



The new government in West Bengal will be sworn in on May 9

Kolkata(GNS): Following the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)'s historic victory in West Bengal, preparations for the formation of the new government have intensified, and the date for the swearing-in ceremony has been finalized. BJP State President Samik Bhattacharya has announced that the state's new Chief Minister will be sworn in on May 9th. However, the official announcement of the Chief Minister's name is still pending.

Speaking to the media on Tuesday morning, State President Bhattacharya stated that May 9th holds special significance because it also marks the birth anniversary of Kaviguru Rabindranath Tagore. He further stated that West Bengal has a rich historical and cultural heritage. It is the land of great figures like Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Subhash Chandra Bose, Swami Vivekananda, and Rabindranath. The new government will



work towards restoring the state's dignity and identity.

According to sources, the swearing-in ceremony will be held in Kolkata, in which senior party leaders, workers and a large number of supporters will be present.

Amit Shah becomes the central observer.

Meanwhile, the Parliamentary Board of the Bharatiya Janata Party has appointed Union Home Minister Amit Shah as the central observer for the election of the leader of the party's legislative party in West Bengal. Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi has been appointed as the central co-observer.

Mamata Banerjee said, "I will not resign We did not lose, we were defeated"

The Election Commission is the villain; it colluded with the BJP to steal 100 seats; I was kicked during the counting

Guwahati/Thiruvananthapuram/Puducherry/Chennai(GNS): West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said during a press conference in Kolkata on Tuesday that she will not resign from the post of Chief Minister. "I have not lost," she said. "Therefore, the question of resigning does not arise. I will not go to Raj Bhavan."

Mamata Banerjee said, "An attempt has been made to defeat us. The BJP may officially defeat us through the Election Commission, but morally we have won the election." Mamata Banerjee said, "This is the result of a collusion between the BJP and the Election Commission."

Mamata alleged that the BJP had taken over the counting centers. She said, "They kicked me in the stomach and back and pushed me out."



Raghav Chadha said, "We have police from 21 states"

The Chief Minister said, "How is this possible in Punjab with two BJP MLAs and six Rajya Sabha MPs?" Kejriwal said, "The Modi government will fall in February"

Chandigarh/New Delhi(GNS):Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann met with President Draupadi Murmu in New Delhi on Tuesday to protest the decision of six Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) MPs to leave the party and join the BJP. Following this, Chief Minister Mann said, "I told the President that the entire party can merge with another party with a two-thirds majority; this arbitrary decision will not be tolerated if only six or seven members of one house say so."

This is a mockery of democracy. I pointed out that the BJP has two MLAs in Punjab and now has six Rajya Sabha MPs, a mockery of the Constitution. I demanded a constitutional amendment to grant the right to recall. Mann arrived in Delhi that morning with 90 MLAs in three Volvo buses.

MPs Raghav Chadha, Ashok Mittal, and Sandeep Pathak, who left AAP before Mann, met with the President. They accused the party of misusing the Punjab government machinery to target them after leaving the party. Chadha said that AAP is burning with the fire of revenge. Those who accuse others of corruption from morning till evening are themselves practicing vengeance.

Supreme Court says PIL has become money interest litigation

Lawyers file petition in Sabarimala case; judge says work for your people

New Delhi(GNS):The Supreme Court on Tuesday said that public interest litigation has now become private interest and publicity interest, money interest litigation and political interest litigation. The nine-judge Constitution bench made this remark while hearing petitions related to the Sabarimala temple in Kerala.

The court questioned the motive behind the 2006 PIL



filed by the Indian Young Lawyers Association, which challenged the ban on entry of women aged 10 to 50 years into the Sabarimala temple in Kerala.

The court said that PIL is a misuse of the legal process and instead of filing such PIL, the association should work for the welfare of the bar and its young members. The Supreme Court is hearing the petitions on dis-

crimination against women in religious places and the scope of religious freedom in different religions for the 11th day.

In September 2018, a five-judge Constitution bench, by a 4:1 majority, lifted the ban on entry of women aged 10 to 50 into the Sabarimala Ayyappa temple, declaring the centuries-old Hindu religious practice illegal and unconstitutional.

India is angry over the injuries to three Indians in the UAE:

Modi said, "We will not accept this; Iran attacked an oil port"

Tel Aviv/Tehran/Washington DC(GNS): India has protested the Iranian attack on the oil port in Fujairah, UAE. Three Indian citizens were injured in the attack and are currently receiving treatment.

India has called on all parties to immediately cease violence and refrain from targeting civilians. India also stated that the movement of ships through the Strait of Hormuz should continue unhindered under international law.

Earlier, the UAE claimed it had successfully intercepted 12 Iranian ballistic missiles, three cruise missiles, and four drones. However, Iran has not issued any statement on the matter.

PM Modi also posted about the incident and said that targeting common people and essential infrastructure will not be tolerated.



Iran said - the new route to Hormuz suggested by America is not safe:Iran has said the new sea route at Hormuz, which the US is touting, is unsafe and is full of rocks and shallow, increasing the risk to ships. The US-led Joint Maritime Information Center has advised ships to transit through Oman waters, where a safe zone has been established. But according to Iran's news agency Fars News, two merchant ships trying to travel through this new route have got stuck in the middle.

Thunderstorms and lightning in UP and Bihar caused 31 deaths in 24 hours

● Hail fell in Delhi, 15,000 trees were uprooted in Haryana; temperatures dropped in Rajasthan and Himachal

northern, central, and southern India.

Hailstorms struck Delhi on Tuesday afternoon. In the past 24 hours, thunderstorms and heavy rains lashed Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and northeastern states. Eight people died in Uttar Pradesh due to the storm and rain. A 100-foot-tall brick kiln chimney collapsed in Pilibhit.

Thunderstorms and rain lashed 22 districts in Bihar. Lightning strikes killed 23 people, including seven children. Two women were burned.

