



NEET exam cancelled after paper leak, 22.79 lakh candidates to appear for re-examination

New Delhi(GNS): The National Testing Agency (NTA) on Tuesday cancelled the NEET-UG, 2026 exam which was held in offline mode across the country on May 3. After permission from the Union Education Ministry, this exam will now be conducted again, for which the candidates do not have to register again. Also, no exam fee will be charged from the candidates for this. The amount deposited by them will also be returned. Candidates will be issued admit cards again for NEET-UG, 2026.

According to the NTA, a total of 22,79,746 candidates appeared for

the NEET exam this year, including 13,32,928 (58.46 percent) girls and 9,46,815 (41.54 percent) boys. This year, there were 3,38,113 more girls. The exam, which was held on May 3rd at all exam centers across the country, received reports of a paper leak at some centers in Rajasthan. Central investigative agencies and Rajasthan's Special Operations Group conducted a thorough investigation. To maintain fairness in the examination system, the decision to re-conduct the exam was made in the best interest of students.

Four days after the exam, late in the evening on May 7th, the NTA



received inputs about suspicious activities, such as paper leaks or the sale of dummy papers before the exam, at some exam centers in Rajasthan. The agency submitted all documents and inputs to central investigative agencies for a thorough investigation and necessary action. The decision to cancel the exam was made on Tuesday after receiving permission from the Union Education Ministry. Official information regarding the next exam date will be released on the website.

The Central Government has directed the CBI to investigate any possible irregularities during the exam, and the NTA will fully cooperate by handing over all examination materials, records, and inquiries to the CBI. This examination will provide admission to approximately 2.65 lakh seats in medical, dental, AYUSH, veterinary, and selected nursing colleges. Approximately 1.29 lakh MBBS seats are currently available in 820 medical colleges in India. This includes approximately 63,000 seats in government medical colleges and approximately 65,000 seats in private, deemed, and other medical colleges. Additionally, there are approximately 27,926 BDS seats.

Monsoon forecast to arrive 4-6 days early Thunderstorm and rain alert issued in five states

Including Uttar Pradesh and Bihar; Barmer in Rajasthan hottest for second day, mercury reaching 47.3°C



New Delhi(GNS): The monsoon could arrive in the country four days earlier than scheduled. Normally, it reaches Kerala by June 1st, but this time it is expected to arrive between May 25th and 27th.

A system has formed over the southwest Bay of Bengal, which is expected to strengthen over the next 48 hours. This will increase rainfall in several states across South India. This system is accelerating the monsoon's progress. A storm and rain alert has been issued today in five states, including Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. Rain is expected in all districts of Bihar and Uttarakhand. Rain is also expected in 38 districts of Uttar Pradesh. In Kullu, Himachal Pradesh, the roofs of five houses and seven cow shelters were blown away by the storm and rain.

Heatwave conditions continue in Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra, and Madhya Pradesh. Barmer in Rajasthan was the hottest place in the country on Monday, recording a temperature of 47.3°C. Jaisalmer recorded 46.5°C, Phalodi 45.6°C, and Bikaner 45.3°C. Ratlam in Madhya Pradesh recorded temperatures above 45°C.

Himanta Biswa Sarma sworn in as Assam Chief Minister for the second consecutive term, administered by the Governor



Guwahati(GNS): Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma was sworn in as the Chief Minister of Assam for the second consecutive term in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Governor Laxman Prasad Acharya administered the oath of office and secrecy to him on Tuesday. However, this is the third consecutive time that the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) has formed a government in Assam. In 2016, the BJP succeeded in reaching the pinnacle of power in Assam for the first time.



Dr. Sarma took the oath in a grand ceremony held at the sports ground of the Veterinary College in Khanapara, Guwahati, in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah, BJP National President Nitin Naveen, Union Ministers Rajnath Singh, Nitin Gadkari, JP Nadda, and Chief Ministers of NDA-ruled states. Along with him, newly elected BJP MLAs Rameshwar Teli and Ajanta Neog, Atul Bora of the Asom Gana Parishad (AGP), and Charan Bodo of the Bodoland People's Front (BPF) took oath as

ministers. It is noteworthy that in the 2026 Assam Assembly elections, the NDA performed resoundingly, winning 102 seats in the 126-member Assembly. The BJP secured 82 seats, while its allies, the AGP, and the BPF, secured 10 and 10 seats respectively.

During the ceremony, millions of people from across the state chanted slogans like "Jai Shri Ram," "Bharat Mata Ki Jai," "Vande Mataram," and "Jai Aai Assam," adding to the euphoric atmosphere. A large number of women were also present at the ceremony. Large LED displays were installed in various parts of the pandal to accommodate the large turnout.

Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma, Rameshwar Teli, Ajanta Neog and Asom Gana Parishad (AGP) MLA Atul Bora took oath in Assamese language, while Bodoland People's Front (BPF) MLA Charan Bodo took oath in Bodo language. The Chief Minister was seen wearing a white dhoti-kurta and an Assamese gamochha around his neck at the swearing-in ceremony today. Prominent guests at the swearing-in ceremony included Union Ministers Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Nirmala Sitharaman, Ashwini Vaishnav, Sarbananda Sonowal, Kiren Rijiju, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu, Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu, Bihar Chief Minister Samrat Chaudhary, Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai, Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant, Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendrabhai Patel, Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini, Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav, Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, Manipur Chief Minister Yumnam Khemchand, Assamese language, Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma, Nagaland Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio, Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi, Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma, Sikkim Chief Minister Prem Singh Tamang, Tripura Chief Minister Dr. (Prof.) Manik Saha, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami, West Bengal Chief Minister Suwendu Adhikari, Mizoram Chief Minister Lalduhoma, BJP National Organizational General Secretary BL Santosh, National Vice President Baijayant Jai Panda, National General Secretary Tarun Chugh, along with Deputy Chief Ministers from several states and other prominent national leaders and prominent figures from the business world were present.

