



# Singer Asha Bhosle passes away at 92

## Hospitalized with chest infection, funeral tomorrow at 4 pm

**Mumbai(GNS):** Singer Asha Bhosle has passed away at the age of 92. She breathed her last on Sunday afternoon at Mumbai's Breach Candy Hospital, where she was admitted on Saturday evening.

Dr. Pratit Samdani of Breach Candy Hospital told news agency that Asha Bhosle had several medical problems and died due to multi-organ failure.

Asha Bhosle's son, Anand Bhosle, said those wishing to pay their last respects can come to her home tomorrow at 11 a.m. The funeral will be held at Shivaji Park today at 4 p.m.

Asha Bhosle sang over 12,000 songs in over 20 languages during her career. Her songs "In Aankhon Ki Masti," "Dum Maro Dum," "Piya Tu Ab To Aaja," and "Chura Liya Hai Tumne" remain popular even today. Asha Bhosle was the daughter of renowned the-



### LEGENDARY SINGER ASHA BHOSLE DIES AT 92

### 1933 - 2026

ater actor and classical singer Deenanath Mangeshkar and the younger sister of Lata Mangeshkar. Her father died when she was only nine years old,

which led her and her sister, Lata Mangeshkar, to take up singing to support their family.

● **Anupam Kher said - Asha ji, your voice will always**

**resonate.**

Anupam Kher said on Asha Bhosle's death, "For over seven decades, she wasn't just a part of the music industry, she was

an era in itself. Her voice transcended generations, languages, and emotions."

From playful songs to sad ghazals, he made every tune his own in every style, but beyond music, what made him extraordinary was his passion, his optimism and his curiosity about life.

She reinvented herself time and again, emerging even better each time. She inspired not just musicians, but every human being to live with passion, to remain relevant, and to live life to the fullest.

The sparkle in his eyes, the mischief in his smile and his energy always taught us that age is just a number and life should be celebrated till the end.

Thank you, Asha ji, for your music, your memories, and for teaching us how to live life. You may not be physically with us, but your voice will always res-

onate. Om Shanti.

● **Asha Bhosle's voice will always resonate, says PM Modi**

Narendra Modi said on the demise of Asha Bhosle, "I am deeply saddened by the demise of Asha Bhosle ji, one of the most revered and versatile voices of India.

His extraordinary musical journey, spanning decades, enriched our cultural heritage and touched countless hearts around the world. Whether it was his soulful melodies or vibrant compositions, his voice possessed a timeless brilliance. "I will always cherish my encounters with her. My thoughts are with her family, fans, and music lovers. She will continue to inspire generations to come, and her songs will forever resonate in people's lives."

### Indian Navy Commanders Conference to be held on April 14-16, to deliberate on maritime security and strategy

**New Delhi(GNS):** An important meeting of the Indian Navy's top commanders is underway. Here, naval commanders will set strategic direction for maritime security, operational preparedness, and protecting national interests. The Navy's top leadership, operational commanders, and senior officers will participate in this meeting. This is the Navy's Commanders' Conference. In fact, the Indian Navy is going to organize the first edition of the "Commanders' Conference 2026." According to the Navy, this "Commanders' Conference" will be held in New Delhi from April 14 to April 16. The Chief of Naval Staff and other senior commanders will conduct an in-depth analysis of the current geopolitical situation and review strategies to address multifaceted challenges.

### Bhagwat said, "Lack of unity in Hindu society: This is a major reason for repeated slavery;

**Hedgewar founded the RSS for unity and freedom"**

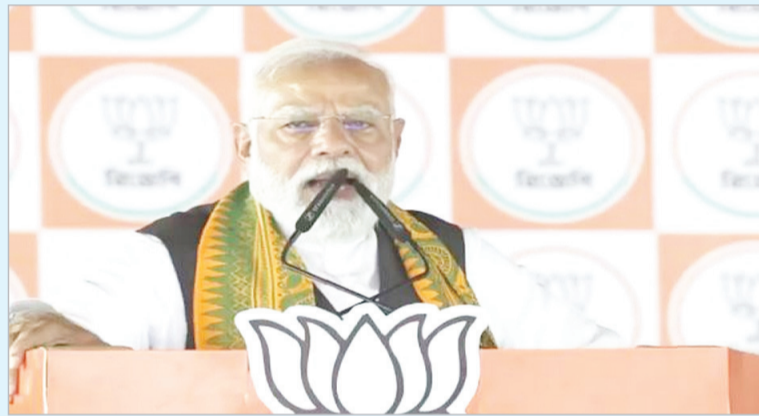
**Nizamabad(GNS):** Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat said that Keshav Baliram Hedgewar had founded the RSS with the aim of liberating the country from foreign rule and ending the divisions among Hindus. He said Hedgewar believed that a lack of unity in society was a major reason for repeated slavery. The RSS chief said Hedgewar worked on many avenues, including political and armed resistance, to end British rule. Bhagwat said that while working for independence, Hedgewar realized that the British were not the first outside rulers to enslave Indians. According to him, the problem was not just an external force, but also a flaw within society.

Bhagwat was speaking on Saturday after inaugurating the Shri Keshav Sphurti Mandir in Kandakurthi village in Telangana's Nizamabad district, Hedgewar's ancestral village.

## West Bengal elections: Trinamool is sure to go, wave of change in Bengal: PM

**Siliguri(GNS):** The political atmosphere has heated up ahead of the West Bengal Assembly elections. Addressing a public rally in Siliguri, a major city in North Bengal, Prime Minister Narendra Modi attacked the Trinamool Congress and called for change in the state. Held at the Kawakhali ground on Sunday afternoon, the rally drew a large crowd. Upon arriving at the venue, the Prime Minister praised the enthusiasm of the people, saying that he had rarely seen such a large crowd. He claimed that this public support was a clear indication that a change of power was imminent in West Bengal.

Addressing the rally, Prime Minister Modi said that the Trinamool



Congress's rule was about to end. He alleged that the state had seen only corruption and stagnation in the last 15 years. Addressing the youth in particular, he said that the state's future now lies in their hands and they must come forward to bring about change.

