



Humility, Forgiveness and Good Conduct Are True Ornaments of Personality: PM Modi



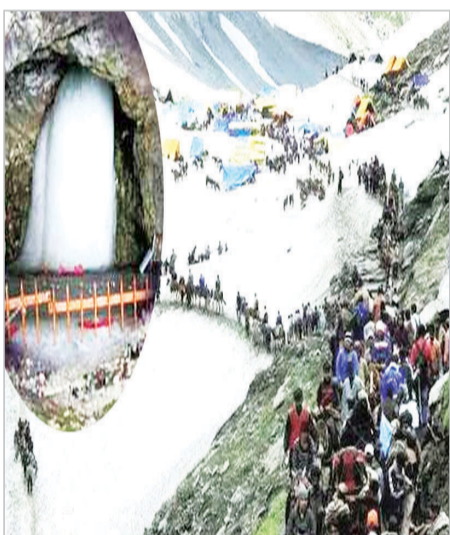
New Delhi (Agency): Prime Minister Narendra Modi shared a Sanskrit verse on social media, emphasizing that humility, forgiveness, and noble conduct are the true ornaments of a person's character.

He wrote that these qualities inspire citizens as they work toward the vision of a developed India.

The Sanskrit verse shared by the Prime Minister was Tejah Kshama Dhritih Shaucham Adroho Naatimaanitaa, Bhavanti Sampadam Daiveem Abhijaatasya Bharat.

Its meaning is that brilliance, forgiveness, patience, purity, absence of hatred, and freedom from arrogance are divine virtues that define a noble individual.

Record Security Arrangements for Amarnath Yatra



Srinagar (Agency): Authorities are preparing unprecedented security measures for the 2026 Amarnath Yatra.

Key Security Highlights Over 80,000 security personnel will be deployed. Around 60,000 paramilitary personnel will be stationed across Jammu & Kashmir.

Approximately 700 CAPF companies will be deployed.

About 20,000 personnel from the Indian Army and Jammu & Kashmir Police will support security operations. The pilgrimage will run from July 3 to August 28, making it one of the longest editions in recent years. Authorities expect more than 500,000 pilgrims to participate.

Advanced surveillance systems, monitoring technologies, and multi-layered security arrangements are being implemented.



48 Dead Due to Storms and Rain in UP-Bihar

10 Vehicles Swept Away in Saharanpur

Lucknow/Patna, Agency: Amid the ongoing heatwave, a pre-monsoon rain alert has been issued in more than 15 states across the country. In Bihar, 17 people have died in the last 24 hours due to thunderstorms, rain, and lightning strikes. In Patna, four flights were diverted and 18 flights were delayed due to rain, causing inconvenience to more than 500 passengers. Rain is expected in 25 districts of the state today.

In Uttar Pradesh, 31 people lost their lives in the last 24 hours due to storms and strong winds. In Saharanpur, heavy rainfall caused water to rush down from the hills, sweeping away 10 vehicles,



including an Innova and a tractor. A rain alert remains in place for all 75 districts of the state today.

In Rajasthan, hailstorms accompanied by strong winds may occur in 30 districts on Saturday. A day earlier, temperatures dropped by up to 10 degrees Celsius in nine districts, including Churu, Hanumangarh, Bikaner, and Sikar. Hailstones were reported in Pathankot, Punjab, while Mohali received heavy rainfall. The Meteorological Department said that the monsoon may reach Kerala within the next seven days.

Nine Pakistani intelligence agency ISI agents arrested in Delhi

weapons, hand grenades, and explosives recovered

New Delhi, Agency: The Delhi Police Special Cell has foiled a major terrorist attack in Delhi. Police have busted a terrorist module linked to Dawood Ibrahim's network and Pakistan's intelligence agency, the ISI, and arrested nine individuals. Weapons, hand grenades, and explosives have been recovered from them.

According to investigating agencies, this network had been under development for a long time.

Its goal was to target ministries, security forces, and major religious sites in Delhi. Initial investigations have linked the accused to Pakistan-backed handlers and the Mumbai underworld.



According to sources, some of the arrested suspects are of Nepali origin. These individuals were being specifically trained to carry out attacks. Agencies are now working to determine who was operating the network and its local affiliates in India.

Army Chief Says India Preparing for Operation Sindoor 2.0

All Three Armed Forces Ready 24x7 for Future Conflict; Current Situation Is Only a Ceasefire

Pune/Delhi, Agency: Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi said that Operation Sindoor is not over. The current situation is merely a ceasefire-like arrangement. If necessary, all three armed forces are fully prepared for "Operation Sindoor 2.0." He stated that the operation has established a benchmark for how India responds to provocation and urged cadets to uphold that standard throughout their military careers.

The Army Chief attended the 150th Passing Out Parade of the



National Defence Academy (NDA) in Khadakwasla, Pune, as the Reviewing Officer and took the salute of 355 cadet officers. The event included a march past and flypast by Su-30 fighter aircraft, Chetak helicopters, the Sarang helicopter aerobatics team, and the Akash Ganga skydiving team.

Accused Acquitted in Faiz Qureshi Murder Case; Court Said FSL Report Failed to Prove Involvement

Bhopal, Agency: Former District and Sessions Judge Giribala Singh has once again come under public attention following CBI action in the actress and model Twisha Sharma death case. On Friday, the CBI presented Giribala Singh and her son Samarth Singh before a special court and sought five-day police custody for both, which was granted. Following the arrest, attention has turned to the final judgment of Giribala Singh's judicial career. The verdict



related to the high-profile Faiz Qureshi murder case in Bhopal's Talaiya police station area, where the accused, Shafiq Qureshi, was acquitted on the benefit of doubt.