CBI to investigate Suwendu Adhikari's PA murder case

SIT of 7 officers formed; 3 accused arrested from Bihar and UP in 13-day police custody

New Delhi(GNS): The CBI will now investigate the murder case of West Bengal Chief Minister Suwendu Adhikari's personal assistant (PA) Chandranath Rath. The CBI immediately took over the case and formed a seven-member Special Investigation Team (SIT).

In Bengal, the officer who conducted the SIR became the Chief Secretary

Congress said there was open collusion between the EC and the BJP; TMC called it shameless.

Kolkata(GNS): The government has appointed Manoj Agarwal, the election officer who conducted SIR in West Bengal, as the new Chief Secretary of the state. Manoj oversaw the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of voter lists in Bengal before the assembly elections. This resulted in the deletion of approximately 9.1 million voters. Retired IAS officer Subrata Gupta, who served as an observer during the SIR in Bengal, has also been appointed as an advisor to the Chief

Minister. Congress General Secretary Jairam Ramesh wrote on social media, "These appointments demonstrate open collusion and collusion between the ECI and the BJP. Now, no attempt is being made to conceal this collusion." He alleged that these appointments were proof that the ECI was not impartial and worked solely to benefit the BJP. Ramesh said, "During the elections, 2.7 million people were prevented from voting. The ECI cleverly executed this to give the BJP an electoral advantage."

Calcutta High Court bench recuses itself from hearing RG-Tax case

Says unable to give time, victim's family says CBI did not conduct fresh investigation

New Delhi(GNS): The Calcutta High Court bench hearing the R.G. Kar rape-murder case has recused itself from the case. Justices Raja Sekhar Mantha and Ray Chattopadhyay said during the hearing on Tuesday that they were unable to devote time to the case due to other matters.



During the hearing, the CBI presented its investigation report. The victim's family argued that the agency had not initiated a new investigation. In fact, the court had ordered the CBI to investigate the case afresh in May. The High Court stated that this is an important case. The entire world is watching it. Therefore, it is essential to give the case sufficient time.

Indian Ambassador meets Nepal's Health Minister, discusses bilateral cooperation

Kathmandu,(GNS) : Indian Ambassador to Nepal Naveen Srivastava paid a courtesy call on Nepal's Health Minister Nisha Mehta. During the meeting, discussions focused on the centuries-old, historical, and close ties between Nepal and India, as well as on various aspects of ongoing bilateral cooperation in the health sector. Health Ministry spokesperson Dr. Samir Kumar Adhikari stated



that during the meeting, Singha Durbar, Health Minister Mehta expressed gratitude for the continued support and goodwill received from the Government of India in the development of Nepal's health, drinking water, and sanitation sectors. Discussions also included strengthening Nepal's premier national-level medical college, establishing specialized treatment centers, and further strengthening Indian cooperation and partnership in the future in the development of the overall health infrastructure.

Rupee under pressure



India's gold: "dead asset" or economic lifeline for millions

Bhupendra Gupta

Whenever the Indian economy is discussed, one refrain is repeatedly reiterated by the government and policymakers—the country must reduce its gold consumption. The argument goes that excessive gold imports put pressure on foreign exchange reserves, widen the current account deficit, and divert investment from "productive sectors" to idle assets. But the question is: is gold truly just a "dead asset" in India? Or has it become the economic lifeline of millions of poor, middle-class, and rural families?

Facts reveal that consid-

ering gold in India solely as a jewelry or luxury item ignores the reality of Indian society and economy. Today, India spends over \$70 billion annually on gold imports, amounting to over ₹6 lakh crore. This is a matter of concern for the government, as such a large import puts pressure on the country's foreign exchange. For this reason, the government periodically increases gold import duties, urges people not to purchase gold, and attempts to reduce demand for physical gold through schemes like Sovereign Gold Bonds.

But this economic approach has its limitations.

From the air-conditioned policy rooms of Delhi and Mumbai, gold may seem like an "unproductive investment," but for India's villages, towns, and lower-middle-class families, gold is the most reliable bank. Millions of people in India lack sufficient bank balances, the ability to invest in the stock market, or access to widespread formal financial resources. For them, gold stored at home is their only asset in times of crisis.

This is why gold loans have become a massive and rapidly growing pillar of India's economy. According to available financial data, the number of active gold

loan accounts in the country has reached nearly 90 million. This means that millions of families are directly or indirectly involved in gold loan-based economic activities. It is not just a loan for personal consumption, but has become a significant source of working capital for India's grassroots economy.

Small shopkeepers, farmers to buy seeds and fertilizers, women self-help groups to set up small businesses, and low-income families to meet expenses such as sudden illness, education, or marriage, all use their household gold as collateral to obtain instant loans. Many small businesses, avoiding

lengthy bank procedures and guarantee requirements, find gold loans the fastest and most reliable financial option.

That is, the gold which policy makers call a "dead asset" is the source of "living liquidity" for millions of people on earth. A critique of gold is incomplete without understanding India's social structure. For Indian families, especially women, gold is not only an investment but also a means of social security. In times of marriage, illness, unemployment, or unexpected crisis, household gold is the primary source of support for the family. In rural India, it has become the

most reliable source of informal banking.

The irony is that while the government urges people not to buy gold, the country's banking and credit system still remains unequally accessible to millions of people. Without easy and affordable unsecured loans, small businesses will naturally rely on the gold they hold at home. Therefore, the problem lies not just in "buying gold," but also in the incomplete system of financial inclusion. It's also true that India's vast gold reserves remain idle in homes. It's estimated that Indian families hold the world's largest private gold reserves.

