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SOMNATH
Experience eternal energy

सोमलिङ्गं नरो दृष्ट्वा सर्वपापैः प्रमुच्यते।
लभते फलं मनोवाञ्छितं मृतः स्वर्गं समाश्रयेत्॥



SOMNATH

Virasat Ke 75 Saal



“Somnath is that song of hope which teaches us that the power of creation is far greater than the power of destruction”
– Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi (Chairman, Shri Somnath Trust)

Somnath is a symbol of India's indomitable civilisation
Even after facing destructive attacks for over 1000 years,
Somnath continues to stand tall as an embodiment of our pride and courage
75 years ago, the resolve of the Iron Man Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,
paved the way for the modern Somnath
Today, under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi,
this sacred land proudly heralds India's cultural resurgence
Be a witness to this golden occasion

**“The 75th anniversary of the Somnath Temple's reconstruction,
envisioned by Sardar Patel, is a celebration of the victory of
India's unwavering faith and cultural independence”**
– Shri Harsh Sanghavi, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

- Grand Roadshow of the Hon'ble Prime Minister (9:00 AM)
- A Divine Confluence of Spiritual Music and Dance (9:15 AM)
- Sacred Kumbhabhishek and Mahapuja of Shri Somnath (9:30 AM)
- Spectacular Air Show by the Surya Kiran Aircraft Team (9:30 AM)
- Hon'ble Prime Minister to Address Grand Public Gathering (10:00 AM, Sadbhavana Ground)



Date:
11 May, 2026

Venue:
Shri Somnath Temple Complex,
Prabhas Patan



SCAN HERE

to contribute to the divinity and grandeur of Somnath, and become a part of its glorious history

The rise of Vijay in Tamil Nadu's Dravidian politics

Raj Kumar Sinha

There has been a historic change in the current Tamil Nadu politics. Leaving behind the decades-long dominance of the two parties of Dravidian politics, Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) and All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK), actor-turned-politician Joseph Vijay's party Tamilaga Vetti Kazhagam (TVK) has emerged as the largest party by winning 107 seats in the 234-member assembly. Tamil Nadu Governor Rajendra Arlekar had rejected the claim of Joseph Vijay, president of the Tamilaga Vetti Kazhagam (TVK) party, to form the government.

While TVK founder Joseph Vijay had met Governor Arlekar twice and requested him to invite him to form the government. A petition was also filed in the Supreme Court challenging the Governor's delay in inviting Joseph Vijay to form a government. It is well known that in a parliamentary democracy governed by the Constitution, the question of whether a political party or coalition enjoys a majority can only be determined on the floor of the House. Meanwhile, there were reports of talks between the DMK and AIADMK and attempts to form a government under the leadership of Edappadi Palaniswami, which was contrary to the

mandate. There was also talk of imposing President's rule in Tamil Nadu. The Congress, the Left, and the VCK have extended their support to Vijay's government in Tamil Nadu. The IUML has also announced its unconditional support to the TVK. The support of 118 MLAs required to form a government in Tamil Nadu has now reached 121. This clears the way for the TVK to form a government. Vijay won two assembly seats in this election. However, after becoming Chief Minister, he will have to vacate one seat. TVK emerged as the largest party in the Tamil Nadu Assembly elections, but Joseph Vijay faced significant challenges in forming a government.

However, Rahul Gandhi played a crucial role in resolving these difficulties. TVK Chief Vijay was sworn in as the ninth Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on Sunday. Nine other ministers were also sworn in. The rise of Joseph Vijay's party, TVK, is being considered a significant development in Tamil Nadu politics. It is not merely a film actor's entry into politics, but also a reflection of the state's changing socio-political climate, the aspirations of the youth, and the emerging vacuum within Dravidian politics. Vijay is one of Tamil cinema's most popular stars. His films have often addressed issues such as social justice, anti-corruption, and youth empowerment. His fan net-

work, which had been working in an organized manner for years, has now been transformed into a political structure. TVK has not yet fully aligned itself with any one ideological pole. He seeks to project an "inclusive" image while maintaining Dravidian identity, social justice, and Tamil identity. He has engaged the new generation in Dravidian politics by emphasizing youth employment, transparent system, and good governance. In this election, the AIADMK's vote share fell by approximately 12 percent. This time, the party not only slipped to third place, but also lost its status as the main opposition party. Both the DMK and AIADMK adhere to the prin-

ciples of Periyar and Annadurai, such as social justice, secularism, and opposition to Hindi. Since 1967, only these two parties have formed governments in Tamil Nadu, alternating between them. Both parties have had deep ties to the film industry, where leaders have often been screenwriters or actors. The DMK emerged in 1949. C.N. Annadurai, after disagreeing with some of Periyar's views, formed the DMK, which entered electoral politics. The prominent South Indian actor M.G. Ramachandran, after a dispute with Karunanidhi, broke away from the DMK and formed the AIADMK in 1972. Jayalalitha later took over this party.