New Delhi/Chandigarh /Patna, (GNS):A cyclone forming in northwestern Rajasthan has altered the weather across much of the country. A trough extends from southeast Uttar Pradesh to Tamil Nadu, bringing rain to

Rupee falls again



PM to visit Gujarat on May 11, to inaugurate Sardar Dham-3

Ahmedabad(GNS) Airport on the night of May 10 and stay there overnight. On the morning of May 11, he will depart from Jamnagar for Somnath, where he will participate in the Swabhiman Parv program. After this, he will go directly to Vadodara and inaugurate Sardar Dham-3. This will be the Prime Minister's first visit to Gujarat after the BJP's landslide victory in West Bengal and the



recent major success in the local self-government elections in Gujarat. In this context, the BJP is making elaborate preparations to welcome him. Sardar Dham head Gagji Sutaria stated that Prime Minister Modi will inaugurate Sardar Dham-3. A

crowd of 30,000 to 40,000 people is expected at this event. A road show will also be held from the airport to Sardar Dham to receive greetings from the people. During the event in Vadodara, the Prime Minister will be honored by various Patidar community organizations. He will also be awarded the "Sardar Gaurav Award." The state administration is fully prepared for this important visit of the Prime Minister. To ensure the success of the events in Somnath and Vadodara, a high-level meeting was held in the office of Deputy Chief Minister Harsh Sanghvi, where senior officials discussed security arrangements, traffic management, and the smooth conduct of the event. All departments have been instructed to work in coordination and be fully prepared.

Bengal politics: BJP's journey from zero to the top

Raj Kumar Sinha

West Bengal was ruled for a long time by the Left Front, led by Jyoti Basu and Buddhadeb Bhattacharya, from 1977 to 2011. This nearly 34-year Left Front rule profoundly influenced the state's political culture. During this period, the BJP's influence was virtually negligible. In 2011, the Trinamool Congress (TMC) under Mamata Banerjee came to power, marking the end of Left rule. During these fifteen years, the TMC virtually eliminated the Left parties. This made the BJP the only option for the "anti-TMC vote." Thus, the BJP's rise is linked to filling a political vacuum. After the 2014 Lok Sabha elections, the BJP, under the leadership of Narendra Modi, began expanding

nationally. The BJP also increased its organizational strength in West Bengal. While the BJP had limited success in 2014, it made a significant jump by winning 18 seats in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections and demonstrated its intentions by winning 77 seats in 2021. The BJP's vote share also increased rapidly. Many TMC leaders joined the BJP, and the party built its organization down to the booth level. The BJP accused the TMC of "Muslim appeasement." This polarized Hindu votes, creating a political opportunity for the BJP. In 2021, the BJP campaigned vigorously, but the TMC won a landslide victory. This was primarily due to Mamata Banerjee's strong personal image and her portrayal as the "daughter of Bengal." The BJP was portrayed as an "out-

sider," leading to a dominant "Bengal versus outsider" narrative. Schemes like Kanyashree, Rupashree, and Swasthya Sathi led to TMC receiving significant support from women. The 2024 Lok Sabha elections saw a close contest between the BJP and TMC, but the TMC maintained its hold. The question often arises: did Mamata Banerjee's policies allow the BJP to gain ground in West Bengal? Mamata Banerjee has a long and significant history of working closely with the Bharatiya Janata Party. After separating from the Congress, Mamata Banerjee formed the TMC on January 1, 1998. That same year, she formed an alliance with the BJP to form a strong front against the Left Front in West Bengal. After the 1999 Lok Sabha elections, the TMC also

became part of the NDA, and Mamata Banerjee was appointed Railway Minister in the central government. She held this position until 2001. Following the Tehelka defense deal revelations in 2001, she broke ties with the NDA and resigned. However, in 2003, she rejoined the NDA and held the Coal and Mines portfolios in the Vajpayee government until the 2004 Lok Sabha elections. The TMC and BJP also contested the 2004 Lok Sabha elections and the 2006 Bengal Assembly elections in alliance. After the defeat in the 2006 assembly elections, Mamata Banerjee gradually distanced herself from the BJP and later formed an alliance with the Congress to win power in Bengal in 2011, after which she and the BJP parted ways. Mamata Banerjee's alliance

with the BJP helped establish herself as a major leader in Bengal. Violence and fear have long been a decisive factor in Bengal's electoral politics. This time, the Election Commission of India attempted to make the voting process more controlled and independent by deploying an unprecedented 250,000 central paramilitary forces. As a result, the so-called "local influence" and fear-mongering, which had previously been considered decisive in many areas, were largely neutralized, and the true public opinion emerged more clearly. This election shifted the perception that identity politics, Bengali identity, or aggressive street protests alone are not enough to retain power. If the people lack employment, security, and transparent governance, they will change the government.

Editorial

The mandate of five states!

What direction does it indicate for the country?

"Not a wave, but a sign of a trend."

Just as the saying goes, "All fingers are not equal," the recent elections in five states also differed from each other in social, economic, geographical, and political terms. Therefore, it is neither appropriate nor scientific to weigh the results of all states on the same scale. My assessment presented in the previous article did not prove entirely correct—for this I apologize to the readers. However, my assessment of the Bharatiya Janata Party's vote share, territorial expansion, and increase in influence in these elections compared to previous elections proved correct.

Exit polls—how many are 'exact' (correct)?

These elections once again proved that exit polls can give some "indications" but are not completely "true".

Tamil Nadu: The knock of change.

The biggest upset occurred in Tamil Nadu, where superstar Thalapaty Vijay's new party, Tamilaga Vetri Kazhagam (TVK), formed just two years and two months ago, proved both its name (Vijay) meaningful by emerging as the largest party in the first election and coming very close to victory. TVK stands for "Victory of Tamils" (Victory Organization). There's also a strong possibility of forming a coalition government with the Congress party in the future. Among all the survey agencies, the prestigious Axis My India, which has produced the most successful results, had predicted 98 to 120 seats, while the Poll of Polls had predicted only 10 to 40 seats. Axis My India deserves praise for its reach. However, even more famous film stars like Kamal Haasan and Rajinikanth have failed in electoral politics.