Editorial

Markets shaken by Prime Minister Modi's warning

Escalating tensions between the US and Iran and fears of a global war have destabilized the global economy. India is no exception. Recently, Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed concerns about a potential economic crisis, rising fuel consumption, foreign dependence, and the need for restrained use of domestic resources, leading to an atmosphere of unease in the country's markets. The continued decline in the stock market, concerns about the gold and jewelry trade, and public concerns about inflation indicate that the country is entering a period of economic uncertainty. India has long relied on imported crude oil for its energy needs. If the war situation in West Asia escalates, the first impact will be on oil and gas prices. Already reeling from high prices of petrol, diesel, and cooking gas, the public could face a new tsunami of inflation. Rising transportation costs are almost certain to lead to higher prices for food grains, vegetables, construction materials, and everyday commodities. This is why Prime Minister Modi's call to refrain from buying gold, reduce petrol and diesel consumption, halt foreign travel, and minimize the use of oil in cooking are being seen by people as a warning of difficult times ahead. The experience of the COVID-19 pandemic is still fresh in the collective memory of the countrymen. At that time, lockdowns, unemployment, migration, and economic stagnation affected millions of people. If the current crisis is compared to that period, a sense of fear and insecurity naturally grows. Market panic isn't solely a result of economic data; psychological impact also plays a significant role. As investor confidence weakens, the stock market begins to fall, and the public turns to savings instead of spending. The appeal to postpone gold purchases has also sparked significant controversy. The jewelry industry in India is linked to the livelihoods of millions of people.

Rising crime and the challenge of building a crime-free society (Author- Lalit Garg)

The latest figures from the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) are not merely statistical documents; they reveal the dark and horrific face of our society, often hidden behind the glare of development, modernity, and political achievements. The 2024 crime statistics make it clear that despite India's economic, technological, and global progress, it remains beset by serious social and moral challenges. When murders occur every 17 minutes, kidnappings every five minutes, rapes every 18 minutes, and economic crimes or frauds occur almost every two minutes, this is not merely a question of law and order, but rather poses serious questions about the entire social structure, moral values, and administrative system. Today, we dream of a developed India, a self-reliant India, and a Vishwaguru Bharat by 2047. But this dream can only be realized when society becomes fear-free, violence-free, and crime-free. A society plagued by crime can never become a healthy, balanced, and ideal society. If the social environment is filled with insecurity, fear, distrust, and violence, all development plans will prove hollow. NCRB data warns us that if the roots of crime are not identified and strictly curbed in a timely manner, this situation could become even more explosive in the future.

Of particular concern is the rising crime rate against women. Rajasthan's continued presence at the top of the crime charts for the sixth consecutive year is deeply worrying. It ranks first in rape, second in forced abortion, and third in female foeticide. Rajasthan also ranks fourth in cases of kidnapping for marriage. Bihar tops this list, followed by Uttar Pradesh in second, and Punjab in third. Bihar is also infamous for "Pakdwa Vivah," where men are abducted and forced into marriage. Analyzing the murder rate per lakh population, smaller states like Jharkhand and

Chhattisgarh top the list, while Uttar Pradesh, a larger state often in the news for crime, ranks 12th. Madhya Pradesh ranks sixth, and Rajasthan seventh. Incidents like rape, foeticide, forced abortion, and kidnapping for marriage indicate a serious decline in social consciousness and moral values. Respect, compassion, and security for women have weakened.

It's ironic that while we're running campaigns like "Nari Shakti" and "Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao," the crime figures against women are rising alarmingly. This isn't just a result of the weakness of the law, but also a distortion of social mindsets. Today, the nature of crime is rapidly changing. Previously, crimes were confined to the streets and alleys, but now the internet and digital technology have given crime a new face. Crimes like cybercrime, digital fraud, online fraud, and data theft are rapidly increasing. This is a new era of "software crime," where criminals are defrauding millions of rupees without weapons and without risk. This clearly shows that traditional policing alone will no longer suffice. Police and investigative agencies must be equipped with modern tools like digital forensics, cybersecurity, and data analytics. Fighting this new world of crime requires new thinking and new technology.

Although a slight decrease in some serious crimes has been recorded, it would be self-deception to consider this a significant achievement. Experts believe that after the implementation of the new Indian Penal Code (IPC), many crimes have been removed from the list of cognizable offenses, which is why the figures appear to be declining. Therefore, a superficial study of crime statistics is not sufficient; a deeper review and analysis is necessary. We must understand that crime is not just a legal problem, but a complex challenge arising from social, economic, psychological, and cultural factors. Drug addic-

tion is the biggest cause of the rise in crime. Today, the increasing tendency towards drug addiction among women is even more worrying. The most serious indication is the increasing number of suicides among students and unemployed youth. This situation indicates that an atmosphere of despair, insecurity, and uncertainty about the future is deepening in society. Unemployment, competition, increasing educational pressure, family expectations, and social comparison are pushing young people towards mental stress. When young people begin to perceive their lives as meaningless, it is not just a personal tragedy but a danger signal for the future of the nation. Therefore, problems like crime and suicide cannot be left solely to the police or courts. Education, family, society, and government must all work together to address this. A major reason behind the rise in crime is the erosion of moral values. Consumerism, materialism, and the blind pursuit of quick success have rendered individuals insensitive and selfish. Today, the criteria for success have become solely money and power. When deceit, greed, and competition replace honesty, restraint, compassion, and morality in society, crime naturally increases. Communication within families has diminished, values have weakened, and a sense of social responsibility is diminishing. Social media and various forms of entertainment have also fostered violence, obscenity, and a mindset of quick profit. Consequently, it is natural for the new generation to drift away.

It's also true that criminals are often losing their fear of the law. Years of pending cases, political patronage, corruption, and weak investigation systems boost criminals' morale. If criminals begin to feel they can easily escape, controlling crime becomes difficult. Therefore, making the justice system swift, transparent, and effec-

tive is the need of the hour. A policy of zero tolerance towards crime must be adopted. The fear of the law will only be established when criminals receive swift and fair punishment. However, society cannot absolve itself of its responsibility by simply blaming the government and the police. Building a crime-free society is possible only through collective consciousness and social participation. Social reformers, educators, religious institutions, social organizations, and families must also play their roles. Moral education, sensitivity, coexistence, and human values must be inculcated in children and youth. Society must be given a positive direction, where individuals are concerned not only with rights but also with duties and social responsibility.