On February 13, 2023, Singh ruled that the prosecution had failed to establish the murder charge beyond reasonable doubt. According to the court,

Faiz Qureshi Murdered in 2021: According to the prosecution, Faiz Qureshi was attacked with a knife near Eidgah School Ground in Talaiya on the night of July 25, 2021. He was declared dead upon arrival at the hospital. The post-mortem confirmed death due to deep chest wounds and excessive bleeding. Police arrested Shafiq Qureshi and allegedly recovered a knife, clothing, and other materials from him. The case also involved forensic examination.

eyewitness testimony, scientific evidence, and the FSL report did not conclusively prove the accused's involvement.

Domestic Violence Rate Falls from 29.2% to 22.3%; Obesity Among Women Rises by 7%

Clean Drinking Water Reaches 96.5% Households

New Delhi, Agency: The National Family Health Survey 2023-24 (NFHS-6) report was released on Friday. According to the report, obesity among women has increased by 7% compared to 2019-21.

The domestic violence rate has declined from 29.2% to 22.3%. Child marriage has decreased from 23.3% to 20.1%. The percentage of working women has risen from 25.4% to 30.8%.

Meanwhile, cesarean



deliveries in private hospitals have reached a record level of 54.1%. The rate of exclusive breastfeeding during the first six months has dropped from 63.7% to 55.8%. Electricity has reached 98.3% of households, while 96.5% have access to clean drinking water. Internet

usage among women has doubled to 64.3%.

18.8% Women Own Land or Property: Women now own a house or land in 18.8% of households across the country—18.2% in urban areas and 19.1% in rural areas. In the previous survey (2021), the figure stood at only 14%.

However, the use of modern family planning methods such as pills, condoms, and sterilization has declined from 56.4% to 52.7%.

Report: Iran to Receive Reconstruction Fund Worth Rs 28.5 Lakh Crore

Tehran/Washington D.C., Agency: A proposed 60-day ceasefire agreement between the United States and Iran reportedly includes provisions for a reconstruction fund worth \$300 billion (approximately Rs 28.5 lakh crore) for Iran, along with investment by American companies.

According to a report by The New York Times, an Iranian official described the package as a reconstruction program. The official stated that the economic assistance would be promised once a final agreement is signed. Meanwhile, U.S. President Donald Trump claimed that both sides were close to reaching an understanding on Iran's nuclear program. He said Iran would not develop nuclear weapons and that its enriched uranium stockpile would be eliminated.



C-Sections Become the 'New Normal' in Private Hospitals

Caesarean Deliveries Reach 90% in Jammu & Kashmir and 84% in Telangana

New Delhi, Agency: Childbirth through Caesarean section has increasingly become the norm in India's private hospitals. According to the latest National Family Health Survey (NFHS), more than 54 percent of deliveries in private hospitals across the country are now performed through C-section. Some states have reported particularly high



figures. Private hospitals in West Bengal recorded the highest rate, with 87.7 percent of births taking place through Caesarean delivery. Telangana followed

with 84 percent, while Andhra Pradesh recorded 66 percent.

Among 27 states and the Union Territories of Delhi and Jammu & Kashmir, 18 states reported that more than half of all births in private hospitals are delivered through Caesarean procedures. Even when public and private hospitals are considered together, several states

continue to record exceptionally high rates. In Telangana, more than 62 percent of all deliveries are performed through C-section, while the corresponding figures are over 52 percent in Andhra Pradesh and 44.5 percent in West Bengal.

Jammu & Kashmir presents an even more striking picture. The Caesarean delivery rate in

private hospitals has reached nearly 90 percent, while government hospitals record a rate of about 49 percent. As a result, more than half of all births in the Union Territory take place through surgical delivery. India has witnessed a sharp rise in Caesarean births over the past two decades. In 2004-05, only 8.5 percent of deliveries were performed through C-section.

The cockroach caused me great pain...

Gurmeet Bedi

These cockroaches have truly made life miserable. They were previously indiscriminate in kitchens and bathrooms, and now they've reached Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube. This means they've taken over social media as well. No tactics are proving effective. The more I kill them, the more I block them, the more they multiply. A new problem has

arisen. Inflation hasn't caused as much trouble as rising petrol and diesel prices. The shortage of cooking gas hasn't caused as much trouble as the rising price of gold. Even the leader's breach of promise hasn't caused as much trouble as these cockroaches have. Day or night, morning or evening, cockroaches roam freely, as if democracy reigns supreme in the country. Previously,

cockroaches were found only in drains. Now, they're even swimming in the drains of knowledge. The cockroaches in the kitchen were still decent. They would see bread and run away. These social media cockroaches turned out to be very dangerous. They come running at the sight of a person. As soon as I opened my mobile, a cockroach came out of the comment box - "Sir, your infor-

mation is wrong." Another said - "Read it yourself first." The third said - "This is all fake." The fourth said - "I have been practicing astrology for fifteen years." Now people are unable to understand whether the number of astrologers has increased or the number of cockroaches. Earlier, there used to be one Pandit in the locality. The entire locality used to consult his horoscope. Now every other

cockroach is making a reel and rotating the planets upside down. I even found one cockroach who was saying - "Saturn will now move at the speed of Mars." I said, "Brother, are they planets or a Haryana Roadways bus?" But the cockroach was brimming with confidence. These days, confidence is being sold more than knowledge. There was a time when people

read thumbnails. The thumbnail might say, "Four zodiac signs will become kings!" Now, the poor guy, looking at his zodiac sign, imagines himself to be Maharaja Ranjit Singh. But the next day, if the milkman asks for a loan, all his royalty is gone. The greatest quality of these cockroaches is that they possess knowledge on every subject. In the morning, they'll comment on politics.