Targeting Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's govern-

ment, the Prime Minister said that the Trinamool Congress has promoted "syndicate and cut-money culture" instead of development. He alleged that corruption is deeply entrenched in the state, and the common people are suffering from it.

Describing North Bengal as a stronghold of the Bharatiya Janata Party, the

Prime Minister made several promises for the region's development and employment. He said that if the BJP forms a government, special attention will be paid to security, infrastructure, and economic development.

During the rally, Prime Minister Modi also accused the Trinamool Congress of having links with the "Tukde-Tukde Gang." He said that such elements had conspired to harm the Siliguri Corridor and separate Northeast India from the country, and that the Trinamool supported them.

The Prime Minister clearly stated that the Siliguri Corridor is vital for the country's security and prosperity, and its protection and development is the BJP's priority.

### An uncontrolled bus rams into a pickup truck and a bike in Katihar, Bihar, killing 13 people

**Katihar(GNS):** A horrifying incident has come to light on Saturday evening in Katihar district of Bihar, where an uncontrolled bus caused massive destruction near Kodha block on National Highway-31. 13 people died on the spot in this horrific accident, while more than 27 people are seriously injured. The deceased include 10 women and an innocent girl. It is being told that 5 of the deceased were from the same family. Most of the deceased were residents of Purnia district, who were returning to their homes in a pickup after visiting Kathia Mela Dham in Jharkhand.

According to eyewitnesses, this devastation unfolded in just 50 seconds. Witnesses claim the bus driver was drunk and the vehicle was traveling at over 100 kilometers per hour. Just before colliding with the pickup, the speeding bus crushed a bike, killing the father and son riding it instantly. The bus then struck an oncoming pickup with such force that it shattered the pickup. The sound of the collision was so powerful that locals thought a bomb had exploded.

The investigation revealed the shocking fact that the bus (BR 34G0110) that caused the accident had been unfit for five years. Its fitness certificate, insurance, and pollution certificate had expired in 2021.

## Amarnath Yatra begins on July 3 lasts for 57 days; ends on August 28

▶ Registrations open on April 15

**Srinagar, Agency:**The dates for the Amarnath Yatra have been announced. Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said on Sunday that this year the pilgrimage will run from July 3 to August 28.

The first batch will depart from the Bhagwati Nagar base camp in Jammu for this 57-day journey. Registration for the journey will begin on April 15th.

LG Sinha, while giving information about the pilgrimage, told the media that anyone between the ages of 13 and 70 can undertake the pilgrimage. The first puja at the cave will be performed on June 19th, the full moon day of



Jyeshtha. The traditional 48 km long Nunwan-Pahalgam route from Anantnag and the 14 km long Baltal route from Ganderbal will remain open for travel.

## Now the train will reach the last village of the country, Indian Railways has approved the extension of 6000 km of new line.

**New Delhi(GNS):** Indian Railways is investing heavily to enhance connectivity to the farthest reaches of the country and reach poor and remote areas. As part of this initiative, Indian Railways has approved the expansion of 6,000 kilometers of new rail lines in 2025-26, an increase of 114% over the previous year.

This year, a special emphasis is being placed on laying new railway lines in tribal areas and reducing congestion, ensuring punctuality



and better passenger service. With a total investment of 1.53 lakh crore, this represents a 110% increase from last year. Additionally, 100 new projects have been approved for 2025-26, representing a 56% increase.

## Modern development and cultural preservation complement each other: CP Radhakrishnan

**New Delhi(GNS):** Vice President CP Radhakrishnan said on Sunday that modern development and cultural preservation complement each other. Only when development and heritage go hand in hand is the all-round progress of a nation possible.

The Vice President made these remarks at the inauguration of a conference on "Transforming Tribal Lives through Science and Technology Interventions - Preservation of Language, Faith and Culture" at Bharat

Mandapam in New Delhi. The conference was organized by the Department of Science and Technology in collaboration with the North East Centre for Technology Application and Reach (NECTAR) and ITITI Doon Sanskriti School, Dehradun.

He said, "Making India developed by 2047 does not mean forgetting our culture. The principle of 'Development as well as Heritage' means that we will preserve our ancient traditions while



adopting modern technology, as both complement each other." The Vice President said that when modern science works in harmony with language, faith, and culture, it becomes a powerful force for conservation and empowerment. He noted that tribal communities possess invaluable traditional knowledge that contributes to the sustainable use of biodiversity and forest resources. For centuries, these communities have preserved India's ancient culture, faith, and civilizational heritage.

# Election campaign becomes aggressive in Bengal, BJP releases manifesto

Mrityunjay Dixit

After voting concluded for the assembly elections in Assam, Kerala, and Puducherry, the election campaign in West Bengal and Tamil Nadu has intensified. Analysis in Bengal suggests that the formation of a government in Bengal will be a matter of just two percent of the vote. The main battle for power is between Mamata Banerjee, who is seeking to become Chief Minister for the fourth time, and the Bharatiya Janata Party. Both are campaigning aggressively. The BJP first released a white paper against the Mamata Banerjee government, and then, following three major public rallies by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah released the BJP's manifesto.

Meanwhile, Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and some of her party leaders, alarmed by the BJP's growing popularity, have begun making statements promoting violence. Abhishek Banerjee even openly called for breaking the necks, limbs, and arms of BJP workers in his rallies. For this, an FIR has been filed against him by the Election Commission. The Chief Minister of Bengal has herself launched a campaign against the Election Commission's functioning and is continuously campaigning in court. She is particularly upset by the deletion of approximately 9.1 million voters from Bengal's voter list.

