



Suvendu Adhikari said : information about counting duty is being leaked;

TMC alleges – a car with a BJP flag was allowed into the counting center without checking.

Kolkata/New Delhi(GNS): In West Bengal, Suvendu Adhikari said on Sunday that many officials on counting duty were sharing information about their duties, location and designation with their departmental organisations and associations, calling this against the rules. Suvendu also shared screenshots of WhatsApp messages posted on X. He said that a spreadsheet and list are circulating, where officials are filling in information about their election duties and their role in counting.

A day before the results were announced, a commotion erupted outside the counting



center in Kolkata's Bhawanipur assembly constituency. TMC workers alleged that a car with a BJP flag was allowed into the strongroom premises without checking.

Meanwhile, the Election Commission has ordered a re-poll at all 285 polling stations in the Falta Assembly constituency on May 21. Counting will take place on May 24. According to the ECI,

election rules were violated during voting here on April 29. **Suvendu Adhikari said – BJP government will be formed, we will maintain law and order:** Leader of the Opposition Suvendu Adhikari said, "I informed the Election Commission that setting up camps within 200 meters is not appropriate. Section 163 cannot be implemented across the entire state, but such camps can cause problems. Attempts were made to gather large numbers of people at these camps, although no major incidents occurred during the election." He said, "We are fully prepared for tomorrow."

9 Killed After Suspected AC Blast Sparks Fire At Delhi Residential Building

New Delhi (GNS): A massive fire broke out in a residential building in east Delhi's Vivek Vihar, killing nine people, including a toddler, on a early Sunday morning. Around 20 residents were rescued during the operation.

According to Delhi Fire Services, a call about the blaze was received at 3:47 am, following which multiple teams were rushed to the spot. By 5 am, at least 14 fire tenders were deployed to control the fire, which spread rapidly across nearly six flats after initially catching household items.

Delhi BJP president Virendra Sachdeva said the fire may have started due to a fault in an air conditioner unit. "The fire services received the first call at 3:45 am, and the first fire brigade reached the spot at 3:52 am. About 14 fire tenders were deployed, and 20 people have been saved by authorities," he said.

He added that "such sparking in wires, especially at night time when people are sleeping, is a matter for investigation."

Sachdeva also claimed that a delivery agent was the first to notice the fire. "In his statement to the police, the delivery agent said that he spotted sparking in the AC outlet outside," he said, as per media reports.

He further stated that the situation worsened quickly as residents tried to escape. "The terrace door was also shut, blocking another escape route," he added.

BJP MLA Sanjay Goel said, "A short circuit is said to be the main cause behind this incident. However, some are saying it happened because of a blast in the AC." Officials suspect that a short circuit in an AC unit on the second floor may have triggered the blaze. Police identified the deceased as



Shikha Jain (45), Arvind (60), Anita Jain (58), Nishant Jain (35), Anchal Jain (33), Master Akash Jain (1.5), Nitin Jain (50), Shailey Jain (48), and Samyak Jain (25). Another resident, Naveen Jain (48), was injured in the incident.

The bodies have been sent to Guru Tegh Bahadur Hospital, where identification procedures are ongoing. Authorities have launched an investigation to determine the exact cause of the fire.

Quoting residents, Hindustan Times reported that a first-floor resident said he woke up to chaos after neighbours rang his doorbell repeatedly. "When I woke up, I saw the back portion of the building was on fire. I somehow managed to escape from my house. The entire staircase was blocked due to the fire. Residents from flats located at the back of the building got trapped as there was no escape. Their balcony is blocked by a grill."

Another resident said they remained trapped for nearly 90 minutes before being rescued. "We were stuck inside for an hour and half," she said.

Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta called the incident "extremely tragic" and said the loss of lives had left her "deeply depressed."

Union Health Secretary to launch pan-India 'Fire Safety Week' today

New Delhi (GNS): Union Health Secretary Punya Salila Srivastava will launch on Today a pan-India 'Fire Safety Week' in collaboration with all states/Union Territories (UTs) and Central Ministries to raise awareness on fire hazard prevention, an official said on Sunday.

"The 'Fire Safety Week', to be observed from May 4 to 10, will kick off a series of awareness and preparedness activities to be conducted nationwide," a statement said.

"As part of the inaugural event, a pledge on 'Fire Safety in Health Facilities' will be administered by the Secretary (Health), reaffirming the commitment of all stakeholders towards ensuring strict adherence to fire safety norms, strengthening preparedness, and fostering a culture of safety within healthcare institutions," it added.

During the week-long observance, states and UTs would undertake a range of activities, including awareness campaigns, mock drills and capacity-building initiatives. "Dissemination of fire safety protocols, aimed at sensitising healthcare personnel and administrators on fire prevention, emergency response, and evacuation procedures will also be part of the activities," the statement said. "The observance of 'Fire Safety Week' underscores the Health Ministry's continued commitment to safeguarding patients, healthcare workers, and critical infrastructure by promoting robust fire safety mechanisms and fostering a culture of safety and preparedness across all levels of the healthcare delivery system," the statement added. Earlier, in a significant step towards strengthening child health services in the country, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare released the Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) 2.0 Guidelines at a recent national summit.



Tehran (GNS): Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) on Sunday said US President Donald Trump must choose between an "impossible" military operation or a "bad deal" with the Islamic Republic to end the war that has rocked the global economy.

The IRGC's intelligence arm said the room for US decision-making "had

Iran's Revolutionary Guards Say Trump Has Limited Options

narrowed", citing several changes to the diplomatic arena, such as Iran's one-month deadline for the US to end its naval blockade, to the "shift" in Russia, China and Europe's tone towards Washington.