The need today is not merely to prevent crime, but to eliminate the conditions that give rise to crime. Conditions such as poverty, unemployment, drug addiction, illiteracy, social inequality, family disintegration, and mental stress create the breeding ground for crime. If these causes are not addressed seriously, reducing crime will be difficult. Therefore, the concept of development cannot be limited to economic progress alone. True development is one in which societies become safe, balanced, and humane. NCRB data presents a harsh truth before us. This is not the time for mere formal concern about statistics, but for deep introspection and concrete action. If we truly want to build an ideal, developed, and civilized India by 2047, creating a crime-free society must be made a national priority. An environment of moral consciousness, sensitivity, and respect for the law must be cultivated in society. Only then will we be able to envision an India where development is reflected not only in buildings and technology, but also in human values and social security.

Are we on the brink of an economic emergency?

Dilip Kumar Pathak

PM Modi's seven appeals to the nation from the stage in Hyderabad were not merely a political speech, but a powerful indication of the changing nature of the country's economy. Modi's appeals to citizens to avoid buying gold for a year, postpone foreign travel, and reduce petrol and diesel consumption may seem like simple requests, but the underlying economic implications are profound and serious. Meanwhile, Leader of

the Opposition Rahul Gandhi's assertion that these appeals are the government's biggest confession of failures is no small matter. Is India truly heading towards a major economic vortex, or is this merely a precaution before an impending global storm?

Escalating tensions between Iran and Israel in West Asia have pushed crude oil prices past \$120 per barrel. India imports approximately 85 to 90 percent of its oil needs, and when oil prices rise in the

international market, it directly impacts our pockets and the national treasury. Statistics show that India's foreign exchange reserves have fallen to \$690 billion by the beginning of May 2026. This decline is concerning because just three months ago, India stood at \$728 billion. On the other hand, the rupee has reached close to 95 against the dollar, meaning everything we import has become more expensive. In this context, Rahul Gandhi's argument is valid: despite 12

years of rule and the trumpeting of a self-reliant India, why are we still so vulnerable that we are being advised to change our lifestyle at the mere mention of an external war? The opposition alleges that the government hasn't worked on infrastructure and manufacturing in the last decade to the extent necessary to withstand such global shocks. When the government tells the public not to buy gold or drive their vehicles less, it is essentially shifting the burden of its

economic policy failures onto the shoulders of the common man. The argument that controlling inflation and managing the rupee is entirely the government's responsibility, not a citizen's compulsion, is also valid. The average taxpayer has the right to ask why, despite paying hefty taxes, they are asked to make sacrifices during a crisis. However, ignoring this would be pointless. Looking at global economic history, we understand that in times of major crisis, government

policies alone are not sufficient; public participation is equally essential. The government's argument here appears plausible. In India, gold and crude oil are the two commodities that send the largest volume of our precious foreign currency, the dollar, out of the country. If the nation and society were to abandon their gold-obsession for a year and reduce oil consumption even slightly, the country could save billions of dollars. This savings would directly prevent

the rupee from falling. We have seen our neighbors, Sri Lanka and Pakistan, fleeing the streets due to a lack of foreign exchange. Modi's appeals serve as an early warning system to prevent India from facing similar poverty. However, in reality, this situation is a combination of policy weakness and an extraordinary global crisis. To say that India is sinking economically would be completely wrong, but to say that everything also be a blind eye to the truth.

Beyond violence: Civil disputes, counselling calls surge on women's helpline

New Delhi(GNS): At Delhi's Women Helpline 181, distress comes in many forms. A woman calls after being assaulted by her husband. Another says her in-laws forced her out of the house. A college student reports online blackmail. Increasingly, women are dialling the helpline not during moments of violence alone, but when relationships, homes and mental health begin to collapse.

That shift is now showing up sharply in the numbers. While domestic violence continues to remain the biggest reason women dial the helpline, this year has seen a major rise in complaints linked to civil issues, such as marital disputes, maintenance battles, custody conflicts and personal rights violations. So far this year, civil issues have emerged as the second-largest complaint category on the helpline. More women are also reaching out for counselling and emotional support before situations escalate into violence or legal crises.

Launched in 2012 after the 2012 Delhi gang rape and murder, the toll-free 181 helpline provides 24/7 emergency and support services for women facing violence and distress in public and private spaces.

The scale of calls itself reflects the growing dependence on the service. Data accessed by Media shows that between Jan 1 and May 6 this year, the helpline received 1,39,583 calls and registered 6,541 cases, marking an increase of over 46% in registered cases compared to 4,480 cases during the corresponding period last year. Calls received during the same period in 2025 stood at 1,30,681.

Officials clarified that not every call translates into a registered complaint. "Many calls are not registered as the callers are satisfied at that moment itself. For instance, some ask for the procedure for the Laddi scheme, or it could be about pension, other welfare schemes or counselling services, so they are told about the steps. The helpline is an important avenue for women in Delhi and has been fruitful so far," said a control room official. In Jan, the helpline received 31,394 calls and registered 1,205 cases. Feb saw 31,012 calls and 1,379 registered cases. In March, the number of calls rose to 34,598 with 1,520 cases registered, while April recorded the highest numbers so far, with 35,938 calls and 1,599 registered cases.

Domestic violence, however, continues to overshadow every other category. Between Jan and May 6 this year, 4,072 domestic violence complaints were registered, up from 3,236 during the corresponding period last year. In 2025, the other major complaint categories included other gender-based violence with 483 cases, sexual violence with 364 cases and cybercrime or abuse with 173 complaints. This year, the shift has come from outside the conventional violence categories. The jump in civil issues is particularly striking. During Jan-May 6 last year, complaints in this category stood at 151, but have surged nearly fivefold to 761 this year. Officials said the category captures a wide range of distress situations that often remain invisible until they spiral into crisis.

'Conscious Association With Illicit Gains': ED on Jacqueline's Plea to Turn Approver

New Delhi(GNS): The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Monday opposed actress Jacqueline Fernandez's plea seeking approver status in the Rs 200-crore money laundering case linked to alleged conman Sukesh Chandrashekhar, arguing that she had remained in "regular and sustained contact" with him, despite being aware of his criminal antecedents.

