



## Mamata Banerjee is plotting to build a mosque like the Babri Masjid by using Humayun Kabir as a "pawn": Amit Shah

**Kolkata(GNS):** Political rhetoric has intensified in the run-up to the West Bengal Assembly elections. Union Home Minister Amit Shah and senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader on Wednesday leveled serious allegations against Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, alleging that a conspiracy is being hatched to build a mosque similar to the Babri Masjid in the state by using former Trinamool Congress MLA Humayun Kabir as a "pawn."



Addressing an election rally in Falakata, Alipurduar district, Amit Shah said that Mamata Banerjee has promoted Humayun Kabir as a political strategy by excluding him from the party. He claimed that attempts to build a structure

similar to the Babri Masjid in the state will never succeed.

Accusing the Chief Minister of nepotism, the Union Home Minister said that for the past 15 years, her sole focus has been on promoting her nephew. Although he did not directly

name Trinamool Congress National General Secretary Abhishek Banerjee, he indirectly targeted him.

He said that for Prime Minister Narendra Modi, every citizen of the country is like a family member, while Mamata

Banerjee is only concerned with promoting her own family members. Amit Shah claimed that after Bihar and Odisha, it is now the turn of the Bharatiya Janata Party to form a government in West Bengal.

Earlier, at another rally in Rajganj, Jalpaiguri district, Amit Shah raised the issue of illegal infiltration. He said that, following the example of Assam, illegal infiltrators in West Bengal will also be identified and expelled. He also alleged that strict action will be taken against anti-social elements thriving under the patronage of the Trinamool Congress.

He appealed to voters that voting for the BJP this time will strengthen law and order in the state and curb corruption.

**PM urges people to take 9 pledges:**

## Save water, practice natural farming; Inaugurates temple for Vokkaliga community in Karnataka

**Bengaluru(GNS):**PM Modi on Wednesday appealed to the people of Karnataka to take nine resolutions. He said, "My appeal is for water conservation and better water management." He then emphasized tree plantation under the "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" campaign, and cleanliness of public and religious places. He also appealed for promoting local products through "Vocal for Local," encouraging domestic tourism, adopting chemical-free natural farming, promoting healthy food with millets, and reducing the use of oil. The PM visited the Sri Kshetra Adichunchanagiri Math in Mandya district. There, he inaugurated the Guru Bhairavakya Temple and released books titled Soundarya Lahari and Shiva Mahimna Stotra. Former PM HD Deve Gowda was also present on



the occasion. This is related to the Vokkaliga community. The temple was built in the memory of Dr.

Bal Gangadharan Mahaswamiji. The Sri Guru Bhairavakya Temple was built in memory of the revered saint Dr. Bal Gangadharan Mahaswamiji. He was the 71st head of the Adichunchanagiri Mahasamsthan Math.

## Chinese tanker fails to break US blockade at Hormuz

Carrying methanol from UAE, turns back after US warship warning

**Tel Aviv /Tehran/Washington DC(GNS):** The Chinese tanker Rich Star, facing US sanctions, failed to break the US blockade in Hormuz again on Wednesday. The tanker departed from Hamriyah Port in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and loaded about 250,000 barrels of methanol. The tanker was attempting to leave the Strait of Hormuz but was forced to turn back due to the US blockade beyond the Strait of Hormuz. It had previously attempted to cross the Strait of Hormuz on Tuesday. According to Reuters, a US official said that on Tuesday, a US warship stopped two oil tankers that were trying to leave Iran's Chabahar port located in the Gulf of Oman.



Rich Star and its parent company Shanghai Xuanran Shipping have been sanctioned by the US until 2023 for doing business with Iran. **Trump said - US-Italy relations are not the same as before:** Trump has said that relations between the US and Italy are no longer what they used to be. He expressed displeasure with Italian Prime Minister Giorgio Meloni's stance on the Iran war. In an interview with Fox News, Trump said that Meloni's stance has been negative. He said that relations with countries that do not support the US on Iran cannot remain the same. Trump also criticized NATO and said that if the allies do not support America, then the question arises as to why America is spending so much.

## Amravati: Bulldozers run over house of sexual assault accused

● Claims 180 minor girls sexually abused, 350 videos found

**Amravati(GNS):**The home of Mohammad Ayaz, alias Tanveer, the main accused in the Paratvada case of sexual exploitation of girls in Maharashtra's Amravati district, was razed by the authorities on Wednesday. The administration has formed a 46-member Special Investigation Team (SIT) to investigate. Police said four people, including Tanveer, have been arrested



in this case. The accused lured girls, then took them to Mumbai and Pune to film pornographic videos. The four accused were produced in court

using to blackmail the girls.

No one has complained yet. Police stated that no victims have contacted them directly to file a complaint so far. Police have appealed to victims and their families to come forward and cooperate with the investigation, assuring them that their identities will be protected. Tanveer was detained on April 11 after obscene photos and videos of him with some women and girls went viral on social media.

CBSE Class 10 results declared, pass percentage 93.70%, Trivandrum and Vijayawada top the region-wise performance

**New Delhi(GNS):** The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has declared the result of Class 10 examination on Wednesday. A total of 93.70 percent students passed this year, which shows a marginal increase of 0.04 percent compared to last year's 93.66 percent.

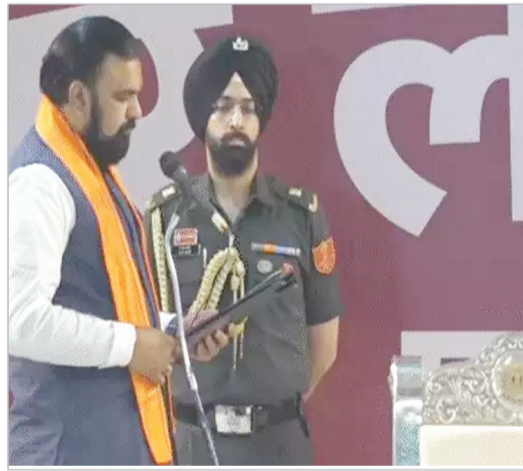
According to the board, 24,83,479 students were registered this year, out of which 24,71,777 candidates appeared in the examination and 23,16,008 students were declared successful. The examination was conducted from February 17 to March 11, 2026. In terms of regional performance, Trivandrum and Vijayawada regions jointly topped with 99.79 percent, while Chennai (99.58 percent) and Bengaluru (98.91 percent) also performed well. The Delhi West and Delhi East regions recorded a pass percentage of 97.45 and 97.33, respectively.