"There is only one way to read this: Trump must choose between 'an impossible military operation or a bad deal with the Islamic Republic of Iran.' The room for US decision-making has narrowed," the IRGC wrote on X. These remarks came after Trump said he is Iran's latest

proposal to end the war, while hinting at the possibility of fresh strikes at Tehran. When asked about whether US would resume strikes, Trump said, "If they misbehave, if they do something bad - but right now, we'll see. It's a possibility that could happen, certainly." Despite a ceasefire in effect, peace talks between the US and Iran remain stalled, as Washington continues its naval blockade of Iranian ports and Tehran has kept the vital Strait of Hormuz virtually shut for commercial shipping.



Mission Drishti a proof of India's space reforms

New Delhi (GNS): The successful launch of Mission Drishti serves as a definitive proof-of-concept for India's private space sector reforms and signals a transition from small-scale testing to sovereign, all-weather surveillance capabilities, the Indian Space Association said on Sunday. Lt. Gen. AK Bhatt (Retd.), Director General of the industry body, said the milestone reflects a pivotal shift in India's approach to Earth observation and underlines the growing maturity of the private space ecosystem. He noted that the mission demonstrates how private players are now capable of delivering critical technologies with applications in national security and disaster response.

Shots Fired Near Kapil Sharma's Canada Cafe For The Fourth Time

Surrey(GNS): According to reports, fresh gunfire incidents linked to the Lawrence Bishnoi gang have surfaced again, associated with Kapil Sharma's Kap's Cafe in Canada. According to viral social media claims, shots were fired at a restaurant located next to Kapil Sharma's cafe, sparking concern around his safety.

The viral post, allegedly shared from a Facebook account named Tyson Bishnoi Jora Sidhu, claims that both Kapil Sharma and the cafe owner have received death threats. It further claims that the gang warned Sharma to "fall in line," alleging that he is wasting their time, and hinted that his cafe could face similar consequences if he does not comply. The incident is said to have taken place in Surrey, British Columbia, near a "Chai Sutta Bar"



outlet, which is reportedly located close to Kapil Sharma's cafe. However, these claims are currently based on social media posts and News18 couldn't independently confirm their authenticity. The targeting of Kapil Sharma's cafe in Canada follows a clear, documented

pattern from 2025. The first firing incident took place on July 10, 2025, just days after Kap's Cafe opened in Surrey, British Columbia, when shots were fired at the property and nearby buildings without causing injuries. A second attack followed on August 7, 2025, with multiple rounds again fired at the same location. The situation escalated further in mid-October 2025 (around October 15-16), when the cafe was targeted for a third time in four months, and individuals linked to the Lawrence Bishnoi network reportedly claimed responsibility via social media. These repeated incidents established a pattern of intimidation tied to the Bishnoi gang, making any fresh reports around the café part of an ongoing security concern rather than an isolated event.

Delhi judge death case: Relatives allege harassment; wife, children absent from cremation

New Delhi (GNS): The family of a Delhi Judicial Service officer who was found hanging at his residence in Green Park has levelled serious allegations, claiming that he had been under severe stress and had complained of harassment in the days leading up to his death.

In what is being treated as a suspected case of suicide, a judicial officer serving as secretary of the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) in the North-East district was found dead at his south Delhi

residence, police said on Saturday.

The deceased, identified as 30-year-old Aman Kumar Sharma, was found hanging in the bathroom of his home, raising suspicion that he may have taken the extreme step, officials said.

Police said Sharma's wife, Swati Sharma, who is also a judicial officer, is being questioned and her statement is being recorded as part of the investigation.

Aman Sharma, son of Prem Kumar Sharma, was residing at U-4A, First Floor, Green Park Main, according

to police.

The incident came to light after his brother-in-law Shivam, a resident of B-block Defence Colony, made a call to the police control room at around 1.45 p.m. Police teams rushed to the spot following the call and initiated an inquiry.

On Sunday, the last rites of Aman Sharma were performed in his ancestral village in Alwar, Rajasthan.

Rajesh Sharma, father of Shivam, alleged that Aman had informed his father about being under intense mental stress due to marital

discord.

Speaking to reporters, Rajesh Sharma said, "At around 10 p.m. on Friday, Aman called his father and told him that he cannot live anymore. Prem Singh, without telling anyone, immediately left for Delhi. Upon arriving in Delhi, he learned that Aman had been having conflicts with his wife. Aman told him that he had been harassed for the past two months by his wife and her sister."

Swati Sharma's sister, Nidhi Malik, is an IAS officer currently posted in

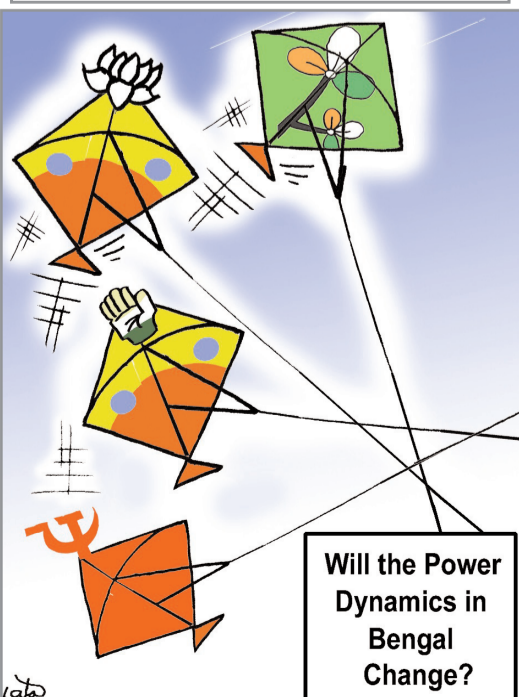
Jammu. According to Rajesh,

Aman had also told his father that Nidhi Malik had been "interfering in his life" and was "controlling his household". He further alleged that Aman's father was told by his daughter-in-law that she would call the police if he did not leave the house.