Appearing before special judge Prashant Sharma in the Patiala House Courts, the ED contended that Fernandez was not an "unwitting victim", as her plea claimed, but a recipient of gifts allegedly purchased using proceeds of the crime.

Termining her plea an attempt to evade prosecution, the agency said that her "consistent interaction through numerous ways of communication and receipt of benefits negate any claim of an unwitting victim and instead highlight her conscious association with the main perpetrator, and with illicit gains". The agency also questioned Fernandez's conduct during the investigation, stating that it was "far from cooperative". According to ED, the actor failed to make full, truthful disclosures in her statements and was "evasive and contradictory" in her responses during the probe.

Special public prosecutor Atul Tripathi argued that the approver status is intended for less culpable accused who aid the prosecution against the principal offenders. He said that Fernandez couldn't be treated as a minor participant as she was allegedly a "significant beneficiary of the proceeds of crime". "Her claim of being a victim is, therefore, self-serving and contrary to the evidence on record," the ED said, urging the court not to grant her the approver status as it would be a "miscarriage of justice."

It said the plea was "nothing but an abuse of the process of law". The agency further alleged that it had been filed solely with the intention of "circumventing the legal process and escaping prosecution", instead of cooperating with the investigation.

Five-day rescue campaign for homeless, destitute launched

New Delhi(GNS): Chief Minister Rekha Gupta on Monday launched a special 'Seva and Rescue Campaign' aimed at providing shelter, treatment and rehabilitation to homeless, sick and destitute people across the capital.

The five-day campaign, launched from the Mukhyamantri Seva Sadan, will continue until May 15 and cover all 13 districts of the national capital. The CM flagged off 19 specially equipped ambulances and rescue vehicles, along with support vans, which will be used to identify and shift vulnerable people living on roadsides, pavements, railway stations, bus stands and other public places to



shelter homes. The initiative is being jointly undertaken by the Delhi government's Department of Social Welfare, Apna Ghar Ashram and Seva Bharti. According to officials, the campaign aims to assist more than 300 people during the drive. Speaking at the launch, Gupta said rescued individuals would be

taken to Apna Ghar Ashram, where arrangements had been made for treatment, food, shelter and rehabilitation. She said efforts would also be made to reunite recovered individuals with their families wherever possible, while those without family support would continue to receive care at the Ashram.

The Chief Minister said helping abandoned and vulnerable people was a shared responsibility of both the government and society. She added that many people suffering from illness and neglect were forced to live on the streets without timely access to treatment or shelter, and the government was committed to ensuring that no needy person was deprived of assistance.

Man tries to break in posing as water purifier mechanic

New Delhi(GNS): Posing as a water purifier mechanic, a man allegedly tried to break into multiple houses in northwest Delhi. Police have registered a case.



The unidentified man is suspected to be linked to several incidents of attempted assault and robbery in Keshav Puram and Pitampura, residents claimed. In CCTV footage, the man was seen wearing a cap and carrying a blue bag, arguing with a resident outside a house gate in an apparent attempt to gain entry before moving to another house. The audio captures an exchange of abuses, after which the man is seen fleeing on a two-wheeler while holding a sharp weapon. The footage is dated May 8.

Dubai don's Delhi network busted:

6 shooters held after secret lounge party in Karol Bagh

New Delhi(GNS): The crime branch of Delhi Police has arrested six shooters allegedly linked to gangsters Rashid Cablewala and Hashim Baba after tracing them to a party at a lounge on Pusa Road in central Delhi's Karol Bagh. The accused were planning attacks on rival gang members and were involved in extortion, betting and illegal arms activities across east and northeast Delhi, police said. The police brass has expressed concerns over gangsters assembling in



city bars and warned the district DCPs to take measures, sources said. The arrested were identified as Faiz Qureshi (26), Maaz (24), Nawajish (32), Affak (24), Imran (39) and Arshad (25), residents of Babarpur and Brahmpuri. All six have previous involvement in criminal cases related to murder, attempt to mur-

der, extortion, rioting and Arms Act. Investigators said the accused were also in direct touch with fugitive gangster Cablewala through an encrypted app. "A team was conducting surveillance on active gangs and wanted criminals on May 6 when intelligence inputs revealed that several operatives linked to the Rashid Cablewala and Hashim Baba gangs had gathered at the Karol Bagh lounge," Joint CP Surrender Kumar said. "As the club was crowd-

ed, the police team maintained surveillance outside the premises. Around 4.05am, four suspects came out of the club and were nabbed," he added. Police said four sophisticated pistols, including two Italy-made Beretta guns, along with 32 live cartridges, were recovered from a Maruti Baleno car parked near the lounge. The vehicle was also seized.

During follow-up raids, two more gang members, Arshad and Imran, were arrested along with additional ille-

gal weapons. In total, nine sophisticated pistols with 77 live cartridges of .30 and .32 bore, one .312 bore rifle/doga with four live cartridges and the car were seized.

Cablewala, a close associate of jailed gangster Baba, operates the gang from Dubai and is linked to multiple high-profile murders in Delhi, including the killings of businessman Nadir Shah in Greater Kailash-I, businessman Sunil Jain in Krishna Nagar and a double murder in east Delhi last year.

Pin-Drop Silence: Location Mapping Poses A Problem

New Delhi(GNS): An IAS officer who recently attempted self-enumeration for Census 2027 was unable to pinpoint the exact location of his house on the portal, <https://se.census.gov.in>, because the location pin drifted each time he tried to place it accurately, despite fully zooming in on his location in North Delhi.

"I eventually had to select a tentative location, a few houses from my actual residence, to complete the process," the Delhi govt officer said.

Several other Delhiites have reported similar issues caused by technical and mapping limitations, including low resolution of maps.

'Location details' is the first of the six-step self-enumeration process for house-listing. Users can proceed to subse-

quent steps only after finalising their locations on the map.

Atul Goyal, who lives in the Western Extension Area of Karol Bagh, said he, too, faced problems while trying to complete self-enumeration. "When I tried to pinpoint my building on the map, the marker kept on drifting to another block. I had to abandon the process midway. I will try to complete it before the May 15 deadline," Goyal said.