## CM Samrat Chaudhary will handle 29 departments including Home, JDU holds 18 departments

● Samrat touched Nitish Kumar's feet after taking the oath as Chief Minister

**Patna(GNS):**Samrat Chaudhary became the 24th Chief Minister of Bihar. He took the oath in the name of God. Governor Syed Ata Hasnain administered the oath of office and secrecy to him at 11 a.m. at Lok Bhavan.

Vijay Chaudhary and Bijendra Yadav, both from the JDU, were also sworn in as part of the new Bihar government. Both have been appointed Deputy CMs. Nitish Kumar was present at the event. The cabinet has not yet



been announced in Bihar. Samrat

Chaudhary will hold 29 departments, including Home. Vijay Chaudhary has received 10, and Bijendra Yadav eight. These departments will be distributed among the remaining ministers after the cabinet expansion. Until then, the three ministers will handle their responsibilities.

The Chief Minister's father, Shakuni Chaudhary, said, "Sometimes God's grace is there. We fought tooth and nail for several parties, but without success. Today, thanks to Amit Shah, Narendra Modi, and Nitish, Samrat has moved forward. Hard work pays off; only those who work hard will advance."

## Chhattisgarh power plant accident: 19 dead, 36 injured

**Vedanta to provide 35 lakh rupees compensation and jobs to families of deceased**

**Sakti(GNS):**The Vedanta power plant accident in Chhattisgarh's Sakti district has claimed 19 lives so far. Four died on the spot, while 13 died in various hospitals in Raigarh. Two died while undergoing treatment at Kalda Hospital in Raipur. The boiler exploded at the plant on Tuesday afternoon. Four of the deceased are from Chhattisgarh, while the remaining 15 are from Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, and West Bengal. A total of 36 people were burned in the accident, and 18 are being treated in various hospitals. Following the accident, the workers' families protested outside the plant, demanding action against the management and compensation. Some workers are missing. The families claim the management is withholding any information. Collector Amrit Vikas Topno has ordered a magisterial inquiry.

Punjab government withdraws Raghav Chadha's security

## AAP claims he will receive Z+ security from the Centre, asks, "He's our MP, why is he so kind?"

**Ludhiana(GNS):** Parliament, and the dispute between Deputy Leader of the Aam Aadmi Party Rajya Sabha, Raghav (AAP) and its Rajya Sabha MP, Raghav Chadha has been pro-Sabha MP, Raghav Chadha's security by the Punjab Police. The AAP government, Delhi Aam Aadmi led by Punjab Chief Party leader Saurabh Minister Bhagwant Bhardwaj claimed on Mann, has revoked social media that Chadha's security. As Raghav Chadha has the co-in-charge of been granted Z-plus Punjab, a Member of security by the central



government. Why is the central government so kind to Raghav Chadha? However, sources close to Chadha say he has not yet received security from the central government.

According to reports, he may soon receive central security. Until then, he may be provided

with Delhi Police security. Two weeks ago, the AAP removed Raghav Chadha from the position of deputy leader in the Rajya Sabha, replacing him with another MP, Ashok Mittal. Since then, there has been a lot of rhetoric between the AAP and Raghav Chadha.

## BJP promises 3,000 per month to women in Bengal

Smriti Irani launches Matrishakti Bharosa card; first phase of voting on April 23



**New Delhi/Kolkata/Chennai(GNS):** The BJP launched the Matrishakti Bharosa Card in West Bengal on Wednesday. If it forms the government, it promises to provide 3,000 per month to women in the state. Suvendu Adhikari and Smriti Irani were present at the event. Voting in Bengal will be held in two phases, with the first phase taking place on April 23rd.

A day earlier on Tuesday, PM Modi had said that there is an atmosphere of fear in West Bengal. Murders, rapes, and riots have reached a peak. People in the state are deeply distressed. Youth in the state are worried about employment. Government employees are having to go to court to defend their rights.

Meanwhile, Mamata Banerjee, at an election rally in Pingla, said that the BJP is crossing all limits to capture Bengal. She said she has never seen such dirty tricks before. Millions of people have been removed from voter lists. The central government has withheld funding for Bengal. She also raised questions about EVMs, promising that the machines will be rigorously inspected.

## Elephant Heritage: A Precious Part of Biodiversity and the Environment

Sunil Kumar Mahala

Elephants, one of the Earth's most intelligent, large, and social creatures, are called "ecosystem engineers." Save the Elephant Day is celebrated every year on April 16th to raise awareness about their conservation and to save their dwindling existence. I would like to inform readers that elephants currently face several serious threats, including poaching (especially for ivory), deforestation, habitat destruction, human-elephant conflict, and climate change. Elephants play a vital role in balancing forests, grasslands, and water sources, so their conservation is essential for the ecosystem.

Let me inform readers that elephants enrich ecosystems in many ways. For example, they travel long distances, eating fruits and plants,

and they spread seeds through their droppings (feces), which promote the growth of new plants and maintain forest cover. While moving through dense forests, they break down branches and bushes, reducing forest density and allowing sunlight to reach the ground, allowing smaller plants and grasses to grow and maintaining biodiversity. During droughts, elephants dig for water with their trunks and feet, and the resulting pits become water sources for other animals. Furthermore, elephant movements create natural corridors, facilitating the movement of other creatures. Their droppings enrich the soil with nutrients, making it fertile and supporting plant growth.