The Asom Gana Parishad (AGP), founded by Assam Movement leader AASU, set a new world record by forming the first regional party government in Assam with the fastest majority within just two months of its formation in October 1985. Previously, in 1982, Andhra Pradesh film star N.T. Rama Rao, after forming a new party, contested the assembly elections in just nine months and won a landslide victory, securing 201 out of 294 seats.

Is the Election Commission's credibility in jeopardy?

Sanat Jain

Following the West Bengal Assembly election results, serious questions have been raised about the impartiality and transparency of the Election Commission of India, a crucial pillar of the country's democratic system. Political parties, particularly the Trinamool Congress, have not accepted the election results. This time, the issue wasn't limited to political accusations and counter-accusations. Doubts about the Commission's credibility have deepened among the general public as well. Among the controversies that have emerged over the Election Commissioner's working methods over the past two years, the most prominent concern is the issue of "confidentiality." Previously, the Election Commission used to make all election arrangements in consultation with all political parties. All information, from voter lists to voting, was made available online. However, in the last few years, especially since Rajiv Kumar became Election Commissioner, these arrangements have changed. This has led to growing suspicion about the Election Commission. Instead of making information related to voter lists, voter turnout, and vote counts public, it is being kept confidential. This has cast doubt on the Election Commission's transparency and credibility. In a democracy, the right to information is a fundamental right of citizens. When all information is being brought under the ambit of confidentiality in a sensitive process like elections, doubts naturally arise.

Additionally, the Election Commission is repeatedly amending rules, a power vested

in Parliament, not the Election Commission. This deepens suspicion. The Election Commission's arbitrary actions begin after the election notification is issued, with different rules for states with a double-engine government and different rules for states with opposition parties other than the central government. Controversies have also arisen regarding the appointment of officials and the SIR. The Election Commission's responsibility is not only to conduct elections, but also to ensure that all parties have equal opportunities and are treated fairly and equitably during the election. The massive deployment of lakhs of paramilitary forces in the West Bengal elections this time became a matter of serious controversy. Officials from BJP-ruled states were deployed extensively, citing security as necessary. Opposition parties viewed this as collusion by the Election Commission to achieve the desired outcome. The Election Commission acted promptly on the BJP's complaints, but the Election Commission did not take any cognizance of the opposition parties' complaints regarding violations of the Model Code of Conduct. This allegation is being consistently leveled by all opposition parties, including the TMC. Political parties have repeatedly accused the Election Commissioner of irregularities in the state assembly elections in Maharashtra, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. The Election Commission has neither provided any clarification nor conducted an investigation, nor provided any appropriate response to the opposition. These issues are now beginning to influence the public's perception of the

Election Commission's impartiality.

What is the reason that the Election Commission wants to hide and keep all information confidential? West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee tried to seek justice by raising this issue in the High Court and the Supreme Court, but the Supreme Court stated that the Election Commission has special powers and will not interfere in such a situation. Consequently, the issue is gaining momentum. It has now spread beyond political parties and reached the general public. Whether this perception is correct or not, if the public becomes convinced that the elections were not fair, it could lead to a strong reaction. This is a very dangerous sign for democracy. The matter of the Election Commissioners' Appointment Act has been pending in the Supreme Court for the past two years. The Supreme Court has not yet heard this petition. The Election Commission and SIR case has been heard for the past 10 months, but no final decision has yet been reached. Opinions differ on whether the SIR is constitutional or not. Meanwhile, elections are being held. So far, the names of more than 50 million voters have been deleted from the electoral rolls. The Election Commission does not have this authority. Despite this, the Supreme Court is not providing justice, and this is now sparking strong public reaction. When the Election Commissioner's appointment process itself is controversial, it's natural to doubt the impartiality of their decisions. However, it is equally important that the Election Commission has successfully conducted elections under many

complex circumstances in the past and has international credibility. In the current circumstances, the Election Commission's efforts to increase transparency, make all election-related information public, and ensure a fair and equitable election process have become essential for both the Election Commission and the judiciary. If an impeachment motion against the Election Commissioner is introduced in Parliament, it is a very serious matter. It is a different matter that both houses rejected the impeachment motion. This did not eliminate the allegations of collusion, but rather led to the perception that the Election Commission was acting at the behest of the central government and was protected by the government and a political party. If faith in the Constitution and democracy in India is to be maintained, the Election Commission must reaffirm its credibility. The Election Commission is not merely an institution; it represents the spirit of democracy and upholds the freedom of citizens. When questions are raised about its impartiality, it becomes a major crisis not just for one institution, but for the entire democratic structure. Its impact has already been seen in neighboring countries like Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, and others. The need of the hour is for the Election Commission to face challenges and resolve them with accountability. Public trust in the Election Commission must be restored. The judiciary will also need to understand its responsibilities. Given the judiciary's role in the past 10 months, it is believed that the Election Commission is receiving indirect support from the judiciary.

Echoes of Silence: When Thoughts Stop

Sunil Kumar Mahala

This morning, I read a thought: If you want to fast, do it from your thoughts. If fasting would please God, the poor would be the happiest. Thoughts are truly important in a person's life. Readers know that thoughts are the mental feelings, perceptions, or thoughts that arise in our minds and reflect our reactions to any subject, situation, or experience. Simply put, whatever we think is called a thought. It wouldn't be wrong to say that positive thoughts help us move forward, find solutions to problems, and maintain enthusiasm in life. On the other hand, negative

thoughts can lead to stress, fear, and despair. In fact, fasting from thoughts is a deeply psychological issue. Just as we abstain from food for the purification of the body, fasting from thoughts is essential for peace of mind and mental clarity.

Thoughts constantly flow through every person's mind. One thought comes, then another, then a third, and this cycle continues unabated. Even when a person is resting, relaxing, or even asleep, the flow of thoughts continues; it never ceases. Fasting from thoughts brings peace to the mind. In fact, when we fast from negative thoughts, we experience inner emptiness and peace,

which is the true path to connecting with God. One becomes self-controlled. It would not be wrong to say that fasting from thoughts not only brings mental peace but also greatly helps improve one's physical health. When we fast from thoughts, we are able to overcome negative thoughts, negative energy, anxiety, fear, and failure. Fasting from thoughts simply means that we free our mind from negative, useless, and harmful thoughts. When we fast from thoughts, we become meditative. Our stress and depression decrease, and we pave the way for the divine. Our self-control increases. In fact, thoughts have a profound impact on a

person's personality, behavior, and decisions. Our behavior and life become shaped by what we think. That's why it's said, "Change your thoughts, and your life will change."