"An argument then broke out in the house, so Aman's father went to another room. He said Aman and Swati were fighting in another room. Swati was shouting at him, and Aman was crying. After a while, they stopped,"

Rajesh said.

He added, "When Prem Sharma went to the room again, he asked where Aman was. Swati told him that she was not aware of it. So he called Aman, and he heard the phone ringing inside the bathroom. After this, he knocked on the bathroom door, but Aman did not open it. He tried very hard to open the door. The neighbours informed him that there was a window in the shaft. After a while, they broke the window and entered the bathroom where Aman was found hanging."



Who will be crowned in the 5 states

Saurabh Varshney
In a democracy, elections are not only a means of changing power, but they also provide a clear indication of public sentiment, expectations, and political direction. The upcoming assembly elections in five states are being viewed from this perspective. These elections will not only determine the future of regional politics but will also influence the course of national politics.

The main contest in these elections is between the ruling parties and opposition alliances. While the ruling parties are highlighting their achievements—development, welfare schemes, and stable governance—to the public, the opposition is busy cornering the government on issues like inflation, unemployment, and social discontent. Thus, the choices before voters are clear, but the decisions are not easy.

Political analysts believe that local issues will play a decisive role in these elections. Each state has its own socio-economic conditions, which can lead to different voting patterns. In some states, caste equations will dominate, while in others, development issues will be central. This is why the performance of a single political party is unlikely to be uniform across all states. Another characteristic of

these elections is that the role of regional parties has become increasingly important. In many states, they are positioned as kingmakers, potentially deciding who will hold power. This could also give a new impetus to coalition politics. However, the most important aspect of these elections is the role of the voter. The true power of democracy lies in the hands of the people, and they decide who will be crowned king

and who will be relegated to the opposition. Therefore, it is essential that voters rise above caste, religion, and emotional slogans and make their decisions based on development, good governance, and transparency. These elections in five states are not just a matter of forming a government, but also a test of the maturity of democracy. Whatever the outcome, it is clear that the message of the people will be the ultimate decid-

ing factor—and will determine who will be crowned with power. Exit polls – wind or reality? In electoral democracy, exit polls are no longer just a game of numbers; they claim to offer an immediate glimpse of public opinion. As soon as voting ends, exit poll data creates an atmosphere—sometimes excitement, sometime anxiety, and sometime doubt—from TV studios to social media.

Editorial

When will the fire of hatred be extinguished Now it's 'corporate jihad'

Recently, the city of Nashik in Maharashtra was in the headlines twice. The first time was regarding the case of Ashok Kharat, a fraud who sexually exploited women, especially those from the upper classes. He adopted innovative methods to cultivate his image as a miracle worker. He influenced people by telling them their past, present, and future. He brainwashed women into becoming his followers and convinced them to surrender everything to him, satisfying his physical desires. He kept snakes and other wild animals and, by scaring women with these animals, forced them to obey him. In this context of superstition, former Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai visited Dhirendra Shastri, known as Bageshwar Dham Baba. It is relevant to note that Gavai claims to be a follower of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. Ambedkar believed only in rationality.

The matter received some media coverage and Bajrang Dal and other similar organisations remained silent as it was a case of physical exploitation of Hindu women by a Hindu Baba but since no Muslim was involved in it.

But just a few days later, hateful elements found ample fuel to fan the flames of hatred in Nashik in the form of a police report. In this report, a Hindu woman claimed that a Muslim employee was sexually exploiting her. The Muslim employee had been having an affair with her, and according to the woman, the Muslim man had promised to marry her, but later reneged

West Bengal's unique election: One to remember

Rajeev Khandelwal

One alone is too much for everyone!

"One alone is stronger than all!" Who is going to be proven "right"?

(Author, Tax Consultant and Former Chairman, Betul Improvement Trust)

The West Bengal Assembly elections held on April 29, 2026, have become "historic" in many respects, unprecedented and unimaginable. This election is not limited to political competition alone, but also raises serious questions about constitutional processes, institutional roles, and voter rights.

1. "Millions of voters disenfranchised."

"Neither past nor future"

Compared to all previous (though future) general and mid-term elections held in independent India, the West Bengal elections held so far are unprecedented in that approximately 27.16 lakh voters (excluding only 1607 whose suspended voting rights were restored after their appeals were decided) were denied the right to vote. Clearly, the results on the 4th will not be a "constitutional and true democratic mandate." The strange thing is that the ban on these voters was imposed not by the Election Commission, which has recently been badly maligned, but by the Supreme Court, the constitutional body that protects constitutional rights/rights to vote.

2. "Unnecessary use/alleged

misuse of Article 142?"

The Supreme Court's intervention under Article 142, taking control of the electoral roll process, is a remarkable new precedent. Article 142 should be used in the public interest, not in the interest of the institution. Unfortunately, the comment of Honorable Supreme Court Justice Joymalya Bagchi, when he practically stated that the exclusion of so many voters in a single election cycle "wouldn't break a mountain," is deeply poignant and contrary to the current constitutional order. Don't assume that judges interpreting the Constitution cannot commit constitutional errors. Perhaps the Honorable Justice forgot that these 2.7 million votes could have changed the outcome of the election. In the history of independent India, there has never been a single instance of such exclusion of even a single legitimate voter from participating in the Panch, Sarpanch, Councilor, MLA, and MP elections.

To ensure impartiality, the judiciary involved a large number of judicial officers (approximately 700 from West Bengal, Jharkhand, and Odisha) in the process, which the court itself called a Herculean task. The Election Commission's insistence has also made the process a matter of debate, even though it has been primarily the sole purview of the Election Commission for the past 75 years.

3. "Election Commission's failure! Why should voters suffer?"