However, if we look at elephant statistics here, elephants in India are mainly found in Karnataka, Assam, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and

Odisha. According to Project Elephant (2017), India had an estimated population of approximately 29,000–30,000 wild elephants, while the latest DNA-based census from 2025 estimated their number at approximately 22,446. DNA-based censuses involve estimating the number of animals based on their genetic material, rather than simply counting them by physical observation. There are two major elephant species in the world: African elephants, numbering approximately 400,000–500,000, and Asian elephants, numbering approximately 50,000–60,000. India accounts for more than 60% of the world's total Asian elephants. It would not be wrong to say that human-elephant conflict has become a serious environmental and social problem today. The main causes are shrinking forests, agri-

cultural expansion, the growth of human settlements, and the disruption of elephant corridors. As a result, an average of more than 500 people die each year due to elephant attacks. This number increased to 628 in 2023-24, the highest in the last five years. Over 2,800 human deaths were recorded in the last five years, while nearly 8,000 human deaths occurred between 2009-2024. The most affected states are Odisha, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Assam, and Chhattisgarh. On the other hand, elephant deaths are also occurring in large numbers due to human activities. In the last 16 years, 1,653 elephants have died due to human-caused causes, of which approximately 69% were due to electrocution and approximately 16% due to railway accidents. In the last five years, 528 elephant deaths

have been recorded, while on average, more than 100 elephants are killed in human-elephant conflicts each year. In addition, cases of elephant deaths have been reported due to poaching, poisoning, and firecrackers or poisoned fruits. Recently, an elephant died in Kerala after eating firecracker-filled fruits, and a farmer was killed in an elephant attack in Karnataka.

A serious incident occurred on 20 December 2025 in the Hojai district of Assam, where the Sairang-New Delhi Express was speeding and encountered a herd of approximately 100 elephants crossing the railway track. Despite the loco pilot applying emergency brakes, the train failed to stop and collided, killing seven elephants on the spot and one injured elephant later, resulting in a total of eight elephant deaths.

### Editorial

#### Women's Power Salute: A Right for Half the Population or a 2029 Electoral Ploy

If women are empowered and their participation in the country's governance and administration increases, what could be better for our democracy and society? Enabling half the population to receive their rights is not just justice, but essential for national progress. However, when we consider recent developments related to women's reservation and its legal complexities, it becomes clear that the government's intentions on this issue are unclear. It appears that it is being used more as a political tool than for genuine empowerment. The law's biggest and fundamental flaw is its conditionality. The government passed the bill, but added a condition that has left it merely a promise for the future. According to the law, reservation will only be implemented after a new census is conducted and a new allocation of seats, i.e., delimitation, is carried out based on it.

Experts believe that due to this lengthy process, this reservation could extend until 2029 or perhaps 2034. The question arises: if the intention was clear, why wasn't it implemented immediately on existing seats? By combining it with complex processes like census and delimitation, the government has put it on a path whose destination is currently unknown. As soon as the government talks about a new seat allocation, concerns grow in southern Indian states. States like Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, and Andhra Pradesh have done very well in controlling population over the past several years. Now, the technical problem is that if seats are decided solely on the basis of population, the Lok Sabha seats of states like Uttar Pradesh and Bihar will increase significantly, and the political weight of the south will diminish. Statistically, some states in northern India could see an increase of up to eighty percent, while the increase in the south will be much smaller. Southern states say they are being punished for their good work. The government has linked women's reservations to seat allocation without offering a definitive solution to this regional dispute. This has raised fears that the pursuit of women's rights could disrupt coordination between different parts of the country.

## The BJP era in Bihar: A new political chapter

Saurabh Varshney



**Politics is a season where one never knows what might happen. Similarly, one cannot predict the fate of former Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, as he may change his mind. Bihar politics has long revolved around the complexities of caste equations, regional parties, and coalitions. However, the rise of the Bharatiya Janata Party in recent years signals a new chapter in the state's politics. This change is not limited to a shift in power, but also reflects a shift in political thinking, development agenda, and leadership style. In this context, the Bharatiya Janata Party has elected Samrat Chaudhary as the leader of the legislative party in Bihar, and he will be sworn in as the Chief Minister of Bihar.**



The Bharatiya Janata Party's expansion in Bihar is no accident. It is the result of a long, strategic journey, including organizational strength, a network of grassroots workers, and the impact of central government policies. Under Narendra Modi's leadership, central government schemes—such as Ujjwala, Ayushman Bharat, and the PM Awas Yojana—have increased the BJP's acceptance among rural and poor sections of the state. This has helped the party build a strong support base.

However, experienced leaders like Nitish Kumar and influential parties like the Rashtriya Janata Dal still hold strong positions in Bihar politics. The BJP's rise creates a competitive political environment, making the fight for power more interesting and complex. The BJP's biggest challenge is to translate its development promises into reality. Bihar still struggles with basic problems like unemployment, education, and health. The BJP must make concrete reforms in these areas. This could be an opportunity for it to build a lasting political base. Furthermore, maintaining social harmony and caste balance will also be a crucial test for the BJP. Bihar's social structure is highly sensitive, where even small political mistakes can lead to major social tensions. The BJP's rise in Bihar marks a transitional era. It will be interesting to see whether this change leads the state towards development and stability, or whether it remains confined to new power equations. The direction Bihar's politics takes in the future will influence the political course not only of the state but also of the entire country.

Samrat Chaudhary becomes the Chief Minister of Bihar

In such a situation, the BJP has chosen Samrat Chaudhary as the leader of the legislative party, so it is certain that Samrat Chaudhary becoming the Chief Minister will not only be a leadership change but also signal a broader political message and strategic shift. First, this move will be seen as an attempt by the Bharatiya Janata Party to further strengthen its independent identity in Bihar. After a long period of coali-

tion politics under Nitish Kumar's leadership, the BJP has now fielded its own candidate in the electoral fray. Samrat Chaudhary's social base also makes this discussion significant. He comes from the backward class, which plays a decisive role in Bihar's politics. Therefore, his becoming the Chief Minister could create new equations for social representation and help the BJP penetrate deeper into sections where other parties have previously held influence. However, this path will not be easy. In a state like Bihar, administrative experience, coalition balance, and grassroots influence are crucial. Amidst the strong political influence of opposition leaders like Lalu Prasad Yadav and Tejashwi Yadav, Samrat Chaudhary will have to prove his acceptability. Furthermore, it will be interesting to see whether the BJP can attract young and new voters through this change. Because in today's politics, not only caste equations but also development, employment, and good governance have become equally important issues. Samrat Chaudhary's election as Chief Minister could mark the beginning of a new chapter in Bihar politics, but its success will depend on his ability to live up to expectations. This will not only be a change of power, but a major test of trust and performance.