Editorial

Unwinnable war: On Donald Trump's 'Operation Project Freedom'

When Donald Trump announced 'Operation Project Freedom', aimed at "guiding" stranded merchant vessels out of the Strait of Hormuz, he warned that any interference from Iran would be dealt with "forcefully". Over the previous weeks, Mr. Trump had issued several ultimatums to Tehran to reopen the waterway, which it closed after the U.S. and Israel launched the war on February 28. As Iran refused to budge, Mr. Trump launched the operation to militarily reopen the strait. But it lasted barely 50 hours. Iran responded by firing at two American destroyers in the strait and attacking a UAE tanker off Oman's coast. The UAE, a close strategic partner of both the U.S. and Israel, also said it was attacked twice. With the ceasefire coming under strain amid hostilities, Mr. Trump, on Wednesday, said he was pausing the operation "at the request of Pakistan". While Mr. Trump continues to make sweeping claims about winning the war, the fact that the Strait of Hormuz remains closed — and that the operation to reopen it did not last even three days — points to a very different reality on the ground. The U.S. not only failed to achieve any of its declared objectives during the 40 days of war, but is now grappling with a crisis created by the war itself — the closure of the strait.

Unlike Mr. Trump, who has made several self-contradictory statements since the war began, Iran has remained consistent in its demands. Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei said last week that Iran would "protect" its missile and nuclear capabilities and continue to exercise control over the Strait of Hormuz. Tehran appears convinced that the war has strengthened its hand and that time is on its side. Mr. Trump has made a series of miscalculations. In the first week of the war, he said he would accept nothing short of Iran's "unconditional surrender". But as the conflict dragged on, he started demanding a deal. Both sides agreed to a ceasefire on April 8, but the U.S., which imposed a blockade on Iranian ports on April 12, failed to exact any meaningful concession from Iran. Contrary to his rhetoric, he holds few strong cards in this war of attrition. If the crisis persists, it will inflict lasting damage on the U.S.

Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj was an inclusive ruler

Ram Puniyani

Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj is Maharashtra's most popular ruler. These days, he is being presented as a prominent Hindu nationalist hero in other parts of the country. His popularity is not limited to any one segment of society; he is beloved by many. His birth anniversary is celebrated with great pomp throughout the state, and folk songs praising him are sung in all parts of the state. Controversies arise because different segments of society interpret his life and deeds differently.

One controversy surrounding him was the appointment of Babasaheb Purandare as the head of the committee formed to install his statue. Many alleged that Purandare was portraying Shivaji in a Brahminist light. Another controversy arose when a history booklet prepared by human rights activist Teesta Setalvad stated that Brahmins refused to crown him because he was not a Kshatriya. A tableau displayed during Ganeshotsav once depicted Shivaji stabbing Afzal Khan with a dagger, which incited hatred among a large section of society.

Two issues are currently being debated. The first is a speech given by Bageshwardham Baba at an RSS event in Nagpur. It's worth noting that this Baba, named Dharendra Krishna Shastri, uses superstitious methods to attract followers. He draws out a slip of paper and, using various tricks, provides people with information about his personal life. His following has grown so much that even former Supreme Court Chief Justice B.R. Gavai visited him with his family to seek his blessings. Anti-superstitious activist Shyam Manav says that since the

BJP came to power at the center, superstition has increased, and various types of Babas are proliferating.

At an RSS event, this fake baba stated that Shivaji Maharaj was tired of fighting wars, so he went to his guru, Samarth Swami Ramdas, placed his crown at his feet, and requested him to take over his empire. This statement contained two major errors. First, Ramdas was not Shivaji's guru. This is a lie spread by Brahminists. The matter even went to court, which ruled that Ramdas was not Shivaji's guru. There is no mention of such an incident in Shivaji's life. This statement was made in the presence of RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat, Union Minister Nitin Gadkari, and Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, and none of them raised any objections.

When the issue erupted, Baba apologized, saying that he drew inspiration from Shivaji's Hindavi Swaraj, among other things, regarding a Hindu nation. This was another lie. Shivaji's Hindavi Swaraj was related to a geographical area. "Hind" meant a geographical area, not a religion. Shivaji's life also confirms this. He respected all religions. His army included about 12 Muslim generals, including Siddhi Sambal, Ibrahim Gardi, and Daulat Khan. He built a mosque for his Muslim officers and subjects in his fort of Raigad. Maulana Haider Ali was his trusted secretary. He deeply respected women. His soldiers brought the beautiful daughter-in-law of the Muslim ruler of Bassein to him as a gift. But his moral character was so high that he returned her to her family with full respect. The Brahminical perspective on which Bageshwar Dham Baba's comment was based is the same

narrative promoted by the RSS.

The second controversy concerns Sanjay Gaikwad, MLA from Buldhana (Eknath Shinde), a BJP ally of the Shiv Sena. Gaikwad sparked controversy by threatening to cut out the publisher of Govind Pansare's book, Shivaji Kon Hota? (Who Was Shivaji?), published in 1988. Gaikwad objected to the book's title referring to Shivaji Maharaj as simply Shivaji and the book's distortion of history. He summoned the book's distributor, Prashant Ambi, and threatened him with the same fate as Govind Pansare. It is noteworthy that Govind Pansare was murdered during his morning walk. Most of the people involved in the murder conspiracy belonged to Hindu nationalist groups. It is alleged that Gaikwad used abusive language over the phone and threatened the publisher, Prashant Ambi, a resident of Kolhapur, with the threat of "a similar fate to Pansare." A recording of this conversation is available.