However, it's impossible to stop thoughts. Thoughts constantly wander in the mind. The mind's nature is to think constantly. But fasting from thoughts is possible. Now the question arises: how do we fast from thoughts? For this, it's essential to meditate. Take some time for ourselves and sit quietly in a quiet place for a few minutes, concentrating on our breathing. Today is the age of the communication revolution, and we are constantly preoccupied with Android smart-

phones, laptops, the internet, and AI. We have no time for ourselves. To fast from thoughts, it's essential to distance ourselves from gadgets like mobile phones and laptops. Or rather, in today's times, digital distancing is a necessary element for fasting from thoughts. We need to take breaks from constant mobile phones and news. We live amidst an explosion of information. Constantly thinking, analyzing, or worrying about something exhausts the brain. Fasting from thoughts frees us from this noise pollution and introduces us to the power of silence. Digital detox is crucial and essential. We should completely stay away from our

phones, laptops, and TV for at least an hour a day.

Stopping external information is the first step to stopping thoughts. If thoughts are too disturbing, write them down on paper. This lightens the burden on the mind and makes the brain feel like it has completed its task. Our choices should be positive. For example, we should choose what to read, watch, and listen to thoughtfully. We should self-observe and observe our thoughts, but not get entangled in them. Remember that when we simply observe thoughts as they come and go, without getting entangled in them, the mind begins to calm down.

CM Rekha reviews summer water mgmt, issues directions

New Delhi(GNS): Chief Minister Rekha Gupta on Monday chaired a high-level review meeting at the Secretariat to assess the Capital's preparedness for peak summer water demand, directing officials to ensure uninterrupted supply and warning of strict action against any negligence.

Emphasising both immediate relief and long-term solutions, the CM said the government is working to address Delhi's recurring water shortages in a sustained manner. "We're not just offering short-term relief, but working to end Delhi's water crisis for good," she said, adding that ensuring clean and adequate water for every citizen remains a top priority. The meeting, attended by



Water Minister Parvesh Verma, Chief Secretary Rajiv Verma and senior officials of the Delhi Jal Board, reviewed the functioning of key infrastructure. All major water treatment plants, including Sonia Vihar, Bhagirathi, Chandrawal, Wazirabad, Haiderpur, Nangloi, Okhla, Bawana and Dwarka, have been directed to operate at peak capacity.

Coordination with Haryana is also being maintained to monitor ammonia levels in raw water.

Officials said the government has ramped up resources ahead of summer, increasing operational tubewells from 5,834 to 6,200 and deploying 1,210 water tankers, with an additional 100 kept on standby. Fixed supply points have also been expanded significantly, while areas prone to shortages such as Sangam Vihar, Matiala, Chhatarpur, Tughlakabad, Palam, Bijwasan, Deoli and Bawana are receiving targeted attention. To strengthen grievance redressal, 24x7 helplines and a central control room have been activated, along with chatbot-based systems and PPP-

mode call centres. As many as 28 water emergency centres have been set up across the city to ensure swift response to supply issues.

As per the CM, city residents can dial 1916 and 1800117118 to lodge complaints, which will be directly forwarded to the concerned junior engineer, with officials ensuring 100 per cent feedback on each grievance.

The CM also reviewed long-term measures, including the commissioning of a second 50 MGD water treatment plant in Dwarka and a 2 MGD recycling plant at Bawana. Infrastructure upgrades such as replacement of 172 km of old pipelines, installation of 520 new tubewells and leak detection drives are underway to improve overall efficiency of the system.

Club staff assault man in Gurugram, snatch Rs 80K

New Delhi(GNS): A club employee and bouncers allegedly assaulted a young man and snatched ₹80,000 from him. The police have registered a case on the victim's complaint and launched an investigation. A CCTV video of the incident has surfaced. According to the complaint filed by Harshit Bahirwani, a resident of DLF Phase 3, he visited Para Club on May 2 and was carrying about ₹80,000 in cash. When he tried to protect his money, around six staff members allegedly assaulted him and forcibly threw him out of the club. CCTV footage shows the complainant arguing at the counter.



In anger, he tears the bill and throws it at the manager. Bouncers then escort him away, where another argument and scuffle ensue.

The police said the CCTV footage and evidence so far do not confirm robbery or snatching of ₹80,000. However, the probe found that club

staff were involved in a scuffle and that the club was operating beyond permitted hours, violating government orders. "We are questioning the management and staff," said ASI Pradeep Kumar, the investigating officer. Meanwhile, Para Club owner Jogendra Singh said the complainant was a regular customer. He claimed the club was closed at the time and the man was not served alcohol, which angered him. "He was drunk. No one assaulted him. We escorted him outside," he said.

Thunderstorm cools Delhi, improves air quality; flights disrupted

New Delhi(GNS): A thunderstorm triggered by a western disturbance swept across Delhi late on Sunday night, bringing strong winds and scattered rain that disrupted flight operations but sharply improved air quality and weather conditions. Wind speeds touched up to 70 kmph between 11.30 pm and 12.30 am, forcing the diversion of 24 flights from Indira Gandhi International Airport. The storm brought a marked drop in temperatures, with the maximum at Safdarjung, the city's base station, settling at 32.2 degrees Celsius - seven degrees below normal - providing relief after days of heat. India Meteorological Department (IMD) issued a red alert for most parts of the city till 1.30 am, while a separate orange alert was sounded for southeast Delhi. Strong winds preceded brief spells of rain, which continued into the morning hours. IMD has forecast more rain late on Monday night and in the early hours of Tuesday, with thundery activity likely on Wednesday. Temperatures are expected to rise again towards the weekend.