Samrat Chaudhary's political career is considered a prime example of a rapidly emerging leader in contemporary Bihar politics. He has risen from student politics to the pinnacle of state power.

Samrat Chaudhary was born into a political family in Bihar. His father, Shakuni Chaudhary, was also active in state politics. He began his political career in student politics and gradually established a strong presence in mainstream politics. He has worked with several political parties throughout his career. He has also served as a minister in the Bihar government and is considered to have a strong organizational presence. He held important positions within the BJP, including the state president, further strengthening his political position. Political circumstances and the party's strategic decisions have positioned Samrat Chaudhary as a prominent figure in Bihar politics. His election as Chief Minister will be

seen as a result of his extensive political experience, organizational skills, and ability to manage social dynamics.

His political characteristics: Represents the OBC (OBC) leadership. He is an aggressive and articulate speaker, and has a strong hold on both the organization and the mass base.

Samrat Chaudhary's career demonstrates the importance of consistent activism, strategy, and timely decision-making in Bihar politics. He has established himself as an important and influential leader in the state's politics. As of 2026, Samrat Chaudhary will be the BJP's 16th Chief Minister of the state.

The end of the Nitish Kumar era Nitish Kumar's name has long been invoked as a symbol of stability, good governance, and social balance in Bihar politics. He held power at various stages for nearly two decades, giving the state a new direction. However, amid changing political dynamics and new demands for leadership, discussions about his era's end are gaining momentum. Nitish Kumar's rise came at a time when Bihar was grappling with political instability and a reputation for backwardness. He brought significant reforms to roads, education, health, and law and order. He earned the reputation of "Sushasan Babu," a symbol of administrative efficiency and commitment to development. However, over time, his frequent shifts in political strategies—alliances with one party, and other—have raised questions about his credibility. This coalition politics kept him in power, but also created confusion and dissatisfaction among a section of the public. Today, there is a growing demand for young leadership, fresh thinking, and a clear ideological direction in Bihar politics. In such a context, Nitish Kumar's leadership no longer appears as influential as it once was. His age, the changing political situation, and the constantly shifting equations indicate that the state is now moving towards new leadership. It is also true that no leader's political life is permanent. Every era has an end and a new beginning. Nitish Kumar's contribution cannot be denied—he gave Bihar a strong foundation on which further development is possible.

## A prosperous world, a dissatisfied humanity – Gandhi's time again”

Bhupendra Gupta

Today, as we stand in the third decade of the 21st century, a stark reality strikes us—this world has never been more prosperous, yet also more unequal and dissatisfied. Science has accomplished wonders, technology has broken boundaries, and production has set records. Yet, there is hunger, fear, war, and a deep sense of discontent. The question arises—why?

Reports from the United Nations and various global organizations indicate that the world produces enough food to provide adequate food for everyone. There has also been unprecedented expansion in the energy sector. Yet, millions of people continue to live below the poverty line. This paradox leads us to one conclusion: the problem is

not a lack of resources, but their unequal distribution and the distortion of our thinking.

In this context, Mahatma Gandhi's philosophy becomes more relevant today than ever before. Gandhiji clearly stated, "The earth can satisfy every person's need, but not every person's greed." This is not just a statement, but an accurate analysis of today's global crisis.

Today's humanity is driven not by "necessity" but by "insatiable desires." Nations are increasingly focused on controlling resources, transcending the security of their borders. Energy, water, and minerals—these are no longer the means of life, but symbols of power. Recent global conflicts have made clear how destructive this struggle for resource dominance can be.

Our economic system also deep-

ens this imbalance. When "profit" becomes the center of development and "human beings" are left behind, prosperity becomes concentrated in the hands of a few. Big corporations and the powerful class commandeer resources, while ordinary people are left struggling. This is not just an economic failure, but a moral decline.

Gandhiji's "Aparigraha" (non-possessiveness) shows us the way out of this predicament. Aparigraha means a balanced life, limited consumption, and sensitivity to the rights of others. If individuals, societies, and nations adopt this principle, unnecessary pressure on resources can be reduced and balance can be established.

Additionally, Gandhi's principle of "trusteeship" offers a revolutionary idea for today's corporate and

economic structures. He argued that those who possess wealth are not its owners but its custodians. If this spirit is cultivated, wealth can be used not just for personal gain but for the welfare of society.

Today, the world needs not just policy reforms but a moral renaissance. We must break through the boundaries of "me and mine" and move toward "we and ours." Until we see ourselves as part of a global family, the dream of peace and balance will remain unfulfilled.

Governments must enact policies that make education, health, and a minimum standard of living a right for every person. But even more important is change at the individual level. We must reconsider our consumption, our needs, and our lifestyles. Do we really need what we are accumulating? Or are

we unwittingly taking away someone else's share?

Today presents us at a crucial juncture. On one side lies a path that leads us toward greater competition, inequality, and conflict. On the other, lies a path toward balance, cooperation, and peace. This is the choice we must make.

If we implement Gandhi's ideas not just in books but in our lives and policies, a new world can dawn—a world where prosperity means sharing, not just accumulation; where the aim of development is not just progress, but taking everyone along.

It's time we recognize that true progress isn't measured solely by technological achievements. True progress is that which brings dignity, security, and fulfillment to every person's life.

# Over 300 arrested, 7 FIRs registered in Noida protest

**New Delhi, (GNS):** Gautam Buddh Nagar Police Commissioner Laxmi Singh on Tuesday said over 300 individuals had been arrested and seven FIRs registered in connection with the workers' protest that turned violent in Noida.

Addressing the media, Singh said the police had been conducting continuous route marches since early morning to maintain law and order.

"Route marches are underway since 5 am. Today, workers gathered at three locations but were peacefully dispersed within 15 minutes following prompt dialogue," she said.



The commissioner also flagged the possible involvement of an organised network behind the unrest. "Over the past two days, several WhatsApp groups have been

created, with workers being added through QR codes. This points to the presence of a coordinated and well-organised syndicate," she said. She said individuals

involved in instigating violence had been identified and arrested, with further action in progress. The authorities will also examine funding sources. "If any financial support from outside the state or the country is established, appropriate legal action will be taken," she said.