Editorial

Ebola's 'death period'

We still feel the fear, stress, and fear of death of the COVID-19 pandemic, but the Ebola virus has created a new sense of "health terrorism." Ebola is no longer confined to Congo, Uganda, and South Sudan; 10 other African countries have been affected. Nearly 200 deaths have occurred in Congo alone. The total death toll is currently estimated at around 250, and approximately 1,000 are suspected cases. These figures are official, not factual, as there is no data available on how many of the suspected patients have recovered or how many have died. Even before this tragic situation, the World Health Organization had declared the Ebola virus and infection a global health emergency. Fear, stress, and helplessness are also prevalent because Ebola remains incurable. There is no vaccine, pill, or capsule in the world that can cure Ebola. Expert doctors believe that the chances of death from this infection are 25-80 percent. Therefore, we consider the current period to be the "death period" for humanity. However, the Serum Institute, Pune, and Oxford University in the UK are jointly conducting experiments on an Ebola vaccine. They are confident that an effective vaccine will be available on the global market within the next six months. Serum Institute and Oxford University mass-produced the COVID-19 vaccine, "Covishield," resulting in millions of patients recovering and ultimately eliminating COVID-19. Oxford invented the vaccine, but Serum Institute produced it globally.

However, Russia now claims that its expert doctors and researchers are working on an Ebola vaccine.

Rubio held up a mirror to our leaders

India has yet to enact a specific, independent law to prevent or combat torture. Although India signed the United Nations Convention against Torture in 1997, currently, provisions of the Indian Penal Code and the Indian Constitution are used to address torture. The Torture Prevention Bill was passed by the Lok Sabha in 2010, with the aim of ratifying the UN Convention and explicitly making torture a punishable offense. However, after being referred to a Select Committee and recommending amendments, the bill lapsed and never became law. Human rights groups say that hundreds of people die in custody in India every year...

Yogendra Yogi

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio, who is on a visit to India, said that there are stupid people in every country in the world. We will take them seriously. He added that there are stupid people in America too. US Secretary of State Marco Rubio, who was in the capital Delhi to participate in the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad), responded to the racial attacks on Indians in America. Rubio said, "I will take racist comments very seriously. I'm sure there are people who have made comments online and elsewhere, because stupid people exist in every country in the world. I'm sure there are stupid people here, and there are stupid people in the United States who make stupid comments all the time. The United States is a very welcoming country. We have benefited from people coming to our country from all over the world. The US Secretary of State probably realizes that racism, casteism, communalism, and regionalism are integral to India. India's political parties are at the forefront of politicizing these issues, weakening the



country and tarnishing its image internationally." Whether it's the opposition or the ruling party, no one is left behind in exploiting their political interests. Whichever political party is in power attempts to justify torture and brutality under legal guise. The most egregious example of this in the country is the deaths in police custody. In the United States, a young Black man was murdered by police officers. This sparked an uproar across the United States. On May 25, 2020, in Minneapolis, a white police officer named Derek Chauvin pressed his knee on the neck of an unarmed Black man named George Floyd for approximately nine minutes, resulting in his death from suffocation. After the

video of this incident went viral, historic protests erupted in all 50 states under the aegis of the "Black Lives Matter" movement. The accused police officer was convicted of murder and sentenced to 22.5 years in prison in 2021. In contrast, in India, deaths in police custody are considered commonplace. The government is not particularly affected by such deaths. The government never takes them seriously. The reason is clear: the ruling class is directly or indirectly responsible for such deaths. This is why governments remain silent even on such inhumane and sensitive issues as custodial deaths. The opposition certainly makes some noise, but such deaths have occurred even when the opposition

has been in power, so the opposition often remains silent for fear of digging up festering issues fabricated by the ruling party. Courts have attempted to prevent deaths in police custody in India, but have been unsuccessful. The Supreme Court has described custodial violence as a blot on the system. While hearing the case of such deaths, the Supreme Court sternly asked, "Is the central government taking us lightly?" The Supreme Court bench of Justice Vikram Nath and Justice Sandeep Mehta said, "This country will no longer tolerate this. This is a blot on the system. Custodial deaths cannot happen."

The Supreme Court made this harsh remark against the central government while hearing a suo motu case on the issue of non-functioning CCTV cameras in police stations across India. Only exceptionally often do the courts punish the guilty policemen in custodial deaths. In April 2026, in a historic and rare verdict, a Madurai court sentenced nine policemen to death for the brutal murder of a father (P. Jayaraj) and son (J. Bennicks) in police custody in 2020.

Take a pledge to keep youth away from tobacco

The Indian government has taken several steps to control tobacco. Smoking is prohibited in public places. Large warning pictures are placed on tobacco product packages. Tobacco sales are prohibited around schools and hospitals. Awareness campaigns are also being run through the National Tobacco Control Program. But government efforts alone are not enough. Families, schools, and society must also step forward to motivate young people to stay away from tobacco. Teachers and parents should communicate openly with children and educate them about the harmful effects of tobacco. The government also spends thousands of crores of rupees every year on treating tobacco-related diseases. If this money were invested in development and education, society could benefit even more...

World No Tobacco Day is celebrated worldwide every year on May 31st. The day aims to raise awareness about the serious health risks of tobacco use and to promote effective policies to reduce tobacco use. The day was initiated by the World Health Organization (WHO) in 1987. Today, tobacco use has become a major cause of death and disease worldwide, claiming millions of lives prematurely each year. Tobacco is used in many forms, including cigarettes, bidis, gutkha, khaini, zarda, and hookah. The nicotine present in these tobacco products is highly addictive, leading to a gradual addiction. Tobacco use is linked to serious illnesses such as cancer, heart disease, lung disease, stroke, and high blood pressure.

shocking statistics

According to the World Health Organization, every year around 8 million people in the world lose their lives due to tobacco. Of these, around 1.3 million people are those who do not consume tobacco themselves, but are affected by



exposure to secondhand smoke. Tobacco consumption is a serious problem in India as well. According to the Global Adult Tobacco Survey, around 28.6 percent of the adult population in India consumes tobacco in some form or the other. Every year around 1.3 million people in the country die due to tobacco-related diseases. This situation is extremely worrying, especially when the youth and adolescents are increasingly falling prey to it. Rising addiction among youth is a matter of concern. Nowadays, influenced by films, social media, and peers, many young people consider tobacco use a fashion statement or a stress reliever. School and

college students are increasingly drawn to products like gutkha, cigarettes, and vaping. This habit, which begins at an early age, can lead to serious health problems and negatively impact education and career paths.