The storm also led to a sharp improvement in air quality, with the Air Quality Index (AQI) dropping to 88, placing it in the 'satisfactory' category. This was among the cleanest air days since Oct 8 last year, when the AQI stood at 80, and the best reading for May in three years. A day earlier, the AQI was 175, categorised as 'moderate'.

Following the improvement, the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) lifted Stage 1 measures of the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP), which has been in force since April 16. "The AQI of Delhi has shown significant improvement owing to rain and favourable meteorological conditions. Further, the forecast by IMD and IITM indicates that the AQI is likely to remain between 'satisfactory' and 'moderate' in the coming days," CAQM said. Stage 1 includes preventive steps such as water sprinkling and anti-pollution drives, without imposing curbs. Meteorologists attributed the sudden change in weather to a cyclonic circulation over Rajasthan moving south of Delhi. "As is typical of pre-monsoon activity, rain is expected late at night or in the early hours, with sunshine returning by noon," said Mahesh Palawat of Skymet.

2-yr-old girl falls into open drain, dies

New Delhi(GNS): A two-year-old girl died after falling into an open drain in north Delhi's Mukundpur on Sunday. Family members and locals briefly blocked a road, alleging negligence on the part of authorities and demanding action against errant govt officials.

The child, Asvi Kesari, had stepped out to play in front of her house around 11 am when she suddenly went missing. A search began immediately, with relatives and neighbours combing the area for hours. With no trace of the child, suspicion grew that she might have fallen into the uncovered drain that runs outside a row



of houses along Mukundpur Ram Janaki Path in Ishu Vihar. It was only in the afternoon that the child was found trapped in thick sludge in the drain. She was rushed to a nearby govt hospital where doctors declared her dead. Residents alleged that the drain was left open following

some work by the flood control department. "Its cover was removed three to four days ago and was never put back. This is sheer negligence," a local said, claiming that similar accidents occurred at the same spot earlier as well, and some people were rescued on time.

Vivek Singh, a neighbour and relative of Asvi, said, "The drain is at least four feet deep. Adults manage to climb out if they slip in the sludge and muck around it and fall, but for a child, it can be disastrous, especially since no one saw her fall into it."

Asvi's father owns a small grocery shop, while her mother is a homemaker. She was

their only child. Her family members were inconsolable after the accident.

The death sparked anger among the locals. They called it a "glaring case of negligence" and demanded that strict action be taken against officials of the department. They claimed repeated warnings about the open drain went unheeded.

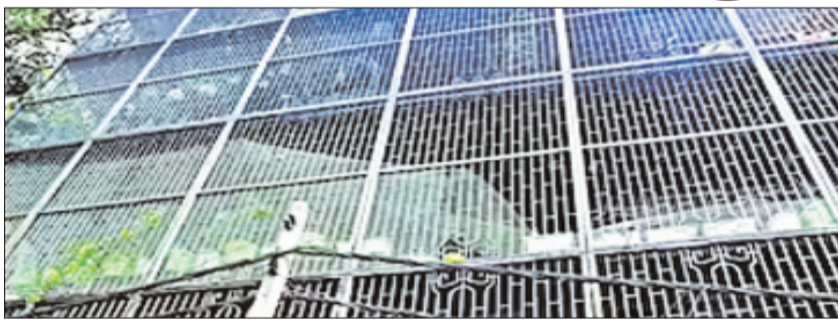
Last year in Aug, an eight-year-old boy died after falling into an open drain in Delhi's Najafgarh area while chasing a kite with his friends. In May, a three-year-old boy drowned in another open drain while playing outside his house in north-east Delhi's Khajuri Khas.

Residents grapple with trauma, unsure of returning

New Delhi(GNS): Sunday's blaze may have providentially spared their flats in the same building, but left them traumatised, so much so that many of them are unsure of returning home.

Punit Kumar Jain, whose first-floor flat is intact, broke down in front of Media on Monday. "Naveen (Jain) ran up to our door and rang our bell, after which all of us rushed out. Had he not done that despite having suffered burn injuries, we would have lost our lives," he said. As the 68-year-old teared up looking at the charred walls of the building, his wife, Rani Jain, tried to console him, "At least we managed to make it out alive. Shukr maante hai ki jaan bach gayi."

Punit's family of six, including an eight-year-old, is staying with relatives in Shiv Vihar for



now. Uncertainty looms over their next steps. "We are not sure if we want to return," he said. The hexagenarian was seen waiting on the ground floor, where a heap of salvaged belongings of the residents lay scattered - mattresses, bags and sacks stuffed with clothes. Rani, meanwhile, had made her way upstairs with her daughter-in-law, both using torches to navigate the dark interiors. For several families whose flats have been partially

damaged, the immediate challenge is to rebuild. One of them, whose walls have turned black with soot, said he is trying to decide his next steps before returning, though he hopes to move back soon.

Throughout Monday, families shuffled in and out of the building, taking turns to retrieve whatever they could. Punit and a relative were seen carrying tiffin boxes and other essentials to their temporary shelter in Shiv Vihar.

MCD chief reviews works at Civil Lines

New Delhi(GNS): Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) Commissioner Sanjeev Khirwar on Monday conducted a detailed inspection of the Civil Lines Zone to review ongoing development works and assess preparedness for the upcoming monsoon, directing officials to expedite projects while maintaining quality standards. Accompanied by area MLA Surya Prakash Khatri and senior civic officials, the Commissioner visited multiple sites, including BD Estate in Timarpur, where works under the Chief Minister Development Fund are underway. He reviewed the progress of road construction and instructed officials to speed up execution without compromising on quality, stressing the need for close



supervision to minimise inconvenience to residents.

With the monsoon season approaching, Khirwar inspected key pump houses at Hakikat Nagar and Mukherjee Nagar to evaluate waterlogging preparedness. He directed departments to ensure all equipment is fully functional and preventive measures are put in place well in advance.

From Delhi to TN: How Vijay drew voters south



New Delhi(GNS): "When Vijay asked people to come and vote, we took it seriously and went," said a resident of Trilokpuri, capturing the unusual enthusiasm around the actor's political debut in Tamil Nadu.