Referring to Monday's incidents, Singh confirmed that seven FIRs had been registered and over 300 people taken into custody, with more arrests likely in the coming days. She also noted that a committee constituted by the state government was engaging with stakeholders to address the situation and restore normalcy.

# Aviation services firm director among 2 held for assaulting brigadier, son in Vasant Vihar

**New Delhi, (GNS):** Delhi Police on Tuesday arrested two men in connection with the assault on a brigadier and his son after they objected to public drinking in southwest Delhi's Vasant Vihar on Saturday. The accused, Satender alias Sonu (49) and Sanjay Sharma (56), are residents of Mehram Nagar. "Satender is a director at a firm providing aviation services like charter and cargo flights. He is also involved in the sale and purchase of aircraft parts. Sanjay runs a dhaba in Mehram Nagar," a senior police officer said.



Preliminary inquiry revealed that the accused were inside a Mercedes SUV when the incident took place. The vehicle, which police suspect

belongs to Satender, has been seized. Investigators are also probing if other associates were involved. "The accused are not cooperating properly," the officer said. The probe also revealed that after allegedly assaulting the victims, Satender and Sanjay changed their vehicle and fled the scene. They were apprehended following police raids.

# 13-Year-Old Drowns in Yamuna at Sur Ghat, Another Missingp

**New Delhi, (GNS):** A 13-year-old boy drowned while another is missing after the two went bathing in the Yamuna river near Sur Ghat on Tuesday afternoon.

Both boys, residents of the area, had parents who work as labourers, police said.

According to police, they had gone to the river around 1.30pm with four friends, all under 15. They decided to bathe, and the two entered the water before beginning to drown.

A PCR call was received at Timarpur police station around 2pm, while Delhi Fire Services was alerted at 2.07pm.

Police, NDRF, DDMA and fire personnel rushed to the spot and launched a search operation with the help of boat club divers. One boy was pulled out and taken to the Trauma Centre in Civil Lines, where he was declared brought dead. The search for the other is on.

# Parts of Delhi to Face Water Shortage on April 15-16

**New Delhi, (GNS):** A temporary shutdown of the Chandrawal Water Works-II pump house for urgent maintenance on April 15 is expected to impact water supply in several areas of Delhi. The shutdown will commence at 10 am and continue for six hours.

Delhi Jal Board on Wednesday said that the repair work is essential to ensure the smooth functioning of the water supply system. "Potable water supply



from the Chandrawal facility will be affected or available at low pressure on April 15 and 16 in multiple areas," it stated in a notice.

The localities that are likely to experience disruptions include Civil Lines, Hindu Rao Hospital, Kamla Nagar, Shakti Nagar, Karol Bagh, Paharganj, NDMC colonies, Old and New Rajendra Nagar, Patel Nagar (East and West), Baljeet Nagar, Prem Nagar and Inderpuri.

# Kebabs, trays, and trouble: Why Delhi's 'car-o-bar' culture won't quit

**New Delhi, (GNS):** Every evening, Delhi loves to "car-o-bar", turning private vehicles into mobile taverns. The practice is prevalent not just in the vicinity of residential colonies, but also in lanes housing offices of govt and private companies. As the sun sets, rows of cars can be seen parked in the shadows of dimly-lit service lanes or bustling market peripheries, their cabins hazy with smoke and the clinking of glass. An entire ecosystem has come up around the "car-o-bar" culture. Small, enterprising eateries have pivoted their entire business models to cater to this clientele, dispatching servers to car windows with menus of chakhna and heavy snacks. They even bring ice, disposable cups and cigarettes.



To facilitate a more comfortable experience, many vendors provide custom-made wooden or plastic platforms. These ingenious makeshift tables are designed to wedge perfectly between seats or rest atop the steering wheel, providing a stable surface for whiskey bottles and plates of kebabs, effectively neutralising the ergonomic challenges of drinking in a cramped space. Instagram is flooded with

reels advertising places that "allow" such practices. "Why enjoy with your hands occupied, we even provide trays to keep them free. For Rs 499, you get a 20-piece snacks platter," reads a post by an eatery in west Delhi.

From time to time, Delhi Police and district administrations launch drives against public drinking, deploying breathalysers and heavy fines to deter motorists.

# Love triangle turns violent: Woman throws acid on bride-to-be in Delhi

**New Delhi, (GNS):** In a chilling case of jealousy turning violent, a 21-year-old woman was allegedly attacked with acid in north-east Delhi's Gokalpuri area by another woman just days before her scheduled marriage, an official said on Wednesday.

According to police, the victim was preparing to get married when the accused, a 26-year-old woman who was reportedly in a relationship with the would-be groom, carried out the attack. Police believe the attack was driven by a personal rivalry over the impending marriage.

The incident took place in the Indira Vihar area on Monday afternoon. By the time police reached the spot, the victim had already been rushed to GTB Hospital by her family members,



an official said.

A case has been registered at the Gokalpuri police station, and a forensic team was deployed to gather evidence from the scene, the officer added.

The accused woman has been arrested, and further investigation is under way to establish the sequence of events, police said.

# Aviation firm director, dhaba owner held for assaulting Brigadier, son in Delhi

**New Delhi, (GNS):** An aviation firm director and a dhaba owner were apprehended on Tuesday in connection with the alleged assault of a serving Army Brigadier and his son in southwest Delhi, police said.

The accused have been identified as Satender alias Sonu (49) and Sanjay Sharma (56). The vehicle involved, a Mercedes, has also been seized.

According to police, Satender is a director in a firm named Chaudhary Aviation Pvt Ltd, which provides flight services, including chartered and cargo operations, and is also involved in the sale and purchase of aircraft and related parts. Sanjay Sharma runs Pandit Ji Dhaba in Mehram Nagar. The incident occurred around 10 pm on April 11 near the officer's residence. According to the family, two individuals were consuming alcohol inside a parked car in a public place. When the officer and his son objected, the situation escalated.

The accused allegedly called for reinforcements, after which 7-8 more individuals arrived in multiple vehicles. The group reportedly assaulted the Brigadier's son, causing serious injuries, and also manhandled the officer.