The Election Commission is solely responsible for publishing the revised voter list on time before the general elections. This raises the question: if the process couldn't be completed on time, would holding elections based on the old list be an option? ("without conducting SIR"), just as the 2024 Lok Sabha elections were conducted based on the old list. The Assam elections, held alongside the Bengal elections, were conducted without conducting SIR. This question is not merely administrative, but also concerns democratic rights.

4. "Unprecedented deployment of central forces."

The deployment of approximately 2.4 lakh central forces in West Bengal also made this election unique. Central forces are deployed in every state election. However, the unprecedented deployment of central paramilitary forces—RPF, BSF, ITBP, and SSB—for 294 seats in Bengal is only one lakh less than the 3.40 lakh deployed across the country, including West Bengal, for the 2024 elections, which covers the entire 543 Lok Sabha and over 4,131 assembly seats. Only approximately 80,000 soldiers were deployed in Bengal in the last election. Has the deployment of central forces "replaced" the state's fear, intimidation, and terror with the central government's fear, intimidation,

and terror?

Issue 5: "Dress Code for Voting."

Dress Fatwa?

This is also the first time in the country's history that two voters, Dishar Ali Mondal and Ganesh Majumdar, were prevented from casting their votes for wearing a lungi, only to be allowed to cast their votes after returning wearing their official uniform. This is a unique occasion in independent India's history. "Lungi" is the dress code in Tamil Nadu, where elections have just concluded along with Bengal. Do Digambara Jain monks have the right to vote? Readers can search for this on Google. But the question arises: can any kind of "informal criteria" be applied to a constitutional right like voting? "Will Pt. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee's dream come true?" One thing is clear from the elections in all five states: the BJP will undoubtedly benefit. Whether it's in terms of seat count or vote share, even in Kerala and Tamil Nadu, where the BJP is in opposition, its base will undoubtedly increase when the results come in. The BJP deserves praise for its mastery of successfully tackling the "anti-incumbency factor," a factor that opposition-ruled states often struggle to withstand and ultimately topple governments. Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh are prime examples of this.

Understand the Bengal election results with two examples! Atal Bihari had said, "Flip the rotis, or they will burn.

MINAB 168: Martyrdom of innocents leads to the downfall of a superpower

Tanveer Jafri

Although sources differ on the number of casualties in Iran from the joint US-Israeli attacks on Iran since February 28th, it is estimated that over 6,000 Iranian civilians have been killed so far, while over 26,500 have been injured. However, even more than the assassination of Iran's Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Sayyid Ali Khamenei, and numerous high-level leaders, officials, and scientists, the one attack that has garnered more attention in Iran is the US Air Force's February 28th strike on a primary school in the southern Iranian city of Minab, which killed 168 innocent children. Iran has primarily focused on this attack and launched a campaign to expose the US, which advocates for world peace, to the world. Furthermore, this attack has compelled many American lawmakers and high-ranking officials with humanitarian concerns to

speak out. Recall that on April 10, 2026, when an Iranian delegation arrived in Islamabad to negotiate with the US under Pakistani mediation, with Vice President JD Vance leading the talks on behalf of the US, the plane marked #Minab168, which the Iranian delegation flew to Islamabad, attracted global attention. Iranian Speaker Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf, Iranian Foreign Minister Araghchi, and the Iranian delegation traveled from Tehran to Pakistan on this same #Minab168 plane. The front 168 seats of this plane were adorned with photographs of the children martyred in the US attack. Each seat contained their blood-stained, damaged school bags and shoes, along with flowers to pay tribute to them. This was the first time a courageous nation like Iran had so uniquely exposed the true cruel face of America, a self-proclaimed superpower. # The Minab 168

aircraft not only arrived in Pakistan, but also took Araghchi on April 26-27 to Russia, where he held a crucial meeting with President Vladimir Putin. In America, the blood of the innocent martyrs of Minab is also rising. President Trump is facing political and street protests over this attack. Democrats are clearly calling it an irresponsible US attack and demanding the Trump administration accept responsibility for the attack. Investigations have confirmed the use of US Tomahawk missiles, a missile only possessed by the US. Democratic lawmakers have demanded an impartial investigation from the Pentagon and have also sought answers from Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth. These US senators have described this as the worst civilian casualty incident in decades and have also accused the Trump administration of failing to accept responsibility. Several senators are even

calling it a terrible mistake by the US military. Street protests have erupted in many places across the US over the Minab incident. Thousands of protesters took to the streets, chanting "Hands Off Iran" in places ranging from New York's Times Square to San Francisco, Chicago, and Milwaukee. A symbolic protest was held on Capitol Hill, where children's school bags were placed. Several Democratic lawmakers also participated. The widespread protests outside the White House in April also included strong calls for Trump's removal, branding him a war criminal. However, whether it's Israel or its patron, the United States, both have written a history of brutal war crimes in numerous countries around the world. In fact, they have become accustomed to committing war crimes. Recall the long-running Vietnam War between 1960 and 1970. It was America that brutally

killed millions of people there. One of these horrific incidents occurred in the village of My Lai in South Vietnam, where not only were over 500 unarmed civilians, including women, children, and the elderly, but they were also gang-raped, their bodies burned, and desecrated. Entire villages were burned. Similarly, during the 2003 Iraq War, in addition to the torture of prisoners in Abu Ghraib prison, numerous civilian massacres occurred in Iraq. Similarly, numerous acts of civilian murder and rape were exposed in Afghanistan. Following the US example, Israel has already written a history of genocide in Lebanon, the West Bank, and Gaza. They are so cruel that they first lure hungry children with food and water to gather crowds. Then, instead of providing them with food and water, they bomb them and kill them. The Israeli Prime Minister is currently a wanted criminal by the International Court of

Justice. But this time, they were confronted by the innocent people of Minab, Iran. Their cries and curses are resonating so deeply throughout the world that even Americans with a humanitarian heart are shocked by this incident and fear that it could lead to the downfall of American global hegemony. Consequently, the Trump administration appears to be making unsuccessful attempts to distance itself from the incident. However, the reality is that due to the Minab school attack and his Iran war policy, Trump's popularity in the US has plummeted to a negative 20-23%. Due to similar protests, Trump dismissed several of his officials, while others chose to resign to save face. It would not be wrong to say that Minab 168, a symbol of the martyrdom of innocents, will expose the superpower that has written a story of genocide across the world and will also lead to its downfall.