Economic and social impact of tobacco

Tobacco not only harms health but also places a heavy financial burden on families and communities. Poor families spend a significant portion of their income on tobacco, impacting essential needs like education, nutrition, and health. The government also spends millions of rupees on treating tobacco-related illnesses.

The role of government and society

The Indian government has taken several steps to control tobacco. Smoking is prohibited in public places. Large warning pictures are placed on tobacco product packages. Tobacco sales are prohibited around schools and hospitals. Awareness campaigns are also being run through the National Tobacco Control Program. But government efforts alone are not enough. Families, schools, and society must also step forward to motivate youth to stay away from tobacco. Teachers and parents should communicate openly with children and educate them about the ill effects of tobacco. The government also spends thousands of crores of rupees every year on treating tobacco-related diseases. If this money were invested in development and education, society could benefit more.

Government efforts and awareness campaigns

The Indian government has taken several important steps to control tobacco.

Efforts such as the ban on smoking in public places, warning signs on tobacco products, a ban on advertising, and the National Tobacco Control Program are commendable. Additionally, awareness campaigns are being conducted at school, college, and panchayat levels to educate people about the harms of tobacco.

conclusion

World No Tobacco Day is not just a day, but a pledge to move towards a healthy life. If we ourselves stay away from tobacco and make others aware about it, then it is possible to build a healthy and strong society. Come, on this 31st May, let us all take a pledge that we will neither consume tobacco ourselves nor let anyone else do so. Quit tobacco, add life. It is also noteworthy that when Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu recently visited a school in Himachal, the school children told him that some children bring khaini to the school and use it. Students in all schools should be monitored to ensure that they are not using drugs. Children should be made aware.

CM raps officials after surprise check at Rohini sub-registrar offices

New Delhi, (GNS): Chief minister Rekha Gupta on Friday directed that a regular officer or caretaker be designated in every public-facing office to monitor basic facilities, cleanliness and maintenance on a daily basis. The direction came after Gupta conducted a surprise inspection of multiple sub-registrar offices operating from Ambedkar Bhawan in Rohini's Sector 16 and expressed displeasure over the building's dilapidated condition.

Gupta flagged poor lighting, non-functional air conditioners, broken flooring, unclean Medialets, inadequate seating and general neglect in maintenance. The offices are visited by a large number of people every working day for important documentation and prop-



erty-related work.

During her interaction with visitors, several citizens complained about having to wait for long periods while standing, inadequate seating, the absence of a token system, poor air conditioning and lack of other basic facilities.

Gupta directed officials to

ensure that citizens do not face inconvenience and stressed that it is the gov't's responsibility to provide a dignified and comfortable environment in public offices. Expressing disappointment over the poor upkeep of the building, the chief minister asked the officials concerned to submit

complete records of all correspondence and repair proposals related to the premises.

Gupta directed officials to complete the necessary facelift and improvement works within a week. She said she would conduct a follow-up visit soon to review the progress.

"The chief minister inspected the record room and arrangements for the safety of documents, and directed officials to accord the highest priority to the security, digitisation and preservation of important revenue records so that gov't documents remain protected in the event of any accident or technical failure," an official said. She also warned of strict action if any complaints of bribery, harassment or deliberate delays in work are received.

Govt forms panel to select DERC chairperson, members

New Delhi, (GNS): LG Taranjit Singh Sandhu has constituted a three-member selection committee for the appointment of the chairperson and two members of Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (DERC).

One of the key tasks before the power regulator is the initiation of a process for the liquidation of nearly Rs 38,500 crore in regulatory assets (RA), which have accumulated over the years due to a gap between the actual cost of power distribution and tariffs charged to consumers.

DERC comprises a chairperson and two members, as mandated under the Electricity Act, 2003. Justice Shabihul Hasnain served as its chairperson from July 2021 to Jan 2023, Justice Jayant Nath was pro-tem (interim) chairperson between Aug 2023 and March 2025, before Justice Umesh Kumar, a former Allahabad High Court judge, headed it from March 2025 to July in the same year. In effect, the statutory body has been functioning without a



chief for nearly a year. Surender Babbar and Ram Naresh Singh, the two members serving in DERC since Sept 26, 2024, are functioning in a pro-tem capacity.

DERC plays a key role in regulating the generation, transmission, distribution and supply of electricity across the capital. It is responsible for determining power tariffs, ensuring transparency in the functioning of power utilities, protecting consumer interests and promoting efficiency and competition in the sector. DERC also adjudicates disputes involving electricity companies and works to ensure reliable and quality power supply in the capital. The selection committee set up by LG will be headed by Justice S L Bhayana, a retired judge of Delhi High Court. The chief secretary of Delhi and the chairperson of Central Electricity Authority will serve as its other two members, according to a notice issued by Delhi govt on May 27.

Stay cool this weekend; IMD says temp to gradually rise after May 30

New Delhi, (GNS): The city finally received some much-needed relief from extreme heat late on Thursday evening, while Friday remained cloudy with comparatively cooler winds under the influence of a lingering western disturbance.