This book was written by Communist Party of India leader and rationalist activist Govind Pansare after extensive research and titled in Marathi, "Shivaji Kon Hota." Only the closest people are addressed by name. Gaikwad objects to this, calling it an insult to Shivaji. Published in 1988, the book has sold millions of copies and has been translated into many languages. In a way, it has become a foundational book about Shivaji for the general public. It depicts Shivaji's compassionate attitude towards the ryots (poor peasants) and his respect for all religions. His grandfather, Maloji Rao Bhonsle, prayed at the shrine of a Sufi saint (Shah Sharif) for a child because he was childless. Later, when he had two sons, he named them

Shahji and Sharifi. Shivaji was Shahji Bhonsle's son.

Shivaji established his empire by attacking neighboring Hindu kings like Chandra Rao More. During his battle with Adil Shah's general, Afzal Khan, Shivaji's Muslim bodyguard, Rustam-e-Zaman, gave him the iron claw with which he killed Afzal Khan. Interestingly, Afzal Khan had local Brahmins perform a yajna for Shivaji's defeat, and his secretary was Krishnaji Bhaskar Kulkarni! Shivaji was a man of unparalleled human values. He killed Afzal Khan, but later built his tomb, which still stands today. Gaikwad and Hindu nationalists ignore these aspects of Shivaji's personality to portray him as an anti-Muslim king, which he was not. In Maharashtra, and now throughout India, the narrative that Shivaji was an anti-Muslim king is being propagated. A study of Shivaji's life and deeds proves this narrative to be completely false. He was most concerned about the poor farmers and to protect them, he stopped the excesses of middlemen, which provided great relief to the poor farmers.

The portrayal of Shivaji Maharaj as anti-Muslim by proponents of Brahminism is a distortion of the truth. This is precisely Gaikwad's goal. Dharendra Shastri and the Sangh Parivar are spreading such misinformation to further their Hindu Rashtra agenda, whereas Shivaji's Hindu-like intention was never to create a Hindu Rashtra.

The most interesting aspect of this entire controversy is that booksellers are receiving a large number of orders for Govind Pansare's book. Furthermore, human rights groups are organizing mass readings of the book. This is a very healthy response.

Deepening doubts about constitutional institutions and changing political mood

Dilip Kumar Pathak

Indian democracy is at a crossroads today, where the electoral process and constitutional norms are being discussed more than the election results. Recent political events in India—whether it's the unprecedented confrontation between Mamata Banerjee and the Governor of West Bengal, or the imprisonment of opposition leaders—have raised serious questions in the minds of the public. Are our democratic institutions truly independent? Or have the pawns on the chessboard of power now outweighed

the institutions' dignity?

Let's first discuss West Bengal. The constitutional crisis there has reached a concerning point, a worrying chapter in Indian parliamentary history. After losing the election, Mamata Banerjee clearly stated that she hadn't lost, but rather that the Election Commission had defeated her. She said, "I won't resign. If the Governor wishes, he can suspend me. I will approach the Supreme Court or the International Court regarding the issue of electoral rigging." This is the first time a Chief Minister has refused to resign and the Governor

has dismissed the government. The Governor's dismissal was inevitable. However, such dramatic events weaken democracy. Both the ruling party and the opposition should consider the message this will send to ordinary citizens.

Have democratic processes become a battlefield for active politics? This is the question every conscious citizen is asking today. Meanwhile, the voices raised in the country regarding EVMs and vote theft show no signs of abating. While the Election Commission repeatedly claims its integrity, when distrust

develops among opposition parties and a large segment of civil society, it is not a good sign for democracy.

The BJP's lopsided victory has also divided society. Supporters see it as a triumph of development, while opponents see it as the result of the misuse of resources and institutions. It would also be ridiculous to suggest that the country has attained level issues like inflation, unemployment, and social tension remain unresolved.

Defection has dealt the biggest blow to the morality of politics. The

overnight switch of powerful leaders from regional parties to join the BJP has now become a symbol of opportunism, not ideological politics. When the public elects a person for a particular ideology, and that leader switches sides due to personal gain or pressure, it is a direct insult to public opinion. This culture of coming and going casts a serious doubt on democratic integrity. Amidst all this, the credibility of the judiciary has also come under scrutiny. Recently, Arvind Kejriwal stated in court, "I don't trust you to deliver justice." Kejriwal claimed that the judge had repeat-

edly attended events of the RSS-affiliated Bar Council, reflecting a particular ideology. This points to a very alarming situation. When the country's top leaders and common people begin to doubt the impartiality of the courts, understand that even the last pillar of democracy is faltering. Justice is not enough to be done; it must also be seen to be done. In today's politics, the credibility of independent institutions is facing a grave crisis. The impartiality of the Election Commission, investigative agencies, and even the Raj Bhavan is under question.