In a stunning first outing, Vijay's Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK) on Monday surged ahead in the state assembly elections, challenging the long-standing dominance of Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) and All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK). At the time of

towering screen icon in the league of Rajinikanth, Vijay's appeal appears to have translated into votes on an unprecedented scale. In east Delhi, migrant voters with roots in TN turned the election into a cross-country exercise. Families spent their own money, booked tickets weeks in advance and travelled nearly 48 hours by train to cast their votes. Some even flew when trains were unavailable. A few made quick turn-arounds, voting one day

going to press, trends showed the party had won or was leading in over 100 seats, inching close to the 118-seat majority mark to record a historic victory. Seen by supporters as a

WESTERN RAILWAY
Tender Notice
Sr.DEE/TRD/NS/BC/Tinvtives TENDER NO: EL-TRD-W-118-26-27-2 dated 04/05/2026. Name of work: OHE modification work in connection with provision of new goods line with platform on south of existing Goods Shed in Karembeile station in Virar-Surat section of Mumbai Division. Approx. Cost of the work: ₹ 1,56,67,690.00/- EMD: ₹ 3,13,400.00/- Submission of Tender on or before: 29/05/2026 up to 15:00 hours. Opening of Tender: 29/05/2026 up to 15:30 hours. For further details please visit our website www.irps.gov.in 0072

WESTERN RAILWAY
VARIOUS WORKS
Dy. Chief Signal & Telecom Engineer (Construction) Western Railway, Ratlam. Invites Tender No: S&T/C/RTM/121/2026-27. Name of Work: Design, Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Telecommunications equipment along with associated work in connection with Multi-Disciplinary Zonal Training Institute at Ujain of Ratlam Division, Western Railway. Estimated Cost of Work: ₹ 2,56,07,263/- Cost of Earnest Money: ₹ 5,12,200/- Bidding Start Date: 08.05.2026. Closing Date & Time: On 22.05.2026 at 15:00 hrs. For further details please visit our website www.irps.gov.in 0083

WESTERN RAILWAY
CONSTRUCTION WORKS
Deputy Chief Engineer (Construction)-I, Western Railway, Indore (MP) invites Tender No: IND-DyCE-C-I-ROB-6 Nos. Name of Work: Construction of 2 lane Road Over Bridge in lieu of Level Crossings no. 226 & 85 (Railway & approach) and LC 108, 243, 50 & 31 (Railway portion) on foundation, substructure & Super structure, Girders work including approaches using PSC Girders on Viaduct, Return wall, earthwork, Roadwork & other miscellaneous works under the jurisdiction of CE-CIV-CCG of Ratlam Division Western Railway. Approx. Cost: ₹ 148,32,48,498.49. EMD: ₹ 9,36,53,300/- Date & Time of Submission of Tender: Upto 15:00 Hrs. on 09.06.2026. Date of Opening of Tender: On 09.06.2026 at 15:30 Hrs. Complete details of tender including eligibility criteria are available on E-Tender portal www.irps.gov.in and at the Notice Board in the office of Deputy Chief Engineer (Construction)-I, Western Railway, Indore, opposite Platform No. 1, Indore. 0085

CM checks summer water supply plan

New Delhi(GNS): Chief minister Rekha Gupta on Monday said coordination with neighbouring Haryana was being maintained to monitor ammonia levels in raw water, ensuring uninterrupted functioning of treatment plants.

The areas facing water shortage have also been identified and targeted arrangements have been made to bridge the gap, she added. After holding a review meeting at the secretariat along with minister Parvesh Verma and senior officials to assess the city's water management plan for summer, Gupta said, "The meeting took stock of the progress of key water-related projects and officials have been asked to ensure there is no lapse in supply or response during peak demand."

She said every complaint must be addressed promptly and warned that negligence would invite strict action. "Our focus is not limited to immediate relief. We are simultaneously working on long-term solutions to free Delhi from recurring drinking water shortages." CM said govt had

tightened monitoring at every level to maintain a smooth and balanced supply. All major water treatment plants, Sonia Vihar, Bhagirathi, Chandrawal, Wazirabad, Haiderpur, Nangloi, Okhla, Bawana and Dwarka, have been directed to operate at peak capacity. The number of operational tubewells has been increased from 5,834 to 6,200, and water tankers from 1,166 to 1,210, with 100 more on standby. Fixed supply points have gone up from 8,700 to 13,000, and filling hydrants from 198 to 202. The deployment of tankers has been tailored constituency-wise, with high-demand areas such as Sangam Vihar, Matiala, Chhatarpur, Deoli, Tughlaqabad, Palam, Bijwasan and Bawana receiving special attention. The grievance redressal system has been reinforced with 24x7 helplines 1916 and 1800117118. Complaints are routed directly to the junior engineer concerned. A central control room and chatbot-based system have also been introduced, alongside PPP-mode call centres in several areas.

CM hails 'historic mandate', says 'politics of fear, corruption rejected'

New Delhi(GNS): Chief minister Rekha Gupta Monday welcomed BJP's sweeping victories in the assembly elections in West Bengal and Assam, calling the results "a clear endorsement of public trust and welfare-driven policies" under PM Modi. "Under PM's leadership, every state in the country is turning saffron. Not just Assam's hat-trick victory, BJP govt has also come to power in Bengal, which has delivered a historic mandate, sweeping and decisive. A clear rejection of corruption, fear and appeasement politics. This is a mandate for BJP, for seva, sushasan and vikas," CM said.

Gupta, who addressed several back-to-back election rallies and held roadshows in Bengal during the campaign, said, "Central govt's development agenda will now benefit West Bengal too. The state is poised to move forward on a rapid growth trajectory, much like Delhi."



Along with her cabinet colleagues Ashish Sood, Parvesh Verma, Kapil Mishra, Manjinder Singh Sirsa, CM celebrated the victory at Delhi

Secretariat, where the occasion was marked by a light-hearted exchange of traditional Bengali snacks such as jhalmuri and rasogulla. Gupta expressed

confidence that people across the country will continue to back development, stability and good governance in the years ahead.