Delhi to soon emerge as global tourism destination: CM

New Delhi, (GNS): Chief Minister Rekha Gupta on Saturday said Delhi will no longer remain just a 'transit hub' but will emerge as a global tourism destination, with expert inputs set to shape a new tourism policy. She attended a tourism stakeholder's conference, where a wide range of issues from tourism and hospitality to heritage, spiritual, digital, medical and wellness tourism, as well as night tourism and Delhi's brand positioning were discussed in detail. Addressing the gathering, she said Delhi must move beyond being seen merely as a transit point and be developed into a leading global tourism destination.

She said the active participation of industry stakeholders,



pointed to iconic institutions such as Parliament of India, Rashtrapati Bhavan, India Gate and the Prime Ministers' Museum and Library, along with its rich historical legacy including the Red Fort and Qutub Minar.

She also emphasised Delhi's diverse culture and cuisine, which together offer a complete and unique tourism experience.

a major attraction for international visitors to India. "It is time we position Delhi not just as a stopover, but as a destination city where tourists stay longer, immerse themselves in experiences, and keep coming back," she added. Underscoring the city's strengths, CM

pointed to iconic institutions such as Parliament of India, Rashtrapati Bhavan, India Gate and the Prime Ministers' Museum and Library, along with its rich historical legacy including the Red Fort and Qutub Minar.

She also emphasised Delhi's diverse culture and cuisine, which together offer a complete and unique tourism experience.

The Chief Minister said the government is placing strong emphasis on positive brand positioning for Delhi, with the aim of developing it not only as a tourism hub but also as a centre for medical and educational excellence. "Our goal is to attract more visitors from across India and the world, encourage them to stay, and take back meaningful experiences," she said.

CM Gupta added that the government is actively promoting large-scale concerts, film festivals and cultural events to strengthen Delhi's global identity. She also highlighted that the film policy and single-window system are being used to provide seamless, transparent and time-bound services to the industry.

Fruit seller held for stealing 25 lakh worth jewellery from Patel Nagar house

New Delhi, (GNS): Delhi Police claimed to have arrested a 23-year-old fruit seller who allegedly barged into a locked house in central Delhi's Patel Nagar and fled with around 10,000 cash and gold and silver jewellery worth 25 lakh earlier this week. Police said an officer impersonated a fruit vendor to arrest the accused. The accused has been identified as a resident of Darbhanga. Interrogation led to the recovery of a 25kg locker which the man had stolen, some jewellery which was artificial, and 920 cash. He had left the locker in an under-construction flat in the same building because he could not handle the weight, said deputy commissioner of police (central) Rohit Rajbir Singh.

On Tuesday, the Ranjeet Nagar police station received a call complaining of a burglary at a house in South Patel Nagar around 6am. The complainant reported about the theft of a locker containing gold and silver jewellery and 5,000- 10,000 cash. A case of burglary was registered and



investigation was taken up.

During inspection at the house, the station house officer (SHO) of the police station and his team members found a mobile phone from the bathroom. The phone did not belong to the family. Later, someone called on the phone and identified himself as the nephew of a fruit seller. To arrest the accused, head constable Vikas posed as a fruit vendor and lured the nephew to meet him and collect the phone. "While interrogating the nephew, he told the personnel that the phone belonged to his uncle. Thereafter, our team conducted raids, arrested the fruit seller from Baljeet Nagar, and recovered the stolen items," DCP Singh said.

MCD links trade licence fees with property tax, abolishes separate application for general trade licence

New Delhi, (GNS): The Municipal Corporation of Delhi on Saturday announced that it has decided to integrate the General Trade and Storage Licence fee with the property tax system, as the scheme has been given final approval by the commissioner, officials said. According to an official statement, the scheme is doing away with the need for a separate licence application in a move aimed at easing compliance for residents and businesses.

In December 2025, the MCD approved a proposal to integrate the general trade and storage licence with the property tax system but traders had flagged that the new system had not been implemented even after months of policy announcement and they had to pay the licence fees separately.

According to officials, an order has been issued and the system will be live in a few days. "The IT Department has been instructed to ensure that the website is functioning correctly in accordance with the new system. It will be live within a few days," an official said. "The existing requirement of obtaining a standalone General Trade Licence under Section 417 of the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957 has been abolished," the statement read.

The civic body has fixed the licence fee at 15 per cent of the property tax of the premises, to be paid annually at the time of property tax payment. The receipt generated after payment will serve as a valid licence for the premises for that financial year.

Officials said the move is expected to reduce paperwork and make the process more transparent for traders and property owners, who earlier had to apply separately for the licence. They added that licence holders will still be required to comply with all applicable norms, including those related to pollution control and fire safety, and obtain necessary approvals from relevant authorities. The MCD in its statement also said that owners or occupiers will be responsible for ensuring safety at their premises, and any loss or damage due to negligence or non-compliance will attract civil and criminal liability.

Delhi judge, 30, dies by suicide; relative claims domestic disputes with wife as reason

New Delhi, (GNS): A 30-year-old judge of the Karkardooma city court on Saturday allegedly died by suicide in the bathroom of his second-floor flat at Green Park Main in south Delhi, police officers and relatives of the judicial officer said. Police and private security guards said they found the body hanging when they climbed 20 feet through a utility shaft and broke into the bathroom.