Democracy isn't just about casting votes and forming governments; it's a game of trust and dignity. If public confidence in these institutions is broken, how will we maintain our pride as the world's largest democracy? The time has come for both the ruling party and the opposition to introspect. Victory and defeat are inevitable in politics, but if, in our hunger for victory, we undermine the very foundations of democracy, future generations will never forgive us. Institutions must strengthen their backbone, and leaders their morality.

Raghav Chadha takes 'Rangla Punjab to Kangla Punjab' jibe at Kejriwal

New Delhi (GNS): After the ED arrested Punjab minister Sanjeev Arora for alleged money laundering, BJP leader and Rajya Sabha MP from Punjab Raghav Chadha attacked Aam Aadmi Party for what he called the "betrayal of Punjab, Punjabis and Punjabiyat."

Chadha said AAP had promised to build a prosperous Punjab, but it has instead pushed the state towards financial ruin. Accusing AAP of pushing "Rangla Punjab towards Kangla (bankrupt) Punjab", Chadha said the state had given the party a mandate to govern, not run loot.

Reacting to reports that Rs 21 lakh in cash was thrown from a ninth-floor balcony during an Enforcement Directorate raid, Chadha ques-



tioned the legitimacy and source of the money.

He said no honest person would discard money earned through lawful means in such a manner. "If this money had been earned honestly, nobody would throw it from the ninth floor during a raid. Forget Rs 21 lakh, no one would throw away even Rs 21 earned honestly," Chadha said, adding that the incident raises serious

questions regarding corruption and misuse of public funds. Chadha referred to documents reportedly emerging during the investigation that allegedly point towards round-tripping of nearly hundreds of crores through companies based in UAE, Canada and Australia and said the alleged movement of funds through overseas entities indicates a large-scale corruption network operating behind the scenes. "The documents suggest companies were created in UAE, Canada and Australia to facilitate round-tripping of funds. This is a betrayal of Punjab's mandate," Chadha said. He added that the latest ED revelations validate concerns repeatedly raised earlier by leaders

including seven Rajya Sabha MPs who had recently distanced themselves from the party. "We repeatedly warned that AAP had fallen into the hands of the corrupt and compromised individuals. Whenever we tried raising these issues within the party, we were silenced," he said, adding that while the state remains burdened with Rs 5 lakh crore debt, allegations about siphoning off of public money overseas are surfacing. "Punjab deserves accountability. While investigative agencies will do their work, ultimate judgment will come from the people of Punjab," said Chadha, adding that the people of Punjab will reject corruption, betrayal and misuse of public trust in the 2027 elections.

14 days, 24x7 surveillance, Rs 1.4 crore gone in elderly woman's 'digital arrest'

New Delhi (GNS): For 14 days, a 76-year-old homemaker in a south Delhi neighbourhood lived as a prisoner in her own home, monitored 24x7 through a smartphone lens. Between April 20 and May 4, cybercriminals posing as Mumbai Police and ED officers drained Rs 1.4 crore from her accounts - savings her late husband had built over a lifetime of service - after accusing her of funding ammunition for a deadly terror attack. An FIR has been registered, recipient bank accounts identified and a probe is underway. The ordeal began with a landline call on April 20. The voice on the other end claimed to be a senior Mumbai Police officer and recited her full name, address and the fact that she lived alone.

She was told that her bank accounts were used to fund a terrorist attack in Pahalgam in Jammu and Kashmir, which had resulted in 26 deaths. "They told her a non-bailable warrant had been issued against her," a relative told Media. "They insisted they needed to perform a 'financial cleaning' of her accounts to prove her innocence. While one person would pretend to believe her, another would scream that they needed to take immediate action. It was absolute psychological torture." To maintain total control, the conversation was shifted from the landline to a smartphone. For the next two weeks, the victim was placed under a 'digital arrest'. She was ordered to keep a video call active for over 16 hours a day.

"Even during visits to banks, she was instructed to carry a bag with the phone inside, the video call running silently. She was instructed to watch only bhajans on TV, if needed, to calm herself down," the relative said. The woman managed to hide the crisis from her two children, who live abroad, and relatives. "At one point, on a call, she mentioned a Wi-Fi issue. When I offered to send a friend over to fix it, she insisted it was already handled," the relative said. Even the two domestic helps noticed nothing unusual. Over the 14-day period, the victim visited multiple bank branches to break fixed deposits, including one worth Rs 30 lakh. The family expressed outrage that despite a history of modest spending, these massive, atypical transactions were never flagged.

Toe-to-finger transplant helps 18-year-old regain function and confidence

New Delhi (GNS): In a display of surgical precision and innovation, doctors at a Delhi hospital have restored hand function in an 18-year-old college student through a rare toe-to-finger transplant.

The patient, a tourism student, had a severe deformity in her left middle finger that gradually worsened, causing soft tissue contraction, restricted movement, and difficulty performing everyday tasks. Beyond the physical challenges, the deformity also took a toll on her confidence.

"Not having a finger affected my confidence for many years, and I often felt awkward in front of others. After this reconstruction surgery, I feel



much more confident and positive. It has really helped me to carry out daily activities more comfortably," the patient said.