Delhi Police said on Monday that it had taken cognisance of the incident.

An FIR under relevant sections of the BNS was registered at Vasant Vihar police station based on a complaint filed by the officer's wife.

# Cabinet Secy urges Army to develop sovereign AI

**New Delhi, (GNS):** Cabinet Secretary TV Somanathan, addressing the senior leadership of the Indian Army today, emphasised the need to develop sovereign Artificial Intelligence models and highlighted the importance of resilient supply chains to safeguard national interests amid evolving geopolitical challenges.

Separately, the Navy's top leadership today commenced its 'Commanders' Conference' to deliberate on maritime threats in light of the situation in West Asia. Speaking at the Army Commanders' Conference, the Cabinet Secretary also stressed the necessity of stronger civil-military cooperation, observing that a whole-of-nation approach remains essential for achieving optimal outcomes in both conflict and peacetime. Reflecting on 'Atmanirbharta' (self-reliance), he described it not merely as a policy objective but as a national mindset, in which every sector, institution and citizen contributes to building a self-reliant and resilient India. The interaction formed part of the ongoing Army Commanders' Conference deliberations, which are focused on strengthening national security, preparedness and institutional synergy. Meanwhile, the Indian Navy's three-day biannual Commanders' Conference 2026 began today. This edition carries particular significance given recent swift naval deployments to safeguard India's energy security amid the ongoing conflict in West Asia, alongside the convergence of Multi-National Forces (MNFs) in the Indian Ocean Region.

# New stations, equipment upgrade by Delhi Fire Service

**New Delhi, (GNS):** As the Delhi Fire Service (DFS) celebrates Fire Week, it has unveiled an expansive roadmap focused on strengthening manpower, upgrading infrastructure and leveraging technology to enhance emergency response and public safety across the national capital. According to the DFS, to address manpower gaps and improve operational readiness, the department has inducted 39 Fire Operators into its permanent workforce, while 412 contractual personnel have been engaged to provide immediate support to essential services.

The DFS has also intensified its focus on training and capacity building. Over 1,000 Fire Operators have undergone a 29-week refresher programme aimed at sharpening field tactics and improving physical conditioning.

# Russia's Rosatom, IIT-B, Bengaluru co partner to build India's next-gen nuclear workforce

**New Delhi, (GNS):** State-run Russian nuclear corporation Rosatom, through its subsidiary JSC Engineering and Technology Center 'ETC GET', has announced a pilot training programme for nuclear industry specialists in India. The programme has been developed in strategic partnership with IIT-Bombay and Bengaluru-based engineering solution company ProSIM.

The first trial training session will be held from April 15-17 at IIT-Bombay. The programme will focus on training using simulators and digital twin technologies for



nuclear power plants, supporting practical learning and operational understanding. The initiative is aimed at addressing the growing demand for skilled professionals in India's nuclear energy sector, a statement from Rosatom said.

While ETC GET brings experience in simulator and

digital twin technologies for nuclear power plants and ProSIM contributes capabilities in physics-based modelling and safety analysis, IIT-Bombay brings academic expertise across nuclear science and engineering disciplines, it said.

As India's nuclear energy roadmap envisages significant expansion in installed capacity by 2047, it will require thousands of trained nuclear specialists annually. Current training capacity, however, delivers only a limited number of qualified professionals each year, highlighting a critical gap in workforce availability. "This pilot

training reflects Rosatom's commitment to supporting the development of India's nuclear workforce. Alongside advanced technologies, building the capability to operate nuclear infrastructure safely and efficiently will be essential for the sector's long-term growth," ETC GET representative said. Rosatom continues to develop cooperation with India across the nuclear value chain, supporting long-term partnerships in energy and technology, including the ongoing Kudankulam nuclear plant's units 3 and 4 project and future small modular reactor collaborations.

# Excise policy row: Kejriwal cites case allotments to judge's son in fresh affidavit seeking recusal in Delhi HC:

**New Delhi, (GNS):** AAP national convener Arvind Kejriwal has filed an additional affidavit before the Delhi High Court, placing on record details of case allotments to the son of Justice Swarn Kanta Sharma under the Central Government's panel system, and reiterating his request that the judge recuse herself from hearing the excise policy case.



The development comes two days after a prolonged and tense hearing on Monday, where Kejriwal, appearing in person, has sought the recusal of Justice Sharma from hearing the CBI's challenge to the trial court order that discharged him and other accused in the excise policy case. Kejriwal had argued that his

plea is based on a reasonable apprehension regarding the appearance of neutrality in the proceedings. In his fresh affidavit, Kejriwal has referred to what he termed "subsequently discovered facts", submitting that these materially strengthen his earlier recusal application. He has relied on official records, government notifications and publicly available material to state that members of the judge's immediate family, including her son, are empanelled as counsel for the Central Government and receive case assignments through the same institutional framework overseen by law officers such as Solicitor General Tushar Mehta. The affidavit said that such empanelments are not merely honorary but involve continuing professional engagements with the government, including allocation of briefs, appearances in court and financial benefit. It refers to the procedure of allocation of cases, noting that matters are marked by the Solicitor General to panel

counsel and other law officers.

Quoting from the affidavit, Kejriwal has said: "A total of 2,487 cases were marked to the son of the Hon'ble Justice in the year 2023, 1,784 cases in 2024 and 1,633 cases in 2025."

On this basis, the affidavit submitted that the professional relationship with the Central Government is "live, continuing and substantial", and that these circumstances give rise to a "direct and serious appearance of conflict of interest".

Kejriwal has clarified that he is not alleging actual bias, but has argued that the applicable legal standard is whether a fair-minded litigant could reasonably apprehend that justice may not appear to be done.

He has also placed the matter in the context of the present proceedings, noting that the prosecution is being conducted by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), with senior law officers for the Union appearing in the case, while he remains a political opponent of the ruling establishment at the Centre. The affidavit further raises issues regarding the conduct of Monday's hearing. Kejriwal has said that after he concluded his submissions and left court, the proceedings continued beyond normal court hours and were concluded the same day without granting him an opportunity to respond to the prosecution's arguments.