Although the police did not issue a statement on the incident, a relative of the deceased told reporters that the judge allegedly took his own life over domestic disputes with his wife. The judge's wife and father were



in the flat when he allegedly locked himself inside the bathroom, the relative said. A police officer, who did not wish to be named, said it was

suicide at a house in Green Park Main.

The relative said the judge was taken to Safdarjung Hospital by police around 1.30pm. "The attending doctors declared him brought dead," the relative said. The relative also said the judge's father - whom he accompanied while giving a statement to the police --- said he reached Delhi from the family's hometown Alwar on Friday after a distress call by the son. Relatives of the deceased said that the father learnt that the couple had been having arguments over domestic issues, and the differences went back nearly two months. The relative, who

spoke to reporters, also accused the judge's wife's sister - a civil servant in Jammu and Kashmir - of meddling in the couple's household. The judge's family members said the family has taken the body to Alwar for the last rites.

A local said that he was present in a nearby house when he heard commotion outside and went to check what had happened. "Ten minutes later, two police patrol vans arrived. The security guard of the building and the police personnel climbed to the second floor's bathroom using a ladder, broke the window glass to enter the bathroom. They brought a body down," the resident said.

Partially clothed burglars steal 27K appliances from S Delhi flat

New Delhi, (GNS): A group of partially clothed masked burglars, donning only undergarments, vests, gloves and socks, made off with ₹27,000, a silver bowl, brass plates and household appliances from a first-floor flat of a multi-storeyed residential building in Sarvodaya Enclave, near Malviya Nagar in south Delhi, police officers said, after footage of the crime was captured on a CCTV camera installed in the flat.

The police registered a case of burglary at the Malviya Nagar police station and are probing whether the suspects were linked to the infamous "kachcha baniyan gang", which was involved in a spate of house robbery-murders in the 1990s. The gang members used to break into homes and kill every family member in



their sleep before ransacking the house.

Deputy commissioner of police (south) Anant Mittal said the police was apprised about the incident around 6am on Friday. The CCTV footage analysis revealed involvement of three people, who entered the house through the adjacent Vijay Mandal Park.

"The complainant family was sleeping when this incident took place and they got to know about the theft when

they woke up in the morning. No incident of tying or bounding took place. We have registered a case. Efforts are being made to identify and apprehend the accused at the earliest," he said. In the CCTV footage, accessed by HT, two suspects in their undergarments are seen walking inside the drawing room and its adjacent rooms. One of them is seen wearing socks and gloves. The other suspect is only wearing gloves. Their faces are also covered with clothes.

13 mobile Jan Aushadi Kendras to open in Delhi areas lacking facilities

New Delhi, (GNS): The Delhi government will roll out mobile pharmacy vans under the Jan Aushadhi initiative to improve access to affordable medicines in underserved areas, officials said on Saturday. The plan aims to ensure timely availability of essential and life-saving generic drugs while reducing out-of-pocket healthcare expenses for residents.

Selected agencies will deploy the vans across JJ clusters, slums, resettlement colonies and peripheral areas. A high-level committee will determine routes based on population density, disease burden and gaps in existing healthcare infrastructure, an official said.

Each mobile unit will be equipped with medicine storage racks, cold-chain facilities,

power backup and GPS tracking. The vans will have mandatory inventory management software, billing systems and support for digital payments such as UPI and cards. They will also be linked with government health platforms to ensure transparency.

Only quality generic medicines compliant with the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940, and Jan Aushadhi standards will be supplied. Operators must maintain continuous stock, avoid expired or substandard drugs, and ensure buffer inventory. Bidders will need to submit affidavits confirming compliance. Each van must be staffed by a registered pharmacist and a support worker, with strict eligibility and background checks.

Schools can't compel parents to pay fees for more than one month at a time: Delhi govt order

New Delhi, (GNS): No private unaided recognised schools in Delhi can compel, require, or mandate any parent or guardian to pay school fees for a period of more than one calendar month in a single instalment, the Directorate of Education (DoE) said in an order on Friday. The DoE, in its order, a copy of which was accessed by HT, cited repeated complaints from parents and guardians about certain private unaided schools compelling parents to make payment of fees on a bimonthly, quarterly, or advance basis.

"Such a practice imposes an undue financial burden upon parents, particularly those belonging to low and middle-income groups, and runs contrary to the underlying objective of ensuring equitable and inclusive access to education," read the order.

It said that the practice is inconsistent with the directions given by the High Court



and the instructions issued by the DoE.

What does the order say? The DoE also cited its circular dated February 15, 2019, which directed private unaided recognised schools to collect fees on a monthly basis in compliance with a high court order passed on April 10, 2013, in the case "Mr. Rahul Chadha & Ors. vs. Summer Field School & Ors.", which directed that private unaided recognised schools to collect fees on a monthly basis. To be sure, the DoE order clarified

that if any parent or guardian wants to pay fees for more than a month in one instalment, they can be permitted to do so. The order also prohibits schools from coercing parents and guardians to deposit the fees for more than a month at a time as a precondition for "admission, continuation of enrolment, or any other benefit or service extended to the student."

Schools have also been directed to display the order on their notice boards and to upload it on their official web-

sites within seven working days, and were warned of action under the Delhi School Education Act, 1973, and the Delhi School Education Rules, 1973, if found non-compliant. Parents, principals welcome order

Parents of private school students welcomed the order. "Schools had been forcing parents to pay quarterly fees, and the order is helpful as it provides parents comfort. This has also been a long-pending demand of ours.

In our school, which had been charging hiked fees until recently, paying the fees for three months would become a big financial burden, as the one month fee is 16,000, meaning we would have to pay almost ₹50,000 at a go," said Divya Mathey, whose son is a Class 12 student of Delhi Public School, Dwarka. "The order is really good, but the problem is always the lack of implementation.