A multidisciplinary surgical team led by Dr Rahul Kapoor,

head of department and consultant, onco-reconstructive and plastic surgery, Manipal Hospital, undertook the complex reconstruction. They harvested her second toe and

transplanted it to her hand in an eight-hour operation.

"Routine microsurgery uses vessels over 1-1.5 mm, but here we worked with 0.5-1 mm ones, raising the complexity," Dr Kapoor explained.

They removed the damaged metacarpal bone from the hand and replaced it with a matching toe metatarsal segment. Microvascular anastomosis (connecting tiny blood vessels) was critical to ensure the survival of the transplanted tissue. One of the most distinctive aspects of the case was the use of the patient's existing finger skin, which had become redundant due to the deformity. Instead of discarding it, surgeons repurposed this skin to

cover the transplanted toe.

"This gave us an advantage. We achieved both adequate bulk and preserved sensation, which typically takes six to eight months to develop after nerve repair," Kapoor said. The case also presented unique anatomical challenges. Differences between toe and finger function required careful adaptation, while prior tissue changes in the hand meant surgeons had to reassess the recipient site in detail before proceeding. "Understanding both donor and recipient anatomy at this level is crucial. Fingers have more strength than toes," Dr Kapoor said, adding that such procedures continue to evolve with each case.

15-year-old stabbed to death in Delhi's Usmanpur; minor suspect apprehended

New Delhi (GNS): A 15-year-old boy was allegedly stabbed to death in the Usmanpur area of Northeast Delhi on Saturday night, with police later apprehending the main suspect in connection with the case.

According to police sources, information regarding the incident was received at around 10 pm from a hospital, where the injured teenager had been brought by his family members.

However, doctors declared him dead on arrival. Following the incident, police registered a case of murder and launched an investigation. Preliminary inquiry revealed that a dispute had broken out hours before the murder between the victim's younger brother and another youth in the area.

Police said the teenager had intervened in an attempt to



resolve the altercation. Investigators suspect that the earlier confrontation escalated later in the evening, eventually leading to the fatal stabbing.

During the course of the investigation, police identified and apprehended a 17-year-

old suspect allegedly involved in the attack.

Cops are currently questioning the accused to ascertain the exact sequence of events and to determine whether any other individuals were involved in the crime.

Delhi: 673 hectares of Central Ridge declared reserved forest by govt

New Delhi (GNS): In a bid to take care of the green cover in the national capital, the Delhi Government on Saturday declared 673.32 hectares of the Central Ridge area as reserved forest under Section 20 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927.

The area falls under the Western Forest Division of the Forest Department and covers parts surrounding Sardar Patel Marg and the President's Estate.

Chief Minister Rekha Gupta said the government had already decided that large-scale plantation of native and environmentally suitable tree species will be carried out wherever suitable vacant land is available in the

areas declared as Reserved Forests. Gupta said the decision would prove to be a milestone in strengthening Delhi's natural heritage, biodiversity and ecological security.

She stated that providing legal protection to Delhi's ecologically sensitive Ridge areas had remained pending for several decades. "With commitment and determination, our government has declared nearly 673.32 hectares of the Central Ridge area as Reserved Forest.

This decision reflects our commitment towards environmental conservation, expansion of green cover, and securing a safe and balanced future for coming generations," she said.

Cellphone export ops genuine, says Arora's firm Hampton Sky

New Delhi (GNS): Hampton Sky Realty Limited, formerly known as Ritesh Properties and Industries Limited, on Saturday issued a detailed statement defending itself against recent Enforcement Directorate (ED) proceedings, asserting that its mobile-phone export operations were genuine, fully documented and compliant with the Indian law. Punjab Minister Sanjeev Arora has served as Director and Promoter of the company which is under the ED lens.

In a press statement, the company said the mobile-phone manufacturing and export had been identified by the Government of India as a flagship priority sector under "Make in India" and the Production-Linked Incentive scheme. The company said the country's mobile-phone export turnover grew from approximately Rs 1,500 crore in FY 2014-15 to approximately Rs 2 lakh crore in FY 2024-25, a 127-fold increase and recognising this national thrust, the company entered the mobile-



phone export business in May 2023. According to the statement, Hampton Sky Realty exported 44,471 units of branded mobile phones and accessories, including Apple iPhones, AirPods, Samsung and OnePlus devices. The company asserted that each shipment underwent multiple levels of independent verification by statutory and international entities. These checks, it said, included physical examination by Customs officials at the Air Cargo Complex in New Delhi, IMEI scanning through the ICEGATE system, and ver-

ification by original equipment manufacturers such as Apple and Samsung through their global activation databases. The company claimed that the verified IMEIs confirmed that the exported handsets were activated outside India after export, thereby establishing the authenticity of the consignments.

The company argued that the IMEI verification process could not be manipulated domestically, describing it as conclusive proof of genuine exports. It further stated that all export proceeds were

received through authorised banking channels and corresponding Bank Realisation Certificates were uploaded on the DGFT portal.

Rejecting allegations of "round-tripping" or bogus exports, the company claimed the entire export revenue was paid to domestic suppliers through banking channels and that no funds were diverted, retained offshore or routed back to associated entities.