The BJP is also fighting to form the government this time. In his public meetings in Haldia, Asansol, and Siuri, Prime

Minister Modi made six guarantees to the people of Bengal, which were reiterated and strengthened in the BJP's manifesto. In these public meetings, Prime Minister Modi, while laying out the agenda of development and good governance, also launched a scathing attack on the TMC government. The Prime Minister stated that after the formation of the government, there will be development for all, but those who have looted will also be held accountable. Attacking the Mamata Banerjee government, he said that for the past 15 years, syndicates, cut money, and hooliganism have been prevalent in the state, which has eroded the trust of the common people. With the BJP government in power, trust will be established instead of fear. Corrupt people will be sent to jail. The gov-

ernment system will be accountable to the public. Files of every scam, corruption and injustice done to sisters and daughters will be opened. Infiltrators will be hunted down and driven out.

After Prime Minister Modi's public meetings, Home Minister Amit Shah has released the BJP's manifesto in which many important announcements have been made. A Vande Mataram Museum will be built in the BJP office in Kolkata, Bengal. Through the concept of Vande Mataram, Bengal's culture will be showcased on the global platform. Recently, a special session has been organized in the Parliament on the 150th birth anniversary of Vande Mataram and now singing the entire Vande Mataram has been made mandatory in government functions. From the perspective of Bengal,

the establishment of the Vande Mataram Museum is an important announcement.

Singur Announcement: The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) made its second major announcement in its manifesto regarding Singur, vowing to build an industrial park there upon forming the government. Mamata Banerjee began establishing her political foothold in Singur. The Singur dispute in West Bengal has been a significant event in India's industrial and political history. The Singur dispute began in 2006 when the then Left Front government granted Tata Motors approximately 997 acres of land in Singur, Hooghly district, to manufacture Nano cars. The government acquired this land under the old Land Acquisition Act, but local farmers' organizations opposed the government's decision.

## Editorial

### Rebuilding ties: On India engaging with Turkiye and Azerbaijan

New Delhi's recent moves to re-engage diplomatically and hold Foreign Office Consultations with diplomats in Turkiye and Azerbaijan is a considerable shift in the government's policy, especially over the past year. Since the India-Pakistan conflict and Operation Sindoor in May 2025, the government had expressed its anger not just at Pakistan, but at countries that were seen as supportive of Pakistan, diplomatically or militarily during the conflict. In particular, the Ministry of External Affairs had expressed its disappointment with statements made by Turkiye, Azerbaijan and Malaysia, that questioned the government's decision to launch strikes on terror sites in Pakistan after the Pahalgam terror attacks. During briefings about Operation Sindoor, as the 96-hour military conflict from May 7-10 was named, the government left out envoys from countries that it felt had not expressed solidarity with India. In a military briefing in July, the deputy chief of army staff said India had had to contend with at least three adversaries on its border with Pakistan, including Turkiye. Azerbaijan too was believed to have helped Pakistan with technological support. Trade and tourism to Turkiye and Azerbaijan dropped significantly for several months, as calls to boycott them went out from influential accounts. During its evacuation of Indians from Iran after US-Israel airstrikes on nuclear installations in June 2025, the MEA pointedly told those heading out by land routes to use Armenia and Turkmenistan, not either Turkiye or Azerbaijan. In addition, foreign policy commentary suggested that India was building an alliance of India, Armenia, Greece as a counter to their age-old rivals Pakistan, Azerbaijan and Turkiye, who had already formed a strong trilateral grouping. Given the heated rhetoric, and the freeze in diplomatic ties, the decision to send Secretary West in the MEA, Sibi George, to Baku to revive Foreign office consultations with Azerbaijani counterparts last week, and to invite the Turkish Deputy Foreign Minister to Delhi this week, are significant diplomatic moves that indicate that the governments in Baku and Ankara too feel that better bilateral relations are in their interests.

# Asha Bhosle: A journey of melodies that gave a new identity to Indian music

**In the history of Indian music, there have been few artists who, through their talent, experimentation, and long-term contributions, transcended the boundaries of time and became immortal. One such legendary figure is Asha Bhosle, whose voice not only enriched Hindi cinema but also established a global identity through over 12,000 songs in over 20 languages.**



Dr. Hidayat Ahmed Khan

Her inclusion in the Guinness World Records proves that her contribution was not limited to popularity, but also a historic achievement. Asha Bhosle, who gave Indian music a new identity globally and completed a tireless life journey of 92 years, departed this mortal world on Sunday, April 12, 2026. However, her musical talent will forever reign in the hearts of music lovers. Asha Bhosle, the great singer of melody, was born on September 8, 1933, in Sangli, Maharashtra, into a musical family. Her father, Pandit Deenanath Mangeshkar, was a renowned classical singer, and the home environment was filled with music from the very beginning. Raised in this environment, Asha entered the world of music at a very young age. At the age of 10, she sang her first Marathi song, "Chala Chala Nav Baal," which she recorded with her elder sister, Lata Mangeshkar. This experience proved inspiring, and from there, her musical journey took direction.

However, Asha Bhosle's life journey wasn't easy. Despite coming from a musical family and being the sister of the legendary singer Lata Mangeshkar, she faced a tough ini-

tial struggle. At that time, Lata Mangeshkar had already become the leading singer of Indian film music, and in her shadow, Asha had to work hard to establish her own identity. Her voice initially bore a striking resemblance to Lata Mangeshkar's, often leading to confusion. In one instance, a recording was mistaken for Asha's, when it was actually her sister's. This experience forced her to deeply reflect on the fact that if she didn't change her style, she would always be judged by comparison.

After this, Asha Bhosle made a major decision in her musical career. She undertook a radical change in her singing style. She began studying Western music, English films, and various international styles. She learned to adapt her voice to diverse forms such as qawwali, ghazal, and cabaret. This experimentation later became her greatest strength. She redefined Indian film music and established herself as a versatile singer.

Asha Bhosle not only sang melodious love songs, but also lent her voice to bold and experimental songs. Songs like "Dum Maro Dum" and "Piya Tu Ab To Aaja" became the heartthrob of the youth of that era. Her songs were both highly

popular and controversial. Over time, these songs became classics of Indian music. Her ability to adapt to all genres of music with ease set her apart from other singers.

Asha Bhosle achieved many significant milestones during her long career. She became the first Indian female singer to receive a Grammy Award nomination. Furthermore, in 2011, she held the world record for the most studio recordings, a testament to her remarkable versatility and consistency.

