihar. media had reported earlier that it is one of the 25 bridges on the 22 km stretch of the Yamuna from Wazirabad barrage to Okhla barrage.

Police target shops selling counterfeit pone parts and protein powder sellers, 7 held

New Delhi, (GNS): Police have busted two syndicates allegedly involved in selling counterfeit products across the city. In one case, five people were arrested in Rohini for allegedly selling counterfeit spare parts and accessories of high-end mobile phones. Items worth over Rs 1.6 crore were seized. Police were tipped off on Friday that several shops in a mall in Sector 3 were selling counterfeit products.

DCP (crime) Pankaj Kumar said: "Raids were conducted in five shops where the owners failed to produce bills or authorisation from the mobile phone company for the sale of the products."

Police seized around 1,000 back panels, 180 back bodies, 228 mobile batteries, 48 cameras and charging flexes, 738



back covers, 14 adapters and 109 cables from these shops. The accused have been identified as Dinesh, Shivam Singhal, Shivam, Puneet and Ramkaran Sharma. A case has been registered under sections of BNS.

In another operation, two persons were arrested in northeast Delhi's Brahmpuri for allegedly manufacturing and supplying spurious protein supplements after packaging them to look like products of reputed brands.

Move It! When Brazilian Football Meets Indian Classical Dance

New Delhi, (GNS): In 1980, Amar K Shridharani was in Sao Paulo procuring sea food for the multinational he worked for. For any lover of Brazilian football, which he was, the city was the place to be. In his free time, he would watch local league games, especially those of Santos, the club that Pele, the original GOAT once played for.

Shridharani didn't stay long enough to watch coach Tele Santana's famed midfield of Zico, Socrates, Falcao and others on the pitch, the finest ensemble not to win the World Cup. Men who created football's version of transient art, and in the process, became a fable. As Socrates later wrote in Alex Bellos' book, 'Futebol:



The Brazilian Way of Life', "Football...I believe, is part of our most primal genome, like dance."

Dance -- that's the word. 'Jogo bonito', or the beautiful game, as the Brazilians describe football in

Portuguese, has often been equated to the joyous samba and the more relaxed bossa nova, two dance forms which were born in the land of Garrincha, Ronaldo (again, the original), and now, Vinicius Junior. Players who made

opponents dance to their tune. Brazil has won the World Cup five times, more than any other country.

While watching the sport over the decades, Shridharani also noticed how correct body positioning was fundamental to both football and dance. "A great footballer will always be elegant," he says. That was when the germ of an idea first took shape: blending Brazilian football with Indian dance.

Yet the concept felt too off-beat. Which is why Shridharani—the honorary general secretary of Triveni Kala Sangam—was both hesitant and apprehensive when he broached it, albeit indirectly, with Acharya Jayalakshmi Eshwar some years ago. Would

she consider a project where two very different performance traditions could come together in seamless synergy?

For Eshwar, a Sangeet Natak Akademi awardee who teaches Bharatanatyam at Triveni, the concept presented an unusual challenge. "The grammar of classical dance is vast. You can do anything without losing the classicism," she says. But there was a problem. Cricket and tennis interested her, football didn't. But once Eshwar agreed to take up the project, the classical dance teacher plunged headlong into research. She watched Brazilian football videos for a month to study leg and torso movement and technique.