# Delhi-Dehradun Expressway a key step towards 'Viksit Bharat', says CM Rekha

**New Delhi, (GNS):** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday dedicated the Delhi-Dehradun Expressway to the nation, with Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta terming it a "major milestone" in the Capital's infrastructure growth and a key step towards a 'Viksit Bharat'.

Joining the programme virtually on the birth anniversary of BR Ambedkar, Gupta said the Rs 12,000-crore project reflects the rapid transformation underway in Delhi under the Prime Minister's leadership.

"The expressway is not merely a road project but a confluence of development and faith, connecting Delhi's modern infrastructure with Uttarakhand's spiritual landscape," she said.

The 210-km expressway is



expected to significantly cut travel time between Delhi and Dehradun from 6-7 hours to about 2-2.5 hours, providing relief to commuters while boosting tourism and economic activity.

Highlighting ongoing infrastructure expansion, Gupta said projects worth nearly Rs 1.25

lakh crore are currently underway in Delhi under the Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways. She said improved coordination between the Centre and the Delhi Government was accelerating development, with several roads handed over to the National Highways Authority of India

(NHAI) for better maintenance and upgrades.

The Chief Minister also pointed to upcoming projects, including a proposed Rs 5,000-crore elevated road along the Munak canal aimed at easing congestion and improving traffic flow in the Capital.

Delhi BJP president Virendra Sachdeva welcomed the inauguration, calling the expressway a "historic and visionary step" towards nation-building. Addressing a public gathering, he said the project strengthens Delhi's connectivity and reflects a new development paradigm under the Prime Minister's leadership.

Sachdeva said infrastructure projects worth around Rs 65,000 crore are currently underway in Delhi, with nearly half already completed.

## Delhi fire: 3, including toddler, dead as massive blaze tears through Rohini shanties



**New Delhi, (GNS):** A couple and their three-year-old daughter died after a massive fire broke out in a cluster of shanties in Rohini in the early hours of Wednesday, officials said.

According to the Delhi Fire Services, a distress call was received at around 1.35 am reporting flames engulfing several jhuggies in the area. The fire spread rapidly, fuelled by a large accumulation of plastic waste, leaving lit-

tle time for residents to react.

Seven fire tenders were rushed to the spot, and firefighters battled the blaze for nearly three hours before bringing it under control at around 4.35 am.

During the search operation, three bodies were recovered from the charred remains. The deceased were identified as Mohammad Musibur (27), his wife Munara (24), and their daughter Mahi Mona (3).

## West Bengal coal scam: I-PAC director Vinesh Chandel sent to 10-day ED custody; court orders CCTV surveillance during interrogation

**New Delhi, (GNS):** I-PAC promoter director Vinesh Chandel, arrested here late on Monday, was sent to 10 days of ED custody after being produced around midnight before additional sessions judge at the Patiala House courts, Shefali Barnala Tandon, at her residence. The judge gave her order at 3.30 am.

Meanwhile, ED has issued summons to Barbie Jain, wife of I-PAC founder director Pratik Jain, and Pulkit Jain, brother of Pratik, asking them to appear for questioning at the agency's HQ on Wednesday. The judge noted prima facie evidence of Chandel's involvement in unaccounted cash transactions and hawala dealings.

It was observed that I-PAC promoter director Vinesh Chandel had "instructed deletion of emails and sensitive data, including deletion of financial records" immediately after ED searches on April 2, 2026, adding that "by doing so, the arrestee has deliberately attempted to destroy material evidence and obstruct the course of investigation".

The court recorded that Chandel "knowingly assisted and has been actively involved in the process and activity connected with proceeds of crime, including its concealment, possession, acquisition, use and projection as untainted property", making him liable under Section 3 of PMLA.

Granting ED Chandel's custody till April 23, it directed CCTV-monitored interrogation and his medical examination every 48 hours. According to agency sources, ED's money trail in the ongoing investigation in the West Bengal coal scam has tracked hawala transactions allegedly involving I-PAC. Though Chandel's arrest came on a separate FIR registered by the economic offences wing of the Delhi Police this year, the probe into the coal scam began in Kolkata in 2020.

ED had earlier estimated the proceeds of crime from the coal scam at over Rs 1,300 crore. Rujira Banerjee, wife of TMC MP Abhishek Banerjee, is one of the suspects in the case and has been summoned for questioning by ED multiple times.

## Baisakhi bazaar brings folk flavour & art to Sunder Nursery

**New Delhi, (GNS):** As the sun set on Saturday, Delhiites gathered at Sunder Nursery's Baisakhi Evening Bazaar to celebrate folk art and seasonal flavours. From ganje ka juice and cinnamon coffee to hand-painted decor and homemade preserves, the heritage park was alive with festive energy on a breezy evening. Attendees sampled pickles and hand-made chutneys, enjoyed the food on offer, and browsed stalls selling jewellery, decor, and candles. The highlight of the evening was a performance by Rajasthani folk artists Bhutte Khan Manganiyar & Group, who



sang classics like Kesariya Balam Padharo Mhare Desh. The musicians engaged the audience with anecdotes about the songs and offered glimpses into the instruments they played.

"I loved the handmade products and bought some notebooks and candles. The stalls were really unique, and the evening vibe with folk music made it a perfect Saturday," said Aleena

Abbasi, senior research fellow, who visited the bazaar with her husband.

Nidhi Purohit, Programme Officer, Sunder Nursery, shared, "Baisakhi Evening Bazaar was our attempt to create a space where everyone finds something that feels personal to them. From the harvest table and stone chakki to the Phulkari workshop and Bhutte Khan ji's folk music, every element was chosen with intention. We wanted people to feel part of the celebration."

"These baskets carry the spirit, skill and stories of women artisans from Northeast India. Each piece

is handwoven using natural materials like water hyacinth, kauna grass and bamboo," shares Gunjan Bagga, who makes hand-painted baskets. Kamalika Basu and Som Basu, who host supper club brunches at their Gurgaon home, brought a family recipe of Boisakhi - a tangy imli drink perfect for summer (L), hand embroidery found an unusual canvas on paper and dried leaves (C), turning everyday materials into delicate, artful decor rooted in slow craft

The tunes of the folk instrument tumbi (R) took attendees on a musical journey to the villages of Punjab

## CM and LG laud opening of Delhi-Dehradun Expressway

**New Delhi, (GNS):** Chief minister Rekha Gupta and LG TS Sandhu on Tuesday hailed the inauguration of the Delhi-Dehradun Expressway by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, describing the Rs 12,000-crore project as a major milestone in the capital's development.