It can be said that Asha Bhosle's greatest strength in the world of music has been her versatility and courage to experiment. She never limited herself to a single genre and embraced every new experiment as an opportunity. This is why she is considered one of the most influential and longest-lasting singers in Indian music.

Asha Bhosle may no longer be with us, but her voice represents not just music but an era. An era that brought diversity, experimentation, and international recognition to Indian film music. Her journey teaches us that if talent is combined with courage and a willingness to constantly learn, any artist can transcend boundaries and create history.

## "You've spoken enough, now I'll speak"

Hriday Narayan Dixit

The much-awaited women's reservation is here. The Union Council of Ministers has passed it. Women's reservation is a historic document of social equality. It echoes a mantra from the Atharva Veda. In this mantra, a woman says, "You have spoken enough. Now I will speak." Women have been respected in India since ancient times. Those who propagate the poor status of women have been making false accusations.

In Indian society, women have been respected as equals to men. Women were respected even in the Vedic period. Mudgalani, a prominent woman of the Vedic period, participated in battle on a chariot. Her clothes in battle were controlled by the wind god Vayu.

According to the Rig Veda, Vipasala's leg was severed in battle. The Ashwani gods fitted her with a metal leg. Husband and wife constitute a couple. Women have dignity within the couple. Many hymns in the Rigveda contain elements of respect for women. Charles Darwin also acknowledged the origin of the universe from water. The idea of ??Mother Water had been established long before Darwin, in the Vedic period. The Rigveda offers salutations to the Mother Waters, "Apaha Mataram."

The Rigveda also includes a goddess named Aditi. It states, "All elements of this existence are Aditi. Everything that has happened and will happen in the future is Aditi." The hymns of the Rigveda are worth reading. Aditi: Dyau: Aditi: Antriksam Aditi: Mata Sa: Pita Sa:

Putra: Aditi: Vishvedeva: Aditi: Panchajana: Aditi: Jatam Janitvam-Dyuloka is Aditi, space is also Aditi, parents and sons are all Aditi, all the gods are Aditi, the five people who reside in Saptasindhu, all of them are Aditi. Whatever has arisen and whatever will arise in the future, all that is Aditi. (Rigveda 1.89.10) There is no goddess in the Greek pantheon with as deep philosophical meaning as Aditi.

Being married was respectable. Remaining unmarried for a long time has been criticized in Smritis. The institution of marriage has developed gradually. By the time Rigveda was composed, the institution of marriage was developing properly. Woman is not a slave. A beautiful mantra from the Rig Veda wishes a new bride, saying, "May this new bride live long. May she

work long. May she rule over her father-in-law and all her family." This is an ancient element of Indian culture.

The status of women in India has been respected throughout time. Our ancestors have considered women protectors of society. In the Vedic period, women were also sages with mantra visions. According to the Brihadaranyaka Upanishad, King Janaka convened a gathering of scholars. Numerous scholars attended the gathering. In the gathering, Gargi asked Yajnavalkya direct questions. She asked, "On what element is this entire existence based?" "On what foundation does creation stand?" Yajnavalkya replied, "On water." After Gargi's answer, she asked, "On what is water based?" Then she was asked, "Which deity supports

this existence?" Gargi asked, "What is the basis of this vast existence?" Yajnavalkya replied, "Brahma sustains everything. Brahma is supreme." Gargi asked the next question, "On what is Brahma based?" Yajnavalkya replied, "Brahma is supreme. Brahma manifests in different forms." The cause of Brahman is Brahman. Brahman is infinite. He is eternal.

Gargi's talent was astonishing. In the Rama-Sita pair, the uniqueness of both Sita and Ram is evident. No one is greater, no one is smaller. A character like Sita is unmatched in any other country. Among Shiva and Parvati, Parvati is the first, and she asks Shiva profound questions on various subjects on all occasions. Kaikeyi is noteworthy in the story of Kaikeyi and Dasharatha.

## "An Evening of Young Words" featured a fruitful discussion on the second book, "The Teenage Chronicles - Book 2," written by teenage poet Yashvi Lodha

Mumbai, 11th April. "An Evening of Young Words", a glorious event held at the Crossword Book Centre in KempsCorner, Mumbai, witnessed a meaningful discussion by various Bollywood personalities and eminent literary figures on various aspects of teenage poet Ms. Yashvi Lodha's second poetry collection, "The Teenage Chronicles - Book 2."

The warm evening was attended by numerous Bollywood celebrities and renowned literary figures, including film actresses Esha Deol, Rakul Preet Singh and Jacky Bhagnani, as well as senior literary figure Mrs. Manju Lodha. This star-studded gathering included prominent socialites, close family members, friends and well-wishers were present in large numbers to show their love and support. "The Teenage Chronicles - Book 2" is a collection of 45 poems that beautifully captures the inner world of a teenager's



growing up. Through themes such as identity, pressure, loneliness, fairness, hope and self-discovery, the book explores the questions and emotions that often plague teens. Many poems reflect the expectations placed on today's young generation, the culture of constant comparison, and the quiet struggles that may not always be apparent on the surface. The collection also touches on issues of mental health, uncertainty about the future, and the crucial transition from childhood innocence to adulthood. Furthermore, it

has an atmosphere of reflection and hope, encouraging readers to pause, reflect, and find meaning in everyday moments. The poems in this collection emphasize that confusion and self-doubt during growing up are a natural part of it. In her second book, Yashvi Lodha, a leading young poet and author from Mumbai, presents a voice that is both observant and self-aware. Her writing attempts to spark honest conversations about emotions that many young people feel but often struggle to articulate. On this occasion,



Various Bollywood celebrities and senior litterateur Mrs. Manju Lodha with teenage poet Yashvi Lodha's second poetry collection "The Teenage Chronicles" - Book 2 at a grand function held at Crossword Book Centre, kemps Corner, Mumbai.