The maximum temperature dropped by about 5 degrees Celsius over the past 24 hours. While no heatwave conditions were observed on Thursday, Delhi had witnessed intense heat a day earlier on Wednesday, May 27, when peak temperatures touched 45.6 degrees Celsius at Ridge, 44.4 degrees at Ayanagar and 44.3 degrees at Safdarjung. Overall, the city



recorded a drop of 7.5 to 9.4 degrees Celsius in maximum temperatures between Wednesday and Friday.

"The maximum temperature is likely to fall by 5-6 degrees Celsius till May 30, followed by a gradual rise of

6-7 degrees Celsius over the subsequent five days," the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said.

Delhi has experienced two heatwave spells so far this summer. Parts of the city reeled under three consecu-

tive heatwave days from April 23 to 25, though Safdarjung recorded just one heatwave day on April 25 when the mercury climbed to 42.8 degrees Celsius. Another heatwave spell was recorded from May 18 to 21 in some areas, while Safdarjung again logged only one heatwave day on May 19, when the maximum temperature touched 45.1 degrees Celsius.

On Friday, the maximum temperature at Safdarjung was recorded at 36.8 degrees Celsius, four notches below normal, compared with 41.1 degrees Celsius a day earlier. The feel-like temperature,

however, remained high at 39.5 degrees Celsius around noon due to humidity. Even so, Friday was the coolest day in the past 21 days, with a lower temperature last recorded on May 8. The IMD has issued a yellow alert for rain with strong winds for Saturday and Sunday. The respite from extreme heat is expected to continue for the next two to three days.

Meanwhile, improved weather conditions also led to better air quality. "Delhi's daily average AQI improved from 207 on May 28 to 123 on May 29," stated the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM), revoking GRAP-I.



WFI relents, allows Vinesh Phogat to compete in 53kg category at Asiad trials

New Delhi, (GNS): Former world championships medallist Vinesh Phogat was on Saturday allowed to compete in the women's 53kg category at the Asian Games selection trials after the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) reversed its earlier stand of restricting her participation to the 50kg division.

The dramatic turn of events came during the official weigh-in on Saturday morning when Vinesh was informed that she would be permitted to compete only in the 50kg category, citing her participation in that weight class in her last four international events, including the Paris Olympics. The wrestler strongly objected to the decision and accused the federation of discriminating against her by denying her the opportunity to compete in a category of her choice.

Sources present at the venue said the matter escalated before WFI president Sanjay Singh intervened and decided to allow Vinesh to enter the 53kg trials as well. "We allowed her after she threw accusations and asked the officials to take her weight," WFI president Sanjay Singh told.

"We do not want to discriminate anyone. She did not inform which category she wants to compete and still letting her," Vinesh subsequently weighed in at 53.9kg and was accommodated in the 53kg draw.

It now sets up an intriguing battle between her, another proven performer Antim Panghal and the fast-rising Meenakshi Goyat. In a brief chat with media while preparing, Vinesh said, "I am here for at least two years."

The development was a significant climb-down by the WFI, which had maintained that Vinesh would be considered only for the 50kg category.

Teachers say they cannot be solely blamed for result dip, flag OSM issues

New Delhi, (GNS): Delhi govt school teachers are facing mounting pressure following a sharp decline in CBSE Class XII results this year, with many educators blaming the newly introduced on-screen marking system (OSM). The Govt Schools Teachers' Association (GSTA) has written to the Delhi education minister seeking the withdrawal of show-cause notices issued to teachers, alleging that technical and procedural shortcomings in the system led to unusually strict evaluation.

In its letter, the association claimed that the OSM system was implemented "without adequate preparation and practical assessment", despite earlier suggestions that it be introduced first as a pilot project. According to the GSTA, evaluators across subjects



encountered several issues during the assessment process, including "blurred scanned answer sheets, uploading of incorrect answer booklets, missing pages of answer sheets, and difficulties in reading scripts due to poor handwriting".

The letter stated that these issues forced evaluators to adopt "excessive caution to

avoid any error", which "consequently resulted in unusually strict marking in many cases". Following the declaration of results, students and parents reportedly raised complaints over marks being significantly lower than expected, while many also faced technical problems during re-evaluation applications.

Despite these concerns, teachers were allegedly held responsible for the decline in school-level results. "Several teachers were issued show-cause notices and memorandums. They were also threatened with adverse remarks in their annual performance assessment reports, thereby creating an atmosphere of unnecessary stress," the letter said. GSTA general secretary Ajay Veer Yadav said teachers were unfairly blamed for systemic shortcomings.

Shooter accuses trainer of rape; he alleges abduction

New Delhi, (GNS): An elite international shooter has accused her mental conditioning trainer in Jhajjar of drug-ging and raping her and then blackmailing her with videos. While an FIR was registered based on the shooter's complaint, police said they had also received a complaint from the trainer, accusing some of the shooter's family members of kidnapping and confining him and forcing him into unnatural sex. An FIR against the shooter's family members has also been filed. DCP Bahadurgarh Mayank Mishra confirmed the FIRs to media on Friday and said both complaints were received on May 20, within an hour of each other. "In one case, the shooter has alleged rape, blackmail and mental harassment. The other incident relates to a monetary dispute the trainer had with the shoot-



er's family. Both cases are under investigation," Mishra said.

In his complaint, the trainer alleged he was abducted on April 29 by several individuals, kept in confinement for nearly 20 days, subjected to unnatural sexual acts, and robbed of his belongings before being abandoned near a toll plaza close to Asaudha on May 17. "Around an hour after this complaint, a counter complaint was filed by the shooter at the women's police station in Jhajjar, alleging rape and blackmail through videos and photographs, as well as extortion.