Al-Falah university chancellor denied bail in PMLA case

New Delhi, (GNS): A Delhi court on Saturday dismissed the bail plea of Al-Falah University chancellor Jawad Siddiqui in a money laundering case of over ₹400 crore, observing that he abused his position to use educational institutions for personal benefit. Additional sessions judge Sheetal Chaudhary Pradhan of Saket courts, in an 85-page order, said the allegations were "grave" and no grounds for bail were found. "There is prima facie evidence that proceeds of crime were generated from criminal activities... the applicant may be directly linked," the court noted.

The order said proceeds from Al-Falah University and colleges were routed through four firms owned by Siddiqui's wife, children, and trusted employees but controlled by him. The funds were moved abroad and invested in businesses and properties.

"As managing trustee and chancellor, he abused his fiduciary duties by using charitable and educational institutions as instruments for personal, family and commer-



cial benefit," the court observed.

The judge also noted a clear pattern of "deliberate structuring, layering, and integration of funds" consistent with money laundering. The court added that the matter was at a nascent stage and further investigation was underway, with another money laundering case pending against Siddiqui.

Senior advocate Vikram Chaudhary, appearing for Siddiqui, argued his client had no connection with doctors linked to the Red Fort bomb blast case and had terminated them before any case was lodged. He said the accreditation status had nothing to do with the validity of degrees, adding that all graduating students were well-settled.

UP was made sick by discrimination and corruption in the selection process: Chief Minister Yogi

The degree of the Chairman of the Commission was fake, but he was doing the selection: Yogi

Lucknow,(GNS): Shattering of a youth's dream is not only a betrayal to that youth but also a betrayal to the future of the coming generation and hinders development. A state like Uttar Pradesh did not become sick by itself; by discrimination in the selection process, dishonesty and corruption had made this state a sick and chaotic state. As a state under curfew for months, no one felt safe in Uttar Pradesh. The selection process was so discriminatory that the courts had to stay it. The situation was such that our Deputy Chief Minister was saying that someone else took the exam and someone else received the appointment letter. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath made



these remarks on Sunday at the Lok Bhavan auditorium in the capital, during the appointment letter distribution ceremony for newly selected junior analysts (pharmaceuticals) and dental hygienists. He presented appointment

letters to 357 junior analysts (pharmaceuticals) newly selected by the Uttar Pradesh Subordinate Services Selection Commission for the Food Safety and Drug Administration Department and 252 dental hygienists newly selected for the Medical and Health Department.

Recalling an incident from his tenure as the Gorakhpur MP, he said, "Once, I was traveling somewhere. It was 4-5 p.m. and the highway ahead was jammed. I asked why it was jammed, and police officers came and told me that a young man had committed suicide." The village where the suicide had taken place was part of my parliamentary constituency, so I got down from my car and said I will go and meet the

people. The officials told me that there is a lot of anger among the people, you should not go, I said brother, if there is anger today then I will have to go to seek votes in the future, even then there will be this anger. I said I will go, people saw me and calmed down. Seeing me very shocked, I met the family of the youth who had committed suicide. I asked how this incident had happened. The family said that his name had come in the merit list of Uttar Pradesh Police recruitment, but he was not given the appointment letter and due to that he committed suicide out of depression.

He said that every young person was distressed by the recruitment process of the Uttar Pradesh Public Service

Commission and the Uttar Pradesh Secondary Education Selection Commission, and the court's comments at that time. Nine years had passed, and a lot had changed in those nine years. Many of you may have been minors at that time. They don't know about that time: a person who wasn't eligible became the chairman, and someone with a fake degree was making selections as the chairman of the commission. Such chaos prevailed during the Samajwadi Party government, with money laundering, and recruitments were stalled. Discussing appointments and development work after 2017, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said that the will to work, a clear government policy, and a clear intention are essential for achieving results.

Minister Aseem Arun appeals to devotees to celebrate 'Bada Mangal' in a plastic-free and green manner

Lucknow,(GNS): On the auspicious occasion of 'Bada Mangal', Aseem Arun, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for the Social Welfare Department of Uttar Pradesh, has made a special appeal to all the people of the state, Mangalman, and Bhandara organizers. He urged that this year, this grand festival of serving Lord Hanuman not only be a symbol of devotion and joy, but also set a great example of cleanliness and environmental protection. The Social Welfare Minister said that service and cleanliness are two sides of the same coin. When we serve the devotees of Bajrangbali, it is our responsibility not to pollute Mother Earth. He appealed to completely ban the use of plastic or thermocol plates, spoons, and glasses in Bhandara. Use leaf plates (pattal) and paper glasses instead. Place adequate dustbins at each Bhandara site and ensure that devotees do not throw leftovers.



Organizers should pledge that after the Bhandara is over, not a single leaf plate or garbage will be left on the

road. Leave the venue cleaner than before. Distribute drinking water in a way that ensures no wastage.

Aseem Arun said that the Bada Mangal tradition is a confluence of Lucknow's unique "Ganga-Jamuni culture" and a spirit of service. I humbly request all organizers to celebrate a "plastic-free Bada Mangal" this time. Your small initiative will play a big role in keeping our city clean and protecting the environment. Let us fulfill our civic responsibility along with devotion.

Young man commits suicide by hanging, wife and in-laws accused of harassment

Lucknow,(GNS): A young man committed suicide by hanging himself late Saturday night in the Nagaram police station area of Lucknow, the capital of Uttar Pradesh. The family alleges that the son committed suicide due to harassment from his wife and in-laws. Police have sent the body for post-mortem and have started investigating the case based on the family's complaint.

Station House Officer Vivek Chaudhary said that Prashant Kumar Singh (28), a resident of Amethian Ka Purwa village in Nagaram, committed suicide by hanging himself.