Yashvi Lodha recited selected poems from her book and provided a brief account of her reasons for writing it. This was followed by an interactive session and book signing, where attendees got a closer look at her work. The large crowd and enthusiastic response perfectly demonstrated the growing

recognition of young voices in today's literature. It's worth noting that recently, at a private function, after the release of "The Teenage Chronicles - Book 2", the megastar of the century, Mr. Amitabh Bachchan, while reviewing an advance copy of it, also praised Yashvi Lodha's poems profusely.

## No dog at Mehrauli park for event

New Delhi ,(GNS): Animal activists and social media users have reacted strongly to a recent letter issued by the lieutenant governor's office to Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD), seeking removal or control of stray dogs at Mehrauli Archaeological Park ahead of a cultural event scheduled for April 12.

In the communication, the deputy secretary (administration) in the LG secretariat directed the deputy commissioner of MCD's South zone to complete the task on the park premises and in the adjoining event area to ensure safety, security and smooth conduct of 'Rhythm of Spring - A Cultural Evening'. "The matter may be treated as most urgent and time-bound," the letter stated.

The letter also called for fogging and fumigation in and around the park in view of the event, being organised under the aegis of LG. It noted that "the programme is

expected to be attended by senior Union ministers, judges of Supreme Court and the high court, ministers of Delhi govt, diplomats and other dignitaries, necessitating adequate public health and sanitation measures."

Several social media users and animal welfare advocates called the directive "unscientific" and contrary to animal protection norms. Some suggested that instead of removing dogs, authorities should opt for temporary measures such as barricading the event area.

Anu Pandey, a social media user, wrote on X, "When will this nonsensical drill stop? Didn't expect this most unscientific and inhuman letter from your office. This is also a violation of ABC rules @MCD Delhi. Do not remove dogs, if needed, put barricades with the help of feeders." Tagging LG, chief minister, MCD and Delhi Development Authority, she added, "This foolish drill is waste of govt funds."

### International Conference at Hindu College Emphasises Research, Innovation, and Sustainability



New Delhi ,(GNS): The three-day International Conference on Sustainability through Fundamental and Applied Sciences (STFAS-2026) at Hindu College, University of Delhi, was marked by insightful panel discussions, interdisciplinary deliberations, and a valedictory session, bringing together eminent academicians, industry leaders, and policy experts.

A significant highlight of the final day was the panel discussion on "Fourth Year Undergraduate Programme - Early Experiences, Challenges and Way Forward." The session brought together leading academic administrators, including Prof. K. Ratnabali, Dean (Academic Affairs), University of Delhi; Prof. Bijayalakshmi, Principal, Miranda House; Prof. Ajay Arora, Principal, Ramjas College; Prof. Rama, Principal, Hansraj College; Prof. Simrit Kaur, Principal, Shri Ram College of Commerce; and Prof. Anju Srivastava, Principal, Hindu College.

Curated by Prof. Shalini Suryanarayan, Director, IQAC, Hindu College, the discussion offered valuable insights into the implementation of the fourth-year undergraduate programme, highlighting its early experiences, emerging challenges, and the roadmap for strengthening academic structures to enhance student learning outcomes. Prof. Anju Srivastava, Principal of Hindu College, emphasised that such dialogues are crucial for refining higher education frameworks in alignment with evolving academic and societal needs. She noted that the collective experiences shared by institutional leaders would significantly contribute to shaping a more robust and student-centric undergraduate system.

Another engaging panel discussion on "Bridging the Skill Gap: Universities on the Road of Preparing Industry-Ready Graduates" explored the dynamic interface between academia and industry. The session featured distinguished speakers including Prof. Anjan Ray, Investment Partner at Navam Capital and former Director, CSIR-Indian Institute of Petroleum, Dehradun; Dr. Mukul Das, Director, Shriram Institute, Delhi; Dr. S. S. V. Ramakumar, Chief Technology Officer and Executive Vice President, AM Green, Noida; Dr. Prashant Singh, CEO, Odisha Hydrogen Valley Foundation, IIT Bhubaneswar; Dr. Rimika Kapoor, Founder, Green Loop Clean Technologies, Delhi; Dr. Suraj Tandon, Head (ESG), EverEnviro Resource Management Pvt. Ltd., Gurugram; Dr. S. K. Bose, CEO, Hydrocarbon Sector Skill Council, Noida; Prof. Reena Jain, Vice Principal, Hindu College; and Prof. Rajdeep Singh Rawat, Head, Natural Sciences and Science Education, NIE, NTU, Singapore. The panel underscored the importance of skill development, industry collaborations, and innovation-driven education in preparing graduates for the rapidly evolving global workforce.

## AIIMS To Try No-Surgery Brain Treatment as Parkinson's Strikes Younger Indians

New Delhi ,(GNS): In a major step for Parkinson's care in India, AIIMS is going to introduce Focused Ultrasound Therapy (FUT), a non-invasive treatment that could offer a new option for select patients.

The technology, expected to be operational by Aug, uses sound waves guided by MRI to target specific areas of the brain without opening the skull. Unlike conventional surgery, it does not require cuts, implants or long recovery time.

Initially, the treatment will be offered for free at AIIMS. Doctors said focused ultrasound was the method of choice in patients with tremor-dominant symptoms. In the private sector, the procedure can cost several lakhs for both sides. "Once functional, AIIMS could become



the first govt facility in India to offer the therapy, which is currently available only in a few private centres," said Prof P Sarat Chandra, head of neurosurgery at AIIMS.

However, doctors cautioned that FUT was not a

primary treatment for Parkinson's and was mainly used for essential tremor, a related condition. Its use in Parkinson's is limited to select cases, especially when medicines do not work well or surgery is not suitable.

The development comes as doctors marked World Parkinson's Day on April 11, highlighting growing concern over the debilitating condition in India. It is increasingly being seen at younger ages in India. Data from an Indian study of over 2,000 patients, cited by International Parkinson and Movement Disorder Society, shows that nearly 45% of them developed Parkinson's between 22 and 49 years, with the average onset at around 51 - almost a decade earlier than in many countries.