Summer safety risks under renewed focus: Police probe if faulty wiring led to South Delhi fire at retired IAS officer's house

New Delhi, (GNS): Two days after a retired IAS officer lost his life when a fire broke out following an AC blast on the ground floor of his three-storey residence in south Delhi's Hauz Khas Enclave, police on Friday registered a case of negligence and suspect that poor or faulty electrical wiring triggered the explosion. An inspection was conducted by the electrical inspector of Delhi govt and police, a senior cop said. Media visited the house and found one of the rooms charred and two others badly affected.

Abhishek, the manager of Dhanendra Kumar (79), the deceased, said the fire broke out in the room of Kumar's son, Gaurav, who had arrived from London, where he lives, on May 26. According to Abhishek, the AC was rarely used and only switched on when Gaurav stayed in the house. It was serviced a week before his arrival. Staff members



employed by Kumar, who was the first chairperson of competition commission of India (CCI) after serving as India's executive director on the World Bank board, and neighbours alleged that firefighters were late to reach the house. As a result, they along with police personnel had to carry out the initial rescue operation.

Abhishek claimed he immediately called the fire brigade on being alerted about the blaze, but the firefighters arrived nearly an hour later. "Meanwhile, we



tried controlling the blaze using buckets of water. Though there are fire extinguishers in the house, the flames spread rapidly and the blaze was too massive to be put out with them," he said. Delhi fire service (DFS), though, denied the allegations, saying the fire tenders were rushed immediately and that the blaze was brought under control within 56 minutes of receiving the emergency call.

An RWA official claimed that the first fire tenders that reached the spot were

not carrying sufficient water, while a larger one was dispatched later. "Another major problem was cars parked on the lane, preventing the fire tenders from manoeuvring properly," the official said. A mesh installed in the room where the blaze broke out prevented water from effectively reaching it. Cops later managed to remove the mesh with the help of sticks to facilitate firefighting efforts. Pooja, another local, said neighbours tried to douse the blaze with the help of water pipes before the firefighters arrived. She, too, claimed they were late to reach the spot.

Abhilash Kumar Malik, chief fire officer of DFS, said once its control room received information about the blaze at 11.24pm on Wednesday, fire tenders from Geetanjali and Bhikaji Cama Place fire stations were rushed to the spot without delay.

Child malnutrition declines, obesity rises in India: Health survey

New Delhi, (GNS): India has recorded significant improvements in child health indicators, including immunisation coverage and nutritional outcomes, according to the sixth round of the National Family Health Survey (NFHS-6) for 2023-24 released by the Union Health Ministry on Friday.

Findings show improvements in reducing stunting and severe wasting among children under five years of age in India.

Child stunting, however, continues to remain a major public health concern. Stunting refers to children being too short for their age due to chronic undernutrition and frequent infections. Severe wasting, defined as very low weight-for-height, significantly increases mortality risks among children.

Officials said the Centre's multi-sectoral efforts to address malnutrition have



gained momentum, leading to notable improvements in child nutrition indicators. Stunting among children under five declined from 35.5 per cent in NFHS-5 (2019-21) to 29.3 per cent in NFHS-6 (2023-24), while severe wasting fell sharply from 7.7 per cent to 5.2 per cent. The survey also recorded gains in early breastfeeding practices. The proportion of children under three years breastfed within one hour of birth increased from 41.8 per cent to 50.1 per cent. According to the survey, 95.9 per cent of pregnant women received antenatal care (ANC).

Mothers receiving ANC during the first trimester increased from 70 per cent to 76.2 per cent, while those receiving at least four ANC visits rose from 58.5 per cent to 65.2 per cent.

"These improvements reflect steady gains achieved over the past decade, driven by robust flagship initiatives of the government implemented in a convergence model with stakeholder ministries, such as the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Jal Shakti and the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, to ensure optimal nutrition and build a stronger foundation for India's children," a Health Ministry official said. The survey also found a decline in tobacco use among both men and women.

NGT seeks explanation from authorities over encroachment on village pond

New Delhi, (GNS): National Green Tribunal has issued notices to MCD and DJB over alleged encroachment on a waterbody in north Delhi's Sannoth village, where a sewage treatment plant (STP) and a garbage collection point (dhalao) have been set up.



The tribunal was hearing a plea filed by a local about the alleged encroachment of the village pond. In its May 22 order, NGT noted that a joint inspection report filed by respondent authorities confirmed that the land is recorded as a johad in revenue records. "The reply supports the allegation of the applicant that Khasra number 99, Khata number 668/685 in village Sannoth is a johad, and an STP has been constructed on the said land, and there is also a garbage collection point," observed the bench headed by NGT chairperson Justice Prakash Shrivastava and expert member Afroz Ahmad.

DJB told the tribunal that the project, completed on Dec 31, 2022, was intended to increase groundwater recharge through the use of treated effluent and prevent the discharge of untreated sewage. It further stated that the construction had been undertaken after obtaining permission from the DDA.

"In such a situation, the respondent authorities are directed to clarify as to how they have encroached upon a water body and raised a construction therein, and in this process, have they not violated the law?" said the bench. The matter will be next heard on Aug 14.

A drive to nowhere on this pock-marked Geeta Colony road

New Delhi, (GNS): A half-kilometre stretch in east Delhi's Geeta Colony has remained dug up for over 10 days after a road construction project being carried out by Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) was allegedly abandoned midway, forcing locals and commuters to perilously navigate mounds of rubble and broken concrete every day and also battle severe dust pollution. Media visited the Jheel Khurenja area on Wednesday afternoon and witnessed the scale of disruption. The stretch of Pusta Road outside Maharshi Valmiki College, a govt girls' school and residential colonies was found broken and unlevelled - full of heaps of stones and construction debris.

A large truck appeared stranded on the pock-marked road, while cars, bicycles and rickshaws struggled to squeeze their way through the narrow and uneven passage left between the truck and the rubble. The result was a bottleneck that slowed traffic and left commuters stuck in a long snarl. The tail-back reached a nearby gurudwara and Chacha Nehru Hospital.