Joining the programme virtually on the birth anniversary of Dr BR Ambedkar, Gupta termed the occasion "special and auspicious" and credited the Prime Minister for bringing momentum to infrastructure development in Delhi. She said the expressway would enhance connectivity while contributing to economic growth and tourism.

Gupta said projects worth nearly Rs 1.25 lakh crore are currently under way in Delhi under the Union ministry of road transport and highways, reshaping the city's urban landscape. She added that the

expressway is a link between Delhi's modern infrastructure and Uttarakhand's spiritual significance. "It is a true confluence of development and faith," she said.

The corridor is expected to reduce travel time between Delhi and Dehradun from about 6-7 hours to 2.5 hours, bringing relief to commuters and boosting regional economic activity. Gupta said that India's expressway network has expanded to over 3,000 km, while the national highway network has grown to nearly 1.46 lakh km.

LG Sandhu said: "With seamless, signal-free connectivity beginning from key points such as Akshardham, Geeta Colony, and Shastrri Park, it promises to significantly decongest city roads while catalysing regional trade, tourism, and economic activity."

"Equally noteworthy is the project's strong commitment

to sustainability. The inclusion of Asia's largest elevated wildlife corridor ensures the protection of natural habitats, reflecting a balanced and forward-looking approach to development and environmental stewardship," he said.

Delhi BJP president Virendra Sachdeva welcomed the inauguration, calling the expressway a "historic and visionary step" towards development. Addressing a gathering, he said infrastructure growth under the Prime Minister's leadership is "creating new history every day".

Sachdeva said projects worth around Rs 65,000 crore are under way in Delhi, with Rs 33,000 crore completed and Rs 32,000 crore in progress.

He added that peripheral expressways have reduced traffic pressure on the capital, with around 73,000 vehicles bypassing Delhi daily.

## Permanent flood solution Govt for 5km Yamuna wall



**New Delhi, (GNS):** Delhi govt on Tuesday approved the construction of a 4.7-km-long flood protection wall along Yamuna river, which would act as a shield against flood waters entering the Ring Road and adjoining localities such as Civil Lines, Kashmere Gate and Yamuna Bazaar, reports Abhinav Rajput.

CM Rekha Gupta announced that the barrier will be built along the river's

western bank between Majnu Ka Tila and the Old Railway Bridge, with the project slated for completion before the next monsoon season. The initiative is being positioned by the govt as a "permanent solution" to the city's persistent flooding woes. Experts, however,

cautioned that preventing water from reaching floodplains can impact groundwater recharge and harm the ecology.

## At 38.2°C, city records hottest day of year mercury may touch 42°C by Friday

**New Delhi, (GNS):** At 38.2°C, the city on Tuesday recorded its hottest day of the year, seemingly offering the preview of a likely intense summer ahead. The mercury may continue climbing over the next few days, potentially touching 42°C by Friday.

Despite a relatively mild start to this summer, largely due to frequent rainfall from western disturbances, the recent shift in weather patterns because of calm winds and cloudless skies has accelerated a steady rise in temperatures in the region.

Tuesday's maximum was two notches above normal, surpassing the earlier seasonal high of 36.8°C recorded on April 2 and March 11 this year. On Monday, the reading was at 36.1°C.

According to India Meteorological Department (IMD), Delhi's temperatures are expected to continue ris-



ing, approaching 40°C on Wednesday, 41°C the next day and 42°C by Friday. While these figures are on the higher side of the scale, meteorological officials have not yet issued a formal heatwave alert for the capital.

According to IMD criteria, a heatwave is declared when temperatures exceed 40°C,

with a departure of at least 4.5°C above normal, or when they cross 45°C in the plains.

A weak western disturbance is likely to affect the western Himalayan region and parts of north Punjab from Wednesday night, but is unlikely to bring any significant change to Delhi-NCR's weather.

"We observed stronger surface winds on Sunday and Monday, which helped keep temperatures in check. However, as winds slowed on Tuesday and the skies remained clear, temperatures rose sharply," an IMD official explained.

The mercury's upward movement in the capital has been gradual but consistent this month. The maximum temperature was 30.8°C on April 9, climbing to 32.8°C on April 10, and then to 34.7°C on April 11 and 12. It further increased to 36.1°C on April 13 before reaching Tuesday's peak.

Weather experts caution that the current conditions could soon lead to heatwave conditions across northwest India. Mahesh Palawat of Skymet noted that low wind speeds and persistent clear skies are key factors driving the heat build-up.

## Brigadier, son thrashed for confronting men drinking in Mercedes in Delhi; aviation firm director, dhaba owner held

**New Delhi, (GNS):** Delhi Police has apprehended two men, including a director of an aviation services firm and a dhaba owner, in connection with the assault on a serving Brigadier and his son in

Southwest Delhi's Vasant Vihar on Saturday. The accused have been identified as Satender alias Sonu (49) and Sanjay Sharma (56), both residents of Mehram Nagar.



**અમદાવાદ મ્યુનિસિપલ કોર્પોરેશનની સ્થાનિક સ્વરાજ્ય ચૂટણી-૨૦૨૬ વોર્ડ - ૪ સાબરમતી ના બક્ષીપંચના અપક્ષ ઉમેદવાર**

અ.નં.	નામ	નિશાન	ઠંટન
૧૫	અજયકુમાર રમણલાલ બ્રજપતિ (અજય પરણી)		

મતદાન તા. ૨૬/૦૪/૨૦૨૬ ને રવિવારના રોજ સમય : સવારે ૭-૦૦ થી સાંજે ૬-૦૦ સુધી સાબરમતીના ભાવિ વિકાસ માટેના બક્ષીપંચના અપક્ષ ઉમેદવાર તરીકે ઉમેદવારી કરેલ છે. તો આપનો કિંમતી અને પવિત્ર એક જ વોટ આપી વિજયી બનાવવા મારી નમ્ર વિનંતી છે.