Globally, too, the burden is rising. A study published in British Medical Journal estimates that Parkinson's cases could reach 25.2 million by 2050, more than double the current numbers. South Asia, including India, may account for nearly 6.8 million cases.

Doctors at AIIMS said many patients were now developing symptoms before 50, and sometimes even before 40, challenging the belief that Parkinson's is only an old-age disease.

Parkinson's mainly affects movement, causing tremors, stiffness and slow movement, but it often starts quietly years earlier, said experts. Early signs can include sleep problems, anxiety and other symptoms that are often ignored. One key warning sign is a sleep disorder where people act out their dreams, which can appear years before diagnosis.

Experts estimate that over 7.5 lakh people in India may be living with Parkinson's, though the real number could be higher due to underdiagnosis.

### Delhi Police Busts Gaming-Linked Call Centre in Cyber Fraud Racket; 14 Held, Separate Rs 10 Lakh Investment Scam Busted

New Delhi ,(GNS): Delhi Police has busted a call centre operating under the guise of a gaming-based setup linked to an online betting application, arresting 14 people for allegedly duping victims and using as well as supplying mule bank accounts to cyber fraudsters. Six accused were apprehended from a centre in Kapashera, while the rest were arrested during raids in Faridabad and other locations.

Police said the syndicate was involved in multiple online scams, including fake investment schemes and part-time job frauds, using mule accounts opened across various bank branches.

Investigations revealed that the group operated through social media and messaging platforms, lur-

king individuals with commissions in exchange for bank accounts, SIM cards, and ATM cards, which were then used to layer and withdraw fraudulent proceeds.

DCP (Southwest) Amit Goel said the probe began with the arrest of a mule account holder, Mohammad Faiz, who led police to his cousin Mohammad Fahad in Shaheen Bagh. Subsequent disclosures helped identify other key members, including Suveb Rabbani and several account suppliers operating across Noida, Ghaziabad, and Faridabad.

Further investigation led to the busting of an operational hub in Laxmi Nagar, where six accused were running the call centre. Police recovered three lap-

tops, 19 mobile phones, 17 passbooks, 23 ATM cards, nine SIM cards, and Rs 79,000 in cash from the premises. Police said the fraud proceeds were routed through gaming accounts to conceal their origin.

In another case, three people were arrested for allegedly providing mule bank accounts to fraudsters. The case came to light after a resident of Shahdara filed a complaint of being cheated of Rs 10 lakh on the promise of high returns from stock market investments. The scammers came in contact with the complainant in Dec last year and lured him through a social media group. They were arrested from Vijay Vihar Phase-2 in Rohini.

### Five-year-old dies, another child hurt as jhuggi collapses



New Delhi ,(GNS): A five-year-old child died and another was injured after a jhuggi collapsed in northwest Delhi's Wazirpur area, the police said on Saturday.

According to officials, a PCR call regarding the incident was received at the Bharat Nagar police station, following which a police team rushed to G-

209, JJ Colony in Wazirpur.

Two children trapped in the jhuggi were shifted to a nearby hospital. One of them, identified as Divyanshu (5), was declared dead on arrival, while Rinki (10) is currently undergoing treatment.

A crime team, along with the forensic science laboratory (FSL) team, inspected the spot and collected evidence from the site. The police said a case had been registered under relevant sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), and investigation was underway to ascertain the cause of the collapse.

## Under the spotlight, street kids turn TED-style storytellers, shaping narratives through dance, theatre

New Delhi ,(GNS): "Slums ki kahani sirf gareebi ki nahi - yeh himmat aur sangharsh ki kahani hai, aur samaj ki soch se ladne ki bhi" (The story of slums is not just about poverty - it is also about courage, struggle, and pushing back against societal attitudes).

The words reverberated through the Aiwan-e-Ghalib auditorium in Central Delhi, opening a morning where street children stepped into the spotlight to tell their stories and shape their own narrative.

One after another, children who spend their days navigating traffic signals, construction sites and narrow bylanes stepped onto a stage - as dancers and actors, but essentially storytellers. For many, it was their first performance before an audi-

ence, the culmination of weeks of rehearsals held not in studios but in neighbourhood parks and streets near their homes.

The programme was organised by NGO CHETNA (Childhood Enhancement through Training and Action) on the eve of International Day for Street Children, observed on Saturday. It brought together more than 450 children from Delhi-NCR and nearby regions.

"These are children of labourers, domestic workers, ragpickers, drivers, street vendors," said director Sanjay Gupta, adding that many are first-generation learners, with some recently enrolled in school through intervention programmes. Across dance routines, songs and street plays, a recurring thread emerged:

"Majboori ne sadak se jod diya... alag-alag hain, par ek saajha pehchaan hai -- sadak se judi zindagi" (Compulsion tied us to the streets... we may be different, but we share one identity -- a life connected to the streets).

A street play opened with a call -- "Aao, aao natak dekho" (Come, come, watch the play) -- before unfolding scenes of children being denied school admission for lack of Aadhaar card, opening of bank account, being pushed into labour, or losing access to playgrounds.

Another segment used music to explain child protection laws, with a Pocso awareness song highlighting efforts to familiarise children with their legal rights through performance. A self-defence demonstration

and a multicultural dance performance followed, drawing enthusiastic responses from the audience.

Interspersed between performances were "Street Talk" sessions, modelled on TED-style talks, where children shared personal testimonies.

Julii, who moved to Delhi from Bihar, spoke about negotiating with her family to attend school. "Ghar mein paise nahi the... papa nahi maante the" (There was no money at home... my father did not agree), she said. Starting her education late, she is now in Class X and hopes to become a teacher.

Another participant, who once sold scrap alongside her 90-year-old grandmother, broke down while recalling her first experience of being on stage.

# KNC celebrates talent, and the spirit of womanhood at Ullas

**New Delhi ,(GNS):** Kamala Nehru College, University of Delhi, commenced its annual cultural festival, Ullas 2026, on April 9. The two-day fest was built around the theme "Dharohar - The Heritage," celebrating womanhood as a living embodiment of culture, tradition, and legacy.