Several people were seen dragging their bicycles across chunks of concrete and loose stones in the absence of a proper pathway. Open manholes and exposed drainage pipes dotted the stretch, posing a serious threat to pedestrians and motorists, particularly at night. Residents claimed the area lacks proper street lighting. "The stretch has been lying in this condition for the past 10 to 15 days. Construction work began and the entire road area was dug up. Then suddenly, work stopped. This is a busy thoroughfare, and if construction was necessary, it should have been wrapped up quickly. It cannot be left like this midway," said Sekhar, a 47-year-old local shopkeeper.

HC seeks details of schools at Savda Ghevra relocation site

New Delhi, (GNS): Delhi High Court on Friday sought details on the condition, teacher-student strength and location of schools in the Savda Ghevra area, where authorities propose to relocate residents from three slum clusters abutting Lok Kalyan Marg that houses the Prime Minister's official residence. "File an affidavit stating the number of schools in the area where these people are proposed to be shifted, the number of teachers available and the general condition of these schools," a bench of Chief Justice D K Upadhyaya and Justice Tejas Karia told the Centre's counsel.

The court was hearing an appeal by residents of Bhai Ram Camp, DID Camp and Masjid Camp, challenging a



single judge's order refusing to interfere with their eviction from the area.

The bench also asked the Centre to clearly indicate its arrangements with Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) and Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) to ensure free travel for the relocated persons for a period of three years. The matter has been listed for

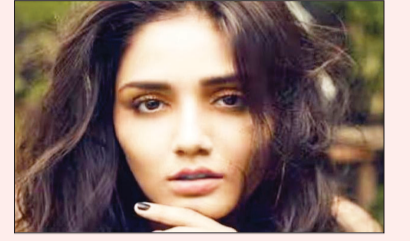
further hearing on June 4. Additional Solicitor General Chetan Sharma told the court that DTC could issue bus passes for one year, which could be extended further.

Though the metro does not have a scheme for free travel, Sharma said an arrangement could be made for the Land and Development Office to reimburse the amount to DMRC. He also claimed that there were several schools in the vicinity where the children of the relocated residents could be accommodated.

Counsel appearing for the affected residents, however, argued that they "cannot be thrown to the wolves" and urged the Centre to relocate them within a five-kilometre radius of their present homes.

Twisha's husband, mother in-law sent to 5-day CBI custody

New Delhi, (GNS): The CBI produced both accused before the court and sought their custodial remand for detailed interrogation. Justice Shobhana Bhalawe granted the CBI's petitions seeking custody of Giribala Singh, a former judge, and Samarth Singh, a lawyer by profession. Samarth, who was already in the CBI custody, has now been remanded for an additional five days.



Anurag Srivastava, counsel for Twisha's family, said both accused would remain in the CBI custody till 2 pm on June 2. He said the agency informed the court that custodial interrogation of both accused was necessary for the probe. "We now feel that the investigation is moving in the right direction. The real facts will come to light," Srivastava said.

Congress Legislature Party to elect new Karnataka leader today; all eyes on Shivakumar

New Delhi, (GNS): The Congress Legislature Party is scheduled to meet on Saturday evening here to elect its new leader, who will succeed Siddaramaiah as the next Chief Minister of Karnataka.

D K Shivakumar, who served as Deputy CM under Siddaramaiah, is widely expected to be elected as the new leader of the CLP.

Siddaramaiah's resignation as Chief Minister was accepted and the Council of Ministers was



dissolved by Governor Thawarchand Gehlot on Friday.

All lawmakers have been asked to attend the CLP meeting at 4 pm in

Vidhana Soudha's conference hall, which will be overseen by AICC General Secretaries K C Venugopal and Randeep Singh Surjewala.

According to sources, Siddaramaiah himself will propose Shivakumar as the new CLP leader, or a one-line resolution may be passed authorising the Congress high command to choose the next leader.

The swearing-in of the new Chief Minister is likely on Sunday or Monday, and it may be held on the iconic grand steps of Vidhana Soudha, official sources said. There are expectations that a few Ministers may also be sworn in.

Both Siddaramaiah

and Shivakumar held discussions with Congress leadership in Delhi on Friday regarding the modalities of the new Cabinet and the transition of power.

Lobbying has been intensified by Ministerial aspirants in New Delhi before the high command. While some ministers from the dissolved council of Ministers are trying to secure their positions in the new Cabinet, legislators hoping for a Cabinet berth this time have also

reached the national capital. According to sources, there are indications that the new Cabinet will have a mix of both old and new members. Efforts will be made to strike a balance by ensuring representation while keeping caste equations, regions, and Siddaramaiah loyalists in mind.

Speculation is rife that there may be multiple Deputy CMs, and many ministers from the Siddaramaiah Cabinet may not be retained.

Dust portal 2.0 to be launched

New Delhi, (GNS): Delhi environment minister Manjinder Singh Sirsa on Friday chaired a review meeting to assess preparations for the launch of Dust Portal 2.0, scheduled to go live in the coming week.

The system is expected to enable real-time action against sites that violate dust-control norms or generate pollution levels beyond prescribed limits. Delhi govt had announced the dust portal 2.0 last year.

The upgraded portal, to be managed by Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC), will feature real-time analytics, automated audits, AI-powered cameras, particulate matter (PM) sensors and digital governance tools to monitor construction and environmental compliance across the city. The portal will help monitor parameters such as the presence of a high-density green anti-dust net and anti-smog guns. Automatic alerts



will be triggered if there is any deviation in pollution level beyond the prescribed norms, enabling timely remedial action.