Calling the verdict more than just a political win, CM said it reflects a broader shift in public sentiment. "Voters have moved beyond empty slogans, divisive narratives and hollow claims of secularism, and are instead choosing to prioritise tangible development, transparency and results-oriented governance. Significant improvements in infrastructure, connectivity and employment opportunities, from the Northeast to eastern India, are reflected in the election results," said Gupta. Referring to West Bengal, CM alleged several central schemes had not been fully implemented by the state govt. "With the new mandate, citizens would now be able to benefit directly from these policies, leading to a tangible improvement in their quality of life," she said.

Mayor office gets bomb threat



New Delhi(GNS): The office of Delhi Mayor Praveesh Wahli received a bomb threat via email on Monday morning, prompting an immediate security response and a thorough inspection of the premises by the police.

According to officials, the Mayor's Office received an email around 9.19 am from an unidentified sender, warning of a bomb explosion at 3.11 pm. The threat was taken seriously and promptly reported to the Delhi Police.

Police teams reached the site and conducted a search operation across the premises. Officials said all sensitive areas were thoroughly checked as part of standard security protocol. No suspicious object was found during the inspection, and the situation was brought under control. This is not the first such incident. The Mayor's Office received a similar bomb threat email on April 1, raising concerns over repeated attempts to disrupt civic functioning.

SRCC celebrates founding spirit in centenary year

New Delhi(GNS): Continuing its centenary celebrations, Shri Ram College of Commerce (SRCC) commemorated Founder's Day last week, celebrating the founder's birth anniversary. The evening featured a play by alumnus Atul Satya Koushik at Shridhar Sriram Auditorium, followed by commemorative honours marking the milestone year.

'Heads turn when I say I'm SRCC graduate': Theatre director Atul Satya Koushik, batch of 2006, brought his play Prem Ramayan to the stage with its emotionally charged performances and layered messaging. Narrating the play himself, he said, "This is a different kind



of play, an attempt to present the hidden, small love stories in the Ramayan with a new perspective. I have read them sitting in the Xerox lawns here. All these stories and poems have been with me for the last 20 years, whatever little name I have earned today

goes to this college." Talking about SRCC's impact on his journey, he said, "Aaj bhavuk hoon kyunki aaj se theek 20 saal pehle yaani 2006 mein main iss college se pass out hua. Teen saal daba kar theatre kiya. Yahan ka jo dramatics club hai uska main

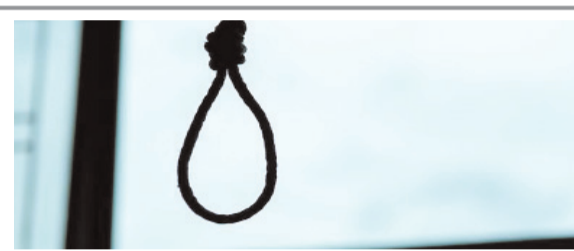
part tha teeno saal. I must say, jahan bhi apne parishay mein sabse pehle maine yeh baat kahi that I'm a graduate from SRCC, heads did turn."

'Started as a school with 12 students': The college also received a commemorative postal stamp, marking its centenary, issued by India Post along with a centenary medallion. Ajay S Shriram, chairman of SRCC's governing body, reflected on the institution's origins and founding vision, "Over a hundred years ago, on Basant Panchami in 1920, what began humbly in Daryaganj with 12 students and four teachers was driven by a simple yet powerful belief that education must serve society and that knowledge

must be accompanied by character. That belief remains the enduring force behind SRCC even today."

Learning does not end with degrees': Speaking on guiding values such as learning, leadership, relationships and values, Ajay S Shriram drew from the life of founder Shri Ram to underline their continued relevance. "SRCC itself was founded on the idea that learning must be continuous, relevant and purposeful, as Sir Shri Ram believed learning does not end with degrees," he said.

Simrit Kaur, principal of SRCC, said in her vote of thanks, "Ek gaana yaad aata hai ki kabhi kabhi mujhe yeh khayal aata hai.



43-year-old shop owner ends his life in Faridabad

New Delhi(GNS): A shopkeeper in the Ballabgarh main market in Faridabad committed suicide by hanging himself on the third floor of his house. A suicide note was recovered in which he accused a neighbouring shopkeeper of insulting him.

According to the police, the deceased was identified as Ravinder Mittal (43), a resident of Ballabgarh. On Saturday night, he was going to a Jagran with his son Piyush. On the way, Mittal had a dispute with Praveen Bansal over committee funds. His son accused Praveen of insulting his father in a crowded market. On Sunday, Mittal committed suicide. In his suicide note, Ravindra also blamed Praveen for his death. The police have registered a case and are investigating. The accused, Praveen Bansal, owns a garment shop in the market.

BJP MLA appointed chairperson of Delhi Homoeopathy Board

New Delhi(GNS): Delhi govt has established the Board of Homeopathic System of Medicine to strengthen policymaking and promote alternative medicine in the capital. The board will be chaired by Dr Anil Goyal who is the BJP MLA from Krishna Nagar constituency in east Delhi.

"In exercise of powers conferred under sub-section (2) of Section 3 of the Delhi Homoeopathic Act, 1956 (Delhi Act No 11 of 1956) read with the Delhi Homoeopathic (Amendment) Act 1996 (Delhi Act no 11 of 1996), the Lt. governor of Delhi is pleased to establish the Board of Homoeopathic System of Medicine, Delhi," said a notification issued by the govt. The board of homoeopathic medicine is a statutory body constituted under the provisions of Delhi Homoeopathic Act, 1956, and it plays a key role in regulating and promoting the practice of homoeopathy in the city. Entrusted with the responsibility of ensuring professional standards, the Board deals with the registration of qualified homoeopathic practitioners and maintains the official State Register of Homoeopathic Practitioners.