The festival opened with an inaugural ceremony graced by the Chief Guest, Vrinda Khana, National Secretary, Sant Eshwar Foundation, and Director, Pragyan Impact Solutions. In her keynote address, she highlighted the importance of staying connected to one's roots in a globalised world. She remarked, "The world is embracing your heritage; it is time you do the same."



Prof. (Dr.) Pavitra Bhardwaj, principal of KNC, described the theme as both timely and meaningful, emphasizing that heritage is not just about the past but about identity and continuity. She remarked, "students should take pride in their roots while embracing progress". She also stated that true confidence comes from self-acceptance rather than imitation. The high-

light of the ceremony was the presentation of the annual stage production 'Avasana' of 'Lakshya', the Theatre Society of the college. It was an engaging Yakshagana-inspired play.

The campus came alive as a vibrant cultural space, adorned with décor curated by 'Luminoso', the Fine Arts Society, featuring handmade artwork by students, warm

lighting, and paper lamps. Alongside, a diverse range of stalls from food and beverage counters to crochet, jewellery, clothing, and other small creative exhibits, became lively hubs of interaction and engagement, driven by student-led initiatives.

The fest witnessed a range of cultural performances and inter-college activities organised by student societies. Students from Kirori Mal College (KMC), Hindu College, Gargi College, Lady Shri Ram College for Women (LSR), and Miranda House participated enthusiastically and won prizes in various competitions organised by societies of KNC, contributing to the vibrancy and strong sense of community at the event.

## NCR to Rishikesh in 3 Hours: Rapid rail extension to transform tourism

**New Delhi ,(GNS):** Residents of the National Capital Region (NCR) are on the verge of a travel revolution as the central government considers a massive expansion of the Namo Bharat Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS). The proposed extension seeks to stretch the existing network from Meerut to the spiritual twin cities of Haridwar and Rishikesh, potentially slashing travel time from Delhi-NCR and Ghaziabad to just 2.25 to 3 hours. For millions in the capital region, this means the banks of the Ganges will soon be accessible in the same amount of time it currently takes to cross the city during peak traffic. The initiative gained significant momentum following recent high-level meetings between Uttarakhnd Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami and Union Minister Manohar Lal Khattar. While the initial 82-km Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut corridor was completed at an estimated cost of over Rs 30,000 crore, this new northward extension is projected to require additional substantial investment. Early esti-



mates suggest that the state has already sought approximately Rs 750 crore for essential infrastructure upgrades, including automatic power systems and underground cabling, to support high-speed transit in the eco-sensitive Kumbh region.

Currently in the planning and proposal phase, the project is designed to bridge the gap between rapid urban transit and long-distance tourism. The proposed route is expected to extend from the current terminal at Modipuram in Meerut, following the NH-58 alignment.

## Traffic advisory: Gurugram Sector 44 roads closed for repair

**New Delhi,(GNS):** Movement of vehicles will be restricted on some city roads in Sector 44 area from Saturday evening till Sunday night due to repair work of roads carried out by MCG. The Gurugram police issued an advisory and asked drivers coming in this direction and the employees of companies located in sector 44 to park their vehicle only in HUDA metro station parking or other safe designated parking.

"All of you are informed that on the road from HUDA Metro Station towards Bakhtawar Chowk, the road from GMDA office to Park Gate Sector 44 and the road on the left side towards Sector 44 from Sector 41/45 red light near Ramada Hotel, the road from Plot No 61 to Fortis Hospital Gate No 3 onwards, Apparel House Kanhai to Z Chowk road will undergo repair by MCG. Due to which, there will be a complete ban on the movement of vehicles on the above road from 11-04-2026 to 12-04-2026 from 6:00 pm to 11:00 pm," read the advisory.

## 21-year-old student held for killing two in road mishap



**New Delhi ,(GNS):** A The Gurugram police today arrested a final-year B-Tech student in connection with a road accident that killed two young men including a student. The accused student was driving a Tata Harrier car in the wrong direction on Golf Course Extension Road last Saturday and hit a scooter, killing the two young men riding on it.

According to the police, the accused student is identified as Akreet Yadav (21), a resident of Ghaziabad in Uttar Pradesh. He is a final-year B-Tech student at Jaypee College, Noida. He was released on bail after joining the investigation.

Two young men on a scooter died after a speeding Tata Harrier, travelling on the wrong side, hit them on the golf course extension road in the Sector 56 police station area in the wee hours of last Saturday.

The driver fled, abandoning the vehicle, which the police seized. An FIR was registered at the Sector 56 police station. While investigating, the police traced the car driver using the registration number and arrested him.

## Delhi govt orders annual survey of industries across city

**New Delhi ,(GNS):** Seeking to sharpen its economic planning with real-time, reliable data, the Delhi Government has ordered a comprehensive Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) 2024-25 (State Sample) across the National Capital Territory, bringing thousands of industrial units under a structured data collection exercise with statutory backing.

According to a notification issued by the Planning Department on April 8, 2026, the survey would be conducted across the entire National Capital Territory between April and September 2026, covering data for the financial year 2024-25. The exercise is being carried out under the provisions of the Collection of Statistics Act, 2008 and the Collection of Statistics Rules, 2024, giving it legal enforceability.

The survey would collect detailed information from registered factories and estab-



lishments governed by laws such as the Factories Act, Companies Act, and Shops and Establishments Act. Industrial units would be required to furnish data on assets, liabilities, employment, labour costs, production, and other operational aspects. Officials have also been authorised to inspect records, including balance

sheets, payrolls and attendance registers, to ensure accuracy.

The notification said the data collected will be handled and analysed by the Directorate of Economics and Statistics of the Delhi government, ensuring it is properly organised and used for policy planning.

The Lieutenant Governor

has approved the appointment of designated Statistics Officers, Adjudicating Officers and Appellate Authorities to oversee the process. These officers are empowered to issue notices, verify submissions and seek clarifications from industrial units. They may also conduct inquiries, summon individuals and examine evidence where

required.