One of the key features of the portal is the QR code-based site monitoring system. "Under this system, every registered construction site will be assigned a unique QR code. By scanning the code through a mobile device, field officers will be able to instantly access site details, compliance records, audit reports and environmental performance data, thereby significantly improving inspection efficiency and transparency," said Sirsa.

Officials said the updated portal has an AI-based alerting mechanism, which categorises violations into three levels to ensure timely intervention. A yellow alert will serve as an early warning when air quality monitoring thresholds are breached. An orange alert will indicate moderate violations arising from audit-based non-compliance, while a red alert will signal critical violations and trigger automated escalation and enforcement action by the authorities.

Juvenile held for arson after bike owner refused to lend vehicle

New Delhi, (GNS): Delhi Police has apprehended a juvenile accused of setting a vehicle on fire after its owner refused to lend it to him in northwest Delhi's Adarsh Nagar. According to police, during routine social media monitoring they came across posts, videos and status updates in which the teenager was allegedly seen brandishing firearms and glorifying criminal activities to create fear in the area. He also had a tattoo with "Crime" inked on his wrist, police said.

The juvenile was later apprehended. "During questioning, he told us that through such activities he was trying to create fear among local residents and establish his dominance among local youths and anti-social elements in the area," said deputy commissioner of police (northwest) Akanksha



Yadav. Police said the boy was wanted in an arson case in which he and his associates allegedly set a man's motorcycle on fire after the owner refused to lend them the vehicle to purchase alcohol. Further verification revealed that the juvenile had previously been found involved in five criminal cases, including snatching, assault, mischief by fire, theft and attempt to murder, reflecting his continued inclination towards criminal activities at a young age. In the past, police had written to the Juvenile Justice Board seeking that he be tried as an adult, officials added.

Advanced aviation weather system launched at IGI

New Delhi, (GNS): SkyCast, an advanced integrated aviation weather intelligence and nowcasting facility, was launched at Indira Gandhi International Airport on Friday.

Calling it India's first "SkyCast System", Union minister of state for science and technology and earth sciences Jitendra Singh said only 18 such advanced systems exist across the world so far, and India has now become the 19th in the world to install this integrated atmospheric remote sensing system for aviation weather monitoring.

After IGI Airport Delhi, the second such facility will come up at Jewar Airport, followed by expansion to other airports across India, he said. Singh said passengers can look forward to a future where flight disruptions caused by fog and turbulence will significantly reduce.

The minister said the system will provide advance alerts to aircrew and pilots even within short time windows of around three hours, enabling them to decide the safest time for landing and avoid unnecessary diversions, cancellations and delays. The minister said India is moving towards an era of

"fog-free flights" through scientific innovation and advanced weather technologies.

Delhi International Airport Ltd (DIAL), the airport operator, said SkyCast is a next-generation aviation meteorological platform that integrates advanced remote sensing technologies, atmospheric profiling systems and intelligent nowcasting tools to continuously track rapidly evolving weather conditions that may impact flight operations.

The facility enables continuous, real-time monitoring of critical atmospheric parameters, including temperature and humidity profiles, water vapour density, cloud liquid water content, wind speed and direction, vertical wind structures, and near-surface high-resolution wind observations. The system is capable of assessing atmospheric conditions from the surface up to nearly 10 km altitude for thermodynamic profiling and several kilometres for wind observations. "This significantly enhances the ability of meteorologists and aviation stakeholders to accurately track and respond to rapidly changing weather systems," said DIAL.

'Critical anchor to hold the line': Hegseth lauds India's role in Indo-Pacific security

New Delhi, (GNS): US Secretary of War Pete Hegseth on Saturday highlighted India as a key pillar of regional stability, saying the country is "modernising" its military to serve the shared objective of maintaining a balance of power across the Indo-Pacific and collaboration with the United States.

Speaking on the second day of the Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore, Hegseth said, "In South Asia, India is a critical anchor to hold the line. A powerful India acting in its own self-interest advances our shared goal of maintaining a balance of power across the region." The US War Secretary praised India's military modernisation efforts, particularly its growing role in the Indian Ocean region.

"India is modernising its military to carry its share of the security burden, particularly in the Indian Ocean," he said. Praising India's defence



manufacturing capabilities, he added, "It's building out the heavy industrial and logistics capacity to sustain high-end military operations, including the ability to repair and maintain our shared platforms and support US Navy vessels operating forward in the theatre."

Highlighting expanding defence cooperation between Washington and New Delhi, Hegseth noted that the two countries are pursuing joint production initiatives.

"We've also committed to pursuing co-production with India to advance capabilities like Javelin anti-tank guided

munitions. Real, tangible steps to improve the collective readiness of our forces," he said.

The Pentagon chief linked India's growing defence-industrial capabilities to broader efforts by the United States and its partners to strengthen military readiness across the region. "This kind of industrial muscle isn't just a long-term goal, it's an immediate operational imperative," Hegseth said. He also outlined the Trump administration's plans for a major expansion of US defence spending and manufacturing capacity.

"America is undergoing a historic national manufacturing mobilisation of our defence industrial base. We will produce the best weaponry in the world at scale, at speed, and at a reasonable price," he said.

Calling it a personal commitment, Hegseth added, "This is my personal commitment to all of you, and it is our President's demand."

Referring to President Donald Trump, he said, "President Trump, after spending USD 1 trillion on defence last year, plans to make a generational investment of USD 1.5 trillion on defence this year, to unleash America's arsenal of freedom and expand America's military dominance for decades to come." Hegseth also urged US allies and partners to increase their defence commitments.

"We demand 3.5 per cent from our allies and partners, and we are going well beyond that number. We expect every single ally and partner to match that kind of resolve," he said. Signalling that Washington would deepen cooperation with countries willing to shoulder greater security responsibilities, Hegseth said, "For those nations that rise to this challenge, that embrace responsibility as true partners, the benefits will be clear."