The statement also addressed concerns linked to Goods and Services Tax (GST) input-tax-credit claims involving some suppliers. Hampton Sky Realty said the disputed transactions formed only a small fraction of its overall procurement and maintained that the alleged irregularities were entirely supplier-side issues. The company revealed that it had itself lodged an FIR in May 2025 at Ludhiana's Focal Point police station against three suppliers - SK Enterprises, Global Traders and GMG Tradelink Pvt Ltd - alleging fraud under provisions of the Indian Penal Code.

Tragedy re-run: Returning from IPL match, 2 childhood friends die after car hits bike in Delhi

New Delhi (GNS): Two childhood friends were returning home on their Bullet motorcycle after watching the Delhi Capitals versus KKR IPL match on Friday night. The young men had come down the Signature bridge flyover in northeast Delhi's Khajuri Khas around 11.30 pm.

A speeding car, a silver Maruti Celerio, rammed the bike from behind near the service lane close to the Bhajanpura metro station. While the impact flung both riders into the road, the pillion rider was thrown 15 metres away. The car reportedly spun around three times before crashing into a nearby divider. Doctors declared the two brought dead. The accident bears similarities to a hit-and-run reported earlier last month when two cousins aged 20 and 14 were killed while returning home after watching an IPL match on a motorcycle in central Delhi's Ashoka



Road. The bikers who died in Friday's accident were residents of Karawal Nagar. They were identified as Rohit Kashyap (31), and Hemant Sharma (33).

The car driver, identified as Himanshu (27), a lawyer, was beaten up by locals. People said he was driving over 80 kmph and appeared intoxicated. DCP (northeast) Ashish Kumar Mishra said, "The accused driver has been arrested, and the offending vehicle has been seized." His blood sample has been sent for testing. Police said the accused was going to a friend's house in Dayalpur.

Fire in transformer at DD Prasar Bharti office no casualties

New Delhi(GNS): A fire broke out in a transformer outside DD Prasar Bharti's office in central Delhi's Copernicus Marg on Saturday afternoon.

According to Delhi Fire Service (DFS), a call was received about the fire around 2.05 pm, after which eight fire tenders with around 48 fire personnel rushed to the spot. The fire was doused by 2.50 pm.

Officials said that since the transformer was outside the main building, not much damage was reported and the fire was easily doused. No injuries or casualties have been reported either. A probe is underway to ascertain the exact cause of the fire.

Delhi govt reshuffles 23 IAS, DANICS officers across key departments

New Delhi(GNS): In a major bureaucratic reshuffle, Delhi govt on Friday transferred and assigned new responsibilities to 23 senior IAS and DANICS officers across key departments, including Public Works, Services, Vigilance, Health and Information and Publicity. According to an order issued by the Services Department, senior IAS officer Sandeep Kumar has been appointed principal secretary of the Public Works Department (PWD), replacing Navin Kumar Choudhary, who has been posted as additional chief secretary of the General Administration Department (GAD).

Vikas Anand, currently secretary to the chief minister, has been appointed director of the Union Territory Civil Services (UTCS), replacing senior IAS officer Bipul Pathak. Anand will continue to hold additional charge of the Information and Publicity Department.

DANICS officer Prashant Kumar (2010 batch), who is additional secretary in the Public Grievances Commission in the chief minister's office, has been given additional charge as director of the Directorate of Information and Publicity. The reshuffle involves 12 IAS officers and 11 DANICS officers. Among other key changes, Dilraj Kaur has been appointed managing director of the Delhi Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation, with additional charge of the Delhi Cooperative Housing Finance Corporation.

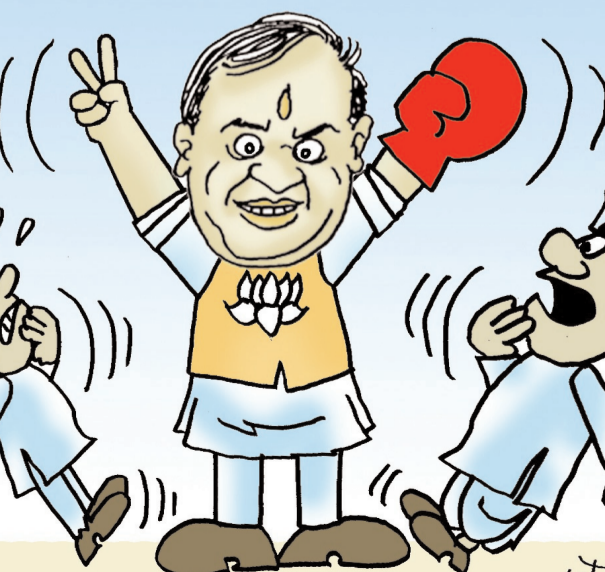
Nandini Paliwal has been posted as secretary (Vigilance) and has also been given additional charge of the Services Department, along with the chairpersonship of the Delhi Subordinate Services Selection Board (DSSSB). Yashpal Garg has been appointed secretary (Planning) and will hold additional charge of the Land and Building Department as well as that of development commissioner.