Delhi govt officials involved in Census 2027 said some location accuracy issues have mainly been reported from densely populated localities. However, they clarified that residents can still complete the process even if an exact building location cannot be marked on the map. "A user should provide details, such as

the village, locality, street or a nearby landmark and then search for the exact location. Once the map loads, he should zoom in until individual houses are visible and place the marker on his building.

If one is unable to identify the exact building, he can select any nearby location. The same applies to residents living in multi-storey buildings," an official said.

"Every household has a buffer zone for tagging. While visiting door-to-door for the purpose of house-listing operations, enumerators will ask for self-enumeration IDs from all households and will match that with the tagged households within their house-listing blocks to confirm it. In case the IDs do not match the houses or buildings, the enumerators will fill the details afresh.

Delhi Police to challenge bail in High Court



New Delhi(GNS): The Delhi Police have initiated formalities to file an appeal before the High Court challenging the bail order of the accused in connection with the alleged sexual assault of a three-year-old girl at a Janakpuri school in west Delhi.

"An appeal is being filed in the High Court to challenge the bail order by the lower court in connection with the case registered under the provisions of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act," a

senior official said on Monday. Meanwhile, the parents staged a protest in the day in front of the school demanding strict punishment for the accused. They also registered their anger against the order to grant bail to the accused. The accused, caretaker at the school, was granted bail on Thursday by a Delhi court after the police arrested him.

The prosecution had strongly opposed the bail application of the accused before the court. However, the accused was granted bail.

Rani Kapur moves Supreme Court in fresh plea

judge says Sunjay Kapur estate dispute makes Mahabharat look small

New Delhi, (GNS): Rani Kapur, the 80-year-old mother of late businessman Sunjay Kapur, has moved the Supreme Court with a fresh plea seeking directions to restrain Priya Sachdev Kapur, the third wife of Sunjay Kapur, along with certain other respondents, from interfering with the functioning of the "RK Family Trust" during the pendency of the mediation proceedings initiated by the court on May 7.

In her plea, Rani Kapur has also sought a stay on the Board Meeting of the company scheduled for May 18. The meeting is being convened pursuant to the Notice and Agenda dated May 8 issued by Raghuvanshi Investment Private Limited, which holds a major part of the disputed family estate.



The matter was mentioned before the Supreme Court on Tuesday by counsel appearing for Rani Kapur. During the hearing, the counsel contended that the proposed board meeting was intended to appoint additional directors to the Board. A bench led by Chief Justice of India JB Pardiwala agreed to list the matter for hearing on May 14, Thursday. During the proceedings the judge said, "We have entered into an arena. Mahabharat will look very small. We will look into it."

AIIMS begins free advanced blood test to improve epilepsy treatment

New Delhi(GNS): For years, epilepsy patients needing long-term anti-seizure medicines have often depended only on symptoms to judge whether a treatment was working. At the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in New Delhi, doctors have now introduced a facility that they say could make that process far more precise and safer.

The AIIMS has started an advanced blood testing service at its neurosciences centre to monitor the levels of two commonly prescribed anti-epilepsy medicines, levetiracetam and lamotrigine, in a patient's bloodstream. The specialised testing, known as therapeutic drug monitoring (TDM), began this week and is currently being offered free of cost. Doctors at the institute said the move is aimed at improving treatment accuracy for epilepsy patients,



many of whom remain on medication for years and require regular monitoring. They explained that the same dose of a medicine may affect patients differently, and incorrect drug levels can either fail to prevent seizures or lead to toxic side effects.

The new in-house testing facility is expected to help doctors personalise treatment by adjusting medicine doses according to a patient's response, body chemistry and risk profile. Experts also said the tests can identify situations where medicines are not

reaching effective levels despite patients taking them regularly.

At present, similar tests in private laboratories can cost between Rs 6,000 and Rs 10,000 for each drug, making routine monitoring difficult for many families. AIIMS officials said the service may later be made available at highly subsidised rates under institute policy. Prof SB Gaikwad, chief of the neurosciences centre, said advanced neurodiagnostic facilities were helping improve the diagnosis and treatment of complex neurological disorders.

HC clears decks for slum removal near PM residence

New Delhi(GNS): Clearing the decks for removal of slum-dwellers living near PM's official residence at Lok Kalyan Marg, Delhi High Court Monday said eviction of unauthorised occupants from govt land doesn't violate the rights to shelter and livelihood, as long as they are rehabilitated properly. HC refused to interfere with the eviction of residents of three slum clusters -- Bhai Ram Camp, DID Camp and Masjid Camp -- but ordered the civic agencies to ensure those being relocated to Savda Ghevra get access to all facilities, including sanitation, water and schools.

Justice Purushendra Kumar Kaurav asked the petitioner residents to vacate the camps within 15 days, observ-



ing they were first served eviction notices by the Land and Development Office in Oct 2025, and sufficient time has elapsed since. HC also acknowledged the concerns raised by govt, which had argued the slum cluster sat in a protected zone, bordering an operational IAF station, and

the decision to remove unauthorised construction was taken to strengthen and secure defence infrastructure and for other important public and security purposes. "The court finds that, considering contemporary geopolitical events, national security concerns of the respondents satisfy as specific reasons for eviction of the petitioners. It ought not to be too eager to interfere with such executive policy decisions," Justice Kaurav stated.

Centre, represented by standing counsel Syed Abdul Haseeb, had argued in-situ rehabilitation is not possible in the present case owing to lack of alternative accommodation in the vicinity, and therefore, a

decision was taken to shift 717 dwellers in the three slums to Savda Ghevra instead.

To minimise problems faced by the dwellers in their relocation, HC asked the authorities to ensure compliance with the DUSB policy and protocol on rehabilitation, and clarified that those who were yet to accept their alternative allotment shall immediately obtain their allotment letter upon due verification of documents and take possession of the allotted flats at Savda Ghevra.