NCLAT dismisses Vedanta's pleas against Adani group's selection for JAL

New Delhi(GNS): National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) on Monday dismissed the two petitions filed by Vedanta Ltd challenging Adani Enterprises' selection for debt-ridden Jaiprakash Associates Ltd (JAL). A two-member bench comprising chairperson Ashok Bhushan and member (technical) Barun Mitra said, "No grounds have been made out by the appellant (Vedanta) to interfere with the decision of the adjudicating authority (NCLT)... Both appeals are dismissed." The tribunal said the committee of creditors' (CoC) decision was based on the "overall consideration of the respective resolution plan and was taken in its commercial wisdom... (There was) no material irregularity committed by resolution professional while conducting the plan resolution process." Dismissing Vedanta's plea questioning the evaluation metrics, NCLAT said the "decision of CoC not approving the resolution plan of the appellant with a higher plan value of Rs 3,400 crore and NPV (net present value) of Rs 500 crore as compared to plan of respondent No 3 (Adani) cannot be said to be arbitrary or perverse".

NEET scam: 18 aspirants rescued in Delhi-NCR, doctor among four held

New Delhi(GNS): The Crime branch has busted a syndicate that allegedly duped NEET aspirants and took Rs 20-30 lakh each from their guardians by promising guaranteed MBBS admissions. A doctor, the alleged kingpin, is among the four persons arrested in the case.

The gang had charged the amount as donations for admission under management and other quotas, said police. According to DCP (crime) Sanjeev Kumar Yadav, the raids also resulted in the rescue of 18 students, including minors, who were trapped by the gang and lodged in different hotels in Delhi-NCR.

Police started investigating the scam after receiving a lead from Surat police commissioner Anupam Singh Gahlaut about a mobile number linked to suspicious NEET brokering



activities in Delhi. The exam was scheduled on May 3. "Given the proximity to the exam date, a technical surveillance operation was launched and the number was traced to Mahipalpur Extension, following which a team began an extensive search operation," Yadav said.

Nearly 100 hotels in south-

west Delhi's Mahipalpur were checked before the trail led police to a hotel where four suspects from Gujarat were staying, including Vinod Bhai Bhikha Bhai Patel, identified as a key recruiter.

Complainants present at the spot told police that the accused had already collected large sums, original classes X and XII certificates, and signed blank cheques as "collateral" in exchange for promised medical seats. Investigators learnt that several students had been taken away from their guardians to an undisclosed location on the pretext of being given "important" or leaked exam questions. Police used technical inputs to lay a trap near a hospital in Ghaziabad, where three students were rescued and Santosh Kumar Jaiswal was arrested.

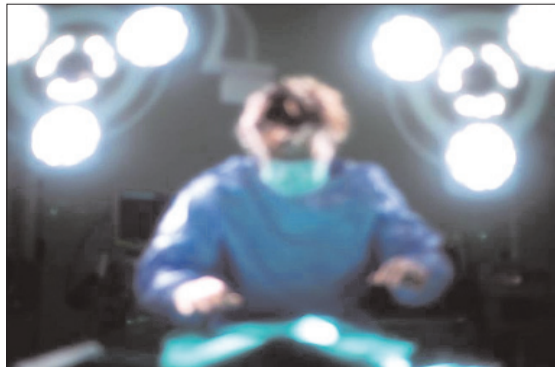
Hidden risk in breath:

Inhalers may complicate spine surgery outcomes

New Delhi(GNS): A new international study of Johns Hopkins University, in collaboration with AIIMS Delhi, has flagged a concern for asthma patients undergoing spine surgery, suggesting that long-term use of inhaled steroids may raise the likelihood of repeat operations after spinal fusion.

The findings, released as part of a multi-centre research effort, focus on patients who regularly use steroid-based inhalers to manage asthma. According to the study, such patients were more than three times as likely to require a second surgery compared to those not using inhaled steroids. Researchers noted that asthma itself did not increase surgical risk. Instead, the pattern pointed clearly towards prolonged inhaler use as a key factor influencing outcomes.

Spinal fusion surgery, com-



monly performed to stabilise the spine, relies heavily on effective bone healing. Doctors involved in the study explained that steroids, even when inhaled, may weaken bone strength over time and slow the healing process. This can increase the chances of complications, including poor fusion and issues related to implants, both of which may lead to repeat procedures.

The study adds to existing medical understanding where the impact of long-term oral steroid use on bone health is already well established.

However, the role of inhaled steroids in affecting surgical recovery has remained less clear until now. Dr Bhavuk Garg, department of orthopaedics, one of the researchers, said the findings call for closer attention before surgery. "In a country like India, where both asthma and osteoporosis are under-recognised, this calls for careful preoperative evaluation and optimisation. This is not about stopping asthma treatment, but about smarter spine care identifying at-risk patients early and optimising bone health before surgery to improve outcomes," he said. The study also reported a higher incidence of complications such as incomplete bone fusion and implant-related problems among patients using inhalers, pointing to possible underlying bone weakness. At the same time, researchers stressed that the results establish a link rather

than a direct cause.

The findings are significant for patients planning spinal procedures, especially in settings where air pollution and an ageing population are increasing the burden of asthma and bone-related condi-

tions. Doctor advises that inhaled steroids should not be discontinued without medical supervision, but that treatment plans may need to be carefully reviewed alongside bone health assessment when surgery is being considered.

HPU students get first-hand exposure to border security

New Delhi(GNS): Students of the Department of Defence and Strategic Studies, Himachal Pradesh University (HPU), Shimla, gained first-hand exposure to high-altitude security and strategic operations during a four-day field visit to the Tibetan border in Kinnaur and Spiti valley in Lahaul and Spiti district. The group comprised 37 students and three faculty members. At Pooh in Kinnaur, the participants received initial briefings before proceeding to Shipki La, where they observed a weapon display and gained insights into operational preparedness along the frontier. The visit also covered Sumdo and Lepcha, where the students witnessed a demonstration of a Quick Reaction Fighting Vehicle, visited a geothermal energy plant and logistics facilities. They participated in two podcasts conducted at Pooh and Lepcha to document border narratives. They also interacted with Brigadier Anurag Pandey, Brigade Commander of the Tripeak Brigade, who shared his views on operational strategy, leadership and the challenges of managing sensitive border sectors.