In another significant posting, G Sudhakar, who was serving as district magistrate (Central Delhi), has been appointed director of the Women and Child Development Department, with additional charge as managing director of the State Urban Livelihoods Mission. Kishore Kshirasagar Lakshman has been appointed district magistrate (Old Delhi), while Yash Chaudhary has been posted as special secretary (Health). The order further stated that Cheemala Siva Gopal Reddy has been appointed special secretary to lieutenant governor Taranjit Singh Sandhu. Rajeev Singh has been made a member of the Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board, with additional charge as special secretary (Land and Building).

Kin of Red Fort blast victims, injured persons, demand higher compensation in letter to govts

New Delhi(GNS): An NGO has written to the Centre and Delhi govt on behalf of victims of the bomb blast near Red Fort in Nov last year and their families, seeking enhanced compensation, citing inadequate relief for both the deceased and the injured.

Hisanta will once again become the C. M. of Assam



Delhi's healthcare access improves but nutrition concerns run deep: NSO

New Delhi(GNS): The national capital has witnessed one of the sharpest improvements in healthcare access in the country over the past two decades, with hospitalisation rates more than doubling between 1995-96 and 2017-18, but nutrition imbalance and lifestyle risks continue to persist. Findings published in the latest issue of Sarvekshana, journal of the National Statistics Office (NSO), state that Delhi's hospitalisation rate rose from 14 persons per 1,000 in 1995-96 - below the national average of 16 - to 31 persons per 1,000 in 2017-18, exceeding the national average of 28 and marking one of the larger increases recorded during the period.

India's overall hospitalisation rate increased from 16 to 28 persons per 1,000 over the same period due to expansion in healthcare access, public health infrastructure



and insurance coverage. The data suggest that in Delhi, the concentration index, which measures inequality in hospitalisation, dropped from 0.3002 in 1995-96 to minus 0.0895 in 2017-18 (years for which the latest data are available). This shift means substantial reduction in the rich-poor disparity in hospitalisation access over two

decades. So the NSO paper broadly concludes that healthcare inequality reduced nationally and also in Delhi as healthcare utilisation expanded across rural and economically weaker populations. However, Delhi's nutritional imbalance remains severe despite higher incomes and better healthcare access.

IPL ticket black marketing racket busted in Delhi, 3 arrested

New Delhi(GNS): The Delhi Police Crime Branch has busted a black-marketing racket involving IPL match tickets and complimentary passes. The police arrested three persons and recovered 54 tickets, including 33 complimentary passes marked "Not for Sale".

The accused have been identified as Mukeem, a resident of Moradabad in Uttar Pradesh; Gufran, alias Sajid, a resident of Jamia Nagar in Delhi; and Mohammad Faisal, a resident of Seelampur in Delhi. The police laid a trap and arrested the accused near Delhi Gate on Friday.

The police said the accused allegedly posed as authorised representatives of the Delhi and District Cricket Association to sell IPL tickets and complimentary passes at inflated prices.

Delhi on high alert over possible terror threat, security upped across key locations

New Delhi(GNS): The national capital is on high alert following intelligence inputs indicating a possible terror threat. This prompted the Delhi Police and other security agencies to intensify vigil across several sensitive locations, sources said on Saturday.

A source said security has been increased at the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) headquarters on Deen Dayal Upadhyaya (DDU) Marg and nearby government establishments, with additional deployment of armed personnel, barricading and intensified vehicle checks.



According to sources, agencies have received

alerts regarding possible attempts to target prominent offices and crowded areas in central Delhi using suicide

attacks, vehicle-borne improvised explosive devices (IEDs), shootings and coordinated strikes. Sources said

anti-sabotage checks are being carried out at important government buildings, political offices, markets, transport hubs and other crowded places across the city.

Bomb disposal squads, sniffer dog units and quick reaction teams, including the Delhi Fire Service, have also been asked to stay alert. "Police have been directed to maintain strict vigil on suspicious movements, unattended objects and vehicles parked in sensitive zones," said the source. Security arrange-

ments have also been strengthened at settlements and areas considered vulnerable from a law-and-order perspective; local police are conducting random checking drives and verification exercises.

The source said all district units have been instructed to remain alert and maintain close coordination with intelligence agencies and central paramilitary forces. Senior officers are continuously monitoring the situation and reviewing security arrangements across the city, said the source.

Delhi SI asks for demotion, Says he was happier in earlier role

New Delhi(GNS): A Delhi Police sub-inspector posted at Karawal Nagar police station has voluntarily sought demotion to the rank of constable, saying he was happier in his previous role.

The request was accepted by the North-East district police administration, and orders reverting him to the rank of constable have been issued. In his written application, SI Manish stated, "Sir, I was perfectly fine as a constable; please revert me from sub-inspector to constable. I attained this rank by passing an examination, but I have become unhappy."

Manish had originally joined the Delhi Police as a constable and was later promoted to sub-inspector after clearing departmental examinations. However, after taking



up the higher rank, he reportedly expressed dissatisfaction with the role and sought to return to his earlier position.