Importantly, the notification sets out enforcement provisions. It states that "a Statistics Officer is empowered to give one month's notice, or for such period as deemed fit, to each informant for furnishing returns in the specified format for the purpose of collection of statistics", while adjudicating officers have powers to call for evidence and inspect records. Any person aggrieved by an order may file an appeal within 30 days before the designated appellate authority.

For industries, the survey means mandatory compliance with data submission timelines and readiness for record verification. For residents, the exercise is expected to lead to more targeted policymaking, as the government will rely on updated, ground-level industrial data to plan interventions related to employment generation, infrastructure and economic growth.

## 'Forcibly Made Victims Cyber Criminals' Alleged trafficker denied bail for 4th time

**New Delhi ,(GNS):** A court recently dismissed the fourth bail plea of Kamran Haider, arrested in 2025 for allegedly trafficking young Indian men to Southeast Asian countries for cybercrime operations run through fake call centres.

Special judge Munish Markan noted Haider's "active role" in escorting victims from Bangkok and handing them over to foreign-run, Chinese-controlled entities, adding that victims had testified to paying him lakhs upon arrival.

Originally from Jasola, Haider had allegedly trafficked young men to countries like Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, etc., where they were "forced to work as cyber criminals" in Chinese companies. In his plea, Haider claimed parity with co-accused Sahil, who was

granted bail last Dec after spending 15 months in custody and was described as a partner in his company, Ali International.

The court dismissed the argument, observing that Sahil's case stood on a "different footing" as he appeared to be largely an employee of the company. "Allegations against Kamran are regarding having active role in actually taking the victims from Bangkok and handing them over to foreigners in Chinese-controlled companies for forcibly making them work as cyber criminals," the judge noted.

Opposing the plea, the prosecution submitted that the trial was progressing swiftly, with 18 of the 54 witnesses already examined, and cited Haider's earlier bail rejections on merits.

The court observed that the victims were lured with promises of jobs in "billing and computer operations" in countries like Thailand. Depositions of three victims shed further light on the racket. They were taken to Laos via Thailand and "were sold in Golden Triangle Area of Laos and were asked to create fake Facebook profiles in the name of girls and send friend requests to different countries and after maintaining the contacts, the victims had to induce them to invest money in cryptocurrency", the court noted.

Holding that there was "sufficient material on record" against Haider, the court denied him bail, also noting a pending case against him before an NIA court and the risk of him fleeing the judicial process.

## Two held, Minor apprehended for murder in Welcome: Man stabbed in Trilokpuri

**New Delhi ,(GNS):** A day after the body of a 21-year-old man was discovered in a park in northeast Delhi's Welcome area, police have arrested two men and apprehended a minor for allegedly murdering him.

The deceased has been identified as Mohammad Shamim, a resident of the Lakdi Market area of Welcome.

According to police, information was received about a dead body discovered in a park around 6.45 pm on Friday. "Three accused were identified as a 20-year-old from Lakdi Market, a 23-year-old from W Block and a 17-year-old minor," said DCP (north-east) Ashish Kumar Mishra. The accused told cops that they allegedly assaulted him because he reportedly bullied them. In a separate

incident, a 26-year-old man was seriously injured after he was allegedly stabbed by a group to avenge a previous murder in east Delhi's Trilokpuri on Friday evening.

A PCR call was received at Mayur Vihar police station regarding the incident in Block 27, Trilokpuri. The man identified as Huzaf from Trilokpuri was returning after getting his clothes ironed when he was intercepted near a local temple by a group of men.

"The assailants allegedly abused and threatened the victim, and one of them attacked him with a knife, causing injuries on his back and shoulder," said DCP (east) Rajeev Kumar. "The injured managed to reach near his residence and was shifted to the hospital by his family."

## Bank employee arrested in Delhi cyber fraud case: money routed through fake accounts

**New Delhi ,(GNS):** In a breakthrough, the Delhi Police has arrested a private bank employee for his alleged role in facilitating a large-scale cyber fraud that duped multiple victims of several crores through fake job schemes operated on social media platforms, police said on Sunday.

The accused, identified as Irshad Malik (35), a resident of Ghaziabad, was working with RBL Bank. He is accused of misusing his official position to open a fraudulent bank account without proper KYC verification.

Police said the account was later used by a cyber fraud syndicate to route money collected from unsuspecting victims.

The case traces back to an FIR registered at the Cyber Police



Station in Dwarka on October 10, 2023, after a police official reported unauthorised debit of Rs 88,000 from his SBI account through fraudulent transactions carried out without his consent or OTP authentication. The

stolen amount was transferred to an RBL Bank account under the name "Lawrie Trade Exim," an official said.

During the investigation, officials found that the account had been opened using forged docu-

ments in the name of a man who had never visited Delhi and denied any knowledge of the account. Forensic examination confirmed that the signatures on the account opening form were fake.

Police said the identity documents used for opening the account were obtained by co-accused persons on the pretext of providing employment. These documents, along with fraudulently obtained OTPs, were then misused.

Acting on specific intelligence, a Crime Branch team apprehended Malik from New Friends Colony. He was later interrogated at the Crime Branch office in Dwarka, where he allegedly confessed to his involvement.

According to investigators,

Malik came into contact with a key co-accused, Harjinder alias Harji, who was part of a network engaged in opening bank accounts for illegal financial transactions in exchange for commission. Malik allegedly bypassed mandatory verification procedures and facilitated the opening of accounts using forged credentials.

The cyber fraud racket primarily targeted victims through social media platforms like Facebook and Instagram, offering lucrative part-time job opportunities. Victims were then added to Telegram groups and lured into completing online tasks with promises of quick earnings, the official mentioned.

To gain trust, small amounts were initially credited to victims.

They were later persuaded to invest larger sums for purchasing goods or completing tasks. Once significant money had been collected, the fraudsters blocked victims, deleted online groups, and shut down their websites, police said.

Police added that the fraudulent bank account played a key role in routing and siphoning off the defrauded money. Malik allegedly received commissions for facilitating these transactions.

Earlier, four co-accused in the case had been arrested and are currently out on bail. Further investigation is under way to trace the entire network and identify additional victims.