Police arrived on Sunday morning after learning of the incident, took possession of the body and began questioning the family. In his complaint, the father, Ashok Singh, stated that the reason behind his son's suicide was

harassment from his wife, Mamta alias Ruchi Singh, and in-laws. He had married Mamta Singh, a resident of Balrampur district, in 2018. They also have two children.

It is alleged that the son took his own life due to harassment by his daughter-in-law and her family. The police have sent the body for post-mortem and have begun further investigations.

Mirzapur's voice resonated in the Youth Parliament the district's youth shone in the Assembly

Mirzapur,(GNS): The youth of Mirzapur district in Uttar Pradesh once again showcased their talent and raised the voice of Mirzapur in the Youth Parliament. Three of the five selected participants in the district-level Vikasit Bharat Yuva Sansad 2026, held at G.D. Binani PG College, performed exceptionally well at



the state-level event held in the Lucknow Assembly.

Anya Kashera, Sangeeta Yadav, and Aditya Tiwari, participating in the event, which ran from May 1 to 3, effectively presented their views on the Union Budget 2026 and 'Vikasit Bharat 2047' in the Assembly on May 2. The youth described the budget as crucial for innovation, startups, and

youth empowerment.

These participants not only presented their views strongly but also brought honor to Mirzapur. Their achievement has brought joy to the college.

Principal Professor Ashok Kumar Singh, along with other teachers and officials, congratulated the three young people on Sunday and wished them a bright future.

Judges took to the streets to spread awareness

Dhanbad,(GNS): On the instructions of the Jharkhand State Legal Authority, a 90-day comprehensive outreach program aimed at promoting legal literacy and awareness among the public was launched on Sunday with a morning procession. Led by Principal District and Sessions Judge and Chairman of DLSA, Durgesh Chandra Awasthi, the procession started from the Civil Court, Dhanbad, and went to

Randhir Verma Chowk, after which it returned to the Civil Court.

Speaking to the media, the judge said that for 90 days, a team formed under the leadership of a judicial officer will visit every area to spread legal awareness. He informed the public about the NALSA helpline number 15100, the helpline number 181 for witch hunting cases, and other helpline numbers. He advised that you should call these helpline



numbers once and see if they work.

While providing information about the program, Additional District Judge and Secretary of DLSA, Mayank Tushar Topno, stated that during this 90-day program, a team led by a judicial officer, including the Legal Aid Defense Council System, NGOs, panel advocates, and PLVs, will go door-to-door to provide information about the law and various government

schemes.

Additionally, debates, essay writing, painting, speeches, and morning walks will be organized among students in various schools and colleges. People will be made aware of child marriage, cyber fraud, drugs, witch-hunting, and child labor. Women, the disabled, ST/SC, and the elderly will also be assisted. He stated that all PLVs will collaborate to complete the work.

As West Asia crisis sends oil and fertiliser prices soaring, fiscal deficit target is difficult to achieve: CEA

New Delhi,(GNS): India's fiscal deficit target of 4.3 per cent for the current financial year may be difficult to achieve, Chief Economic Advisor (CEA) V Anantha Nageswaran warned on Saturday, as surging global energy and fertiliser prices driven by the escalating West Asia crisis pile fresh pressure on the country's finances.

Speaking at the ICPP Growth Conference organised by Ashoka University, Nageswaran said India was facing its "most difficult" energy shock in recent memory, and called on policymakers to build strategic buffers to protect the economy from the widening fallout of the conflict. Since the West Asia war broke out on February 28, crude oil prices have rocketed



to above USD 120 per barrel, a four-year high, up sharply from around USD 73 before hostilities began. The surge has sent ripples across India's import bill, with rising petroleum and fertiliser costs threatening both the fiscal and consumer prices. Nageswaran warned that a below-normal monsoon combined with a pass-

through of higher energy prices could trigger a "potential inflation spike" in the months ahead -- a double blow to households already feeling the pinch at the pump. The CEA also flagged that India's current account deficit (CAD) could climb to over 2 per cent of GDP in the current fiscal year, a sharp deterioration from less than 1 per cent

in FY26 -- underscoring the scale of the external pressure building on the economy. Nageswaran identified four distinct channels through which the West Asia conflict is hitting India -- price and supply shock, trade disruption, sticky logistics costs, and a remittance shock -- cautioning that the crisis was not a passing storm.

"This conflict is going to be with us in some form or another... the military conflict may be over, but the strategic conflict is well and truly alive," he said.

He noted that India imports 60 per cent of its LPG requirements, of which 90 per cent flows through the now-closed Strait of Hormuz, describing it as a "very challenging situation."

The government, he said, was already walking a tightrope -- partially passing through higher energy costs via commercial LPG pricing and export duties on diesel and ATF, while cutting excise duties on petrol and diesel to shield ordinary consumers.

"We are arriving at a modus vivendi with respect to burden-sharing between fiscal policy, inflation, households and oil marketing companies. It has to be a balancing act," Nageswaran said. Despite the headwinds, the CEA struck a note of measured confidence, saying India was better prepared than many peer economies to weather the crisis, owing to the fiscal space created by reducing the deficit ratio to 4.4 per cent of GDP in FY26.

Govt appoints Rohit Jain as RBI Deputy Governor

New Delhi,(GNS): The government has appointed Rohit Jain as Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India for a three-year term. Jain is replacing T Rabi Sankar, whose extended tenure ended on Saturday.



The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved his appointment for a period of three years from the date of joining the post on or after May 3, sources said on Monday.

Jain is currently Executive Director at the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

According to the RBI Act, 1934, the central bank should have four deputy governors, two from within the ranks, one commercial banker and an economist to head the monetary policy department. The other three deputy governors are Swaminathan J, Poonam Gupta and S C Murmu. Rabi Sankar was first appointed Deputy Governor in September 2021 for three years and was given a one-year extension in 2024 and subsequently in 2025.