The residents, some of whom had challenged the eviction in HC, said the alternative accommodation was far from the present camps, which put their livelihoods in danger and affected their children's education.

3 cyber fraud rackets busted; 6 held across multiple states

New Delhi(GNS): Six arrests have been made in three separate cases of cyber fraud reported from different parts of the city. In the first case, police busted a cyber fraud racket operating through a fake mobile trading application and arrested three people, including a computer science engineer. A fake call centre linked to the operation was also raided in Madhya Pradesh.

Police said a resident of Paharganj had filed a complaint alleging that he was cheated of Rs 10,000 through the fraudulent trading app.

The prime accused, Ravi Rathore, a computer science engineer, was arrested from Bengaluru on May 3. His associates - Sudama (29) and Vikash Rathod (26), both B.Com graduates - were arrested from Sanawad in Madhya Pradesh on May 5. According to police, the fake call centre employed female callers to influence and lure male victims into investing money through the app. Investigations revealed that the application was linked to 636 victims and 14,232 transactions amounting



to nearly Rs 99.8 crore.

In another case, police arrested the alleged kingpin of an APK file fraud racket from Bihar for cheating a resident of northwest Delhi of around Rs 4 lakh on the pretext of converting his mobile SIM into an e-SIM.

The victim later discovered that a SIM card had been fraudulently issued in his name and that unauthorised transactions had been carried out on an e-commerce platform. Deliveries made using the victim's account were traced to Delhi and Patna, leading to the arrest of the accused, Sachin (26).

Delhi sets minimum standard for green nets at construction sites

New Delhi(GNS): The cloth green meshes or green nets installed along the construction sites are a common sight in Delhi to deal with dust pollution. However, a latest assessment done by Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) has found them ineffective as dust particles can easily pass through the material, prompting it to fix the minimum thickness of green nets at 100 grams per square metre (GSM) in construction and demolition (C&D) sites.

All project proponents will have to comply with the specification with immediate effect, DPCC stated. Environment minister Manjinder Singh Sirsa said the move was aimed at better prevention of dust dispersion. The installation of green nets is one of the 14-point mandatory guideline to combat dust pollution at these sites. The DPCC order has been issued to major civic, infrastructure and construction-linked agencies, including MCD, NDMC, DDA, DMRC, CPWD and PWD, for immediate implementation. Sirsa said the new specification would address a critical compliance gap. While earlier directions already required the use of tarpaulin or green nets around under-construction buildings and over-stored construction and demolition material, no minimum technical specification was prescribed for the green net itself.

"With the fixation of 100GSM as the minimum standard, Delhi govt has moved to ensure that dust barriers are not merely symbolic, but genuinely effective in containing particulate matter at source," said Sirsa. He added that action would be taken against the sites violating the order.

Dust is one of the main sources of pollution in Delhi. A 2018 joint study by The Energy and Resources Institute and Automotive Research Association of India had stated that the contribution of dust (soil, road and construction) was 25% to PM10 and 17% to PM2.5 in Delhi's air pollution during winter. In summer, it was 42% in PM10 and 38% in PM2.5. Sunil Dahiya, founder of thinktank Envirocatalyst, said, "It is a welcome step to take policy action based on data and assessment. However, many sites do not properly install the green nets and action should be taken against them."

Domestic violence Act doesn't confer ownership rights over property: HC

New Delhi(GNS): Upholding an order asking a daughter-in-law and her son to vacate a property owned by her in-laws, Delhi High Court has stressed that "right of residence in a shared household" under the Domestic Violence (DV) Act doesn't mean ownership of the premises.

"The right of residence is a protective right, intended to secure shelter, and is subject to the balancing of competing rights, including the right of senior citizens to peacefully enjoy their property... In appropriate cases, the court may direct eviction of the daughter-in-law from the shared household, provided



that suitable alternate accommodation or rent in lieu, thereof, is made available to her," HC said, relying on provisions of the Act.

Justice Purushendra K Kaurav observed that the Act doesn't envisage ownership rights over a property. "In cir-

cumstances where cohabitation has become wholly unworkable, the balance must tilt in favour of the senior citizens, while leaving it open to the petitioners to avail (themselves of) appropriate remedies, including alternate accommodation, in accordance with law," he noted, directing the mother-son duo to vacate the property "so as to secure the peaceful residence and dignity of the senior citizens".

The judge also secured the rights of the woman and her son, who will be handed over possession of another property owned by her in-laws. The court was dealing with an appeal filed by the woman

who lost her husband but continued to stay at the in-laws' house with her child. As acrimony between the parties increased, the elderly couple asked them to move out, but to no avail. The couple then invoked provisions of the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007 (Senior Citizens Act), alleging ill-treatment and seeking the duo's eviction.

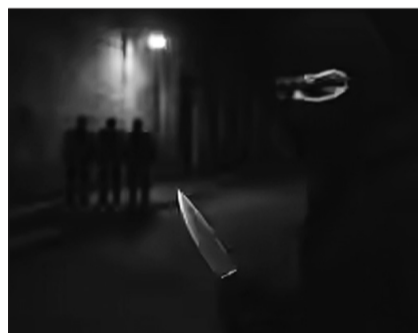
HC found that the daughter-in-law wasn't in a destitute or vulnerable condition since she is a gainfully employed govt teacher with a stable and independent source of income, and her child has grown up. HC pointed out that the DV Act is meant to shield a victim of

domestic violence requiring protection in the form of continued residence in a shared household. However, the dispute between the parties in question is not one arising out of economic deprivation or lack of shelter, but centred around competing claims relating to LIC policies and alleged rights in properties stated to have been derived from an ancestral business, it added. The court said that in situations where DV laws and the rights of senior citizens overlap, a harmonious construction must be adopted, balancing a daughter-in-law's right to reside in a shared household against senior citizens' right to a tranquil life.

Click, Pay, Stab: Delhi's Online Button Knife Boom

New Delhi(GNS): The capital has witnessed a number of stabbing incidents in the past one year, and in most cases, a button knife ordered online has been the weapon of choice. But how easy is it to actually get one? On the digital marketplace, procuring this knife is just a click and Rs 87 away, Media found.