Before approving his request, police headquarters sought reports from all concerned units to ascertain whether any departmental inquiry, vigilance probe, criminal case, suspension, complaint, overpayment issue, medical concern or unauthorised absence matter was pending against the officer. Units were also asked to fur-

nish a "No demand certificate". Senior officers said the deputy commissioner of police has the authority to demote a sub-inspector. The officer's request has been accepted, and formal orders were issued accordingly, a senior police officer confirmed. Police said Manish is academically inclined and is believed to be preparing for competitive examinations. According to officers, he found it difficult to manage time for studies while serving in a higher post.

Compressor blast at factory kills 2 workers

New Delhi(GNS): Two workers were killed and another seriously injured after a compressor exploded during a routine testing exercise inside a factory in the Sahibabad industrial area, Ghaziabad, the police said on Saturday.

The blast took place on Thursday evening in the Link Road police station area. The police said they received information about the incident around 6 pm.

The deceased were identified as Imran (34), Tribhuvan (38), while Banke (25) is undergoing treatment.

Amit Saxena, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Sahibabad, said Tribhuvan was taken to Max Hospital, while Imran and Banke were admitted to Safdarjung Hospital in Delhi.

"Imran died during treat-



ment at Safdarjung Hospital, while Tribhuvan succumbed to his injuries at Max Hospital. Banke is undergoing treatment," Saxena said. The police said the bodies had been sent for post-mortem examination. Officials have not yet disclosed details about the factory or the exact nature of the testing process being carried out when the compressor exploded. No case has been registered so far, the police said.

Over 90K Delhi govt school students still without writing material a month into session

New Delhi(GNS): More than a month after the academic session began, over 90,000 students in Delhi govt schools are still without notebooks and basic stationery, highlighting persistent last-mile delivery gaps despite closer monitoring by the education department.

The academic year started on April 1, but delays in supplying writing material have left many students without essential classroom tools. The problem is compounded by parallel delays in textbook distribution for the current session.

According to a status report prepared following directions from the Directorate of Education (DoE), district-wise data accessed by Media up to April 30 shows that 90,911 students - around 12.9% of total enrolment - are yet to receive writing material, even as distribution has picked up pace in recent weeks.

The shortfall varies sharply across districts. West B has the

highest number of students awaiting material at 16,571, followed by West A (12,154) and North-East I (9,709). In percentage terms, West A reports the largest gap, with over 29% of students still awaiting supplies, followed by West B at nearly 24% and North-East I at close to 20%. Other districts such as South East (13.8%), South West-B (I) (13.8%) and North West-B (I) (12.1%) also continue to report significant delays.

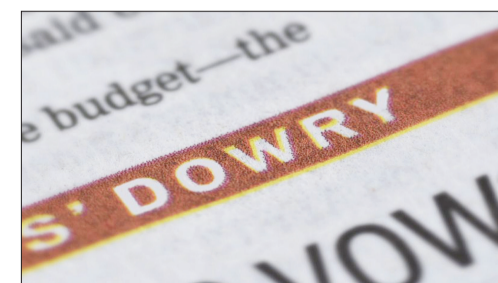
In contrast, some districts have achieved near-complete coverage. South West-B (II) has reported full distribution, while North West-B (II) and South West-A have negligible pending cases at 1.2% and 0.9%, respectively. An education department official said the distribution process was fast-tracked this year with enhanced monitoring. "All deputy directors were asked to submit district-wise updates on the distribution of writing materials supplied in kind to students of Classes I to VIII.

Delhi tops metro cities in dowry death cases: NCRB report

New Delhi(GNS): Delhi has once again recorded the highest number of dowry death cases among major metropolitan cities in the country, according to the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) report Crime in India 2024. The national capital registered 109 dowry death cases in 2024, leading to the deaths of 111 women. Delhi has remained at the top of this grim list for the fifth consecutive year.

The report stated that Delhi recorded a dowry death crime rate of 1.4 per lakh population. Although the number of cases has declined compared to the Covid-19 period, the figures continue to raise concerns over the persistence of dowry-related violence and domestic abuse.

The year 2021 witnessed the most severe situation in Delhi, when 136 dowry



death cases were registered and 139 women lost their lives. During that year, the crime rate had risen to 1.8. Since then, the numbers have shown a gradual decline, but the issue remains deeply concerning.

Kanpur ranked second among metropolitan cities in dowry death cases, as the city recorded 54 cases with 54 victims. However, Kanpur's crime rate stood at 4, significantly higher than Delhi. Patna secured the third position with 30 reported cases and 30 victims, while the crime rate in the city was recorded at 3.1. The NCRB report noted

that dowry death cases are now registered under Section 80 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS). Earlier, these offences were covered under Section 304B of the Indian Penal Code (IPC). Under the law, a case of dowry death is registered when a woman dies under abnormal circumstances within seven years of marriage and evidence suggests that she was subjected to cruelty or harassment over dowry demands before her death.

Delhi remaining at the top among metropolitan cities for five consecutive years indicates that the dowry system continues to pose a serious challenge. The figures underline the urgent need for not only strict legal enforcement, but also a broader change in social attitudes toward dowry and gender-based violence.