Under the Arms Act, 1959, and specifically the Arms Rules, 1962, the possession and sale of button-actuated knives are strictly regulated through a series of official notifications. While the Act generally exempts tools meant for domestic or agricultural use, a notification, often cited as the DAD Notification of 1980, brings specific sharp-edged weapons under the "mischief of the Arms Act" based on their dimensions. Specifically, it prohibits the



possession of any knife with a blade length exceeding 7.62 cm (3 inches) and a width exceeding 1.72 cm (0.67 inches), especially if it features a spring-actuated mechanism.

However, a single search for "push button knife" on major e-commerce platforms currently yields over 600 results. Priced between Rs 87 and Rs 3,000, these weapons are expertly camouflaged. Sellers bypass automated filters by using innocuous labels such as

"Spring-Assisted Tactical Folding Knife", "Multi-tool", or even "Customised Engraved Pocket Knives" intended for "office use".

"The marketing as 'safe kitchen tools' is a facade," said an officer. "Platforms argue the folding mechanism is a safety feature to protect users. In reality, this is a legal loophole. These are the weapons of choice for criminals because they are easy to conceal, bypass detection and can be brandished instantly with a single press of a button."

In Feb, the West district police registered an FIR under the Arms Act after a quick commerce website was found enabling the sale of such illegal blades. Investigations linked these online purchases to two murders, including one in which a 14-year-old boy was killed.

CBI files fresh chargesheet in Noida housing fraud case

New Delhi(GNS): The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has filed a seventh chargesheet against Sequel Buildtech Pvt Ltd and its directors in connection with alleged fraudulent activities relating to a housing project in Noida. The investigation has revealed that the accused builder company and its directors, in furtherance of a criminal conspiracy, allegedly induced innocent homebuyers and investors through false assurances, misleading representations and deceptive promises, thereby dishonestly obtaining financial gains while causing wrongful loss to the victims, the agency said.

The chargesheet has been filed before the competent court under relevant provisions of the Indian Penal Code pertaining to criminal



conspiracy, cheating and criminal breach of trust, the CBI said in a statement. The agency is currently investigating 50 cases registered on the directions of the Supreme Court against various builder companies and unknown officials of financial institutions across the country in matters concerning alleged cheating and diversion of funds involving homebuyers.

Delhi's draft EV policy gets 700 responses

New Delhi(GNS): Nearly 700 people and organisations, ranging from daily commuters and gig workers to electric vehicle manufacturers and government bodies, took part in the month-long consultation exercise on the Delhi's draft EV policy.

The draft policy remained in the public domain for 30 days till May 10. During this period, the Delhi Transport Department invited suggestions and objections through online and offline submissions. The department also held a series of stakeholder consultation conferences with players linked to the electric mobility sector, including original equipment manufacturers across two-wheelers, three-wheelers, four-wheelers, goods vehicles and e-rickshaws, besides charge point operators, battery swapping operators, DISCOMs, fleet aggregators, battery recyclers and vehicle scrappers. According to the government, around 400 responses came from the general public. These included residents, vehicle owners, com-



muters, RWAs, students, delivery riders and gig workers. Another 200 submissions were received from industry stakeholders such as OEMs, OEM associations, charge point operators, battery swapping operators, vehicle scrappers, battery recyclers, DISCOMs and fleet aggregators. More than 50 responses were submitted by schools, NGOs, think tanks, universities, environmental groups, research insti-

tutions, consulting organisations, policy advisory bodies, trade associations and civil society organisations. Around a dozen submissions came from government departments, ministries and statutory authorities.

Sharing details of the exercise, Delhi Transport Minister Pankaj Kumar Singh said the scale of participation reflected Delhi's growing interest in cleaner and future-ready trans-

port systems. "The response received from citizens, industry stakeholders, institutions and experts reflects Delhi's collective aspiration towards a cleaner, greener and future-ready mobility ecosystem. Under the CM's leadership, the government is committed to formulating a progressive and implementation-oriented EV policy that accelerates clean mobility adoption while safeguarding environmental and public health interests," he said. The minister said several suggestions received during the consultation process were being examined and suitable recommendations would be incorporated wherever found practical and appropriate. He said many stakeholders had supported the government's proposed measures to accelerate EV adoption in the national capital. The government said the final Delhi EV Policy 2026 is being prepared as a comprehensive framework aimed at strengthening sustainable urban mobility and creating a model that could serve as an example for other cities.

Neglected injury costs mobility, surgeon reconstructs wrist using patient's bone

New Delhi(GNS): A common wrist injury, left untreated and neglected for years, nearly resulted in the permanent loss of movement for a young adult in Delhi, until surgeons intervened with a rare reconstructive procedure, they said, is performed in fewer than 100 cases worldwide. The patient had suffered a fracture of the scaphoid, a small but crucial bone in the wrist that plays a key role in stability and motion. Like many such injuries, it was initially ignored. Over time, and with repeated strain, including gym activity, the condition of the wound worsened.

The bone failed to heal, lost its blood supply, and eventually died and fragmented, a condition known as avascular necrosis. By the time the patient sought medical help at Max Super Speciality Hospital, the situation was critical. Conventional surgical options at this stage are limited -- either fuse the wrist joint, impacting movement entirely, or remove part of the wrist bones, significantly reducing mobility.

"Such cases are rare but challeng-



ing. When the bone is fragmented, reconstruction becomes difficult. Typically, we are left with options like fusion or removal of the bone, both of which compromise function," said Dr Vikas Gupta, hand and wrist surgeon.

Instead, the doctors opted for an innovative solution, reconstructing the wrist using the patient's own bone. Dr Gupta harvested a portion of the hamate -- a neighboring wrist bone with a similar shape -- and transplanted it into the space left by the damaged scaphoid. Because the graft came from the same wrist, it eliminated the need for a secondary surgical site. Equally critical was the repair of the scapholunate ligament, which stabilises the wrist by connecting key bones.